



# Taita College

## April 2007

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Dear Parents and Caregivers

At the close of nominations on Thursday 15 March 2007 the number of valid nominations for **Parent Representatives on the Board of Trustees** was equal to the number of parent representative vacancies required to be filled. As a result, no voting was required and the following people were duly elected. Congratulations!

Jeanine Cornelius\*  
Wayne Kirkland  
Alan King\*  
Gil McKenna  
Lucy Te Moana\*  
Petone Toeieiu\*  
Kim Workman\*

\* Denotes current board member. The new board takes office after 5 April 2007.

You will see from this newsletter that we have had a full term here at Taita College.

Our website — [www.taita.school.nz](http://www.taita.school.nz) on which you can access information at any time, or students can study.



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**Pride through Success-  
Honour through Service**

## Head Girls



Hi, my name is **Amy Jackman** and I am Head Girl of Taita College this year. I am a down-to-earth, competitive, hard working young lady who enjoys reading, shopping, youth group, and facing new challenges.

I was in the school 'Merchant of Venice' production, I play netball and was part of the 2007 Taita Dragon Boating team. In 2008 I plan to go to Massey University and study to become a sports journalist.



Hello, my name is **Sara Samuelu**. I am the Deputy Head Girl. I am half Samoan and half New Zealand European. This year I am studying Biology, Calculus,

Chemistry, English and Geography. My personal goals for this year are to gain entry into medical school and to make positive impacts for Hutt Valley youth via the Youth Infusion. I hope that this year will be an enjoyable year for all of the student body.

## Dame Miriam Dell



**"Both genders have to recognise and accept that women in positions of authority are not threatening, or unsympathetic, or unwomanly."**

Dame Cath Tizard

## International Women's Day

The day started with Mrs Saysell, Susana Malaki and Sara Samuelu arriving at Parliament for a Zonta breakfast that started at 6.50 am.

The guest speaker was **Winnie Laban** and she spoke about the current issues facing women in the context of their journey in history. She said that International Women's Day was a time for asserting women's political and social rights and for reviewing the progress made by women since New Zealand became the first country to grant women full voting rights in 1893. Everyone received a yellow Zonta rose.

Later, at Taita College, Anna Tregaskis introduced **Dame Miriam Dell** who celebrated with staff, invited guests and Year 13 students at a shared luncheon. Her inspirational speech covered anecdotes from her life about the challenges she had faced. Discrimination against married women was rife, there was no equal pay for equal work and widows also faced a battle to make a living with no supportive benefits like we have today. Dame Miriam outlined her extensive international and local work for women. She was a delegate for New Zealand to all three United Nations International Women's conferences during the Decade for Women. She also served on commissions for UNESCO and the International Year of the Child, and the Suffrage Centennial Year Trust.

The food was delicious and enjoyed by all.

## Head Boys



My name is **Takamai Te Ranghi Mcfarland Kauri** and I am the Head Boy of Taita College. This year, I hope to have fun, exciting and great times. Currently I am studying Classical Studies, Media

Studies, Biology, English and Tourism - they are all really good subjects. In my life I hope to reflect Jesus Christ as he is my saviour and my God.

My name is **Mark Vonder** and I am Deputy Head Boy. Some of the things I have done are Stage Challenge and Civil Defence for Taita College for five years. I



was in the Civil Defence team that came first (Taita College hadn't come first for 17 years). I have done peer mediation and played cricket for the school.



Mary Huffadine  
Transition/Gateway Administrator  
Taita College  
Eastern Hutt Road, Taita, Lower Hutt.  
Phone: 04-567 8728 ext. 130  
Fax: 04-567 9845

## GATEWAY

Once again the college is involved with the Gateway Programme. At present we have 18 students out in work placements in a wide range of industries: Childcare, Engineering, Sport & Fitness, Hospitality, Tourism, Building, Administration/ Reception, Cheffing, Orderly, Automotive Dismantling, Television and Special Effect Make-up.

The Gateway Programme is an initiative of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and we were offered 30 placements. Initially, we found placements for 18 students and they were out at work by week 4. As the year progresses, we will endeavour to secure placements for the others. Gateway provides students with the opportunity to train in an industry of interest. These students are making excellent progress and many are well on the way to completing the first of their unit standards.

Taita College wishes to thank all those employers who have helped to make the programme a success for the students and for the college. Without their positive responses, this programme would not succeed.

If you are able to assist with provision of a **work placement**, please contact the Gateway Coordinator or Gateway Administrator for further information.

# DEAR

## Drop Everything and Read (Sustained Silent Reading)

We are constantly looking towards ways of increasing literacy within the school. Sustained silent reading was added to our school day last year in the form of DEAR and incorporated into the start of period five classes.

We have reviewed this practice and whilst we consider sustained silent reading for the whole school, staff and students alike, we are as from the start of term two reorganising the placement of sustained silent reading.

We will incorporate this into the form class time at the start of the school day by adding an additional 10 minutes to morning form time. Form time will commence with sustained silent reading for the first 15 minutes. At the end of this time the form time administration matters will be undertaken by the teacher.

As a consequence of this change the first break will occur 10 minute later at 11.15am. The second break will commence 5 minutes later than now at 1.35 pm.

We encourage all students to bring appropriate reading material to this time.

The college will provide some material, but in keeping with the college ideal of students being accountable for their own learning, bringing their own reading material is desirable.

The placement of sustained silent reading at this time has the advantage of being able to develop a reading mentoring programme with our junior students.



### Computers for sale

Keyboards and screens for \$75-00 each. They do not have CD ROM's. The processor speed ranges from 750 MHz to 1.2 GHz. Suitable for study.

## Around Taupo Relay

Our staff lead by example in the area of fitness and we have the photographs to prove it.



Our thanks to Cemac, commercial interiors for sponsoring our T-shirts.



## Maori Support Group

The Maori Support Group is an informal monthly gathering of Maori parents, Maori staff, and the two Maori Board members. They discuss ways of improving Maori educational achievement, and making the College a positive place for Maori students. Such issues as kapa-haka, the Maori form class, promoting positive Maori role models, mentoring of Maori students, and marae activity are discussed and debated. The parents of Maori children are invited to come along and have a say. The next meeting is at the Taita College Marae, 6.00 pm, Tuesday, 24 April. Nau Mai, Haere Mai.

**Kim Workman**  
Board of Trustees



Morehu Rei at the powhiri last year. This year he is the student representative on the Board of Trustees.

## Motivational Speaker

We are privileged to have an offer from Mr Tofiga Fepulea'i, from the *Laughing Samoan team*, to present to our Year 9 and 10 students on Thursday 3 May. He has also offered to present an evening to our parent community. This will take place on the same day commencing at 7.00pm in the Taita College hall.

Parents and families are invited to hear this exceptional speaker and role model for our young people. Entry to the evening presentation will be by gold coin donation.

More details to follow.



## Peer Counselling/ Mediation

Some of our senior students were selected to go on a two-day peer training and mediation course. This option was made available to students who would rather discuss their problems with their peers.



## School Leaders' Lunch

Our Head Boy and Girl attended the Rotary Club of **Wellington School Leaders' Luncheon** at Parliament. This was on Monday 19 March. Thirty schools were present with the guest speaker being Mark Weldon, CEO NZX New Zealand Stock Exchange.

## NCEA Evening

The NCEA evening on 26 February was well attended.

Any further information about NCEA achievement and qualifications can be gained by visiting the NZQA website at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz) and clicking the NCEA link. Senior students will already have been issued with a *Candidate's Information Sheet*.

## Librarian's invitation to donate...

This year is the *50<sup>th</sup> anniversary* of the founding of Taita College. Over the years that I have been the College Librarian many hundreds of books have disappeared from the library collection. It would be really wonderful if parents and students could have a hunt around at home and get these books back into the library. We have about 760 students and we need the books to assist our students with their research and reading programmes. So, *kia kaha!* Support your alma mater in its special year and return the books. Or, perhaps you would like to **donate** a book to the library this special year?

## Uniform



The start of term two is our change over to winter uniform. Please ensure your daughter/son has the Taita College blazer and the Taita College jersey.

Shoes are to be the black leather styles lace-ups and slip-ons for boys, lace-ups or buckle shoes for girls. Girls may wear black tights but not knee highs if they are wearing a skirt.

A number of our girls are wearing colored undergarments which come down below their blouse line. These must not be worn. A plain white undergarment is allowed but this must be tucked into the skirt or trousers. Similarly boys should wear only a non-logo plain white t-shirt under their shirt.

Juniors must wear the green jersey **not** the black jersey, which is the senior uniform. **We want our uniform to look good and to be worn well.**

The student senior executive team had leadership training at Trentham Army Camp and really enjoyed the day filled with practical exercises.

## **Race Relations Day**

On Saturday 10 March Puaseisei Nanai and May Tuliloa attended a Race Relations Day workshop, which was held at the Wellington Town Hall. This was run by The Peace Foundation, Victory Over Violence (VOV) and other youth organisations.

Deputy Mayor, Alec Shaw, Maui Soloman and MC/musician Imon Star. were there. Interesting discussions were held about world peace and race unity in the workplace, our schools, neighbourhoods and communities. A lot was learned about cultural conflict, politics and the sacrifices that have been made for PEACE.

## **Year 13 night**

The Year 13 information night was held on Tuesday 27 February in the staffroom. The purpose of the night was to inform parents of the school's expectations of the Year 13 students, to familiarise parents with the ways that they can best support their children in terms of routines, work habits and the monitoring of assessment dates and to share with them some of the exciting leadership opportunities our students are currently involved in and the opportunities still to come.

## **Board of Trustees – School Uniform**

At the Board of Trustees meeting on 19 March the board reaffirmed its position about the wearing of school uniform by passing the following motion:

“That this board continues to require its students to wear the uniform as set out by the board.”

Parents, students and staff need to work together in order to achieve the desired outcome. Taita College is a uniform school and all parents and students were made aware of this when enrolment occurred. This position was accepted by all concerned when the enrolment forms were signed by parents/caregivers.

Please actively support the school in this matter by ensuring students wear full and correct uniform.

## **Science Department**

Dear Parents

Your help is required. A large number of textbooks issued to students in 2006 have not been returned. The deficit is particularly bad at Year 11 level. Could you please check your child's room to see if any of these books have been mistakenly stored in a book shelf.

Many thanks

Mrs Barnard

# STAGE CHALLENGE

Stage Challenge is back at Taita College for the fifth year running and is currently in rehearsal. The students have decided on the theme 'As seen on TV' which explores the brainwashing, mind-altering effect of advertising upon children, teenagers and adults. The students are exploring: how children become maniacs for candy; how teenagers get their angst in life and yearn for material wealth such as clothes and expensive cell phones; how as adults all we want is to be young again and how we are willing to buy almost anything if it guarantees that successful image. They are not saying advertising is right or wrong, just merely stating that this is what it is and that it can cage you at any age.

The date has not been given to the school by Stage Challenge yet and so we are still waiting to hear from them so we can organise dress rehearsals, buses and t-shirts.

There will be letters coming home soon for parents informing them of what their child needs to bring and asking for permission for the student to be included in this wonderful day. We will leave Taita College early in the morning by bus and students will be returned to the college between 11.00pm – 11.30pm.

All students have made a firm commitment to Stage Challenge and its rehearsals and we ask that all parents encourage their children to keep to that agreement as some students are once again letting us down by missing/forgetting rehearsals. There will also be a dress rehearsal closer to the performance time and we ask that students be prepared for that and make alternative arrangements for sport, work and any other after-school commitments.

We look forward to seeing another amazing performance by Taita College and hope all parents, family members and friends can come to support these students in a night they will never forget.



## **Desperately seeking a rugby coach...**

Taita College is seeking a first fifteen coach and under fifty-five grade coach for the up and coming season. This position is on a volunteer basis and would be of great service to the school.

# VIBE Youth Health

@ Taita College

Happy New Year from the **Health Clinic crew** – Annie the nurse and Sarah the doctor!

The **VIBE Youth Health Clinic** is available to all students at Taita College. We offer a *free and confidential* service for any health issue. It is a place to get advice, treatment and support. The clinic is open 3 x a week.

The hours this year are -

MONDAY 11.45 am – 3.30 pm

TUESDAY 11.15 am– 2.15 pm

THURSDAY 11.45 am – 3.30 pm



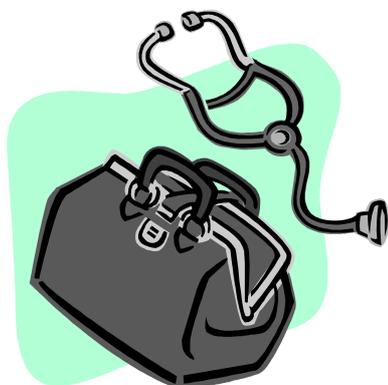
## Dental Care:

⇒ Free dental care is available to all young people up to 18 years old, while still at school.

⇒ You need to fill in an enrolment form (which you may have done at intermediate school) and see a dentist who provides this free service.

⇒ We have a list of these dentists at the clinic as well as some more enrolment forms if you have missed out.

Annie Harcourt  
Youth Health Nurse



The **doctor** is here once a week on Thursday and students will need an appointment to see her. You can make an appointment during your

break or you can leave a request in the clinic mailbox with your name and the date, and I will send for you. We have some drop-in appointments at lunchtime each day.

You can contact the clinic from home by phoning 567 9850.



## Hutt Valley Children's Community Ear Clinic

Children need to be between 0 and 18 years to attend this free van service. Wax removal over 4 years on a case by case basis.

Hearing tests are conducted elsewhere. The contact is -

**Jackie Jennings 570 9186**

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY COMPUTER COURSES

### General Computer Skills:

**Ages:** 6 to 16.

**Dates:** Mon to Fri; Apr 10-13, 16-20, Jul 2-6, 9-13, 16-20, Sep 24-28, Oct 1-5.

**Fee:** \$275 - each additional child \$50 less.  
Apr 10-13 \$225 - each additional child \$40 less. **And other courses.**

**Places are limited, call 499-2211**

[www.grandtraining.co.nz](http://www.grandtraining.co.nz)

**When:** 9:30am to 4:15pm (open 9am early arrival, close 5pm late pick-up).

**Where:** Level 1 Grand Arcade Willis St (Corner Lambton Quay & Willis St)

## School Holidays April Roller Disco

School Holidays April Roller Disco 34B Goodshed Rd, Upper Hutt.

Monday – Friday of both weeks. 1:00 – 3:30 pm.

Entry \$5 Blade Hire \$3 Skate Hire Free



Special **Saturday night disco**  
12 May

34B Goodshed Rd, Upper Hutt

7:30 – 10:00 pm

Entry \$7 per ticket sold before 12 May.

Door sales \$8 No Refunds

Blade/Skate Hire Free

[www.skatewellington.net.nz](http://www.skatewellington.net.nz)

Hire Free Info Rink 9390507

Chris 5297551 Bruce 9388718

## Rocky Shore Trip

A wonderful day was had by Year 12 Biology students when they visited the shore between Island Bay and Houghton Bay. The weather was marvellous and the data results were superb. A strange species of sea anemone was observed spawning.



## Timepiece

Aaron Mildenhall and Todd Wynne in Year 12 are the best of mates and coincidentally their grandfathers played softball together. Aaron's grandfather was the pitcher while Todd's grandfather was the catcher. Todd's father went on to coach the New Zealand team. Interesting coincidence!



## *A message from the French Department...*

DID YOU KNOW ..... that there are over 100 countries where French is spoken???

The French Department celebrated International Francophone Day (la journée de la francophonie) on Tuesday, 20 March with a competition naming countries where French is spoken as an official language. The objective was to celebrate the diversity of cultures which embrace the French language - including European countries (e.g. France, Switzerland, Belgium), Asian countries (e.g. Vietnam), African countries (e.g. the Ivory Coast, Morocco, Algeria), Pacific Island nations (e.g. Tahiti, New Caledonia, Vanuatu) and even a state in the American continent (Canada), to name a few.

Kendy Kaluwasha and Eunice won first prize in the competition and April Havler and Junior Preston won second prize.

Year 9 and 10 French students are enjoying the individual attention they get from being part of a small class. Year 9 students are learning about school in France and are glad they don't have to attend school from 8.00am to 4.30pm as well as Saturday mornings, like French school children do! They are enjoying the internet link to the textbook, which enables them to practise the dialogues and do extension activities from home. Brand new second edition textbooks are being used by Year 9 students this year, for the first time.

Year 10 students have made their own cards to play Happy Families, can tell the

time, and are learning to talk about their daily routines – all in French, of course!

*Vive la Francophonie!*

Both classes particularly enjoy writing and performing their own dialogues or skits, and using music as a learning tool.

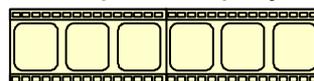
Students need to choose their options carefully in Year 9, as a number of Year 11 and Year 12 students have asked if they can begin French this year – but have been turned away because they do not have the grounding from Year 9 and 10 French to enable them to cope with the language at senior level.

### **Media Studies Trip**

The Media Studies class visited the Wellington Office of Film and Literature Classification. The Chief Censor, Mr Bill Hastings, spoke about the classification system and the relevant legislation .

There were several schools present and they all viewed an unreleased film and then went through a classification exercise, which was followed by a group discussion. Students scored a free pen and an enhanced understanding of how the classification system works.

The best job in the office appears to be with the person who is paid to play video games!



# Dragon Boating

This is the first year we have entered an all girls team. The captain was Puaseisei Nanai. The full team consisted of -

Lichelle de Boer, Julia Dillon, Shannon Hughes, Amy Jackman, Melody Kirkland, Lauren Lum, Janina Maciejek, Laura MacKay, Puaseisei Nanai, Kimberley Olivecrona, Rachel Partridge, Kristy Powell, Selina Ramacake, Rebecca Reid, Sara Samuelu, Margaret Scott, Stacey Shields, Connie Stedman, Natalie Stephenson, Mere Tane, Mele Tonga, Anna Tregaskis, Rebecca Wills, Anna Kuzmich

The Taita College team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the first race which put us in the B-grade semi-finals. We were very pleased.

Our team came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the second race which put us in the finals of the B-grade. This was an exciting race.

In the final race we came 4<sup>th</sup>. We were beaten by a mere 6/100ths of a second, despite the cheers of our supporters.

On the day our Taita College uniform was the best - attractive, distinctive and understated. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs Mary Opie for managing the team.

Photo of the girls at practice.



## Cricket 2nd XI

It has been a season of development for Taita College second eleven team. We started out the season with a team that was lacking a little in the numbers department and then ended up with a solid twelve players which was great to see. There have been some great individual performances along the way and the team learned how to get on with the job of playing cricket by the end of the season.

The main aim for the team was to bat through the forty overs and be more consistent in its performance overall. By the end of the season the team proceeded to develop into a top class fielding team and showed real determination, no matter how the odds were stacked against them and with each player gaining in ability and confidence by the end of the season.

## Second XI Cricket

At the start of the season **Stephen Perry** was a major part of the team helping with the captaincy and also picking up a 50 along the way before he left for the first eleven cricket team. **Tony Sharp** was a committed player who ended the season on a high with a 49 not out and in one over alone smacking 21 runs as he took to the bowling attack. **Shaun Arnst** also had a glorious innings this day as well hitting 57 not out. **Dylan Ashton** finished the season on a high with a forty not out with some good shots produced alongside the classic Dylan slog shots - a real entertainer. **Jonathon Hall**, another key player for the team, has started to produce some great shots and I look forward to his progress in term four.

Many of these players, new to the sport, adapted well to playing at this level. The team welcomed a demon speed attack from **Sam Curtis**, coupled with his ability to hit the ball hard with a 37 not out - one of the better performances of the year. **Adam du Chateau** also joined the team and showed real determination at the crease with some classic batting strokes. **Bevan Wood** joined in term one and with some work before the next season he can come back stronger for term four.

The high score of the season award of the year went to **Rubin MacCormick** with a score of 58. Rubin is a valuable asset to the team bringing a real confidence to the batting crease.

The bowling attack for Taita College was a top class one. **Jaynesh Patel** led by example in this area, picking up two wickets for five runs after five overs - his best performance of the season. **Norman Donaldson** had a great pace attack and has the potential to develop into a consistent bowler for the team. **Kris Duncan** had a good line and length keeping it outside the off stump for most of the season and had a wicket maiden over to show for this. Behind the stumps for the boys was **Terrance King** who needs a mention for his wicket keeping alone. Terrance constantly tried to improve his game. Where runs behind the wicket had been a problem, Terrance reduced it to one or two per game.

Special thanks must go to Peter Duncan for coaching the team for part of 2006 and his commitment to being there every Saturday to help the team. Thanks Peter.

As a coach, I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the Taita College second eleven and look forward to seeing these boys continue to play and develop in the future.



Mr Sinclair

Craig James has been selected to be part of the Cricket Wellington U16 Boys' representation team that will travel to Sydney in late September 2007. Congratulations!



# ATHLETICS

Taita College – 21 Feb. 2007

This year, we saw the best level of participation and involvement from Taita College students in the history of the school. Some statement, to be sure, but some of our senior teachers, who have seen more than 30 years of Taita College athletics, will be able to back this up.

There has never been so much colour from the Houses in the way of clothing, costumes and banners. There has never been as much chanting and noise, and the affiliation with Houses has never been as strong as that displayed at the start of the day.

Before the events got underway, all Houses paraded around the track, led by Mr T. Williams with his team of impartial judges following, then Jamieson House as the winning House from Athletics Day 2006.

There was a lot of action from the majority of students on the day, and a handful of students filled up their participation cards, showing that they took part in 9 events. Well done in particular to the senior boys who led by example in this way!

In terms of participation and performance for the events themselves, students must be congratulated for their efforts. It was truly a good competition.

It is a credit to the students and the staff that the day ended on a real high with a tightly contested round of relays.

A number of records were broken this year, and is a pleasure to highlight the following students who are to be recognised for their outstanding achievements:

**Courtney Hawkins** set a new record of 29.71m for the Intermediate Girls' Discus

**Sam Morrissey** set a new record of 10.34 for the Open Boys' 3000m

**Kafa Nehoa** set a new record of 1.40m for the Junior Girls' High Jump

**Laman Ah Wong** set a new record of 1.69m for the Intermediate Boys' High Jump.

It is also worth mentioning that some of these students went on to better these times, heights or distances at the Hutt Valley Secondary Schools' Championships, and also the Wellington Secondary Schools' Championships.

Our school champions for each grade are as follows:

# DAY



| U14 Girls  | U14 Boys                 | U16 Girls   | U16 Boys  | U19 Girls              | U19 Boys             |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1st<br>Sapphire<br>Cavie   | 1st<br>Jeremy<br>Hawkins | 1st =<br>Geneva<br>Webber<br>and<br>Megan<br>Render | 1st Laman<br>Ah Wong                                | 1st Alicia<br>Colledge | 1st Sam<br>Morrissey |
| 2nd Kafa<br>Nehoa  | 2nd Ress<br>Jackman      | 3rd Rachel<br>Savero                                | 2nd =<br>Dylan<br>Hemo<br>and<br>Bradley<br>Shields | 2nd                    | 2nd                  |
| <p>Well done to all Iliwa College students who made the effort for their House, and to each athlete who performed to the best of his/her ability on the day.</p> <p>The winning House on Athletics Day was.....BEAR! Well done</p> |                          |   |   |                        |                      |
|  |                          |   |   |                        |                      |
|  |                          |   |   | Maiaki                 | Ivagawa              |





# Taita College

## Activity Fees Draw

There was an error in our last newsletter, so we have extended the time for you to go into our draw for a **\$500 travel** or **Westfield voucher** if you pay your fees by **1 May 2007**. The draw will take place as soon as possible after that date.

The fees are **\$120 per student** or for families with more than 1 child the fee is **\$100 per child**. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

If you have an automatic payment at the college, we will automatically deduct from available funds but you only qualify for the draw if you pay all your family's activity fee for 2007 before 1 May 2007.

We especially thank those parents and caregivers who have paid already.

Freda Kelly  
Executive Officer

## Reminders

We remind again that we now post newsletters and reports home. The first interim report was posted on 16 March and was followed by the parent-teacher interviews Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 March between 4 and 6.30 pm.

## Coming Up

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>5 April</b>          | Swimming Sports<br>Term 1 ends 12.30;<br>buses 12.45pm |
| <b>23 April</b>         | Start Term 2   |
| <b>7-11 May</b>         | NCEA test week   |
| <b>7 June</b>           | Open Evening   |
| <b>20 &amp; 21 June</b> | Parent Evening   |
| <b>22 June</b>          | Teacher-only day                                       |
| <b>29 June</b>          | End of Term 2  |
| <b>16 July</b>          | Start Term 3   |

