



# Taita Panui

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Senior Exams
- School Ball
- Talent Quest
- Tu Tangata
- Winter Tournament Week
- Stratford Exchange

## Principal's Comment

Together we are all successful. Together we support each other. Life within our school feels very positive. The students are happy, engaged, and positive about school. They are prepared to learn. There are groups of people doing exceedingly well, not just with school work but also out there in the local community. Numerous events have occurred during Term 2 in which students have positively and successfully represented the school to the community, some of which are mentioned in this newsletter. As a team our school is spreading and improving Taita College's reputation, as a team we are shaping the future of our school, as a team we are succeeding.



*Principal John Murdoch at the Open Day*

Though this is the end of a particularly busy term, it means that a new term is just about to begin. Term 3 could possibly be busier than Term 2 with events such as the Stratford exchange, the school ball, winter tournament week, and the Taita College exams ahead of us. Term 3 is sure to be just as great as Term 2.

John Murdoch interviewed by Kathleen Baker

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## 'An Ideal Husband' - Production

On Tuesday 12 June to Friday 15 June Taita College produced the annual school production called 'An Ideal Husband' by Oscar Wilde. The production was held in the school hall. The Drama 201/301 class participated in the huge event in which they were each assessed. With a cast of 26, including production and technical roles, students were ecstatic to perform four shows after 10 intense weeks of rehearsing and learning lines. This year Mr Donaldson, the director, went for a new style of theatre, Bertolt Brecht's 'Epic theatre'. This is



*Showtime! Actors wait to go onstage and perform*



*The Butlers*

where you are able to see everything on stage including production people. You also hear all stage directions which are narrated in the play. The whole experience was overwhelming at times but was a great success during our performances. There were many new experiences and opportunities available for students such as taking on a production role, i.e. lighting, sound, costume, set, props, stage management, front of house and assistant director.

By Manuela Astorga Da Costa

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## 301 Geography/History Trip

It was a reasonable day on 6 May when the Year 13 Geography and History classes left the school and head north to Rotorua. It was a long journey, up through Bulls, past Mt Ruapehu and past Taupo.

On the Monday we left the Trout Lodge where we were staying and travelled to the buried village at Te Waiora to walk around the remains and learn what happened during the Tarawera Eruption. After that we travelled back into the city and visited the Bath house which now houses the Rotorua museum. In the afternoon we ventured to the Skyline Gondola and took it up to the top of a hill, where we had an exciting time racing down the hill on the Luge.



*The students explored gold mines in Waihi*

On Tuesday we drove for two hours to Waihi to learn about the wondrous and fascinating world of gold mining. We visited the mining museum and the modern, opencast gold mine, then drove to the old mines and walked through what was left of them.

On Wednesday we drove back to Wellington, stopping at the National Army Museum in Waiouru for a tour, learning about the wars that New Zealand had participated in, and the various roles our army played.

By Michael Metcalfe

## Slave Day

Slave Day is an event where all the Year 13 students are sold to teachers and students as slaves. It is for fundraising for the common room and also for fun. This year it was on 25 May.

Certain rules applied in this event. First of all, bullying is extremely prohibited. The slaves must not do their master's assessment. And last but not the least slaves are released temporarily to do their assessment if they had.

On Slave Day all the slaves went to the hall for the roll call. After the roll call the slaves went to their masters. Some students wore crazy outfits but some just dressed casually. Some students obeyed weird orders but some just did casual stuff. Some became another's slave. Some students carried their masters. Some students had to sing every time they walked into the class. And on one occasion they had to serenade the teacher. Some did an interpretative dance to commemorate their master. Some wrote an epic poem. Some were released temporarily because they had an assessment. One slave cooked for the teachers and staff. And one slave celebrated his birthday on that day. But most of all, students had fun and enjoyed the day.



*Mexicans and confused police officers were present.*

By Stephen Beligon

## Girls' Rugby

The girls' rugby team has had an outstanding start to the season by overcoming every team they have faced. Being at the top of the premier grade is a great accomplishment for these girls. Captain Caroline Sio said "we've been working extremely hard at trainings with the help of our new coach Bruce Chase, who has given us more motivation and skills to be a greater team". It is noticeable in their work ethic with younger players showing tremendous heart and talent with some of them leading the score board. Lufina Siaosi and Mele Mulikiha'amea are both young players who have contributed exceptionally by scoring a great amount of tries and making strong unforgettable tackles. Even though this team has many great players, Taita College accepted Crystal Tomokino from Heretaunga College due to her school not having a team. After she was unaccepted from Upper Hutt College, Taita gave her a chance and she has come out to prove she is worthy by being one of the top players in the squad. The team's games are played on Thursdays during school weeks and they need as much support as they can get. The team is seeking to win premier because they haven't won a league since 2008. Before the game the team says this one quote "Winners never quit and quitters never win".



*Emma Hopoi in action*

By Chevron Hassett

## Chemistry Quiz

On Wednesday 13 June Taita College selected two teams to compete in the NZIC Annual Wellington Chemistry Quiz hosted by Victoria University of Wellington. Both teams competed alongside 38 other schools from around the region.

The evening consisted of two parts an experiment to find the concentration of an unknown liquid in the early evening and a quiz in the later hours of the evening. All participants represented their schools in colourful and creative costumes, with prizes awarded to the school with the most creative costumes.

The evening was a challenge for everyone involved with questions ranging from science history to modern science and science theory. It was a great night. Taita College participated well, trying hard to bring home the glory but unfortunately didn't win any prizes. Fortunately, chemistry was the winner on the day.

Thanks to Mr Fuller for providing transport and food for the students involved.

By Kahui Beach



*Mr Simon Fuller, Chemistry God & Assistant Principal*

## DRAWING ART CLASSES:

In Stokes Valley for adults.  
We will look at drawing techniques using a range of drawing materials. Classes cover observational drawing, perspective, tone and proportion from still life and photographs. Suitable for beginners & those who want to develop their skills.

TUTOR: Shivaun Hogan, [BDes, Dip Tech (sec)]

WHEN: Tuesday 12.30 - 2.30pm, 24 July - 11 Sept  
Saturday 2-4pm, 28 July - 15 Sept  
8 week course

WHERE: 28 Tawhai St, Stokes Valley.

COST: \$125 + some materials.

For further information and enrolment contact: shivaunh@gmail.com  
04 5636444  
0274288444

## Gateway

Gateway is a course for Year 13 students who take this subject for work experience in jobs that may interest them, and possibly influence them in the future. It also gives the students the opportunity to meet new people in a work place. I myself had the opportunity to ask questions to some of the students of this year.

*Q1. What was the highlight of your year so far?*

Being able to work at a place that can further my understanding of the career that I love. It has also given me a lot of credits towards level 3.



*David Isopo learns mechanics*

*Q2. Would you recommend this subject to other students? If yes why?*

Yes. It gives you a lot of great opportunities.

Yes, that is if you can balance classes, giving up one class a week, it's not easy, but it is fun. It's challenging, gives you a lot of life skills and you can meet awesome new people.

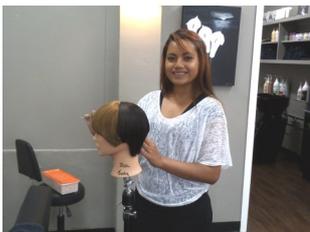
*Q3. Has the course helped you with your decisions in the near future?*

Yes it has, it clarified what I didn't know before about the opportunities in my career pathway. It has, but it is helpful to keep your mind open to other careers out there just in case you change your mind, but still very good in terms of giving an idea of what a job is actually like and gives a perspective what I want to do.

I also had the chance to talk to two of the teachers that help run the Gateway course for the school, Mrs Gould and Mrs Pye.

*Q1. How has this year's group compared to previous Gateway classes?*

This group gets a long better with each other than previous years. They also encourage each other a lot more, which is nice to see within the class because it shows a lot of progress individually. They have also stuck with their chosen work placement which is less of a hassle for us, but most importantly they have been really successful in terms of book work. Previous classes have had a bit of struggle.



*Jennifer Sakalia at her hairdressing workplace*

*Q2. What does Gateway have to offer, and what kind of experience do the students get from it?*

Has offered the students how to be prepared for the work place after school, and knowing what they want as a career pathway is nice to know. They also get the opportunity to learn about health and safety in the work place, working on getting your licence and just learn to believe in themselves.

*Q3. Can you give me a success story?*

I consider all Gateway students to be success stories in one way or another. This may be through earning an apprenticeship or gaining employment; improvement in their academic record; gaining in self-confidence and time management skills; developing personal growth or belief that their dreams can be realised. This can also be measured though our excellent three month labour outcome results.

So overall, the Gateway course this year has been running very smoothly and all the students are having lots of fun experiencing every moment of it and learning as much as they can for the future.

Written and interviewed by David Lindsay