

Taita College

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Tītiro Whakarunga Ki Ngā Puke

Kia ora koutou

As we near the end of another eventful term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on many of our achievements and share some important updates with you.

Mobile Dental Clinic

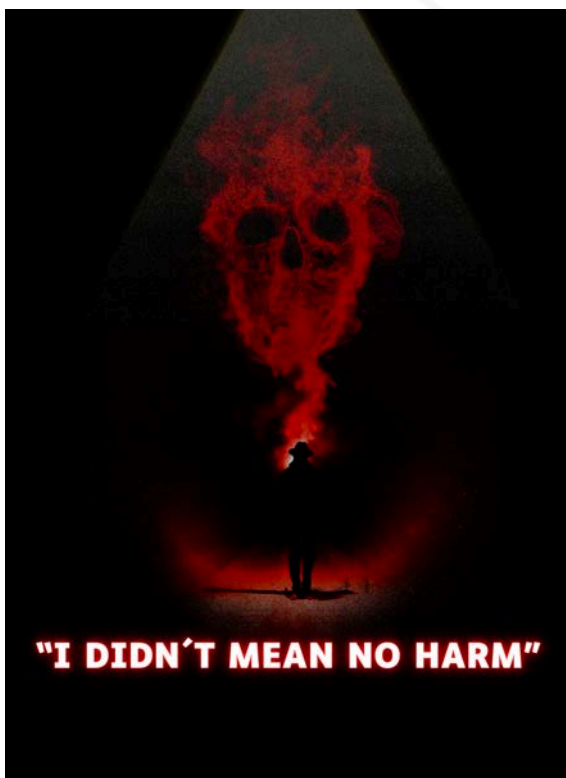
We are very fortunate to have the Capital Dental Mobile Clinic here at Taita College for 8 weeks. We welcome Melisha, Belinda and the team. We really love having them with us and truly appreciate the service that they provide.

Academic Achievements

Our students have once again demonstrated their dedication to learning and excellence. Many have excelled in their studies, achieving outstanding results in various subjects. We commend their hard work and perseverance throughout the term. I would like to make special mention of the students who sat their Literacy and Numeracy examinations for the first time. I was impressed with the mature way in which the students approached this event and look forward to seeing the results in August.

The English Department

The English department at Taita College completes a range of assessments, from reading, writing, speeches and visual assessments. This term 10U has completed static images in response to themes from the classic novel 'Of Mice and Men.' A selection of these images can be seen below. The work completed by these students is outstanding.



Go Taita Kolisi!

Our wonderful singing group "Taita Kolisi" has had an amazing few weeks!

Firstly, we were coached by Henrietta Hunkin-Tagaloa, from the NZ Choral Federation. She is the Director of Pacific Connection Chorus and has years of experience coaching and singing herself. She led a great workshop (with some fun warmups!) and the kids loved hearing her take on our songs.

In the last week of May, we competed in the Young Singers in Harmony Wellington Regional Competition. We entered into the Mixed Chorus division and our Quartet "TC8" also entered. Camilo Leo'o, Shalom Seeti, Zemira Vena and Rosie Sione blew everyone away with their take on "When I lift up my head" and "Spend my life with you".

We really enjoyed hearing the other groups from so many other schools around Wellington. What's more - we WON! First in both our categories! The noise from our Chorus was deafening as we went up to collect TWO trophies after the announcements. The judges commented that we sang with warmth and resonance and with wonderful energy.

The Big Sing was the next competition in early June and we performed two songs there as a Chorus. There were 45 choirs competing in this event. Needless to say, it's a more competitive environment! Our performance of a Fijian song "Saioni Vou" earned us a Category One Excellence award, which we were very happy to receive. There are only 14 awards given across this two day event!

We are so looking forward to bringing more Barbershop to the Community, to our School and to the National Barbershop Competition, which will be held at the St James Theatre in Wellington on September 25th (Quartet) and 26th (Chorus).



Hutfest

The Taita College poly group, 'One Heart One Beat' has been busy preparing for Hutfest since Term One. Our theme for the bracket is 'We're still here,' Through dance, song and unity our poly club affirms that our voices will be heard, our traditions will be honoured and our communities will continue to thrive.

Hutfest will be held at Walter Nash Stadium on Thursday 4th July. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased at this link <https://mytickets.co.nz/tickets/393/details>

Extracurricular Highlights

Our extracurricular activities have continued to flourish. Our sports teams have competed with enthusiasm and sportsmanship, bringing home several well earned victories and fostering a spirit of teamwork and camaraderie among our students.

Congratulations to the 1st XV who took out the wins against Hato Paora and Makoura College last week. These were excellent games with the Hato Paora game supported by a large positive student crowd.

Netball

This year we have 4 teams playing. All teams had good results in the grading games and three teams were promoted. They are now in the competitive rounds and all players are participating well. Three teams play at the Hutt Valley Netball courts on Saturday morning while the other team plays at school. Good luck to them all for the rest of the season and thank you to the coaches who volunteer their time to

get teams ready and supported on the court. It is also wonderful to see Whanau on the sidelines watching with positive encouragement.

Girls Rugby - U15's

We have a strong group of young women playing at a high level. The team has had a run of good results in the Poua (Premier) division of the College sport competition. Games are played on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE Highlights

Tough Guy, Tough Girl 6km Mud Run. A big group of yr10, 12 and 13 Taita Students had spent terms 1 and 2 training for this event. The seniors were using this event as an assessment and the Sport Performance class were using this as a post test for their learning of 'training programs' in term 1. The event was held at the Wainui Camp site and was a perfect day for it. Slightly cloudy, a little bit of drizzle and not too hot. Each group of students went off in different time waves and each group tried their best. A special mention to year 10 - *Denver Jackson*, who was first to come back, with a fantastic time of 38 minutes and 54 seconds - coming 108th place out of 1263 students, and 1st student back for Taita College. *Quentin Howsan* was our first senior boy and *Karly-Belle Mitchell-Pita* was our first female back with a time that will earn her a Merit in NCEA Level 2 credits, as a year 10 Sport performance student! Congratulations to all of our students who took part and pushed themselves to complete this difficult event.

Adrenalin Forest

Year 12 students are going on a trip to Adrenalin forest to help complete their PE assessment. This will help them see the application of risk management in a challenging outdoor activity and experience first hand how you are able to do dangerous activities safely and have fun doing them.

Rafting



PED202 and 302 went on an exciting rafting trip earlier this term, where for a lot of these students it was their first time rafting. All the students enjoyed the challenges they faced on the river, and each boat worked together to paddle through the challenging waters and rapids we faced. The 202 and 302 PE class did an awesome job at supporting one another, which made their experience even better. All students had smiles on their faces, and they talked about how much they enjoyed the experience after.

Upcoming Torpedo 7 Challenge

Next term, the year 10 Sport Performance class is taking part in the Torpedo 7 Challenge, which is an outdoor adventure race organised by Hillary Outdoor. This class will take on this event in teams where they will have to work together to accumulate as many points as they can on each of the stations. The students will face challenges such as rock climbing, biking, orienteering, and paddleboarding.

Sports Performance

This term, the 10 sports performance basketball students got to work with Capital Basketball. This was a great opportunity for these students to enhance their skills and boost their confidence on the court. The clinic consisted of engaging and challenging drills and exercises where the students had to encourage each other and work as a team. These students improved their shooting, passing, defending, and dribbling techniques. The coach provided valuable feedback and guidance, helping each player to reach their full potential. By the end of the clinic, students were more confident in their abilities and had fun while participating in this great opportunity. Thank you to Scott from Capital Basketball for working with these students and providing them with valuable experience.



Other Highlights

Security Course

It was great to see 8 students from the Level 3 Meaningful Pathways and Gateway complete a 3 day security course gaining certification and credits. Hopefully this will lead on to work opportunities for them.

Trades Academy

Three students that have outstanding comments from their Trades Academy courses are Elijah Opa (Barbering), Ash Dowie (Automotive and Engineering) and Maraea Nepia (Te Ao Haka).

Gateway Students and MP3

It is great to see all students in a work placement developing their skills and learning crucial skills ready for the workplace. It is wonderful to get positive feedback from employers and to hear about the students' learning.

Upcoming Events: Looking ahead to Term 3, we have an exciting lineup of events planned, including:

- The annual Stratford Cultural and Sports Exchange
- An exciting trip to the Gold Coast for the Yr 13 Tourism students
- The School Ball
- TORPEDO7 GET2GO CHALLENGE - 9 August
- Barbershop Nationals

Important Dates: Please take note of the following important dates for the upcoming term and a reminder that school will finish at 12pm on Friday 5th July.

- Term 3 Commencement: Monday 22 July
- Open Day/Evening Thursday 15 August

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, and enthusiastic students. Your commitment to our school community is inspiring and contributes to our collective success.

As always, please feel free to contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break, and looking forward to another productive term ahead.

Ngā mihi nui

Linda Pye

