

11 August 2017

From the Principal's desk

Nga mihi nui, kia koutou katoa,

Our involvement in a Community of Learning (Kahui Ako) with ten other schools is now underway. The extra staffing resources this will bring and the closer level of cooperation with neighbouring schools should make a positive difference for our learners. Already, I am enjoying meeting with my principal colleagues to discuss and develop our shared achievement challenges in a spirit of cooperation, rather than the traditional NZ model of competition. We will be seeking input from our school communities to identify and develop priorities and strategies. Furthermore, we belong to a wider alliance of 40 schools in the Whangarei area who have committed to sharing resources and working together to raise student achievement.

This term, teachers at Tauraroa Area School have entered into a professional learning and development programme with Ms Lisa Watson (University of Auckland) on Maori student engagement and achievement. We are aiming to remove the small but persistent gap in Maori achievement at all levels of the school. Overall, our Maori students perform well above national averages, but we always want to do better. Research tells us that strategies to raise Maori performance benefits all students - no one misses out. As a nation, we will all gain from increased Maori participation and success in our economy and society.

Our hopes of extending our current gymnasium have been dashed. After exploring a wide range of funding options and arguing our case with the Ministry of Education over some years, we can find no way forward with this important building project. The gym / hall / toilet block will, however, be undergoing significant renovation and redevelopment to the tune of approximately \$700,000. Planning and pricing for this project are now underway.

Our Board of Trustees, led by Mrs Susan Skelton, continues to diligently govern our school. I am grateful for the open and positive working relationship I have with board members as we seek to use school resources wisely and set the strategic direction of our organisation.

Please let your contacts know about our Open Day on 24 August. This is an opportunity for prospective students (aimed at Year 6-8) to enjoy a 'taster' day at school and for parents to attend an information session and school tour in the evening.

Heoi ano,

Grant Burns
Principal

Congratulations to :
Our Concert Band (directed by Kathleen Mulligan) for their Bronze Award-winning performance at last weekend's NZ Concert Band festival. Three soloists from our school also did well at the event, with Violet Blomfield (Silver), Megan Burns (Gold) and Ashley Mansell (Gold) being recognised for their efforts. Ashley (Year 7) caused something of an 'upset' by winning the overall Outstanding Performance by a Soloist Award over participants of all ages (including full time university music students) with her trumpet solo that captivated the judges. Congratulations to Derek Hopper for his work as Ashley's music teacher.

<i>Coming Events:</i>	
10 August	Y7 to Snow Planet
11 August	P5 - Polar Bear Swim
13-14 August	Y12PE Kauaeranga Valley Thames
16 August	Road Show to contributing schools
17 August	Y7/8 sports exchange to Bream Bay College
18 August	Y9-10 NSSSA Basketball boys Kensington stadium
21-24 August	'Too Much Punch for Judy' Y12/13 Drama (6 shows/3 casts)
24 August	Open Day
24 August	Y7-8 WPSSA boys basketball Kensington stadium GM
28 August	Y7/8 Science Fair Forum North (RH)
1-7 September	Senior Exams (English on 1 Sept)
3-8 September	Y10 Hillary OPC
20 September	TAS Creative concert Forum North
26 September-12 October	Europe trip
27-29 September	Y8 Auckland Camp
29 September	End Term 3
16 October	Start Term 4
27 October	Country Day
9 November	NCEA Starts (L1 Drama)
4 December	Year 9-13 prizegiving
13 December	Y0-8 Prize giving; End Term 4

Cornerstone Value: .
Ngakau atawhai - Kindness: Defined as "To help, show concern and be friendly to others."

Uniform change:
It is now permissible for students to wear a single, small and discreet nose piercing with their school uniform.

Do you need a garden shed? Our senior technology students is building high quality garden sheds in this term. If you might be interested in purchasing one of these, please contact the school office or JK Hill.



Www.tauraroa.school.nz

Telephone: 4322643

Issue 11

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NZQA

NZQA Exam fees are due before **7 September**. These are not part of your school fees. We recommend payment to our school bank account ASB 12-3115-0012400-000 with your name as a reference. Cash/cheque/efpos payment may be made to the school office.

If you qualify for financial assistance, please complete the form (available online or from the school office) and return it to Mr Walton-Jones or the office before **1 September**. Fees unpaid after the due date, students must pay directly to NZQA with an additional \$50 late fee.



Congratulations to the following students on achieving NCEA excellence in Geography.

Level 2 Health

Rheanna Bettin

Leah Gunson

Lauren Bollu

Ella Coles Gollop

Nadine Bishop

2.5 Research

Calloway Shortland-Witehira

Leah Gunson

Rheanna Bettin

2.6 Contemporary Issue

Calloway Shortland-Witehira

Lauren Bollu

Leah Gunson

Rheanna Bettin

2.7 Global Topic

Calloway Shortland-Witehira

Jakob Harvey

Jayden Lincoln

Lauren Bollu

Leah Gunson

Phoebe Simpson

Rheanna Bettin

3.3 Fritter Festival

Emily Evans

3.6 Contemporary Issue

Xanthe Cave

3.7 Global Topic

Xanthe Cave

Congratulations to past TAS student **Cameron Leijen (2016)** on successfully finishing his pre apprenticeship course at North Tech. He now works full time and has an apprenticeship. Much appreciation to VPI at TAS for giving Cam the opportunity to succeed. Regards, Shelly Budgen



Please return any sports uniforms. Still a lot outstanding.

Music News

Photo of Ashley Mansell performing a trumpet solo with piano at the NZ Concert Band festival last week. Ashley was awarded a gold medal and also won "Most Outstanding Solo performance" for the festival. This a fantastic achievement with not only high school students but university and adult musicians participating. Megan Burns (trumpet) and Violet Blomfield (flute) also won awards for their solo performances. Megan performed as part of the New Zealand Youth Wind Ensemble as well as with our school band.



Next **Monday the 14th of August** the finalists from our annual TAS IDOL contest will compete at assembly to decide a winner. On **August 16th** our school jazz band and concert band will be travelling to Otaika, Maungatapere and Kokopu Schools to perform. Remember to keep **September the 20th** free for our TAS Creative concert at Forum North, 7pm. This will include kapa haka, music groups, TAS Idol finalists, drama and dance performers.

NCEA students should be preparing their final solo performances for the last assessment evening on **Monday the 25th of September**.



BOT News- 7th Aug Meeting. Full minutes available at the school office.

Matters dealt with at the meeting included:

- Mid- Year review of progress towards Annual Goals. Pleasing to note that all Year 11 students have achieved their NCEA numeracy requirements. More than 70 NCEA 'Excellence' credits have been earned by students across Levels 1, 2 and 3 so far in 2017.
- Positive discussion around lifting boys' achievement to meet annual writing goal.
- Gym upgrade plans being drawn up and priced. It will include a major revamp of the toilets and changing area. (We do not qualify for extension of the gym at this stage)
- Painting of pool planned for Dec/Jan.
- Uniform committee resolutions discussed & passed by the BOT. The school jacket lining will be changed to a warmer lining.

Make-up and facial hair

- No nail polish is to be worn. (No change)
- Young men are expected to be clean shaven. (No change)
- Makeup is to be discreet and natural in appearance. (No change)

Jewellery

- The only visible jewellery to be worn is up to a maximum total of four small studs in ear(s) and one plain, discreet nose stud. Other forms of body piercing are not permitted.

Girls: Years 7-10

Black dress skirt (2 styles available) to be worn just above or below the knees...

Public Health News!

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your Public Health Nurse – Dee Millen-Turner on 0800 223 358 (option 4) or 021 735 313

Welcome to the Parent/Caregiver Portal on Edge

The TAS student management system is called MUSAC Edge. We have opened the parent and caregiver portal, which gives you access to contact, assessment and attendance information, timetables, accounts and, in the future, payments and school reports.

The link for the portal will be placed on the TAS website. It is <https://parent.musac.school.nz/> There are some important points to note regarding signing in.

- The email address we have listed in the system for you is the login email.
- If that email address is also the one you use for Google+, Facebook, Yahoo or Windows Live then you can click on the appropriate icon and be guided through using that application sign-in for Edge.
- If not then you will need to enter your email address and click the "I don't know my edge password" link. Edge will email you with instructions about setting up a password.

Please contact the front office if you want to check or change the email address we have on our records for you.

Mid-Western First Response Society AGM Monday 14 August @ 7.30pm
Maungakarama Fire Station (opp MGK School) New members are most welcome. Ph Murray 027-210-9312 for more info



Supporting our local community by sponsoring the Duke of Edinburgh programme run through Tauraroa Area School.

Congratulations to Nina Spick and Monique Harding-Baker who won the Library Matariki Quiz Competition.

AUT LIVE – The Most Open Day, is a day dedicated for our prospective students to provide them with an opportunity to meet our academic staff, get comprehensive degree information (undergraduate and postgraduate), discover our incredible spaces and facilities and talk to the people who can assist with making their future study opportunities easier.
When **Saturday, 2 September** Time **10:30am**
Where **WG Building, Room: WG517, City Campus**
registration page <https://www.aut.ac.nz/live>

Waiotira community membersplease keep an eye out for the person/people who are using the Hall car-park as a skid pad. Most of the windows in the hall are broken due to flying stones. Very disappointing that someone has caused this damage while the community is working so hard to keep and maintain this asset. You can report all inappropriate use of the grounds to the committee by email waiotirahall@gmail.com or phone the police if necessary. Please do not approach these people as some have been abusive. Keep yourself safe!

Thank you

Would you like a lamb for Country Day? I have a lovely male born 2 August 2017. Call Tania 021530897

Country Day 27 October



The Vet Centre
Maungaturoto • Waipu • Ruawai • Mangawhai
FREE Vaccination & Docking for Pet Day Lambs, Calves & Goat Kids

Please see insert for details!

Dargaville Secondary Schools Clay Target Competition

Congratulations on the team coming 2nd
Dawn Ludewig-Willoughby - 1st Girls Single Barrel 13/15
Carlisa McCarroll - 3rd Girls Single Barrel 11/15

We are running courses for staff on Thursday 12 October (Thursday of second week of the holidays) or Sunday 29th October. Do you need a Workplace First Aid qualification for only \$110? We have a few spare places on either day.
Email sue.howes@tauraroa.school.nz or ring Anna in the front office for further details and/or to add your name to the list if you'd like to join us.

For Parents – Language to Literacy

You are invited to Joy Allcock, hosted by Dyslexia PLUS Friday 18th of August 7.30 – 9pm
Pat Irving Lounge, St John's Church, Kamo Rd \$5 door fee. All welcome.

Whangarei Central Library – 2017 Character Hunt **Sunday 13th August 2017**, 10.30 - 12noon all ages
Come along and hunt for storybook characters. Spot Prizes for children in costume. Great fun for the whole family.

Year 12 Geography students hard at work in Auckland on their field trip on Monday 7 August. Our focus was looking at and experiencing transport patterns.



Whangarei Young Mariners is a girls group, ages 8 – 18 yrs. We meet every Monday at 6pm, at Riverside Drive beside the old BMX Track.
Activities: Sailing, Rigging, Canoeing, Rowing, Knots, Outdoor cooking, Camping, Tramping, Bush craft, Badge work
Phone Jill @ 0274069666 or Karen 0212400414

