

## Newsletter 02 February 2017

From the Principal's desk...

Nga mihi nui, kia koutou katoa,

I am very much looking forward to working with students, teachers and parents to get our 2017 school year underway. A warm welcome is extended to our 60 new students and their families. Our senior students have again achieved outstandingly well in NCEA exams. Of the students who attempted NCEA, 84% of Level 1, 97% of Level 2 and 100% of Level 3 candidates achieved the qualification. Maori success rates were 90% Level 1, 100% Levels 2 and 3. Special congratulations to these young people who gained prestigious 'Excellence' endorsements:

Level One: Charlotte Visser, Rheanna Bettin, Katelyn Mills, Nina Spick, Megan Burns, Leah Gunson, Amy Ogilvy-Hickey.

Excellent endorsements in individual subjects were also gained by Jakob Harvey, Nadine Bishop, LJ Yearbury-Murphy. 19 students gained overall 'Merit' endorsement.

Level Two: Courtney Martin, Rebecca Karels.

Overall Merit endorsements were gained by six students

Level Three: Lucy Xu, Tiarna Stothers, Amy Burns, Molly Alford, Sam Mills. Excellence in individual subjects were gained by Sasha Watson, Elijah Dwane, Jade Beer.

Overall Merit endorsements were gained by five students

Our **Hangi** on **15 February** will provide an opportunity for parents to meet their children's teachers. This event is free of charge but does depend upon donations of food and labour to proceed. Non-perishable items (eg kumara, potatoes, pumpkin, flour) may be brought to the

front office any time before 14 February. Please contact Matua Tanara (Don McDonald-Spice)

Our **Cornerstone Values** focus for Term One will be **Whaka ute: Respect**. This is defined at Tauraroa as 'to treat with courtesy; to hold in high regard, to honour, to care about yourself, others and our environment.' We encourage our school whanau to look for ways to reinforce this at home.

The Board of Trustees and staff are aware of the high cost of schooling. Every effort is made to keep costs down while keeping the resources needed for outstanding learning opportunities available to all students. Consequently, *we do not expect annual school donations*. Anyone who is struggling to meet school expenses is asked to contact our Executive Officer, Debby Keay, to arrange regular automatic payments or other options. We do not want to see finance be an obstacle to any student fully taking up curriculum-based activities.

Our theme for this year is collaboration; that is, "we're all in this together". I look forward to seeing the strengthening of partnerships in the many relationships that lay the foundations for our success. Increased and improved collaboration among teachers, between home and school, between teachers and students, etc, will allow everyone in our school community to have the chance to contribute to student achievement. One practical way of collaborating is to take the opportunity to comment on our Charter, which outlines our priorities for the coming year. A copy of the draft document will be available on the school's website. I am very happy to speak with you, if you wish to discuss any aspects of the document. Your comments are very welcome and will contribute to the Board of Trustee's discussion and adoption of the Charter at its 20 February meeting.

Heoi ano,

Grant Burns

Principal

### Upcoming Events

*Note: Whanau / Parents / Friends of the school are warmly **invited to attend events marked \****

2 Feb	Year 11-13 students and new Year 9-10
3 Feb	All Year 1-10
6 Feb	Waitangi Day
7 Feb	Whole school attends
8 Feb	2:10pm Assembly* announcing Head Prefects and recognising NCEA high performers
10 Feb	Waka Toa (formerly 'Top House')
13 Feb	TAS Swimming Sports*
15 Feb	5:30pm ' <b>Meet the teacher</b> ' and community <b>hangi</b> *
17 Feb	Athletics* (Kensington Stadium)
20-24 Feb	School Camps: Y13 (Tongariro); Y11(Tangihua); Y7 (Rawhiti)
7 Mar	Y12 Biology to Waipu
8-11 Mar	Y11 Graphics to Napier
15-16 Mar	Y9 Camp (Pataua S)
16-24 Mar	Life Education Trust
20-22 Mar	Y12 camp (Marsden Bay CC)
22-24 Mar	Y3/4 camp Tangihua Lodge
20-21 Mar	Y1/2 camp Tangihua Lodge
28-31 Mar	Y5/6 Manaia camp
13 Apr	End of T1. P5 Assembly

*Please be sure all students have adequate sun protection for outdoor events*



**Staff Changes:** We have a number of changes to staffing appointments to announce:

- **Victoria Rudman** has accepted a position at Darfield College (Canterbury). We wish her very success with the move and thank her for the wonderful contribution she made at TAS over the past eight years. We welcome the following teachers to the school:
- **Andrea Cameron** Year 12/13 Dean and teacher in charge of Sport, Gateway & STAR
- **James Barrett** Room 6 (Y5/6)
- **Julie Chaplin** Room 4 (Y5/6)
- **Glenn McDonald** – Year 8
- **Steve Herbert** – Secondary Social Studies and English (part time)
- **Al Kirk** - Head of Mathematics
- **Sharrin Rogers** – teacher aide
- **Anna Leaman** – commenced as our new office receptionist at the end of last term.

Many of our returning teachers have assumed new roles:

- **Sue Howes** has withdrawn from her position as a Deputy Principal, a role she has filled for 12 years. She will retain her roles as Head of Social Sciences and Far Net manager and be organising daily staff relief.
- **Allison McKellar** has been appointed Deputy Principal (Director of Learning and Teaching).
- **Judy Dorset** is moving from teaching Year 1 to Year 3, with **Meaghan Green** (supported by Janine Moore 1 day a week) becoming our New Entrants' teacher
- **Ruth Phillips** is stepping down as our teacher in charge of learning support, with **Clarissa Tana** taking over this role. Ruth will continue as our Dean of Years 1-3.
- **Maree Middlemass** has been appointed to Dean of Years 4-6
- **Chris Townshend** Dean of Year 9
- **Natalie Hydes** moving through to Y10 with 2016 Y9 cohort. **Derek Hopper** has relinquished his Y10 Dean position and continues as Head of Music.
- **JK Hill** has stepped aside from Head of Mathematics to take responsibility for workshop technology. He will continue his work with our successful VPI programme.
- **Sarah Morris** has opted to work part time in 2017, relinquishing Head of Sport.
- **Ann-Marie Anderson** will also be working part-time this year and changing from a Y8 to a Y7 homeroom.
- **Janine Burns** has moved on from principal's secretary to a part time position as International Student Manager and data entry. **Elaine Pienaar** has moved from receptionist/accounts to principal's secretary.

#### Uniform and Stationery

Thank you for ensuring your students are coming to school in correct uniform and equipped with the right stationery. Details are available on the school website.

#### **Learning a musical instrument at TAS in 2017**

Free tuition in trumpet, trombone, flute, clarinet,

saxophone, voice, guitar, bass and drums is



available. Students/parents can get signup forms from Mr Hopper in the music room or the school office. Lessons start week 3 (13-17th Feb). Concert band will start Wednesday the 15th Feb

**Year 11 Camp** is in Week Four, 21 to 24 February. Medical forms and payments need to be in by the 14th of February. A reminder also that students will need their own lunch for the Tuesday but all other meals are included.



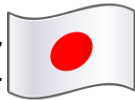
*School camps/trips are to be paid in full prior to activity date. Student invoices are sent out once a term, please ensure that you receive yours.*

*School payments may be made to:  
Tauraroa Area School Board of Trustees  
12-3115-0012400-000*

*Please use the students name as a reference*

**Cyber safety agreements** will be handed out today. Parents and students are to please sign and return forms so that students can participate fully in classes.

Workbooks and second-hand uniforms are available for sale from the front office. We ask that workbooks are purchased promptly to enable our learning and teaching programmes to get underway. These items need to be paid for prior to use. Savings made by the school's bulk purchase of these books are being passed on to families.



#### **NEW HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED**

From 19 - 29 March 2017

I am looking for new host families interested in hosting a Japanese student, aged between 14-17 years old. Host families are required to provide 3 meals a day and a private bedroom. Families receive a home-stay payment for this service. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity. Please contact Janine at the school office or email [international@tauraroa.school.nz](mailto:international@tauraroa.school.nz)

#### **Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival 2017**

We are holding auditions for senior students who want to commit to this on Wednesday 8th February, lunchtime, Rm 17B. There will be essential rehearsals at least twice weekly leading up to a Regional competition on March 30th. We aim to create a compact physical masterpiece based on one of Shakespeare's most powerful plays. Be there or be sad. Whaea Tabitha

Tauraroa Area School Inter-School Motorcycle Competition

Registration required: Please enquire at the office  
When:- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Where:- McCarroll's Property, 69a Cassidy Road, Paparua  
What:- Bring your own bike, helmet, and protective clothing, your snacks and drink. Quad friendly.  
Cost:- \$20/rider (Food available for purchase on the day)

**Student Council** is holding elections on 27 February. Application forms will be available from Waka Teachers or the front office from 7 February. They must be submitted to Mrs Magee. Top candidates will be selected and put forward for voting on 27 February.

## Tauraroa Area School 2016



**TAS 2016 Yearbooks available now At the school office \$15**

### Summer Holiday News

**Amy Alderton** competed in the Colgate Games in Hastings over 6/7/8/ January. This is a nationwide competition. Amy finished a "photofinish" 3rd in the 100m and 2nd in 200m for 12 year olds



Congratulations to Megan Burns who played trumpet with the NZ Youth Symphonic Winds in Wellington during the holidays.

During the summer break, Year 9 students Natahlia Albert, Charlotte Ngakuru-Smith and Violet Blomfield attended the Opononi Summer Music camp, where musicians spend an intensive 4 days learning new music, culminating in a performance to the public on the last evening. Kathleen Mulligan was one of the 3 conductors involved. The camp is run in conjunction with Whangarei Youth Music, with attendees coming from all different parts of the country (and one even from Alaska!). Term 1 for WYM starts February 10<sup>th</sup>, check the website for groups and times or contact [whangareiyouthmusicnz@gmail.com](mailto:whangareiyouthmusicnz@gmail.com) for details.



Duke of Edinburgh Silver completed their 48km practice journey around the North Cape.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold completed their 63 km practice journey along the amazing Waitakere Hillary trail.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

Hannah and Emily Winters--Dodds won the inaugural Mid-Western Christmas Decorated mailbox competition - they decorated their Grandmother's mailbox and won because of their attention to detail in the making of their Christmas Elf.

Portland Kindergarten  
Portland Kindergarten have vacancies we are taking enrolments now. 8:30am –2:30pm Monday to Friday 2-6 year olds. No Fee's. 100% qualified teachers. If you are interested in a placement for your child, please contact the kindergarten staff on 4322533 or email [portland@nka.org.nz](mailto:portland@nka.org.nz). Alternatively you are invited to visit the Kindy at Portland School Rd (inside the school grounds) We look forward to meeting with you.