



# Taradale High School

Be determined. Aim high. *Piki ake. Kia maia.*

Newsletter 2 Term 1, 2011



## Athletics Sports 2011

### Principal's Message

Tena Koutou Parents & Caregivers

#### Making a good start

Like most of us, students set their patterns early in the year. If they have made a good start, they are much more likely to finish the year well. If, however, there are cracks appearing, such as negative attitudes, complaints about not wanting to go to school, poor selection of friends, not doing homework, and so on, then you could be looking at the start of a trend that leads to poor results. If you have early warnings that the year hasn't begun well, talk to your son/daughter's form teacher or dean.

In some cases, students will comment on the increased difficulty from one year level to the next. This is especially so – but not exclusively – at the start of Year 12 (Form 6). Sometimes this jump feels too big for some. Our encouragement is to keep doing the things that good learners do. Students are often surprised at what they know and can do by the end of the year, even though it felt daunting to begin with.

If your teenager struggles to be organised, see the advice later in this newsletter. Poor organisation can be the ruin of good goals. If your teenager lacks a career focus, see the information from the Careers Department later in this newsletter, as a career goal assists teenagers to see the relevance of school.

It's still true that a busy teenager is a successful teenager. Students who are busy, engaged in class and getting their homework done are likely to do well.

#### Relay for Life

This newsletter reports on many positive school events in the last few weeks. I would like to add how proud I was of those who participated in Relay for Life. It was a wonderful example of responsible and caring senior students, actively raising money (over \$4,000) for cancer research. Well done to the large number involved. You illustrate the "caring" part of our school vision: *Young people who are confident, caring and committed to their learning*

Piki ake. Kia maia,  
Stephen Hensman  
Principal

## Coming Events

### March

- 17 Class Photos
- 18 Individual Photos
- 26-31 Summer Tournament Week
- 30 Year 12 Biology Field Trip
- 31 French Trip to Wellington

### April

- 1 Cilla McQueen (Poet Laureate) visits
  - 4/5 Year 12/13 Geography Field Trip
  - 6 National Bank Maths Competition
  - 9 Farewell for Mr George McCawe
  - 11 Option 2 begins for Juniors
  - 15 PTA Meeting 7.30pm
  - Year 11 Pentathlon/  
Mufti Day for Christchurch
- Term 1 ends**

### May

- 2 **Term 2 Starts**
- 12 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 14 School Ball

# School Donations

School donations are tax deductible. If 2011's fees are paid before the 31<sup>st</sup> March, you will be able to claim the tax back sooner than if you wait until later. Note that if the school donation is paid by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 it is \$175 per individual student, or \$270 per family, whereas it is \$195 per individual student, or \$290 per family, thereafter.



THS International student Josefina Pfeifer from Germany, celebrates Art Deco Weekend with New Zealand's Prime Minister, John Key.

## Athletic Sports 2011

Another great day was had by students and staff with the return of the Mission Impossible Obstacle course.

Five school records were broken in Triple Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put and Discus. **Sean Morrison** broke two records with a Put of 11.79m and a discus throw of 35.6m.

**Athletic Champions in each year group are as follows:**

**Senior Boys**

Todd Lowrie

**Year 11 Boys**

Billy Kerr

**Year 10 Boys**

Dylan Binnie

**Year 9 Boys**

Daniel Hardie

**Senior Girls**

Nicole Baird

**Year 11 Girls**

Kelly Morris-Eyton

**Year 10 Girls**

Kelly Sunnex

**Year 9 Girls**

Caitlin Morrison

The first House competition for the year went to **Hetley** with 8301 points, second was **Milner** with 7966 points, third was **Tareha** with 7369 points, and then **Kaiwhata** with 7298 points.

## Music Department

The four school choirs have all begun work on their 'Big Sing' programmes. The Junior Choir in 2011 is being directed by two Year 12 students, **Letitia Williams** and **Gabriel Tam**, who have already been working hard with those students. This year the Chamber Choir is working for two hours on a very beautiful programme of songs on Thursday evenings. Watch out for news about 'Big Sing' dates and tickets etc.

Chamber Music groups and rock bands are also underway, as is a new Ukelele group! The student Heads of Arts, and Music and Drama are geared up with great ideas for promoting and celebrating the performing arts at Taradale, so here's to a wonderful time for all our musicians in 2011!

HOD Jane Pierard



# Congratulations to. . .

Congratulations and thank you to the following students who built the orb which has been installed in the quad. The orb is designed to be a reference point for students studying three dimensional shapes in mathematics. Many thanks to **Simon Burnside** (Year 13), **Korbinian Dischinger** (an international student in 2010), **Mr Tony Prebensen** (the teacher in charge) and **Mr Ron Sim** (groundsman).

Seen less, but no less significant, is the grass aerator and slicer constructed by **Mitchell Hawke** and **Shaun Millard**, both in Year 12. Thanks also go to the teachers in charge of the project, **Messrs Tony Prebensen** and **David Szelesi**. Thanks also to **Mr Ron Sim**, the groundsman, for conceiving the plan and giving advice. This substantial piece of equipment, designed to enhance soil health on the fields and stimulate grass growth, would have been expensive to purchase commercially.

Many thanks to those responsible for the construction of the recycling stands and bins recently installed in the school grounds: **Mr Prebensen** (teacher in charge), **Keegan Hay**, **Joshua Cooper**, **Tabitha Guy;ott** and **Jarrod Smith**. These bins will serve for the collection of food scraps to support our worm farm and for the compost. (see photograph on the back page)

Congratulations to **Abi Collins** and **Rebecca Shepherd** for winning gold in the national U14 mixed beach sprint relay championships, representing OBK Surf Life Saving Club. Their male team mates were boys from Napier Boys' High School and St John's. Abi and Rebecca also both made it into the individual finals, where Abi was placed fourth and Becky eighth. A huge achievement and we are really proud of them.

**Zane Hohepa** selected for the Hawke's Bay U19 Basketball Team

**Teina Toru** selected for the Hawke's Bay U19 Basketball Development Squad

## Congratulations to the following students who participated in the Napier/Hastings Secondary Schools' Year 9 and 10 Athletics Relay Competitions:

### Liam Hurst

3<sup>rd</sup> in 4 x 800 metre relay

### Rebecca Shepherd

Champion Team 4 x 100 metres, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 x 400 metres, 4 x 800 metres.

### Caitlyn Parslow

Champion Team 4 x 100 metres, 2<sup>nd</sup> Girls' Long Jump, 1<sup>st</sup> Girls' Discus

### Abi Collins

Champion Team 4 x 100 metres, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 x 400 metres, 4 x 800 metres, long jump

### Kelly Sunnex

Champion Team 4 x 100 metres, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 x 400 metres, 4 x 800 metres, long jump

### Tyler Newport

Champion team for discus

### Nina Houston

Champion team for discus, 2<sup>nd</sup> place-getter overall.

### Luke Sambrook-Dixon

3<sup>rd</sup> in 4 x 800 metre relay, 2<sup>nd</sup> in boys' long jump team

### Jodi Nagel

Champion team in 4 x 100 metres, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 x 400 metres.

### Adam Kockelbergh

3<sup>rd</sup> in 4 x 800 metre relay, 2<sup>nd</sup> in boys' long jump team

### Dylan Binnie

3<sup>rd</sup> in 4 x 800 metre relay, 2<sup>nd</sup> in boys' long jump team.

## WE NEED A LIFT!

Needed a light hiab crane or similar vehicle for moving the location of a concrete tank on the school grounds. If you can help, please ring the school office and ask for Mr Ron Sim, our groundsman. Thanks in anticipation.



**Raewyn Dixon** winner of New Zealand Clubs Gold Medal and East Coast / Bay of Plenty Clubs Gold Medal. This makes her the Recurve Champion of 2010, an impressive achievement in the world of archery.

# Scholarships

A huge congratulations goes to the following high achievers in Level 3 NCEA in 2010:

**Joseph Corbett-Davies** – 1 Outstanding Scholarship in Statistics plus 2 other Scholarships in Chemistry and Physics. As if that's not impressive enough, 73 Excellence credits at Level 3!

**Lucas MacNeil** – 1 Scholarship in Statistics.

**Zoon Kang** - 1 Scholarship in Statistics

They have been awarded colours for their scholarship passes.

## Where have those House names come from?

Our Houses take their names from four historic, inspirational, generous leaders of Taradale.

### TAREHA

Tareha Te Moananui was one of the great leaders of Ngati Kahungunu (Hawke's Bay). In 1867, when wool prices had dropped sharply, causing living conditions to become very difficult for the settlers, Chief Tareha gave 15 tons of potatoes to be distributed to the European settlers, two kits for each family in need.

### HETLEY

In 1958, in a gesture that shows how highly she valued education, Mrs Margaret Hetley offered to bequeath her 20 acre property, Otatara, as a university site in memory of her late husband Arnaud. Eventually, after many years of discussions, she agreed to hand the land over to the Crown to establish a polytechnic there, which is today the EIT.

### KAIWHATA

Paora Kaiwhata, was the last tattooed chief of Ngati Hinepare, growing up on an island at the end of what is now the HB Airport. He played an important role in keeping Ngati Kahungunu on the side of the government, opposed the Kingi movement, and fought against Te Kooti, yet he had the foresight to oppose the Native Land Court, supporting efforts in 1873 to protect his tribal lands from ill-advised mortgages and sales.

### MILLER

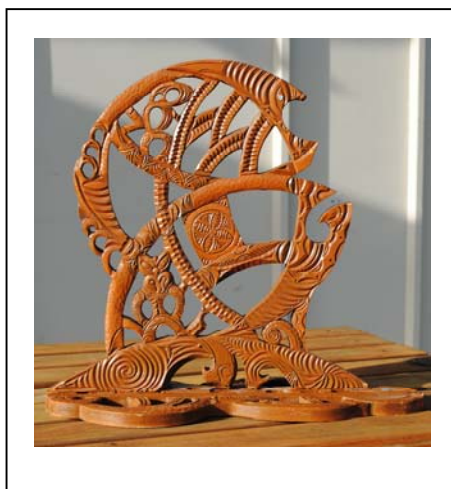
Mr Arthur Miller was the last elected mayor of Taradale. Education was one of his passions: *"Unless you get a good education, life will never be the same. Getting on is not luck, it's plain hard work,"* he said. Mr Miller successfully agitated for the building of both Taradale Intermediate and Taradale High School. He bequeathed trust money to Taradale High School to prevent any student from missing out on an educational opportunity.

## Thomas Kay

Thomas is a member of the NZ U-18 Development Squad. He has recently achieved outstanding success including a Bronze Medal for 3rd place in the Australian Schools 18 and under Downriver Race.

He recently participated in the 2011 Oceania Championships held in Mangahao, Manuwatu and achieved 17th place competing against a world class field of paddlers from Australia, Czech, France, Switzerland and New Zealand.

Thomas is presently training for the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Whitewater Nationals and New Zealand Open Nationals being held at Kawerau, Bay of Plenty, in April. We wish him for this competition.



## Ever wondered about the origins of our House Trophy?

**The House Trophy** was carved and donated by Mr Mana Cracknell, the same teacher who produced the carvings over the wharekura. He taught here in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The trophy is rich in symbols, such as:

- The Southern Cross, indicated by circles which represent the position of the Southern Cross in the sky in December, when the trophy is awarded at prize giving.
- Its fish pattern on the base represents a high standard of leadership and performance; concepts strongly linked to our House competition.

**The goals** of the House competition are:

- **To encourage a sense of belonging.** This is a large school, so the House system breaks it down into smaller groups to belong to, much like vertical forms do. It therefore gives each student something in common with a quarter of the school.
- **To encourage enthusiastic participation** in a wide range of sports, cultural and academic activities, in the interests of fostering well-rounded interests in our students.

**One of our goals this year is to give more information on the school's Mission, Vision and Values. The vision we have for your sons and daughters is: *Young people who are confident, caring and committed to their learning. It's a vision that motivates and energises us as teachers and support staff. Some of the things we have in mind when we think of young people who are confident is:***

- Having a positive attitude.
- Reflecting on their performance in order to do better next time.
- Having the courage to risk giving a wrong answer, rather than waiting to be told.
- Accepting knock-backs and learning from their mistakes.
- Resisting peer pressure.
- Believing in one's self.
- Showing resiliency, i.e. the ability to remain determined and to put in the effort, even when they're not getting the results they're after.

# Can you teach teenagers to be organised?

Some teens are naturally inclined to good organisation. Others seem to be fated to have a schoolbag full of dog-eared scraps of paper, overdue library books, outdated requests for course fees, stale remnants of lunch, and dirty PE gear. It's no coincidence that these same messy students often underachieve at school and find it almost impossible to meet deadlines. They lack the organisation skills we all need to get through our busy, complex days.

Many students never develop these skills during their schooldays and struggle in their first years at university or in a job. One of the best things we can do for them is give them ways they can organise their paperwork, get started on time on tasks, keep track of books and assignments, concentrate on what needs to be done, plan for deadlines and keep all their school stuff in designated spaces. An impossible task? Not with modern technology, colour-coded folders, a desk and shelves at home and a weekly plan for what lies ahead.

## Some ideas

**Make use of cell-phone and internet programmes to organise a calendar, send reminders, and sound the alarm.** Boys especially are amenable to using electronic means of organisation and can base their whole life around their organisers. Both girls and boys are likely to go into jobs where they are expected to use sophisticated message and calendar systems which are well within their capabilities at school.

**Keep a large, clear family calendar in a visible place like the kitchen** and use different coloured pens for each member of the family.

**For those who are the least well organised, doing some of the organisation for them can help**, such as keeping a filing shelf with coloured folders, where all notices, assignments, and other important material is stored. Or, spend a set time every day checking on dates and deadlines for your son/daughter's activities.

**Establish daily routines** for mealtimes, screentime, homework, leisure, bedtimes so they have a structure to their day.

**Become familiar with our homework diary**, so you can reinforce what's required at home.

**Share your own planning and organisation tips.** What applies to work, usually works with school too. Model tidiness, a place for important things like bills and keys, a routine to getting your own tasks done.

**Show your children ways to make a start on a task**, how to break it up into manageable chunks, how to prepare a mind-map to plan each step.

**Share how in your own life you take big tasks one step at a time.** This will help save your child from being daunted by what seems an impossible set of demands and build confidence in their own capacity to get things done.

**Ask an older student sibling or neighbour to act as a management coach.** Never underestimate the impact of a positive role model just 2 or 3 years older.

**Write every event, target and assignment in large letters on a calendar** in their work area and have a short daily discussion about what can be crossed off, what progress is being made and any looming deadlines.

If you've read this far, you've probably got a somewhat disorganised teenager in your household. Like all skills, good organisation can be learnt. And like most learning, it's best done one step at a time. Why not pick one of the above and start there? We wish you all the best with responding to the challenge of teaching some of the above skills to your son / daughter.

## Taradale High School Thanks HBDT

Hawke's Bay Data Technologies have donated \$2,000 to the school enabling us to install the data and electrical cabling required to create the new pod of 20 computers in the Art Block. The purpose of the installation of these computers is to allow our senior Arts students to work with digital photography as an option to dark room processing. We believe students can exercise a great deal more creative flexibility with the new technologies. So, a big thank you to **HBDT** who are the providers of our photocopying and printing facilities. Your donation is appreciated.

### Netball

Welcome to all our new and returning students who intend to play netball this year. We have started trials for some teams, and these will be completed in the next few weeks. The season does not begin till mid May, so there's still time for all the girls to continue to improve their fitness. We have a large number of teams, and a need for a few more coaches. If any parents are keen to help out, or if anyone has a query please email Rachel Read at [r.read@ths.school.nz](mailto:r.read@ths.school.nz).



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## Environmental Group

The Leaders of The Environment Group for 2011 are Jenni Coulson and Supriya Roy, with the help of Mr Naidoo.

**We have big visions for this year.** Our main goal is to help increase the awareness of the environment around the school and the community.

Any students are welcome to join the Environment Group at any stage of the year, to assist in any part, as the 'Environment' covers many different aspects.

Our main emphasis for the first part of the year is to **reduce the waste** that leaves the school. We want to **recycle as much as possible.**

We already have **yellow bins** in every classroom to recycle all paper material. Our school is involved in **Paper4trees**. In return for the paper that we recycle we are given trees. For the last couple of years the trees that the school has been given have been donated to Dolbel Reserve. Later in the year students have the opportunity to help plant out the trees. This year Mr Hensman is looking forward to attending.

Last week, five new, creatively designed, **food scrap stands** were placed around the school to collect food waste to go in the **worm farm** and the new **Bokashi system**. A big **thank you** goes out to **Mr Prebenson** for designing and making the New Food Scrap Stands at the end of last year with the help of **Keegan Hay, Jarrod Smith and Joshua Cooper**. Also big thanks to **Mr Sim** for installing the stands around the school, as well as **Mr Szelesi** with the help of the year 13 Technology and Electronics Class in installing the back boards to hold the posters which inform the users what can and cannot go into the bins and how a Bokashi System works.

The School Worm Farm is located at the back of A-Block, another project that the students and teachers of Taradale High School have been involved in.

Later in the year we hope to install **'RECYCLING BINS'**, which will be able to recycle glass, plastic and tins. This will mean that most of the waste generated within the school will be recycled.

All this can be achieved and will be achieved, but only with your help. The most important aspect of the solution is people-the students. We could do so much more if a quarter of students, then a half of students and then the whole school could see that the environment is the most crucial aspect of our world and needs to be taken care of, right now!

It may not affect this generation, **BUT** it will affect the generations to come.

We hope to have an **Environment article** in the newsletter every month from now on.



# Careers Department

As a new school year commences, the Careers Team would like you to be aware of the help which we can provide to students and parents.

**Parents are welcome to contact us anytime during the school week by phoning the school office on 8442159 ext 727**, or emailing robyn@ths.school.nz or lyndav@ths.school.nz. Alternatively phone 650 4727. We are available to make appointments for students and parents.

We can assist with;

- Career interviews/Advice/Career research/ Career Information
- Work Experience Organisation
- C.V. Preparation; Interviews
- Assist with Tertiary accommodation and enrolment
- Arrange visits on an individual basis

## IDEAS TO THINK ABOUT AS YOUR SON/DAUGHTER PLANS TO TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL:

Do they have their Driver's License? (Many jobs require it)

Do they have a CV?

Do they have a bank account? Do they know how to budget their money?

Can they prepare meals and know basic housekeeping?

Consider a Barista or Bartending course to provide possible work while studying. (These are available at school under the STAR programme)

A Fork lift Licence is also a valuable transferrable skill.

Work Experience may help to consider possible Careers.

Part time work or voluntary work provides valuable transferable skills.

Do they know the University Entrance requirements – such as the literacy and numeracy requirements? Excellence at level 2 NCEA can guarantee a University placement. In 2011, Universities added an additional entrance requirement known as the **Rank Score**. This score is based on credits earned as Excellence (4 points); Merit (3 points); Achieved (2 points). Please check the individual University websites for specific details.

**NCEA – student results are very important** – aim high so that students have the best opportunities for study programmes; scholarships and employment.

Begin researching possible scholarships – the Breakout database is available at the local libraries and Career Services in Napier. This has all of the scholarship information on scholarships available in New Zealand. **N.B.** Some scholarships are awarded based on NCEA excellence results. (Please keep the Record of Learning results in a safe place as these are required for applications for University and scholarships.)

**STUDYLINK:** Student Loans and Allowances – Students apply on line with verification required of the following: Birth Certificate/ Passport; IRD Number; Bank A/C details; an allowance will require evidence of the parents combined income from IRD. (Please note: Changes to Studylink commenced for any study on or after January, 2011) For more information go to: [www.studylink.govt.nz](http://www.studylink.govt.nz)

A very informative website for students and parents is: [www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz) with the following link: [www2.careers.govt.nz/parents\\_family\\_whanau.html](http://www2.careers.govt.nz/parents_family_whanau.html)

The Universities publish Parent Guide booklets which are available from C10. We also have available a book entitled "The Career Maze", which is very helpful for parents to understand the career decision making process. Please contact the Careers Department (Mrs Robin Penman/ Mrs Lynda Vidulich) to obtain any of this information: (Ph.650 4727) or 8442159 ext 727

**Air Force Challenge:** will be held at RNZAF Base Ohakea, **25 – 29 July**. There are a limited number of positions for Year 13 all – round students. Consideration will be given to outstanding Year 12 students. Applications need to be given to Mrs Penman by 31 March.

**University of Otago On Campus Experience: Tuesday 3 May – Friday 6 May.** This is a fully funded scholarship that provides an amazing opportunity for senior secondary students of Maori descent to sample living & learning at Otago University. Applications need to be given to Mrs Penman by 31 March.

**Waikato University Open Day: 13 May.** Any student who is interested in attending please register with Mrs Penman

**Auckland University:** will be holding an information evening for parents on Monday 23 May, 7.00 – 8.30pm. Mark this on your calendar – more information to come.

**Rotary Youth One Year Exchange Programme:** An information seminar will be held on Saturday 26 March, 1.00pm at the Quality Inn, Marine Parade. Please register with Gail Kelly 06 877 5123.

