



Taradale High School

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

Newsletter 8 Term 3, 2011



The Youhttown Get 2 Go Teams which recently competed in the regional Championships. Our A Team won the overall Hawke's Bay Championship to qualify for the Nationals in December.

Principal's Message

Tena Koutou Parents and Caregivers

I've now been back at school for 4 weeks following my sabbatical leave and can say with considerable enthusiasm that it is good to be back. Schools are vibrant, interesting places and it is wonderful to reconnect with students and staff. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Liz Drury for the superb job she did as Acting Principal and to thank all those staff who had extra responsibilities thrust upon them because of my absence. I owe a debt of gratitude for their competent leadership.

While in London I visited Phoenix High School. During the 1990s it was a graffiti-ridden school where students were unruly to the point where only 30% of the staff were permanent because every teacher who could, left. They went through five Principals in two years, one of whom was stabbed by a pupil. Threats of violence against staff were common-place and on one occasion, when the police came to conduct an investigation, a student stole their handcuffs! The whole sorry state of the school came to a head when students burnt down a building.

I visited Phoenix High School because over the course of the last 15 years it has undergone a revolutionary transformation. The students still come from poor families, many of them are recent migrants to the UK, over 50 languages are spoken there still, so there has been no change in demographics, but there has been a

substantial improvement in school culture to the point that you would think that you were walking into one of the best schools in the country, because not only are the facilities kept in very good condition, but the students are polite, engaged in their learning and producing very good results.

How have they achieved such a transformation against the odds? The Principal at Phoenix says that their success comes from changing the belief about its students. Until the students began to believe that they could succeed, until their parents began to believe it, and their teachers began to believe it, it didn't happen.

I mention this because it is now a little over 12 months since we introduced our school motto "Be determined. Aim high. *Piki ake. Kia maia.*" It's only with self-belief that anybody sets high goals and follows through with determination. Staff at Taradale High School believe in our students.

Just because some students can't see it now for themselves, doesn't mean they can't achieve great things. Just because they live thousands of miles from the powerful centres of the world, doesn't mean to say that one day they can't be world beaters. Just because they haven't yet discovered what they can be expert at, doesn't mean they won't.

Coming Events

September

15 Teacher Only Day

16 Mid Term Break

19 ERO Visit

22 Course Selection Evening

(see further in newsletter)

22 Winter Sports Prizegiving

Parents Welcome

Junior 9.50am ; Senior 10.30

October

1 Wearable Arts

4 BOT meeting

6 Junior Social

Haka and Waiata Competition

7 Term 3 Ends

24 Labour Day

25 Term 4 Begins

November

7 Christmas Supper Concert

8 Final Assembly for Seniors

9 Seniors on Study Leave

Parents, don't miss Course Information Evening. See page 2

Our motto is designed to point them in the right direction to show that hard work brings results; that setting out to be the best one can be is a good place to start. That cultivating the desire to achieve and developing passion for the things they are learning about will result in success, satisfaction and contentment.

The motto has been attributed to Sir Edmund Hillary, rightly or wrongly, but I think we can take great encouragement from Sir Ed. His assault on the summit of Mount Everest was not accidental. He worked hard to become a member of the successful expedition to Mount Everest. He sought opportunities to be one of the few climbers to make the ascent to the summit. Early in the expedition he realised that Tenzing Norgay was a talented climber and looked for opportunities to work with him and when he finally got the chance, he put himself forward and suggested to the expedition leader that he and Tenzing be the next pair to attempt the summit. He aimed high, but he didn't sit back. Instead, success was the result of planning, looking for new opportunities and incredible hard work.

So, I would encourage all our students to review their level of self-belief, because low esteem may be all that prevents their scholastic and life success.

Warm regards
Stephen Hensman
Principal

Board of Trustees News

After 4 ½ years at the helm, **Mrs Stella McLeod** has stepped down from her position as Board of Trustees' Chair. She has seen the school through a period of substantial change, bringing the school to a point of operational strength and considerable improvement in learning outcomes for students. Improvement is seldom the result of anything other than hard work and insight. The school owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs McLeod for both. **Mr Rob Lutter**, who has been our Deputy Chair for some time, takes over as Board of Trustees' Chair, with **Mr Tim Smith** as Deputy. These are men of considerable integrity and experience; Mr Lutter as a Taradale Ward Councillor and Mr Smith as a detective at Napier CIB.

We welcome onto the Board of Trustees **Mrs Liz Read**. Mrs Read has been Chair of the PTA for the last 2 ½ years. Additionally, she was Chair of the Taradale High School 40th Reunion Committee and she knows the school from the inside out as our public health nurse until recently. She brings with her expertise in dealing with a range of complex issues with young people, so has been co-opted to assist us on the Discipline Committee. Her experience on other managerial boards will add even more value to her role on the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees wants our students and parents to know that the school takes any involvement in possession of **illegal drugs at school** very seriously. If students are suspended because of possession of, or involvement in, drugs, there is a very high chance they will be excluded/expelled from Taradale High School and may face difficulty finding an alternative school to attend. That's not to say that you shouldn't contact us if you suspect your son or daughter is experimenting with drugs. We are equipped to point you in the right direction, including recommending agencies who can respond in an educative manner. It's not possible to overstate the impact that experimentation with the likes of cannabis has on a young person's motivation and development.

CHANGE OF TEACHER

Mrs Yorgason has left us in order to take maternity leave. We wish her the safe arrival of a healthy baby. **Mr Derek Chirnside** replaces her for the rest of this year. Mr Chirnside is an experienced teacher of physics and science and was formerly a Head of Science. We wish him well for his time at Taradale High School.

Congratulations to...

Ben Rosamund for gaining an A+ in his Waikato University Philosophy Paper (Social and Moral) studied under STAR in Semester One.

Sarah Groom, winner of the U3A Oratory Award. Sarah was presented with a trophy from Jimmy Dee, President, and Eric Niania, Convenor, of U3A Taradale. We are grateful for the \$100 they awarded to the school library for the purchase of books.

Kate Horrocks has been selected for the NZ Canoe Polo, Girls Under 21 A Team, for the Oceania Tournament, to be held in Palmerston North, December 2011. Well done Kate!

Greg Prosser and **Simon Huang** won the HBSS U-15 Table Tennis Competition in August. It was the best of five games, only four were played and they won 3-1.

Kelsey Macdonald, Alice Grundy, Emilee Williams, Carrie Sweetapple and **Marieke Flatt** have all been selected for the U-17 Hawke's Bay Girls' Volleyball Team

Nicole Baird has been selected for the U-19 Hawke's Bay Girls' Volleyball Team.

Course Selection Evening

Thursday 22nd September

This is perhaps the most important opportunity of the year in terms of influencing student success next year.

All departments will be represented in the hall from 4.30—6.30 pm and you are welcome any time during the two hour period. We encourage **all** parents of Years 10—12 to accompany their sons and daughters in order to check that their subject selection for next year will give them the assistance they need to achieve their goals. We offer this opportunity specifically because poor subject selection has been identified as being an issue for many students in the past. So please, take the opportunity that is offered.

Sports Corner

CENTRAL SIX

Congratulations to all our teams that competed in the recent Junior Central 6 competition on Friday 2nd September. Congratulations to Junior A Boys' Football Team who won four of their five fixtures and brought home the trophy by winning overall. All the students participated in the spirit of fair play and to the best of their ability. Well done athletes !!!

YOUTHTOWN GET 2 GO

Once again Taradale High School has come up trumps in Adventure Racing with two Junior teams recently competing in the Youthtown Get 2 Go Regional championships. They competed in Rock Climbing, Orienteering, Mountain Biking and Kayaking. The A team won every discipline, taking out the championship overall and qualifying for Nationals at Great Barrier Island in December. The B team made up predominantly of Year 9 students were 2nd to 4th in their disciplines and came 4th overall.

VOLLEYBALL

Junior Volleyball starts Wednesday 21st September, Good luck teams. Any students wishing to play Volleyball that haven't yet registered see Mr Gravestock or Miss Edwards ASAP.

SOFTBALL

Girls wishing to play softball in Term 4 should be at Tareha Park at 10:30 am on Saturday mornings for training.

EQUESTRIAN

Top riders at the Havelock North Equestrian event held on August 29th were, **Tamzin Bates** **Zoe Towler** and **Michaela Smith**.

The Woodford House Secondary School Equestrian event is being held Monday 19th September at the Hawke's Bay A & P Showground. Equestrian is an Olympic Sport and we wish all our students competing at this event the very best of luck.

WINTER SPORTS RESULTS

- 1st Place Premier Division – Junior Boys' Basketball
- 1st Place 2nd Division – Senior Boys' Basketball
- 2nd Place 2nd Division A Grade – Senior Girls' Basketball
- 1st Place College 11D Grade – THS 11A Netball
- 2nd Place College 11F Grade – THS Senior B Netball
- 2nd Place College 11A Grade – THS Collegiate Netball
- 1st Place B Grade – Boys' 1st XV Rugby
- 2nd Place 1st Division – Boys' 1st X1 Football
- 2nd Place 1st Division – Junior A Boys' Football
- 2nd Place 1st Division – Boys' 1st X1 Hockey
- 1st Place – Junior Mixed Rock Climbing
- 1st Place – Senior Girls' Rock Climbing
- 2nd Place – Senior Boys' Rock Climbing
- 1st Place – HBSS U15 Doubles Table Tennis



Michaela Smith riding 'Azrah Hill Royal Riot' at the Havelock North Equestrian event on August 29th



Rugby World Cup jerseys on display in the Library

University Graduates


Congratulations to these former pupils on graduating from **Massey University**. The date beside the name is the last year of attendance at Taradale High School.

Todd Dallimore, 1994, Bachelor of Accountancy
Timothy Dustow, 2008, Foundation Certificate in Jazz NZSM
Tetsuya Handa, 2004, Bachelor of Engineering
Tammy Fitchett, 2003, Postgraduate Certificate in Science
Scott Evans, 1979, Master of Resource and Environmental Planning
Scott Evans, 1979, Bachelor of Business Studies
Sarah Leppard, 2007, Bachelor of Communication
Saemone Fraser, 1995, Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Early Years 0-8
Rena Ingram, 2006, Bachelor of Design
Rachael Tinirau, 1977, Postgraduate Diploma in Arts
Miriam Crouch, 1992, Bachelor of Education
Maurice Unwin, 1985, Bachelor of Business Studies
Marie Kelly, 2006, Bachelor of Design with Honours
Louise O'Brien, 1986, Graduate Diploma in Business Studies
Louise McCormack, 2006, Bachelor of Applied Science
Leah King, 1994, Bachelor of Midwifery (Student Midwives)
Laurence Gordon, 1981, Bachelor of Education
Kerrie Skeggs, 1982, Master of Nursing
Kenneth Marshall, 1994, Graduate Diploma of Teaching (Secondary)
Jason Pratt, 1985, Bachelor of Business Studies
Jan-Michel Young, 1975, Certificate for Teacher Aides
James McKinlay, 1976, Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Accounting
Geraldine Wilson, 1988, Master of Public Policy
Fiona Greene, 1989, Master of Nursing
Duncan McLeod, 1993, Postgraduate Diploma in Development Studies
Daniel Sanson, 2006, Diploma in Science and Technology
Danette-Ann Whitehouse, 1987, Master of Management
Christine Lochrie, 1999, Diploma in Arts
Carolyn King, 1984, Certificate for Teacher Aides
Camille Wagner, 2005, Bachelor of Applied Science
Caitlin Fox, 2006, Bachelor of Health Science
Briar Smith, 2002, Bachelor of Science (Honours)
Benjamin Raggett, 1998, Bachelor of Business Studies
Amy Balson, 2006, Diploma in Veterinary Nursing
Alana Spivey, 2005, Bachelor of Design with Honours
Aimee Steel, 2006, Bachelor of Design
Abby Mackinlay, 2005, Bachelor of Accountancy


These former students have qualified from **Otago University**
David John Coates 2002, Bachelor of Philosophy
Benjamin Jessie Wakefield 2004, Bachelor of Education

Principal's Walk Throughs

One of the goals Mrs Drury and I have set for ourselves is to be in classes for five hours a week, supporting teaching and learning. When we visit, students should carry on with their work. We're there to observe, rather than disrupt whatever's happening. We may ask them what they're learning or ask to see what they're doing, but otherwise, it will be business as usual.



The mind is like a parachute,
it only works when it is open.



Why go on to Higher Education?

It is only a few generations ago that we believed a high school education was not needed for everyone. For example, farmers wanted their children at home as workers to share the burden of running the farm. Nowadays, farmers know their children must be highly educated to manage their farms efficiently in an era of computers, biotechnology and challenging economics. Farmers are no longer just labourers. They must be astute, highly-educated business people.

We now accept that high school should be compulsory for everyone. Everyone needs a high school education to be able to succeed in the modern workforce. But does everyone need a tertiary education? Surely, for many, it is a waste of time and money? In fact, the evidence is overwhelming that tertiary education is a better investment for most graduates than at any time in the past. A tertiary degree pays off even for jobs that don't require one as a basic qualification: secretaries, plumbers, technicians. And apart from the money, higher education makes people happier, healthier and more able to lead productive lives.

Beware those who try to persuade you to aim low for your education. You may come from a family of graduates and know the worth of tertiary education. You may be the first in your family to attempt tertiary education. By doing so, you can be confident you will raise the chances both for you and your future family.

What are some of the arguments you might hear?

It's expensive. Actually, apart from a few very expensive degrees like medicine and dentistry (and these lead to some of the highest paid jobs available) many degrees cost no more than a year's salary. If you make it a priority, you can generally repay your student loan far more quickly once you have a job that pays well because of your qualifications.

It's not worth it. In almost every country, research has proven that tertiary graduates earn more, not just when they start work but over their whole working life. That means a better life for them and their children forever.

Many jobs don't require a degree. Even if a tertiary degree isn't a prerequisite, graduates make more money because they can do higher-skilled work, get jobs with better-paying companies, or even open their own businesses. This applies to every job from dishwashing to hairdressing to social work to waitressing. Chefs, dental nurses, childcare workers, fire-fighters and plumbers are all likely to earn more and get better jobs with a tertiary qualification.

University doesn't add value. This argument is that tertiary education is only for smart people. In fact, if you have done reasonably well at high school, you will do well at tertiary level. People really do acquire skills in university, including non-academic advantages like discipline and persistence. You will work hard but also be able to have a really good time with people of your own age from all over the world.

So don't aim low for yourself. The evidence is clear. People with tertiary qualifications do better in just about every respect for the rest of their lives. Not a bad return on the investment of a few short years.

Acknowledgement: "Even for Cashiers, College Pays Off" by David Leonhardt in *The New York Times Sunday Review*, June 26, 2011

New books for August:

The stories of Akron 1 & 2 by I. Packman
The devils are here by R. Stokes
White lies by C. Hopkins
Forgotten by C. Patrick
Horses for King Arthur by L. S. Lawrence
Finder's shore by A. MacKenzie
All I ever wanted by V. Wakefield
Still Alice by Lisa Genova
Chains by L. Anderson

Reviews :

Before I die by Jenny Downham. A poignant story of a young girl's battle with leukemia. Tessa has a list of things she wants to do before dying and she sets out to achieve as many as she can, including falling in love. This story also explores her relationships with family and friends. It is beautifully written, and very, very sad.

Still Alice by Lisa Genova. Alice is a professor at Harvard University. After getting lost whilst out running (though she has run the same route for years) and some other odd behaviours, she is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. She is 51. What follows is Alice's slow decline with loss of memory and connection to reality, told from her perspective.

Top five reads:

- * *Before I die* by Jenny Downham
- * *Hunger games* by Suzanne Collins
- * *Crescendo* by Becca Fitzpatrick
- * *Stuck on Earth* by David Klass
- * *Plugged* by Eoin Colfer



Parents and Teenage Smoking



Because young people respond positively to their parents' attitudes towards smoking, alcohol and drugs, parents can help their teenagers never to start smoking and to use alcohol sensibly.

Teenagers are more positive than we think about their parents' attempts to discourage them from smoking, regardless of whether or not they smoked. The most effective actions parents can take include persuading their children not to smoke, not smoking themselves and not allowing their children to smoke at home. Younger children are even more positive about these approaches than older children so parental influence starts early.

In general, good parenting approaches such as forming strong relationships with your child and setting clear guidelines reduce the likelihood of teens associating with peers who are bad influences. Associating with other teens using substances increases a teen's chances of using those substances. The majority of young people don't use substances, so it is easy for them to find other peers who don't use them.

What can parents do to discourage teen smoking and other substance use?

- Don't ignore the topic. Talk directly about smoking and substance use.
- Establish family guidelines about smoking and moderate consequences for breaking those guidelines.
- Keep communications open so you know what your teen is doing and also to help maintain a strong relationship.
- Get support from other adults in the child's life, such as grandparents and teachers. Parenting is the most important thing we do, so we shouldn't hesitate to get help.
- You can increase your children's chances of smoking by your own use of tobacco. If parents smoke, teens have more access to cigarettes than teens who have non-smoking parents. A crucial preventive measure is for parents to quit smoking themselves.
- Remember you are still important even to teenagers. Your reaction will make your children feel good when they do something right. They also want to know that there are consequences when they do something wrong.
- Maintain supervision of your children. Adolescence is the time for children to have their independence but that never means leaving them adrift to make poor choices.
- Don't ignore children's experimental smoking at any age because it puts them at great risk of progressing to daily smoking.
- Monitor your children's friends. For girls, friends are central, and if they smoke they are also likely to be drinking as well and perhaps experimenting with drugs. Boys are influenced by a wider group than just their friends. When their friends drink alcohol or smoke or when their parents have permissive attitudes toward drinking, both teenage boys and girls are more likely to be involved with multiple drugs like nicotine, alcohol and marijuana.
- Teenagers are often unable to refuse drugs and achieve goals through their own efforts. A parent's opinion matters. Parents are important role models and should let their attitudes against drug use be known. You can do things that reduce your child's risk for using drugs, such as teaching them to set goals and assert themselves.

Acknowledgement: Research quoted in Science Daily from The National Institute on Drug Abuse; the Journal Nicotine & Tobacco Research; the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Waiho i te toipoto, kua i te toiroa
'Let us keep close together, not far apart.'

Letter from Seiyō City Board of Education

Dear Mr Hensman

On behalf of the Seiyō City Board of Education, we would like to express our most heartfelt gratitude to everyone at Taradale High School for our recent visit. All of our students had a wonderful time both at school and in their homestays, and felt so warmly welcomed.

Many of our students have expressed regret that their time in Taradale was so short, and that they would love to go back in the future. At the end of our New Zealand trip, we asked the students what their highlights were - each and every one of them said their buddies and host families. Please pass on our deepest thanks to the host families for opening their homes to us.

We would like to say a special thank you to Martin Fairley, Phil Gravestock and Liz Drury for all their hard work both in the lead-up to and during our visit. They made our visit even more special. We would also like to say thank you to the Kapa Haka group for the wonderful powhiri, and for taking the time to teach our students the haka and how to make poi.

This visit was also a great chance for us to meet up with a number of the students who visited us here in Seiyō City last year. It was lovely to see how much they have all grown up, and how far their Japanese ability has come.

We hope that we can once again welcome students and staff from Taradale High School to Seiyō City in the near future, and that we can continue and strengthen this relationship between our schools.

Once again, thank you for opening up the gates of Taradale High School and allowing us this wonderful opportunity.

Yours sincerely,
Izumi Ikeda and Sara Katsura
(on behalf of the Seiyō City Board of Education)



International Students' Ski trip

When you leave at 5.30 am in the morning you hope for a good day. It was cold but there was plenty of snow and sunshine. Last week the international students had an 'awesome' but exhausting day on the mountain. For some students it was the first time they had seen snow. Other students were experienced skiers and one had even done some ski instruction.

Thank you to the host parents for getting up at that dreadful hour of the morning and thank you also to the teachers who made the day possible (Mrs Szelesi, Mr Knight and Mr Woodward).

Here are some student comments:

'My feet were sore all the time but I had a good time! I want to try snowboarding next time.' Saki

'I had a great time! I want to do it again!' Keita

'I love skiing. It was awesome!' Yuri