



Ad Augusta



A NEWSLETTER OF TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

March 2015

The Big Habitat Build

The big build has begun and in a week the floor, the walls and the roof have appeared. Habitat builders, volunteers and students have used the good weather to great advantage. They have been fortified daily by food provided by the Technology and Business students.



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Liebet Verduynsen, Head Girl - Student donation to the Habitat for Humanity project through mufti day



Dear Parents and Guardians

We have been most impressed with our students this term, again. They have settled well and studies are progressing well. Senior students will be starting their internal assessment regimes and junior students will be experiencing the regular testing in their various subjects.

We have a number of exciting developments at the school, aside from those you will already be aware of.

Many staff have been working on an innovation called "Manaaki Mentoring". I describe the concept here and will place more information on "From the Principal's Desk" if you would like to know more. The link, to give you quick access is <http://www.takapuna.school.nz/news/from-the-principals-desk/>.

I'd encourage you to read the introduction below and the information available on this link.

Over the years of development at Takapuna Grammar School we have progressed three major themes. The first was to lift the standard of achievement for students by placing a focus on quality teaching and learning. We entitled this stage "Aspiring to Personal Excellence through Knowing, Connecting, Relating and Supporting". This prerogative remains key to the school today. The second stage saw the school be responsive to individual need, introducing innovations such as the Elite Sports Institute and the Takapuna Grammar Centre for Business and Enterprise. The third stage encouraged the internationalisation of the school's programmes enabling our programmes to be supported by various international connections, including the introduction of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The fourth stage is to see the introduction of "Manaaki Mentoring", a programme offering individual mentoring for every student in the school.

This is a self-generated innovation and is the product of many months of discussions with staff and students. Today I would like to offer some detail to the parents with the view that more discussion will follow. It is founded on the assumption that students respond well to more individualised attention and that a small amount of time spent, with the right mentor, can have enormous benefits for the achievement of students, collectively and individually. I think we can all reflect on a parent, teacher, friend or mentor who has spent some time with us and had, maybe unknowingly, a tremendous impact on the future by offering belief, support, advice and guidance. By introducing a mentoring programme for all students in the school, we think we can lift, even further than now, the performance of students in our school. To enable the detail to be read more easily I offer the following bullet points:

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS:

- The title of the innovation is important. "Manaaki" means "dignity and encouragement". This encapsulates the intention well.
- That every staff member will be involved, teaching and admin staff alike.
- That each group would comprise of 9 - 10 students representative of different cohorts and one adult, a vertical structure embodying the concept of an older person helping and assisting a younger one, tuakana teina.
- That every Wednesday, fortnightly, the staff would complete Professional Development early, allowing one half hour session with their students to take place. Students would arrive to their Manaaki Groups and Form Period, in its traditional form, would not occur on this day.
- The combination of student personalities would be important so due consideration needs to be invested to this feature of the implementation.
- A programme of themes would be developed and these, along with some mentoring formats, would be placed in the student diaries to assist the process. This would provide some structure to the innovation.
- This innovation would be implemented keeping the existing Form Period routines until such time as a review would determine the requirement to have both routines running concurrently.
- Administrative staff involved in the mentoring would be roomed with teaching staff.

BENEFITS:

- The innovation can lift expectations of students and what they can achieve for themselves.
- We expect a further rise in student achievement





- That students will be given techniques, life skills, which can influence both academic and personal pursuits.
- That more attention will be given to the individual.
- There is alignment of staff, united in a common purpose.
- We can develop staff modeling the establishment of their own goals and aspirations.

We would like to introduce the Manaaki Mentoring to the school's routines from the beginning of Term 3 this year. The staff will have a professional development day, a launch, on Friday May 29th. This is the Friday of Queens Birthday so students will have a longer, four day, break over this weekend.

Over time we imagine that the Manaaki Mentoring will supersede the traditional Form Period as we know it. We have committed to review the Form Period at the end of this year.

There will be many questions, I am sure. We are telling you of the idea and consulting with parents now to allow time for questions to be responded to and for the idea to settle. If you would like to communicate any thoughts to me feel free to do so by emailing principal@takapuna.school.nz. I welcome any correspondence. The innovation is founded on a sense of service to our students and that, still, we can work with them to further the achievements of students at our school. Further details are available on the link, mentioned above.

Beyond the Main Building development, which awaits Cabinet approval, there are other building developments which follow the recent introduction of the Science precinct and the commercial kitchen installation. As an addition to the Art Department we are installing two classrooms connected to the Peter Blake Art Technology Centre on the eastern edge of the courtyard that this building creates. This building is anticipated to house art classes and function as an exhibition space, as required. It is due to start construction from the middle of this year and will be completed ready for 2016.

Please contact the school if you have any concerns or questions. We welcome the contact with our parents and care givers. If you are unsure who to contact please send an email to principal@takapuna.school.nz and I will respond or direct this to the appropriate staff member. I wish you well for the rest of year and look forward to updating you of the Manaaki Mentoring and the other developments at the school.

Regards

Simon Lamb
Principal
Takapuna Grammar School

The Enviro Group

Fifteen dedicated Takapuna Grammar students gathered at Takapuna Beach after school recently, to keep the shores rubbish-free. The clean-up proved to be an enjoyable and successful event with over 3 kgs of litter collected in under one hour.

This beach clean-up was organized by the leaders of the TGS Environmental Committee - Grace Cowley, Emily Fan and Alice Wu, as part of New Zealand's annual Seaweeek taking place between 28 February to 8 March. Seaweeek was first held in New Zealand in 1992 and continues to be celebrated by passionate young environmentalists.

"I had always believed Takapuna Beach to be relatively tidy but the amount of plastic bags, bottles and food wrappers we found proved me wrong," said Grace.

In the lead-up to this event, beautiful hand-drawn posters were displayed across the school. "I made sure to design something that would be eye-catching and appealing," said Alice on the layout of the posters.

The rubbish collected will be used as part of an 'art' competition in the following weeks with prizes for the most creative students. "We hope this will bring further awareness of the negative impact of rubbish on our environment as well as encourage more people to come along to our future clean-ups," Emily said.



Tēna koutou ngā whānau whānui o Takapuna!

Our Kapa Haka rōpu (group) has worked extremely hard over the last six weeks to get to the 40th ASB Polyfest Competition held at the Manukau Sports Bowl from 18-21 March. Although a small rōpu, our Kapa Haka team wowed the audience with their sharp formations and sweet voices including a rendition of an old classic 'Pōkarekare Ana' and a fierce haka from our two male members Liam Hill and Kacey Palusi.

Getting to this point hasn't been easy with three practices a week (including 6 hours every Sunday!), and our group being plagued with sickness and injury. Despite the setbacks, our rōpu carried themselves with mana and represented Takapuna Grammar School proudly.

It was a special year for our Kapa Haka group. Not only were we performing at the 40th anniversary of the Polyfest competition, but the revered and former teacher of Māori and Kapa Haka, Matua Boaz Raela, returned to New Zealand from Rarotonga, to support our rōpu and the competition which he helped establish. The students were very excited to perform for their old teacher and

mentor.

Looking forward to the future, our Kapa Haka rōpu have sights set on the top prize at Polyfest with the goal of lifting the performance and standard of our current and future group and winning Division 3 to move on to Division 2. That said, we are also looking at expanding our horizons not only to perform at Polyfest, but other events also. Our group have been invited to perform and open the 'Kauei Panu Mutukore' Art Exhibition being held at the Mangere Arts Centre on 21 April. The exhibition is being held to honour and commemorate Cook Islands soldiers who volunteered and served in WWI. Our performance will pay homage to the relationship between Māori and Cook Islands soldiers who sat together on the battle field 100 years ago.

Thank you to all the staff and whānau who have supported our Kapa Haka this year. A special mihi also to our awesome tutors Leilani Wikaira and Illyana Hepi who put in hours of work to get our team on the stage this year. Nga mihi nunui ki a koutou.





Franktastic Frankfurt!

Michael Laws and I were fortunate enough to be given a scholarship to travel to Frankfurt during the summer holidays with the Goethe Institute, all expenses paid. It was a three week long course where we learnt German in the morning before participating in many activities around the city.

This course was also with 54 students from 13 different countries, including Chile, Indonesia, Nepal and Australia. Ages ranged from 14 to 18, with a big range in German ability too! We stayed in a Youth Hostel right by the river, the Main. It was there that we learned German, ate, and socialised with all the other students.

Some of the activities we did after our lessons were: watching the professional Frankfurt ice hockey team, going on a day trip to Heidelberg, ice skating, swimming, playing football with the other students and, of course, shopping in the city!

The food was definitely a highlight with no shortage of bread and cheese during breakfast, potatoes and meat for lunch and dinner, and plenty of chocolate throughout the day. We were in different classes for our lessons, depending on our ability. Each class, consisting of roughly 15, was taken by a very friendly teacher who would play various games with us as well as make us work hard.

Most importantly, the only language spoken was German, which I believe was key to our improvement. Every night there was singing

and games, with a party once per week. These parties were very exciting and went long into the night, under supervision of course. Michael and I made many friends from all around the world in Frankfurt who we still talk to. We will treasure our memories and experiences forever and of course continue to work on our German!

By Henry Watts



For your information:

0 April	Y1 IB Camp Leave	2 June	Lumino Dental Van Arrives
22 April	Yr 1 IB Camp Return	3 June	Shave for a Cure
25 April	ANZAC Day – Dusk Service 5.30pm School Library	8 June	Y1 IB Assessment Week
3 May	Yr 11 Geography Trip Leave	21 June	Performing Arts Expo
4 May	Yr 11 Geography Trip Return	22 June	Brass and Concert Band Performance
11 May	House Talent Show Week	23 June	Stage Challenge Week
14 May	Career Expo Evening - Library	25 June	Dance Evening – Bruce Mason Theatre
18 May	Hillary Challenge Week	26 June	Achievers Breakfast
29 May	Teacher Only Day – No School	2 July	Attitude Talks
1 June	Queen's Birthday – No School	3 July	Auckland University Planning Day (Yr 13)
			End of Term 2



Introductions to our Spanish and French assistants

My name is Laura Ogando and I am the new Spanish Language Assistant for 2015. I have been living in New Zealand for a month and probably you have seen me in the school many times, but I would like to write a bit about me.

I am 25 years old, only child but with a big family full of cousins, uncles and aunts. My hometown is Vigo, located in Galicia, in the northwest of Spain. It is a perfect place for nice food and wine, beautiful beaches and plenty of things to do.

In my spare time I like reading, walking, going to the cinema, knowing new cultures and meeting people.

The last five years I have been working as a preschool and primary teacher in different countries: Spain, Ireland, Australia and Sweden, where I could enjoy a new language and culture and make lots of friends. I have to say I really love my job.

Travelling is my favourite hobby and of course the best way to learn a new language.

I am so grateful to be in New Zealand and working at Takapuna Grammar School, thank you for the warm welcoming I had.

“A loving heart is the beginning of all knowledge” - Thomas Carlyle

Bonjour! My name is Virginie Le Tallec and I left Brittany, the region of crêpes in the West part of France, to be a French teaching assistant for this year. I come from a village of 2500 inhabitants surrounded by menhirs (Asterix and Obelix fans should know what menhirs are!). I studied Spanish and English at the University of Lille where I completed a Master of Arts. I love playing tennis, I have been playing for 15 years now, and traveling (Morocco, Canada, Slovakia...).

It has always been my dream to visit New-Zealand especially Mount Cook and the Bay of islands. I haven't been disappointed by the kiwi lifestyle so far. I have discovered feijoas and L&P, and I can't wait to see more of this magnificent country.



Spanish Language Assistant - Laura Ogando



French Language Assistant - Virginie Le Tallec



An International Food market

It may have been Black Friday but everything went remarkably smoothly for the very first TGS International Food Market Day. Organised by the Languages Department, the decked area between the relocatable classrooms proved perfect for hosting the event which showcased language, food and culture from more than ten countries.

The weather played its part - any unlucky Friday 13th wet weather stayed away and a beautiful blue dominated the sky. Students turned out in droves to sample dishes ranging from Japanese sushi to Samoan style chop suey. It was such a success that many stalls quickly sold out of food, leaving students and staff to mingle and enjoy the international music playing in the background.



Spot the difference

Korean Senior Gala Party

The 5th Senior Gala Party was hosted by the school and Hi Well Trust on the 21st of February in the school hall. It was a momentous occasion. Over 350 seniors were invited including the Korean War veterans, the leaders' of the Korean Society of New Zealand and the senior management team, including Mr Lamb. The celebration began with Mr Lamb's welcoming speech followed by the school Haka.

The event included Korean traditional performances, games, a talent show, a lucky draw and a delicious buffet lunch. There were 30 student volunteers for the day. The prefects bowed to the visitors with "An Nyung Ha Se Yo" which is Korean greeting which impressed many of the visitors.

One of volunteer students, Danielle Desvaux De Marigny (Year 13) reflects on her day:

"I was honoured to be given the opportunity to greet and serve established Korean and Kiwi members of our community. Everyone was friendly and engaging, telling us stories of the past and helping us to truly appreciate what those who have gone before us have done to allow us the freedom we enjoy today."

Mr Lamb also received an email from Mr Alf and Mrs Philippa Lowe which expressed a lot of gratitude towards the amazing work done by Takapuna Grammar students to make the event go smoothly and clearly prepared to 'go the extra mile'.





Exchange to Spain

I'm Charlie Anderson, a Year 12 student at Takapuna Grammar School, and I have recently completed a 5 month overseas exchange programme in Valencia, a city on the east coast of Spain.

I spent 5 months attending a local high school, and living with a host family. One of the best parts about being an exchange student was that I was able to experience Spain with a unique level of authenticity, as I was always treated as a local. It also allowed me to really improve and practise the Spanish language skills I had learned during Year 9 and 10 at TGS. I returned to New Zealand in February, with a greatly improved level of speaking and writing Spanish, and a newfound appreciation for New Zealand. Overall, it was an eye opening experience, and the perfect opportunity for a high school student to travel abroad.



The Mejiro Kenshi Exchange Programme

Year 11 students Cherry Guo and Taylor Kaaho will travel to Tokyo at the beginning of Term 2 to study at Mejiro Kenshin High School. This is the fourth consecutive year the school has sent students to Japan to be part of this sister school exchange. Cherry and Taylor will each live with a Japanese host family for ten weeks and will have to adjust to battling the hustle and bustle of the world's largest city.

Cherry learnt of the exchange while studying Japanese in Year 10. As a keen viewer of Japanese anime, she has always wanted to visit Japan and experience Japanese culture. While there she hopes to make many new friends, eat lots of yummy food and visit Tokyo Disneyland. While slightly nervous about being away from home for 10 weeks, Cherry is excited by the challenges she will face and is hoping to have a great time.

Taylor, also an avid fan of Japanese TV and Anime, enjoys playing video games such as Pokemon in her free time. Hopefully she will get a chance to visit the Pokemon Centre in Tokyo, a specialist Pokemon mega-store. Taylor enjoys listening to music and doing art. She has studied Japanese for two years and is really excited about the exchange. In Term 3, Taylor's Japanese host sister will stay with Taylor's family for ten weeks and attend classes at Takapuna Grammar.





Top Design Scholar

Neeve Sew Hoy, one of our 2014 Level 3 Visual Art and Design students, was awarded full marks for her Design Scholarship submission. This means that she has been awarded Top Scholar for 2014 Art-Design and will be given \$2000 a year for the next three years.

74 of the 340 candidates who sent Design Folios to be considered for a Scholarship award were successful. 8 of these were given "Outstanding Scholarships" and Neeve was placed at the top of this group.

Like all our Visual Arts Scholarship students Neeve had to submit her practical work on 3 A1 size folio boards and also complete an 8-page workbook. Through sketches, studies, research about Artists and Designers, and reflective comments about her own work, this book expanded on the ideas she explored in her folio.

Here is a short extract from Neeve's writings about her work, which explored ideas about Genealogy.

Last year my main interest was genealogy and family history. I was inspired by my own family history as I am a sixteenth Chinese. This side of my family originated from my Great, Great, Great Grandfather, Choie Sew Hoy who migrated to New Zealand in 1868 from Guangzhou. He went to Otago and set up a business in Stafford Street as a merchant supplying miners and goldfield traders, imported goods, and invested in gold mining and water-race projects.

At the beginning of 2014 my family and I travelled to Otago, where for the first time I saw where this side of my family

originated from and got to know even more about them. During my trip the surrounding landscapes with their mining ruins and settlers cottages felt very special to me and evoked ideas about the past. While visiting the Dunedin Settlers Museum, I became very interested in the idea of genealogy as a topic for my coming year in Design. My resulting folio dealt with the graphic identity and promotional material for a Genealogical Foundation called Trace and an exhibition it sponsors called "Uncover Your Roots"

Neeve also explored the same theme of genealogy in her Paint folio and was awarded a scholarship for this submission also. Some of this work is featured amongst that of the other students in the Art department who were awarded scholarships. Her Paint folio has been selected to travel around New Zealand in the NZQA "Top Art" Show, an exhibition that provides an opportunity for secondary students and teachers to gain an understanding of what is required to achieve Excellence at Level 3. It also allows members of the public to see the high quality Art being created in schools. You can visit NZQA's Top Art Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NZQATopArt/timeline>





Our Art Scholars - Work by our successful 2014 Art and Design, Scholarship students

These pages feature paintings, and digital design by our eight successful 2014 Art and Design, Scholarship students. These students participated in a programme that required them to produce considerably more practical and research work than our other Level 3 students. Scholarship Visual Arts is graded on the Level 3 NCEA Folios and an additional 8 A3 page workbook. Together these must demonstrate a greater range and depth of critical thinking than that required at Level 3. These students were a dedicated and creative group and we wish them well in their future endeavours. Congratulations to Neeve Sew Hoy and Lucy Lim, who were both awarded scholarships in Design and Paint; Sophie Turner, Design; Kaori Finlay, Design; Tessa Carey, Design; Alena Hu, Design; Alice Block, Design; Christine Kim, Paint.



Alena Hu



Alice Block



Neeve Sew Hoy



Christine Kim



Kaori Finlay



Lucy Lim



Tessa Carey

Sophie Turner



PTA Events and Projects

In February the PTA hosted John Cowan, from The Parenting Place. He gave a very entertaining talk full of practical advice for parenting our teenagers. Thanks to all who came along.

We are offering the school community an opportunity to have professional photographs taken of your family, by renown photographer Michael Overend. You choose the location of the photo shoot. The Portrait Package for just \$100 includes studio consultation, photo shoot and two 6"x8" quality prints, valued at \$785. A letter has been posted to each family detailing this offer. Closing date for this offer is 24 April. For more information contact pta@takapuna.school.nz

The PTA cookbook, 'Taste of Takapuna' is our ongoing major fundraising project. With a wide selection of recipes and stunning photography the Taste of Takapuna is a go-to cookbook for many homes already. At \$39 it is a lovely local gift for friends or family. 2 copies have been sent home with each new Year 9 student, for the family to look at and consider purchasing. Payment (or returned books, should you not wish to purchase) is due by 2nd April.

The funds raised from the sale of these cookbooks will be used for a major project to enhance the central outdoor area to improve the break-time environment for students. So far we've raised almost \$65,000 towards our target of \$90,000. If every family bought just one more book we would reach our target. Please support TGS students - contact PTA or school office to purchase.

Save the date – Saturday 9th May – the PTA Dance for Parents and Friends, with the talented local band Ran For Cover. This year's

theme is "Totally 80's", so start planning your outfit now!

We'd love your help as we prepare for the Dance: Donation of items for Raffle Baskets;

Sponsorship of the Supper and Drinks gazebos; Decoration items and help;

Buying tickets and selling them to your friends (not restricted to TGS parents)

Please contact pta@takapuna.school.nz if you would like to help.

An easy fundraiser for your students' school groups - nominate a school group on the back of your ticket – proceeds go directly to these groups. Last year the Volleyball group received \$1075, Cycling \$750.

Tickets \$25, 18 years+ only. Tickets available soon, look out for updates on the weekly email newsletter from the school.

The PTA thanks you for your support of our events. Last year we were able to donate \$28,000 to a range of school sectors, funding items that would otherwise not be possible. This includes: funding towards the electronic sign, sports equipment, Duke of Edinburgh equipment, weights equipment, glockenspiel and drum kit for Music, speakers and iPad minis for Performing Arts, outdoor bench seats.

Please see our PTA pages on the TGS website, or contact the PTA at pta@takapuna.school.nz for more information.

Ruth Blackman
TGS PTA Chair

Homestay Families Needed

Takapuna Grammar School requires host families for International students. We are looking for kind and caring families.

If you are interested in hosting an International student, short term or long term, please email or phone for further information.

homestay.coordinator@takapuna.school.nz
09 489 4167 ext 9226





Oliver

We are immeasurably grateful to our principal sponsor, Premium Real Estate, for coming on board and supporting the school show, on stage in the last week of term. Jane Guy, Director of Premium, says, "We at Premium are delighted to be a part of this exciting production."

Oliver! is shaping up to be a smash with some sensational singing and acting from leads and chorus. The songs are great and Ms Horder has brought out their loveliness in her highly skilled way.

Costumes have a steam-punk flavour as assembled by Ms Annamarie Dixon and a team of parent and teacher sewers. Ms Woodward's Year 12 Soft Tech class is making individual costumes for our 24 strong Fagin's Gang. It's a project for Sustainability with the garments sourced from re-cycled materials and made for the individual cast members.

Choreographers, Year 12 students, Celine and Shani Human, and their dancers have got the show hopping and turning to suggest the bustle and diversity of London town.

The set is growing down in Technology and properties appear from the gluey fingers of the stage crew, led by Stage Managers Caoihme Fidgeon and Gabriel Ford.

We are grateful to parent support for building, props-making and cooking up the best dinners ever. Parent fund-raisers, Iain Fraser and Diane Eaglesome, have been active finding sponsorship and now, with Premium Real Estate, we are financial. Parents have contributed considerably with a fee. The Bruce Mason Centre and Auckland Live have helped with technical support to get our show up and onstage.

Generous sponsorship is also acknowledged from:

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Angela Bush - Education Unlimited

Peter Ayton and Phil Clark – Harcourts Real Estate

Guy and Fiona Morris - Ignite Architects

H.C. Hulme Memorial fund

GOLD SPONSORS

Shane Cunliffe - Small Business Accounting

O'Brien family

Song Family

SILVER SPONSORS

Morgan-Guthrie family

Crockcroft d'Young Moorhouse - Lawyers



TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS



OLIVER! Book, Music & Lyrics by LIONEL BART

7.30 pm, 29 MAR - 1 APR
BRUCE MASON CENTRE **ticketmaster®**

Sunday Matinee 3 pm \$30 Adults \$20 Concession

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY **PREMIUM**
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Orchestral arrangements by William David Brohn. By arrangements with Hal Leonard Australia Pty. Ltd., exclusive representative of Cameron Mackintosh and the Southbrook Group. Original orchestrations adapted by STEPHEN METCALFE.

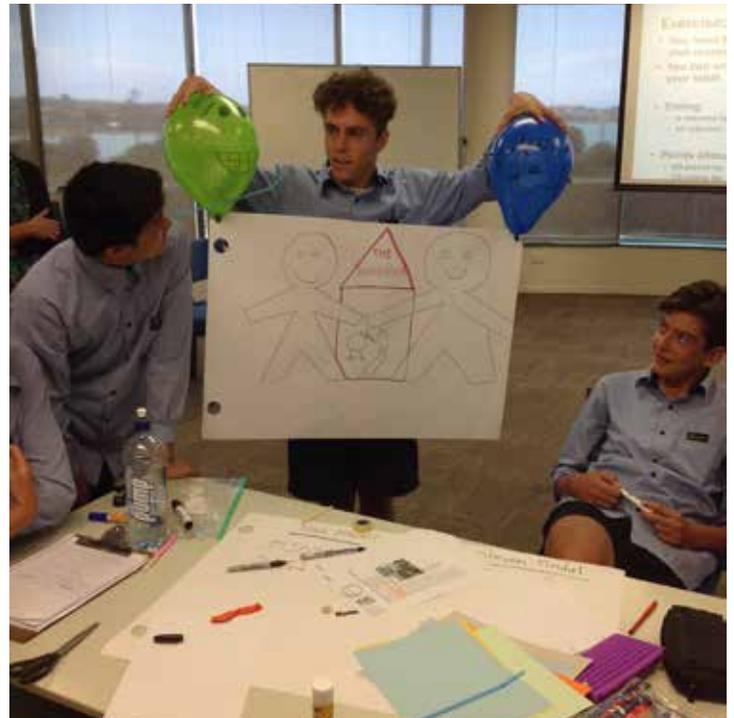


Business and Enterprise news

The Level 1 students have been actively working on their internal assessment, to plan, develop and produce a product to sell. Their work culminates when they take their product to the public at our school market day. This year the market day will be held on Thursday 26th March, from 4pm to 6pm and we hope that many of you will be able to join us to see what the students have been working towards this term. We will also have a range of technology students participating this year, including offering coffee by one of our very own Baristas from the Hospitality course, along with baked goods.

The Year 10 Enterprise and Financial Literacy Course starts with looking at the topic of Enterprise and researching the key qualities required of an entrepreneur. Students are currently working on their business activity and at the end of term face a Dragon's Den event where they pitch their business idea. If they are successful they will be allowed to develop their product and take a stall at the school twilight market day mentioned above.

In Level 2 The Warehouse Limited is their focus business. We had an induction visit to The Warehouse Store Support Office in Takapuna which included a full tour of the offices and discussions with senior staff. Students were fortunate to have an hour each with the CEO Mr Mark Powell and the founder of The Warehouse Sir Stephen Tindall where they were able to ask many questions about the business, from its foundation to current position. The students were also impressed with Sir Stephen's use of his Warehouse dividends to support Kiwi entrepreneurs and new businesses through his Tindall Foundation and KIWI operations.





The department has been very busy this term with the Habitat for Humanity Big Build. Level 2 Business Studies students have been running fundraisers on Saturdays at school where they invited people to donate any unwanted second hand goods to be sold at Habitat’s “Restore” stores, get their cars washed, buy a barista coffee and baked goods, all to support the build on site at school. They have also run movie nights including one at Belmont Primary School, organised Mufti days at Hauraki Primary and Belmont Intermediate.

The Level 3 Business Studies course runs in conjunction with the Young Enterprise Scheme. In order to get the businesses started the students attended the annual Enterprise Day at AUT where they got to meet many talented business people during a speed coaching session. In order to be successful, as in business, these students will be actively seeking advice from our business community.

Two of our CEO’s, Xiao Jiang and Hayley Smith had the fantastic opportunity to attend the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year launch event in the City, where they met and heard from one of the world’s most influential wine industry leaders, and visionary entrepreneur - Sir George Fistonich. Having harvested his first grapes in 1962 - Villa Maria now exports to 60 countries and is New Zealand’s largest privately-owned and most awarded winery.



We have been very fortunate to be supported by David McKeown from the BNZ who has introduced the groups to many different business experts to help with idea feasibility and product development. Pauline Colmar has assisted with Market Research and we have many other speakers coming in to see the students, to provide advice and widen their exposure to the business world.

If you have any areas of business expertise and a little time you could spare these budding entrepreneurs and business owners please do not hesitate to contact school.





Beach Volleyball

The Beach Volleyball boys were extremely busy over the holidays and the start of Term 1 notching up some impressive results. The Roberts twins, Alex and Jac, are North Harbour and Auckland Schools Junior Beach Champs. They also gained a 3rd place at the Under 15 interprovincial (effectively NZ) champs and a 5th at NZ Under 17 champs. Alex also teamed up with Breyton Lenee of Rangitoto College to record a 2nd at the North Harbour Under 17 champs.

Brett O'Neill and Keenan Hodge recorded a 3rd at the North Harbour Junior Beach Champs, 2nd at Auckland Junior Beach and 1st at the Under 15 Interprovincial Champs. They also qualified for the round of 16 at NZ Under 17s and ended up 13th. Brett also teamed up with Liam Donnelly to represent the youngest pairing to play in the North Harbour Open, part of the NZ international pro beach tour.

The pairings of Ananda Birchfield and Tom Smeed and Liam Donnelly and Will Watson have also recorded quarterfinal appearances at various events

Many of the mentioned players are on the radar for NZ development and world champ age group selectors.

There were also some fantastic results for our Beach Volleyball boys at the New Zealand Secondary School Champs held at the Mount over Waitangi weekend. Four of our five teams placed in the top 16, with Jac and Alex Roberts gaining 3rd place.



Touch, pause, engage

The school was honoured to have Sir Graham Henry in attendance to review and analyse the TGS First XV and Academy XV play against Shawnigan Lakes. Shawnigan Lakes, a Canadian school from British Columbia, played on Monday the 9th March, against our two teams. Sir Graham Henry was invited to the school by TheRugbySite.com (online coach and player rugby education website) where footage of the games and his critique was filmed.

The afternoon was opened with a Haka, followed by the two games. Sir Graham then gave a very direct and much appreciated review to both the Takapuna Grammar and Shawnigan Lakes teams. The Canadians were billeted by TGS families for one night before departing to Mercury Bay and the Sunshine Coast,

Australia. While in between the games, we were fortunate enough to get Sir Graham to give us a quick interview.

What qualities did you look for in an All Black besides their talent? Well I think you're picking on talent, when you are watching the game you're looking for talent. The other things you hope they may have, like character and being a good team man, but you're picking on talent. If they haven't got those you work on that later, but if you have two players that are nine out of ten, both very similar, then you might pick on character but only when you have equal ability. You can't afford not to pick on talent.

At what point did you decide to change from being a Headmaster to being a rugby coach? And when you made this decision? Did you always have the goal in mind of being an All Black coach or did opportunities just keep



Cycling

You might be thinking: What is happening on the Devonport Peninsula with so many people out on their bikes? Well you wouldn't be alone in that thinking.

Pick any morning of the week and you will find both road cyclists and mountain bikers up North Head and out on the surrounding roads. The numbers are definitely increasing. At the recent muster night, both the mountain biking and road cycling numbers have increased again at our school. In this year's road cycling programme we have 54 students and in the mountain biking programme we have doubled the numbers from 2014, up to 12 students this year.

There is, on average, 180 students who ride their bikes to and from school every day and those numbers are just as high at our local Belmont Intermediate School. This year Belmont Intermediate have started a cycling programme too, with 40 students interested in riding and learning more skills for road and or mountain biking.

Cycling is a growing sport and with the recent successes the school has gained, you can be assured that we are on the National radar for this sport.

In 2014 the road cycling boys were ranked 2nd in the country overall at NZSS Nationals and this year with 19 girls in the programme we will be pushing for a podium placing in NZSS Nationals for them as well. As well as a top school programme, many of our riders compete in the summer at events and tours and this past summer we have had many successes for our riders. Congratulations to Jeevan Gossage-Krishan, Callum Erskine (both mountain biking), Harry Waine, Vincent Allen, Oscar Elworthy, Jacob Kench, Tessa McNair, Aidan Nicholas, Josh Kench and Adam McPheat (all road cycling) for top 10 placings at the summer national tours/ track and races.

If you would like more information about cycling at Takapuna Grammar School please contact S Davies in the Sports Dept.



presenting themselves? I always wanted to be an All Black coach. Now that might sound very arrogant - but when I first coached school boys - like this level, (that was in the 1970s) I wrote my goals down on a piece of paper. One of my goals was to be the All Black coach. I was coaching Auckland Grammar School first XV, (1975-1980) and that was one of the goals. I was fortunate enough that I coached some good teams and I just went up through the grades. I was coaching Auckland when the game went professional and it was a natural progression into professional coaching in 1996. I was a Headmaster for ten years and continued to be the school Headmaster when I coached the Blues for the first year, and then after that first year I went full time.

Did you look at other sports and what were they to look for ideas in coaching the All Blacks? Not really, no. I read a lot of books about successful coaches and watched a lot of sports like basketball, football and even the team requirements of yachting. So you learn from other people, but I didn't look at other sports to get ideas for rugby.

Did you have any coaching mentors or role models? Yes, I think we all do. My biggest mentor was a guy named John Graham, Headmaster at Auckland Grammar School, where I taught. He was



also an ex All Black, and he taught me as a kid at Christchurch Boys' High School. He was fabulous; he gave people opportunity and developed young people. He was a very important man who developed people.

Do you think there will be a woman All Black coach? I don't think so, it is a very good question, but I'm sure there will be a woman coaching the woman's rugby team.

Sir Graham is a director, shareholder and a leading Contributor to TheRugbySite.com and the 2011 World Cup winning coach.

Takapuna Grammar would like to thank Sir Graham and TheRugbySite.com for making this a memorable learning event for Takapuna Grammar and Shawnigan Lakes.

By Bridget and Ciara Connolly



Sports Results

Hannah Williams

Hannah officiated at the New Zealand Junior Surf Lifesaving Championships at Mt Maunganui as part of the New Zealand Youth Team. She also competed at the New Zealand National Lifesaving Championships in Gisborne and won 2 Golds (U19 Ironwoman and Open Board Rescue - teamed up with Tenille Hatton), 2 Silvers (U19 Board Race and U19 Surf Teams) and 1 Bronze (Open surf team) plus named in the NZ U20 Development Squad.

Imogen Ayris

Imogen represented Auckland Athletics at the New Zealand Senior Track and Field Athletics Championships in Wellington (6-8 March). Imogen competed in U18 Pole Vault, U20 Pole Vault and is in the team for the U18 4 x 100m Relay. She placed 1st in the U18 Pole Vault and 1st in the U20 Pole Vault with a Personal Best of 3.70m. Imogen also competed at the Australian Junior Track and Field Championships in Sydney (11-17 March) where she placed 1st equal in the U18 Pole Vault 3.40m and first in the U/16 Pole Vault with a Personal Best of 3.75m.

Cartier Cookson

Cartier was selected to trial for the NZ age group Netball team and gained selection into the Netball Northern Talent Identification squad.

Alex and Jac Roberts

Alex and Jac, Yr 11 twins, placed 3rd in the U17 age group at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Beach Nationals held at Mount Maunganui. They were the top placed Auckland school in this division.

Harry Waine, Aidan Nicholas, Oscar Elworthy

These students competed in the Auckland Track Championships recently. Harry placed in the U17 age group, 1st in 10km Points, 1st in the 5km Scratch, 1st in the 500m Time Trial, 1st in the Sprint and 2nd in the Pursuit.

Harry Waine

Harry competed at the NZ Cycling Track Nationals where he won 2 Golds (500m U17 Time Trial and U17 Sprint race) and 2 Bronze (Team Sprint and Team Pursuit races).

**Callum Erskine**

Callum placed 7th in the U15 at Cross Country at the New Zealand National Mountain Biking Champs held in Rotorua during February.

Bridget Connolly

Bridget competed in a 36 hole tournament at Waimarino Golf Course and placed 1st in the U19 Girls' category.

Julia Giurgiu

Julia placed 1st in the 400m, 800m and 1500m at the Junior Athletics Championships. Julia recently competed in the Coastal Challenge and came 1st in the U20 section.

Vincent Allen

Vincent competed in the 100km REV cycle race in Cambridge and placed in the front of the pack, coming 13th.

Oscar Elworthy

Oscar competed in the 100km REV cycle race in Cambridge and placed in the front of the pack coming 10th.

Tessa McNair

Tessa competed in the REV cycle race placed 2nd in the 55km.

Hamish McCartney

Hamish competed in the NZ Track and Field National Championships in Wellington.

Saskia Vosper

Saskia represented Forrest Hill Milford Association Football Club in the Auckland City U17 National Football Tournament.

Amy Colebourn

Amy will be travelling to Los Angeles to compete in a Cheerleading competition.

Katherine Badham

Katherine competed at the NZ Elite Junior Tri Championships (World Champs U19 qualifier) in New Plymouth during March and will also be competing in the NZSS Championships in Taupo.

Lucy Jacobs

Lucy represented Auckland Athletics at the New Zealand Senior Track and Field Athletics Championships in Wellington (6-8 March) where she placed 2nd in the U20 800m and 2nd in the U20 4x400m relay team. She also competed at the Australian Junior Track and Field Championships in Sydney (11-17 March).

Saffie Doughty

Saffie competed in the Horse of the Year competition in March.

Shania Todd

Shania placed 2nd and 1st at the Australasian Cross Fit Competition (teenage girls division).

Erica Gatland

Erica received an invitation to trial for the Rock Climbing Worlds and was voted in to be the athletes' representative for this sport.

Senior Boys' Volleyball

The Senior Boys Volleyball team placed 8th in Division 1 at the Auckland Volleyball Championships recently.

Greater Auckland Athletics

The following students competed and placed in the Greater Auckland Athletics:

Imogen Ayris

1st Open Girls Pole Vault, Intermediate Girls Triple Jump, Long Jump, and 3rd Intermediate Girls Hurdles

Jack Buchanan

2nd Intermediate Boys High Jump

Julia Giurgiu

1st Intermediate Girls 800m and 1st Intermediate 1500m

Lucy Jacobs

1st Senior Girls 800m

Hamish McCartney

2nd Equal Open Boys Pole Vault



Grammar Link

Letter from ex-pupil Bill Richardson

I enjoy catching up with the “happenings” at TGS. Having married a Perth girl in London during 1964 at the end of an OE to the UK (with Ross Finlayson, Ian Munro and Bob Izzard), there was an inevitability that one day I would end up in Perth. I still get back to NZ every year as we still have a daughter and two grandchildren living in Auckland. One of my granddaughters left TGS to study in Otago University this year and my other granddaughter still has two years left at TGS. My mother was a couple of years from being a foundation student and we have had a Richardson at TGS for the last 3 generations. Not a bad history of devotion!

Thanks again for the information and I look forward to receiving future Newsletters.

Cheers

Bill Richardson



OBITUARY

It was with sadness that we learnt of the passing of ex-Pupil, Dame Thea Dale Muldoon (nee Flyger), aged, 87. She married in 1951, to the late Prime Minister Sir Robert Muldoon, who was in power from 1975 to 1984 as leader of the governing National Party. They had three children.



COFFEE CATCH UP

On the 24th February we held our coffee catch up in the Ex-Pupil Library at TGS.

This afternoon tea was an informal gathering for any ex-pupil's year group. Ex-pupils are invited to come back to their school and meet other ex-pupils and current students. The event was run by our Level 3 Business students and it was an opportunity for the students to meet ex-pupils, introduce themselves and explain their business project for this year. Thank you to all the Ex-pupils who attended our event. We are always grateful to Barbara Iversen (nee Eyre) and Dawn Rawlinson (nee Smyth) for their support with this event. The students thoroughly enjoyed meeting you all. Below are photos capturing the afternoon.



Congratulations to Ex-Pupil Sir Stephen Tindall who was recently named New Zealander of the Year.





MEMORIES OF SCHOOL DAYS

Wendy Strain caught up with Dr Andrew Grimsdale (1975-1979, Dux 79). On leaving TGS Andrew has worked or studied in five different countries. He is an Associate Professor at the School of Materials Science and Engineering in Singapore.

What did you do after leaving TGS?

I studied Chemistry at Auckland University from 1980, completing my PhD in organic chemistry at end of 1989. I worked as a postdoctoral researcher in UK first at Swansea and then at Cambridge, where I first worked on conjugated polymers for organic electronics. I came back to Auckland in 1997 but could not get a scientific job so headed off to Mainz in Germany in 1999. I spent six very happy years in the Max-Planck-Institute for Polymer Research, as Project Leader in charge of the conjugated polymers subgroup in the group of Professor Klaus Müllen. I then went to work at the University of Melbourne with my old boss from Cambridge, before accepting a faculty position at the School of Materials Science and Engineering, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in 2006, where I got tenure in 2012. I have a small research group working on synthesis of organic molecules for use in batteries and solar cells. All in all quite an odyssey and it is nice to now have job security till my retirement (due in 2028). NTU is a great place to work and I have a lot of fun both in research and in teaching. It seems odd to me that of my classmates at TGS at least 3 of us have become university faculty and only 1 (the late Martin Titchener) became a school teacher, whereas of my classmates at varsity only 2 of us became faculty and at least 6 became school teachers.

Did you have a particular teacher who influenced you?

Mr (Colin) Brown my maths teacher, who was affectionately known as Bungo (after the womble). A lively and rather eccentric individual who I found really stimulated my curiosity and encouraged me to go into research. I have not seen him in over 30 years and I regret I never had a chance to tell him how much he had inspired me.

What subjects did you study at TGS?

Apart from the compulsory subjects like English I did Maths, Applied Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, French, and Latin. I was in the last class to do Latin, as the following year they

switched to German (which I learnt when I lived there) and I have fond memories of Mr (Owen) Smith who taught it and was sorry to hear he had died. It gave me a real interest in Roman history, and added an extra richness to living in Mainz as that is an old Roman city full of Roman artefacts.

Did you enjoy your time at TGS and if so, what in particular?

Very much so – indeed my last year at school (1979) was one of the happiest years of my life. I learnt so much at TGS and I made a lot of friends there.

Do you keep in touch with friends from TGS?

I still keep in touch with half a dozen or so, who I write to, email and/or ring at least once each year. I see some of them occasionally and I hear news of others. I am easy to find by Google so sometimes I get contacted by people I haven't seen for a while, e.g. I recently heard from Judith Watson who I had not seen since school days. It amazes some of my colleagues that I can still remember so many of my old classmates and can name them in class photos. Of course looking at old photos, especially in company of old friends, also brings on questions like "There's Linda Graham - whatever became of her?" (Anyone know what became of Linda?). There are a few people I was once friendly with – Cathy Brogan, Sean Peters, Ratanui Wilkins, and Mark Hope come to mind – who I have not heard news of in many years and would be interested to hear from or hear news of (if they or anyone who has news of them is reading this perhaps they could contact me) and others like Tracy Lockwood, or Mathilda Uhrle, of whom I have heard very little recent news and would be interested to hear more news of. I definitely plan to attend future class reunions if possible to hear more of what my old schoolmates are doing.

Did you change your career path after school, to the one you thought you would follow?

Not much – I always wanted to go into scientific research and chemistry was my first choice. During my PhD I thought I would end up working on drug synthesis in the pharmaceutical industry or academia but afterwards I took a slight detour and became a materials chemist working on new materials for batteries, solar cells and light-emitting diodes. It's still synthetic chemistry – I am just making different types of molecules from what I thought I would be. While I always thought I'd end up a Professor I must confess I never thought it would be in Singapore.

What have been your career highlights?

I really enjoyed working at Cambridge and at Mainz where I got to work with some of the best scientists in the world – it was such a stimulating experience interacting with such people. NTU



is a pretty good place too but now I get almost as much sense of accomplishment from teaching and seeing how some of my students are starting to go out and make their own careers. With global warming such a threat I think my work on solar cells and more recently on batteries will probably turn out to be my most important contribution to the world.

What are your interests and passions outside your working life?

Reading (no surprise to anyone who remembers me), music, and board war-gaming are still my hobbies as they were at TGS. I am interested in seeing the world and in any place I have lived or even visited (I have lived in or visited over a dozen countries now) I have made an effort to go out, often on foot, to explore the neighbourhood; but there's still a lot of the world I have yet to see (including parts of NZ).

What advice would you offer today's students?

Never lose your curiosity and sense of wonder. To this day I think that any day on which I experience something new, e.g. learn something new, make a new friend, or visit a new place, is a day I have not wasted. There is so much to experience and to learn one lifetime cannot be enough to do it all. There is a vast fascinating world out there – go out and explore it while you can!



Did you know ex-pupils have a Facebook page?

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL ALUMNI. We recently asked where in the world are you now?

Anna Aubrey wrote I finished in 1996. Since then I have travelled and completed my BA in social sciences at AUT. I have worked in Australia in Communications/fundraising for the past 14 years. I have now moved into more strategy/management/operations as General Manager Operations of St Vincent de Paul Society, Queensland. It was at TGS I decided I wanted to go into Comms.

Haylee Wilton went straight to the NZ Navy from TGS and has just recently left the Navy after 14 years, to join Air NZ. She has two children and lives in Auckland.

Emily Stevens. Since leaving TGS I studied engineering, worked as an environmental engineer in NZ for three years and then moved to the UK where I work for a leading specialist engineering software company. I am involved in the real time modelling of water supply networks.

Amanda Bennett. Since TGS I have worked several jobs over the years. I am living in Whangarei and I am a stay at home mum to one child.

Rob Weta Clark Once I left TGS I joined the NZ Army, I am still serving now but only part time due to golf and cycling addictions. Could say "living the dream" and way better than "living the nightmare".

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL FUNDRAISING OFFER



Peter Ayton and Phil Clark are proud to support Takapuna Grammar School in this, the second year of our Special Recognition Award Programme. Adding to the support we are now offering to donate \$1,000 to the school for every family, staff member or friend of Takapuna Grammar that lists and sells their property with us.

‘The Power Of Two’

Phil Clark

P: 09 446 2125 M: 021 940 041

E: phil.clark@harcourts.co.nz

Licensed Salesperson REAA 2008

Peter Ayton

P: 09 446 2109 M: 021 336 300

E: peter.ayton@harcourts.co.nz

Licensed Salesperson REAA 2008



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