



Ad Augusta



A NEWSLETTER OF TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

March 2016

Kayeon (Alice) Kim – Top in New Zealand

When you read the impressive CV of this young woman you will not be surprised to learn she is the Top Scholar in the country for Accounting. She was named the Young Enterprise Exam Top Scholar of the school, was 2nd in the regional finals of the Young Enterprise Scheme’s “Highly commended Business of the Year”, the recipient of the BNZ award for the most outstanding commerce student 2015, won a Massey Business School Future Leaders Scholarship, a Massey Enterprise in Action Scholarship of \$2000, and the Massey Business Boot Camp Scholarship. Alice was also a regional finalist in the New Zealand Secondary Students’ Case Competition, was the Enterprise in Action FedEx International Challenge NZ winner and won the TGS Business and Enterprise “Contributor of the Year”.

Alice also gained a scholarship in Economics in the November examinations. While studying diligently Alice still found time to be a student co-ordinator of the Habitat for Humanity project, be a School House Leader; the Finance Director of “Charge-It” and a leader of the school Korean Fan Dance group.

Alice was one of four TGS students gaining Outstanding scholarships for 2015; Hannah Patterson in Classical Studies, (and a scholarship in Media Studies), Grace Meng in Calculus (and one in Physics) and Frank Talbot in Music (and one in Physics), are the other three.

A further 35 subject scholarships were won by students in one or two subjects making a total of 39 – one greater than in 2014. Physics in particular had a great year with eight scholarships awarded and there were five in Calculus.



Kayeon Kim

IN THIS ISSUE...

Principal’s Report	2
PTA	3
School News	4
Art & Design	6
Sports	9
Grammar Link	11

» Page 5



Check out Eliza on page 9



Dear Parents and Guardians

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The academic year has certainly started well. We are delighted with the energy and optimism which has pervaded the place since students returned. The earlier start has certainly given us the opportunity to accelerate the opening of the year, to a point where the school has been settled for a number of weeks now.

As we begin the year there is much to report. The Art Development is well underway and contractors have made a strong start; so much so that we expect an earlier than planned completion date. At this stage the project is scheduled for the month of June, but we may expect to be in this building prior. The Main Block is at a point where consents have been issued and the building contractors are in the process of being engaged for the work. Activity is expected on site next month.

We are also in receipt of the 2015 results. Initial analysis show very strong achievements for students, whether engaged in NCEA or the International Baccalaureate Diploma. I provide some general data for your consumption:

International Baccalaureate Diploma

85% of International Baccalaureate students gained their Diploma. Five students gained results higher than 40, with one student gaining a mark of 44. Incidentally, the highest result in New Zealand belongs to one student with a result of 45.

The median mark is 34 out of 45.

The NCEA

Of the students who participated in NCEA:

- 88% of Year 11 students gained a Level 1 Certificate
- 90% gained a Level 2 Certificate
- 80% gained a Level 3 Certificate

We will be happy to update you all with further information as the more detailed analysis comes to hand.

Manaaki Mentoring has re-started with the inclusion of the new Year 9 students. We are appreciating the opportunity to induct the new members, at all levels, and to continue the great progress from last year.

You may be aware that the Ministry of Education's "Investing in Educational Success" is being implemented among our local primary, intermediate and secondary schools. The principals of the peninsula are working actively and enthusiastically on this project. In general terms, this innovation grants the funding required to successfully and fully implement a teaching and learning philosophy with practical application being found by the sharing of resources and expertise between the schools. This latter aspect will be a very visible characteristic of this project. I am, personally, very excited by the prospect and consider it will have tremendous influence over the progression of students through the educational sectors in our local area. At the time of writing, the principals are formalising the foundational understandings, working our way to the engagement of staff this year with full implementation for the start of 2017. If you would like to find out more about this project nation-wide, have a look at "Investing in Educational Success" at <http://www.education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/specific-initiatives/investing-in-educational-success/>

The principals are invigorated by this collaboration and are enjoying the continued contact and discussion. I endorse the capability that each bring to the discussion and the energetic commitment to student achievement.

One of the key relationships in any successful school is that found between the students, the school and the parents. Despite the advice your teenager may give you, I encourage you to remain well connected to the school and to contact us if you have any concerns or questions. Early interventions and information can save issues later on and I value our school's ability to be responsive. If you are unsure who to contact in the first instance, please send an email to principal@takapuna.school.nz. I will be able to reply directly or ask another staff member with greater expertise to respond.

Regards

Simon Lamb
Principal
Takapuna Grammar School





PTA Events & Projects

Thanks to everyone who supported the PTA events over 2015 – you can see below that it really does make a difference. We aim to bring the school community together by holding regular events, and to fundraise for equipment that would otherwise be outside departmental budgets.

How can you help in 2016?

Mostly by coming along to our events! Bring your friends.

Also you can donate products or services for raffles and auctions; your business could sponsor an event; and we can always use help with projects. The PTA would love your support this year – in the end our students who benefit.

We would welcome fresh ideas and input from all school families. Email us at <mailto:pta@takapuna.school.nz>

See our page on the TGS website
<http://www.takapuna.school.nz/about/pta/>

If you'd like to meet us and find out what we do, we'd love to see you at our next PTA meeting on Tuesday 1st of March, in the School Library. Our Annual General Meeting at 7pm, and regular monthly meeting at 7.30pm.

What happened in 2015

Three talks for parents were hosted – John Cowan, Michele A'Court, and Allison Mooney; Morning tea hosted to thank TGS Staff; "Totally 80's" dance for parents, staff and friends; Studio Photograph fundraiser with photographer Michael Overend; Comedy Night with Paul Ego, Jeremy Corbett and Matt Stellingwerf; "Takafest" Performing Arts Expo – PTA assisted with running this; 10th Annual TGS PTA Golf Day.

Thanks to the involvement of the community, the PTA donated a total of about \$44,000 to school projects:

New seating in Sir Peter Blake building, from funds held.

Various sporting and cultural groups, from the "80s' Dance" funds.

'Green screen infinity wall' for Art Department, from Photo fundraiser.

Performing Arts equipment, from Comedy Night.

Furniture for Library, from funds held.

TGS PTA Hardship grant.

Upgrade drinking fountains to fill bottles – pending.

Bench seats, purchased as funds allow.

Sports Gazebo, funds from 2014.

Weights sports training, funds from 2014.

'PTA Inspiration Award' at Senior Prize giving – congratulations to Mavae Vakavelo.

Thanks to the support of the local community the Golf Day in November raised over \$9,000, partly to go towards sports equipment.

Ongoing Project:

Once the current major building work is completed, the PTA will pledge the funds raised from the sales of our cookbook, 'Taste of Takapuna', towards a major project to enhance the central outdoor area to improve the break-time environment for our 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. The recipes are firm favourites with the TGS community, making an ideal Christmas gift for friends, family or business contacts. Please be part of this exciting project - contact PTA or school office to purchase.

Thanks go to our committed PTA members, who really care about TGS students, and take a lot of time to work towards these projects. We also thank a small group of helpers, who over the years have given many hours to PTA projects.

Ruth Blackman
TGS PTA Chair



Hyunji Jo won (pictured) won second place in the senior 2D drawing and painting category, in 2015, in the Young Designer Awards (YDA). She won the prize at the Re-creative International Arts Festival which was organized and prepared by UNIWORLD (NGO), in collaboration with Globally Aware Teen Exchange.



Senior Korean Gala Lunch

Over 300 seniors, Korean-Kiwis were invited to the 6th Senior Gala Party, held at the school hall on 13 February. It was hosted by the school, the Hi Well Trust and Korean Creative Craft Artists. Mr Wynn, Mr Holding, Mr John Vogt and Ms Mary Pottinger attended on behalf of the school.

Seven Prefects and 19 volunteer students helped with the event. 16 students were given scholarships including three students from Takapuna Grammar School. Mr Wynn received a citation from the Korean Society of Auckland for his work towards the event over the last six years.

There were dances, songs, games, lucky draws, nice meals and performances. It was a great day to go along for Koreans and Kiwis.



Steve Smith, Louise Roe and Toni Ferens

A Manaaki update

Manaaki mentoring has now established itself as a part of the way we do things at Takapuna Grammar School. We are looking forward to having the whole school engaged with the programme now that the Year 13 students are part of our groups. We have plans to utilise the skills and experiences that the senior students, especially the Year 13s, have to help up-skill and grow our junior students.

We would like to introduce the staff who have been appointed to co-ordination roles of the programme. Mr. Steve Smith, from the Social Sciences department and Mrs. Toni Ferens, from the Physical Education Department, have been working with Mrs. Louise Roe from the Senior Leadership Team since their appointment at the end of 2015.

Steve and Toni have a vision for the programme to ensure that it fulfils its potential and is effective in supporting all our students. The programme will work closely with the existing House system, Peer leadership and Peer Support programmes and will run over a two-year cycle of four themes; pride, service, learning and relationships.

The Manaaki programme began for 2016 on Wednesday 3rd Feb with a chance to reconnect our groups and welcome the new Year 9's. Steve, Toni and the Senior Leadership Team have been discussing the direction for the rest of the year and how they can best support our students and staff as we further embed this exciting initiative in our school.

The Manaaki Leadership team have published a google site with information that can be accessed by staff, students and parents; to enable open sharing of the programme. This can be accessed via the school website or <https://goo.gl/XRcT67>



Volunteer helpers doing their part



Senior Gala performers on stage



Two of our students visit Germany

In January we were lucky enough to be given the chance to go on Goethe Institute's PASCH Jugendkurs in Frankfurt for 3 weeks. There were 86 of us in total, from 13 different countries including Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Indonesia and Australia.

There was never a dull moment; every day included 1-3 lessons followed by a main activity and several optional ones that changed each day. Amongst other activities, we got to watch Frankfurt Löwen play a game of ice hockey against Kassel's team, go to the city in our free time, and on each weekend had day trips to nearby cities like Heidelberg, Mainz and Mannheim. The Heidelberg Castle was definitely a highlight for everyone, especially because it was the first time snow had fallen and for many of the students, their first time ever seeing snow.

We were sorted into classes after a simple placement test - both of us ended up in the same class, where we learnt mostly about grammar and new vocab. Being constantly surrounded by German and the classes, improved our German and greatly

increased overall confidence when speaking with other students as well as with native speakers.

Some of our roommates - who were from countries like Bolivia, Peru and Chile - couldn't speak English, and we couldn't speak Spanish either, so German became the common language we had to communicate with.

On the last night all the students presented their group projects which we had worked on in the last week. We were awarded certificates and had an "abschiedsparty" to celebrate the end of the exchange. It was hard saying goodbye to those from South America because of how living so far away from them meant that we would most likely never see them again. Saying goodbye to the six Australians was also just as hard. Although visiting them again would be easier, the NZ and Australian students had become closer friends than any of us could have imagined, especially in three weeks.

Our time in Frankfurt Germany was amazing. Never would we have expected to get to know people as well as we did in only three weeks. There was no down side to the trip, everything was great. The people, the city, the Goethe staff, the Haus Der Jugend, the activities and even the schooling was better than we could have imagined.

By Ingemar Watt & Adele Zhao

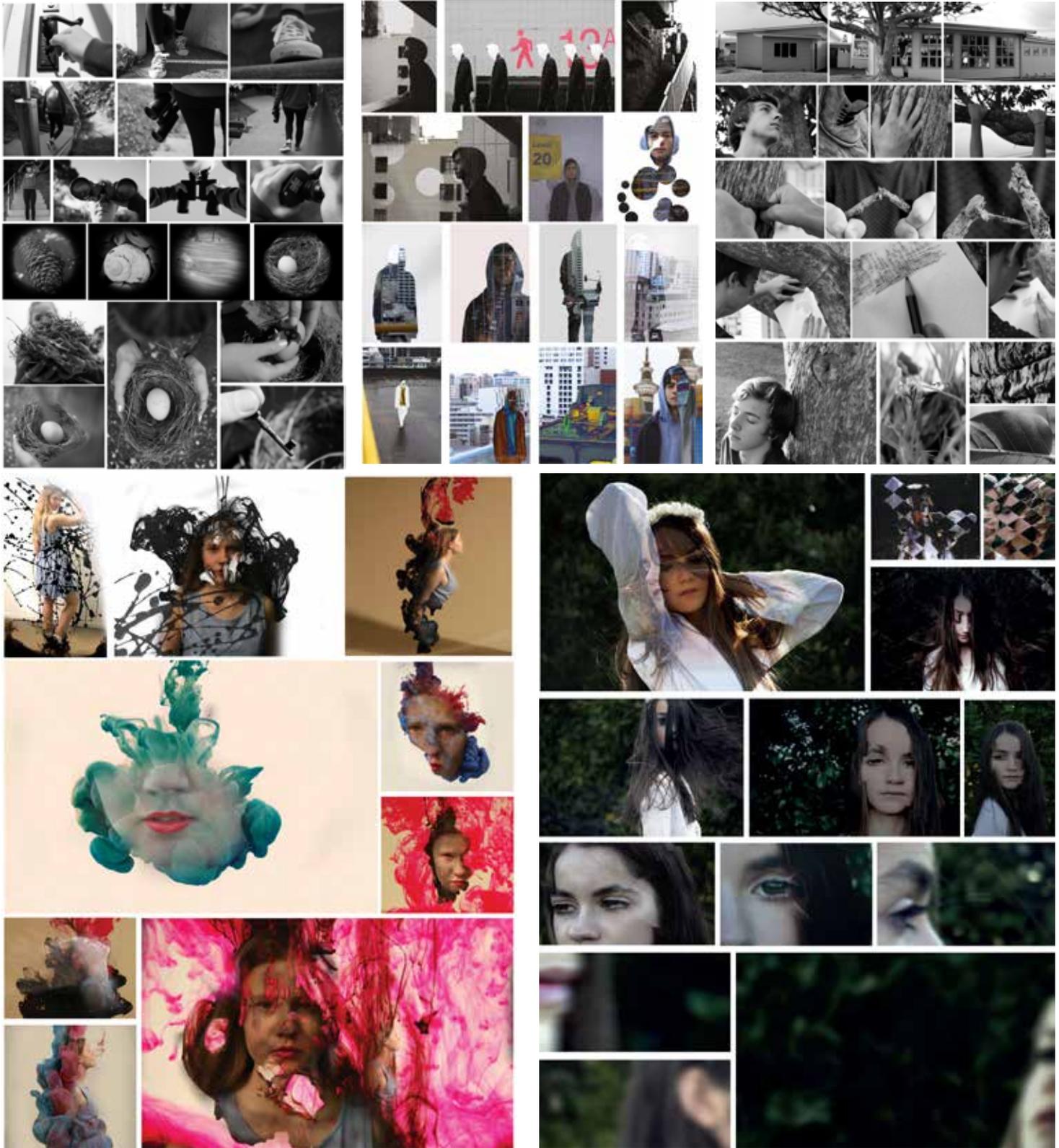




Celebration of photography!

2015 was a very successful year for the department's photography area. We are happy to present a selection of the final boards from last year in celebration of the students success. The department is building on these achievements by delivering a new course called "digital art" this year in the Level 1 NCEA programme, which we are very excited about. There will be an update on this and all the other disciplines in coming issues.







For your information

1 March	Winter Sports Muster (squash, cycling - road and mountain biking, hockey, basketball, football) – see the website for details PTA AGM and Meeting – Library, 7.00pm
2 March	Yr 12 IB Parents' Meeting – 5.00pm Library
6 March	Yr 12 PE Camp
7 March	Yr 12 PE Camp
8 March	Yr 12 PE Camp
9 March	Junior Progress Reports Issued
17 March	Auckland University Yr 13 Presentation – Lunchtime SLC Senior Progress Reports Issued Junior Parent Teacher Interviews
18 March	Sustainability Conference - Technology Summer Tournament Week
23 March	Senior Parent Teacher Interviews
24 March	Massey University Yr 13 Presentation – Lunchtime SLC Yr 10 Market Day – 12.30pm
25 March	Easter Friday – No School
28 March	Easter Monday – No School
29 March	Easter Tuesday – No School
31 March	AUT Yr 13 Presentation – Lunchtime SLC
4 April	Summer Tournament Week MAADI Cup Rowing Week
7 April	Otago University Presentation – Lunchtime SLC
14 April	Victoria University Presentation – Lunchtime SLC
15 April	End of Term 1



Vocational Pathways from Learning to Earning

Under a recent initiative by the Ministry of Education, all students' NCEA credits are sorted into six broad career sectors which are colour coded so it is easy to see how skills and knowledge relate to industry. Check out your Vocational Profile at www.nzqa.govt.nz/login/



Get2Go finals

At the New Zealand Junior Adventure Racing Competition held on Great Barrier Island in December, the TGS team placed 5th overall. The team consisted of Jono Nicholas, Oscar Koller, Xander White, Cory Pelham, Anna Jacobs, Arabella Maynard, Sofie Salkova and Talisha Green. The team won the first and last mini multisport races on Day 1 and Day 5 and placed well in the team building challenges and the Rogaine. Tough competition edged their final pacing to 5th as the top 6 schools were only a few points apart after the five days of racing.



Eliza McCartney

News from the sports arena: a Report by our new AP with responsibility for ASPIRE

Former TGS student, Eliza McCartney's (2010-2014) summer has been slightly different from most 19 year olds.

In December, Eliza broke the Pole Vaulting Junior World record with a jump of 4.64 metres. In January at an Athletics meet in Australia, Eliza broke her own pole vaulting national record with a jump of 4.65 metres. With a number of 'A' qualifying jumps this season Eliza has won a spot in the New Zealand team competing at the Rio Olympics this year. For the second year running Eliza is a finalist in the Emerging Talent category of the Halberg Awards for 2015.

Eliza began at Takapuna Grammar in 2010, where her athletic ability was initially recognised on the netball court. This sporting ability saw her selected for the Year 9 Sports Institute class. Her fascination for pole vaulting, born from an interest in high jumping, came a year later.

In her senior years at TGS, Eliza attended the World Youth Athletics Championships in the Ukraine. In 2014 she earned a bronze medal at the World Junior Athletic Championships held in Oregon. Eliza, achieved all of this as a full-time student. The Takapuna Grammar Elite Sports Institute that Eliza was a part of for three years supported her athletics journey, providing her with academic and pastoral guidance.

Eliza credits her involvement in sport with helping her to develop the skills to achieve in all aspects of her life. She is currently studying for a Bachelor of Science with a long term aim of becoming a doctor. Eliza leads a busy life but she has the ability to structure this to ensure her time is used effectively both on the training track and in the lecture theatre.

Takapuna Grammar is a school where sport really matters. All students at TGS should aim to participate in at least one sport each year. Sport at TGS means regular, organised physical activity beyond the classroom that is played in competition.

Young people, just like Eliza, can benefit greatly from participating in sport. Sport:

- improves physical and mental health;
- equips students with life skills that lead to personal excellence;
- improves student's capacity and motivation to learn; and
- connects students with others both within school and in our community.

In 2015 a sports strategy was created, titled "Aspiring to personal excellence through sports participation". The purpose of the

strategy is to use sports to create healthier, more engaged students with strong interpersonal skills who strive to attain excellence. The ASPIRE group consisting of members of our local community was set up at this time to advise and provide operational support to Sport at Takapuna Grammar.

By Will Scovell





TGS Sporting Success

Jac Roberts and Tom Smeed went away with the NZU17 Volleyball team to Vanuatu and won the Vanuatu Beach Volleyball International Competition.

Michael Worsfold won 3 Gold medals in the 50, 100, 200 breaststroke, during the recent Auckland Champs.

Arushni Naicker won a silver medal in the 200 Freestyle and 2 Bronze medals in 50 and 100m Freestyle events.

Elle Wintle competed in the Tour of Manawatu in the U19 Women's event. She also gained a 3rd placing in the General Classification and 2nd in King of the Mountain. She also gained 2nd place in the sprint primes on The HUB tour Elle gained 5th General Classification in the Elite Women's category. She has also been selected to ride for NZ Cycling in the Oceania Road Championships in March.

Darya Kharitonova participated in the Junior Commonwealth Games, in South Africa, last year, for Fencing. She is gained a 3rd place in Women's Foil during the NZU17 Championships and 2nd place in Women's Foil in the Auckland U17 Championships.

Hannah Williams' Surf Lifesaving results; 1st Open Iron-Woman, Eastern Region Championships, 1st U19 Iron-Woman, Eastern Region Championships, 1st U19 Iron-Woman, in Oceans '38' Competition on the Gold Coast. 2nd Open Woman's Mount Monster 26km Endurance Race. Part of the Northern Region Youth team that won the NZ Provincial Challenge.

Max Griffiths: 1st National Junior Orienteering Camp Championships.

Katherine Badham: 7th in the Australian National series in Gold Coast and 1st New Zealander. 1st NZ Junior U19 National Championships, gained automatic qualification to Junior Worlds in September (Mexico).

Sam Petherick and Emily Handyside both represented Auckland under 15s in Girls' Cricket.

Mitch Bremner represented Auckland in U17 Cricket.

Alex Roberts and Keenan Hodge attended the Vanuatu Nationals with the U17 NZ Beach Volleyball squad.

Lucy Jacobs won a Gold medal in the NZSS Athletic Champs in the 800m.

Imogen Ayriss won a silver medal in the Open Girls' Pole Vault and a Bronze medal in the Junior Girls' Triple Jump.

Julia Giurgiu gained a Bronze medal in the Junior Girls' 800m.

Hamish McCartney gained a 6th placing in the Open Boys' Pole Vault.

Luca Burney and Thomas Moore were selected to represent the Northern Football Federation at the U16s National Age Grade Tournament in Wellington in December.

Emily Couchman is currently part of the wider training squad for the Under 20 New Zealand Women's Football Ferns. She will know later in the year if she has been successfully selected for Under 20 World Cup in November 2016 in Papua New Guinea.

Cycling: Our Road Cyclists feature in the naming of the New Zealand Junior Cycling Development Squads

Under 19: Aidan Nicholas, Elle Wintle.

Under 17: Renee Young, Fletcher Pearson Riley, Joshua Kench, Callum Erskine, Jack McKinney, Oscar Elworthy, Harry Waine

Kate Williams represented Auckland Touch at the Nationals in Christchurch.

Ella Gladwell is participating in the Interislander Optimist Sailing Regatta in Picton in February.

Elise Power will be competing in Equestrian events which are both international competitions during April and May.

Justin Lee competed at the New Zealand Junior Swimming Championships during February.



Hannah Williams



Michael Worsfold

Nina Edgar (pictured with medals) won gold at the Goju Karate World Championships at the end of November and automatically qualifies for the next Goju Karate World Championships in Romania in 2017. Nina represented New Zealand, competing in two events and winning both. She is now the world champion in the Individual Female Cadet 14/15 years Kata and the Junior Individual Female Kumate U48kg.





Grammar Link

Andrew Coshan, (Head Boy 2011)

Congratulations to Ex-pupil Andrew Coshan, (Head Boy 2011). He has graduated from the University of Otago, with a BA, majoring in Performing Arts and Theatre Studies. Andrew has won a place at the Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).

WAAPA is the most prestigious performing arts school in the southern hemisphere and has produced talent such as Heath Ledger, Hugh Jackman and Tim Minchin. We wish him well.

Congratulations to Ex-Pupil Jacko Gill, shot putter, who has won the Christchurch Big Shot event in February and qualified for the Rio Olympics by more than 30 centimetres.



Jacko Gill

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to ex-pupil Eliza McCartney on breaking the NZ Pole Vault record just last week. This tops off a great fortnight for Eliza after winning the Emerging Talent category at the Halberg Awards.

Greetings from the UK! - A letter from an ex-pupil

As an Ex-pupil (1963-64), I recently called into a Shop in Bakewell, Derbyshire, England. Imagine my surprise when I found a copy of the cook book "Taste of Takapuna".

What an excellent book and one that brought back many happy memories.

My parents immigrated to NZ in 1954 when my father joined the New Zealand Navy. Sadly, when his ten years were up, we returned to the UK.

I enjoyed my brief time at Takapuna Grammar. My time was interesting. I was particularly good at athletics but despite Miss Jewell's (our English Teacher) efforts, I was never an ideal student.

I later served as an NCO in the Grenadier Guards followed by 30 years as a Police Officer, so I guess Takapuna did rub off on me!

Keep up the good work and I look forward to Cook Book, Volume Two!

Good luck and well done.

Peter Brown

Dear Wendy,

I found some old pictures of my days at Takapuna Grammar School during 1976 when I was an exchange student living with Mrs. Cree. I

hope you get a laugh out of them and I would love to connect with some of the students I went to school with.

Kindest regards,

Sue Lamy





Obituary – Barry Brickell OBE

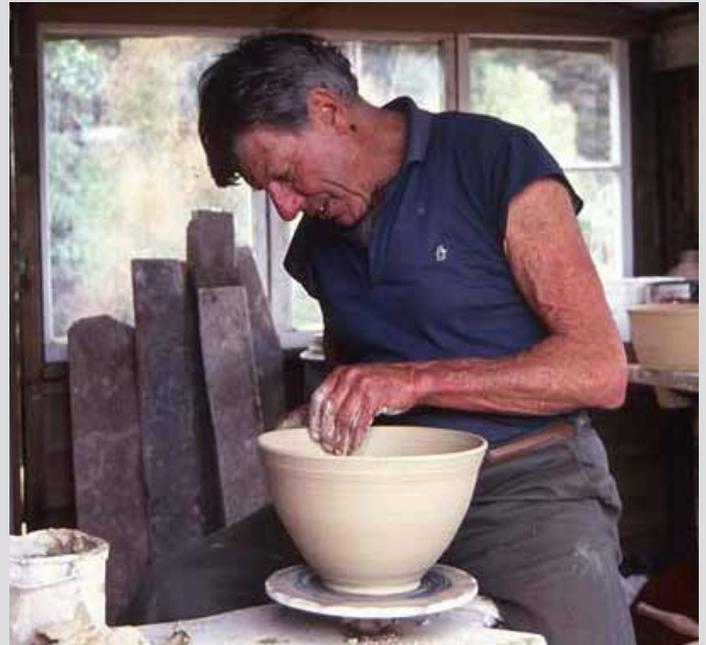
It was with great sadness that we recently learnt of the passing of ex-Pupil, Barry Brickell, at the age of 80 – a renowned and influential New Zealand potter and the creator of Coromandel's Driving Creek Railway.

Barry's pottery was a strong influence on New Zealand art, with pottery displayed in Te Papa and in Parliament. MP, Catherine Delahunty states "Barry's pottery and sculpture is world-famous due to its powerful simplicity and ability to retain the essence of the natural materials." The school is fortunate to have a piece donated by Barry, which is on display in the Library.

Barry was also a strong conservationist and the Driving Creek Railway stretching across a 32 hectare site, has become an important Coromandel tourist attraction. As part of its construction, Barry planted thousands of native trees to replace the scrub and exotic species he was removing.

The school has been fortunate to receive letters from Barry, typed on a manual typewriter, because as he says, "At age 77, the computer system becomes a beast with horns, hence this typewritten contribution. The laptop is consigned to lighter duties." In his letters he describes his experiences while at Takapuna Grammar between 1948 and 1953.

"Another form of initiation was the IQ test in order for us to be 'streamed' into the appropriate level of intelligence class. Oh dear! Smelling a proverbial rat as I read through the list, I still recall answering all the questions in reverse. I am left-handed if this is any explanation."



"Thursday afternoons were set aside for compulsory sports which I hated and dreaded. One day I kicked the football in the wrong direction. There was a hushed silence followed by a roar. It turned out to be a decisive moment. Science teacher Raymond Scott, a dignified man who I respected immensely, saw my predicament and understood it. He must have reasoned with other staff. Henceforth, I was allowed to work in the chemistry lab during sports periods."

"Nowadays, I feel very grateful for the formal education I received at TGS over those past five years."

The death of W.I.F. MacLeod

In the December issue of Grammar Link there was some text missing to accompany the information provided about a former headmaster's time at the school.

Mr MacLeod was appointed in July 1962. He was educated at Timaru Boys High School, served in the Pacific with the RNZAF, and completed his degree at Canterbury and Otago universities. After teaching in Nelson and Matamata, he was HOD Mathematics at Hamilton Boys' High School and stayed there as an Assistant Principal and Acting Principal before becoming one of the youngest

Headmasters to be appointed to a large urban secondary school.

In his time at Takapuna he enhanced the reputation of the school through his insight and leadership. He earned the respect of pupils and teachers alike and he will always be remembered by those who taught at the school over his time. After eight years as Principal "WIF", as he was affectionately referred to, took up a position at Massey University where his career in education continued with great success. One of his lasting legacies is that he was responsible for the planting of the pohutukawa trees along the Lake Road, and Belmont Intermediate boundaries of the school.