



Takapuna
Grammar School

MAY 2017

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AD AUGUSTA



TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A wonderful student-led 'Expo'



A wonderful showcase of all Takapuna Grammar School extra-curricular activities and clubs, was held recently. Representatives from over 50 activities gathered in the Library, ranging from sports teams, to UNICEF, to the 'Kool Kids' Club. Students from all year levels, especially Year 9s jam-packed the space, eager to sign up.

The event provided an opportunity for students to explore the extensive variety of co-curricular opportunities available to them at the school and to communicate with club/group leaders face to face.

The enormous enthusiasm shown by the students that afternoon came as no surprise, to its chief organisers, prefects Emily Fan and Sean Green, whose idea for this "Expo" was made into reality for the first time. Their innovative and organisational skills, were supported by many staff members, and especially by the Teacher Librarian, Mrs Annie White.

New members' involvement has been tremendous in the month since the Expo. The UNICEF club, for example, has gained many

more new members, and they have already taken part in the Term 1 fundraising project: making posters to promote raising funds for the South Sudan Famine, with their work displayed on the collection buckets.

While Sean is also heavily involved in sports, he has been part of at least ten different co-curricular groups, in the past four years. He thinks that all "these groups have offered irreplaceable opportunities to learn skills to deal with the real world after leaving school, whether it be talking to older people or working with the young ones."

Emily received a Gold Merit award at Year 12 for her commitments to seven extra-curricular activities. She is also co-founder of new clubs at TGS, including Amnesty International and Girls In Stem. Lastly, some advice for all students from Emily: "Don't be afraid to start your own group of you have a passion that isn't represented. There will be other like-minded students who are looking for the same platform."

By Iris Leng



From the Principal

This year Takapuna Grammar School celebrates its 90th anniversary. It is an exciting time for all of us here and all those connected with us. This school was the second secondary school to be established on Auckland's North Shore (after Northcote College).

There are traditions from the early days that are an integral part of the fabric of school. These include strong values, high quality academic programmes and achievement in learning, sport, music and culture. These all help to enable the aspirations of staff and students and are part of the daily operation for staff and students.

The year started with strong 2016 academic results from NCEA, IB and Scholarship. NCEA and UE pass rates are the best yet for the school and the number of scholarships was the second best ever. Two students, Ziling Linda Lu and Mica Hou, received national awards in IB presented by the Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy.

Students starting in Year 9 were warmly welcomed by senior students and have transitioned smoothly into their new environment. The Community of Learning schools have been working closely with us to assist this process. The recently developed vertical whanau form classes and six new houses have increased opportunities for leadership for students and are making them think about how to form good teams in those spaces. Our students know a lot of their peers and like the comfort of familiarity. They still spend most of the day in cohort groupings in horizontal classes. However, there is much to gain from being with a variety of age groups and making new connections will help students succeed in a global world. The benefits of older students helping younger ones and the quality of relationships at the school is evident in our co-curricular teams, our Tu Tangata, Elite Sports Institute and in many other programmes.

The Education Review Office arrived on 13 March giving the school the opportunity to show developments



since the last review and account for the specific areas of national interest and compliance. They enjoyed this visit and staff and students loved showcasing all that goes on in our school. Initial feedback from the ERO team states they found everything at Takapuna Grammar School to be of high quality. The report will be published and made available to our community in Term 2.

A huge raft of co-curricular activities have begun with enthusiasm and energy. Most staff are assisting with an activity and a number have been initiated by and are being led by students. I am pleased to see so many students actively participating and having fun mixing with new people and learning new skills. Many students excel in these activities too. This term our teams performed well at regional and national level. Summer tournament results were excellent with Senior A Boys Volleyball placed 5th nationally, Ultimate Frisbee placed 8th and the U16 Double rowing crew making the A final at Karapiro. The

Boys 1st X1 Cricket team won their season final and are now back in the top Auckland competition for next season. The Girls 1st X1 also excelled and have qualified for the national tournament.

Students involved in the biennial school show are practising fervently so be sure to get tickets for Grease as this will be another stunning musical event.

The term has been a really busy one. Alongside the business of in-class programmes, there was athletics and swimming days, trials for winter sports teams, setting up of choirs and music ensembles and cultural and service groups.

Everyone deserves a break so I wish you all a relaxed and happy Easter holiday. I look forward to seeing our staff and students back in Term 2.

Footnote: This is our first Ad Augusta which will be done in-house with our new branding.



Enviro Group: Beach Clean-up

The TGS Enviro group and IB CAS students took part in the Devonport peninsular beach cleanup day.

On Friday 7 April a selection of IB CAS students and the TGS Enviro Group spent an hour before school cleaning up rubbish along St Leonard's beach and the neighbouring shoreline.

As there had just been a cyclone, the beach was covered in mainly plastic rubbish that had been washed onto shore. We picked up two large cleansacks full of rubbish and disposed of them in the recycling bins to ensure it would no longer affect our environment.

The amount of rubbish we picked up shows all of us that we need to take care of our local area to ensure that rubbish does not end up in the oceans where it can cause widespread damage to the ecosystems that we enjoy on a regular basis.

By Mr Smith



Yr 12 Geography: the Tongariro Crossing

Takapuna Grammar Geography trip to Tongariro National Park

The Year 12 Geography students and teachers visited Tongariro National Park to conduct their research based internal assessment, on Mt Ruapehu.

We spent two days out and about on Mt Ruapehu learning about the natural environment that we had been learning about in class for the first term. Seeing it all in front of us made it much easier to understand and helped to extend our inclass learning.

We also had the opportunity to complete the Tongariro Crossing and were lucky to get a great day for it, with clear blue skies and only light wind.



As we journeyed across Mt Ngauruhoe and Tongariro we saw more of the features of the environment we had learned about in class.

After four days out in the beauty of National Park it was time to head home with a new understanding of one of New Zealand's most geotastic environments.

“Grease”

Jane Guy of Premium Real Estate Group, has again agreed to be a principal sponsor of our school show, which this year is “Grease”.

Pictured here (back left) she joins principals in the cast at the Premium office in Devonport with a vintage dragster loaned by Luke McDonald of the North Shore Rod and Custom Club.

Premium was principal sponsor of



Cast of “Grease” cavort in the yards at Devonport Community Recycling Centre. Andrew Walters (third from left) is co-sponsoring the show as a community outreach by Global Action Plan Oceania (GAPO), a registered charity, which runs the centre.

The centre creates value from waste and Andrew intends to raise awareness at TGS about limiting the waste the school produces. TGS will work with GAPO to survey the carbon impacts of the “Grease” production

our production of ‘Oliver’ in 2015 and has been impressed by the energy of the cast, their cheerful manner and ability to play the roles.

After the success of Oliver, she had no hesitation in supporting Takapuna Grammer Performing Arts again.

Thank you Jane for your valuable support.

such as kilometres traveled, refuse from the production design and interval refreshment waste.

The Recycling Centre at 27 Lake Rd, beside Ngataranga Park, is open 7 days and offers a range of waste and recycling and sustainability solutions. Green waste, metal and e-waste are all welcome. The ecostore offers a range of household products in bulk and refill, such as liquid cleaners for laundry and dishwasher. Phone 0275117415.



IB garden

Some may have noticed a small garden ‘sprout up’ on the field at the end of last year. Rest assured, it is not a bunch of weeds but the International Baccalaureate Community Garden. Planned, built, and tended by a dedicated group of IB Year 2’s, the IB garden is growing a variety of crops and plan for more to be planted. The goal of the garden is to set up a long-term activity that the students in the years following will learn to take care of. It is about teaching students how to be responsible for something living, whilst giving them the opportunity to add their own creative ideas.

The vegetables that are currently in the garden are cabbages, kale, zucchini, leek, basil, broccoli and one gigantic beetroot. Recently added to this is some fruit including strawberries and watermelon. We patiently wait the results. These plants were grown from seeds by the IB students and given the size of the garden are growing quite large.

The plan thus far is to build two new planter boxes on the field to replant the watermelon and basil sprouts, as well as planting some new seeds before the winter. Our aim for the garden is to now build a self-sustainable, water collector for the garden and our dream is to grow enough crops to give away to the community.

By Lucy, Ella, and Thomas.



Pictured: Lucy harvests a courgette for her family dinner.

Readers Cup



The 2017 Takapuna Grammar School Readers Cup competition was held on Tuesday 11 April. This is a competition exclusively for Year 9 students and is entered on a voluntary basis. The students form teams of four, with the option of a reserve, and they read a series of prescribed texts.

For our internal competition, the texts were short stories or opening chapters of books. The winning team will be given six novels to read by the end of Term 2, and they will pit their wits and reading power against nine other secondary schools. Last year our Takapuna Grammar School team

won this competition, so we have a reputation to defend.

We are delighted that four boys will be representing Takapuna Grammar School this year. Who said that boys don't read?

Pictured is our winning team. Left to right: Ben Simpkin, Alex Schenkel, Andrew Crotty and Christopher Williams. They were each presented with a miniature trophy, a \$25 book voucher and a large pile of books to start reading!

Advertisement



Othello at the Pop-up Globe

Not many people of the 21st century can say that they have stood in the shoes of an Elizabethan. However, 300 Takapuna Grammar School students can. The 10th of March proved to be a thrilling day for the TGS English department, with classes fortunate enough to travel to the Pop-up Globe in Ellerslie for a performance of William Shakespeare's Othello.

The play, performed by local actors, proved to be an eye-opening experience for the literature loving students. 'Walking into the Globe was breathtaking. It was as if we were transported straight back to the 16th century,' said Ella Pearson, a level 3 English student. As well as being exhilarating, the excursion was also highly beneficial to the students'

learning. 'Seeing a live performance was great for furthering our knowledge of the play, and how people would have felt watching it, which will definitely help us when writing our essays!' commented Molly McGarvey.

Othello, as performed by the Pop-Up Globe Theatre Company, was widely regarded by the students as an outstanding play, as well as a wonderful Education Outside the Classroom activity. For many, the play cemented their love of Shakespeare, inspiring further study into Othello and wider reading of more Shakespearean plays.

By Sophia Lord
Year 13



Careers

Careers/Tertiary Evening
Thursday 18 May from
6.00pm - 8.00pm.
Located in the Sports Hall

Suitable for Year 12 and Year 13
students and parents.

No formal presentation.

This event is held every other year.

University Staff and Vocational
Providers will be available between
6.00pm - 8.00pm to
answer queries about tertiary
education.

Hope to see you there.

Host families

Applications to become a host family
for International students at Takapuna
Grammar School are always welcome
from families who would like to host,
either short or long term.

Please 'spread the word' to your

friends, family and contacts who live
not too far from Takapuna Grammar
School.

For further information please contact
homestay.coordinator@tgs.school.nz

1st XI Boys Cricket

From the Board of Trustees

At the last meeting of the Takapuna Grammar School Board of Trustees, Jon Williams announced his retirement from the Board and from his position as Chairman. Jon has been a Board member for almost seven years, and has been Board Chair for four years. He has provided wonderful service and leadership to the school, with a particular area of strong contribution being his role in guiding the building project associated with redevelopment of the main block. The Board thanks Jon for all his hard work on behalf of the School.

Vivien Kirk was elected by the Trustees to be the new Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, with effect from 1 April. Penny Harrison was appointed as Deputy Chairperson by the Trustees.



The 1XI Boys Cricket team (pictured with coach: Cole Mahoney) won the 1A T20 competition during Summer Tournament week, defeating Howick College in the Final. The team followed up this amazing performance with another win against Rangitoto College in the 1A Limited Overs competition. This win has promoted the 1XI to the Premier Auckland grade for next season.



Winter Sports Codes

The winter sports codes are about to kick off at Takapuna Grammar. There are a wide variety of sports available with both serious and social grades within most. Taking part in sport is an integral part of College life and we encourage everyone to get involved. TGS offers both traditional sports as well as some of the new age codes, so there is something for everyone.

We endeavour to match our teams to the appropriate grades within the Auckland system so that games are evenly matched. We also encourage both teacher and parent support of the teams and the sport as we believe that this is a great way to further connect our community. We look forward to seeing you both on the pitch and the sidelines this winter.

Athletics

Imogen Ayris placed 1st in the U18 age group, and 2nd in the U20 age group for Pole Vault at the Australian Athletic

Championships held in Sydney from 26 March to 2 April.

Premier Boys Volleyball



The Premier Boys Volleyball team (pictured with coaches: Tristan Hegglin and Manaia Harris) took part in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Championships held in Palmerston North during Summer Tournament week.

The boys played well and placed 5th in the country.

Notable mentions to Jac Roberts and Keenan Hodge for making the tournament team.

Dance



Congratulations to Dani Neill who gained the following awards in the recent Bays School Of Dance Competition:

1st Restricted Waltz Tap
 1st Restricted Speed Tap
 1st Restricted Tap Championship
 VHC Open Speed Tap
 HC Open Tap Solo
 C Open Slow Tap
 C Open Waltz Tap
 C Open Tap Championship Troupes:
 1st Tap Troupe
 1st Musical Theatre
 VHC Jazz
 Raewyn Burgess Competition:
 VHC Open Speed Tap
 HC Open Waltz Tap
 C Open Slow Tap
 Troupes:
 2nd Tap Troupe

Oceania Champs

Our resident Orienteers twins, Seb Safka and Sofie Safkova have had an amazing start to the school year. Seb placed 3rd in the Auckland Senior Boys final standings. Sofie is the Auckland Senior Girls Sprint Champion. She has also trialled successfully for the NZSS U18 Senior Girls Orienteering squad. Sofie will represent NZ at the Oceania championships in the holidays.



Technology Conference

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL CALLS FOR INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGISTS TO CONSIDER CURRICULUM PEDAGOGY.

The Takapuna Grammar School Technology Conference 2017 – Through the Looking Glass: Creativity and Innovation in Technology.

Over the last two decades, innovation and creativity have become critical components to designing new products that survive and flourish in a competitive market. Companies which have met the challenge throughout the journey are those who are the most creative and innovative. They use innovative concepts as a point of departure to launch exciting inventions with a unique application, product or service. They create something new and better. They leverage their creativity and their innovative capabilities to attain sustainable success.

Through the Looking Glass: Creativity and Innovation in Technology focussed on showcasing creative and innovative design, business practice and entrepreneurs, examining their business models and their potential to be adapted into Technology Education, inspiring teachers to inspire students.

A range of presenters linked to all areas of the Technology Curriculum included keynote speakers, Aaron



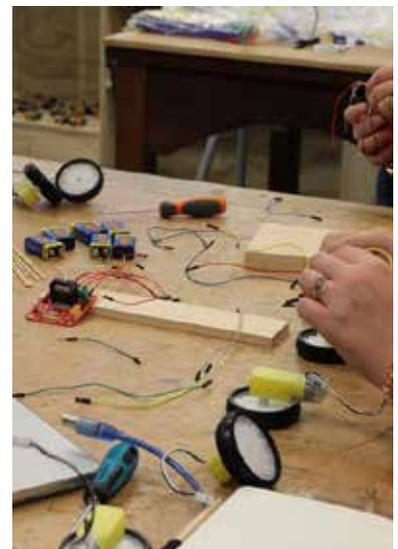
Harland from 'My Food Bag' and Dr Michelle Dickinson (a.k.a Nanogirl) from Auckland University of Technology. Speakers inspired teachers to consider the future of education to become active participants in the quiet revolution.

Student ambassador, Thomas Benison, was lucky enough to attend the conference as a participant. Thomas recalls: "The technology conference was not just a substantial learning session about values, innovation and how technology can change our world,

it also contained pedagogical elements that gave the teachers the chance to be creative and innovative themselves.

They were given the opportunity to learn something new hands-on, to possibly spark an interest that had been waiting to be awoken."

Teachers, in their reflective evaluations noted: "this is thinking outside the box", "real-world experiences", "amazing ideas on how to encourage creativity and collaboration".



Business and Enterprise News

The year has started very productively in the Business and Enterprise Department.

Business Studies students have been introduced to their partnership businesses where they will gain real world experiences and bring their classroom learning alive throughout the year.

Level 1 Business Studies went to Pita Plt in Takapuna.

Level 2 Business Studies went to The Warehouse Group Support Office in Takapuna.

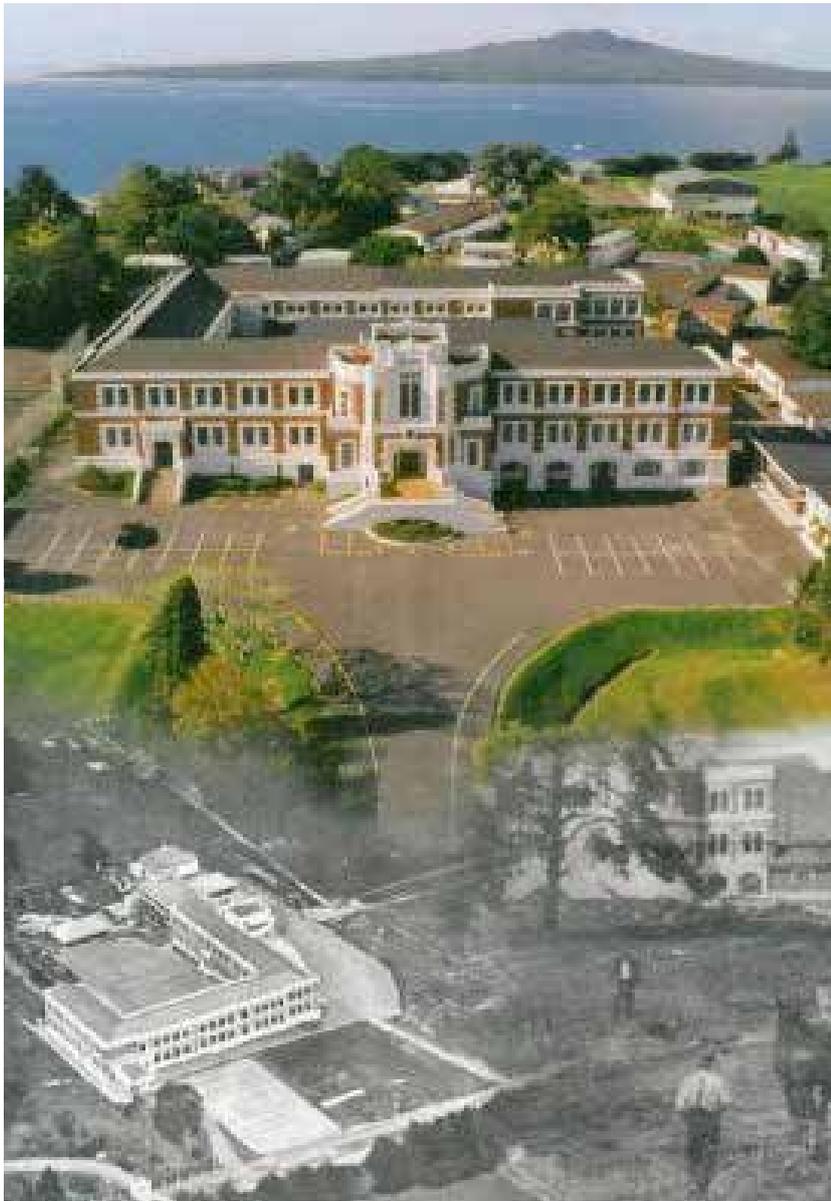
Level 3 Business Studies went on their Young Enterprise Scheme E-Day at AUT.

Ella Pearson was selected to attend The Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards where she enjoyed meeting some very esteemed business people at the Black Tie event, held in Auckland, in March.

One of our Alumni from 2016, Jack Downs has secured himself a position at The Instillery as a Front-End Developer where he will work while pursuing his tertiary studies.



Grammar Link



90th Reunion

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL
90TH REUNION
Labour Weekend

Friday 20th, Saturday 21st and Sunday
22nd October 2017

We warmly invite you to celebrate 90 years of Takapuna Grammar School in our community! We have a wonderful selection of activities planned for Labour Weekend 2017. All former pupils, staff, associates and friends of the school are invited to register to attend our celebration weekend.

REGISTER NOW at www.takapuna.school.nz

We are constantly aiming to make contact with our ex-pupils and staff so please share this information with friends and check out our Facebook page @ TakapunaGrammarSchoolAlumni. If you are interested in supporting this event through sponsorship/services or have questions about the 90th Reunion – contact us reunion2017@tgs.school.nz

We look forward to welcoming you in October this year.



Grammar Link

Generations Dating Back To TGS
Foundation Day

Dear Wendy

I enjoy looking at the ex-pupil contributions and extracts in your newsletter and hope that now and again I will see news of some of my old classmates. What I wasn't expecting to see was a reference to my Uncle Stephen Bomford – a TGS Foundation Pupil. It was in the entertaining poem headed 'Literature' in your last newsletter – at first I assumed the poet just made up the names – but then I saw 'Bomford' and the date 1928, so it was nice to know the poet writing about his classmates, including Stephen. My mother (Peggy Frimmel, neé Bomford) – Stephen's sister – and their siblings Marie and John all went to Takapuna Grammar. Sadly, both Stephen and John were killed in WWII.

Mum also taught at TGS during the war. I recall her telling me that Book-keeping teachers were usually men and due to the war and the lack of male teachers, she had to teach the subject. It was not her background so

she would go home, swat up on the next day's lesson and then teach it to her class. She taught with 'Chalky' Charman – renowned for throwing chalk at inattentive students - who was still one of the most popular

teachers in the 1970s when all of us Frimmel kids followed in the family tradition and went to TGS.

Cheers
Sonia



Pauline Dale (nee Woodroffe)

PAULINE DALE (nee Woodroffe) 100
YEARS

Ex-Pupil (1930-1934), Pauline Dale turned 100 years on the 8th December and was thrilled to receive a letter from the Queen and a letter from Prime Minister, John Key.

Pauline's family and friends celebrated with her at Eastcliffe Village. This photo of Pauline was taken at Christmas, whilst walking at Savage Memorial at Orakei. She still walks without a can or walker.

Pauline hopes to come into the grounds of TGS for a little drive and view the new renovated Takapuna Grammar School when she feels able.

