Kia ora e te whanau

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2019. My sincere thank you to everyone who has contributed to, and assisted with, the multitude of events that have transpired during the year. Every year brings its unique challenges, and 2019 was no exception. No two days are ever the same at Taieri College! For an excellent resume of how busy we have all been, please take time to read our annual school magazine that has just been printed. It is an outstanding record of the range of activities and opportunities that have been offered to our students over the course of the year. My congratulations to the students who have made the most of those opportunities. Also my gratitude to the amazing amount of community support we continue to receive. We are indebted to your assistance.

Last evening we celebrated the departure of our Year 13 cohort during our annual Leavers’ ceremony. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear from our departing seniors and listen to them share with us the highlights of their time at Taieri College. We also enjoyed finding out about what their future plans are. It is always a reflective occasion and I congratulate everyone who was present for making it such a memorable evening.

It is with pleasure this week we announce our 2020 Head Students. Congratulations to Tabitha Littlejohn and Ben Hamlin who are Head Girl and Head Boy respectively. Emma Cunningham and Trent Thomson who will take on the role as Deputy Head Students.

Finally from me, I would like to wish our college community a safe, relaxing holiday and a Merry Christmas.

Noho ora mai

Dave Hunter
PRINCIPAL

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Key Dates

2 December
9WM Orokonui Trip

3 December
Year 7/8 Big Day In
Year 9/10 Big Day Out
Peer Mediation Training Day

5 December
Year 7-8 Prizegiving 9.30am in the Performing Arts Centre
Year 9-10 Prizegiving 11.00am in the Performing Arts Centre
Last day of Term Four
Junior Reports Issued

23 January 2020
Year 12 Course Confirmation

24 January 2020
Year 13 Course Confirmation

27 January 2020
Teacher Only Day

28 January 2020
Year 7, 8, 9 Start Day

29 January 2020
Year 10 Start Day

30 January 2020
Year 11-13
Thank You

We wish to thank the Sport Council Sponsors for their contribution to Taieri College. Their support makes a real difference to how we can support our sporting students and the wider Taieri College community.

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Orange Day – Road Patrol

On Friday 22 November 2019 a bus full of excited Year 7 and 8 pupils who had orange pumping through their veins as well as the even more excited Mr Whaley and Mr Baines headed into the annual Orange Day parade in Dunedin.

The purpose of the day is to reward all of the students who give up some of their time to make our roads a slightly safer place for our students.

The day consisted of a walk down George Street for all pupils, a talk in the Octagon and then up to Moana Pool for a big swim, hydro slide and unlimited free sausages. In all, there were 900 students from the Otago area and the excited noise they all generated was really something to behold. The students certainly enjoyed the two and a half hours they had at the pool.

We are so lucky to have the great volunteers at Taieri College who help out on road patrol. Thank you for a great job and see you in 2020.

Movember Progress Update
Year 8 Camp 3

The third and final Year out camp got underway on Monday morning with 52 excited Year 8 students and enough home baking to last a month. We timed the Hyde Rail Trail walk to perfection, where we just made it back to the bus as the hail and sleet hit. After brief stops in Ranfurly and Alexandra we arrived in Queenstown and quickly settled into our cabins at Lakeland Park, Kelvin Heights. Due to some unseasonably cool weather we couldn’t cook our first meal on the BBQs at the lake, but the chefs did not disappoint, and the children and adults went to bed happy and full on our first night.

Tuesday’s weather was the worst of the week and luckily, we spent most of our time indoors doing activities such as rock climbing, basketball, and preparing for the highly anticipated “Talent Show” on Thursday night. Wednesday’s weather had improved, and it meant we had a great day down at Jack’s Point doing our lakeside activities of kayaking, fishing, raft building, mountain biking, and cooking our lunch on outdoor fires. A highlight was a sizeable trout caught by William Samuels on his first-time trout fishing. Mrs King’s excellent dismount from her mountain bike also generated plenty of laughter. Wednesday night also saw the introduction of the Camp 3 Quiz night run by Mrs Barnett and Mrs King, who put their acting skills to good use and entertained students and parents alike. Thursday meant it was time for our big Arrowtown walk and luckily the day was fine and not too hot. The students did incredibly well, and everyone seemed to enjoy the challenge of the walk.

Once we got back to camp there was time to put the finishing touches on their acts before the main event. With a new MC in Mrs King and the addition of an individual “show us your special talents” section, the evening was filled with hilarity. Acts ranged from comedy to dance to things that can’t easily be described with words. The winning act was a group of boys who owe their success to the remarkable acting skills of Chris Enright, who channeled his inner child and gave a truly remarkable performance. We finished Thursday night with some spotlight, or as Mr Peacock called it – “Torch Tag” – must be a Canterbury thing.

Friday morning meant another excellent cooked breakfast from the kitchen and a final push to pack up and clean the camp. It was a relaxed bus ride home with minimal singing due to a lack of voices and plenty of sleeping students. The entire camp was a fun and incredibly positive event. A huge thanks must go out to the parents and teachers who gave their time and energy to make the camp the success that it was.
MMA Competition

Last Saturday 23 November 2019 I travelled to Queenstown for a competition called King of the South. I fought the same girl called Julia who I fought last time at the Eager Centre in Dunedin, and lost by points. Again, I also won one by default because my other opponent Bailey dropped. In the end I got silver again and I am proud of myself.

Aiyanna Boscher

Taieri College Girls Cricket

On Wednesday 27 November 2019 Taieri College played Bayfield High School at Bayfield Park as part of our regular Wednesday competition.

Bayfield batted first and got through to 139 for 6 off their 20 overs. Prianka had great figures of 2 for 13 off her 4 overs and Gabby 2 for 21 off her 3 overs. Not only that, Prianka pulled off two great boundary saving feats in the outfield. One of the Bayfield batters got through to 72 before Mackenzie got her out. Her well-played innings ended up being the difference.

In reply Taieri got through to 110 for 6. Everyone got runs, with Brooke and Mackenzie getting us off to a great opening partnership of 28. Prianka top scored with 33. In the end it was a close result that could have gone either way. For her outstanding efforts, Prianka got a Taieri College pen that was acquired from Mr Hackfath and was used to do the scorebook. Enjoy the pen Prianka – you earned it.

The three games we have played before Christmas have all been close with Taieri winning one of them. Cricket starts up again in February and there is space in the team for any girls who want to play. We are also hoping for some better weather! Hone your back yard skills over the break.

Cricket

Congratulations to the following students who have been named in various Dunedin representative cricket teams for the upcoming cricket season. Jalen Forgie and Jax Thomson – Dunedin Year 8 Gold team to play in the South Island Primary Schools Tournament in Westport. Isaac Sinclair Dunedin Year 8 Blue, Caleb Walker Year 7 Gold and Sam Duff will all play in a variety of district tournaments over the summer. Congratulations to Sarah Evans, Emily Evans and Annabelle Andrews who have been selected for Dunedin U15 Girls’ and Prianka Chand who has been selected for Southland U19 Women’s team.
Year 12 Leadership Day 2019

On Wednesday 27 November 2019 the annual Year 12 leadership day was held. The purpose of the day is to set students up for their important Year 13 year as well as set goals for what they want to achieve. Positions of leadership are voted on, as well as Head Boy and Head Girl.

Every year there are team challenges and the winners of the fabulous trophy for 2019 were Kiwiana. Well done team.

The day today was a great day and we would like to thank the Year 12s that were there for their contribution. We are sure they will make great leaders in 2020.
On Wednesday, our Year 10 Agriculture students were able to go on a field trip to visit some working farms and businesses. They were able to see farming practices that they had learnt about in class over the year. The first stop was to Taieri Wool and Skin that processes wool and sells it on behalf of the farmers. The second stop was to Duncan Wells Dairy Farm in Outram. They were able to meet some ex Taieri College students who are making a successful career in the dairy industry and learn all about what it takes to run a successful dairy farm. Our final visit was to Hindon Landcorp where Mr Williams, the Farm Manager, was able to show the students the deer unit and they saw the process of harvesting deer velvet. The students had a great day and we were thankful to all the farmers for letting us visit their farms.