



TAMATEA HIGH SCHOOL

Ngā Pitopito Kōrero



E tipu e rea, ka tipu koe hei tangata—Growing good people for a changing world

Te Whakaputanga — Here-Turi-Kōkā/August 2026

Here-Turi-Kōkā/August

Wednesday 19th

Driving with Ignite mentors

Thursday 20th

Otago University course
confirmation – 9am

Trades Academy Level 3 Open
Day – 1-2pm

Victoria University, Wellington –
Open Day trip leaves at 1pm

Friday 21st

Trades Academy Level 3 Open
Day – 1-2pm

Victoria University Open Day trip
– returns 7.30pm

Year 12 Art Exhibition at CAN

Tuesday 25th

HBSS Badminton Boys'
Championship

Te Ara Whakapari – group of year
11 students

Te Ara Whai Mahi – group of year
12 students

Wednesday 26th

Driving with Ignite mentors

Thursday 27th

HBSS Badminton Girls'
Championship

Friday 28th

Daffodil Day – Collection

Monday 31st – Thursday 3rd

Lower North Island Netball
Nationals in Wellington

Mahuru/September

Tuesday 1st

Te Ara Whai Mahi – Mock
Interviews

Te Ara Whakapakiri

Wednesday 2nd

Driving with Ignite mentors

Friday 4th

Opera Trip – Prima Volta at
Toitoti, Hastings

Please check the Skool loop app,
Facebook page or our website
for up-to-date notices
www.tamatea.school.nz

Year 8 Transition Morning

What a fantastic morning we had welcoming our Tamatea Intermediate Year 8 ākonga to Tamatea High School for our first transition morning!

Our Year 8s enjoyed a morning of hands-on learning and new experiences, experimenting in the Science Lab, creating music and trying bucket drumming, making delicious hotdogs in Kai, exploring Tinkercad and designing keyrings in Digital Technology, getting creative with perspective drawing in Art, working with tools in Hard Materials, and taking on team challenges in PE.

There were plenty of smiles, creativity, curiosity and fun as our Year 8s explored different learning areas and got a taste of what life at Tamatea High School has to offer.

A big thank you to our Year 9 ākonga who did an excellent job as tour guides, helping our visitors find their way around and making them feel welcome throughout the morning.

We would also like to thank our kaiako who planned and delivered the engaging activities, sharing their knowledge, enthusiasm and passion for their learning areas with our Year 8 visitors.

It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, trying new things and enjoying the opportunity to experience a morning at Tamatea.

We can't wait to welcome you back for our second Transition morning in Week 7!



Ngā whakaaro o te Tumuaki

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we move through the first half of Term 3, I want to acknowledge the number of ākonga and staff who have been unwell with the various winter bugs and illnesses circulating in our community.

One of our annual goals at Tamatea is to continue strengthening our connection and communication with whānau. Over the past few weeks, we have really seen this in action. As ākonga have been unwell, there has been a significant amount of communication between whānau and the school about absences, health, wellbeing and when students are ready to return.

Thank you for this clear and ongoing communication with our school. It is greatly appreciated.

It helps us understand what is happening for our ākonga, ensures we can provide the right support, and strengthens the partnership between home and school. We also appreciate whānau keeping ākonga home when they are genuinely unwell and then encouraging and supporting them to return once they are well enough.

Looking ahead, our encouragement to ākonga is to make the most of the opportunities available over the remainder of Term 3. The coming weeks will become important to stay positive and focussed to finish strongly.

Finally, Mika Sakai has joined us as our new International Director, coming to Tamatea from the Far North. Our international student community is an important part of this kura, and we're fortunate to have her looking after them.

We still have more of winter to get through, so please continue to look after yourselves and your whānau.

Ngā mihi nui
Matua Jesse



Nau mai, haere mai – welcome to our new International Director, Mika Sakai.

Mika is originally from Japan and, after travelling extensively, chose to make New Zealand her home. She completed her BA in Japan and then did her Graduate Diploma at the University of Canterbury; she is a trained and qualified New Zealand teacher. Mika joins us from Whangārei and brings a wealth of experience and a strong understanding of both education and international students.

We are delighted to welcome Mika to Tamatea High School, where she will be supporting and leading our international programme and ensuring our international students feel welcomed, supported and connected to our school community.



Spirit of Adventure

In July, Mackenzie had the opportunity of a 10-day development voyage on the Spirit of New Zealand with the Spirit of Adventure Trust. Lots of new experiences such as jumping into the sea early in the morning, dolphins and tramps. An awesome trip.





On Monday, 17 August, Te Tōnuitanga was transformed into a hub of hands-on science as we hosted the Science Roadshow.



During the morning, we welcomed ākonga from a number of visiting local kura. We were also pleased to welcome Napier Mayor Richard McGrath and Councillors Greg Mawson, Te Kira Lawrence, and Craig Morley, who came along to experience the Roadshow. They enjoyed the live show and hands-on exhibits and also took the opportunity to have a tour of our kura. In the afternoon, all of our Year 9 and Year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in the Roadshow sessions.

Students enjoyed two lively science shows: Am I Living? – Kei te Ora Ahau, which explored the characteristics of living things, and Kitchen Chemistry – Te pūtaiao ā-kihini, which uncovered some fascinating science hiding in the pantry. The shows included plenty of teacher and student participation, which added to the fun.



Between the shows, ākonga explored a wide range of interactive exhibits covering astronomy, fair testing, human performance, movement, sight and illusion, and using numbers. The opportunity to touch, test, investigate and experiment was a real highlight.

It was great to see so many students getting involved, asking questions and enjoying science in a practical and engaging way. A special thank you goes to our fantastic group of Year 9 student helpers, who supported the Roadshow throughout the day. They did a wonderful job welcoming and helping our visitors, assisting with the exhibits, and representing our kura so positively. Thank you also to the Ministry of Education who fund the Roadshow, the Science Roadshow team, our visiting kura, and the staff who helped make the day run so smoothly.

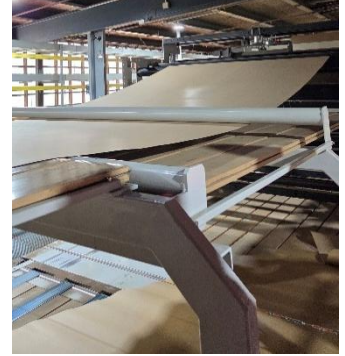






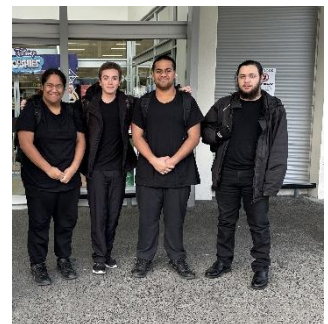
Well done and ngā mihi nui to Whaea Josie and the ball committee for all their hard work to make sure that the ball was a success. A special thank you to Sally Crown and Te Kira Lawrence (above left) two of our Napier City Councillors, for organising outfits and props for the MTV ball. Thanks also to our Year 10 waitstaff (above right).

Careers and Gateway

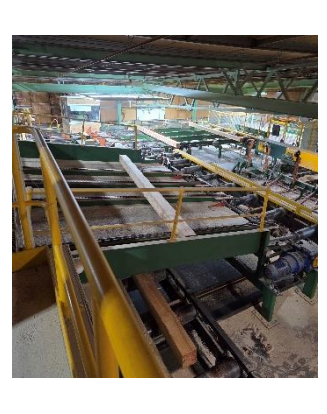


Te Ara Whai Mahi students have been on site visits to Kaweka Hospital and to Opal Packaging. At Kaweka they were able to see operating theatres, wards and specialist robotic equipment. They then took part in some activities, such as having a go at suture techniques. At Opal Packaging the students were given a tour of the manufacturing plant – very expensive equipment making a mountain of cardboard products for companies all over New Zealand.

Gateway students started their work experience at Woolworths in Carlyle Street (below) and at TW Civil and Infrastructure.



Three of our students recently took a tour of Pan Pac Forest Products at Whirinaki Mill. They saw all areas of the mill, from the initial log sorting and stripping of bark, through to the milling of the timber. They also went through the pulp mill where they produce bleached pulp for paper products.



HB Chess Championships 2026

After a slow start to the year, our chess numbers have grown and six of our students attended the HB Champs. (It would have been nine if it hadn't been for illnesses and other commitments.) Even more encouraging, half the students were first time players and four of them played in the open grade against the toughest opposition.

Each of our competitors had at least two positive results from their six games. Our best were Zane Devonshire with three wins and Chloe Omay with two wins and two draws. Matias Cambiaso and Liam Reading each picked up two wins. Milton Nicholson-Wakefield had a win and the bye for two points and Fatima Alallawy had a win and a draw.

Many thanks to Adele and Boston for their support on the day.



Junior netball – a great season



Feeling the cold? We still have pinecones to start your fires - \$15 a bag, cash or eftpos at our school office.

Are you enrolled to vote in the upcoming elections?

Significant changes have been made to regulations regarding voter enrolments for the upcoming election. Over recent years we have become used to people both enrolling and voting right up to election day, but some months ago, legislation was passed meaning that people must be enrolled well in advance - with the date being midnight on Sunday October 26th.

This change is predicted to result in tens of thousands of people being unable to vote on the day or before. This is the first limitation in voting rights since New Zealand led the world by granting women the right to vote in 1893.

Those most likely to be affected will be:

- people who have changed their address in the past 3 years,
- people who have changed their name, and people who have turned 18 since the last election.

Please follow the QR code link to check if you are enrolled - follow the prompts to complete your enrolment to vote. You can also review and update your details if you are already enrolled.



Subject Selection 2027

We are commencing the process of subject selection for 2027. This involves all Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 ākonga. This process will be done using the KAMAR portal, accessed from the home page on our school website www.tamatea.school.nz

Subject selection needs to be a discussion between you and your student and these subjects will be confirmed with you both at Hui Whāinga at the end of this term (Term Three).

To assist in the selection of subjects, information can be found in the Subject Selection booklet relevant to each year level, also on our website under the Curriculum tab by year level. Please click on the Subject Selection Instructions button to show the steps for selecting subjects for next year. To navigate to the subject selection fields, from the home screen click on the Kamar Portal button and log in.

Please note that if you have changed/personalised your password, you will see "-The Password you have selected-" Should you have changed your password and do not remember this, please contact the office and we can reset this for you.

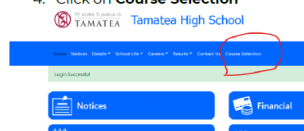
You can change and re-save these options up until 3pm Friday 28th August 2026.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 844 6600 or email enquiries@tamatea.school.nz if you need any assistance.

Student Subject Selection access

To access KAMAR Portal

1. Open <https://www.tamatea.school.nz/>
2. Scroll down
3. Enter
Username: *****
Password: *****
4. Click on **Course Selection**



5. Follow the instructions on screen
 - a. Choose the Select Courses button



- c. Set it as Preferred or Reserve

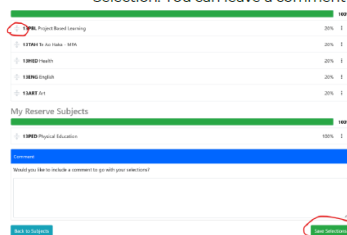
- b. Select a subject



- d. Once all subjects picked, click on My Selections button



- e. Drag the handle (left) to order subjects and Save Selection. You can leave a comment too.



Tumuaki
(Principal)
Jesse Te Weehi
jesset@tamatea.school.nz

Tumuaki Tuarua
(Deputy Principal)
Whaea Kat McNicoll
katm@tamatea.school.nz

Tumuaki Tuarua
(Assistant Principal)
Whaea Josie Burdon
josieb@tamatea.school.nz

Tumuaki Tuarua
(Assistant Principal)
Ms Meredith Ellingham
meredithe@tamatea.school.nz

BOT CHAIRPERSON
Ms Rewa Dawson

International Director
Mrs Mika Sakai
mikas@tamatea.school.nz

Careers Advisor
Cindy Morgan
careers@tamatea.school.nz

Kauri Dean
Whaea Cheryl Pohlen
cheryl@tamatea.school.nz

Miro Dean
Matua Devon Turi
devont@tamatea.school.nz

Rata Dean
Whaea Renata Lander
renatal@tamatea.school.nz

Tawa Dean
Whaea Emma Neal
emman@tamatea.school.nz

Business Manager
Mrs Vicky Bowie
accounts@tamatea.school.nz

Principal's PA/BOT Secretary
Mrs Hayley Hodson
enquiries@tamatea.school.nz

Board of Trustees (BOT)

Rewa Dawson (Chair), Taiatini Lepaio, Stacey Reading, Janine Melville, Mariska Asu, Devon Turi (Staff Representative), Shona-Ann Faiga (Student Representative)