

OPPORTUNITY * INNOVATION * EXCELLENCE

TOP ACADEMIC AWARD WINNERS FOR 2017

From left: Dux - a joint award to Shannon Jerkovich and Teagan Gorman; Proximé Accessit awarded to Ruby Spooner and the Norman Blakey Memorial Prize for General Excellence winners were Matt Millward and Tayla Sweeney.



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE - 2017 has been a great year for the students of Te Aroha College. We celebrate the amazing achievement of a fine group of young women and men who have epitomised our graduate profile and excelled in their chosen fields.

SCHOLARSHIPS - This year we again received significant scholarships for our students from a range of University's. Waikato University continue to support us with significant scholarships reflecting the very high calibre of students we produce. We awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships at Prize giving including two scholarships over \$25,000.

STUDENTS WITH NCEA EXCELLENCE BEFORE EXAMS We also celebrate those students whose hard work and dedication have seen them already achieved Excellence Endorsement prior to exams. This elite group of achievers are entering their exams having already gained over 50 credits for Excellence in their academic programmes and successfully completed their academic year with the highest honours possible. Level 3 below from left to right: Madison Spooner, Taya Kinley, Teagan Gorman



TOP SPORTS PRIZEWINNERS FOR 2017

From our sports prizegiving held recently the major award winners were: From left, Sports All-Rounder, Tayla Sweeney; Sports Achiever, Tatiana Kaumoana; Sports Officiating and Administration, Taine Wilson; Junior Sportsperson and Junior All Rounder, Breeje Schuler



Level 3 continued, from left to right: Sara Brunson, Shannon Jerkovich, Ruby Spooner, Tatiana Kaumoana



Below, Level 2 from left to right: Nichole Suarez Perdomo, Meesha Ross and Level 1: Leah Russell, Paige Spooner, Brooke Sweeney



TE AROHA COLLEGE GRADUATE PROFILE

The students of Te Aroha College are our future, they will be confident, connected, well rounded and have a clear future direction. They will have pride, purpose and flexibility. They will seek excellence and excel locally, nationally and internationally in their chosen strengths. They will be culturally aware and demonstrate tolerance, respect and understanding and will go out into the world and sustainably take responsibility for themselves and those that rely on them.



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NORTH ISLAND MIXED HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

TAC made it three-in-a-row when they brought home silver medals at the North Island Secondary Schools Mixed Hockey Tournament recently.

Unbeaten in pool play, TAC defeated Tuakau College in the quarter-finals and Rotorua Lakes High School in the semi-final. The two finalists were a repeat of last year, Te Aroha facing their rivals Huanui in a closely fought contest.

Te Aroha scored first but were eventually defeated 5-2 coming a well-deserved second overall. They ended the tournament with a 5-win and 1-loss record and scored 30 goals with only 6 scored against them.

Goal scorers were captain Matthew Millward (7) and vice-captain Luke Harvey (7). Close behind, Leon van den Heuvel on 6, Tayla Sweeney, 4, Alfred Howell 3, and Tyla Burge, Sara Brunsdon Zane Sweetman 1 goal each.

Coach Sam Stockley said having 8 players on the scoreboard and many others involved in good passing that led to the goals was indicative of the great teamwork. Himself a former silver medallist at the same tournament, Stockley played in the first College team that was successful in 2011. Now, as coach six years later, he has secured silver for the team. Te Aroha also won silver last year and in 2015, making the 2017 result a three-peat.

Most Valuable Player of the tournament for Te Aroha was Zane Sweetman for his consistently powerful game both on offence and defence in the midfield.



Top: The mixed hockey team with coach Sam Stockley left back.

Bottom: A photo of defensive play



A Celebration of
Achievement

Senior Academic Prizegiving

**Tuesday November 7th
in the College Hall
at 7.30pm**

Guest Speaker: Melissa Slattery

*Everyone is invited to attend
Please be seated by 7.20pm*

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BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAMS PLACE 4TH AT NATIONALS

The Senior Girls Basketball Team had a fantastic start to their pool play defeating both North and South Island Champions Opunake and Buller. Next day they easily accounted for Aquinas and Te Wharekura o Mauao to place top in Pool A. The semi final was filmed by Maori TV and live streamed. The girls played an exciting game, wearing down Manukura with their speed, skill and confidence. Finishing was not our friend on the day. After missing a few too many shots we eventually went down by 5 points.

Tayla Sweeney and Tatiana Kaumoana captained the team strongly and always led by example. The team farewells Tayla, Tatiana and Brooke Elgar after 5 years playing for TAC. They have contributed greatly to the team's success and the spirit with which it plays.



Below - Huge congratulations to Nick White and Tayla Sweeney for making the Tournament Team. Selected by BBNZ this team consists of the best 10 players at tournament. They are photographed here with boys' coach Alex Stojkovic on the left and girls' coach Michele Pipe on the right.



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TE AROHA COLLEGE TO THE WORLD

In 2018 three of our senior students head overseas to broaden their horizons. Gap years for senior students have become a new international industry allowing our students to see the world in a supported way.

Matthew Millward our Head Boy has been selected through a rigorous selection process by the 'Letz Live' International Gap agency to attend Oakham School in Oakham, Central England as a GAP tutor for 2018. At Oakham School Matthew will be tutoring sport and science to students aged 10 to 18 and will be part of the boarding house staff. Selected through a significant selection process by 'Letz Live' Matthew has been very fortunate to secure such a prestigious placing. Leaving in early January 2018 and returning in mid-December Matthew also has plans in the breaks to travel in Europe. After his return Matthew is intending to study Veterinary Science at Massey University in 2019.

Lewis Marshall and Jeremy Blair are preparing to head to JeJu in South Korea to the North London Collegiate school where they will be working as mentors, house masters and tutoring English and sports. The school is a very sought after and well respected international school for preschool to 18 year olds with over 700 students. Lewis and Jeremy leave in early February and return in late June. Lewis and Jeremy gained the opportunity through working with one of our staff members who had returned last year from teaching in South Korea. Both are hoping to be able to travel in Korea and grow their language and cultural understanding. Jeremy then intends to work for the following six months locally and hopes to attend Lincoln University to study Agricultural Science. Lewis then intends to join the 2018 second university semester to study Electrical Engineering in Auckland.



From left: Jeremy, Lewis, Matthew



From left: Tatiana's Nana Kathy, Mayor Jan Barnes, Tatiana and Mum Patricia

TATIANA TRIUMPHS ON THE WORLD STAGE

We are celebrating the success of Tatiana Kaumoana for her exceptional performance at the Youth Commonwealth Games held in the Bahamas during the holidays where she won a Silver Medal in the Discus. Following in the footsteps of some of our best New Zealand athletes Tatiana has shown that tireless dedication and talent can go all the way even when you come from a little New Zealand town.

WELCOMING THE WORLD

For the past two weeks we have hosted 52 international students from Taiwan, Korea and Japan. This was an incredible opportunity for our students to engage with different cultures and make connections across the world. Our visitors shared in a 'Real Kiwi Experience' and were hosted by local families as part of their trip. The students joined our classes, were involved in special classes and focused on improving their English skills. There was also the chance to visit iconic locations including Waitomo, Rotorua and Auckland. The Highlights for the students were building really positive relationships with their New Zealand buddies and families. Our senior students enjoyed

We were very privileged to have Mayor Jan Barnes present the Te Aroha College Medal of Sporting Excellence to Tatiana at a recent assembly celebrating her international success. We also want to acknowledge the tireless support of Taitiana's family in helping and supporting her to reach such incredible heights. Tatiana has a very bright athletics future ahead of her.

the opportunity to work directly with the Waihi Language Academy as language tutors as part of the programme for the Taiwanese. We are very pleased to establish this new working relationship. Our Japanese group have visited Te Aroha College for the past six years and we continue to grow this positive relationship. Our Korean students are with us until the end of term. We are in the second year of a three year programme supported by the New Zealand and Korean governments. We are very grateful to all the host families who so generously opened their homes and gave their time to our visitors. We also thank Te Aroha Primary for their support in hosting seven younger students as part of the visit.



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DEEP WATER HORIZON

As part of our Winter Wednesday Interest Programme a group of intrepid young men and women undertook the exciting challenge of gaining their PADI Open Water Certificate. The group consisted of 16 students from year 9 to year 13 with a wide range of water skills.

The well organised structured course engaged the students fully from the first session. The training was extensive including theory and practical components. The theory was done as part of an online learning programme at school while the practical sessions were delivered by qualified dive instructors at Dive Zone in Whitianga. The practical sessions were challenging for the students and took them well outside their comfort zones. It was wonderful to see the students' confidence grow and develop as the 10-week programme progressed.

The practical sessions included pool diving, beach diving and open water boat dives at Whitianga. The water temperature at a very cool 16 degrees tested the students' resilience. The most challenging was the open water dive off the boat where ocean swells and limited visibility tested the students' skills.

Twelve of the 15 students successfully gained their PADI Open Water qualification supported by 11 Level 3 NCEA credits and are now qualified to dive anywhere in the world. Two further students will be completing their final open water dives in the coming weeks to also complete the programme.

We congratulate all the students involved for their efforts to master new learning and skills in a very challenging environment and we thank Dive Zone in Whitianga for their amazing support.



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Wild about Learning

The hunting group had its camp recently. Fifteen students and five staff and parents flew out from Taupo after a safety briefing on Helicopter use by HeliSika. A group of 10 went into the Otupua Block and a group of 10 into the Mangaroa Block. This was a real backcountry experience with cell phones only useful as cameras. Nightly contact was made between each block using walkie-talkies.

On the Otupua Block the hunters spent hours stalking and watching clearings in the bush. They all got close enough to deer to hear them. On the Mangaroa Block students were more fortunate. Every person on the block saw at least one deer. In between the two Helicopter trips, a large stag was seen near the air strip. Unfortunately it had also seen the hunters and a shot was attempted which missed. On Thursday, one group managed to sneak in on two deer with one of them taken.

Students identified key highlights as the Helicopter trip, walking in the bush, seeing deer, firing the rifles and their time in the huts.

The support of our community and regional businesses for this trip was outstanding and a positive reflection of the life skills our students learned in this course. HeliSika were incredibly generous with their support. Access to the private blocks was a privilege. Hunting and Fishing Rotorua have very generously offered to help us with future camps. If there are experienced hunters in the community who would love to assist us in future trips please feel free to contact the college.



Shakespeare Revisited - Te Aroha College will perform "A Midsummer Night's Dream" on Wednesday and Thursday, 27th and 28th September at 7pm in the hall. It is a "No Fear" version of the play, using modern English. Our talented cast has had a lot of fun with this production and we hope everybody agrees that Shakespeare would be very happy with the result. The play melds a world of fantasy, fairies and lovers' quarrels with modern quips, slang, light sabres and a cell phone. The music designed by Vivienne Genet-Ward, Orchestral Director, mixes classical Mendelssohn, courtly music of the 16th Century, Star Wars and the Rolling Stones, backed up by local singers and our student orchestra.

There will be door sales on the night of the performances - \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. To reserve a seat in the first four rows, please buy your tickets at Te Aroha College, Student Services during school hours.



Band on The Run - Te Aroha College's new student band won the school's annual "Extravaganza" Talent Contest with their cover of 'Never Tear us Apart' by INXS. Lead singer, Nichole Suarez-Perdomo, Mitchell Traynor on guitar and Manisha Williams on keyboard have been joined by Regan Traynor on bass, Michael Glasgow on drums and Nicholas Hagan on saxophone. Itinerant Music Teacher, Ashley Knox and Music Teacher, Michele Pipe have supported the band. You can see the Te Aroha College Band play next at the TAC Arts Festival.



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Flying High

This term, as part of Interest Day, we were given the opportunity for a group of students to engage in flight training at the airfield at Waharoa from Sky Venture.

This has been a fantastic opportunity for five students to experience flying a two-seater trainer with Peter Ryan, flight instructor. Students studied the theory and skills required to work towards gaining a Private Pilot's Licence. The course has included a 30 to 45 minute flying experience and flight theory elements. The students have grown in confidence with each flight as their experience and skills continue to grow.

Peter Ryan has been very impressed with the students' enthusiasm and commitment to their training and we are keen to continue to expand the programme with other interested students at Te Aroha College in the coming year. We have been very privileged to work with such an experienced pilot who has so generously given his time, knowledge and expertise to support our students' passions and interests.

