

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

106 Stanley Ave Te Aroha 3320

PO Box 218 Te Aroha 3342

Ph. 07 8848625 admin@tacol.nz

> PRINCIPAL Mrs Gorrie

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Mr Jager Mr Aitken Mr Darby

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR Mr Hartzenburg

> YEAR 9 DEAN Mr McArdle FORM TEACHERS Aotea, Mr Rowe Arawa, Mrs Oliver Tainui, Mr Darby Tokomaru, Mr Sweeney

YEAR 10 DEAN
Mr Aistabie
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Stringer
Arawa, Miss Maber
Tainui, Mr Robinson
Tokomaru, Mr Ashford-Beck

YEAR 11 DEAN
Mr Masters
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Pipe
Arawa, Mr Kurian
Tainui, Mrs Spindler
Tokomaru, Mr Masters

YEAR 12 DEAN Mr Aitken FORM TEACHERS Aotea, Mr Stringer Arawa, Ms Baylis Tainui, Ms Scott Tokomaru, Ms Hagan

YEAR 13 DEAN
Ms Gemmell
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mrs Jager
Arawa, Mr Rekatsinas
Tainui, Ms McLaren
Tokomaru, Mr Steffert



Dear Parents and Whānau,

As we look back and celebrate Term 3 2021 there have been some great achievements in what has been a challenging time for everyone. We want to thank and acknowledge the staff, parents and community volunteers who have worked tirelessly to support us through Lockdown and out the other side. We all appreciate the tireless hours of work that have gone into creating so many opportunities despite these challenges. Most importantly we want to acknowledge the amazing resilience of our students who have continued to work hard despite moving to online learning and then back to school again.

Year 8 Enrolments for 2022

Thank you to all our parents and families who are choosing Te Aroha College for their students in 2022. We are very pleased with the large numbers of students who are choosing their local secondary school. The enrolment team has been busy in the past week and will be working in the first few weeks of term 4 to get everyone set up in our systems and prepared for the start of the new year. Please make an appointment with the front office or contact Ms Danielle Gemmell - Year 9 Dean - dgemmell@tacol.nz



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Top Scholarship Award from Waikato University

We are delighted to have been advised this week that one of our top students has been awarded a major scholarship to attend Waikato University. These scholarships reflect the power of 'Excellence Plus' and recognise the amazing all-round contribution our top students have made in their time at Te Aroha College.

In the competitive world of tertiary scholarships, Full Excellence Endorsement is only the base for success. These scholarships are won on the all-round contribution to wider school and community life including engagement in passion projects, citizenship and leadership. They represent what it is to be GREAT as all-round achievers.

The 'Te Paewai o to Rangi' Scholarship is an award of \$25000 to support the costs of university study. There are only 50 of these awards nationally in 2021 for Waikato University so to have again gained one of these for our students, is a major achievement for Te Aroha College.

Congratulations to:

Julian Davis-Gorrie

We are extremely grateful to Waikato University for their generosity and look forward to these being formally presented at our Senior Prizegiving.

Julian joins a list of exceptional Te Aroha College graduates over the past six years who have gained these prestigious awards for their school achievements.

We are now awaiting further announcements of a range of scholarships that our students have applied for across New Zealand and look forward to being able to make further announcements.

Special Congratulations

Congratulations to past student Breeje Schuler for gaining a basketball full scholarship to Washington East State University in the USA. This is an incredible achievement and we wish her all the best for her studies and sporting ambitions abroad.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Full NCEA Endorsement Celebrations

Congratulations to the students in Years 11, 12 and 13 who have finished the term with their Full Excellence and Merit endorsements already complete and have achieved their NCEA qualification ahead of the end of the year. Excellence and Merit Endorsements are achieved by gaining 50 credits or more at Excellence level or 50 credits at or above Merit level. These endorsements represent significant commitment to complete assessment work at the highest possible level across all subject areas.

It is this level of dedication that forms the basis for scholarship success and helps make our students GREAT. We will be acknowledging these students in week 1 of term 4 if Alert Levels are low enough. We encourage all students who are working at these high academic levels to push hard in the final ten weeks as Full Merit and Full Excellence Endorsement and a GREAT CV are critical for entering the tertiary environment with financial support.

Congratulations to:

Year 13 - NCEA Level 3

Julian Davis-Gorrie - Level 3 NCEA Excellence Endorsement, Level 3 NCEA Achieved

Te Tuhi Lewis - Level 3 NCEA Merit Endorsement, Level 3 NCEA Achieved

Brodie Paynter - Level 3 NCEA Merit Endorsement

Jarden Roudon - Level 3 NCEA Achieved

Zoe Lynd-Jones - Level 3 NCEA Achieved

Year 12 - NCEA Level 2

Stephanie Cornes - Merit Endorsement, Level 2 NCEA Achieved

Harlan Roudon - Merit Endorsement, Level 2 NCEA Achieved

Riley Toogood - Level 2 NCEA Achieved

Mickey Ye - Level 2 NCEA Achieved

Josh Jeffries - Level 2 NCEA Achieved

Asia Te Moananui - Level 2 NCEA Achieved

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Year 11 - NCEA Level 1

Hannah Davis-Gorrie - Merit Endorsement Level 1

Madison Given - Merit Endorsement Level 1

Ashley Francisco - Merit Endorsement Level1

We also acknowledge these and many other students at each of our senior levels who are all very close to these totals for Full Merit and Full Excellence Endorsement and despite Lockdown, have achieved some exceptional results in 2021 already. We look forward to seeing these achievements as term 4 progresses.

Student Volunteer Army Awards

We have again celebrated a number of students who have achieved recognition for their contribution to our community through the service and support of others. The Student Volunteer Army Scheme recognises four levels of service:

Black Award - for 5 Hours, Bronze Award - 25 Hours, Silver Award - 250 Hours, Gold Award 500 Hours Congratulations to:

Julian Davis-Gorrie - Gold Award

Julian has been recognised for his service to Thames Valley Hockey as a coach of the primary school team for the past five years and for his services to the College.

He joins fellow SVA Gold award recipients for 2021: **Braye Stewart** for his services to Life Saving and services to the College, and **Raneigh Hannah** for her services to Basketball and services to the College.

Congratulations to:

Isla Roos - Silver Award

Hayley Robinson - Bronze Award



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

'Heavenly Bodies' Production

We want to acknowledge all the cast, crew and community volunteers for a wonderful show of 'Heavenly Bodies'. We all needed the 'Stage Magic' that the drama team provided. It was a great show with amazing performances from our lead actors, singers and musicians.

A huge thank you to Ms Adrienne Hagan for her direction of the production and all our community volunteers who made our students look so fantastic.





A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021











A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

World Vision Fundraiser

Congratulations to Emma Morhing for her services to fund raising through co-ordinating the World Vision fundraiser. This raised \$500 for World Vision.

The 2021 Senior Ball

We have had to make the tough decision to postpone the College Ball that was set for the end of the October holidays due to the ongoing uncertainty around Covid Alert Levels and restrictions on event sizes. However, we remain hopeful that we will be able to host this event in combination with the Senior Levels' Dinner calendared for the 7th of December. We appreciate that many students were looking forward to this event and hope that we can still provide this opportunity with a bit of creativity at the end of term 4.

Senior NCEA Checkpoints - Keeping up, not Catching up

We are continuing to run NCEA Checkpoints every 5 weeks for our senior students. The latest checkpoint was completed on Wednesday 29th of September. This is a process of collecting information on our senior students' assessment work, focusing on who is keeping up with the work and who has to catch up. We saw significant lifts in overall school results using this process last term and we have ad-

vanced this for term 4. Our next checkpoint will be in week 3 of term 4. Our Deans are working hard to meet with the families of all students who need to catch up and provide support for students to get organised and manage the necessary workload to achieve learning success. Please make contact with our Deans' team if you have questions or concerns about your student's learning. You should have received the email with your student's achievement information from the latest checkpoint on Thursday 30th September or Friday 1st October, depending on their Year level. Deans' contact details are printed in this newsletter.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021



Te Aroha College Free Food Programme

We want to thank Karyn Blair and her team for the amazing work they have done in term 3 to establish the free healthy lunch programme. We want to thank the Ministry of Education for their support in funding this life-changing opportunity for our students. A special thanks goes to Teena Cornes for her championing and support of this critical project that will see free lunches provided for the next three years. Most importantly we want to thank the senior student leaders who, through their work over the last three years, showed the need for this programme in our school.

We have worked through the demands of the 'healthy heart food restrictions' we are held to to provide an interesting menu for our students and have seen amazing benefits already in the 7 weeks we operated in term 3. We also want to acknowledge the Smart Day Governance Group for their fantastic support and consultation in helping us review the initial menus and make adjustments to provide more flexibility as we move from a 5 to a 10-day menu plan.

As a school-based contract rather than using a commercial provider, we have ensured there is no waste and we are able to tailor what we provide to the needs of our students.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Advancing our understanding of Te Reo Maori

Our staff members have undertaken significant professional development this year to learn Te Reo Maori as part of the Ministry of Education requirements for teacher development. We would like to thank all staff members who have participated in this programme. We want to publicly acknowledge the efforts made to begin to share a learning journey with our students in supporting Te Reo Maori to be a living language within our education system. We are very proud of our staff who have stood and shared their heritage, made connections and stepped outside their comfort zones to demonstrate being lifelong learners.

Mā te kimi ka kite, Mā te kite ka mōhio, Mā te mōhio ka mārama -

Seek and discover. Discover and know. Know and become enlightened.

'Learning is a journey. It starts with a conscious effort to seek knowledge. Upon seeking, you will surely discover a brand new thing or see a familiar object in a totally new light. Eventually, the things you know will lead you to become wise beyond your years. Seek. Discover. Know. Be enlightened.'

Board News - Te Aroha College BOT Student Election

Congratulations to Jessica Bray who was elected to serve as our Student Trustee for the 2021/2022 year as a full member of the Board. We would all like to thank Braye Stewart for his contribution over the past two years and acknowledge the many positive student initiatives he has supported in his time in governance.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Te Aroha College Board Membership Parent Representative Changes

The Board has received the resignation of Teena Cornes and Matt Turner. The Board, on behalf of the school, we would like to thank Teena and Matt for their considerable contributions to the school, including multi-million dollar building upgrades, the free school foods programme, successful and growing achievement results for our students and their stable and committed governance of our school. Debbie Burge has moved into the role of Chair of the Board. Debbie has been Deputy Chair for the past two and a half years and brings a wealth of experience to the role. At the upcoming Board meeting to be held on the 27th of October the Board will be working through its requirements for addressing these vacancies.

The Board also formally welcomes Jill Taylor who has been co-opted to support the development of positive Iwi liaison and relationships for the College and community.

Staff TeachNZ Scholarship

Congratulations to Mrs Diana Jager who has received a Long Service TeachNZ scholarship for 2022. This award provides a term of paid leave to allow the teacher to study an area of interest. Diana has contributed so much to Te Aroha College over the many years she has been here, so this is a fitting award for her considerable efforts.

Building Works

The major upgrade of B and D Blocks is almost complete with the addition of the verandahs and new state of the art security and fire systems. The exterior painting is the final task and will be completed as soon as we see the weather is stable enough to get some extended fine weather. A special thank you to our English and Maths teams for their resilience over the past year as we have worked to complete such a significant rebuild.

TERM 4 - Planning ahead

Year 9 and 10 Camp Postponement

Due to the major shifts we have had to make in 2021 to accommodate significant changes in the senior exams process and in how term 4 will be structured, the Board of Trustees and Leadership have had to make the very tough decision to postpone our junior camp programme. We know both Year 9 and 10 students and parents were really looking forward to the annual journey to Motutapu Island and we want to assure both students and parents that we are working hard to shift the camp programme into 2022 so our school will still have this amazing opportunity to attend. We are working now to provide a local solution and still hope to have an exciting set of options for students in the final week of November.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Key Date Changes in term 4

Due to all the significant changes that have occurred nationally with Covid, we have had to make major changes to how we will operate in term 4. This year **our seniors will not be leaving for study leave** as they traditionally have done in the past but will remain at school with our junior students for the duration of term 4. Students will only be cleared to leave and be signed off formally when they have achieved their appropriate qualification and completed their schedule of exams.

This is to support all students sitting NCEA with both internal courses and external exams to achieve the highest possible levels of success in what has been another tough year.

To accommodate the late start to NCEA exams and manage the diverse range of senior programmes that will run in this time we have made the following changes:

Prizegiving Change to note in your Diary

This year will see our Junior and Senior Prizegiving run on the same day in December - Junior Prizegiving will be at 11am and Senior Prizegiving will start at 7pm.

Key Dates for Term 4

- Term Starts Monday 18th October
- Labour Day Monday 25th October
- BOT Meeting Wednesday 27th October
- Year 12 Leadership Day Friday 5th November
- Sports Award Evening Wednesday 10 November
- Junior Exams Start Tuesday 16th November
- NCEA Exams Start Monday 22nd November
- Teacher Only Day Friday 26th November
- Junior Learning Conferences Tuesday 24th November
- Junior Activities Wednesday 25th November to Friday 27th November
- Senior Prizegiving Friday 3rd December
- Junior Prizegiving Friday 3rd December Last day for Junior Students
- Senior Leavers' Dinner and Senior Ball Tuesday 7th December
- Last day of Term Wednesday 14th December (NCEA exams Finish).



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Uniform

As we move to Spring and Summer, we remind all students and families that there is an expectation that all students wear the correct uniform including socks and polishable black shoes or Roman sandals. Non-regulation shoes, socks or sweatshirts are not part of the uniform. Ripped or damaged uniforms are unacceptable. We ask students and parents to ensure they have students kitted out correctly for what is promising to be a warm final term. Our uniform is available from Harry's in Morrinsville to purchase new. There are also stocks of second hand uniforms available at school.

Sustainable Uniform Support Programme

If there are additional items of uniform at home that are no longer needed we would be really appreciative if these were donated back to school to support others. Please drop any unwanted uniform in at the front office.

Supporting Student Mental Health and Wellbeing

Moving on from Covid lockdowns can be a tough time for our students as many suffer anxiety and uncertainty about their futures. This is very topical in the news currently. If you are concerned about your teenager and their wellbeing, there are a number of places you can go for support:

Joseph Hartzenburg, our **School Counsello**r is available to guide parents and students as to where

they can seek help and support -

jhartzenburg@tacol.nz

Catherine Semmens, our **School Nurse** is also available for support and can be contacted at

csemmens@tacol.nz

Youthline can be contacted free at any time:

0800 37 66 33

Your Teenager's family GP is also available to offer support.

Vaping, Vaping products and illegal substances

We have been very concerned in the past few months to be dealing with students bringing and using Vape products to school from home.

We wish to clearly advise all our families and whanau that Vaping is prohibited on the Te Aroha College site and to and from school for any student. ALL Vaping products are a prohibited substance for anyone under the age of 18 in New Zealand.

We wish to raise our concern that this growing trend in our youth population is not safe and has significant dangers for the health and wellbeing of our youth.

We also wish to advise that any Vape products or other illegal substances found with students will be directly surrendered to the police.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Road Safety

During term 3 the parking area and bus bay outside the school gates was very congested in the mornings and afternoons. For term 4 we ask all parents and students to take extra care and please do not pull in behind the buses or over the drive and access ways or in the way of the buses or on the road in the bus turning area. Please park at least 5 metres from the drives and access ways. We ask everyone to take extra care and to drive and park sensibly to ensure we can avoid any potential accidents.

A reminder that all students bringing cars to school **must have a school permit** and park at the back of school via the Follis street entrance. All student drivers also must adhere to the conditions of their driver's licence to ensure everyone's safety. We have asked the local police to support us with this in the first few weeks of term 4.

Last Words

Finally, Term 4 is shaping up to be a very busy time for everyone. Please take the time now to support our students to catch up on any work due and also make time to take a break and enjoy time with friends and family before we complete the final term of 2021.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Term 3 Sports Round Up

REMINDER SPORTS AWARDS EVENING -

Wednesday 10th November









A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Sports Codes Post-Covid

Thank you to all our parents, staff and community who have made themselves available to support our Winter Sports season in what has been a really challenging time. To all our codes who have 'found a creative way' to run a season, we are very grateful for your efforts. This is a vital part of wider school life and we appreciate that the support of our community makes it possible to offer so many opportunities to our students. We especially appreciated the efforts made to support codes that would normally have run at very different times to work together.

Sadly the Covid Lockdown prevented the running of Winter Tournament Week, leaving many of our teams without the opportunity to attend nationals. We are however very grateful to the sporting codes who have organised alternatives to these events which will still allow our students to compete.

A special thank you to our student referees and coaches who made it possible for our community to support junior sport. Thank you to all the coaches and managers of Rugby, Football, Hockey, Netball, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton and many more individual sports.

Hockey

The Boys First XI finished the season undefeated, narrowly missing out on the top spot for their division in the Waikato schools C grade competition on goal count back. Despite a halt with Covid Lockdown, the team had a great season and finished second overall. Harrison Burge finished as top goal scorer in the grade with 51 goals.

Harrison Burge, Richie Gemmell and Quade Ericsson represented Thames Valley in an U16 tournament held in the last school holidays playing Auckland, Waikato and Tauranga. Congratulations to these players.





A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

The Girls first XI finished their season at the top of their division in the Thames Valley competition. Thank you to coaches Justin and Debbie Burge for their incredible commitment to hockey.

Five of our girls' Hockey players have made the representative team and have travelled to Whanganui these holidays to represent Thames Valley in a regional Under 16 tournament.

Thames Valley Representation - Congratulations to:

Jessica Bray

Hannah Davis-Gorrie

Lily Laughton

Annabelle Oosthoek

Hannah Syme





A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Netball

Netball at Te Aroha College is still the sport that has the greatest number of participants. This year we fielded 6 teams, 2 seniors, 3 juniors and the teachers got their sneakers out of the closet. All teams played in the Local Te Aroha Competition on Monday nights. With Senior A also playing in the Thames Valley A Grade Friday competition and the Junior Premier in the Thames Valley B Grade Saturday competition.

Congratulations to the players who represented Te Aroha in the Te Aroha U18 team: Madison Darby, Hayley Robinson, Samantha Oosthoek, Leah McCreedy, Hollie Storey, Kelly Tohengaroa and Zoe Kidd. Well done on being the U18 winners for 2021. Another congratulations to Amber Blackmore and Hayley Coombe who were selected in the Year 9 Thames Valley Representative team. The girls travelled to Taranaki during the term 2 holiday break to play in a tournament. The girls enjoyed the experience and would like to thank Thames Valley Netball for the opportunity.

This year, Zoe Kidd was awarded the Most Improved Junior Umpire and gained her Center Practical badge at the Te Aroha Netball Prizegiving and Hollie Storey was awarded the Most Improved Senior Umpire, gaining her NZ Zone Practical badge. Congratulations, Zoe and Hollie!

To wrap the season up, all players were congratulated at a small prize giving during school time where we came together to have kai and give certificates out. Major Awards for the Senior A team will be announced at Sports Award evening in week 4, along with Year 9, Year 10 and Senior B Players of the Year.

Junior Netball

This year, there was a lot of parent support as all junior teams were coached by parents. I would like to thank all our dedicated coaches and managers who have voluntarily given up their time to coach and manage our teams this year: Jessica Clark, Kassandra Clark, Heather Hazelton, Camella Lucas-Melrose, Sharon Coombe, Denice Taukiri, Sapphire Tohengaroa and Arleen McLaren.

The College Junior Premier team had injury worries at the start of the season within the defence positions, and it was great to see some of their attacking players put their hand up to play unfamiliar positions.

They played in the Thames Valley Secondary School league on Saturday mornings which was something new for most of the team. They enjoyed travelling to different towns to play netball against other secondary teams their age. Their hard-fought semi final battle against Hauraki saw them lose by 1 point, which was hard on the team and coach, but they still came away with 3rd place overall.

Monday night league was a mixture of games and results and again they came away with 3rd place.

Once again, thank you to everyone involved in Netball at Te Aroha College.

Teacher in Charge,

Whaea Arleen.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Rugby

Te Aroha College rugby fielded two strong teams this season in the Year 9/10 grade and in the future First XV grade.

The Year 9/10 team fell short in their attempt to make the plate semifinal, but have shown massive growth this season. A big thanks to Andrew Gemmell and Tony Lauder for their coaching and management this year. The boys were extremely lucky to have your support and dedication.

The future First XV team had a very successful season, winning the Perry Cup (winners of the first round) and winning all round-robin games but unfortunately losing the final.

Thanks to Taine Wilson, Tala Aliifaalogo, and Steve Darby for their coaching, managing and support throughout the season.

Congratulations to Jayden Darby, Quade Ericsson and Luke Nonu for their selection to the Thames Valley Under 16 side.

Volleyball

Given the uncertain nature of Covid levels and the difficulties this placed on regional competitions, we decided to run our own competition. We wanted to make sure we gave our Junior Volleyballers a chance to not only develop themselves personally

as Volleyballers but also to have a quality volleyball competition.

The competition involves 10 teams of 9 players (now) and every team is a mixture of all year levels of both boys and girls. It has run for 2 weeks this term and will have 5 more weeks in term 3. Already over the 2 weeks we have seen our Year 9 and 10 players develop their confidence and understanding of how volleyball is actually played. We have also seen our Senior players develop their leadership and coaching skills on and off the court.

It has been better than we envisaged and we are really looking forward to next term.

Badminton

Our school Badminton competition came to a close with Liz Hensby-Bennett winning the Girls' Final and Hannah Davis-Gorrie runner up, and Harrison Burge winning the Boys' Final with Marshall den Boer runner up. Mr Jiji Kurian also received a significant donation of badminton equipment from the Waikato Badminton Association.



A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Basketball

The Senior Girl Basketball team wrapped up their season in Term 3 by finishing 4th in the Te Aroha league. The Junior Girls Team had injuries to some of the more experienced players but battled on to finish their Waikato League season. A massive thanks to Raneigh Hannah for coaching them so well all season. Thanks as well to the parents who transported the team and supported Raneigh on the bench and scored. We thank our Year 13 players; Madison Darby, Samantha Oosthoek, Raneigh Hannah and Sarah Yetton for their dedication to Basketball during their time at College.

The Junior Boys team managed to finish 6th in the Premier division of Waikato Basketball. This was a great achievement as the team only had two Year 10 players. Congratulations to Ky-Mani Kaumoana and Michael Wade who are attending Basketball NZ U15 Camp in Rotorua over Labour Weekend.

The Senior Boys team also finished 6th in their Premier Division of Waikato Basketball. It is hard playing all the large boys' schools week after week and the team showed great resilience and played quality Basketball every Friday night. The college is very fortunate to have a high quality coach in Alex Stojkovic involved with the team.

Junior De Young and Te Tuhi Lewis were selected to attend the Steven Adams High School Invitational Camp in Wellington. The top 20 Year 13 boys attended and they both had a fantastic time. On the final day of the camp they were divided into two teams for a televised game. Junior and Te Tuhi were both on the winning team. Junior won the 'Mana' Award for the camp, taking home a Playstation 5.

Sadly, due to COVID, both Nationals and the subsequently arranged tournament were cancelled but the team has managed to play one final game against Tai Wananga followed by a 3 game tour of Taranaki.

We wish our four Year13 students; Junior De Young, Jarden Roudon, Lewis Elgar and Te Tuhi Lewis all the best for their future studies and Basketball.

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2021

Football

It has been an interesting season for TAC Football including the shut down of games and restrictions due to Covid.

Football at TAC is more challenging than at larger schools as we have to combine junior and senior players to make up teams. Whereas larger schools have all senior teams who have played together for a longer time.

After a successful grading TAC Girls were put into Division 2. This has proved to be a challenge for a young team which has a majority of junior players. There have been some great goals scored and a huge amount of growth and determination throughout the team. Although the goals for and goals against do not look too flash, the commitment the girls have shown is to be commended. The majority of this team will be together for a while and will continue to improve.

TAC Boys have had an equally interesting season in Division 8. The strength of the team again has grown and they have had to survive some rough games, sometimes with only 9 players due to other commitments, however the boys have seen some success. Well done to Caleb Bayley-Conder, Boys' Captain, in his final season. It is not easy being captain and stepping up to take this role.

Thank you to Girls' coach Jason Bray and manager Ngaio Bray and Boys coach Richard Shotton and manager Julie Blanks, as well as to all parents and caregivers for their dedication and commitment to TAC Football this season. We know it has not been easy, but it is very much appreciated. Finally thank you to Graham who looks after the fields. As always our students have the very best pitches to play on and visiting teams recognise this.

Mā te huruhuru ka rere te manu - Adorn the bird with feathers so it may soar.

Whether you are young or old, there's always room to grow. Learning a new skill, solving problems, and helping others are just some of the many "feathers" you can wear in order to soar high. The more strengths you have, the higher you'll fly!