Message from the Principal

A different feel and a leadership opportunity
As NCEA examinations approach, our senior students have departed for study leave and the school takes on a different feel. This creates a new opportunity for our Year 9 and 10 students to take on a new leadership presence by ensuring the well being of our junior school continues without Years 11-13 at the College. It is also an opportunity for our Year 9 and 10s to enjoy the company of one another.

Congratulations
October and November feature four prizegiving ceremonies. In December we have the final one for the year and this year it will be a combined Year 9 and 10 Prizegiving on Tuesday 11 December. More on this in due course. In the meantime, the College acknowledged our Sports, Arts, Māori and Senior students at the separate Prizegivings. It was an opportunity for friends, family and whānau to celebrate the successes of many of our students who make a valued difference in the school both for themselves and for others. This year the Senior Prizegiving included the supreme award winners from the Arts, Māori and Sports Prizegivings, reflecting the breadth of talent which of course included the Supreme academic award winners.

Authenticating the learning and valuing our diversity
10RMY, as part of their English course, have been studying Myths and Legends. During this piece of learning, two of the students realised that Diwali (The Hindu Festival of the Lights and New Year) fell during this topic. Realising that this was a way to authenticate the learning and to value the cultural diversity in the classroom they, along with the support of their teacher, Ms Scully, incorporated a lesson on this Hindu celebration and invited me along. The students were informed about the festival when they watched a short movie (Myth and Legend) and everyone shared in Diwali treats whilst some practiced their Bollywood moves!

Good Bye Year 13s
This year, our farewell to the Year 13 cohort took on a different twist. A full school assembly was held in honour of our leavers and it was a great
success. This was followed by farewells to their teachers and then ‘leisure’ time before returning in the evening for the Leavers’ dinner. Thanks must go to Mrs Glaser-Brown and Mrs Keightley, the Deans, who have played such an integral part in shaping this group.

**Paid Union Meeting (PUM)**
There is a PUM on Tuesday 20 November which will result in a half day for students. As this is assessment week, it gives students the opportunity to spend that time on meaningful study. An email informing parents/caregivers has been sent and a copy of the notice has been given to students to take home.

**A new senior student leadership structure**
In 2019, the senior student leadership structure will take on a new look. The Sports, Executive and Arts Councils will cease to exist. In their place will be a greater opportunity for students to be involved in decision making from Years 9-13. Announcements of these roles will take place after NCEA examinations.

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Tara Kanji
Principal

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**Last Day for Year 13s and Leavers’ Dinner**

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**ARTIST OF THE WEEK**

**Shurti Maharaj - 10HGS**

My printmaking is named after my cat, Mushu. He is the most endearing best friend in a form of a cat. Mushu makes me smile every single day and I’m so grateful to have him in my life. I moved to New Zealand when I was very young and I have always lived in Tauranga, so to me it was fitting to put Mount Maunganui in my printmaking. I find the beauty of Mount Maunganui to be absolutely captivating and the beautiful ocean surrounding it makes for a mesmerizing scenery.

To make my print I first drew four drawings to develop the idea of my cat and Mount Maunganui. This print is an etching, I created this effect by making small scratches and lines into a piece of plastic, then I pushed ink into the scratches then wiped the surface clean and printed with damp paper.
International Students dressed in their finest, attended the last formal International function of the year at ‘Daniel’s on the Park’. Twenty-six students were formally farewelled by Ms Kanji and Mrs Clifford. Of those leaving, eight students were Year 13, the largest group ever to complete their education at Tauranga Girls’ College. Most of these girls have been at the college for more than two years and one student Momo Hongcherchail (Thailand) has attended the college since Year 9.

It was a privilege to acknowledge those international girls who have contributed so successfully to college life through their participation in Music, Arts and Sports. Tauranga Girls’ College can be very proud of these young women as many of the senior girls have been accepted into universities all over the world and in New Zealand; Cambridge University, University of British Columbia, Seoul, Auckland, Massey and Otago to name but a few.

The evening finished with dance, fun and laughter. Girls, we know you have had an experience of a lifetime, mastering both the ‘kiwi’ vocabulary and lifestyle and thus you have become a true risk-takers. We wish you well as you take up the new challenges in the next part of your journey.

Mrs Clifford. Director of International Students.

Young Enterprise Regional Finals and Awards

On Tuesday 23rd October Skye and Abbey attended the awards night, in their last official capacity as representatives of TGC with the Young Enterprise Scheme. The night was an accumulation of the last 8 months, and provided the girls with an opportunity to celebrate all their success in the venture. They gained the Innovation Award 2018, and Skye was awarded the Teenpreneur of the Year Award 2018. Both accolades demonstrate the hard work and determination the pair have shown.

Over the last 8 months, the duo have won over 28,000 dollars worth of prizes including scholarships, internships and trips to Singapore and Brazil. It has been a very rewarding time for the pair especially the networking opportunities that have been created.
Chemistry Olympiad
Congratulations to the following Year 12 girls who have been working towards the Chemistry Olympiad.
Natasha Barnett (12TSL) gained a Bronze award in the examination and selection into the training programme. Holly Topp (12WLK) gained a Merit award, and selection into the training programme. Both these students are completing Chemistry a year ahead of their year level, which has been a real benefit in them gaining selection to the training group.

Kasaoka Scholarship
Congratulations to Anneliese Darby who has won the Kasaoka Scholarship for 2019. This scholarship is organised by both the Kasaoka Rotary Club and the Tauranga Rotary Club. Anneliese has won a three week, all expenses paid, trip to Japan where she will be immersed in Japanese language and culture. She is lucky enough to be going in April during spring in Japan and she will be there for Hanami (Spring Blossom Festival). Anneliese is passionate about Japanese and intends to study it at tertiary level when she finishes school.

Tauranga Girls’ College hosted this year’s tournament in conjunction with the final debates of the WBOP Junior and Junior Premier Tournaments. Each team competed in four impromptu debates of approximately one hour each with 30-40 minutes preparation time and the day ran from 8am to 6pm. We had two teams in the competition. Both teams won three out of their four debates.

The TGC1 team is Ella Mitchell, Inaya Sinclair and Maia Hulton-Wells (all Year 9s). They were knocked out in the semi-final of the Junior Premier Competition but came 2nd overall in the Developmental Tournament.

The TGC2 team is Lily Knight, Leah Smith (Year 9s) and Alex Smith (a Year 10 who kindly stepped in to make up the numbers). TGC2 won the Junior Shield (as the best of the non-premier teams) and came 4th overall in the Developmental Tournament.

Both teams did extremely well. Out of 40 competitors, Ella Mitchell was ranked the 2nd best speaker based on her scores for the day and Inaya Sinclair was ranked 4th.

Tauranga Girls’ College - BOP SS Rugby 7s Champions!

Congratulations to the TGC Rugby 7s team won all their 5 games on Saturday 23 November - winning the BOP Secondary Schools Rugby 7s Championships. They beat Opotiki College in the final 39 -15. The team qualifies for the NZ SS Competition in four week’s time.
Australasian Problem Solving Mathematics Olympiad 2018 (APSMO)

The APSMO is a programme that is offered to extend our more able mathematicians. Training for the programme occurs mainly in the student’s lunchtime with the teacher in charge of the Olympiad team. Girls also work on problems at home and with their classroom Mathematics teacher.

This year 26, Year 9 students from Tauranga Girls’ College took part in the Mathematics Olympiad Competition against over 13 000 students from all over Australasia. In total, there are five different Olympiad competitions run over a ten month period.

Each Olympiad involves solving five problem solving type questions in a set period of time. Team members get one mark for each correct response and over the year they have the opportunity to gain a maximum of 25 marks for their team.

Team results are collated and the top ten scores from each Olympiad are put towards the team’s final score.

Our 2018 competition results are finally in and the Mathematics Department would like to formally CONGRATULATE the following students on their wonderful achievements.

This year the team scored in the top 30% and only 6 points short of being in the top 25% where the team would have been recognised with a “High Achievement team plaque”. A goal for 2019 competitors.

Individual student results and ranking are as follows:

Top 10%: Helen Guo 9BBE, Sarah Lee 9BBE, Justyce Westlake 9BBE.

Each of these students will receive a top 10% medal, were all first equal and will each receive a “highest individual score” trophy from the Olympiad committee.

A further 7 students were in the top 25% of 13000 competitors and will receive top 25% patches.

Top 20%: Sophie Karl 9HVY, Inaya Sinclair 9HVY, Jio Yoo 9LNE,

Top 25%: Katie Hills 9HVY, Kaiya Holdem 9BBE, Ella Mitchell 9HVY, Alea Starr-Smith 9BBE.

Top 30%: Rose Bruning 9HVY, Jaime Hammerich 9HVY.

Top 40%: Leah Smith 9HVY, Dana Stamenkovic 9BBE,

Top 50%: Lillie Butler 9HVY, Ella Rya 9HVY, Jasmine Watchorn 9HVY, Leilani Payne 9HVY

Completion: Danielle Handley 9BBE, Naomi Mortimer 9HVY, Jena Opie 9HVY, Stella Thompson 9BBE, Paige Taylor 9HVY, Acacia Batt 9HVY, Kyla Bidois 9HVY, Maia Chandlier 9HVY.

Teacher in charge: Linda Boubee-Hill
Duke of Edinburgh Award

At the start of this year, students from TGC were given the opportunity to take part in the international Duke of Edinburgh award. The Duke of Edinburgh is an award program for college age students all around the world which is designed to build confidence, leadership skills and valuable life experiences in participants. There are three stages of the award - Bronze, Silver and Gold. This year was the first time students from our school have been involved in Duke of Edinburgh for some time, and we were fortunate enough to be sponsored by BlueLight, which is an NZ organisation designed to support and empower youth.

Fifteen girls from Year 10, 11 and 12 signed up to do their Bronze award this year. For the Bronze award, we needed to complete an hour per week of three sections - a service, a sport and a skill, and record our progress on DoE’s online record book. We did a sport and a skill each week for 3 months, and a service for 6 months. For the sport section, many of us did an hour a week of extra training for our chosen sport - for example, football, running, and basketball. For the skill section we were able to practise our hobbies, or learn a new skill - these ranged from playing musical instruments and learning French, to attending Philosophy Club and training horses. These sections of the Duke of Edinburgh award allowed us to continue working on our sports and hobbies, and made us more focused on improving and enjoying what we are good at. The most important of the three sections was the service, because this allowed us to give back to the community in a meaningful way. We all found different ways we could help - some Year 10s volunteered at a retirement home, serving food and befriending the elderly. Others worked on a local farm, coached a team or refereed a sport.

The final section was the adventurous journey, for which we choose to do tramping. We did our practice tramp at the end of Term 2 up to the Trig on the Otanewainuku track. On 26th September through to 27th September, 13 students, 3 BlueLight staff and Miss Robinson travelled to The Pinnacles in Coromandel to complete our adventurous journey for the Duke of Edinburgh award. The forecast wasn’t the greatest, wind, clouds and a bit of rain, but that didn’t sway us. The tramp took around 3 hours, and was uphill most of the way. We stayed in the Pinnacles hut which is approximately 1 hour from the summit and were lucky to have been offered a freeze-dry food pack, with two 1 serve dinners, porridge, snacks and sachet drinks from the organisation BlueLight that took us up the Pinnacles. The next morning we woke up, put our shoes on and headed to the summit. We scaled up ladders and rocks until we reached the lookout. Unfortunately clouds still covered the sky but the view was still amazing even with clouds, stretching all over the Coromandel out to Thames and across to Pauanui. This experience was minimal in cost and an amazing time, I would recommend it! Being involved in Duke of Edinburgh this year was a very enjoyable experience and we all learnt a lot about ourselves and how we can do more to give back to others.

Students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards
Alumna Continues to Empower Young Women

We were fortunate to hear from a former pupil, Linda Hansen, who kindly offered to donate her latest YA book, *The Fire Keeper’s Girls* which was released over Labour Weekend.

My years at Tauranga Girls' College helped shape my career as a writer in Wellington where I’ve lived ever since, working first in RNZ and later as a researcher and writer in Parliament. I have literally ‘written for my living’ and now write for pleasure. *The Fire Keeper’s Girl*, my fourth YA book, has been called ‘... the book every woman wishes she had read as a teenager’ by Alexia Hilbertidou, Founder and CEO GirlBoss NZ and 2018 Winner Westpac Women of Influence. If any student would like to review it for me, I’d be delighted.

The book is available for students from the school library.

Homework Club: Whakapiki Mātauranga

Launched

We’d like to let you know about Whakapiki Mātauranga, a homework group at Tauranga Girls’ College. This is being run by our kura in partnership with Ngāi Te Rangi and aims to support students in a variety of ways with their learning. This might be through academic tutoring, careers help or advice or support of other kinds. Leading up to the Junior Assessment Week, this would be a great way for students to prepare. Whānau are warmly invited to drop in any time to share in what is going on.

Whakapiki Mātauranga runs on both Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Tutors from Ngāi Te Rangi are delivering their Club Rangitahi programme on the Tuesdays while Kaiako from our kura support on Thursdays.

Students gather first in the International Department for kai (3.30pm) and then move to the Whāre Pukapuka (library) to begin their mahi. By around 5pm the students begin to head home. We will continue meeting until learning is finished for the year and will then pick up again next year. All students are welcome.

Nau mai, haere mai. We can’t wait to see you there.

2019 Prizegivings

Look out for the Prizegiving newsletter next week which will include details of all recipients at the four prizegivings. See the TGC Facebook page ([https://www.facebook.com/taurangagirls/](https://www.facebook.com/taurangagirls/)) for all the photos.
Spirit of Adventure

I was lucky enough to be selected to go on the 10 day Spirit Of New Zealand voyage. This was a great opportunity to push myself outside of my comfort zone within a totally positive environment. I have gained a huge amount of confidence from this experience.

I tried everything. I faced my fears of heights. I took responsibility for a night watch. As part of a team of trainees, we took control of the boat for a day. We manned (and womanned) the 12 sails, navigated the course of the boat and fed the entire crew. I took part in several night watches. Two trainees watched over the boat in two hour shifts, taking responsibility for the depth and safety of the boat for all.

This has been the most empowering experiences of my short life and I would like to encourage others to take this once-in-a lifetime opportunity. Next year I hope to pay forward this opportunity to the Spirit Of Adventure Trust by returning as a volunteer to support others.

With much gratitude

Madison Asher-Law

I attended the Spirit of New Zealand on the ten day voyage. I was number 766. On my voyage I learnt valuable life skills such as leadership, people skills, problem solving and other useful skills. I was on the boat with 39 other students who I've made close friends with and made great memories. I climbed to the top of Mount Hobson, I learnt how to sail, I reached the top of the mast. I was nervous to attend this trip but I'm glad I stepped outside of my comfort zone. I've made lifelong friends and memories. I would recommend this trip to everyone and anyone!!

Ella Muir

### Coming Up...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 - 15 November</td>
<td>International Senior Students’ Activity Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 November</td>
<td>Year 9 Market Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 November</td>
<td>Teacher Only Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 - 21 November</td>
<td>Junior Assessment Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 November</td>
<td>PPTA Paid Union Meeting - school closes at 12.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 November</td>
<td>Year 8 Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 - 05 December</td>
<td>Junior Activity Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 December</td>
<td>Year 9 and 10 Prizegiving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Students by Appointment Only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Contacting the College 2018

We encourage parents to contact the College (578 8114) for support at any time during the year. The Pastoral Team includes:

Year 9         Dean:  Ms Robyn Mankelow            ext 767       Senior Leader:  Mrs Bird
Year 10        Acting Dean: Mrs Lochhead          ext 766       Acting Senior Leader: Ms Valentine
Year 11        Dean:  Ms Caroline Gill             ext 768       Senior Leader:  Mrs Ferguson
Year 12        Dean:  Mrs Bridget Prendiville       ext 769       Senior Leader:  Ms Rowlands
Year 13        Deans  Mrs Audrey Keightley and     ext 770       Senior Leader:  Ms Rowlands
                Ms Margot Glaser-Brown
Guidance Counsellors  Ms Judy Burr ext 728       Ms Chantal Stopford  ext 724
Inclusive Learning Leader  Ms Karen Gilby ext 740