Kia ora koutou

Thank you to our whanau, parents, and caregivers who are reacting to these unprecedented times with maturity and sensibility. I would like to outline as simplistically as possible where we are currently at with Taieri College's response to Covid19.

1ssue 8 20 March 2020

- The only information we are acting upon is the information we receive from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health (link attached below). We are receiving regular updates from them.
- We are continually promoting the importance of good personal hygiene eg. washing and drying hands. Our cleaners are being extra vigilant and we are using support staff to regularly check supply of soap and hand towels.
- Taieri College currently has zero cases of Coronavirus. We had two support staff members who had links to the recent Logan Park High School case. All people who were closely linked to the case have been cleared and Logan Park is resuming next week. Our staff who were linked are showing no symptoms of Coronavirus and are clear to return to work. I have been made aware of a Facebook post circulated claiming we have had staff members who have tested positive. This is NOT correct.
- All sport is suspended until further notice.
- We won't be conducting assemblies or larger student meetings in the foreseeable future. We have deferred our upcoming Academic Blues assembly.
- We are doing our best to promote social contact from a safe distance. This can be very difficult and challenging in some situations.
- Anyone who is displaying flu like symptoms should stay at home.
- Parents can exercise their right to keep their children at home, if they have personal concerns. This would be especially relevant if their child is compromised by an existing medical condition. We are supportive of this. We are not supportive of parents who have informed us of an absence, yet we see the student walking the streets of Mosgiel during the day. This is not helpful.
- We are looking at our capability to deliver learning programmes remotely. We have asked students to let us know of their capacity at home both in terms of, device availability, and internet connectivity. These questions were asked at form time this morning.
- Many classes have access to school work through Microsoft Office 365, which is our online learning facility.
   Teachers are currently making sure students understand how to access these web based learning platforms.

With so much information and misinformation swirling around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what will happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.

- If a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (eg. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Education will inform me about this, and we will work together to get quick and clear messaging out to you.
- As Principal I do not have the legal capacity to close our school. If there was a case confirmed of someone
  in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time
  for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to
  be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with no case confirmed in our school, your children are safe here.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practising good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Ngā mihi

**Dave Hunter** 

Ministry of Health website - https://www.health.govt.nz/

## Monday 23 March 2020 – Otago Anniversary Day College Closed

#### **Key Dates**

23 March Otago Anniversary Day – College closed

#### 25-26 March

L3 Geography Taieri Plain Trip University of Canterbury Liaison Visit

#### 26 March

Young Enterprise Kick Start Day L2 SPR Surfing Otago Polytechnic Liaison Visit

#### 27 March

L3SPR & PED Triathlon

#### 9 April

End of Term 1

#### 28 April

Start of Term 2



#### **Art**

The Year 10 Art students are enjoying the new semester focus and deep learning. In Art Painting they are working with dedication on a landscape project which has meant being outside observing clouds and hills. In Art Photography they are working on a Pop Art photo booth project, with editing in Photoshop. It's all a lot of fun and the vibe is really productive.

Students in the images are: Renee Pitchers, Joshua McLeod, Ruby Day, Grace Pool, Trinity Murray, Kyla Standring.













DS BUILDING LIMITED PO Box 312 Mosgiel 9053 Phone 021 223 0810 dallas@dsbuilding.co.nz dsbuilding.co.nz













## Wellbeing and Cultural Inclusion

Kia Ora (Aotearoa NZ), Talofa (Samoa), Kiorana (Cook Islands), Bula (Fiji), Malo'e'lelei (Tonga), Fakaalofa lahi atu (Niue), Namaste (India - Fiji), Malo ni (Tokelau), Marhaba (Arabic languages), Konnichiwa (Japan), Sawadhi (Thailand), Nihao (China), Ola (Brazil), Bonjour (France), Guten Tag (Germany), Welkom (Netherlands), Kumusta (Filipino), and Goeie More (South Africa).

We are encouraging students to use a range of cultural greetings to embrace our cultural inclusion wellbeing actions. As a staff we are also more mindful of the pronunciation of words cross-culturally, and are making efforts to get this right.

On Sunday 22 March it is Race Unity Day, and we will promote this on Wednesday 25 March as a school. There will be kapahaka performances outside the Library at both breaks.

There will be a cultural display and activities in the Library, running all week. Students will receive a range of culturally inclusive messages through the daily notices this week and next.

We are planning more cultural inclusion activities and events throughout the year. Please email me at <u>dleonard@taieri.school.nz</u> if you have ideas, or you would like to include more greetings to the list above.

Warm regards Nga mihi Diana Leonard Director of Wellbeing



## Year Seven and Eight Vision Screening

The Vision Hearing Technicians from Population Health, Southern District Health will be visiting Taieri College to screen all year seven students for distance vision.

- Distance Vision (Amblyopia & Hyperopia)

This determines how well your child is able to see at a distance. It involves reading an eye chart.

(Not required if child wears glasses/ or is currently under care for their vision)

If you do not wish your child to be screened please fill out an opt-out slip, which are available at the school office before our visit.

There will also be some YEAR 8 students called for on the day, if they were absent last year.







### **Weekly Sport Column**

Kia Ora Tatou

Like many aspects of society, sport has also been heavily impacted by COVID-19, and this is no different here at Taieri College. Many regional competitions that our students compete in have been cancelled or postponed. For a full list of what each sport is doing, see our list on the Taieri College Sport Facebook page. In addition to this, we have pressed pause on all Taieri College sport practices, trainings and trials to protect our students. However, I must remind our students and parents seeking exercise, that going outside for a personal run or a bike ride is not cancelled, and I encourage you to do so.

On more positive news, the Taieri College Golf side competed at the annual Intercollegiate tournament last Friday and performed admirably. We have had a strong group of 15 students learn the game over the last six weeks and many were rewarded with awards due to their performances on the day; Caleb MacGregor, Finn McDonald-Page, Trent Thomson and Sam O'Neill.

The Otago Secondary Schools' Athletic Champs were held at the Caledonian last weekend where we had 28 Taieri College students compete and we had a number of exceptional results, with 21 students finishing in the top three placings and earning qualifying into South Island Secondary Schools' Champs. For a full list of Taieri students who finished in the top three, see the table of results below.

Ryan Rosevear Head of Sport

## Otago Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships

Students who gained top three performances.

Ben Baines 1st in senior para javelin, discus and Shot-put Neve Beattie under 14 girls 1st Shot-put and triple jump, 2nd long jump and discus

Zharna Beattie senior girls 1st in Shot-put and Discus

Mikairi Beauchamp Moore senior girls 1st Javelin, 2nd discus, 3rd Shot-put

O'Hara Couch under 14 girls 3rd long jump and high jump

Olivia Ellis under 15 girls 1st high jump, 3rd long jump

Paige Flett senior girls 2nd Javelin

Billy Hunter under 16 boys 2nd high jump

Gabby Kakahi under 16 girls 1st 800m, 2nd 1500m

Logan Kakahi under 15 boys 3rd 400m

Dylan Lloyd 1st para wheelchair 100m

Ella MacKenzie under 16 girls 1st discus

Ollie MacKenzie under 15 boys 2nd discus and 100m, 3rd 200m

Georgia McHutchon under 14 girls 1st 800, 1500, 3000m

Lily Miller under 16 girls 3rd 400m

Josh Munro under 14 boys 3rd long jump

Jenna Prendergast under 15 girls 2nd 800m

Georgia Robertson under 16 girls 2nd long jump

Jacob Smith under 16 boys 3rd long jump

Ethan Walker senior boys 1st Javelin

Under 14 girls relay team - Neve Beattie, O'Hara Couch, Georgia McHutchon, Chelsea Winders - 1st







### Te Kainga Girls Cricket

On Monday 16 March 2020 the Te Kainga Girls Cricket team played Balmacewen Intermediate in the Otago final of the NZC Shield competition. The team played some fantastic cricket in tough conditions, but in the end lost to a very good Balmacewen team who will now head to nationals later in the year. This competition was a knockout one, and it was a great achievement to make the regional final. This was a huge improvement on last year when the team was knocked out in Round One.

The team was: Sienna Forgie, Caitlyn Barclay, Kailey Marshall,

Ashley Beulink, Rosie Mitchell, Anneka Stevenson, Tilly Ruthven, Sarah Evans and Annabelle Andrews.



## Taieri College Swimming Sports

Well done to all those who competed at the recent Taieri College Swimming Sports. The students below have broken previous school records.

Regan McGrath - Year 7 Boys' 50m Freestyle
Keira Hughes - Year 8 Girls' 50m Freestyle
Finn Wilson - Year 9 Boys' 50m Breaststoke
Emma Bain - Year 9 Girls' 25m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle,
100m Freestyle & Individual Medley
Jessie Yee - Year 10 Girls' 25m Breastroke, 25m Butterfly
& 50m Breaststroke
Kylie Gale - Year 11 Girls' 25m Butterfly





















## Torpedo7



**T7 FRIENDS & FAMILY**GEAR UP FOR YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE - 25/03-7/04





# OUR BIGGEST FRIENDS AND FAMILY YET! **SAVE UP TO 60% OFF**

#### **HOW TO REDEEM**

**INSTORE:** SHOW THIS FLYER (DIGITAL OR PRINT) TO ONE OF OUR GREAT INSTORE STAFF.

ONLINE: USE VOUCHER CODE 14A9-B9E4 AT CHECKOUT.

**AVAILABLE ONLINE & IN STORES NATIONWIDE** 

See you out There

Discounts are off RRP and vary by product category, if the product in growing or promotion, the current representation of the contract of the