

Maori @TBC 2016

“He waka eke noa”

- A canoe which we are all in with no exception

This whakatauki can be used to apply to the concepts of unity, whanau and teamwork. The end of the school year is always a time for reflection and appreciation of what has been accomplished. For our Year 13 students particularly, this time of year is a chance to appreciate how their achievements are reflective of the support and input of their whanau, teachers, friends and peers. While individual success and achievement is measured and recognized, the sense of community and service that one can provide for others should always be a consideration. For our taiohi who are returning there will be many opportunities to provide service for others. For those leaving we wish them well and trust that they will pursue opportunities to be of service to others.

TU RANGATIRA

In late October the annual Tu Rangatira awards evening was held at the College. The aim of the evening is for whanau to share in the achievements of some of our Maori students across the year. The achievements recognized include academic excellence, diligence, leadership, sporting, artistic and cultural endeavors. Some achievements are recognized at the academic, arts and sports awards ceremonies however Tu Rangatira brings together students of all ages and from all these different fields into one setting.

The Tu Rangatira evening has grown over the past three years and the number of students being recognized each year has grown with it. It is pleasing to see the diversity of our Rangatahi, not only in their accomplishments but also in the range of fields that they have enjoyed success in.



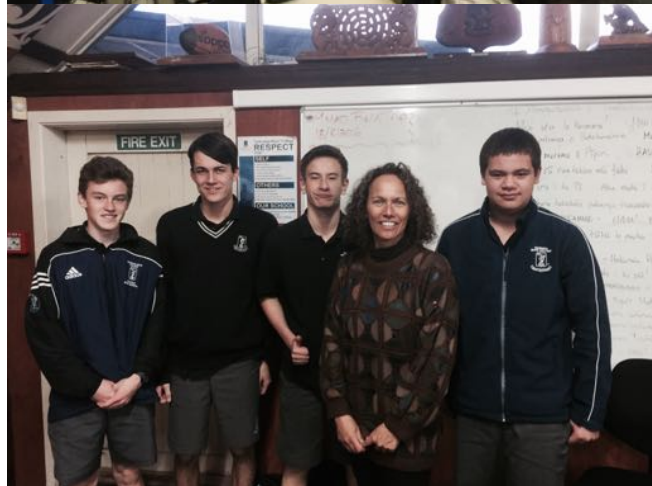
The winner of the Monte Ohia Trophy this year was Isaac Dickson (Ngai Te Rangi) for academic excellence and contribution. He is with principal Robert Mangan. Below are Year 12 students at Tu Rangatira. Year 13 student Devin Patuawa (Nga Puhī) with the koikoi presented to him.

A feature of the evening is the presentation of koikoi to Year 13 students who have made a significant contribution to the College in their time here. These koikoi are presented to each recipient by their own whanau and are a tangible connection to their time spent here at Tauranga Boys' College. Recipients this year were Manaia Harawira (Ngati Ranginui), Mitchell Tane (Ngati Maniapoto), Reef Nee Nee (Ngati Porou), William Ngatai (Ngai Te Rangi), Isaac Dickson (Ngati Ranginui) and Devin Patuawa (Nga Puhī). Isaac was also the recipient of the Monte Ohia trophy which is presented to the Year 13 Maori student who demonstrates academic excellence and wider contribution to the College.



WHAKAPIKI AKE

Whakapiki Ake is a program run through Auckland University that aims to promote careers in medicine and health to young Maori. The program is very comprehensive and targets secondary school students of all year levels. TBC Old Boy James Opie has completed his first year studying medicine there. Two Year 13 students are pursuing the same tertiary study next year. Year 12 student Jimi Kameta went away to a wananga held at the university. Groups of Year 11, Year 10 and Year 9 Maori students all took the opportunity to be involved in other Whakapiki Ake programs this year. This program will help students work towards a goal of being a Doctor. Jimi Kameta shares his experiences of his time with Whakapiki Ake below.



Jimi Kameta (Te Arawa) with other students at Whakapiki Ake (Above). A group of Year 10 students with Whakapiki Ake Course Co-ordinator Kanewa Stokes at a presentation in the Whareniui.

During the July holidays this year, I flew up to Auckland to gain an insight into the career causes that Auckland University has to offer. (Specifically in in health, for example medicine or optometry) Taking apart in MASH (Maori Achieving Success in Health) was a great opportunity that I would highly recommend for any boys who are of Maori decent and have any interest in working as a health professional in the future. We stayed at Waipapa Marae, which is located in central Auckland, getting to meet new, like minded people from other schools around New Zealand.

I really enjoyed the four days at MASH as I felt I came away with an insight into the duties and routines of being a medical professional, of which I hadn't understood before. I also enjoyed the hands on Activities, which included putting casts on people, practicing CPR technique and writing up prescriptions for patients. Again, I would totally recommend the MASH program run by the team at Whakapiki Ake and the University of Auckland as well as encourage you to take up the opportunities that are on offer.

Na Jimi Kameta (Te Arawa)



NGA RANGATIRA HOU



Pictured left to right are: Mikaere Leef (Ngati Ranginui), Jimi Kameta (Te Arawa), Reef Cooper (Rangitane), Cole Forbes (Ngati Awa) and George Wheatley (Ngati Ranginui/Tainui - Waikato).

Thirteen new Year 12 prefects were named towards the end of the term. Amongst this group were five Maori students. Being a prefect recognizes their contribution and service towards the College in a number of fields. This initial group recognizes potential students for the major leadership roles for 2017.

George Wheatley, of Ngati Ranginui and Tainui whakapapa is one of the selected students and is looking forward to the challenge of being a senior prefect. "As long as everyone is on the same page, it should go well" said George. While they have yet to sort out the specific tasks, George is hoping that they will be able to identify ways in which they can be of maximum service to the school.

Cole Forbes of Ngati Awa is looking forward to the challenge of being a role model but also recognizes that "the consistency of the role across the year" will be a challenge. He hopes to promote involvement in as wide a range of activities as possible for students. Mikaere Leef of Ngati Ranginui believes that the biggest challenge will be continuing the legacy of prefects who have held the roles previously. He is looking forward to exploring how they can leave their own mark on the school to add to that legacy.