



TAWA COLLEGE

Issue 1

February 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to 2011.

I would like to specifically welcome all parents and caregivers of students new to Tawa College this year. As a college community it is my hope that we can work together to promote opportunities, provide support for every student to do their best and encourage them to become involved in some of the many activities offered by the college.



In 2011 we will celebrate the 50th year of Tawa College. I have been involved with the college for 21 of those 50 years, as a student, a teacher and now Principal. I believe that the school continues to function as an effective community college which aims to promote excellence and encourages service. Our core values of high standards of attainment and participation, a safe and positive learning environment, respect of self and others, and community and whanau support are as important in 2011 as they were in 1961.

Academic results in NCEA 2010 are once again very pleasing. In comparing results with previous years it should be noted that this year's results are still provisional whereas results for previous years are final. Despite this, our 2010 Year 13 results in terms of achieving NCEA Level 3 are the best attained in the last four years and the number of students achieving either Merit or Excellence endorsement are also the highest over the last four years for Year 13 and Year 11 and second highest for Year 12. Also gratifying is that 96% of our students achieved NCEA

Level 2 or better when they left in Year 13. A brief summary of these results is provided later in this newsletter.

One of the Tawa College goals for 2011 is to strengthen relationships and connections using the Restorative Practice model. We have consulted students and staff and have introduced an acronym based on the school motto "Do Justly" which highlights the core attributes we expect of students at Tawa College. The first word we will be concentrating on is "Diligence" and this will be a focus in our form activities and assemblies.

A number of our former students continue to excel in various sporting and cultural activities. I would like to acknowledge Sophie Devine who plays at a high level in both Football and Cricket as well as George Tilsley who plays Rugby for the Wellington 7s team. Another past student making great progress is Amelia Berry who is currently one of the leading opera singers in New Zealand. In terms of current pupils, I would like to acknowledge the achievements of Junior Kirisome in Rugby League, Gowan Stares and Josh Dickson in Football and Martin McCrudden in Mountain Biking. It is the goal of the school to encourage students to achieve in all areas of school life and I look forward to working with you as we progress through 2011.

STAFFING

At the end of 2010 we said farewell to Mr Dagger (Year 9 Dean), Mr Mitchell (Mathematics), Mrs Martinez (Mathematics), Ms Woods (Guidance Counsellor) and Mr Norman (Mathematics) who provided cover for Ms Cookson who has now returned from maternity leave. Four staff members are on maternity leave in 2011, Ms Ellix (HOD ICT), Mrs Turner (Commerce), Ms Grigg (Assistant HOD PE) and Ms Neilson (PE). Our HOD Learning Support, Mrs Martin will be taking a 32 week study leave of absence during 2011 and Mrs Flavell and Mrs Lodge will be jointly heading up the Learning Support Department during this period. Mr Salter (French/ Social Studies) and Mr Yung (Social Studies/ Japanese) have both been awarded Ministry of Education Language Immersion awards in 2011 which will enable them to travel to a non-English speaking country for further learning. At present Mr Yung

is in Japan, and Mr Salter will be travelling to France later in the year. Mr Barclay (TIC Geography) has also been awarded a Teacher Fellowship from the Royal Society of NZ. As a result Mr Barclay will be on leave in Terms 3 and 4 of 2011.

In 2011 we welcome five new teachers to the staff – Mrs Atkinson (PE), Mr Atkinson (ICT), Mrs Courian (English), Ms Costello (Drama/Dance/English) and Ms Scott (English). We also welcome back Ms Jenkins (Year 13 Dean) who has returned from a year's leave of absence.

Murray Lucas
PRINCIPAL

NCEA RESULTS

	2010	2009	2008	2007
Year 11				
% Pass Rates	76.9	76.3	80.9	83.3
% Merit	25.4	20.2	24.8	23.8
% Excellence	6.7	4.2	5.4	6.4
% Merit + Excellence	32.1	24.4	30.2	30.2
Year 12				
% Pass Rates	78.4	82.3	85.1	77.0
% Merit	16.5	15.2	14.5	12.8
% Excellence	3.7	5.3	2.8	5.3
% Merit + Excellence	20.2	20.5	17.0	18.1
Year 13				
% Pass Rates	61.1	57.5	59.8	60.5
% Merit	14.8	10.2	12.7	9.7
% Excellence	3.3	4.9	3.4	3.1
% Merit + Excellence	18.1	15.1	16.1	12.8

HEAD STUDENTS FOR 2011

Congratulation to our Head Prefects for 2011:

Head Boy	Tony Zhou
Head Girl	Elyjana Roach
Deputy Head Boy	Preston Lyons
Deputy Head Girl	Claire Middleton

We congratulate these students. Their appointments reflect the fact that they have already made an outstanding contribution to our school and we thank them for their service to the college and the community.



Claire, Tony, Elyjana and Preston

CAREERS DEPARTMENT

A "Careers and Career Planning for the 21st Century" evening is being held at Tawa College on Tuesday 29 March. The guest speakers will be Dr Tim Smithells and Mr Brian Stewart (check www.firstcareers.co.nz) The evening will include a question/answer session. For more information please contact our Careers Office on 232 8184 extension 860 or 861.

Congratulations to Kieren Gera who achieved the Zonta Award at the end of 2010. Also congratulations to the seven students who successfully gained a Level 100 Economics paper from Canterbury University under our STAR funding. They are: Xindi Zhang, Varshini Suresh, Krishan Prasad, Abi Lawler, Aaron Reid, Devi Malhotra and Nick Johnston.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Thank you to everyone who supported Tawa College Community Education in 2010. The success of the programme has meant it can continue and is one of only four schools in the Greater Wellington region offering classes.

New courses added to the programme for 2011 are Chinese Cooking, Caring for the Carer, Gardening for Beginners, Ukulele, Petal Window Quilts, Picture Framing, Making Summer Jams and Upholstery. In Term 1 we will once again offer the course Parents as Driving Coaches which is an extremely valuable course for anyone taking on the responsibility of looking after a new driver.

There is the possibility of offering daytime ESOL classes as well as continuing with the evening ESOL. Please let anyone you know who would benefit from these classes that they are available.

For those wanting to get fit there are Pilates and Zumba classes available which are also available to senior students. If you want to take up a new hobby why not go to Fishing, Gardening, Woodwork, Flax Weaving or Quilting.

First Aid courses remain a valuable NZQA qualification for all those looking for work or who are involved in sport and recreation activities.

Many people do not know that the college also offers Childbirth classes at a very reasonable fee and those parents who attended the earlier classes will now have their children at college. An important part of the course is the session on baby CPR.

For all these courses and many more, further details and enrolment forms can be obtained from the website www.tawacom.ed.co.nz. If there are courses not offered that you would like to attend, or if you would like to teach a course please contact the Coordinator Judith Havill, email comed@tawacol.school.nz or phone 232 7163.

TAWA COLLEGE SPORTS RESULTS

NZSS Road Running Championships

Congratulations to the following girls who competed with outstanding results earning a national title at the NZSS Road Running Champs held in Hastings during December. In a field with over 100 competitors the Junior Girls 4km Road Race team were placed 1st in the six person team event and 3rd in the three person team event. Coach Ross Redpath says this outstanding result was achieved through four months of dedicated, hard training. During 2010 this group showed that with commitment and a positive attitude they have the potential to achieve outstanding results at future national Cross Country and Road Race events. Team members were: Sonja Andrekovich, Angela Tuason, Simone Gordon, Michaela Jenner, Ashleigh McCutcheon, Ellen Van Looy, Laura Robinson and Ella Sturman.



The following girls were placed 5th in the Senior Girls 4km three and six person team events: Nicole Mitchell, Esther Holt, Olivia Sullivan, Bronte Tennant, Sarah McLeod and Maddie Tibble.

Our Senior Boys team were placed 5th competing on a 6km course. Congratulations to team members:

Sean McCrudden, Nick Rogerson and Simon Moore.

NZSS Bowls Championships

During December 2010 we had four students compete at the NZSS Nationals in Timaru. It was a valuable learning experience where they all completed with distinction. Scott Johnson paired with Charles McLeod were placed 5th overall and Rosie Tait paired with Rachael Hall were placed 10th overall.

SPORTS DEPARTMENT NOTICES

The Tawa College Sports Department are dependent on volunteers to ensure that all sports remain available for our students. Teachers are involved in sport but we always require coaches, managers and officials from outside the college to help.

Please contact the Sports Director if you can help in any way at all. We are able to provide information and assistance with training if required.

Committees have been established to oversee and run the following sports. Parents and community members are encouraged to join and bring their expertise and enthusiasm.

The first committee meeting for winter sport codes in 2011 are as follows:

Netball	AGM 7pm Thursday 10 February followed by committee meeting at 8pm
Basketball	Monday 14 February 6pm
Hockey	Monday 14 February 7.30pm
Football	Wednesday 16 February 7pm
Rugby	To be advised

Jannene Tomlinson
Sports Director
04 232 8184 x 851

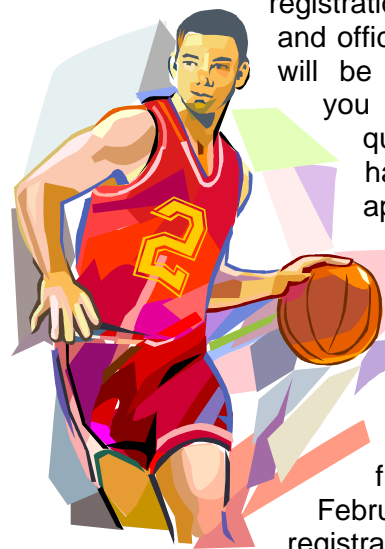
Winter Sport Registration Night

Sunday 27 February 4pm to 7pm

The following sports will be included at Registration Night: Badminton, Hockey, Rugby, Basketball, Football and Netball.

Students can register for any of these sports on registration night. Coaches and officials from all codes will be in attendance so you can direct any queries you may have to the appropriate people.

Students need to register for each sport they intend to play. Forms will be available from the Sports Office from Monday 21 February 2011. All registration forms need to be completed, and fees paid on the night, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Sports Office. EFTPOS facilities will be available.



All students must have registered and paid the appropriate fees before they will be allowed to trial or be placed in a team. Fees are set according to the needs of each sport. We are conscious of the many demands for your money so we always try to keep these costs to a minimum. However some sports do incur more costs than others, ie: water polo (pool hire) and hockey (turf fees).

It is expected that all students in first/top teams and/or students in teams representing the College at Exchanges and Regional or National level competitions will have the school multi-purpose jacket and matching tracksuit pants. These tracksuits can be purchased from the School Uniform Shop. If you have any queries please contact the Sports Office on 04 232 8184 x 851.

**TAWA COLLEGE SPORT
SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR 2011**

School Athletics Sports

Thursday 24 February

Winter Registrations

Sunday 27 February 4pm to 7pm

Western Zone Athletics

Wednesday 2 March

***Havelock North Summer Exchange
(Home)***

Sunday 13 & Monday 14 March

Regional Athletics

Wednesday 16 March

Year 12 Bike Trips

Thursday 17 March to Sunday 27 March

Summer Tournament Week

Monday 28 March to Friday 2 April

Year 13 PED EOTC Trips

Thursday 7 April to Friday 15 April

School Swimming Sports

Friday 6 May

Nayland Exchange (Away)

Sunday 15, Monday 16, Tuesday 17 May

School Cross Country

Tuesday 24 May

Northern Zone Swimming

Tuesday 17 May (Raumati Pool 9am to 12pm)

Sports Photos (first teams only)

Friday 27 May

Tawa College Reunion

Friday 3 to Monday 6 June Sports Fixtures

CSW Swimming Relays

Thursday 16 June (Huia Pool)

National Secondary School Cross Country

Saturday 18 June (Ashburton)

Havelock Winter Exchange (Away)

Sunday 10 July & Monday 11 July

Winter Tournament Week

Monday 22 August to Friday 26 August

Junior Triangular Exchange (Home)

To Be Advised

School Sports Prizegiving

Thursday 6 October

**TAWA COLLEGE ATHLETICS DAY
2PM THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2011**

Events:

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, Shot-put, High Jump, Discus, Javelin and Long Jump

Note: 3000m for all ages will be held at lunchtime on Tuesday 22 February 2011.

Age Groups:

Under 14 – aged 13 or under on 1 Jan 2011

Under 16 – aged 15 or under on 1 Jan 2011

Senior – aged 16 or over on 1 Jan 2011

Uniform:

All Year, 10 and 11 students must wear regulation PE uniform (PE shorts and house colour shirts). Year 12 and 13 students can wear plain appropriate mufti sports gear in house colours.

Entry Conditions:

Entries will be taken on the day. Ensure that you are at the designated event area 10 minutes prior to the starting time of each programmed event. Students may enter up to a maximum of six events.

Programmes will be handed out at a special briefing to be held prior to the event.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NOTICES

Tawa College has a fine tradition of music making. We invite students new to the school to get involved in the many activities on offer.

All Year 9 students are welcome to join Dawn Chorus (Friday morning 8am in the hall), Concert Band (woodwind and brass instrumentalists, Monday lunchtime in the music block) and String Group (Wednesday 8.30am in the music block).

Rock bands meet on a Wednesday afternoon in the music block. If any student is interested in joining a band please meet Mr Cameron and Mr Geary after school on Wednesdays and we will do our best to find a band for you.

We are concerned that some Year 9 students may not have received the invitation to join these groups through the student notices. Any questions please email the Head of Department, Mr Murray Cameron on mcameron@tawacollege.school.nz.

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Would families of music students please take note of the following important dates. Please pass on the concert dates to anyone in the community who you think would be interested in attending.

Regional Barbershop Competition **31 May 2011 at the Wellington Town Hall – (afternoon/evening)**

Our quartets and choruses will have the opportunity to qualify for the Barbershop Nationals to be held in Wellington 16 August.

Rockquest Wellington Heats **2 July 2011 - venue and time to be advised**

Bands from our rockband programme have the opportunity to perform two original songs.

The Big Sing **8 or 9 June at the Wellington Town Hall - All day/evening**

All Dawn Chorus and Twilight Tones members.

June Tunes

15 June 2011 in the Tawa College Hall - 7pm
A concert featuring all of the choral groups within the school.

Beat the Winter Blues

29 June 2011 in the Tawa College Hall - 7pm
A concert featuring the instrumental groups within the College.

Musical Production 2011

3 – 13 August

This year we will present a variety of songs from a variety of musicals that promises to be a song and dance extravaganza. Auditions will be held near the end of Term 1, with rehearsals taking place during Term 2 on Tuesday after school, Wednesday morning and Sunday afternoon. Students who audition for the show must make themselves available for rehearsing during the second week of the July school holidays (25-31).

November Notes

2 November in the Tawa College Hall – 7pm
Our end of year Monster Listen-In featuring a selection of the musical groups within the school.

GATEWAY

The 2011 Gateway Programme has two students returning from the 2010 class. A large number of the 2010 Gateway students either gained employment or enrolled in their chosen tertiary course.

The 30 new students joining Gateway are already working hard and are keen to experience a work placement. They will be participating in a comprehensive First Aid Course in mid February, Health & Safety courses in March/April and the trades students will attend a Site Safe Course in March. It is envisaged that all Gateway students will be work fit and experience a work placement before the end of Term 1.

This year work placements vary greatly from building, plumbing, automotive, electrical to tourism, hairdressing, the health industry, animal care and journalism. If you would like to

find out more information regarding opportunities for students to be placed with your company/business please contact Cheryl Robb on 232 8184 x 861. She is looking forward to your call.

TAWA COLLEGE ASTRONOMY CLUB



All students, parents, staff and friends of the college are invited to observe the night sky from the school grounds

- every Friday (if the sky is clear) when it is dark
- at the seats on the field at the top of the drive

We have a number of good telescopes, and cameras and binoculars – just wear warm clothes

In 2011

April is Global Astronomy Month – special events

Partial eclipses in June, November and December

In 2012

A transit of Venus – very rare
An almost total eclipse
as well as the 'End of the World'
- who could want more!!

Reminders of special events will be included in the student notices and displayed on the Science department noticeboard outside B4.

TAWA COLLEGE LIBRARY

It's been a really good start to the year here in the library, with lots of students making the effort to return outstanding books from last year. There are of course still a number to be dealt with; currently there are 122 library books, magazines and DVDs out there which should have been returned by the end of last year. Shortly we will be sending out invoices for the replacement costs of these items. If you receive an invoice from us, and your son/daughter says they've already returned it, please check with me - phone 232 8184 x 835, or email phammond@tawacol.school.nz

Many thanks for your assistance with this - the number still outstanding at the start of this year is about half of the total at the start of 2010. Well done!

Pat Hammond - Library Manager

LEARNING SUPPORT

Parents are invited to attend Parent Networking Meetings for students who receive Learning Support. These sessions are a continuation of the popular meetings which were run last year by Rachael Martin and will commence on **Tuesday 4 April, 7pm 9pm**. They are an opportunity to meet other parents to share understanding and to provide mutual support. The sessions will also be formative, looking at strategies and techniques to support learning as well as helping to develop underpinning knowledge.

The Tuesday evening meetings are to be held in the library on the following dates in Terms 1 and 2:

22 February; 22 March, 3 May, 7 June and 5 July 2011.

Please contact Maggie Flavell for further information on mflavell@tawacol.school.nz

READER WRITERS

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer Reader or Writer for students with specific learning needs? Some of our students require assistance for exams or internal assessments. The role involves reading or writing down information, related to the subject the student is studying. If you are interested in helping out in this way, please contact Mrs Hughes (Administrator - Learning Support Department), on ph 232-8184 x 847 or email ghughes@tawacol.school.nz for further information.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Rotary Club
of Tawa



and the Tawa Historical Society

invite everyone to come along and join in a free

Historic Walk

"From the Library to the Lookout"

*with Bruce Murray and
other long-term Tawa residents explaining
the local history at several stops along the way.*

There is no charge to join the walk, so bring the whole family and learn many interesting facts about some of Tawa's earlier people & places.

- . Around 2km each way taking about 2 hours*
- . Entertainment provided at start & Lookout*
- . Finish with Refreshments at the Community Centre*
- . Buy a personalized Certificate to record your walk*

Starts Tawa Library at 2.00pm

Sunday 20 February 2011

or, if wet 2.00pm - Sunday 27 February

RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay for Life 2011 Porirua Relay will be held on 5 March 2011 at Te Rauparaha Arena. This is a special event to celebrate and remember those who have faced or are currently facing cancer. Tawa College is

looking for any adult prepared to coordinate a group of keen teenagers for this event. For more information please visit the website: <http://www.relayforlife.org.nz/index/about> If you are able to assist please email: rbain@tawacol.school.nz as soon as possible.

TAWA COLLEGE 50TH REUNION 2011

The Tawa College 50th Reunion will be held over Queen's Birthday weekend 2011 at the Te Rauparaha Arena. Please visit the Tawa College website www.tawacol.school.nz for a registration form. For further information email Mr Steve Avery on savery@tawacol.school.nz or the Reunion Co-ordinator Jennie Crane on jennie.c@ps.gen.nz

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Tue 22 NCEA Information Evening 7pm in the Hall
- Wed 23 Paid Union Meeting school closes at 12.30pm**
- Thu 24 School Athletics Day
- Sun 27 Winter Sports Registration 4pm to 7pm in the Gym

MARCH

- Wed 2 Western Zone Athletics
- Wed 9 CSW Senior Tennis Champs
- Fri 11 ACCESSIT Road Show – Library closed all day
- Sun 13 Havelock North Summer Exchange at Tawa College (2 days)
- Wed 16 CSW Athletic Champs
- Thu 17 Year 12 bike trip #1
Hands On Career Expo
- Fri 18 Mid Term Break**
- Mon 21 Year 9 & 10 Report Evening (Students surnames A to L)
- Tue 22 Year 9 & 10 Report Evening (Student surnames M to Z)
- Wed 23 Year 12 bike trip #2
CSW Bowls Champs
- Mon 28 Summer Tournament Week
- Tue 29 Careers Evening 7pm in the Hall

**PLEASE SIGN THE “Turf In Tawa”
PETITION**

The Tawa Community Board is encouraging residents of Tawa or people with links to Tawa to sign an ePetition requesting the Wellington City Council site one of its all weather artificial turfs in the Tawa geographic area. Everybody in each household can add their name and it is open to all ages (5 to 110).

In recent years many winter sports fixtures have been cancelled in Tawa due to poor weather. An all weather sports turf would ensure that sport can be played all year round for all ages.

To sign the ePetition you go to this address:
<http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/e-petitions/ep/details/154>.

You can also go to Facebook and type Turf in Tawa into “search”.

This is a community initiative and in the past Tawa people have been magnificent in showing their support for such initiatives.

Alistair Sutton – Tawa Community Board
Malcolm Sparrow – Tawa Community Board
Chair