



E tipu e rea, ka tipu koe hei tangata—Growing good people for a changing world
Te Whakaputanga — Hakihea—December

Kohitātea/January

Mane/Monday 27th

9.30-11.30am—Senior Course Confirmation (Years 11,12,13) in Te Tōnuitanga

Wenerei/Wednesday 29th

Tuakana Training—9am-1pm
A selection of Year 12/13 students

Tāite/Thursday 30th

9am—Pōwhiri
All students and staff

Paraire/Friday 31st

9am—1pm—Year 9, Rūmaki and 12/13 Tuakana

Hui-tanguru/February

Mane/Monday 3rd
All students—2025 timetable starts

Please note: change of date for the 50th Anniversary Reunion **2025**

**Tamatea High School
50th Anniversary Reunion
31st Haratua/May—2nd
Pipiri/June
(King’s Birthday Weekend)**

**Have a relaxing Christmas
break**

**We look forward to seeing
you all in 2025**

Junior Prizegiving

Congratulations to all our students who crossed the stage at last week’s Junior Prizegiving. Ngā mihi nui to all whānau who attended—Te Tōnuitanga (Auditorium) was full to bursting point.

Pictured below are our top award winners for 2024 (l to r), Student Volunteer Army—Volunteer of the Year—Ize Rogers, Year 9 Academic Excellence Runners Up—Dakota-Rose Barrett and Bella Fielding, Top Junior Golden Fern Award—Mo’onia Fe’ao, Year 9 Academic Excellence Award—Mo’onia Fe’ao and Rongomai Ngawhika , Year 10 Academic Excellence Runner Up—Lyriq Tunua Phillips and Year 10 Academic Excellence Award—Shonah-Ann Faiga.



Our Amokura Rōpū for 2025

Congratulations to our Amokura Tamatāne (Head Boy) Izrael Shields, and Amokura Tamawahine (Head Girl), Kaiata Kaitao (pictured right).

Congratulations also to our Amokura Tuarua (Deputy Head Boy and Head Girl) Tom Deihl and Emily Lloyd, they will be well supported by the Amokura team of Sydney Unciano, Sarskia Ruru, Hunter King, Jordin Kimiora, Victor Latu, Ruby Whyte-Williams, Trident Rarere and Oakleigh Wilson.



Ngā whakaaro o te Tumuaki

Tēnā koutou katoa,

As we end 2024 at Tamatea High School, it is my privilege to share some reflections and updates with you all. Our Junior Prizegiving was a fantastic way to celebrate the achievements and growth of our students, and I want to acknowledge the collective effort of our ākonga, staff, and whānau in making 2024 a successful and memorable year. In this message, I will highlight our celebration of student achievements, introduce our exceptional student leaders for 2025, and acknowledge the farewells of staff who have played a significant role in our kura.



Prizegiving provided a moment to pause and reflect on the whakataukī *Iti te kōpara e kai takirikiri ana i runga i te kahikatea*. The kahikatea, the tallest tree in the ngahere, symbolises the aspirations and learning goals of our students. The kōpara, a small bird, works tirelessly to reach the sun-ripened berries at the top of the tree, a metaphor for the rewards of perseverance and hard work. It has been inspiring to witness our Year 9 and 10 students make significant strides up their own kahikatea this year. Surrounded by supportive friends, whānau, and staff, we celebrated their achievements while encouraging them to continue striving for the rewards of their learning journey in the years ahead.

As we look forward to 2025, I am thrilled to announce our amokura rōpū consists of twelve excellent senior student leaders. This outstanding group will guide and inspire our kura in the year ahead. A special congratulations to Kaiata Kaitao and Izrael Shields, who have been appointed as Head Girl and Head Boy, respectively and to Tom Deihl and Emily Lloyd, who will serve as our Deputy Heads. These students exemplify the values we hold dear at Tamatea High School, and I am confident their leadership will strengthen our community and support a positive school culture in 2025.

This year also brings farewells to several valued staff members. Matua John Aloï, Mr Pete Le Bon, and Whaea Tamara at the end of this year are moving on to new adventures, and we wish them every success in their future endeavours. Their contributions have left a significant mark on our kura, and they depart with our aroha and gratitude. We also acknowledge the departures of Whaea Rosa, and Whaea Tuahine in Term 4, whose dedication and service have greatly enriched Tamatea High School.

As we close out 2024, I want to thank you all for being part of our vibrant school community. Whānau, your support and commitment have been integral to our successes this year. As you head into the holidays, I encourage you to enjoy the chance to rest, relish the time with your loved ones, and embrace the festive season. Ākonga, we eagerly anticipate welcoming you back, refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning and growth.

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete,
Matua Jesse

Last week we farewelled two of our beautiful international ākonga, Koga and Nanami who have been with us for the year. It was an emotional farewell and as they left the airport our school haka was led by Tom and Kaiata.

Thank you to all the fabulous kaiako, coaches, ākonga and homestay whānau in our Tamatea High School community who helped make these students' experience at our kura such a positive one. We wish Koga and Nanami all the best in their future studies and adventures and hope to see them back in New Zealand one day!



Please check the Skool loop app, Facebook page or our website for up to date notices www.tamatea.school.nz

Repatriation of pou/pou/panels

In 2022 after visiting the MTG-Napier Museum exhibition Kuru Taonga: Voices of Kahungunu Year 9 ākonga learnt about two of the intricately carved totara pou/pou/panels on display as part of Te Whare o Heretaunga, the unerected whare at Pākowhai. These were commissioned a century and a half ago by the Ngāti Kahungunu rangatira and politician, Karaitiana Takamoana of Pākowhai. Ākonga responded with letters to some of the museums in Aotearoa where other pou are held to discover more of their story and ask for them to be returned home. The search has been long and most taonga have been identified within museums both nationally and across the globe.

Fast forward to 2024 and Year 9 ākonga Jarvis, Hawea, Hunter and Ford along with Rose Mohi the great great granddaughter of Karaitiana Takamoana were present at the repatriation ceremony of the first carving from Te Whare o Heretaunga, which has returned home. As this is the first pou, we honoured and celebrated its safe arrival home.



STEM Bridge Building Project

To conclude a years' work in STEM we decided to do a 'Showcase'. This included a portfolio of work finished with the construction of a Bridge. Overall, all four bridges held at least one person. But winning the competition overall, holding six students, was 'Big Bodacious Bridge Builders inc.' Fantastic effort from all involved!



Champions!

Congratulations to our Junior Girls' Volleyball team! Matua John has coached them and they showed their skills by winning the finals! Matua John leaves us this year and our volleyball teams will miss his humour and his coaching skills.



Junior Prizegiving





Year 13 Graduation Dinner
What an awesome evening! Our Year 13 students and their whanau, and staff celebrated their time at Tamatea High School. The Year 13 planted a Pōhutukawa in the Ngahere as their legacy. The evening finished with the obligatory photo story, with gasps of shock at how our young people have changed since Year 9.





Splash Planet Reward Day





GREENDALE TENNIS CLUB Holiday Tennis Clinic



Come and have fun, learn new skills and play lots of tennis. This is for anyone age 5 up to 17 years. All abilities are catered for.

Coaches:
Jac Wardrope (Junior Development Coach Certificate)
Christine Huang (Assistant Coach Certificate)
Ian Smith (TCNZ Registered & Certified Professional Coach)
Plus other coaches as required

When:
Monday 23rd December: 9.00am – 12 Noon
Tuesday 24th December: 9.00am – 12 Noon

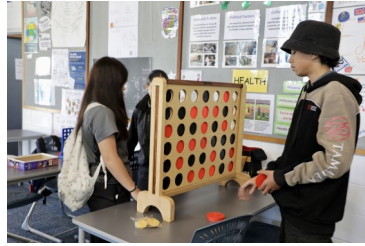
Cost:
\$30 per person per session
\$50 per person for both sessions

Where: Greendale Tennis Club, Symons Lane, Taradale
If wet: Meet in Clubrooms

To register or express an interest please contact:
Ian Smith by email or 021 131 8433 (evenings).



House competitions



Our 2025 Amokura recently spent two days team building, planning and having fun at Guthrie Smith Outdoor Education Centre.



Tumuaki (Principal)
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Tumuaki Tuarua (Deputy Principal)
Whaea Kat McNicoll
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Board of Trustees (BOT)

Rewa Dawson (Chair), Aroha Cooper, Misbah Abdulla (student rep), Charla Hawaikirangi, Taiatini Lepaio, Marion Loughran (staff rep), Allan Poy

Thank you to these trusts and foundations for their support of Tamatea High School



The Kelvin Tremain Memorial Trust



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