



He Huarahi Tamariki

SCHOOL FOR TEENAGE PARENTS - TERM 1 2021

Prize Giving and Graduation 2020

What a year 2020 was! We don't think anyone could have predicted quite how it would unfold and the impact it would have on all of our lives and our relationships. Here at He Huarahi Tamariki it certainly made us value the time we could spend 'kanohi ki kanohi' (face to face) and the events we could attend. None more so than our own Prize Giving!

It was so special to be able to have friends, family and supporters join us in person to celebrate on the day. Many of the awards reflected the values that had been so important to us throughout the whole year — whanaungatanga, rangatiratanga and resilience. It was an honour to recognise our students who had, throughout the year, risen to new challenges, created new ways of connecting and through it all, kept learning.

On that note, we would like to thank all the students for the work they did to make the 2020 Prize Giving and Graduation so special. From presenting and performing to greeting guests and handing out programmes. You are all amazing young people and we value your contributions.

We are also extremely grateful to our extraordinary donors, including the HHT Trust, who supply the grants and awards available to our students. You will find details of all of these on the back page of this newsletter.

Lastly, we wish our graduates all the very best for 2021 and all that it brings — Pima Fuli, Helena Wardle, Hinehou Mason, Maria Palmer, Courtney Warren, Tayla Clemens, Yvie Ward and Elijah Waitaiki.



L-R: Maria P and Michael; Anastasia and Courtney; Yury, Nakita, Catherine & Maria R; Dahlia, Mereana & Moana N; Yury, Emelye, Michel & Yorindel; Catherine.

Student Contribution — Memories

I keep on thinking why memories don't fade away. I have so many memories of my younger years with my grandad in Tokelau. I was born a girl but I grew up as a boy. Everyone knows I didn't grow up to be a boy but because of my everyday chores I was treated like a boy. It wasn't really bad for an Island girl to do some of the boys' chores. It makes them happy and feel strong like how I used to think that I'm a strong girl by doing those heavy chores.

Early mornings were my favourite time of the day. Waking up to the church bell ringing at 5:30, breathing the smell of the morning sunshine, singing my favourite worship songs and watching the sun making its way to the other side of the world after church. Memories are made of these beautiful moments.

There was also a time that my grandfather would tell us to go and cut those branches of bananas that are getting into the colour of yellow, but me and my cousins would always argue about who was going to cut those banana branches. Do you know why? Because in every banana tree there was always some big as lizard hiding in the bunches, and that was why we argued. Out of many I was the only one who would follow my grandfather, even when I didn't want to. But I had to and I didn't have a choice, so I was that person who would cut the banana tree and scream because those lizards would be everywhere. This was the only thing that my grandfather wouldn't do because he didn't like the lizards. He always had to tell us to do it. For lots of other hard-work things, he would do it and we would help him.

Things started to change when I turned sixteen and my grandad passed away. My mother came up with a plan about me coming to New Zealand to spend some time with my father

because it had been a few years since I had seen my dad. Before I left my island I didn't think that it was going to be a very different life that I was going to live in. I was wrong.

I flew from Samoa to Auckland with a happy face but not with a happy heart. When I saw the lights, my brain said to my heart, "Don't worry, you're free from all the chores that you have been doing from day one until the day you left." My heart felt that, so I tried not to think about home and everyone. Living here in New Zealand is a new world to me, because I have never lived for this long away from home. Living in this world is very different from where I'm from. It's been years and my heart has finally replied to my brain, and this is her reply, "You know that you're free from everything but you can't stop thinking about everything and you can't continue to live like this. You don't belong here. This is not the right place to find freedom. You can find freedom at home. Back at Tokelau." One of my favourite song from my school back home is about going to school and it is about putting God before everything. It tells me that we, your people, are supporting you from home. "Fakamua te Atua, i au hatalaga utu ola taku tama, ko ki matou i fenua e tapuaki." There's another Tokelauan song that always takes me back to all the beautiful memories with the most amazing loving people that make all those moments become a memory of my ongoing life. "Fano ko, kae toe tagaki mai ki faga o Fakaofo gali e." The song is about travelling to another world and never forgetting who you are and where you came from and especially never forgetting your people.

Catherine Motusia

Tēnā koutou katoa

He aroha whakatō, he aroha pūta mai. If kindness is sown, it is kindness you shall receive.

The start of a new school year is always refreshing. New goals to be made, new people to meet, new beginnings to start. We can reflect on the past year, all that we achieved and all that we failed, and look for ways to make the new year better than the last. This year we are aiming to sow kindness, to grow our school values - Whanaungatanga, Aroha and Rangatiratanga. We have deliberately spent time this term getting to know each other - to build our whanaungatanga.

The saying "Hindsight is 2020" was never more apt than over the last 12 months. Throughout all the unknown, He Huarahi Tamariki has remained strong, stable and reliable. We adapted, celebrated successes, and made new goals that were appropriate for the 2020 vision. Our end of year celebrations reflected all of this, and we are now looking forward to what 2021 can bring us all.

Special thanks to those members of our HHT whānau who have moved on to other ventures: staff, students, and Kids Count graduates who have started school. You are always part of the whānau and are welcome back any time.

Thanks also to our donors and volunteers. Your kindness makes a difference every day in the lives of our young people.

*Ngā mihi nui
Paula Hay*

Other HHT Happenings

Those of you who follow us on Facebook will have seen that we are going to boxing classes each week at the Cannon's Creek Boxing Academy. This has been organized by Shift and has the secondary benefit of building fitness for the upcoming Tough Guy, Tough Girl challenge.



In addition, we have also been getting out for some bush walks in Tawa and Paula has been running Zumba classes.



On other fronts, we had an excursion to see the NZ film 'Cousins' based on Patricia Grace's acclaimed novel. This was enjoyed by everyone who attended and gave us a lot to think about.

(L-R): Dahlia, Karissa, Shanaia, Nakita

A group of students also went to the All Trades Expo to attend the Women in Trades session. It was very informative and highlighted the many different opportunities that exist.

Back in the classroom, Tania from Plunket has been in to run parenting classes and Sara from Taeaomanino Trust has been running Ante-Natal sessions.

Yes, Yes, Yes

He Huarahi Tamariki was gifted complimentary tickets* for all of our students to see 'Yes, Yes, Yes' at Circa theatre, a show about consent, sex and healthy relationships. It was an opportunity to be an audience to a masterfully crafted production, as well as an opportunity to engage in a learning experience around the intricacies of 'consent'.

* Our thanks go to Sally Barnett (Executive Producer) for organising this and the rest of the 'Yes, Yes, Yes' show as created by Eleanor Bishop and Karin McCracken'.

Maria Palmer

Staff News

Term 1 2021 has been a busy term for staff changes at He Huarahi Tamariki...

Kohine Balejko (right), our Te Reo Māori and Digital Technologies teacher, has taken a years study leave to do an immersion Te Reo Māori course and will be absent from March to December.



To cover for Kohine, we have been lucky enough to welcome back Fiona Mokomoko-Park (left) who has worked at He Huarahi Tamariki in

We welcome back our chef, Jaz Picard (left), who has returned from maternity leave.



And this means we farewelled Laura Murphy (right) who kept us well-fed in Jaz's absence.



Christine Barris (left) who does our accounts, has been performing Jaz's other role and will stay on as our Graduate and HHT Trust Liaison, but will not continue with Admin Support. We expect to fill this role soon.



Barb Woods (right) joined the He Huarahi Tamariki whānau this term in the role of Counsellor. Her presence on Thursdays and Fridays means that our students now have this support every day of the week.



Unfortunately, we have had some farewells too. Deirdre Fergusson (left), He Huarahi Tamariki's longstanding Maths teacher retired this term. She has been a much valued presence at the school for over a decade. So we hope this is 'au revoir' rather than good-bye and that we will see her in for soup and a crossword soon.



Whilst we haven't appointed a new Maths teacher yet, we have Frances Horne (right) helping us out as a regular reliever.



We would also like to take this opportunity to farewell Glenis Levak (left). Glenis has been a great supporter of the school for over 20 years, first as a Maths teacher and after her retirement as a volunteer 'learner' gardener. In both roles she shared her knowledge and her learnings with enthusiasm. She especially liked to encourage the students to plant sunflowers before the summer break so that these welcomed us back to school. Here are Karissa, Moana and Hinehau with this year's crop.



Tough Guy Tough Girl

Last October, we were lucky enough to be supported by our friends at Shift to enter the 'Tough Guy, Tough Girl' event. It was an awesome, challenging day and we are looking forward to doing it again this year! Below are some of our students' comments.



Biggest accomplishment I've felt for a long time. I was so determined to get to the end. It's an indescribable feeling when you cross the finish line. I would totally do it again!
Nakita (left)



I loved it. It's a push, but it's worth it! I recommend it to everyone, it's a lot of fun.
Shanaia (left)

It was an amazing experience. **I died like eight times!** I would recommend it to everyone.
Hinehou (far right)

Don't pay to do this, get paid to do it!
Moana (right)



Oh, I died! — Helena

We weren't allowed to smoke all day, but it was worth it. — Dahlia

It was cool, I'd do it again. — Mereana



Left to right after group photo: Kohine Bajelko, Catherine Motusia, Helena Wardle, Tay Manuel, Catherine Motusia, Kohine Bajelko, Yury Fajardo-Sogamoso

Compassion Soup Kitchen



Above L-R: Hinehou, Natasha, Dahlia, Sam, Shanaia

Last year we were approached by the lovely team at Compassion Soup Kitchen, Natasha Rerekura and Sam Johnson, about our students attending cooking classes at their venue in the city. What a wonderful opportunity. We gratefully accepted and for 5 weeks on Thursday afternoons, we had a group of students go in with our Home Economics teacher, Claire Blacklock.



Above: The Compassion Soup Kitchen Garden



Above L-R: Dublyn, Maria, Georgia

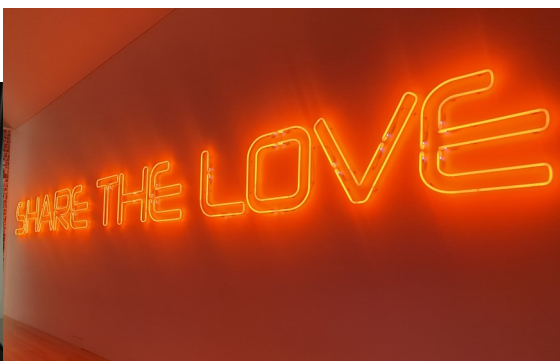
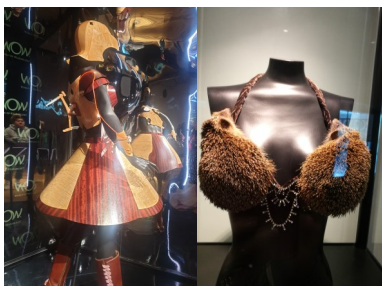
The students got to make a range of dishes, from chicken cacciatore to meatloaf and from crustless quiche to sticky toffee pudding — delicious! The focus was around quick easy and economic dishes, to work within the financial and time constraints young families are often limited by. Each lesson was done independently, which meant a range of different students got to attend over the 5 weeks.



Above L-R: Anastasia, Nakita

Excursion: Te Papa WOW Exhibition

We kicked off 2021 with a Whanaungatanga Trip to Te Papa to see the WOW exhibition. This was a great opportunity to get to know new students and reconnect with those returning. We enjoyed sunshine on the waterfront and stunning creativity inside.



L-R: Michael, Anastasia, Paula, Caci, Bridget

Welcome to our New Babies!

Chloe Bouchier, a girl — Alexis Bridget Martin, a girl — Reo Millie Carian-Waiwai, a boy — Teariki Jasyn Hannah Cuttle, a girl — Naomi

Graduate Update

We had a lovely visit from Shontelle Poloie (Brook-loane) recently. She had come to share the awesome news of her graduation in a Bachelor of Social Work. We were so pleased to see her and catch-up on her news and her family. Shontelle has 5 children now: Tehvada 15, Naomi 12, Emily 10, Brielle 3, and Asher who is 8 months. We are so proud of you and your achievements Shontelle!



At Shontelle's graduation. Above L-R: Naomi, Asher, Tehvada, Shontelle, Brielle, and Emily



Above L-R: Emily & Naomi with Lania; Shontelle with Regis.

We can also report that Rinoa (a recent Kids Count graduate) has had a great start back at school. Here she is with a mural of the late Aporo Joyce - a valued Kaumatua of He Huarahi Tamariki. Her mum, Hinehou Mason, graduated from HHT last year.



Awards and Scholarships

Please join us in celebrating our He Huarahi Tamariki 2020 Scholarship and Award Recipients.



Left: Rose Flavall presenting Anastasia Turley, Bridget Martin, and Maria Palmer with the HHT Outstanding Attendance Award.



Right: Catherine Motusia receiving the HHT Resilience Attitude Cup from Paula Hay.



Left: Hinehou Mason receiving the Clifton Buck Memorial cup for Excellence in Writing from Julia Buck.

Right: Catherine Motusia receiving the HHT Excellence in Level 1 or 2 Writing from Helen Bean.



Left: Hinehou Mason and Nakita Kopua—recipients of the HHT Values award for Rangatiratanga & Whanaungatanga respectively.

Right: Hinehou receiving a HHT Trust Grant from Johnny Bell.

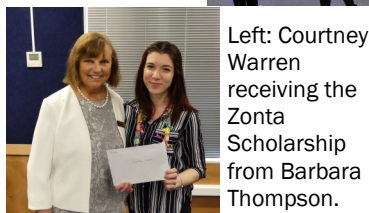


Brian Tyler presenting the Brian & Pat Tyler Scholarships to Pray Meh Nga (above far left) and Maria Palmer (above left).

Above Right: Claire Blacklock receiving the Marcia Spencer Award from Linda Broome on behalf of Jordy Hermens and the Margaret Lynne Baxter Award on behalf of Yvie Ward.

Above Far Right: Helena Wardle receiving the Graduate Women's Scholarship from Rae Duff.

Right: Pima Fuli receiving the John McIntyre Award from Ruth McIntyre



Left: Courtney Warren receiving the Zonta Scholarship from Barbara Thompson.

Nik Straugheir presenting the Masonic Knights Templar Computer Equipment to Helena Wardle (above left) and Scholarship to Michael Valach (above right).

Donations towards the work of the school are always welcome and donations to the scholarship fund can be made to the HHT Trust. These are tax deductible and a receipt will be sent to you.

A very big thank you to all the public and private donors who have supported us recently. Your donations are very much appreciated. Thank you to Jenifer Kerr, Gawith-Deans Family Trust, Sandra Orpin, Wellington Methodist Charitable & Educational Endowments Trust, HHT Trust, and Presbyterian Support.

Kiwi Community Assistance, Dignity, Zonta Club of Mana, The Children's Bookshop, Beans for Babies, Pregnancy Help, The Parsonage, Shift, Compassion Soup Kitchen, MOH/OT/MSD, and the many others who donate used equipment and clothing.

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Our host school is Wellington East Girls' College - Principal: Gael Ashworth



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