



Tāmaki College

E A S T A U C K L A N D

Tāmaki College Celebrates Matariki



WHAT IS MATARIKI?

THE MĀORI NEW YEAR

Matariki is the Māori name for a cluster of nine stars which is visible in our night sky at a specific time of the year. In June/July, Matariki re-appears in the dawn sky – signalling the start of the Māori New Year.



THE ORIGIN OF MATARIKI

THE EYES OF GOD

Matariki literally means the ‘eyes of god’ (mata ariki) or ‘little eyes’ (mata riki). According to Māori oral history, when Ranginui (sky father) and Papatūānuku (earth mother) were separated by their children, the god of winds and storms, Tāwhirimātea, became so enraged that he gouged out his eyes, casting them into the heavens, thus becoming the blind and unseeing god who will forever explore the land, going in all directions.

WHY IS MATARIKI IMPORTANT?

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

In June/July, Matariki will re-appear in the dawn sky – signalling the start of the Māori New Year. It is a time to celebrate new life, to remember those who've passed and to plan for the future. And it's a time to spend with whānau and friends – to enjoy kai (food), waiata (song), tākarō (games) and haka.

Our tūpuna (ancestors) would look to Matariki for help with their harvesting. When Matariki disappeared in April/May, it was time to preserve crops for the winter season. When it re-appeared in June/July, tūpuna would read the stars to predict the upcoming season – clear and bright stars promised a warm and abundant winter while hazy stars warned of a bleak winter.

Because Māori follow the Māori lunar calendar, not the European calendar, the dates for Matariki change every year.

TE IWA O MATARIKI - THE NINE STARS OF MATARIKI

1-Matariki

signifies reflection, hope, our connection to the environment and the gathering, health and well being of people.

2-Pōhutukawa

is connected to those that have passed on.

3-Waitī

is connected with all fresh water bodies and the food sources that are sustained by those waters.

4-Waitā

is associated with the ocean, and food sources within it.

6-Tupu-ā-nuku

is connected with everything that grows within the soil to be harvested or gathered for food.

7-Tupu-ā-rangi is connected with everything that grows up in the trees: fruits, berries and birds.

8-Ururangi

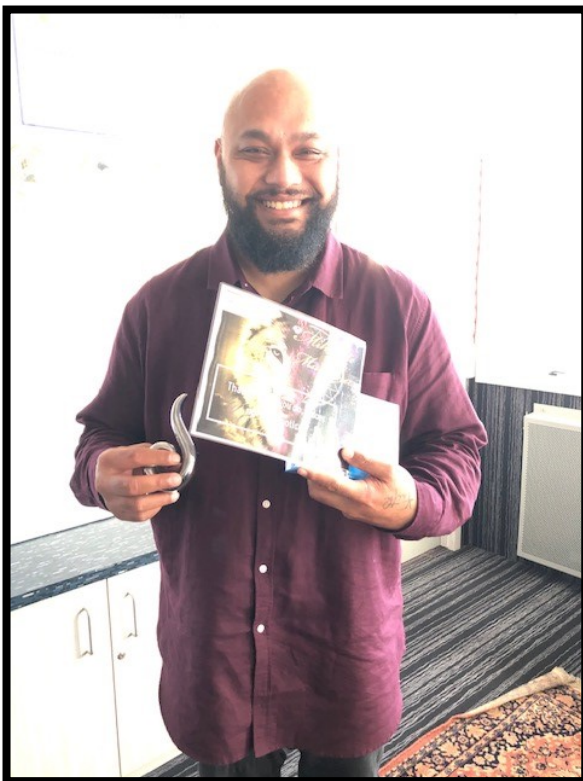
is connected with the winds.

9-Hiwaiterangi

is connected with granting our wishes, and realising our aspirations for the coming year.



Above: Former student and member of the Ruapotaka Marae Kapa Haka rōpū, David Makea, teaches Matariki waiata with Whaea Ruiha, Kaiako Māori. Below left: Dean of the Month Alby Tu'uga Stevenson, who leads Year 11. Below right: English Teacher of the Month Faiyaz Hoosein.



Hello, my name is Taunese, normally known as Nese by my friends and most of my teachers. I am very fortunate to be one of the selected Year 12 STARS Peer Mentors to display our school RISE values to the new Year 9s who have joined our school family this year. To be someone who has been part of the school family for 4 years to make our new Year 9 students feel welcomed and part of the "boat" family.

This year has been very challenging as many things have happened such as the COVID-19 pandemic that has lasted for many months now. With this global pandemic, it has interrupted our STARS Peer Mentor programme a lot and even causing our programme to be paused which sort of took away the chance of my STARS group and our Year 9 class to continuously bond with each other before lockdown.

Starting back to school and with the programme being able to start back up has really tested my STARS group's connection with our Year 9 class (9KMe). However, it was very surprising and great to be able to step back into our Year 9 class on Thursday mornings to deliver our main topics and to receive the same amount of communication, connection, participation and respect from our Year 9 students.

As a Year 12 STARS Peer Mentor who is responsible to teach and handle one of the biggest Year 9 class and to receive a lot of respect and the sense of growth of each Year 9 individual in my class is the most rewarding thing I have experienced through my years I have handled leadership roles.

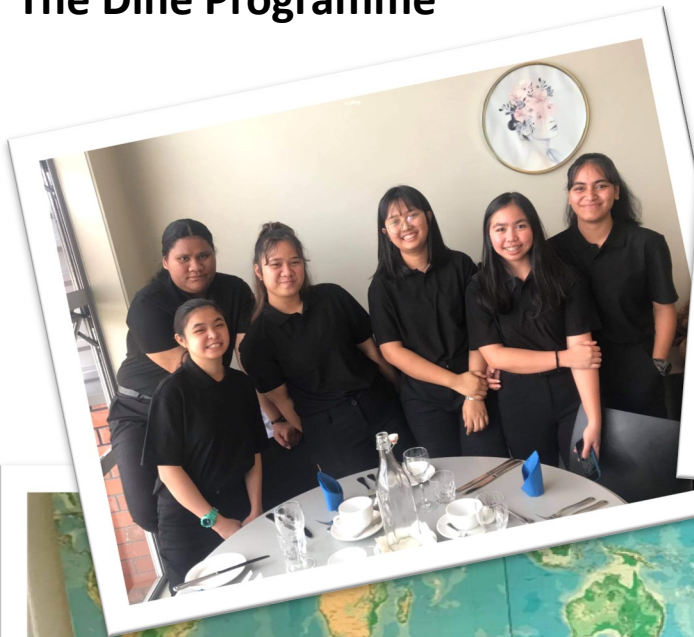
It makes me happy and more interested each week to continuously attend the STARS training programmes on Wednesday so that my group and myself are able to share more useful and fun topics with our class. Not only am I happy with how my STARS group has developed more confidence to be able to speak and teach our class but also with the achievements and growth of our Year 9 class.

We have received a lot of positive feedbacks from the Year 9 Tutor Teacher saying she really enjoys the idea of having my partner and myself coming in on Thursday mornings to share themes and topics as it really helps her class bond and communicate with people whom they don't usually hang out with. My partner Rowana and myself have also witnessed this achievement every week and it really motivates us to continue with this programme because we really enjoy watching our student's success grow and most importantly be able to display our school core RISE values within the classroom and outside on school grounds.

This is my reflection on the past weeks of the STARS Mentoring programme and I'm really grateful for the opportunity of being part of the STARS programme. It is probably one of the best leadership experiences I have had.



The Dine Programme



Stars of the Dine School Holiday Programme; Te Paki Brown-Teremoana, Abraham Nimo, La Salle Pitolua, Lilyan Ta'ufo'ou, Seini Misa, Jessie Tihi, Dezarae Elliot, Marlinda Apelu, Mercy Sailiai, Fetuao Esekielu, Roimata Henry Ru, Kuini Manu, Erika Laca, Little-Rina Kolio, Alexia Ramos, May Ding Hkawng, Elizabeth Uea, Beyonce Tohovaka, Angel Temu and Kalemeli Sanele, show off their table setting and service skills.

The Dine Programme Hotel Experience

Students had the unique opportunity to visit the brand new Park Hyatt Hotel at the Viaduct Harbour in Auckland.





Treats and Tests

Kamelie Sanele, Mercy Sailiai, Little-Rina Kolio and May Ding Hkawng meet the Hotel Chef and taste the various dishes that have been prepared.

Below: Junior students sat online exams in English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, in readiness for reports and Student Achievement Conferences.

