



Tāmaki College

EAST AUCKLAND

Celebrating Success at Senior Prizegiving



Mary 'Ake, Proxime Accessit and University of Auckland Scholarship Winner.



Christie Kalouniviti, Dux and University of Otago Scholarship Winner.



Mele Vaeatangitau, Rothery Scholarship and Gillian Cassey Memorial Scholarship Winner.



Head Girl's Valedictory Speech

Tapu mo e 'Otua Mafimafi!

'Oku ou kole atu ke u hūfanga he talamalu kakato 'o e fonuá, kae 'atā ke u fai atu 'a e ki'i fakahoha'a ko 'eni 'i he lea Faka-Tongá.

Ko e 'Otuá 'oku 'A'ana 'a e langilangi, mo e kololiá, koe'uhí ko e ngaahi tapuaki kuo tau 'inasi ai, mo e ngāue lahi kotoa kuo tau malava 'o fakakakato he ta'u ni. 'Oku tau fakafeta'i he'etau a'u ki he toumui 'o e ta'u ni.

Kiate kimoutolu kotoa 'a e ngaahi mātu'á, 'oku ou fakafofonga atu 'a e fānaú hono kátoa, 'emau fakamālō loto hounga mo'oni kiate kimoutolu, koe'uhí ko e 'ofa, feilaulau, pou pou, mo e tokoni lahi kuo mou fai ma'a kimautolu he ta'u ni. Ko e ta'u matu'aki faingata'a 'eni, pea mo lahi hono ngaahi pole koe'uhí ko e covid-19. 'Oku ou tui ko ha ikuna, pe ko e lava lelei 'o e feinga ako 'a e fānaú he ta'u ni, ko e ikuna kafakafa ia, koe'uhí, ko e ikuna 'i he lotolotonga 'o e fakafe'atungia ko 'eni na'a tau fou mai ai, pea 'oku tau kei fononga pe mo ia foki. Na'e ta'emalava ke mau ma'u 'a e ikuna ko iá kapau na'e 'ikai kimoutolu, ngaahi mātu'a, mo ho'omou fakahoko fatongia. 'Oku mau fakamālō atu ai kia kimoutolu, pea 'ofa ke kei fai tapuekina ai pe kimoutolu 'e he 'Eiki.

Tuku mu'a ke hūmataniu atu 'eku ki'i fakamālō fakaloto fale ko 'eni, ki he'eku ongomātu'á mo hoku ki'i fāmilí foki. Ko e langilangi na'e foaki mai ma'aku 'e he 'apiakó 'i he fatongia ni he ta'u ni, pea mo e ikuna 'oku ou a'usia ni, 'oku ou fakapapau atu ka ne ta'e'oua ho'omo 'ofa, mo e tauhi na'e fai ma'akú, pea pehe ki he pou pou mo e tokoni hotau ki'i fāmilí, na'e 'ikai te u mei a'u ki ai. Ko ia 'oku ou fakamalo loto hounga atu ai, pea mo e 'ofa lahi kiate kimoua. Fakatauange ke kei fai tapuekina ai pe kimoua 'e he 'Eiki. 'Oku ou 'ofa lahi atu.

To God be the Glory!

Warmest greetings to you all students, family and friends. As you may know, my name is Mary 'Ake and I have had the honour of being Head Girl of Tāmaki College for 2020. I'd like to give all the glory and praise to our good Lord for bringing us to this day of celebration, and for the unconditional love he has shown us throughout this year.

Like the famous African Proverb goes, *"It takes a village to raise a child"*.

I am a product of the village that has raised me. My religion, my past and present family, my peers, my community and my school. All individuals and groups which have helped shaped me to become the young person that I am today. I remember when I was young and would attend past prize giving ceremonies for my older siblings or family and thinking to myself I would never be able to stand in front of so many people. But here I am today, God's calling that I get to be a part of a great legacy that has stood at this podium every year, and as I stand here before you, I'd like to say thank you.

My parents have always taught me the gift of giving and working wholeheartedly in all areas I faced or environments I am placed in. Continuously reminding me everyday of the values Respect, Integrity, Success and Responsibility, which coincidentally is our School Values.

Respecting my teachers was an important value my parents emphasised everyday, because at the end of the day they are the ones who are willing to give their time and energy to help us students as we grow.



Our Principal and Deputy Principals, The Senior Leadership Team, The amazing teachers and all staff members who work continuously for the benefit of each student. Thank you. I'd also like to acknowledge the people who work behind the scenes in different areas so that the students are nurtured and well cared for everyday. We will miss your cheese toasties, Taua!

To our dean of five years, Miss Latu: For five years you have watched us grow into the young individuals we are today. The little things you always took note of like our socks, shoes, or tie, are only the little lessons we can learn from, about representation and pride in our uniform but also learning to do the most simple things at a high standard. Our team of student leaders can not thank you enough this year, for your dedication in helping us serve our peers well. You were there to greet us on our first day and now you farewell us as we embark into the real world. Thank you for absolutely everything.

High school for me has been a time for growth, life lessons learnt, friendships built, lunch eating (Thanks Ana and everyone), many assessment extensions, or even time for tiktok breaks. During my time here at Tāmaki College, I have been fortunate enough to be provided opportunities that allowed myself to grow as an individual, travelling or being in new spaces to which I would never imagine being able to do so, like Forums, Camps, Courses, Representative teams for Rugby (Love you Doris), and many more. This would all not be possible without the constant support and love from the village that has raised me.

Tāmaki College has always provided different opportunities and resources in various areas for growth. Amongst this challenging year, the school continued to provide the best resources for the students, finding solutions to the barriers COVID-19 brought with our learning but also within our homes. The food packages, learning devices, support systems and other resources we needed, the school catered for. COVID-19 meant being vigilant and looking out for one another, but if there was one thing I have learnt this year it is, to never take things for granted. Like physically sitting in a classroom, having a teacher, uniforms, devices, life itself! Myself and the student leaders often found ourselves planning for events that ended up being cancelled, but we did not take the things we could control for granted, and kept on moving.

To the graduates, you have kept going. If we were to put this in a mathematical perspective we have attended school for at least 224 days each year (if we were present everyday) and did this for 13 years, that's a total of 2,912 days of school. And I am extremely proud. Proud of every individual that has made it today. Without a doubt, we all had imagined this year to be different, our final year of high school to be filled with many fun activities and joyful moments. But the pandemic meant we were out of school for most of the year and had to cancel many annual events we looked forward to. But like Moses said in the Prince of Egypt, "He may be able to take away your homes. Your food, your clothes, your families, and even your life...but he can't take away your faith." Although the Pandemic had taken away our last Athletics, our last Polyfest, many awaited field trips, our last Talent Quest, our first and last annual ball, or the big parties we planned for our 18th Birthdays, it did not take away our faith. And everyone who has walked this stage today is a testimony of your faith that you could make it. That despite the rough year we have had, you never gave up.

Thank you also, to the workers and essential workers amongst the graduates and my peers who have served our community and continue to throughout the Pandemic, while also trying to live a normal teenage life. We have struggled as a collective and even as individuals, but thank you for never giving up on me, on us, but especially yourself.

We have made it. You have made it. This year we have lost, won, failed, cried, laughed and loved, but we didn't fold.

So, let us all continue to strive for excellence in our own ways, but also acknowledge the moments of vulnerability. Let us be kind and take into account the little moments and things in life. Please also always remember there is someone out there who loves you more than you love yourself.

To the village that has raised me and the students who were put into situations where they were unable to walk this stage, this was for you. Thank you.

Head Boy's Valedictory Speech

Ua tala mai e le lagi le mamalu o le Atua, ma ua fa'alia fo'i e le vanimonimo galuega mamana a ona aao.
Malo le soifua maua male lagi e mamā.
Aua o lupe na vao eseese, a ua fuifui fa'atasi. Vī'ia le ali'i.

Faatalofa i le paia ma le mamalu ua aofia mai, e molimauina leni aso taua. Lau afioga le ta'ita'ifono ole Board of Trustees, Lau afioga le tama'ita'i pule aoga Mrs Soana Pamaka, ae maise le mamalu o sui eseese mai univesite aoao i Aukilani atoa ma isi itu o Aotearoa. Faatalofa atu foi tou susuga i ali'i ma tama'itai faiaoga, ae maise le paia ma le mamalu o matua pele ua mafai ona fa'atasi mai ilenei afiafi. Faapitoa le faatalofa atu i alo ma fanau ua fa'aautu iai leni fa'amoemoe taua. Malo le tau, malo le filinā, malo le saili malo. Malo lo tou fa'aeaea e le gata i o outou matua ma aiga, ae ua outou fa'aea foi ile Kolisi o Tamaki nei. Talofa talofa talofa Lava.



Good evening and warm greetings to everyone here tonight, my name is Vaifoa Lam Sam and I am the Head Boy of Tāmaki College for 2020. First and foremost, I would like to give all the glory to God for we have reached the end of yet another successful academic year. Although it has not been the most pleasant year due to COVID 19, we should be proud and thankful that we have all managed to persevere through the difficult and unprecedented times.

Tāmaki College has provided a safe and comforting environment for our students and I would like to acknowledge the people who have worked hard to ensure our students were well cared for during the pandemic, offering support, guidance and willingness to help our students succeed. Thank you to:

- Our Principal and Deputy Principals
- Our teachers and staff members who work tirelessly so we are able to learn and excel in our studies.
- I would also like to commend The Senior Leadership Team for your amazing efforts in gaining insight and perspectives from students to improve their lockdown experiences.

And to the groups who have dedicated their time to help us engage in a friendly and safe environment.

- Our amazing office workers
- Caretakers
- Librarians
- Deans
- Counsellors
- And of course, our lovely Nanny Barb and her team of workers for providing breakfast and lunch for our students everyday.

All of you have contributed towards shaping us for the future of our people. Your love and support has resonated with many of our students, family and friends and for that, we cannot thank you enough.

I would also like to express my love and gratitude towards our Year 13 Dean, Ms Latu for all the hard work and dedication she has put into our cohort since the beginning of our high school journey up to this very day as we graduate. Our love and gratitude for you knows no limits.

Last but not least. I would like to thank all the parents here tonight for all that you do to support your children in their academic development and ensuring that they have the tools necessary to be successful in their future endeavours. To our student body. I would genuinely like to congratulate everyone, especially my fellow classmates who have walked across this stage, for making it through another year despite the challenges we have faced, both individually and collectively. I am proud of each and every one of you, and wish you all nothing but the best with your exams and future studies.

I stand here now, as many of you do, filled with five years of support, five years of friendship, five years of fond memories that will forever be cherished and five years of decisions which have shaped me into the person that I am today. As Head Boy, I have learnt that leadership is more about character rather than authority, and this year, I was given the opportunity to grow within myself and to step out of my comfort zone. I have grown to believe that being grateful for what you have, and making the most of it, is essential in self development. Therefore, I am forever grateful and honoured to have served as the Head Boy of Tāmaki College for 2020.

A quote by Frank Lloyd Wright, that summarises my journey here at Tāmaki College is, "You have to go wholeheartedly into EVERYTHING, in order to achieve anything worth having"

My journey here at Tāmaki College is sadly coming to an end, but I know that my parents, teachers, and my heavenly Father have given and blessed me with gifts that will prepare me for the next lap of my journey. I guess it is the same for many of you. So please remember to thank your parents, thank your teachers, thank the Lord, and all of those who have contributed towards your journey because, if it were not for their guidance, direction and help, we would never have made it this far. So before I finish, thank you Mum, Dad and Grandma for everything that you have done for me, thank you to all my teachers who have taught me throughout the past five years, and thank you to everyone who has gone out of their way to come support me tonight.

May the good Lord guide you and travel with you throughout your different journeys. Always remember to prepare well for the future and that your life is a gift that will help someone else in their journey.

God bless, stay safe and goodnight. Thank you.



Sports Celebration Dinner



Congratulations to Fusi, Elizabeth, Meleane, Asena, Kacia, Keti, Heather, Maopa, Rebecca and Journey.



Swimming Champion Paikea Cecil with her cheerleaders.



Sharing their talent, Talya Tamariki and Head Girl Mary 'Ake.



Congratulations!

To Jay, Mayjah,
Tu Kaha, and
Keleniesi (left),
Angel and Roimata
(right), and Uli,
Makoni, Sam,
Taki, Popi, Toni
and Abraham,
(below).



Thank you!

To Mike Manu and Grace Levi for
organizing another excellent
Sports Celebration Dinner.





KIRI NATHAN

Kiri founded the Kiri Nathan clothing label in 2010 and has developed an internationally-acclaimed high-end fashion brand with a distinctly Māori essence and aesthetic. Kiri's label has contributed to upholding the values of Māoridom through her designs, including handwoven accessories, custom dresses, contemporary iterations of traditional korowai and kākahu, artwork, and pounamu jewellery. Her work has been exhibited around the world, including in fashion shows, Hollywood red-carpet events, and the Walt Disney Museum. The Kiri Nathan label is a member of the Wahine Toa Initiative, identifying and mentoring leadership in young Māori women. She established the Kāhui Collective, a group that fosters collaboration and knowledge-sharing to create a uniquely Māori fashion industry. She has led several hīkoi to China from 2017 to 2019 to support 15 Māori fashion designers into global growth. She was a founding Board member of the I Have a Dream Foundation to help disadvantaged children achieve academic success, and is a member of the SUPERdiverse WOMEN advisory board. Kiri was the Māori Business Collaboration Award and Supreme Award winner at the 2019 Māori Women's Development Inc. Business Awards, received a BLAKE Leader award in 2019 and in 2020 become a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori and the fashion industry. Most significantly Kiri is a former student of Tāmaki College and her name can be seen on our Honours Board.