TGC NEWSLETTER PĀNUI



CALENDAR

Monday 27 April Anzac Day

Tuesday 28 April Colleague Only Day

Wednesday 29 April
Remote Learning Continues

TERM DATES 2020

Term 2 - 15 April - 3 July

Term 3 - 20 July - 25 September

Term 4 - 12 October - tbc

WHO WOULD HAVE PREDICTED

Tēnā koe whānau

"These are unprecedented times and as such, we all need to work together to make a difference. Here at Tauranga Girls' College we are doing our very best to support the Government's plans to slow down the COVID-19 virus whilst at the same time keeping a strong focus on normalising learning and teaching"......

Who would have predicted that since I wrote these words in the previous newsletter, that by the time this newsletter was sent, four weeks of an Alert Level 4 Lockdown would have passed and the world as we once knew it would have changed so dramatically. The Global Pandemic or COVID-19 has also had a major impact on Aotearoa/New Zealand but I know that I would much rather be here than in any other part of the world right now.

CARING FOR OUR GIRLS

There is much to be grateful for but there is also much hardship out in our community and TGC is well aware of this and its impact on 'our girls'. Parents, whānau, students and friends of TGC, know that TGC will continue to serve its community as best as we can and caring for 'our girls' is front of mind as is their learning. We have delivered approx 100 devices and posted hardcopy materials. We have more to do and now that we are allowed back on the TGC site, we will courier more hard copies of resources and send off devices to those with internet (and confirmed lock down addresses). We have also been asked to identify those families without the internet. The guidance and pastoral team also continue to provide support via email and google meets. Whānau teachers are also checking in with their class and opportunities to learn remotely continue. Whilst remote learning also poses challenges for teachers locked down in their bubbles, we are all focused on what we 'can do'.

WHY CANCELLING AND POSTPONING HAD TO HAPPEN

Cancelling some school events, postponing others and moving into Remote Learning should all start to make sense now. All of these are the measures that TGC also had to make in its part to support in the fight against COVID-19. Globally, similar measures have taken place and where they haven't, there have been many lives lost. Staying home and learning from home, whilst challenging, saves lives. Tauranga has been fortunate not to have a cluster outbreak and our resolve must be to do what we can to keep it that way as we move into Alert Level 3.

IN MY BUBBLE

There are three of us in my bubble, five if I include my furry four legged friends who would probably be offended if I didn't mention them! My father has joined us and in the five weeks he has been staying, he has appreciated all that people like you and I are doing to protect him. Aged 84 and with a few underlying health conditions, he is in the very vulnerable category. He goes for a gentle walk twice a day and he enjoys that locals recognise him, say hello and chat from a distance. In fact, he knows my neighbours better than I do as I'm not usually home during the working day and during the lockdown instead, I am tucked away in my 'new office', a space that was called the spare bedroom! I share that office with my partner who is a University Academic and is engaging with colleagues and Uni students via Zoom.



THANK YOU TO ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Thank you to those of you who are essential workers and have continued to keep vital services available for us all.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS OF ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Under Alert Level 3 (Wednesday 29 April), school will be open **ONLY** for those students in Year 9 and 10 of essential workers. Those students in Year 9 and 10 who can stay home and learn from home should. The key message is still to stay home and learn remotely. The school office will **NOT** be open but phones will be answered. To protect the bubbles of my colleagues, only a small number of staff will be at school as of next Wednesday.

Strict Health and Safety guidelines will operate if you have informed us your daughter must attend school. If you have not informed us of her attendance, we cannot accept her on Wednesday. Thank you to those who have informed us by filling in the google form. Teachers can only supervise students in small bubbles and during this supervision they will continue to remotely teach students who are at home, including those in Year 11-13 who cannot attend school.

PREPARING THE SCHOOL FOR ON-SITE REMOTE LEARNING

For students of essential workers who have indicated the need to be at school and for those staff supervising those students, the school is being cleaned this week and a deeper clean will take place in the classrooms being used to supervise students. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and toilet blocks. Students will be in bubbles of no more than 10. When learning remotely, they will sit in the same seat and be in the same room. This is for contact tracing reasons. Students must bring from home everything they need, including a device and kai as no sharing is permitted. Unfortunately, the limitations are greater than if staying at home but we will do what we can to make the day a positive one. All parents that have informed us of the need to send their daughter to school will be called before Wednesday 29 April and would have received an email outlining the strict public health requirements.

THANK YOU!

Finally, thank you TGC community. Please know that we understand there are challenges to remote learning, access to learning and the need for kindness and empathy. Under a different alert level, we will be back at school again. For now, we will focus on what we can do and encourage you to do the same, keep in touch albeit from a distance and or virtually.

Kia kaha, arohanui

Tara Kanji Tumuaki/Principal

PRODUCTION 'ADAMS FAMILY'

Sunday 9 February. The cast and creative team sit in the TGC hall, faces beaming after a laugh filled read through of what would have been an amazing show. Although we are not able to showcase the months of rehearsals and work that has been put into the show, we can still reflect and recognise the memories that were made. The laughs we have shared. the friends we have made and the lessons we have learnt. None of which would be possible without the help received from our creative team: Toni Henderson (Director), Stephanie Geor (Musical Director), Georgia Wilson (Choreographer), Holly Stephens (Stage Manager), and Chris Ferguson (Production Manager). Thank you for the hours and hours of work that you have invested in the production and for the knowledge that you've shared with the students in order to make them better performers. The process will be something that these students will remember forever. To the teachers and adults that helped, whether that be with our character development, costume, props, set or even just dropping your child to rehearsal, we appreciate and acknowledge your contribution. Although these are sad times, we must remember that looking after ourselves and our family is the top priority. Instead of being sad or frustrated with the cancellation of the show, let's shine a light on how the production has benefited us thus far. We also wish to acknowledge our two key sponsors Legacy Trust and Just Sheds who pledged their support. No show is possible without the support of our community.







WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

"We're all in this together" video goes viral!

Staff, students and whānau from Tauranga Girls' College joined forces to "generate spirit" amid the COVID-19 lockdown.

Last week more than 100 members of the school-wide community put their dancing shoes on and filmed themselves singing High School Musical's upbeat song 'We're all in this together' from home in the hope that the video will help lift people's spirits and maintain a level of positivity and humour during the lockdown period.



The hashtag #wereallinthistogether has been utilised across social media platforms throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as a way to remind our community that we can all get through this together.

Thank you to Caroline Gill and her Year 12 twin daughters Alysha and Grace who edited the video from home. The video has gone viral with over 20k engagements online. You can read the article by <u>Sunlive</u> here and <u>watch the video on our school Facebook page</u>.

TGC COVID HEROES

Many of our TGC community are working to keep us safe, to keep us fed, to keep us healthy. We think our TGC COVID heroes deserve a big thank you for making this sacrifice so we can access the services we need. Here are some messages of thanks to essential workers from our school community. If you are an essential worker in our school community we would love to profile you! Email us at news@tgc.school.nz



SCHOOL SPIRIT

SCHOOL SPIRIT IS ALIVE AND WELL DESPITE THE CIRCUMSTANCES!

Forget casual Fridays! Check out some of our TGC staff sharing their best lockdown looks for remote learning thanks to some inspiration from Hilary Barry. A few even donned their tiaras! #formalfriday.

Ms Rowlands took formal Friday to the next level with her lunchtime training session - heels and all! Mrs Boubee-Hill has enjoyed teaching Maths from Fiji courtesy of Zoom's green screen feature and plans to head to LA next. 'Gooffee' Meets' have been invented where groups of teachers are enjoying their morning coffee session 'Google Meet styles'!



SCHOOL SPIRIT



Our student leaders released a <u>video</u> to our school community titled 'we've got this' which gave some positive messages promoting wellbeing.

HEALTHLINE - SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES FREE PHONE

A free phone number has been set up for the Western Bay of Plenty Secondary students (Years 9-13) to continue to receive support from school health nurses during the COVID-19 Alert Level 4.

School Health Services are available from Thursday 26 March on 0800 515 919 and will be available Monday to Friday from 8:30am-5:00pm. The phone will be run by two registered nurses and a GP when required. General health, mental health and sexual health will be covered.

Students who have COVID-19 health related questions should call Healthline on the dedicated COVID-19 number 0800 358 5453.



OTHER HELPLINES & WELLBEING RESOURCES

Our school website also has other key helplines available to both students and whānau.as well as places to access wellbeing resources. Go to the <u>COVID-19 Updates</u> section of the website to access this and other important updates.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

SPORTS GIRL OF THE MONTH

'Sports Girl of the Month' is awarded to a student who has reached the highest level of achievement in their chosen code for a certain month. Achievements which put someone in the running for this award must have been accomplished during the month of March. Unfortunately due to Coronavirus, the Sports Committee is aware that many pinnacle events for certain sports have been cancelled. However, many students still achieved incredible results this month. Congratulations to the following nominees:

Mia Gardiner New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships (13-15 March):

- Gold in U16 Surf Teams Race
- Gold in U16 Ironwoman
- Gold in U16 Board Relay
- Gold in U16 Tube Rescue
- Silver in U16 Board Rescue
- Silver in U16 Taplin Relay
- Bronze in U16 Beach Relay

Lily Pearce New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships (13-15 March):

- Gold in Open Women's Surf Team Race
- Gold in U16 Surf Teams Race
- Gold in U16 Board Relay
- Gold in U16 Tube Rescue
- Silver in U16 Taplin Relay
- Bronze in U16 Beach Relay

Abi Wikeepa Bay of Plenty Athletics Championships (3 March):

- Gold in Junior girls 100m
- Gold in Junior Girls 200m and set a new Junior girls 200m record of 26.47
- Gold in intermediate girls relay team consisting of Lily Keogh, Meadow Maharey, Candice Pretorius and Abi Wikeepa and set a new record of 51.26

The winner of 'Sports Girl of the Month' and a \$50 Smiths Sports Shoe voucher and sports bag (adding to a total value of \$120) is Olive Pearce!

Olive has also been selected to the New Zealand Youth Surf Lifesaving Team set to travel to the Surf Life Saving World Championships in Italy later this year, subject to Covid-19 travel restrictions being lifted.

Congratulations to these students and just a reminder to keep fit and active during this trying time.

Olive Pearce New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships (13-15 March):

- Gold in U19 Surf Teams Race
- Silver in U19 Ski Relay
- Silver in U19 Board Rescue
- Silver in U19 Tube Rescue
- Bronze in U19 Board Race
- Bronze in U19 Surf Race

Candice Pretorius Bay of Plenty Athletics Championships (3 March):

- Gold in Year 9 Girls 300m
- Gold in Year 9 Girls Hurdles and set a new Junior girls 70m Hurdles record of 12.63
- Gold in Intermediate girls relay team consisting of Lily Keogh, Meadow Maharey, Candice Pretorius and Abi Wikeepa and set a new record of 51.26
- Silver in Year 9 Girls 200m

Danielle Neilson North Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships (13-15 March):

• Gold in U16 Single Sculls



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

JUNIOR NZ ROWING TRIAL

As a result of the ever evolving COVID-19 situation in New Zealand, on 20 March Rowing NZ announced a postponement of the 2020 Junior trials but the selectors have named longlisted athletes for a possible trial in 2020.

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Aon Maadi Cup, it was not possible to determine a final Junior trialist list. Courtney Ryan, Year 13, was named in the long list and is completing further testing at home ahead of a final Junior trialist list being announced, with a view to compete at the 2020 World Rowing Junior Championships.



Good luck and congratulations Courtney!

NORTHERN DISTRICTS 2020 GILLETTE VENUS CRICKET QUALIFIERS



In March our 1st X1 Girls travelled north to Counties Manukau to play in the 2020 Northern Districts Gillette Venus Cricket qualifiers. Our team had three good wins out of three, and only had one game to go to secure the title, and the opportunity to play in the National Gillette Venus competition in Christchurch in December. Unfortunately the final day was cancelled, but not before we had seen some outstanding team and individual batting and bowling performances.

Sarah-Jane Stone and Amy Clegg had a great run with the ball, and Elle Archer was strong with both bat and ball. A highlight was Aimee Unwin's two awesome 1/2 centuries and Amelia Harvey's top fielder recognition for the tournament. A huge thanks to the coaching team of Mr Patel and Mrs Leach. The girls are pictured with Waiuku College after one of their convincing wins.

INDOOR ROWING



Having the rowing season cut short didn't stop Year 13 student Kelly Brown (13WLK) who entered and won the Female Under 18 section of the Eric Murray Invitational run by New Zealand Indoor Rowing. Kelly rowed a distance of 1902 in the timed challenge of 7 minutes on her Concept2 rower at home. Check out the results on the official page!



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

After working towards their award for almost a year, the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award participants from Tauranga Girls' College were finally able to embark on their adventurous journey and complete their Bronze Awards. Duke of Edinburgh is an internationally recognised award that pushes young people to gain new skills through challenge and create positive personal development. The Bronze Award requires participants to complete either three or six months of a sport, a hobby and community service, followed by a final adventurous journey.

On Friday 20 March, twenty two students from Years 11-13, as well as two staff members and a representative from Bluelight, traveled to Taupo and stayed overnight at the Bluelight Lodge to tick off the final part of their award.



TGC Duke of Edinburgh Bronze participants at Mt Tauhara

After arriving and setting up tents on the site, the group set off on an 11.5km walk from Aratiatia Rapids to Huka Falls, and then onto Spa Park. The weather was gorgeous and everyone enjoyed the scenic trail along the river; it was a great escape from the stressfulness of everyday life. Stomaching tinned meals and lighting bunsen burners at dinner time proved to be the most challenging aspect of the trip for many of the girls, but it was a great bonding experience to work as a team and have a laugh after a long day. The following morning proved an early start as everyone kitted up and set off for the last leg of the journey - Mt Tauhara. At 1,088 metres above sea level, getting to the summit was quite a climb! There were lots of ups and downs (literally) as the group navigated the steep slopes of the mountain, but reaching the top was such a great feeling for everyone on the trip.

Standing at the top looking out over the lake and farmland below was absolutely breathtaking. It was a privilege to be out in the native NZ bush with such a kind and steadfast group of young wahine! The trip was a great success for all that attended and a great way to spend what ended up being the last few days of term. All of the girls who attended extend a warm thank you to Shannon, Miss Robinson and Miss Metcalfe for organising this fantastic excursion, and can't wait to tackle the Silver Award in the year to



TGC Duke of Edinburgh Bronze participants at the Mt Tauhura summit



TGC Duke of Edinburgh Bronze participants at Aratiatia Rapids

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

At the beginning of March, two of our Year 13 students took up berths on the Spirit of Adventure. Morgan Riley and Georgia Stewart were both worthy recipients of the Tauranga Girls' College PTA Spirit of Adventure Scholarships. These awards, valued at \$1000 each, were given in 2019 by the PTA as they allocated fundraising money before disbanding. All Year 12 students were asked to apply, Five students were interviewed and Morgan and Georgia were chosen to receive support as partial payment for a 10 day voyage. As you will read below you will see why it is said that this is a once in a lifetime experience. If you are keen to experience such a voyage please contact me as Spirit Coordinator: Judith Somerville jsomerville@tgc.school.nz and I can tell you more.

GEORGIA STEWART

What would you say if you walked into a room of 37 strangers you just met. You probably wouldn't say a thing, you would go on your phone and avoid eye contact to save yourself the embarrassment of going out of your comfort zone. Well, what about if you walked onto a 45 metre long boat without technology sharing your space among 37 strangers, now this would be a different story. I'm Georgia Stewart and I had the opportunity to be a part of the Spirit of Adventure Voyage 794. The Spirit of Adventure is a ten day voyage that challenges and pushes teens to their limits, sailing through any kind of conditions. The experience for me was one I will never forget ... vomiting, cringing, peeling potatoes, 6am swims,





This sums up half my days aboard yet I still somehow, in all the madness, managed to enjoy my time away from the world and formed so many close friendships through our struggle. You really have time to reflect on your life and what your values and morals are when you're taken away from literally everything and everyone you know. You are forced into a fresh start. Believe me it's nerve racking to say the least but you soon realise everyone is in the same boat as you (literally), so you decide not to shy away from any conversation or experience but instead take it up for the heck of it. I honestly can say the Spirit changed me and many others, even those who weren't too excited to be there.

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

MORGAN RILEY

I was lucky enough to be awarded the 2019 PTA funded 10 day voyage aboard the Spirit of Adventure. I was a part of Voyage 794 which departed from Tauranga and sailed its way to Auckland Harbour via many different island stops. It was very daunting and nerve racking walking onto the boat with 30 plus teenagers that I didn't know, but over the course of the next 10 days I made some lifelong friends. The Spirit of Adventure's mission is 'to empower young New Zealanders to reach their full potential through the challenge of the sea'.



They certainly do this by setting challenges that take you right out of your comfort zone, and make you realise that you really need to work as part of a team in order to succeed. This whole experience has been life changing for me and has made me realise that my dream of working and sailing around the world on super yachts is something that I really want to achieve. If you get the opportunity to experience a 10 day voyage on the Spirit of Adventure seize it with both hands. It really is a once in a lifetime experience !!!

CONTINUING TO MANAGE ASSESSMENTS DURING COVID-19

The school acknowledges that students and their courses are being affected in different ways due to COVID-19. Thanks to the flexibility of NCEA and the structure of courses, most programs of learning and assessment are continuing to run as was detailed in the course outline at the start of the year. As learners you are continuing to engage in your learning and it is important that you make the most of the remote learning opportunities available to you and maintain regular contact with your teachers.

The structure of some courses, particularly where there is a large practical component may need to be revised. Again, the flexible nature of NCEA enables your teachers to support you in this with a range of strategies which could include:

- Changing the timing of practical assessment
- Using a range of methods when gathering evidence towards achievement
- Selecting alternative standards that are more suitable to remote learning

If there are changes to a course, your subject teacher will notify you of the change and share a revised course outline with you. It is important that you continue to focus on what you can do.

'He waka eke noa' Remember that we are all in this together

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

LOCKDOWN EDUCATION PERFECT SUCCESSES

Over the 2½ week lock down period, many TGC students used the online platform Education Perfect to continue learning (quick plug: this company kindly made all their subscriptions FREE for all students over the lock down period). Education Perfect offers many subjects some of these include Mathematics, Science (including all the senior sciences), Social Science, Languages and English. Students have their own logon, and teachers can see their progress, and give them feedback on specific tasks and skills.

The staff at Education Perfect have initiated international "Byte-Sized" competitions in spelling, numeracy, cross-curricular, word types, French vocab and science trivia (so far!). Competitions run for 30 minutes starting at 3.30, and all students are automatically entered. TGC has had some great success in these including:

Spelling: Rachel Song (10HDS) GOLD award

Numeracy: Amelie Inglis (9NTH) SILVER award, Umaiza hussein (10BTE) BRONZE award, Sia Fotu (10BTE) CREDIT award

Science: Charlotte Wilde (10HDS), Grace Hutchinson (10HDS), Michelle Clarke (10TYL), Tamara Mihajlovic (10HDS) - all EMERALD awards, Ivy Anderson Podmore (11MST), Naomi Mortimer (11HVY), Helen Guo (11BBE), Ashlen Kaur (12BLL) all GOLD awards,

Tauranga Girls' College were 3rd overall in New Zealand and 4th globally, a huge achievement.

Well done to all award winners and all the courageous learners who had a go. Keep an eye on the dashboard for more Byte-sized fun.

RACE UNITY SPEECH AWARDS

A huge congratulations to Ngariki Tamainu. Ngariki entered the annual Race Unity Speech Competition. The regional heat was held online and live streamed, due to the current lockdown situation. Whilst speaking to a camera without a live audience could be seen as an unnerving experience, Ngariki delivered a strong speech on the topic of Titiro whakamuri, kia anga whakamua - To face the future look to the past.

Ngariki is the well deserved winner of the regional competition. We now look forward to following her progress as she competes in the national final to be held 11-17 May. We wish her every success with this.



REMOTE LEARNING STORIES

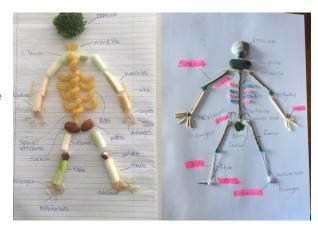
Quality teaching and learning continues to be a key focus at TGC despite the lockdown. Students are getting face-to-face teaching time through platforms like Google Meet and Zoom, Google classrooms offer the opportunity for students to access resources and work, and we are fortunate to have dedicated teachers who have adapted and created teaching resources to suit remote learning. There are so many cool virtual things we can do and it is amazing to see our students taking ownership and innovation emerging.

Check out some of what is happening around the school...

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year 11 Physical Education students have been challenged to create their own artistic masterpieces with things from within their bubble as they revise the anatomy.

Check out these examples by Jordyn Gaby and Keira Allot.



DANCE



Dance students are learning first hand about the innovation and creativity Artists are experimenting with as a result of the pandemic. They are enjoying 'Dazoom' meetings (affectionate phrase for a Dance zoom meeting) with professionals working in the industry and getting involved in some fun Dance lock down challenges with their bubble buddies. Check out these creative counter balances!

SCIENCE

Science students are having fun with some at home experiments. Year 13 Physics recreated an experiment using a ramp and toilet paper, to calculate the inertia of the TP as it rolled down the ramp and Year 9 are enjoying some "kitchen chemistry" experiments using common household food items such as vinegar (acid), baking powder (alkali) and separating various objects.



REMOTE LEARNING STORIES

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Sustainable practice is in action throughout the lockdown in Materials technology! Students have got creative with old pallets from their garage.

Sophia Rose (Year 12) made this awesome coffee table and Lily Thomson made this impressive bar as part of her Level 2 MTY project.

Mr Wallis decided to get on board too and worked with his son to make a study desk from recycled wood from an old cabinet and waste wood from around his house.



VISUAL ART

Junior Art classes have some neat challenges in progress using the lockdown to inspire creativity with their Artwork and experimenting with new platforms. Check out this digital artwork Charlie Wrathall-Douch (Year 9) created on autodesk Sketchbook and this clever stop motion video created by Matea Speidell (Year 10) which reminds us just how much we can do with so little during these times. The key message."Don't move too fast or you'll fall before you fly"



SOCIAL SCIENCES



Year 9 Social Studies classes have been continuing their study on our local history and are getting creative with video editing software to collaboratively to recreate the scenes of Pukehinahina from their 'lockdown' homes. Check out this film on the 'Battle of Gate Pa' by 9MRL and this poem written by Eliza Browett (9RMD)

Contacting the College | ph 578 8114

We encourage parents to contact the College for support at any time during the year. The Pastoral Team includes:

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Dean:	Dean:	Dean:	Dean:	Dean:
Melanie Lane	Anna Leach	Robyn Mankelow	Fiona Lochhead	Kaye Barnett
ext 768	ext 770	ext 767	ext 766	ext 769
Senior Leader:	Senior Leader:	Senior Leader:	Senior Leader:	Senior Leader:
Glenda Rowlands	Alice Cade	Caroline Bird	Kylie Valentine	Philippa Ferguson

International	International	Guidance			Inclusive
Students	Home Stay	Counsellors			Learning Leader
Mrs Linda Clifford	Mrs Toni Bieleski	Mrs Judy Burr	Ms Chantal Stopford	Mrs Sue Ferguson	Ms Karen Gilby
ext 729	ext 808	ext 728	ext 724	ext 820	ext 763

TGC bank account details:

Name of Account: Tauranga Girls' College Board of Trustees
Name of Bank: ANZ, Tauranga
Account Number: 01-0475-0055400-00

VALUES NGA TIKANGA



Encouraging individual responsibility, integrity and respect for the rights of others

Mana Motuhake Pride

- ▶ Be the best we can be
- ▶ Be proud of ourselves and of our achievements
- ▶ Be proud to be problem solvers and innovators
- ▶ Be proud to be a member of our diverse school community

Mahi Tahi Participation

- Aim high and get involved
- Contribute to learning
- Meet every challenge
- Seize every opportunity

Manaakitanga Respect

- ▶ Be positive, caring and encouraging
- ▶ Be accepting of difference
- Collaborate with others
- Have good manners and act with integrity