

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

Welcome back for term two. I hope you were able to have some quality whanau time together over the holidays.

I would like to acknowledge Whaea Mabel Davis who was appointed as a Deputy Principal during the holidays. Her expertise in Te Ao Maori will be invaluable as we develop as a kura.

Also, during the holidays, our Ki-O-Rahi team participated in the Nationals which took place at Waitangi. Placed in a tough pool, the Okaihau team ended up winning the Bowl competition which ranks them 24th in New Zealand. This was a great achievement given the relatively inexperienced nature of our team. Our students acquitted themselves well and can be immensely proud of what they have achieved. Thank you to HoD Physical Education Mr Graham Sharp and Sports Co-ordinator Mrs Philippa Moor for all the work they did to get our students to the tournament.

Next Friday is the last day at Okaihau College for Mr Brendan Platt, our Head of English. Mr. Platt has won a position in the Cook Islands and, with the bubble opening, is on his way to his new position in Week 3. We wish him all the best in this new chapter of his career.

One thing that occupied my thoughts over the holidays was some of the things I hear whanau and students say about what they are good at. I often hear Maori whanau talk about their young men particularly, being "good with their hands". While there is great value in trades, I see this as limiting opportunities for many of our children as there are many other options out there for our tamariki/mokopuna. We have all been conditioned to think that Maori are limited in their ability to deal with "academic" learning. This was even legislated for in the 1850s with the Native Schools Act. I believe that it has got to the stage where even our Maori whanau have been conditioned to think that trades or more practical careers are the only option for our children. I want to push back against the idea that Maori are just "good with their hands". Not because trades are not worthwhile, but because there are so many other areas out there that they can explore and are capable of excelling in. I challenge us all to acknowledge that this idea was constructed by a government and imposed on generations of New Zealanders. Even a cursory glance at pre-European Maori history will show the depth of talent that Maori had in Science, Mathematics, and other areas of so-called "academic" learning. We need to all realise this and not limit our tamariki/mokopuna to "being good with their hands".

Nau reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

2021 NZ Secondary Schools Ki o rahi Tournament

Wow what an exciting few days our team of 16 students had at the Ki o rahi Nationals held at Waitangi. Cody has reported on the results below which were very well deserved. Our students represented our kura outstandingly at the two powhiri we attended during the tournament opening and throughout the tournament. A big thank you to all who supported us but a special thank you to the following people. KC Maaka and Mr Sharp for coaching the team, Mrs Rumble and Ms Hagerty for their support with transport and supervision and Mr Ted Wihongi for his support at the powhiri and of course our team of students Kiana Barber, Lukas Barlow, Te Kaapua Cooper-Rapaea, Natalia Coppins, Nicole Moon, Raekwan O'Brien, Cody Ott, Elsie Quarrie, Haylee Sutherland, Gabrielle Titter, Bradley Waterhouse, Herbert Waterhouse, Te Rina Waterhouse, Moeke Williams-Cooper, Paige Williams-Cooper and Daniel Williams, plus the rest of the training squad who pushed the team hard.

Sports Committee Student report – Cody Ott

During the first week of the school holidays we played at the Ki o rahi national tournament in Waitangi. Our pool 7 games were on Thursday where we went up against some of the top teams in the country. Then on Friday we played in the bowl division where we won all our games including the final where we won the bowl!! The experience was the best part about it. Learning new things, meeting new players and having fun all round. Well done OC, it's been fun playing alongside everyone. Bring on regionals and then Rotovegas next year!!



The winning Okaihau College 2021 Ki o rahi team.

Message received from KC Maaka, our Ki o rahi Coach.

Thank you for my hoodie and tshirt! I look forward to wearing it with pride. Big ups to you all on finals day. The resilience and fortitude of OC came through. Congrats and what a moment – a definite highlight since being involved in Ki o rahi. I will bring the trophy when its finished. Thanks again.



College Calendar

Friday 7 May

- Level 3 Geography Trip

Monday 10 May

- World Vision Youth Conference

Tuesday 11 – 12 May

- Tai Tokerau Festival / Tokihi Ki Tua
– Kensington Stadium, Whangarei

Friday 14 May

- Year 7 visit to Manea, Opononi

New timetable times

From Thursday 6 May, we have tweaked our timetable times. This is in response to feedback from students, staff and whanau. Please see the schedule below.

8:45am - 9:35am	Whānauroa
9:35am - 10:25am	Period 1
10:25am - 10:50am	Interval
10:50am - 11:40am	Period 2
11:40am - 12:30pm	Period 3
12:30pm - 12:40pm	Supervised Kai
12:40pm - 1:20pm	Lunch
1:20pm - 2:10pm	Period 4
2:10pm - 3:00pm	Period 5

Learner Licence Course

We are hosting another Learner Driver Licence Course again this year. This is due to be held on 21 to 23 June here at school. Students will be given more information closer to the time but we can confirm that we are offering the course at a reduced cost to ensure that as many students as possible get through.

“Ka Kata Ngā Pūriri o Taiamai”

Good news of the week

Whakarongonrua Certificates this week went to:

7KP	Casey Jenkinson, Breeze Mocaraka
7JD	Hannah Gubb, Pashshun Lundon
8ML	Teziah Kidwell, Luke Yukich
8PZ	Mafi E O Sekope Livai, Dakoda Gregory
10KG	Taenga Butler, Stephen Harris
12DF	Takutai Tomuri-Grace
13PW	Lloyd Murray
13BP	Katie Morgan, Brent Brooks-Farmer



On Wednesday 19 May we are hosting our 7th fundraiser to support breast cancer research. This will occur at lunchtime where students have the opportunity to have a smoothie and/or a homemade McMuffin. These will need to be ordered and pre-paid. Members of the community are welcome put in an order (prepaid) to collect from the Food Technology room.

Obviously the less we need to spend on groceries the more we can give. Donations of the following items will be gratefully received: bacon, English muffins, eggs, cheese slices, butter, yoghurt, fruit for smoothies (canned, fresh or frozen) and milk. These can be left at the Student Centre or Food Tech room before May 19.

We feel this is a very worthy cause as all of us have been touched by a family member or friend who has been affected by breast cancer. You can donate on line by following this link:

<http://pinkribbonbreakfast.co.nz/page/okaihaucollegeshostpage>

Thank you in advance for your support.
Diana Henderson, Organiser

Geography Raffle

Congratulations to Jeff who won the Geography grocery raffle. Thanks to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts.



Maths Outreach Workshop

On 3 May 2021 a group of students from Okaihau College took a trip over to Northland College for a maths workshop. We met a lady called Jasmine, who is studying Maths as a career. We participated in a 2.5-hour session of activities and logical reasoning games designed to be fun and also to engage people in maths at the same time. She taught us two games. One called NIM and the other "Brussels Sprouts". We all enjoyed ourselves and had a great day.

Thanks so much to Mr Fowler and Mrs Anson for organising the trip and taking us there.

Jaxon Foley, 7CP



Te Taitokerau Festival

Our Kapa Haka roopu, Nga Wheinga a Rahiri, will be performing next week at the Taitokerau Festival. They are scheduled to be on stage on Wednesday 12 May, 10.30am at Kensington Stadium in Whangarei.



Spit, don't rinse after brushing

Tuwaha, kua e opeopea i muri i te taitaitanga

Avoid eating or drinking after brushing your teeth; especially at night



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