

Principal's Panui

I spent the first part of the week at a Secondary Principals' Association of New Zealand conference. There were excellent speakers on a loosely connected theme of wellbeing, not just for principals but for all involved in the education sector. It is also a great opportunity to meet with fellow principals and discuss common problems as well as successes. Organised fights appears to be one such problem as does attendance. As I said to yesterday's assembly we need to continue work together to keep our school's environment as safe as possible. I also spoke of the alarming statistic released yesterday that the average attendance for New Zealand has fallen to 64%; 1 in every 3 students is missing each day and Tai Tokerau is worse. Our attendance is at 85% and we aim for even better.

Okaihau College App

Many thanks to all the students and parents who have downloaded the Okaihau College App (Nearly 200 of you). Once you have joined, remember to tick which group you would like to follow (sports / individual teams / kapa haka / instrumental music / Ag Club etc).

Phones in Class

This is just a reminder that students are not supposed to have their mobile phones on in class. We have recently had several cases of parents/caregivers ringing their child during lessons. Unfortunately this causes a distraction and disturbs the lesson for all the other students in the class.

If you need to contact your child urgently, you are always welcome to do so via the Main Office or Student Centre. Alternatively, we encourage you to ring during break times; interval is 10.56am - 11.15am and lunchtime is 1.13pm - 2.00pm.

Kamar Portal

Lots of parents, caregivers and students have been using the Kamar portal to access information about students. This information stored on the portal includes attendance, NCEA results, day to day information, contact details, daily notices and lots of other things. Students and their parents / caregivers have separate logins. If you would like the login and password for your student, contact the Main Office or email jennyc@okaihau-college.school.nz.



AgriKids

Our four AgriKids teams and five TeenAg teams competed at the Northern Regional Final held in Kerikeri on Saturday 17 March. It was a busy day and all the students did exceptionally well!

TeenAg Teams:

Okaihau College Ninjas - Jake and Josh
The Harrisons - Harry and Zoe
Cammo Warriors - Nick and Aimee
Okaihau Frogs - Moeke and Cody
Okaihau College Silver Ferns - Chloe and Madelene

AgriKids Teams

Okaihau College Aces - Bohemia, Tommy and Max
Okaihau College Hawks - Benjamin, Danny and Ehlana
Okaihau College Kings - Dylan, Nathan and Brad
Okaihau College Eagles - Grace and Asher

The teams competed in seven different modules each one designed to test farming knowledge and skills. The AgriKids competition included modules on on riparian planting, fuels, an ag quiz, Lincoln, New Holland, on-farm safety, cattle and sheep problems, tape gate and sheep shearing. The TeenAg competition included modules on Lincoln, Southfuels/Northfuels, Ag test, New Holland, OSPRI, stock judging, scoring stags and fencing.

The Harrisons and Cammo Warriors both made it through to the TeenAg Face-Off and the Hawks and Kings also made it through to the AgriKids Race-Offs. Following this, the top teams scores were collated, and the Harrisons came third overall (out of 32 teams) meaning that they are first reserves for the Nationals. The Okaihau College Hawks came second overall (also out of 32 teams) and qualify for the Nationals. Of our nine teams entered, all came in the top thirteen of the 32 teams which is an outstanding result.

It was also great to see former student Colin Beazley competing in the Young Farmer of the Year Competition which was run alongside the two junior competitions. He also ended up judging one of our AgriKids teams in the Race-Off and was impressed with what he saw.



Okaihau College Hawks: Danny, Benjamin and Ehlana were 2nd overall in the AgriKids events and qualified for the Nationals.

OKAIHAU 150TH CELEBRATION

This Easter Weekend, Okaihau celebrates 150 years of settlement. All events will be based in and around Okaihau.

Friday 30 March

6.00pm - 9.30pm: **Meet and Greet** at the Okaihau College Hall followed by **Alice D in Puketi Theatre Production***

Saturday 31 March

10.00am - 4.00pm:

Outside Displays and Food Stalls at the Memorial Grounds

Historic Displays and Slide Show in the Okaihau Community Hall

Children's Treasure Hunt

Thomas the Tank Engine Rides

Cake Cutting

11.00am: **Grand Parade** along Settlers Way and onto the Memorial Grounds

7.00pm – late: **Okaihau Lions Country Dance** at the Okaihau College Hall*

Sunday 1 April

10.00am: **Interdenominational Church Service** at the Okaihau College Hall

11.00am: **Tree Planting Ceremony**

12.00pm: **Casual Cycle Ride** from Okaihau to Harrison's Property, Utakura

Tickets for the events* are available from okaihau150tickets@gmail.com, and they are selling quickly.

Northland Secondary Schools Athletics Championships

14 students represented Okaihau College at the Northland Secondary Schools Athletic Championships held at Kensington Park. Some top efforts saw Moeke Williams-Cooper earn the Northland Junior Boys Title for Javelin, Tumai Kaukau-Troughton make the final in the competitive Senior Boys 100m and Sarah Hamlin made the finals of the Senior Girls 200m. Lorah Mitchell was also placed 4th in both the Intermediate Girls Long Jump and High Jump. The whole team did the school proud.

Other athletes were Lavinia Abraham, Conor Bolton, Madelene Clunie, Vaughn Klass-Maunsell-Williams, Bebe McGregor, Siobhan McLachlan, Malachi Poihipi, Terri Walker-Masters, Te Haupuru Walker, Chanelle Watson.

Moeke Williams-Cooper
- NSS Junior Javelin
Champion



College Calendar

Sunday 26 – 29 March

- Year 12 Auckland Gateway Trip
- Year 12 Local Gateway Programme

Wednesday 28 March

- Massey University Liaison Visit
- University of Waikato Liaison Visit

Friday 30 March – Tuesday 3 April

- **Easter Weekend**

Wednesday 4 April

- St Paul's Collegiate Netball Visit

Wednesday 4-6 April

- Drivers Licence Course

Thursday 5 April

- Year 8 First HPV Vaccination

Tuesday 10 April

- Celebration of Excellence Assembly

Wednesday 11 – 12 April

- Tai Tokerau Festival – Kerikeri

Thursday 12 April

- AUT Liaison Visit

Friday 13 April

- Last Day of Term 1

Monday 16-20 April

- Year 13 Hillary Outdoors - Turangi

Monday 30 April

- First Day of Term 2

Waka Ama Meat Pack Raffle

Congratulations to June Hei Hei for winning the raffle. Thank you everyone for your support.

Winter Sports

The Hockey and Netball season is fast approaching. We have sign up sheets at the Gym office for both these sports. So if your student is interested in playing either of these codes please tell them to sign up asap. Both competitions are held at Lindvart Park in Kaikohe. We are looking for a coach for the Year 7 & 8 Hockey team.

We are holding a Netball muster on TUESDAY 27th of March at lunchtime to gauge interest and organise teams. If you are interested in coaching or managing a team please get in touch with Mrs Moor at the Gym office extension 729.