

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

Congratulations to our Senior Girls Basketball team who were crowned Northland Champions for a second year in a row on Wednesday. The team went undefeated into the finals against Kerikeri High School, winning 18-15. Thank you to all those who were involved, especially Mel Rameka for all the time he has spent coaching the team: Natalia Coppins, Linda Johnston, Jade Ngawati, Jessie Ngawati, Kezza-Hayes Rewha, Te Rina Waterhouse, Maia Whiu and Alyssa Williams.



Coming up in Week 6 are two important events in the life of the school. The first is our Options Evening on the 28 August. This is a really good chance to come and hear about how NCEA works and talk to teachers about their subjects and where they lead, in and beyond school. It is important that students are making informed choices about their subjects for 2020. For parents of Year 13 it will also be an opportunity to find out about the requirements for students who are planning to go onto tertiary study in 2020. Information about accommodation options, student allowances/loans is important to understand if that is the pathway for your young person.

The other important event is the visit of ERO. They will be here for three days in Week 6 to finalise the findings they have gathered over the last two years. They have been positive about the progress we are making as a school thus far and we look forward to similar feedback after this visit.

Thank you to all the whanau who filled in our recent survey about your perceptions about our school and how we are doing. The information you shared with us was very helpful and we appreciate the time you spent on it. In Week 5, we will be asking your opinion again, particularly about the structure of form time at Okaihau College. We have identified that what we are currently doing does not fit with our direction and we would like your feedback on two options for doing it differently in 2020.

No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

College Calendar

Monday 12 August

- Maori Liaison Visit

Tuesday 13 – 15 August

- Learner Driver License Course

Tuesday 20 August

- Primary Schools Cross Country @ Ohaeawai

Thursday 22 August

- Barista Course Assessment

Wednesday 28 August

- Options Evening

Friday 30 August – 6 September

- Practice Exams Years 11-13

Monday 9 September

- University of Waikato Course Planning Visit

Tuesday 10 September

- University of Otago Course Planning Visit

Thursday 19 September

- Annual Open Day for 2020 enrolments

Friday 20 September

- Senior Reports Issues

Wednesday 25 September

- Senior Report Evening

Level 3 Geography Research: KFC Conundrum

Last week on Tuesday the Level 3 Geography class went on a field trip to research the hypothesis "Is central Kerikeri or Waipapa a better location for a KFC?". Students counted traffic at 2 different intersections to gather primary traffic volume data. The geographers also spoke with Lynka May at the Far North District Council about land zoning and rules and regulations for development under the Far North District Plan. It was an informative trip which helped to enhance learning about geographic research processes, particularly information gathering. Students are now back at school writing up their research findings for 5 NCEA geography credits.



2020 Enrolments

2020 enrolments are now open for all year levels. Prospectus packs have been sent out to all contributing schools and you can also collect a pack from the Okaihau College Main Office. We encourage all prospective students to get their pre-enrolment forms back in as soon as possible (both in-zone and out-of-zone) to help us with future planning. If you have any questions about enrolments, please contact the Main Office.

AgriKids NZ Final

I went down to Hawkes Bay to the AgriKids NZ Final with my two friends Isaac Quarrie and Gemma Harrison to compete. For the competition we had to do a written test for an hour, seven practical modules and a race.

Gemma thought the hardest part of the test was the 100-word essay because we did not know what to write about, in the end we wrote about organic farming. For me the hardest part was also the essay because I had to write it and I don't like writing! Isaac's favourite part of the test was the essay because he didn't have to write it. We all found the easiest part of the test was the true and false questions from Lincoln University.

The modules were seven different farming activities that we had to complete in six minutes each. Our favourite module was the Ravensdown module. We had a choice of easy or hard questions and if we got the question correct, we had to change our position on the twister mat. The hardest module was the one from Northfuels with questions about diesel bug. At least we knew what diesel bug was. The other hardest module was tractors and machinery from New Holland.

We all agreed that the race off event was the best thing of the very cold day. First, we had to run to two short planks and walk along them by putting them one in front of the other until we got back to the start line. That took teamwork. Lots of teams got ahead of us but then they fell off and had to go back again. We then had to empty one bucket of water into another by using the instruments provided. Next we had to throw hoops on to calf drench containers, then horseshoes into a water trough. After putting up a flag we had to answer questions about the distance fuel tanks have to be from buildings, chemicals and waterways. We had studied the exact picture and even inspected fuel tanks in Okaihau as practice! In our last obstacle Gemma and Isaac put a sling on me and carried me to the finish line on a stretcher. We came second overall in the race off and 13th for all events combined out of 21 teams.

We would like to thank Northfuels for sponsoring sausages for our BBQ fundraiser at the interschools Equestrian event, Mrs Daphne Graham for our team hoodies, Okaihau Lions for their generous donation and all those who purchased pinecones. We would also like to thank Young Farmers and Te Radar who took great care of us and provided us with a fun day out the following day and made us feel like we were part of an awesome occasion.

Grace Sanders, 7BP



Gemma, Isaac and Grace at the AgriKids finals

Year 10 Trip to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds

On Monday the year 10 classes visited Waitangi as part of their Social Studies learning about the Tiriti o Waitangi and tourism in Northland. It was a busy day with a visit to the museum, a tour of Busby's house, a cultural performance, a visit to the great waka Ngātōkīmatawhaorua and lunch at Te Ana o Maikuku (Hobson's Beach). Students also designed and with a quill drew their own tohu (mark) on a treaty. It was a fabulous experience to explore the environment of Waitangi and make connections with classroom learning.

Highlights the students noted were the haka powhiri by Te Pitowhenua, the interactive touch screens in the museum, visiting the waka, exploring Busby's house and being able to feel close to ancestors.

A big thank you to Mr Davison, Mr Fulton, Whaea Mabel and teacher aide Maree for helping out on the trip.

Mrs Kitchingman, HoD Social Studies



Year 10 students at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds