

## Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa

As we are coming into senior practice exams, I have been reflecting on how much assessment our students have to do in order to get their qualifications. In fact, New Zealand students are more assessed than any other students in the developed world. We are the only developed country that has three sets of "high stakes assessment" at secondary school level. I was reading a newsletter piece from a principal in Wellington in which he talked about the same issue. Our students, more than any other generation seem to be afflicted with stress and anxiety issues. Much of this, I believe, stems from the constant pressure of assessment from Year 11 to 13.

So where does learning fit into all of this? The New Zealand Curriculum talks about wanting to produce confident, connected, life-long learners. I am not convinced that what we currently do promotes this ideal. The pressure to gain credits is such that assessment drives learning, the most easily measurable outcome is the one that we focus on the most.

What about other important things like having a strong sense of identity, being able to think critically, and creatively? How does the drive to assess everything within an inch of its life help foster these important skills and dispositions? Student's first question when presented with something new is often "is this worth credits?". The joy of learning something new for the sake of learning something new seems to have been assessed out of our seniors, and increasingly out of our juniors as NCEA dictates how they're taught too.

There must be a way to reduce the impact on our tamariki's wellbeing of all this assessment. What if we could set up our school so that our students were able to choose which level of NCEA they would aim for? Students who were aiming for university would only complete Level 3 assessments-one set of high stakes assessment rather than three. If you were aiming to pursue a more vocational pathway, you would just focus on gaining Level 2. This might allow more creativity in the classroom without the need to be constantly assessing our students with all the stress and pressure that creates. Food for thought...

Thank you to all the whanau that attended our Options Evening in the marae on Wednesday night. I hope you found the information about NCEA and the various subjects on offer useful.

Congratulations to all our students who have represented us so well in different sporting codes such as basketball and The Beast. Good luck to our senior ki-o-rahi teams as they defend the Te Tai Tokerau championship today.

Also well done to Caitlin Dalbeth, our first Year 13 student to gain Level 3.

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

### Year 9 OPC - Food Hamper Raffle Winner - Blake Rameka

**Senior Hockey Team:** Emma Aukett, Stella-Marie Baker, Daniel Bosman, Jayden Edmonds, Tessa Flood, Grace Hamlin, Zoe Harrison, Edith Langford, Aimee Lawson, Katie Morgan, Ryan Penney, Elsie Quarrie, Harry Thomas and Gabrielle Titter.



## College Calendar

### Friday 30 August – 6 September

- Practice Exams Years 11-13

### Saturday 31 August

- University of Auckland Open Day Trip

### Monday 9 September

- University of Waikato Course Planning Visit

### Tuesday 10 September

- University of Otago Course Planning Visit

### Tuesday 17 September

- NZQA Maths Common Assessment Exam

### Thursday 19 September

- Annual Open Day for 2020 enrolments

### Friday 20 September

- Senior Reports Issued

### Wednesday 25 September

- 2020 Pre-Enrolments Close-off

- Senior Report Evening

## Okaihau College Student Representative Election for the Board of Trustees

Nominations are invited for the election of ONE student representative to the Board of Trustees.

A nomination form and a copy of this notice are available to all eligible voters on the student roll. Further nomination forms can be obtained from the Student Centre.

**Nominations close at noon on Friday, 30 August 2019**  
and can be accompanied by a  
candidate statement and photograph.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the Student Centre and can be viewed during interval, lunchtime, before and after school while the Student Centre is open.

There will also be a list of candidates' names for inspection, as they come to hand, on the Student Centre notice board.

Voting papers will be issued AFTER nominations close if more than one candidate is standing for election.

**The poll closes at noon on Friday, 20 September 2019.**

Signed: E Crawford, Returning Officer

## Collegiate Hockey

Our senior hockey team has travelled to Whangarei each Monday night for games this season. They have had great support from Michelle Lawson, their coach, and their parents who have provided transport.

We were really pleased to receive a phone call from Vee Singh, Principal at Pakaraka School who was at Kensington Stadium and saw our mixed collegiate team in action in the Division 3 finals. He rang to compliment us on the entire team. He said their game against Dargaville High School was one of the most exciting games he had ever watched, and that our players showed fantastic sportsmanship, played well as a unit and worked really hard to get the win. Vee also said that the game went into two lots of extra time and player No 21 (Daniel Bosman) was a stand-out.

≪≪≪ Congratulations to the team – you deserve this recognition of your hard work this season.

## 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.

## Lions Club Dinner

The hospitality department recently hosted the Okaihau Lions Club for a three-course dinner as part of our school wide goal to enhance community engagement. 21 guests enjoyed a delicious meal. The executive chef was Year 13 student Amy Hunter supported by entrees made by Mele Livai and Jessie Ngawati plus hospitality teacher Diana Henderson on dessert. Mele's cousin Meite Taulangau got thrown in the deep end and worked really hard as kitchenhand. Thanks to Mr Alan Carson who helped with the service.

The wharekai looked lovely with spring flowers and bright cheerful table settings.

Amy had researched an appropriate winter menu to show case Northland produce and culture as part of her Level 3 technology assessments. She tested and trialed the components of the menu over several weeks to ensure they were technically sound. The final menu consisted of:

Crzamy pumpkin soup

Or

Asian dumplings/wontons with water crzss and dipping sauce

Bacon wrapped stuffed chickzn brzasts

Roast vzgztabl mzdly

Broccoli s/w chzsz sauce

Lzmon pzach cake s/w natural yoghurt

Or

Apple strudel & custard

Everyone worked well as a team even coping with no gas at the marae so it was a quick dash back to the food tech room to heat the entrees and creative use of an electric frypan to steam the broccoli! The students can all be very proud of themselves, especially Amy who was cool, calm and collected despite the setbacks.



## The Beast Run

On Friday 23rd of August a group of us school students went to The Beast Run. A 6km run going up and down hills where you can crawl, slide, run, walk whatever you want to do. We got facepaint, the run down of safety and then started. It actually started off quite easy and I thought they were over exaggerating about all this mud!! I started to get disappointed, but oh how I was wrong! Getting stuck and falling over now that was fun. Watching other people falling over now that was fun too. I have to say this run was actually really enjoyable and I think we could all agree on that. I think the best part was either sliding down hills, finishing or watching people slip (including me!!). Congrats to all of you who conquered The Beast. You did well.

- Report from Grace Hamlin

Well done to all our students for completing this awesome tough run. Special mention to Danny Sturge 16th overall and Grace Sanders our first girl home in 73rd out of 265 runners. Also to Mr Atkins our PE teacher who was the first Staff/adult home and 8th overall. Thank you to Mr Atkins, Mr Davison and parent helpers Sarah Whittaker and Tanya Sanders for taking the students.



## Basketball

Our Basketball teams have continued to be busy with our Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Year 7 and 8 Boys teams participating in Northland Secondary Schools Tournaments held in Whangarei and Waipapa respectively. Our younger students are developing in the game and by attending these tournaments they get to put the skills they have learnt into practise. Congratulations to our Year 7 and 8 Boys Green team for placing third in the North Zone tournament. Thanks again to Mel Rameka and Paul Atkins for coaching the teams.





## NATURE NEEDS US

This event is part of Conservation Week  
[conservationweek.org.nz](http://conservationweek.org.nz)



### Nga Taonga Korero ō Puketi - Treasured stories of Puketi

Puketi Recreation Area, Waiare Road,  
Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

**Saturday 21 September 2019 3:00pm – 8:00pm**

Join us in celebrating 50 years of Conservation Week. Come to our family event at Puketi Forest from 3pm to 8pm on Saturday 21 September 2019. The event is fun, free and for all ages. This year we reflect on five decades of amazing conservation effort that has saved species, restored habitats and inspired the next 50 years of protecting our native taonga. Join our guided day and evening forest walks to see glow-worms, hear the stories from our past, learn about the protected species of Puketi, and join in with fun forest health activities.

This event is part of Conservation Week 2019 - [www.conservationweek.org.nz](http://www.conservationweek.org.nz). More information from the Bay of Islands DOC office 09-4070300.

This is a joint event with Kerikeri Keas, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers.

Nature needs our help, and now is the time for New Zealand to take action. We hope to see you there.

## OHAEAWAI PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Friday 6 September

Ohaeawai Rugby Club

Doors open at 6pm, and quiz starts at 6.30pm

**\$25 per person - 6 to a table**

Includes a roast meat and salad dinner with pudding.

**A prize for the best dressed team.**

**Let your imagination run wild.....**

**Bring some gold coins for a few games of heads and tails.....**

If you would like to come along, but don't have a team of 6,  
please let us know, we can put you in a team!

See Maureen in the office to book your table

09 405-9812

**MOERewa SCHOOL  
SPRING GALA**

**When: Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2019**  
**Where: Moerewa School**  
**Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm**  
**Ticket System. NO cash purchases.**  
**Purchase Tickets from the school office.**  
**Fundraising for Junior and Senior School Trips.**

**Come one, come all!!!**  
**Nau mai Piki mai Haere mai**

Kai Stalls / Hangi / Pudding Palace / Games & Activities /  
Raffles / Guessing Table / Food Hamper / Mimiriri and much  
more.

**COME AND ENJOY THE DAY AND HAVE  
SOME FUN**