

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

Welcome back to Okaihau College for 2020. An especially warm welcome to those whanau who are joining us for the first time with their new students. I trust that you will enjoy your involvement with our kura.

Thank you to all those whanau members who attended our powhiri for our new students. I encourage you to ensure that that is not the last time we see you. Education is a team sport, and we can not do it without your support and involvement. We are always looking for ways to involve our whanau more in how our school functions and this is a planned focus for us over the next year. I want to acknowledge the skills and expertise that you bring to our kura and encourage you to work with us to utilise them to improve the learning of our tamariki/mokopuna

We have a number of new teaching and support staff who have joined us this year. I would like to welcome Cameron Flude and Crystal Jordan who have joined us as Deputy Principals. We also welcome Patrick Sharp, our new guidance Counsellor, Kim Bolton-Stewart our Careers Advisor, Nicola Darby and Diane Pivac are both joining the English department for 2020. We also have some new support staff joining us. Welcome to Lee Muunu, Melanie Mills, Ange King, and Ann-Marie Moon.

I would like to congratulate some of our staff and students who gained excellent results in 2019. Ms Sarah Morgan received a PPTA study award for 2019 and used it to take some time off to complete her Master of Education. Ms Morgan's research focussed particularly on suicide prevention and she graduates officially in May.

Both our Dux and Proxime Accessit achieved Excellence endorsed certificates at NCEA Level 3. Congratulations to Tupari Cowan and Daniel Bosman. Also at Level 3 Emily Beggs and Acacia Ross gained Level 3 with a Merit endorsement.

At Level 2, congratulations to Shaun Reeves who gained an Excellence endorsed certificate and to Freda Blaikie and Zoe Harrison who gained Merit endorsed certificates.

College Calendar

Monday 10 February

- Peer Support Begins

Friday 14 February

- Closing date for Head Student, House Captains, Student Leaders applications

Monday 17 February

- Year 11 Activities Day

Tuesday 18 February

- Head Student Interviews

Wednesday 19 February

- School Swimming Sports

Friday 21 February

- Whanau Hui Day

Wednesday 26 February

- School Athletics Day

Save the Date

- Whanau Learning Hui

On Friday 21 February, we will conduct whanau learning hui and classes will not be running as normal. We would like whanau to book a time with your student's whanau teacher to talk about your hopes and aspirations for your student. The 20 minute slot will also mean you have time to set some goals with the whanau teacher and your student while also planning how to achieve those goals. Keep a lookout for information coming home over the next couple of weeks.

Hayley Bradley, Madelene Clunie, and Natalia Coppins achieved Level 1 with an Excellence endorsement. In addition, Annalise Adams, Jake Harrison, Tohu Harris, Grace Hamlin, Keeza-Hayes Rewha, Elsie Quarrie and Samuel Williams gained Level 1 with a Merit endorsement. Well done to these students who worked hard to gain these results and the teachers who supported them.

Powhiri on Thursday 30 January at the Okaihau College Marae, Whakarongorua, to welcome our new students and staff.

