

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

I would like to emphasise the importance of attendance at school now that we are in Alert Level 1. This means that for all intents and purposes, we are back to normal except the border controls in place for international travel. Our students had different experiences of learning during lockdown. It is important for them to be back at school so they can focus on continuing to develop the skills they need for successful learning.

For our senior students, they may have been working over the lockdown, but unless they have officially left school, it is illegal for them to be working during school hours. Again, we need them here to help them gain the qualifications they need to have as much control over their future as they can. Just a reminder that even an 80% attendance rate is still equivalent to missing a full year's learning over 5 years (Year 9-13).

Many of our seniors are anxious about their NCEA, but I encourage them not to give up. We want to help them and have extended the time they will be here at the end of the year to give them more time to achieve what they need. They will still be able to achieve if they are willing to commit to doing the work they need to.

I would also like to explain to you a different way of dealing with behaviour issues that we are trialling over the next two terms. Currently, if there is an incident of sufficient seriousness, a student will often be stood down for anywhere between one and five days. This way of dealing with things is what we are used to in schools, the person who did something wrong gets punished. However, research shows that this does not reduce the likelihood of the same behaviour happening again. This is because while we deal with the action, the underlying reasons for the action are not addressed. The "offender" does not have to face up to the "victim" nor take responsibility for fixing the harm caused. We intend to use Section 27 of the Education Act to provide some breathing space for everyone involved in the incident. This allows for the student to be kept home for up to five days. **It is not a stand down or suspension and does not appear on the student's record.** We use this time to make sure we have the best picture of what happened as we can. We then deal with the incident through a restorative meeting. This is where all those affected meet and start to repair the damage caused by whatever happened and devise what the consequences for the "offender" might be. This

means that the "offender" gets to hear how what they have done has impacted on everyone involved and have to take responsibility for what they have done.

The punitive (punishment) stand down system is still there if required but we are trying to look at a different way of dealing with behaviour issues that is more likely to result in long-lasting change for those involved.

No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

Okaihau College Hui

3.00pm - 5.00pm on Tuesday 23 June 2020
at Parawhenua Marae
(Te Ahu Ahu Road, Waimate North).

This is a time to reflect on our post-lockdown timetable and consult with whanau over possible timetable changes that could be implemented in 2021.

Nau mai, haere mai
- we would love to see you there.

To give us an idea for catering, RSVP to
admin@okaihau-college.school.nz
or phone (09) 401 9030.

College Calendar

Tuesday 23 – 25 June

- Hands on Barista Course

Wednesday 1 July

-Reports issued

Friday 3 July

- Last day of Term 2

Rugby

Rugby Players - any keen players still looking for a team.

Under 16 - Moerewa Rugby Club - Trainings
Tues/Thurs 5.30pm - Coach Ed Peita Phone
0220693785

Under 14 - Kaikohe Rugby Club - Trainings
Tues/Thurs 4.30pm - Coach Koro Edmonds
0275558872

Matariki Poetry Competition

Our local libraries are celebrating Matariki with an annual poetry competition and would love to share this with our wider communities.

You can send in an original poem using this link: <https://forms.gle/cJUf4G8ZDxPPiupo8> and your poem could be displayed in our Libraries.

Prizes to be won as well! Thanks to the sponsors: Ngā Puhī, Café Malaahi, and The Warehouse Kaikohe.

We look forward to receiving some fabulous local entries!

Year 11 Science Students Investigating how to Break a Heart!



Junior Young Farmer National Championship

Nick Harrison and Zoe Harrison are both senior students at Okaihau College, and won a place at this year's Junior Young Farmer National Championships. They have been competing in various modules during this week and will know this weekend how they have fared. Best wishes to you both; your hard work and preparation is paying off.

