

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

Welcome back to term 4! I hope you all managed to enjoy a restful break in some way.

Whaea Ngawini Smith has announced her retirement at the end of the year. She has been at the school "since Kupe arrived" as she says and has taught generations of whanau from our rohe. In addition, she has been a stalwart of Kapa Haka over the years. We will keep you posted as to how we will help Whaea Ngawini celebrate her retirement later this term.

This term is a busy one, particularly for seniors.

The Okaihau College School Ball is tomorrow night and something that many of the seniors have been looking forward to for much of the year. I'm glad that we have not cancelled it like many other schools...our students deserve something to enjoy after a tough year. This year, the Ball is being held back in the school hall. As always, we have high expectations of our students in terms of dress and behaviour. They have yet to let us down and I expect the same in 2020. Doors open at 6:30pm and close at 7.00pm. The Ball finishes at 11.00pm.

This is also an important time for seniors in terms of NCEA. As a result of the disruption due to COVID-19, we have taken the decision to keep the seniors at school until they have completed their qualification. Many of our students are not too far away from gaining what they need, and this term is the time to make that final push. They will need as much support as we can all give them over the next 8 weeks. This means helping them to cut back on their part time work for a short time and monitoring how much screen time they have. Making sure they are getting some exercise and good sleep will also be really important.

I would like to remind students and whanau that vaping is not allowed at school. We have had a spate of students bringing vapes to school with some using them during school time. Vaping is often marketed as a "safer" form of smoking. This is not the case and vaping can be just as harmful, particularly with the chemical mixes in the fluids that they use. Please support us in keeping our students safe and ensure that they are not being brought to school at any time.

We have been the recipients of a number of skate ramps which arrived on Wednesday from Sport Northland. These are ours to keep and they will be used occasionally by Sport Northland for competitions. Our students are already using them

with enthusiasm at break times. Just a reminder that although we will do our best to ensure the student's safety, they use the equipment at their own risk and should ensure that they are using it in a way that reflects their ability. Please bear with us while we formulate the processes for the use of skateboards and scooters at school to minimise issues such as storage and use elsewhere in the grounds.

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

College Calendar

Saturday 17 October

- Senior Ball

Tuesday 20 October

- Tourism Trip

Monday 26 October

- Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 27 October

- Year 8 HPV Vaccination 2

Monday 16 November to

Wednesday 2 December

- NCEA External Exams

Tuesday 10 November

- Level 3 Art Folios Due

Wednesday 11 November

- Year 6 Transition Day 1

Wednesday 18 November

- Year 6 Transition Day 2

Northland Secondary Schools Orienteering Competition

Nine keen Year 9 and 10 students braved the wet weather to compete in the Individual and Team Orienteering Competition hosted by Springbank School. The event involved students finding markers throughout the farmland and returning in the fastest time. Some of the fastest runners entered didn't complete their controls showing that slow and steady often wins the race!

Congratulations to our girls for taking out the first three placings in the Year 9 and 10 Girls 1st Bohemia Sanders, 2nd Maia Harris, 3rd Tatyana Lawrence, 3rd Year 9 and 10 Boy Benjamin Clunie, and 4th Danny Sturge, 5th Brad Sturge and 4th place in the teams event to Dreziq Moeau, Brad Sturge, Maia Harris and Tatyana Lawrence. Other great competitors were Lilly-Grace Hanley-Dadson and Connagh Ward. Thanks to Springbank School for hosting the event.

Northland Secondary Schools Open Boys Rugby Sevens

Our Senior Boys Rugby Sevens team joined six other schools for a good day of competitive rugby at the Northland Secondary Schools Tournament held at the Kaikohe Rugby Club. After a tough first up loss to Whangarei Boys High School, a narrow loss to Dargaville High School the team had two good wins over Kaitaia College and Bay of Islands College. The senior boys were well supported by standout Year 10 players Nikau Donelley and Roma Edwards. Tony de Reuck was our top try scorer on the day. Some great teamwork was shown by Joedeci Koroi, Brayden Brown, Moeke Williams-Cooper, Konrad Kopa, Rylee Walker and Cameron Jobe. Thank you to Mr Robson for coaching the team.



NSS
Orienteering
Competition at
Springbank
School



2020 School Ball

The Senior Ball is being held in the Okaihau College Hall this Saturday 17 October and is one of the highlights of the year for our senior students. As it is a school event, we would like to remind you of our expectations so that students, partners, parents and caregivers are clear about the standards we expect and insist on.

This is a formal occasion and formal evening dress is a requirement. Students will be refused entry if they have not made an effort to dress appropriately. Students are required to arrive between 6.30 pm and 7.00 pm and may not leave before 11.00 pm. Normal school rules about smoking, alcohol and drugs apply. There will be a breathalyser on site to ensure students are complying with the no-alcohol policy and are keeping themselves safe. Students are strongly advised to stay within the limits of their driver's licences.

The Okaihau Volunteer Fire Brigade will be providing security during the evening, and there will also be at least ten staff on site for the duration of the event.

Year 13 students have the privilege of bringing a senior school-aged partner who does not attend Okaihau College. These rules also apply to them and they will have signed an agreement form confirming that they will comply with our expectations.

After-ball functions are always a concern; school supervision and responsibility for students will end when the ball finishes. Parents and caregivers are responsible for their student from this time on and should ensure they have full knowledge of any after-ball intentions. No after-ball functions are sanctioned by the school.

Previous school balls have been very successful and we have every expectation that the 2020 event will be enjoyable for all students. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to make contact with us.

OCTOBER FOUNDATIONS WORKSHOP - KERIKERI

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020, 10:00 AM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020, 4:00 PM
KERIKERI SPORTS COMPLEX
CNR. HERITAGE BYPASS & WAIPAPA
ROADKERIKERI 0295

This free two-day workshop offers theatre training for young people aged 14-24 years. Suitable for all levels of experience, it's led by professional tutors from the Massive teaching team. You will learn a wide range of theatre foundation skills and techniques and explore different ways of making theatre pieces using your own ideas and stories. The workshop runs from 10am to 4pm each day.

<https://www.massivecompany.co.nz/workshops/massive-foundations-ages-14-24/events/kerikeri-october-2020>