

Principal's Panui

Tena koutou katoa,

In two weeks' time, we will be holding our first Whanau Learning Hui for 2021. This will be a meeting with your child's whanau teacher to review progress so far in the year. It is also time to have a conversation about your aspirations and goals for your child and how we can work together through the year to ensure that they are reached. These goals can take a variety of forms, academic, cultural, sporting and personal. Along with those goals, you can devise a plan with your child and their whanau teacher to support your child to reach their potential. Each hui will be about 25 mins long to give you plenty of time to get this important mahi done. Please help us support your child by making the time to meet with us. We will have more details about how you can book a time early next week.

Now that many students have found their feet, we are seeing an escalation in negative behaviours that teachers are having to deal with, both in the classroom and at break times. The way we deal with many minor behaviours we see in the first instance is through restorative practice. This means having a conversation with the child about what has been happening for them, how their behaviour affects them and others, and how they can put things right with the people they have hurt. Teaching rather than punishing. In most cases, this is enough for students to get it right from then on. When possible, we try to include whanau in this process as they are usually affected by what has happened also. We understand that young people will make mistakes and need to have the chance to learn from them.

However, we are getting to the stage with some of our tamariki where this approach is making no difference to their negative behaviour. In this instance, the only mechanism that we have to deal with ongoing negative behaviour is punitively, through stand downs and suspensions. The safety of our tamariki / mokopuna is paramount and when that is compromised through behaviours like fighting or organising fights, encouraging peers to leave the school grounds during the day, we have no choice but to use stand downs and suspensions to ensure the safety of the vast majority of our students who are consistently doing the right thing.

Nau reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

College Calendar

Friday 12 March

- Staff Only Day

Wednesday 17 March

- Year 7, 8 & Measles Vaccinations

- Year 8 Choice Programme

Thursday 18 March

- Year 7 Choice Programme

Friday 19 March

- Whanau Drop in Afternoon, 3.30 – 4.30pm

- Hui a Hāpori – Whakarongorua Marae

Monday 29 March

- Duffy Role Model Assembly

Monday 29 March - Thursday 1 April

- Year 12 Auckland Trip

Friday 2 – Tuesday 6 April

EASTER WEEKEND

Monday 12 April

- Year 9 Hearing & Vision Testing

Friday 16 April

- Last Day of Term 1

Monday 3 May

- First Day of Term 2

“Ka Kata Ngā Pūriri o Taiamai”

Good news of the week

Whakarongonrua Certificates this week went to:

7KP: Manaia Haynes & Mia-Rose Ogle

8PZ: Lukas Stewart, Brooke Stewart

9MD: Tyler Taito-Mokoraka, Katie Graham

9MH: Madison Lewis, Byron Menefy

9DA: Charlie-Gurl Foster

10PA: Josh Soady, Marlee Walker, Qtee O'Brien

10XX: Connagh Ward, Cyrus Loke

11LF: Mekayla Slade, Nicole Moon

11KK: Jacob Kake, Charlee Littin

12NF: Charlyse Tansey,

12DF: Devlin Lewis

13PW: Madeline Clunie, Te Rina Waterhouse

13BP: Emma Aukett, Tohu Harris

13DP: Elsie Quarrie, Hayley Bradley

Pouherenga Acknowledgement

Ngaru Paewhenua:

Elsie Quarrie, 13DP for exceptional leadership

Whanau Drop In Afternoon

All teaching staff will be available in our school marae, Whakarongorua, next Friday 19 March for our monthly Whanau Drop In Afternoon. This is an informal time for parents, caregivers or whanau to come in and meet with teachers (Whanau Teachers, Classroom / Subject Teachers / Heads of Department, Nga Pou Herenga, and Senior Leadership). The session runs from 3.30pm to 4.30pm, parking is available right outside, and the marae is wheelchair accessible. Refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing whanau then.

First Aid Course

During tomorrow's Teacher Only Day, a number of support staff are completing their bi-annual First Aid Refresher course with Simon Townsend from Pro-Med. They will be accompanied by the Year 11 and 12 POD students who are also completing this course to gain valuable skills and experience (and a few credits). We are hoping to get more senior students through this course during the year.

Vaccination Day

Wednesday 17 March

The Northland DHB team will be in school to carry out Yr 7, Yr 8 and Measles vaccinations.

Attendance

If your student is going to be absent from school, please let us know via phone (09 4019030 extension 200), email (absences@okaihau-college.school.nz), school app, or reply to the automated text sent. Thanks for your support.

Computer Coding - Free Trial Lessons

In today's world, it's essential for young people to learn how to create technology not just consume it. Coding NZ's lessons empower students with the tools they need and help give students the best chance at being successful in our increasingly digital age. Extend your child's awareness and horizons. Free trial lessons available now at codingnz.com/signup

Netball

We will be holding the following musters for any students interested in playing in the Saturday Kerikeri Competition.

Tuesday 16th March Year 7 & 8

Wednesday 17th March Year 9

Friday 19th March Year 7, 8 and 9

These will all be at the start of Lunchtime. Please bring suitable shoes.

Hockey

We will be holding a meeting on Tuesday at the start of lunchtime at the Gym for any students interested in playing hockey this season.

There is also a Skills and Drills session for Year 7 & 8 starting Tuesday night at Top Energy Turf starting at 5.30pm.

