



Papakura High School Panui Term 2 2020

On the 24th March our staff said goodbye to each other in the school hall, gathered in a large circle. While a devoted few stayed behind to help with the distribution of junior learning packs for students on Wednesday 25th, just hours before our level 4 lockdown began, the 24th was the last time we were together as a team of colleagues and as the Papakura High School staff.

We were all anxious about the weeks ahead of us, and the wellbeing of our families. Not one of us had any certainty about what was going to happen to our country, and what level of devastation our country might experience.

It is therefore with great pleasure that we can send you this newsletter, having survived the greatest event many of us have been through for many years. Learning carries on for our students and our school is intact. We are very thankful.

John Rohs
Principal



One of the most important aspects of our post lockdown return to school programme has been to look after the wellbeing of our students. As many of our families have been going through very challenging times, we decided that we would make sure that all students have available to them some hot food to help sustain them through the school day. We are very grateful to our community for both the donation of food items and the many willing helping hands which have helped to prepare the food on a daily basis. Thank you to whānau for helping prepare, cook and distribute this daily warm food and also to our professional hospitality team under whose watchful eye the preparations are made. Junior hospitality classes have also gained a great deal of skills and knowledge about catering and food preparation for large numbers through this programme.



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Principal's welcome

Dear parents, caregivers and friends of Papakura High School

What a great thrill it was to hear the Prime Minister Announce that our country is moving back to Level 1! When I think back to March of this year, who could have ever foreseen the crisis that was going to hit New Zealand and how much this was going to impact on education.

During the lockdown everything about teaching and learning was forced to change. As a school, along with all others, we did our best to get ready as quickly as we could. We had 200 families drive through the school on Wednesday 25th to collect the packs of learning materials which we prepared during the two preceding days. Once it was possible, we also organised the distribution of all the chromebooks which the school had available, to support our senior students. We also worked closely with the Ministry of Education to provide the information needed for the further distribution of chromebooks, and for the provision of modems for families to access the internet. This was a mammoth task.



In addition, the Papakura High staff got into gear very quickly, to turn all their teaching delivery into online classes. I am enormously grateful to our staff, who picked up the challenge to deliver their classes online. This gave the opportunity for a lot of creativity. Thanks to the marvels of modern information technology, my leadership team and I were able to "pop in" to classes and see how students were getting on with their learning. This was very exciting.

We all recognise that the slow shift back to "normal" has been very stressful for many students. This level of disruption to life has certainly had its impact on all of us, but it can be seen more so with our students, who are dealing with anxiety and stress. As a school, we are very fortunate in the amazing pastoral and wellness team we have - the members of this team were on their phones right through the lockdown checking up on our students and making sure they were OK. This has carried on since school resumed, with an important focus on student wellness.

Our Staff have been planning the extra supports which some of our NCEA students will need, in order to catch up with their studies. We will be having our school library open during the holiday break, and will have staff available to assist students with their work. The most important part of this programme will be to provide students with a quiet, warm place to study.

We had to make a lot of adjustments to school life as a result of the re-opening of school at level 3. While numbers were very small at this stage, we were still able to operate school on a limited basis with a small team of dedicated staff who came in to support these students. It was great to see the rest returning once we moved down to Level 2. The maintaining of physical distancing was quite a challenge, but as a school team we thoroughly prepared ourselves for the demands of level 2 in terms of the health and safety requirements which were mandated by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

Now that we are back to level 1, our focus can return to our students settling back into the school environment and routines, and secondly, to continue to closely monitor their wellbeing.

Kia Rangatira!

John Rohs
Principal

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New to Papakura High School

This term we have once again welcomed a number of new staff members, both teachers and support staff, to our school.



Gurpreet Chaudhary — Teacher of Science

Kia ora, my name is Gurpreet Singh Chaudhary. I was born and raised in Punjab, India. I gained my academic (MSc (chemistry); MEd) and professional (Bachelor of Education (secondary

teaching)) qualifications from India. I started my career as a Lecturer of Teaching of Physical Sciences and then worked as a secondary science teacher in India for 10 years. I moved to New Zealand in 2010 and I taught at various schools in Auckland as a relief teacher and as a tutor. After completing my Postgraduate diploma in science with specialisation in food science and food chemistry in 2017, followed by a Teacher Education Refresher course I began my teaching profession in New Zealand.

As a teacher of Science, I am passionate about the subject and enjoy delivering interesting lessons with a blend of innovative teaching-learning processes, so that I can provide unique opportunities for our tamariki. I also love encouraging my students to get involved with hands-on experiences by doing science projects with them. Presently we are working on hydroponics with my year 9 classes. I love seeing our tamariki grow academically and socially to become extraordinary citizens of Aotearoa.

In my spare time, I enjoy travelling around New Zealand, gardening, playing badminton and hiking.



Davie Leka — Teacher Aide

Malo e lelei and warm greetings
My name is Tevita Leka (Davie) and it's my blessing to be back home as I was an ex-head boy of Papakura High School. Finally time to give back to my community where I

was once a teenage boy. I have been in Papakura for nearly 10 years and hoping I can make a change within our Tamariki. Since leaving in 2015 I have always been back tutoring or teaching our students to participate/perform at ASB polyfest.

I look forward to my journey here at Papakura High School.

Tu'a Ofa Eiki Atu



Reetu Kaur — Teacher Aide

I am Reetu Kaur, I was born in Amritsar, India. I have lived most of my life in the UK and arrived in NZ in 2015. I have worked in customer services roles for over 15 years and have also worked as a corrections officer. I am

bringing my skills to help and support our young people and looking forward to working at Papakura High School.



Stephen Dowsett — PE & Health

Kia orana tatou katoatoa! My name is Stephen Dowsett and I'm looking forward to starting my role as Health and PE kaiako for Term Three and Four while Miss Samu is on maternity leave. I'm of Cook Island and Pakeha descent and currently have a little family of three to look after. I'm passionate about building and nurturing relationships with our rangatahi and have almost 10 years experience in the health, sport and recreation sector so I'm excited to share some of my knowledge. Little known fact - I'm also a self employed DJ! See you all around the kura.



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Kura Kai



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Fiafia Day

With the cancellation of the ASB Polyfest due to Covid 19, we decided to hold a fiafia day at school to acknowledge all the effort and time our students, families and staff had put into their performance items.

The school-based performances were held on Friday 20 March and each group performed twice, in both the school hall and the gym, to two different audiences to enable everyone who wanted to attend to be there, as the weather, unfortunately, did not permit outdoor performances to be held.



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Fiafia Day



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Student Achievement - Changes to NCEA for 2020

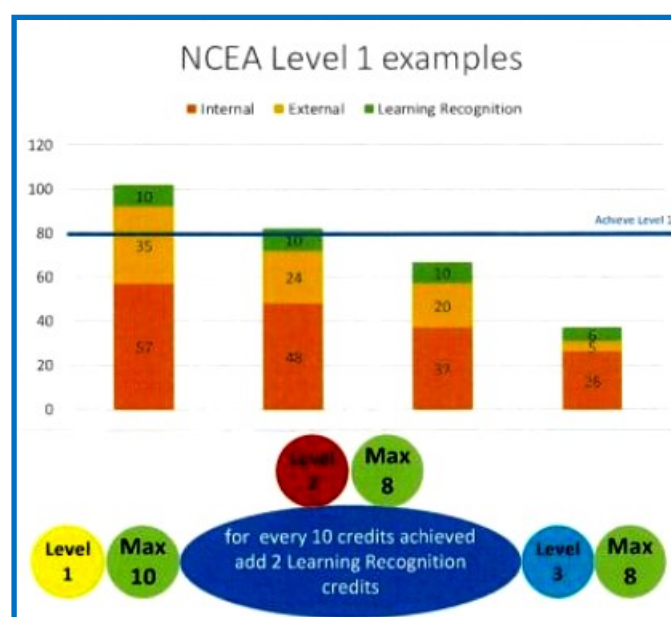
NCEA and UE changes 2020

We know some of our students - and their whānau - are worried that they might not be able to attain NCEA or UE this year, because of the disruption caused by COVID-19.

To help address this and support students, the following changes are being made to NCEA and University Entrance (UE) requirements for this year:

- Students working towards NCEA can gain additional credits, based on the number of credits they achieve during the 2020 school year. These additional credits will be known as Learning Recognition credits. For every 5 credits a student achieves towards their NCEA either through internal or external assessment, they are entitled to an additional 1 credit. Students at NCEA Level 1 are eligible for up to a maximum of 10 additional credits while those at Levels 2 and 3 are eligible for up to a maximum of 8 additional credits. These can not count for endorsement.
- Students will be awarded a certificate endorsement if they achieve 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, rather than the usual 50. Students achieving 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course – rather than 14 – will be awarded a course endorsement.
- Current UE requirements have been reduced from 14 to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects. Students still need to attain NCEA Level 3 and meet literacy and numeracy requirements to be awarded University Entrance.
- External NCEA examinations and NZ Scholarship examinations will now take place from **16 November 2020 to 9 December 2020**. This will provide extra time for teaching, learning and assessment in Term 4.
- The submission date for subjects which require students to submit a portfolio (for example, Design and Visual Communications) has been extended to 12 November 2020, to give students more time to complete their portfolios.

These changes have been designed to encourage students to continue working towards their NCEA and to ensure that the NCEA attained by our rangatahi this school year is just as valid as those earned in previous years.



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Student Achievement - Changes to NCEA for 2020

What does it mean for me?

The more credits you achieve, the more you are entitled to

- For every 5 credits you achieve through internal or external assessments, you are entitled to 1 more credit. These extra credits are called Learning Recognition Credits (LR Credits)
 - >> Up to 10 of your LR credits can count towards the 80 you need at NCEA Level 1
 - >> Up to 8 LR credits can count towards the 60 you need at Level 2 and Level 3.

Endorsements are still achievable

- To get a **certificate endorsement** this year you need 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, instead of the usual 50. Your LR credits don't come with Merit or Excellence so they can't count towards an endorsement
- To get **course endorsement** this year you need 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course rather than 14. You still need to achieve at least 3 credits in externals and 3 in internals.

University Entrance has been adjusted

- For 2020 the UE requirements have been adjusted from 14 down to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects. You still need to have NCEA Level 3 and the usual literacy and numeracy standards.

You've got more time to study

- Portfolio due dates and exams for NCEA and Scholarship have been moved to give you more time to learn and prepare

What else do I need to know?

- You must be enrolled in an NCEA course at a secondary school in 2020 to be entitled to LR credits
- Your LR credits won't show on your Record of Achievement (ROA), but you will be able to see how many you got through your Learner Login when you check your results next January
- If you don't complete your qualification this year, your LR credits will count towards that qualification in 2021

What do I need to do?

- Keep working to make sure you achieve as many standards as you can. The more you achieve, the more LR credits you are entitled to
- Your teachers will help you to track your progress. NZQA will do the calculations and count your LR credits towards your NCEA certificate. You don't need to do anything else.
- Make sure that you know when your portfolios are due and double check the new exam timetable.
- If you need any more information talk to your teacher, your kaitohutohu, your kaitiaki or Miss Mortimer, who manages NCEA at our school, or you can ring NZQA on 0800 697 296.



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Services Academy

On Friday 5 June the students in the Services Academy received their long-awaited uniforms.



Anzac Day Speech



A longstanding tradition of the Papakura ANZAC Day Civic Service, held at 9am every April 25th, has been that Head Prefects from both Papakura High School and Rosehill College give an address. This has provided a prestigious and important platform for our community to hear the voice of their young leaders. Although the service was unable to go ahead this year, we are still committed to providing that same opportunity. The theme for the speeches, at least in recent years, has been “What do the ANZACs mean for the youth of today?”

Here is Catherine Armstrong, Kaitiaki Whānau for Otuwairoa whānau, presenting the address that she would have delivered at the Civic Service, recorded from her home. [#StandAtHome](#) [#KaMaumaharaTouTātouKiARātou](#) [#KiaRangatira](#)

Gym Renovation



After five years of waiting, the renovation of our “old gym” is finally underway. Our original school gym has been in need of extensive renovation and this is now not far from complete. An entirely new ceiling layer has been installed, which is insulated, along with new lighting. To assist with the acoustics, the walls are being reclad and then covered with autex wall fabric. When completed, the gym will be unrecognisable to many of our whānau - it will be a warmer, drier and much quieter venue for sports and other gatherings. After such a long wait, we are delighted to have this wonderfully improved recreational space in our school.



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Samoan Language Week

Samoan Language week commenced as is always our custom, with the raising of the Samoan flag and the singing of the National Anthem. Unfortunately the day was bitterly cold and very wet. During the course of the week there were lunch time activities for students and staff and also cultural learning sessions for the staff during their normal morning meeting times. The week concluded with a magnificent island lunch (level 2 restrictions limited the catering options this year) and some cultural performances by our students to a large audience of teachers and students.



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Kootuitui ki Papakura



Whānau helping whānau through lockdown

Thanks to the generosity of funding organisations and individuals, Kootuitui staff and Whānau volunteers were able to assist our community with essential supplies over the COVID-19 lockdown. We spent many hours connecting by phone with about 350 families to identify their needs due to the impact of the pandemic. Our responses included providing food boxes, grocery cards to allow families to provide for their own specific needs, baby products, toiletries and clothing. We were granted essential service provider status as an organisation and Jan and Waihou Piahana were our two essential workers who did all our deliveries. They were supported by Kootuitui Whānau, Tamara Tairakena and Ferila Matua-Kuresa and other members of the Kootuitui ki Papakura team.



Photos above: left—Jan (Whānau Engagement Facilitator) with her husband - Waihou, loading food boxes for delivery.

Centre—Ferila connecting with whānau.

Right—Tamara connecting with whānau



Warm, Dry, Healthy Homes workshop

Is your house cold? Do you want help to prepare for winter?

Register your interest to attend a **free** Warm, Dry, Healthy Homes educational workshop
jan.piahana@kootuitui.org.nz or phone/text 021 269 1334

Date: Wed 24 June 2020

Time: 10am - 12.30pm (morning tea provided)

Venue: Papakura High School Seminar room

The workshop will provide tips on how to keep your house warm and healthy and show you how to read your power bill to help lower energy costs. At the workshop you can apply to have a **free house assessment** and afterwards **free products installed** which include curtains, curtain tracks, bubble wrap for your windows, v-seal and door draught stoppers.



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Important Information for 2020



With the outbreak of COVID-19 and the Alert Level 4 lockdown restrictions, term dates for 2020 were changed with the April school holidays brought forward by two weeks.

As there were two staff only days to prepare for both going in to lockdown and the return to school, previously planned teacher only days have been cancelled.

This means that the term dates for 2020 are as below, and not as previously published.

Term Dates 2020

Term 1 2020 - Thursday 30 January to Friday 27 March

Term 2 2020 - Wednesday 15 April to Friday 3 July

Term 3 2020 - Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September

Term 4 2020 - Monday 12 October to Friday 11 December

Friday 10 April

Monday 13 April

Tuesday 14 April

Monday 27 April

Monday 1 June

Monday 26 October

Good Friday

Easter Monday

Easter Tuesday

Anzac Day

Queen's Birthday

Labour Day

Thursday 6 August

Junior Report Conferences

Lesson Times Term 2 2020

Period	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
	8.50 - 9.10	8.50 - 9.10			8.50 - 9.10
	Kaitohutohu	Kia Rangatira			Kaitohutohu
Period 1	9.10 - 10.10	9.10 - 10.10	8.50 - 9.50	8.50 - 9.50	9.10 - 10.10
Period 2	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	9.50 - 10.50	9.50 - 10.50	10.10 - 11.10
	Break 1 = 25 minutes				
Period 3	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.15 - 12.10	11.15 - 12.10	11.35 - 12.35
Period 4	12.35 - 1.35	12.35 - 1.35	12.10 - 1.05	12.10 - 1.05	12.35 - 1.35
	Break 2 = 45 minutes				
Period 5	2.20 - 3.10	2.20 - 3.10	1.50 - 2.40	1.50 - 2.40	2.20 - 3.10

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Papakura High School Charitable Trust



The Papakura High School Charitable Trust has been in existence for over two years now, with members Jo Clegg, Claire Fogarty and Michael Talbot (all of whom are ex-students of the school) and Rosalie Freeman (from the Board of Trustees). We are working to build a fund which can be used to support students learning within the school, and to also be a vehicle to apply for funding from other charitable organisations for specific programmes and projects.

The purpose of the Trust is to further the education and welfare of students, through financial assistance, clothing, books, equipment, use of facilities, counselling, scholarships, outdoor education and other appropriate assistance.

Last year we were able to secure some business sponsorship which allowed us to provide funding for a set of sports tracksuits for the school. We would like to be able to add to this uniform pool, so that more of our sports teams can benefit from looking and feeling good about themselves. Do you own a business in Papakura or do you work for a business in Papakura who you think might be interested in sponsoring further tracksuits? The business logo would go on the back of the tracksuits, providing ongoing advertising for your/their generosity. Please contact us by email at [trustboard @ phsalumni.school.nz](mailto:trustboard@phsalumni.school.nz) if you are interested in supporting us in this endeavour.

Maybe you would like to support us with a donation to our general fund. All donations would be gratefully received. Our bank account details are: ASB 12-3658-0000991-00

Further information about the Trust can be found on the school website www.papakurahigh.school.nz/charitable-trust.

Thanks to all our supporters

We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who support our school: The Hugo Charitable Trust; The Rotary Club of Papakura; The Rising Foundation; Kootuitui ki Papakura; The Trillian Trust; Tu Kotahi - the Key to Life Charitable Trust; The Graham Dingle Foundation and the Papakura High School Charitable Trust. We are very appreciative of all that you do for our students.



Papakura High School
Charitable Trust



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Golden rules for everyone at Alert Level 1

While the risk of exposure to COVID-19 is now low, there are some Golden Rules we should all follow to help prevent future spread.

1. If you're sick, stay home. Don't go to work or school. Don't socialise.
2. If you have cold or flu symptoms call your doctor or Healthline and make sure you get tested.
3. Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.
4. Sneeze and cough into your elbow, and regularly disinfect shared surfaces.
5. If you are told by health authorities to self-isolate you must do so immediately.
6. If you're concerned about your wellbeing, or have underlying health conditions, work with your GP to understand how best to stay healthy.
7. Keep track of where you've been, when and who you've seen to help contact tracing if needed. Use the NZ COVID Tracer app as a handy way of doing this.
8. Businesses should help people keep track of their movements by displaying the Ministry of Health QR Code for contact tracing.
9. Stay vigilant. There is still a global pandemic going on. People and businesses should be prepared to act fast to step up alert levels if we have to.
10. People will have had different experiences over the last couple of months. Whatever you're feeling — it's okay. Be kind to others. Be kind to yourself.

There are no physical distancing requirements at Alert Level 1. You can still play it safe by continuing to keep a distance from people you don't know. Use your judgement. The more space there is between you and others, the harder it is for COVID-19 to spread.



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