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NUA NEWS

Tēnā koutou e ngā Mātua me ngā Whaea

July 2020

Kia ora koutou, Talofa lava, Greetings everyone

From day 1 way back at the start of Term 1 the first half of 2020 has developed into a completely unique experience due to COVID-19. For teaching staff, the two terms essentially merged into one so it has been a long but unique journey since January. Now that we have got to the end of the term it is an opportunity to reflect on the journey travelled. There have certainly been many challenges but also many highlights.

Putting learning programmes 100% online created challenges for staff but I am absolutely proud of the way our teachers managed this and enabled students to continue learning from home. I am also immensely impressed with the way parents engaged with their students learning during lockdown. Numerous parents have made comment to me about how they enjoyed being involved with their students learning and seeing how the online programmes worked.

On return to college students have very quickly picked up where they left off. There are still levels of anxiety for senior students as they work hard to ensure their NCEA levels are achieved. This will be possible with consistent application so students should not be anxious about this.

We have all earned a holiday. Shortly we begin Term 3 and I look forward to all this will bring. In the meantime, thank you everybody for partnering with us through the first half of this year and I look forward to being back in contact as we begin Term 3.

Ngā mihi, Tofa soifua, Kind regards

Grant Congdon

Principal



A Word from the Board Chair

Kia ora koutou katoa

Winter temperatures seem to have finally arrived and I do hope you are keeping warm these holidays. For both our staff and students, it has probably seemed a very long term given that under Covid-19 lockdown Terms 1 and 2 seemed to merge. Nevertheless, it has been great to see all our staff and students safely back at school, with sports, cultural and service activities resuming (albeit many in altered/reduced form). The Board continues to be focused on the wellbeing of our students and staff and on supporting student achievement, and we will continue to build on some of the benefits that came from the shift to online learning.

During Lockdown we held Board of Trustee meetings using Zoom, but it was so good to be able to have our last meeting face to face. We were also able to hold our annual meeting this term, with the Senior Leadership Team, Heads of our Faculties (languages, arts, maths, science, physical education, technology), and our special education needs coordinator. At this meeting we received comprehensive reports on what had been achieved in the previous year and we discussed next steps for Horowhenua College in terms of teaching and learning. The reports that we received at this meeting represent the huge amount of work by all teaching and support staff that has gone into growing successful young people, and we are always amazed at the creative and dedicated efforts of our staff to lift student achievement. We have more to do but it is so good to feel staff, management and the Board are on the 'same page' in terms of the strategic direction for the college!

We are looking forward to our college Open Night which will be held in the first week of Term 3 and we are excited about sharing the highlights of our curriculum and school culture with prospective students and their whanau. As the year progresses, we look to celebrating together the achievements of our students through recognitions of academic, sports, arts, culture and service achievements.

On behalf of the Board, I would just like to thank our staff and parents for all they have done to support the learning of our young people during a challenging time. I do hope you all keep safe and well.

Noho ora mai

Juliana Mansvelt

Board of Trustees Chair

Dylan Kiriona - New staff

Our apologies! Dylan was left off the new staff introductions in the last newsletter. Dylan has moved from a position on our Board of Trustees and a teaching position at Poroutawhao School to Teacher of Māori and Social Studies at college and is sharing the role of Māori Dean with Chris Wilton.





Well Being Prefects





Well-being Website

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak in NZ, life at school changed drastically and as Well-being Prefects we decided to take action within our school community and we created a website called 'NUA Well-being'. This site provided students and staff with challenges or activities related to all aspects of Hauora to participate in during lockdown. The Well-being Committee updated this website every Sunday to ensure that students had new challenges to try out throughout the week. Among the other challenges we had on the site, we featured the 'Length of New Zealand Challenge' initiated by our Sports Prefects and our schools 'Spot the Tot Quiz'. The participation shown by the students and staff was immense and we were happy to be able to serve the school community through this way.

Teacher Appreciation Notes

On the 30th of June, the Well-being Committee alongside Mrs Duncan initiated the 'Teacher Appreciation Notes'. We went to every whānau class with an envelope filled with a template of notes. Students and Staff were encouraged to write a positive message to one or multiple teachers. The following day, all envelopes were distributed to staff filled out by our students. The purpose of this was to boost teacher morale, spread kindness and show our appreciation for all the hard work that our teachers do. Many teachers were thankful for the notes.

Teacher Name: _____
Message: _____ _____ _____ _____
Your Name (optional): _____
 WE APPRECIATE YOU 

Student Voice Form

This term, we were able to relaunch our Student Voice Form for this year. This form is a platform where students can freely voice their concerns or issues about themselves, a friend or someone that they know may need help. This is simply done by filling out an online form that will be sent directly to our Pastoral Team. It's an awesome initiative that enables our Pastoral team to get into contact with the student quickly and resolve the problem. Our school's Student Voice Form also made an appearance on One News which was very exciting.

Tonga Ngaluafe and Jamie Harper
Head Girl and Head Boy



Social Action Prefects

World Vision: 40 Hour Famine 2020

Over thirty Horowhenua College Students participated in the World Vision: 40 Hour Famine between the 5th to 7th June. This year's 40 Hour Famine focus was on the growing impact climate change is having on the lives and livelihoods of the people of Malawi whose source of food and income is dependent upon whether or not they have had a good harvest. A flood or a drought could mean the difference between a child having food or going to school hungry. The 40 Hour Famine this year saw individuals undertake challenges ranging from no food to no furniture and no technology to living outside for 40 Hours. Because of COVID-19, as Social Action Prefects we had to approach fundraising from a different angle, moving the school's fundraising efforts to an online platform. This move was highly successful and enabled students to more effectively raise funds to support families and children in Malawi. Because of the enormous effort put in by our students and the generosity of our community, as a school, we collectively raised over \$6700. This is enough money to give eighty families two goats each and provide them with food and income, thereby ensuring that the rights of the people of Malawi are being upheld. This is an amazing contribution from our students to our global society and as Social Action Prefects, we are immensely proud of all those that took part. Finally, we would also like to thank Miss Lewis for all the support she has given us in organising this year's 40 Hour Famine. We really appreciate it.

Carter Maddock and Jamie Harper
Social Action Prefects





Academic Prefects



In the final two weeks of Term 2, the Academic Committee and ourselves held 'The Horowhenua College Chase'. This was its debut as an inter-house academic competition and saw students and teachers alike involved in both competitor and spectator capacities to test their general knowledge prowess. The competition was based on and closely followed the television series 'The Chase' and was divided into junior and senior rounds. The competition between the teams of each group was close and made for an enjoyable competition to watch, aided especially by Mr Stachurski's hosting. The end of this competition saw Kōwhai's team win the 'Junior Chase' and Rātā's team win the 'Senior Chase'. Be sure to watch Mr Congdon's video on the Horowhenua College Facebook page to see some of the event in action. We must offer our sincere gratitude and thankfulness to those who helped organise and run the event as well as those who competed and watched. Without such support, the event would not have taken place nor achieved the results we hoped for. Overall, the event provided an enjoyable and competitive environment for those competing and those spectating. With this in mind, we are sure that future competitions in years to come will add value to this: something the staff and students at college will be sure to enjoy.

Brianna Chow and Ethan Roentgen
Academic Prefects



Sports Prefects



The Sports Committee was proud to host its first inter-house sports event of the year in weeks 9 and 10 of this past term with the dodgeball competition. Due to the unfortunate timing of the global pandemic, our event schedule was thrown a bit into limbo but thanks to some dedicated and hard-working individuals on the sports committee the two-week long tournament came off without a hitch.

A very big congratulations to the Rātā Juniors and the Kōwhai Seniors for winning each of their respective age-group tournaments, and our thanks are extended to the participating teams from the other houses and also to those who came to watch every game and made them such a supportive and competitive environment.

In true Horowhenua College fashion, our Year 13's were challenged by the staff to a game of the most recent inter-house event. The year 13 vs staff dodgeball was a very closely fought affair, with the Year 13's winning the first game in a convincing 8 or so minutes. One game, felt the staff, wasn't a true representation of their talents, and so, riskily, they challenged a second game. After some truly nail-biting phases of play, the staff pulled out on top. A final seemed inevitable, and after discussion between the teams, a deciding match began. Thanks to some heroics from some unlikely characters, and a hilariously rousing chant, the teachers beat back the Year 13's and won 2 games to 1. Such an even contest was a fitting end to the term, and we look forward to our busy schedule of events next term, including futsal and unihoc.

Isaac Bishop and Nicole Parata
Sports Prefects



Just a couple of photos of the winning crew !!





Rangatahi Ora

Tēnā koutou katoa

We continue to acknowledge the commitment of our rangatahi who choose to engage in our Rangatahi Ora activities. Each day begins with karakia and pānui during whānau time in the Whare before everyone heads off to their own classes. But it is not long before many of them make their way back to the Whare during their breaks to chill out together, listen to music and just be themselves.

Tikanga Tuesday

During Tuesday lunch times the Whare is packed with our rangatahi keen to learn new karakia, waiata, haka and their mihimihi/pepeha. As always in a Māori educational setting we always have a lot of fun learning together.



Kaitahi Thursday

A highlight of our week is Shared Kai on Thursdays. We are appreciative of the koha that our whānau share so that we may catch up and have a kai together. Usually it is held outside the Whare however on wet days we all manage to fit into our small Wharekai. This is an awesome opportunity to practice our karakia and learn tikanga around kai.

Hāngi

This term we were finally able to have our hāngi fundraiser for our teina. Together with the support of our parents and whānau our teina worked hard to ensure it was successful. For many of them it was their first time being a part of the process from the beginning to the end: a huge responsibility and a sign of their commitment to the kaupapa, giving up their own time to come and help.



Wānanga Wednesday

On Wednesday afternoons during senior study time some of our tuakana students go to Fairfield School to engage with a group of their Māori students for Wānanga Wednesday. This is a tikanga Māori programme where our tuakana take on a leadership role to build whānaungatanga as they help younger students learn about being Māori through karakia, waiata, haka, pepeha, karanga and whaikōrero.

All these Rangatahi Ora experiences enrich their college life and allow them to have a support network with each other that is at times, far greater than what we can give them as kaiako. Ngā mihi.

Chris Wilton and Dylan Kiriona
Māori Deans / Rangatahi Ora Co-ordinators



Rangatahi Ora



Tuakana Teina in action at St Joseph's School Matariki Celebration





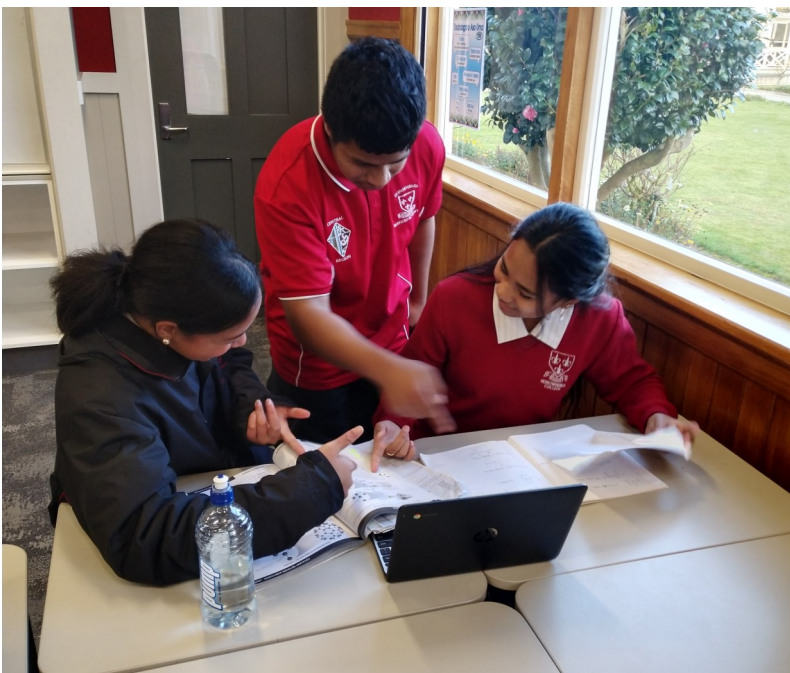
He Vaka Moana



Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Malo, Mauri, Ni sa bula vinaka

The end of Term 2 saw the launch of He Vaka Moana, our Pasifika mentorship programme. He Vaka Moana references the ancient ocean practices Polynesians used where they would tie together vaka moana (sea-faring vessels) to share resources, information and food. When they had gained all they could, they would untie and continue on their journey. Through this programme we hope students are able to come together and share all that they have and gain what they need for the journey that lies ahead.

Part of the programme offers a study space after school for students to finish homework, assessments or study for upcoming tests. In these study sessions students have been working together in year levels while senior students offer help and tutelage when necessary. A teacher is also present to help supervise.



Thank you to all the teachers, students and parents who have supported this programme and we look forward to working with your students in the start of Term 3.

Jessica Foster
Science Teacher



Who did it!!!!

At the end of Term 2 the library became a crime scene as students arrived at school and found a murder had taken place. A teacher had been killed!

A list of suspects was quickly determined and students had 6 days to work their way through the daily clues and figure out who the killer was. Thanks to the teachers who became suspects for the event. They got a good grilling from students as to their whereabouts and alibis.

At the end of the competition, 6 students managed to work out the killer and get the motive correct. They were: Elizebeth Logologo, Johann Fuauli, Amiria McGhie, Jack Keene, Cate Parata and Salaina Fuauli.

Carole Brungar, Library Manager



1 Head Librarians Zoe and Olyvia tape the outline of the deceased.

2 Mrs Baker Fraser helps Librarian Joshua roll out the crime scene tape

3 Librarian Daniel helps prepare the list of suspects.



4 Police nab the killer!!!!





Horticulture Academy



Our Horticulture Academy students were happy to be out after lockdown with tractor training, installing electric fencing and weed control out on the farm in Feilding.





9cM Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Trip



9cM visited the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Museum in Foxton to see the Matariki exhibition and the Maori/Dutch tours. They also visited the Flax Stripper Museum and learnt about the science of Harakeke.

Services Academy

Term 2 for the Academy was a definite challenge and adjusting back at school after lockdown still required health and safety measures. The students have returned ready and raring to get on with school work and meeting their friends. The Academy has upcoming NZDF courses to attend in the months to come.





Building News



Since the start of the year we have seen significant property developments at our college. The Arts Block has had a total upgrade and now there are three fabulous classrooms specifically designed for our art students. The south wing of A Block has been gutted and replaced with three totally refurbished classrooms, with two more that will be finished at the end of the holidays. One of these classrooms is specifically designed for our Services Academy. This will be a purpose-built home for them.

North Block was demolished over a series of weeks. This is now a flat piece of land and over the next three weeks this will be returned to a level grassy space.

Six unisex toilets have been build and these are greatly appreciated by the students.





Building Updates





Building Updates





Eat Up

Horowhenua College had the privilege of hosting the first sandwich making session post COVID lockdown for Eat Up New Zealand! We had students and staff stay after school to make sandwiches - 645 sandwiches in an hour. All the sandwiches were delivered to local schools the next day.

[Eat Up New Zealand](#) is a registered charity and all of the sandwiches are made by volunteers, either during events hosted by companies or in public sessions. Their sandwich making sessions are fast, fun and impactful. They bring all the ingredients and supplies, and you provide a suitable space (lunch room, boardroom, large meeting room etc) and your team as volunteers. Sessions are 60 - 120 minutes, and 10 - 20 people are needed per session where 500-1000+ sandwiches are made for hungry kids.

It's a great team building and staff engagement activity, and a powerful way for any organisation to give back in a tangible and meaningful way.





Sports News

It is great to see our students back to sports post COVID-19. A big thanks to all staff, students and volunteers for their cooperation and patience as we get our teams competing.

Basketball - Senior A Boys Team

Great start to their season, a win over arch rivals Waiopahu 70-61, unfortunately going down 56-73 against Hato Paora last Friday.

Junior A Boys Team

Some tough competition for our boys playing in the Premier Grade, improving week by week 43-59 vs Waiopahu, 40-55 vs QEC and 51-56 vs PNBHS Yellow.

Senior Girls

Unfortunately, we didn't quite have the numbers to field our own Nua Team, but the following girls have joined forces with Waiopahu: Micah Esclamado, Jayde Hei Hei, Justyce Cootes, Ashlee Millard and Shirley Wakefield-Taunoa.

Basketball Camp

This was held in our school gym on Monday 13 and Wednesday 15 July for seniors 9am -12pm and Tuesday 14 and Thursday 16 July for juniors 9am - 12pm.

Football - U15 Boys

Big win over PNBHS Orange 15-1 to start grading, but went down to PNBHS Blue 0-2

U17 Boys

12-0 win over PNBHS 6th X1 and a hard fought draw against Waiopahu 1-1

U19 Boys

6-3 win against Whanganui Collegiate and a 0-0 draw against Feilding High



Girls 1st X1

1-0 win over Waiopahu, unfortunately falling short against St Peter's 0-1

Hockey - Boys 1st X1

Awesome start from our boys winning both games so far 3-0 and 8-0.

Girls 1st X1

1-0 win against Freyberg to start this season off, but going down to Tararua 2-4.

Netball - Senior A Team

With a new indoor netball competition our girls have started well, they beat ATL Blue 34-20, drew against Waiopahu 20-20 and had a great win against Foxton 26-25



Sports News



Rugby - U15 Boys Team

I am super proud of these boys - they played their grading games with great heart and commitment, beating Manukura 31-10 and narrowly going down to Hato Paora 12-17.



Good luck to Shirley Wakefield-Taunoa and Troy Beckham who will be attending the Matakesi Rugby Clinic run by New Zealand Rugby 7's captain Sarah Hirini during the holidays at Massey Institute of Rugby.

Ngā mihi
Andi Hirini
Sports Coordinator



Open Evening 23 July 2020

HOROWHENUA COLLEGE
Open Evening

**THURSDAY
23 JULY
7:00PM
COLLEGE HALL**

Parents and Year 8 students are warmly invited to join us
Come and see what we have to offer for 2021

College Contact Details

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We also use our facebook page for messages and updates

<https://www.facebook.com/Horowhenua College>