

Kia ora koutou
Dear Parents / Whānau

Welcome back to Term two and hopefully everyone enjoyed the break.

Buses

Thank you for your patience earlier this week with a couple of late buses to contend with.

Thames Bus: we are still waiting on word from *Go Bus* when the hoped for Thames run can be reinstated.

We have had incidents this past week of students allegedly vaping and / or smoking marijuana on one of the bus runs. The driver has been unable to identify exactly who is responsible and we urge students to pass on any information so this can be addressed. Confidentiality will be protected.

Students have been warned that if they are identified as vaping or involved in any form of drugs on the school bus, that there will be serious consequences at school and be removed off the bus possibly for the rest of the year.

Go Bus have **School Bus driving positions** available. Full training will be given however you must have held a full class 1 drivers licence for at least 2 years. Drug and Alcohol testing and Police checks apply. Please contact Gary on 027-375-4189 or Gary.Brown@gobus.co.nz for more information.

Junior and Senior Reports

Junior reports will be issued on Friday 13th May. The reports will cover subject grades from Term one and a River Guide comment.

The opportunity to discuss your child's report is available on Thursday 19th May 4 - 8pm; we encourage both students and parents to attend these interviews. Information about online bookings will be communicated in next week's e-Bulletin.

Senior reports will be issued on Tuesday 31st May followed by Subject Teacher Interviews on Thursday 2nd June.

Teacher Accord Day

Thursday 12th May is a Staff Professional Development day (Teachers only). This has been provided by the Ministry to all secondary schools throughout NZ to work on significant changes to NCEA which are coming in next year.

We will be working with a Ministry advisor on the new literacy and numeracy requirements at NCEA Level 1 which will impact on current Years 9 and 10 students in future years.

COVID Update

It feels good to have school almost back to 'normal' under the *Orange* framework.

Masks are not required generally during the school day either outdoors or in classes but we are expecting students to wear a mask at school assemblies (either Monday or Tuesday morning).

The reason for this is that a large number of students are in a relatively confined space. Generally assemblies last for no more than 20 minutes, so mask wearing is reassuring for those who

are concerned about the spread of Covid.

Masks are still required on school buses.

People who have genuine reasons for not being able to wear a face mask, can access a new personalised exemption card from the end of May. These cards can be applied for through the Ministry of Health [link](#).

From what we understand, bus drivers will be expecting students to show this card to demonstrate that they are mask exempt.

Attendance

Under *Orange*, all students are expected to be back at school and attending regularly. Although teachers will put up an overview of the week's work online Monday morning, it is not expected that teachers are teaching students online.

Please contact the school if there are any reasons why your child cannot return to school.

Thank you for those parents who are keeping us informed when your child had contacted Covid or is isolating for 7 days.

Academic Tutorials

Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 23 during lunchtime for all students. Students are encouraged to come along to catch up with homework or clarify their learning. Teachers and Student Academic Leaders will be there to give support and guidance. All welcome.

Student Services

The Ministry of Education is providing period products (pads and tampons) to students through the Ikura Initiative. We will have products available for students to pick up and take home, as well as having dispenser units in our school bathrooms.

Careers

There has been another change of date for the Defence Forces visit. This is now scheduled to go ahead on Thursday 9th June (Week 6) at 12:30pm in the School Hall. Nearer to the time students will need to register their name with Whaea Toni at the Careers Centre. This will be advertised in the school notices.

A reminder to all students who have put their name down at the Student Centre to attend the Waikato Uni Open Day or are going to do so, you must register to attend. The link to do so is on both the Year 12 and 13 Careers Classroom pages.

Lincoln University Liaison Visit: Tuesday 10th May 10:40am in the Careers Centre.

Auckland University Liaison Visit: Monday 16th May at 12:50pm in the Careers Centre.

Dog Logic Talk

Dog training demonstration - Ngatea Hall Saturday 7th May at 10am. Limited tickets, flyer attached [here](#) for more information.

Ngairé Harris
PRINCIPAL