

# Newsletter



**PUKEKOHE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Issue Eight, 22 September 2023**

## From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

Term three has been a busy time for our school. I would like to acknowledge and celebrate all the hard work and success of our staff and students. The wide range of activities our students have participated in really showcases the rich diversity within our school. Throughout this newsletter, you will see examples of sporting successes from events such as winter tournament week, arts, music and cultural performances, and academic success. Our students should be proud of their achievements and the manner in which they have represented our school and community.



This term we welcomed Murray Saunders as Deputy Principal to our senior leadership team. Murray came to us with extensive experience in education, including most recently as Deputy Principal at Onehunga High School. We are also delighted to announce that Hester Myburgh has been appointed to a Deputy Principal position. Hester has worked at Pukekohe High School for the past five years and has been a valuable member of our Kaitiaki Aakonga team.

Our senior students will have three weeks of timetabled classes next term before being on study leave. They should be focused on preparation for their external NZQA examinations, and I would encourage them to attend the Study Hub tutorials during week four of the term. Details regarding these tutorials will be sent to all senior students and families.

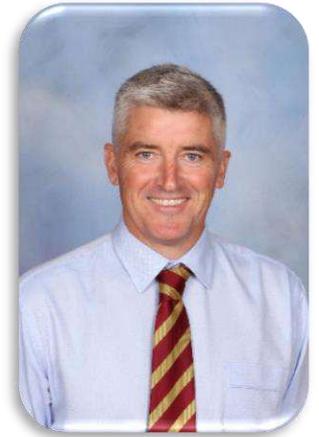
I would like to wish all students and whaanau a safe term break and look forward to a productive term four.

Ngā mihi,  
Richard Barnett  
Principal

## From the Board of Trustees

Kia ora koutou,

Term three has been a busy term for everyone connected to Pukekohe High School. It has been fantastic to see our rangatahi achieving high results both inside and outside the classroom. The success of our sports teams during tournament, our stage band, our art students, and the growth of our kapa haka and cultural groups, give us pride as a school. The growth and achievement in these areas reflect the mahi and effort that our staff and community put in to ensure our students have the opportunity to shine. As a Board we appreciate the support you give your children to allow them to be part of these experiences. A huge thank you also to our staff for the extra effort they put in to make these opportunities a reality for our rangatahi.



Ngaa mihi nui, thank you for your input to the appointment criteria for our new Tumuaki Principal. It was fantastic to receive a number of responses to our survey seeking this feedback. We appreciate your input into this crucial decision for our kura. It is a decision that we don't take lightly and having your input helps hugely in this process. This advertisement is now live with applications closing on the 13 October. We are looking for someone to continue to grow and guide our school forward.

It is great to see the steady progress on our new classroom block at the front of the school site. This is an exciting development for our school and one that is keenly anticipated by both staff and students. This build is still on schedule to be opening in the first few weeks of Term one next year. This will be a great resource for our school.

Ngaa mihi again for your support this term.

Pukekohe High School Board

## Grading Exams

In week 6 conducted our senior grading exams. The exams served the important purpose of assessing students' progress and it provided them with grades based on authentic, standard-specific evidence. These grades are also vital as they ensure that students have a true representation of their abilities in case, they are unable to complete the end-of-year NCEA exams due to temporary circumstances such as illness, injury, trauma, or a serious event.

The exams were well attended reflecting the dedication of both students and staff to get the best possible outcomes. Students have received feedback and marks which are crucial as it allows them to understand their strengths and weaknesses, helping them to focus their efforts on areas that need improvement in preparation for the upcoming end-of-year NCEA exams.

In June this year a select group of Year 10 students trialed the new NCEA Literacy and Numeracy assessments that they will undertake in 2024 as year 11s. While the standards themselves are different, so is the way in which these are assessed with the students using laptops to complete them under NZQA's new "digital first" approach to assessments. Based on

how successful our students were in June we have opened this up to all Year 10 students to attempt them. While students do not need to sit these over 200 students have chosen to do so.

Students will now be supported to learn not only the information needed to undertake these but also the skills needed to complete them digitally. While students will for the most part complete these on their own devices the school can support students where needed who do not have their own device.

Martin Bennett  
Principal's Nominee - Kaitakawaenga ki te Tumuaki

## Thorminator Challenge

Earlier this week our school was fortunate to be selected to host Joel Leonard and his Thorminator Challenge, who is in New Zealand as a guest of the Maintenance and Engineering Society (MESNZ) to speak at their upcoming conference.

The Thorminator Challenge involves small groups of students who are tasked with adopting the roles of civil engineer, mechanical engineer and forensic engineer. The civil engineers had to build a structure to keep an egg safe from the impact of the massive hammer which was wielded by the mechanical engineers. The forensic engineers then analysed the outcome of why and how the eggs survived, or not.

Joel Leonard is a leader in building pipelines of skilled technicians in the maintenance, manufacturing, and engineering careers. Leonard is taking modern manufacturing equipment into rural and underserved areas of the Carolinas to expose youth and adults to tools and equipment that can lead them to prosperous career pathways.

Thank you to local MP Andrew Bayly for dropping by to check out our students gaining first-hand experience about engineering.



## Mainfreight – 100 year philosophy – Trip by Level 2 Business Studies

The level 2 business students visited Mainfreight, Mangere Branch (near the airport) recently. Esmond Lum, Branch Manager, (ex PHS student) took us for a tour of their distribution centre and airfreight division.

Safety first, the students needed to wear hi viz, closed in shoes, and listen to the health and safety briefing. After that we were able to enter the airfreight division where fresh produce, flowers and fish is either exported overseas or alternatively sent to supermarkets and stores from imported goods on airplanes. It was interesting to see MPI, (Ministry of Primary Industries) there to check a recent arrival of flowers for any unwanted pests (bio security). One of the chiller rooms was -28 degrees C.

Next we viewed the cool store and distribution centre of Mainfreight's customers like Goodman Fielder, RJ'S and other high profile brands. This is where Mainfreight picks orders and sends them to the supermarkets and retailers for their customers.

Having a forklift license is obviously very important – they were rushing around collecting and moving stock with plenty of quiet speed (electric forklifts).

The students learned some of Mainfreight's policies and procedures, quality measures, leadership style, and sustainability (corporate social responsibility) – to help them understand how to improve their writing in the upcoming external examination. The students need to have studied a NZ global company to use in the exam.

Thank you for hosting us Mainfreight – it was a great experience for our students.



## Puuhoro Waananga Term 3 2023

On Friday the 8th of September thirteen Pukekohe High School (PHS) Puuhoro students went to the term 3 waananga. This program supports Maaori students who intend to study STEMM subjects through their school subjects and beyond. This was the last school puuhoro event for these Yr 13 students. The three year 13 students that were able to attend were Tyler Hickmott, Willow Phillips and Indi Mc Queen. They were presented to by some successful Maaori mentors, namely Minister Peeni Henare, among others and enjoyed the comradery of Maaori students from across Tamaaki Makaanau. Many were brought to tears as the final haka was performed to show their appreciation for the mentors and tutors of the Puuhoro program. This cohort (2020 intake) of PHS students has shown dedication and commitment to their academic studies in the STEMM subjects. They are looking to continue their studies in these fields in various tertiary institutes. I have been privileged to support this program and these exceptional Maaori academics through their PHS Puuhoro journey and I wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.



Although their time for in-school tutoring and support has ended the Puuhoro trust program will continue to support them onto tertiary studies, offering student liaisons, mentors, internships, and scholarship opportunities (where possible).

We had two Year 12 students in attendance, Jayden Tanenui and Vahn Waitai. They were entertained by a variety of activities and discussions including some engineering experience (building a catapult). The 2023 Yr 11 students that were able to attend were Chelsea Honetana, Ameria Mc Clutchie-Nesbitt, Streme Clarke, Konner Cowell, Fern Taiapa and Oceana Taaka -Te Kaute. These students all represented PHS with pride and integrity. The future of STEM and Puuhoro is looking bright in their capable hands.

Thank you to Waiki Taiapa and Rawinia Amstad for supporting the Puuhoro program and accompanying us for the day.

I look forward to recruiting next year's Yr 11 students and supporting these students into meaningful pathways in the STEMM subjects.

Sarah Tonorio (ESS & Sci Teacher PHS)

## Te Wiki O Te Reo Maaori

Last week our kura enjoyed many aspects of Te Ao Māori. From pūkana, ki o rahi and waiata challenges, to fry bread, hangi, and performances from our Kapa Haka Ngā Uri o te Kohekohe.

A warm welcome and special thank you to the newest member of our Māori team (and kapa haka extraordinaire), Motown Hemopo-Parata.

He mihi nui ki a koutou katoa i tō tautoko tō manaakitanga hoki mō te wiki o Te Reo Māori. Kia Kaha Te Reo Māori!!



Also thanks Ruby Tui for dropping in on kapa haka practice at Pukekohe High School!

## School Board Parent Mid Term Election 2023

### **Nomination round**

Our school will be undertaking a mid term parent election for 2 School Board vacancies. This process will start with the issuing of nomination papers to our caregiver community by Friday 22nd September 2023.

We have employed CES to undertake the election process on our behalf. This year with legislative change, our nomination form and full instruction on how to place your nomination into our own School's Election website will be emailed to you if we have your email address in our database or you will receive it by post if we don't have your email in our database.

Nomination papers will also be available at the school office. The school will send those on to CES for processing upon receipt from candidates.

Nominations close on Wednesday 11th October at 12 noon. Election day is Wednesday 15th November.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Wayne Jamieson  
Returning Officer

CES

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## Ringa Toi Student Exhibition at Te Papa

Our talented student artists were able to view their work on display in the most prominent places of the exhibition. Martin Langdon, Senior Advisor Tikanga a rua provided a short tour around Te Papa and gave inside knowledge of all our taonga and the impact artists have on Te Papa.



## Pukekohe High School Rugby Awards

Our 2023 Pukekohe High School Rugby Awards held last Monday evening.

It was a great evening to acknowledge and celebrate a successful rugby season. Thank you to our guests on the evening from the PIC Steelers and Counties Energy Heat.

### **U55KG Boys**

- Forward of the Year – William Perenara
- Back of the Year – Cooper Cain
- Most Improved Player – Zayan Israiel
- Player of the Year – Finn Dowdall

### **U70KG Boys**

- Forward of the Year – Cameron Preston
- Back of the Year – Jack Luen
- Most Improved Player – Reid Foster
- Player of the Year – Daniel Brett

### **U14 Open Boys**

- Forward of the Year – Riley Green
- Back of the Year – Damian Markiewicz
- Most Improved Player – Carter Joyce
- 70 Minute Man – Black Guilford
- Player of the Year – Daniel Brett

## U15 Open Boys

- Forward of the Year – Anaru Morris-Hokai
- Back of the Year – Luca Morrison
- Most Improved Player – Mikaera Kingi-Hicks
- Player of the Year – Hayden Wymer

## XV A Boys

- Forward of the Year – Boscawen Tupou
- Back of the Year – Cory Platt
- Most Improved Player – Tommy Dillon / Ryan Swain
- Player of the Year – Sipiloni Raass

## 1st XV Girls

- Forward of the Year – Ana Tupou / Rachel Vehikite
- Back of the Year – Te Awhimai Wellington
- Most Promising 1st XV Player – Milla Trout
- Player of the Year – Tisi Vehikite

## 1st XV Boys

- Forward of the Year – Timana Mark / Dylan Wymer
- Back of the Year – Robin Proctor
- Rookie of the Year – Cohen Robinson
- Most Promising 1st XV Player – Cohen Robinson
- Player of the Year – Damien Seuea

## Special Awards

- Most Promising Juinor Player – Anaru Morris-Hokai
- McNaughten Family Trophy – Max Mitchell
- Marney Jones Memorial Sheild – Ronnie Woods
- Service to Rugby – Dean Woods
- Contribution to PHS Rugby – Andrew Roose
- Team of the Year – 1st XV Boys

Congratulations for all our rugby award winners for 2023!

A big thank you to all our coaches, managers, volunteers, sponsors and supporters for all your support in 2023.



## Food Can Drive (Salvation Army)

"Nau te rourou, naku te rourou, ka ora te manuhiri"  
(with your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive)

Yesterday the Salvation Army came to collect the cans kindly donated by our school community. The students were extremely proud of all the donations and their efforts to promote this event.

A huge thank you to all the students, whānau and staff who donated cans for the drive. We could not have done it without you!

Rebecca and Nick from the Salvation Army were incredibly grateful for all the donations. Year 12 PAS 2023.



## Cultural Week

To round out Cultural Week our students displayed their cultural pride by dressing in their cultural dress and performing their cultural dance. Well done on your fantastic performances!

