



From the Tumuaki

Whiria te taangata, whiria te angituu

Weave the people, create success

Teena koutou e ngaa whaanau,

I would like to acknowledge our students for the positive start that they have made to the school year as we hit the midway point in term one. It has been very encouraging to see the levels of attendance, the high standards of uniform and the focus in class that has been on display throughout the school.



In our first newsletter, and through our assemblies and Te Maahuri (form) classes, we have spoken to students and families about our focus this year on continuing to develop a culture of learning at school. Our MANA Ako Learning Culture is built around ensuring that students and teachers are focussing on the key things that aid successful learning and lead to positive achievement outcomes. These include:

- Being prepared for learning in each class
- Following routines for the start of every lesson including clarity around what is being learned and why
- Having high expectations for learning and achievement
- Owning your own educational journey

We will keep speaking about these things throughout the year and work with students to display MANA Ako Learning Culture attributes every day.

As you may be aware the education sector is working through a number of significant changes at the moment. These include updates to curriculum across all learning areas and changes to the senior qualifications framework – currently NCEA – from 2028. Faculties at school are working through the new curriculum changes. Our Maths and English learning areas are currently teaching to the new Year 9 and 10 curricula. Parents will see some changes to reporting in coming months and students will be undertaking the new SMART assessments to help measure progress in literacy and numeracy. We will keep whaanau up-to-date with these developments as they are rolled out over the course of this year.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work that is already going in from students, staff and members of the community in our extra-curricular areas. From summer sports, to the preparation of cultural groups for Polyfest, to Chess and Debating Clubs, to winter sport pre-season, to preparations for the Tauranga Jazz Festival and the early phases of rehearsal for our school musical, our kura continues to promote a wide variety of opportunities for students to pursue their interests and passions. I encourage as many students as possible to take the opportunities made available to them at school. Information about our extra-curricular programme is included later in this newsletter.

All the best for the remainder of term one. We look forward to meeting as many parents as possible in person at our upcoming Academic Conferences in week six.

Ngaa mihi nui

Murray Saunders
Tumuaki | Principal

Uara | Living Our Values

Mana Values



Puumautanga speaks of the need for resilience, commitment and perseverance as students navigate their way through their educational journey.

Learning can provide its challenges for us all but by displaying **Puumautanga** students are able to grow, develop and reach their goals by the time they reach the end of their schooling.

Our guest speaker at our full-school assembly at the beginning of the year, Dave Letele, spoke of a no-excuses approach. Ultimately, every individual is responsible for their own progress. School is here to help and provide support where needed and to recognise and celebrate student successes when these are achieved.

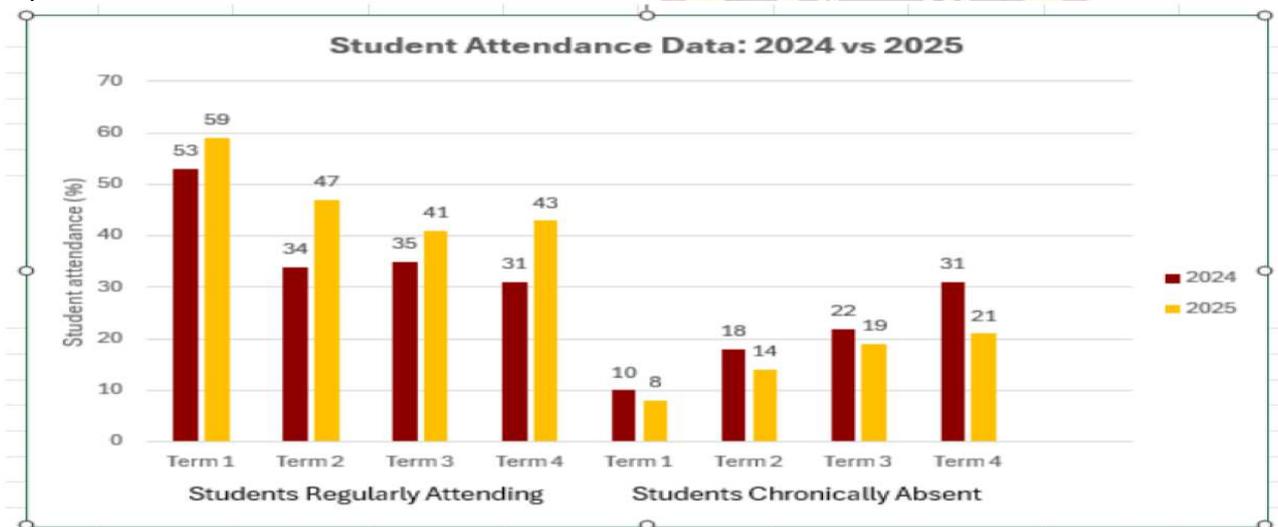
Our congratulations to all students who have already demonstrated **Puumautanga** in their approach to learning this year.

Attendance

We continue to focus on attendance this year as we work towards achieving the government target of 80% of students attending school 90% of the time. We know that regular attendance at school improves the chances of successful outcomes for students both in terms of academic achievement as well as personal well-being.

While we still have work to do, it is pleasing to see our attendance figures improve year-on-year (see below).

To track your child's attendance please refer to the Kamar portal or the weekly engagement report.



Ako | Quality Teaching and Learning

Te Maahuri Pastoral Programme

This year, we have embarked on providing a new pastoral space in our timetable called Te Maahuri. The name Te Maahuri is drawn from a whakataukii (Maori proverb) that uses the metaphor of saplings growing into strong trees through nurture and care: Te piko o te maahuri teeraa te tipu o te raakau (the way in which the sapling is nurtured determines how the tree will grow).

Students have Te Maahuri time every day as part of their timetable, meeting with their Kaihaapai (Te Maahuri teacher, otherwise known as a homeroom teacher) for 30 minutes every day. During this time, students and Kaihaapai are focused on creating educationally powerful connections, having important academic mentoring conversations and also engaging in a range of learning activities to support students to develop into agentic and well-rounded young people that will go on to make a positive contribution to the world.

We launched Te Maahuri at our first full school assembly of the year, with an inspiring speech from community leader and famed personality, Dave Letele, who spoke to our students about the power of personal growth, the power of consistency and turning up, as well as the importance of having a mindset of "everything is possible". It is our hope that through Te Maahuri we can continue to grow our students holistically and help them believe that everything is, indeed, possible.



Reporting process at PHS

At PHS we value our partnership with parents, caregivers and whaanau. Our reporting processes provide valuable and timely information about student progress, achievement and engagement to support this partnership.

Engagement Reports are emailed at the end of the week and provide a snapshot of a student's learning engagement, attendance and any assessment results that have been published that week.

- **Cause for concern** - student has not engaged in learning tasks and is not meeting expected outcomes
- **Some engagement** - student has engaged in learning during some lessons this week and is meeting some or most expected outcomes
- **Engaged** - student is consistently engaged in learning during class and completing assigned homework. They are meeting expected learning outcomes.
- **No grade** - If the student has been absent or there are other reasons why there is insufficient evidence to determine learning engagement.

Teacher's emails are included in these reports. If you have any concerns or questions about the engagement or progress of your child in a particular subject, please make contact first with the subject teacher. You can also reach out to their Kaihaapai (home room teacher) or Pou Tuarongo (dean).

Progress reports are sent at the end of the term and provide a summary of the student's engagement over the term as well as a detailed summary of assessments results to-date.

This year our progress reports for junior students will include some additional information and new language as new national guidelines for reporting to parents and whanau are implemented. We will be providing further information and support for families to help you understand the new 'progress descriptors' and how to use this information to have great learning conversations with your children and rangatahi.

Annual Implementation Plan

Every school in New Zealand is required to produce an Annual Plan that captures the areas of focus and actions that they are wanting to prioritise for the year ahead. Our staff and the Pukekohe High School Board have worked on finalising and producing the school's Annual Implementation Plan for 2026.

[The Pukekohe High School Annual Implementation Plan can be viewed here.](#) The plan includes the following four areas of focus:

- Providing quality teaching and learning practices focused around developing a learning culture
- Providing a breadth of opportunities for students and pathways to success
- Embedding our school values as a driver for a positive school culture
- Growing reciprocal relationships with the local community

We look forward to reporting to the community throughout the year on how we are progressing towards our goals.

Level 3 Psychology Data Collection Day

On Wednesday 25 February 23 research groups worked solidly collecting a minimum of 40 data sets each – and every single group hit their target. Many pushed well beyond, with some collecting 50–60 responses.

Over 24 classes came through the hall to take part in the research – an incredible whole-school effort.

Some of our student-led experiments included:

- A Shape Stroop Test
- An Animal Stroop Test
- Testing whether chewing gum affects memory
- Exploring instant vs delayed gratification (e.g. 10 minutes of TikTok now, or 30 minutes after a 45-minute workout)

Huge effort, great organisation, and some seriously solid data gathered. Now the real analysis begins!!



Fire Safety Demonstrations

During the past week we had our local Fire department come in and teach our food technology students fire safety and how to deal with a fire in a kitchen. Thank you to Robert Mayo and his team (including our own Y12 student Callum Reid) for volunteering their time.



Te Pae Oorite | Equitable Opportunities and Outcomes

Scholars Evening Celebration

Congratulations to all our prize winners acknowledged at our Scholars Evening Celebration on Wednesday 25 February. This event recognises students whose consistent effort, curiosity, and commitment to learning have led to outstanding academic achievement. Their success reflects not only ability but also perseverance and self-discipline.

NCEA LEVEL 3 AWARDS

Amber Assink
Streme Clarke
Jessica Cochran
Zoe Damon
Alysha Daya
Emily Hann
Sidney Perumal
Ava Rule
Kyra Sheldon
David Zheng

SCHOLARSHIPS

Zahra Haxby - Scholarship in English

NCEA LEVEL 2 AWARDS

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Esme Burson | Emma Lane |
| Heidi Flinkenberg | Zahra Haxby |
| Keese Turuwhenua | Seeratdeep Singh |
| Bella Milsom | Anna Spackman |
| Maia Brear | Logan Topp |
| Caleb Quinlan | Piper Jackson |
| Maksim Petrovic | Talia Chaney |
| Kayla Roux | Ashneil Sunil Kumar |
| Emily Flynn | Erika Villejo |
| Aimee Mascelle | Keira Richards |
| Ashlee McNaughten | Megan Smith |
| Sienna McNaughten | Ruby Faulkner |
| Jaide Boulton | Brooke Mataroa |
| Jing Zhao Chua | Danica Newby |
| Matthew Hermitte | Savannah Truter |
| Grace Huang | Ibrahim Umar |
| Prabhleen Singh | |

TOP Y9 & 10 AWARDS

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Amy Beaurain | Tara Gordon |
| Charnce Warrender | Naomi Hayward |
| Thomson Noelle | Alex Banas |
| Arina Borissenko | Zara Cameron |
| Ariella Cocker | Rodayna Mostafa |
| Ishmeet Gill | Ryna Clark |
| Mikaela O'Donnell | Navani Nand |
| Joseph Chang | Jing Yang Chua |
| Dana Madsen | Lucas Huang |
| Tiffany Robinson | Joshua Marais |
| Lila Dwane | Emily Stacey-Baxter |
| Amine Sadafipour | Adam Warren |
| | Louise Kiri |

NCEA LEVEL 1 AWARDS

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Daisy Stallworthy | Jacob Luscombe |
| Corbyn Bangarter | Caydence Askew |
| Jacob Pollock | Molly Evans |
| Anthea Goel | Sophie Tong |
| Patrick Nota | Phoebe Sayer |
| | Brooke Boniface |



Zahra Haxby – Scholarship in English with guest Speaker Dr Malvinder Singh Bains



Sports Update

Netball

Congratulations to Bella Neru on her selection as a trialist for the 2026 New Zealand Secondary School's Netball team. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to Bella's talent, commitment and hard work. We wish you all the best Bella!

Football

Congratulations to Anna Spackman and Jayden Linder on their outstanding football selections. Anna has been named as a reserve for the NZSS U19 Girls team, who will travel to Thailand in April. Jayden has been selected for the NZSS U19 Boys team, heading to Malaysia in July. A fantastic achievement for both athletes. We wish you all the best as you represent your school and country on the international stage.

Softball

Congratulations to ex-student Casey Halliday on her selection in the U15 White Sox team for the WBSC U15 Women's Softball Work Cup Oceania Qualifier in American Samoa. Being named in the White Sox programme is a significant achievement and reflects Casey's dedication, hard work and ongoing commitment to her development in the sport. We wish you all the very best on the international stage.

Tennis Championships

On Monday 16 February we held our School Tennis Championships down at Counties Tennis Centre.

Junior Boys Singles Champion – **Joseph Hughes**

Junior Girls Singles Champion – **Poppy Kaire**

Intermediate Boys Singles Champion – **Otis Barry**

Intermediate Girls Singles Champion – **Katie Lane**

Senior Boys Singles Champion – **Vaughn Cameron**

Senior Girls Singles Champion – **Kayla Roux**

Intermediate Girls Doubles Champions – **Katie Lane & Savannah Van Zyl**

Intermediate Boys Doubles Champions – **Otis Barry & Adam Warren**

Senior Girls Double Champions – **Sarah Brady & Amber Anderson**

Senior Boys Doubles Champions – **Jussi McKenzie & Kyle McRobbie**

Athletics Day

On Thursday 26 February we held our annual Athletics Day here at school. A lot of fun was had by all students and we look forward to the results for the students that will represent the school at the Auckland Athletics Championships on 17 March.

Well done to Nofo Isileli-Fo'ou for achieving a new school record in the Junior Shot Put 11.32m & Discuss 27.02m.



School Production – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

We are excited to have our school production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* underway. Congratulations to all students who auditioned, the full cast list is below, and rehearsals are officially underway!

Cast of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Narrators: Eva McQueen and Savannah van Zyl

Joseph: Cassidy Murray

Joseph Understudy: Griffin McQueen

Brothers: Alex Banas, Aditya Naidu, Olivia Pearce, Gracious Dumburashe, Griffin McQueen, Chesley Greenaway, Ella Cole, Scarlett Furniss, Gemma Duley, Grace Tuapawa, Noah McMillan

Jacob/Potiphar: Tayla Johnson

Mrs Potiphar: Chrystal Heagney-Hakin

Pharoah: Roman Timo-Perry

Baker: Brooklynn Murphy

Butler: Samantha Madsen

Baker/Butler Understudy: Mikaela Truter

Choir: Chrystal Heagney-Hakim, Indi Yates, Patricia Cate Cabral, Athena Antoinette, Amelia Gudmundsson-Davies, Samantha Madsen, Nicholas Howes

Dancers: Hailey Schlaepfer, Janika Chaney, Angela Ung, Mikaela Truter, Felicity Leigh Mangila, Yve Young

Our talented performers have already begun bringing this high-energy show to life, and we can't wait to share it with our community. Performances are 7th, 8th & 9th May at Harrington Theatre, Pukekohe. Ticketing information will be released soon - keep an eye on this space!

Careers Update

CareerWise is the **online careers platform** PHS uses to share information about **study options, jobs, scholarships, events, and career planning tools**. It helps senior students explore future pathways, find opportunities from tertiary providers and employers, and stay up-to-date with the latest careers news and advice. It's part of how the Careers team supports students as they plan what to do after Year 13. <https://pukekohehigh.careerwise.school/>

NZDF Visit – Careers Centre

Recruiters from **New Zealand Defence Force** will be visiting the Careers Centre on **15 March at 10:00am**.

If you're interested in learning about Army, Navy, or Air Force career pathways, come and sign up at the **Careers Centre**.

⚠ Spaces are limited, so register early to secure your spot.

🧱 Bricklaying Apprenticeship Opportunity

VJ Oliver Bricklaying is looking for a motivated **school leaver** to start a career in bricklaying.

This is a great opportunity to enter the building trade and gain hands-on experience.

📞 Interested? Call **Mr Oliver on 0274 516 441** to discuss the opportunity.

🌐 University of Otago OCE Opportunities

There are **two upcoming OCE (On Campus Experience) opportunities** available for eligible Māori and Pacific Year 13 students considering study at the **University of Otago**. These are fully supported on-campus experiences that give students the chance to explore university life.

For more information and application details, please come to the **Careers Centre**.

🎓 University First Round Visits – Careers Centre

Universities and tertiary providers will be visiting over the coming weeks. All sessions will be held in the Careers Centre unless otherwise stated.

📅 March Visits

- **Lincoln University** – Tuesday 10 March, 12:00pm
- **Massey University** – Friday 13 March, 12:00pm
- **University of Waikato** – Thursday 19 March, 12:00pm
- **Victoria University of Wellington** – Friday 20 March, 12:00pm
- **Auckland University of Technology (AUT)** – Tuesday 24 March, 12:00pm
- **University of Canterbury** – Tuesday 31 March, 12:00pm

📅 April Visits

- **University of Otago** – Tuesday 28 April, 10:00am
- **Manukau Institute of Technology (MIT)** – Tuesday 23 April, 10:00am
- **Unitec Institute of Technology** – Tuesday 21 April, 10:00am

Students interested in attending should register at the **Careers Centre**. Spaces may be limited.

Franklin Schools' Career Expo – Save the Date!

The **Franklin Schools' Career Expo** is taking place on **Thursday 30th April**, held at Pukekohe Indian Association Hall 5:30pm – 7:30pm

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to meet

employers, training providers, and industry representatives to explore future training options and career pathways.

This is a community event, all welcome. All students are encouraged to attend and start planning their next steps!



★ STAR Courses – Explore Your Future

STAR Courses give Year 11–13 students the opportunity to explore career pathways, gain valuable skills, and experience different industries before leaving school — such as hospitality, retail, health, barista, cyber security, or early childhood. These courses run during the school holidays and are usually free of charge to students. Due to high demand, students are generally limited to one STAR course per year. The Careers Team works closely with students and providers to find a course that suits their interests and future goals.

Interested?

Collect a STAR application form and return it to the **Careers Centre (N5)**.

GirlBoss Edge: Healthcare 5-day virtual career accelerator - free!

Applications are now OPEN for **GirlBoss Edge: Healthcare 2026**, a 5-day virtual career accelerator designed for young women aged 15-21 with a passion for healthcare.

Whether your students aspire to become a doctor, study psychology, make a difference in the mental health sector, or are considering any other health or wellbeing career, GirlBoss Edge: Healthcare **is perfect for them**. Thanks to generous funding from our sponsors, **we have 1000 full scholarships to give away**.

- Encourage your students to [learn more and apply to GirlBoss Edge: Healthcare 2026 here](#).
- Don't forget to forward the attached [Student Information Sheet](#) to any students who may be interested.
- You can also [download a promotional Social Media Graphic and an A4 and an A3 Poster here](#).

Your students will gain inspirational coaching from iconic speakers, including the likes of Dr Nini Prescott, GP and TikTok Sensation; Author, Surgeon, and breast cancer researcher, Dr Ineke Meredith; and Monash University Lecturer, Medical Doctor, and King of Med School, Dr Justin Sung.

Students will complete CV-worthy Healthcare Challenges and, most importantly, become a part of an incredible community of young women from across New Zealand.

92% of our alumni describe the programme as "life-changing!"

This summit is suitable for ALL of your students! No matter their level of interest or experience in healthcare.

This programme is self-paced to fit around a student's busy schedule, with just 1-2 hours a day to commit to unlocking their full potential.

This opportunity is brought to you thanks to GirlBoss NZ.

2026 Clubs List

The information below details some of the clubs opportunities available for students.

| Name | Day/Time | Place & Teacher in Charge |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| ARTS | | |
| Big Band (junior jazz band) | Monday Te Maahuri and interval | Blue Room (GW) |
| Choir - Beginners to advanced all welcome, Y9-13 | Friday Te Maahuri and interval | Blue Room (CNW) |
| Concert Band | Wednesday after school | Blue Room (GW) |
| Dance Team | Monday 3:30pm – 4:30pm open to all anytime, just for fun | M1 (BRN) |
| RockQuest | Monday after school | B5 (GW) |
| Stage Band | Tuesday after school | Blue room (GW) |
| Wind band (Jnr orchestral band) | Thursday Te Maahuri & interval | Blue room (Mr Tonga) |
| CULTURE/LANGUAGES/PERFORMANCE GROUPS | | |
| Kapa Haka Training | To be confirmed | S15 (CHJ) |
| ENGLISH | | |
| Extension English for Y10-11 | Wednesday Break 2 | M7 (OLC) |
| Scholarship English Prep | Thursday 3:30pm-4:30pm | M7 (BLS + OLC) |
| OTHER | | |
| Chess Club | Thursday Break 1 and after school (3:20-4pm) | Library (LBR & HSM) |
| Debating | Monday Break 2 (by prior arrangement. Check notices on Debating teams page) | M17 (MDJ) |
| Duke of Edinburgh Award | Meetings as required | Gold (AN), Silver (WNJ) & Bronze (HY) |
| Filipino Club | Friday Break 2 | H3 |
| Leos Club (Jnr Lions) | Thursday Break 2 | N8 – N10 (CLC) |
| LGBTQIA+ | Ask a teacher the location | WNJ |
| Model United Nations | By arrangement via Model UN Teams page | MDJ |
| School Meals | Every day – Break 1 | H1 – (JC) |
| Wāhanga Homework Club | Friday afternoons (3:30-4:30pm) | Te Hikoi - Marae |
| SCIENCES | | |
| Lvl 3 Chemistry Scholarship | Wednesday after school- Every week | S11(MC) |
| Lvl 2 Chemistry Tutorial | Wednesday Break 1 – every week | S8 (SG) |
| Lvl 2 Chemistry Tutorial | Tuesday Break 1 – every week | S11 (MC) |
| Lvl 3 Chemistry Tutorial | Monday Break 1 -every week | S8 (SG) |
| Senior Biology Tutorial/Drop-in | Wed Period 5 – every week | S4 (HN) |
| Senior Science Puuhoro taura | Wed Period 2, Term 1; Period 3, Term 2; Period 2, Term 3 | G7 (TI) |
| Senior Physics Tutorials/Drop-In | Wednesday Period 5 | S2 (ABS/JNO/MC) |
| SPORTS | | |
| Badminton | Tues and Thurs Break 2 | Gym 2 |
| Climbing Club | Thursday 3:30pm – 5:30pm | Gym 1 (AN, WNJ & KZE) |
| Distance Running Team | Tuesday 3:30pm-4:30pm, Friday 7am-8am | Sports office foyer (JNO) |
| Girl's Football | Tuesday 3:20pm-4:30pm | Top football field (BTP) |
| Girl's Lacrosse | Tuesday Training – 3:30pm – 5:00pm | Field (JHT) |
| Girls Rugby | Mon and Wed – 3.30pm -5.00pm | |

Haapori | Community Highlights

Meet our Teachers | Esther Hansen



After 26 years teaching Art at Pukekohe High School, I still feel incredibly privileged to work in the community I grew up in. As a former student of Pukekohe North, Pukekohe Intermediate, and Pukekohe High, my connection to this place runs deep. Inspired by my parents, who immigrated from Holland and Denmark in the 1960s, and by the teachers who shaped me, I've loved giving back through Art education.

Some of my highlights include wearable art shows, murals, school camps, the Ringa Toi Exhibition at Te Papa, and seeing our students achieve multiple NZQA Top Scholar awards. I'm especially proud of the projects where students have exhibited alongside established artists to raise awareness of social and environmental issues—proof that our young people can shine on

any stage.

What keeps me here is our incredible students, community, and Art Department team, led by the amazing Vicky Moore-Allen. This year I'm also organising an Art trip to Rarotonga and serving on the ANZAAE board, advocating for the value of Art education. Outside school, I'm renovating my home, enjoying my cats, and creating my own print works.

It has been an honour to learn, teach, and grow here, and I'm excited for what lies ahead for Art at Pukekohe High School.

Meet our Amokura | Erika Villejo



Kia ora koutou and Kamusta! My name is Erika Villejo, and I'm honoured to step into the role of Amokura Toi me Ahurea for 2026. Art has always been more than just a subject to me - it's a way of expressing identity, telling stories, and bringing people together.

While I didn't grow up in the Philippines, my connection to my motherland's culture, creativity, and strong sense of community has shaped how I understand art and cultural expression. It has shown me how the arts can honour identity, preserve stories, and create meaningful connections across different backgrounds.

In my own time, I enjoy painting, writing, drawing, and sewing. Through these practices, I've learned the importance of patience, experimentation, and self-expression, as well as the power of sharing creativity with others. These experiences have shaped the way I lead and inspired me to encourage others to explore their own creative voices.

As Amokura, I want to help create a welcoming and supportive space where all students feel confident and proud to explore their creativity — whether through visual art, music, dance, or cultural expression. I believe the arts thrive when we uplift one another, celebrate diversity, and support each other's creative journeys, and I'm excited to work alongside you all this year.

Tukutuku panels

The tukutuku panels that embellish the walls of Te Hikoi were created in 2025 as a collaboration between Whaea Sharon Bennett and students from our year 9 Toi (Maaori Art) class with the support of Whaea Charlotte Manga (Kaiako Toi) and Te Waahanga Whaka Ako Maaori (the Maaori faculty).

The two large panels were designed by Whaea Sharon to represent Ranginui and Papatuaanuku. The Ranginui panel depicts the stars of Matariki. The Papatuaanuku panel incorporates images of the township and of the horticultural activity that characterises Pukekohe. The large raakau depicted is the kohekohe tree, and the figure references the carvings which stand on top of Pukekohe hill.

The smaller panel were designed and created by students in pairs with the guidance of Whaea Sharon and Whaea Charlotte.

Neveah Tupaea's description of her tukutuku pattern

My tukutuku represents the growth of Pukekohe after suffering a horrifying past Pukekohe is becoming stronger at regaining our Te Reo Maaori

The dark red thread represents how the sacrifices our ancestors made to regain our Maoritanga back but also to make this a better place for not only our rangatahi but also for our Te Reo, all the blood, sweat and tears.

The white threads represent the new generation /our Rangatahi and how they are bringing light into the Te Ao Maaori. Our Rangatahi will uphold our culture and language our Te Reo Maaori will not be forgotten or taken away as it once did.

Tiki and Cassius' description of their tukutuku pattern

- The bottom arrow tree represents our whanau, and the box around is all our other whaanau.
- The white arrows are the people that are always supporting us and keeping us safe and secure.
- The top green one is our whanau members that have passed on.
- The yellow areas represent the breakdowns and the hardship that we have been through in life.
- This is the korero of how it's been growing up within our whanau environment.



International visitors

This term has been a busy one with the school hosting a number of International students. Along with hosting two groups of students from China — one from Guangzhou and one from Beijing. 10 students from Brazil and 10 from Japan arrived, alongside our returning long-term students from China, Korea, Thailand, and India.

Looking ahead to Term 2, we are excited to welcome a group from Thailand, with students from Tahiti and Germany preparing to join us as well. Our international community continues to grow, enriching our kura with diverse cultures, languages, and experiences.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible homestay families who so generously welcome our students into their whānau. Your care and support make all the difference. If you are interested in becoming a homestay family, we would love to hear from you.



Last week we welcomed students and teachers visiting from our sister school Lycee Guy Mollet, Arras, France for one week. It was a great experience for our students to spend the time building on their friendships and sharing experiences with each other. Our senior French students are looking forward to their return visit to Arras during the Term one holidays.



10-Day Voyages Available on the Spirit of Adventure

Last-Minute Voyage Spaces

We have a few upcoming spaces available on two March voyages:

- **Voyage 938** – 17–27 March 2026 (1 x male, 1 x female space)
- **Voyage 939** – 27 March–6 April 2026 (2 x male spaces)



This programme is the best way to up your courage, unlock your potential and make lifelong friends. The Spirit is about overcoming ALL obstacles, and this starts now. Start your adventure today.

CRITERIA

- Be aged between 16-19 years
- Meet the medical criteria of the voyage
- Agree to the code of conduct / terms and conditions of the voyage

For more information contact Mr Anderson an@pukekohehigh.school.nz

<https://www.spiritofadventure.org.nz/voyages/10-day-development>

Thank you

We kindly thank all the following sponsors for their continued support on behalf of the entire Pukekohe High School community. Through your generous support, our students have been able to gain invaluable resources, learn, thrive, and grow in an inviting environment.

We invite any other businesses interested in supporting the school to contact publicity@pukekohehigh.school.nz to discuss options here or alternatively to look at the [sponsorship packages available](#) and to make contact with the school.



Follow us

Please ensure your contact details are up to date, so you don't miss any communication from us. To update your details, please send an email to update@pukekohehigh.school.nz

Below are the different ways to find out more about what is happening here Pukekohe High School. Each logo has a hyperlink to take you directly to those pages.



Website

Facebook

SchoolsApp

PHS Instagram

PHS Sports

PHS International

PHS Councils

Important Information

What do I do if I need to leave school for an appointment?

- Students who have caregiver permission (in the form of a signed handwritten note) to leave school during the day must present this to their teacher and sign out using the electronic Student Register in the Student Support Building.
- When students return to school, they must return to the Student Support Building and sign in using the electronic Student Register.
- Students being collected from school must be met by a parent/caregiver who is registered on the school system (KAMAR).
- Students may leave using Gate 3 (Harris Street) only. Parents/caregivers are advised not to make arrangements to meet students at other gates/locations.

What do I do if I am not at school because I am sick?

Parents/caregivers must phone, email or report an absence through one of the following:

- <https://www.pukekohehigh.school.nz/report-an-absence/>
- Phone: 09 237 0198
- Email: attendance@pukekohehigh.school.nz



Important Note:

Students who become unwell during the school day should see the School Nurses (with teacher permission) in the first instance. Students **must not** use cell phones to contact caregivers directly (see cell phone policy below). PHS staff will contact caregivers in the event a student needs to be collected from school.

What do I do if I am away for an extended period (for example, on holiday during term time)?

- Students must complete an application for leave (available from the Student Centre).
- Parents/caregivers must provide a signed letter to accompany the application for leave.
- Students must submit completed forms and supporting documentation to the Student Centre.

Important Dates

Week 6

- Tuesday 3 March | Academic Conferences 2.30pm - 6.45pm, School finishes at the end of period 4 (1.55pm)
- Thursday 5 March | Academic Conferences 2.30pm - 6.45pm, School finishes at the end of period 4 (1.55pm)

Week 7

- Monday 9 March | Photolife Student ID catch ups
- Tuesday 10 March | Level 3 Business YES Kick Start

Week 8

- Monday 16 March | School Swimming Sports
- Tuesday 17 March | Auckland Secondary Schools Athletic Champs
- Wednesday 18 March | Fie Fia Night 6pm-8pm in school hall

Week 9

- Monday 23 March | Board Meeting
- Tuesday 24 March – Wednesday 1 April | NZQA Top Art Folio Exhibition in school hall

Week 10

- Thursday 2 April | Last day of term one – normal finishing time

Term 2

Week 1

- Monday 20 April | First day of term two 9.00am start
- Tuesday 21 April | Mt Roskill Sports Exchange

Week 2

- Monday 27 April | ANZAC Day Observed – School CLOSED
- Thursday 30 April | Franklin Careers Expo

