

Mahurangi College

from the Principal

David Macleod



Congratulations to:

- Eloise Docking for winning Dux at Senior Prizegiving last year and Nina Su for Proxime Accessit.



Eloise Docking & Nina Su

- Joshua Free, Deborah Rabey, Ellena Young, Stephanie Dumville, Vinisha Topiwala, Corey Riggall, Grace Mitchell, Lauren Mitchell and Louis Houlbrooke for all gaining significant Tertiary Scholarships.
- Micha Balzat for his selection in the Junior Warriors.
- Kayne Middleton, Ruahei Demant and Kiritapu Demant for their selection in NZ Secondary Schools' Touch teams.
- Our Board Chair, Mrs Tracey Martin, on her election into Parliament as a list MP with NZ First.
- Board Member, Mr Stuart Henderson, on winning one of the top awards for financial services in Australasia.
- Our Head Boy in 2005, James Johnston, for winning the top award in Medicine from Auckland Medical School last year.

Below are the plans for the new D at the entrance to the school – these were prepared by Jack Donaldson, a Y13 Graphics student who won the Board of Trustees competition prize of \$500. The new design incorporates a roll of honour for the school and flagpole. We are still raising the funds for this project.



School Entrance Plans

I am sure we will have another productive and successful year in 2012, if a little disrupted by all the building activity around the college site, but the long-term gain from this for our school will be immense.

Dear Parents and Guardians

Tena Koutou Katoa

By the time our students return to school, on 1 February 2012, demolition of the old B and C block classrooms will be complete and siteworks for the new B block will be underway.

Construction on the new school office, student services centre and classroom block is due to start mid March. The new classrooms will include a commercial kitchen, two new Information Technology rooms, a new Graphics room, 8 Mathematics classrooms and a room designated for research and inquiry learning. The Student Services Centre will include two offices for our Guidance Counsellors, the Deans' offices, a parent interview room, the First Aid room and the Nurse's office.

In the meantime, we have brought a number of prefabricated classrooms onto the school site, and the main school office for most of this year will be in a portacom situated behind the current administration block (alongside the new school auditorium).

The expected student roll this year will be the largest ever for our school, at around 1300 students. This will include over 30 international students from various countries, with at least 12 from Germany, 11 from Japan and 2 from China. We enjoy hosting exchange students and international fee-paying students from around the world. They bring needed funds into our school but also enrich the school in many other ways. Some of our Kiwi students have built strong friendships with our International students, and later been to visit them as part of their OE.

At the end of last year all our Year 9 students were involved in the 17th Y9 camp at Kaueranga Valley for a full week of outdoor education activities. This was again a wonderful and worthwhile experience for all involved and I would like to thank all the staff and parents who helped make it such a success. One of our staff members, Mr Ross Segedin, has been involved in organising all 17 of these camps.

This year, our Year 13 students will start 2012 with some intensive outdoor education activities as they undertake their peer support training on Great Barrier Island. They leave for this from Sandspit in the early hours of Sunday 29th January and return late on Thursday 2nd February.

important dates

Sunday January 29

- Yr 13 Camp week

Tuesday January 31

- Term 1 Starts
- Teacher Only Day
- Senior Student Interviews 10.30 - 3.00

Wednesday February 1

- Yrs 7, 11 & 12 Start
- New students to Hall - Welcome 9.00 am

Thursday February 2

- Yrs 8,9 & 10 Start
- Yr 13 Camp - return midnight

Thursday February 9

- Peer Mediation Training - all day

Monday February 13

- Yr 7 Camp week
- BoT Meeting 6.15
- Yr 8 Wai Care Introduction

Tuesday February 14

- Yr 8 Wai Care Introduction

Wednesday February 15

- Swimming Champs - Competitors only
- Yr 7 Parent - Teacher evening 6.30 - 7.30 - library

Thursday February 16

- Yr 9 & 10 Attitudes Speakers: Yr 9 X factor; Yr 10 Hardwired
- Yr 8 Wai Care Introduction
- Academic Blues evening

Friday February 17

- Inter-house Swimming

Monday February 20

- Gateway - Health & Safety Course

Wednesday February 22

- Athletics Day

Thursday February 23

- L3 Bio trip - Omaha
- L1 Art Design trip

Monday February 27

- Yr 8 Camp week
- PAT Testing week
- Gateway - First Aid Course

Monday March 5

- Class / Individual photos

Year 7 Camp

Peter Snell Village/Shakespeare Park

We are greatly looking forward to having your child in the Junior Faculty in 2012. One of the first activities they will be involved in will be going on camp from 13th February 2012 to the 17th February 2012. The purpose of the camp is for all the students to get to know their new classmates and teachers and feel more confident around each other when they return to school. The cost of the trip is \$60 and covers the costs of the bus, accommodation, food and activities. The school office will be open from the 16th January 2012 for payment.

Parent help is needed.

Mahu Girls Attend Kiwi Release

Three Year 8 girls were given the special opportunity to attend a Kiwi Release on Tuesday 23rd November, as a reward for being winners at the Auckland Wai Care Expo. Charlotte Terrington, Eden Scath and Eleanor Diaz caught the water taxi boat to Motuora Island then listened to a talk about the Operation Nest Egg programme. The girls stroked the three week old North Island Brown Kiwi chick before it was put in its burrow on the predator-free island.

The nationwide programme has been saving the Kiwi from extinction for the past 15 years. Instead of only five percent Kiwi making it to

adulthood, now 80 percent survive. Three weeks beforehand, Chantelle and Ashley Maher, Katie Wright and Rhiannon Gill were also given the chance to go to a Kiwi Release because of their excellent Wai Care projects.

The Mahurangi College Wai Care programme is held every year in the second term. The programme encourages students to make a difference in the local community to raise awareness about the river and its wildlife. The standard was so high from Mahurangi College students this year that they won the major awards and top school overall at the Auckland Wai Care expo for 2011

Music Lessons

Students can learn an instrument (including voice) through the school. Instrument teachers are available for saxophone, clarinet, flute, piano/keyboard, guitar (electric and acoustic), bass guitar, drums, brass, violin, cello and voice. Lessons for flute, clarinet and saxophone are free. Numbers are limited. Application forms can be collected from M1 or downloaded from the school website. Please return form to 'returns' in M1 corridor.

P.T.A News

The PTA have already started raising funds for our school this year. We have raised \$750 from clearing up after the concerts at Ascension Vineyard, this was a relatively easy job, although definitely not a glamorous one! However, as they say 'many hands make light work' and we thank everyone who came along to help us. Also a big thankyou to Darryl Soljan for giving us the opportunity to help us get our fundraising off to an early start for 2012.

Our Christmas Gift Fair, held back in December, was a lovely opportunity to buy Christmas presents, the afternoon/evening went very well and we raised approximately \$2,000. Thankyou to Ingrid Buchanan and Katie Mitchell for organising this event so well, to the stallholders and all those who helped out.

Unfortunately, at the end of last year, we lost 4 or 5 of our long standing committee members due to their children finally finishing school. These valued ladies will be greatly missed. We, therefore, are looking for fresh faces to join our group. Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month (usually), at either 7.00 or 7.30pm (depending on the season), in the staffroom at Mahurangi College. We're a friendly bunch and try to keep our meeting short - depending on what we have to discuss! The PTA is a great way to keep in touch with what is happening at the school and to meeting other parents and teachers at the school, so please consider joining us.

We will be holding a 'PTA Social Evening' on Tuesday 21st February, from 6.30-7.30pm in the staffroom, for anybody who would like to come along and meet us, ask questions, put forward ideas etc. Refreshments will be available and we encourage new parents to come along. If you are interested but do not want to commit to attending the monthly meetings, but have fundraising ideas, we would love to hear from you. Perhaps you have helped with fundraising at a previous school/club that has been successful, please let us know of your ideas as now is the time that we are looking for new fundraising ideas for the coming year.

Thank you for your commitment to our school and we wish you all the best for 2012.
Natasha Hallam (PTA Chairperson) Ph: 4222094, email: nhallam@xtra.co.nz

Uniform Shop hours Summer 2012

Avoid queues!
**Book an appointment
NOW!**

OPEN FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY

10am - 6pm

Beware there may be queues.

Normal hours resume from Tuesday 7 Feb

**Please phone the College on
425 8039 ext 739
(after hours 425 5629)**

To make an appointment and minimise waiting time. Leave a message if not available and we will get back to you.

Normal Uniform Shop Hours

Tuesday 12:30-6pm
Thursday 12:30-2pm

