



Mahurangi College

NEWSLETTER

FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians

Tena Koutou Katoa

He mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa

Haere mai ki te wiki o te reo Moari

Welcome back to term 3 and welcome to Maori Language Week (te wiki o te reo Maori). The Maori language and culture is part of our national identity and something we can all be proud of. A very special welcome also to all our new international students. We have 28 new students who arrived for the start of term 3 this year, mainly from Europe.

Term 3 has the least interruptions and is extremely important to all students in their learning. For our senior students in particular it is vital they are focused and diligent in their study during this time. After this week we have eight more weeks of teaching and learning this term. Senior internal exams are the first two weeks back in term 4, followed by approximately two more weeks of teaching (mainly revision), then senior prizegiving and study leave for the NCEA externals. So it is vital all our senior students are in good routines with their schoolwork, at school and at home, and striving for Merit and Excellence in all their internal assessments as they arise.

Mrs Johnston and a team of staff



have started a "homework club" in the library each morning from 7:45 to 8:35am and after school

on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week from 3:30 to 4:45pm. This is open to all students and is supervised by teachers to ensure it is a work time for the students in a quiet, comfortable environment.

The mid-year exams at the end of term 2 went well and reports at all levels have now been issued. Any parents who missed parent interviews this week but would like to meet with their child's teachers should ring the school office for appointments. I was pleased with most of the reports I read and signed. Most students do seem to be showing a good attitude to their study and achieving well. Progress towards NCEA and, for our Year 9 and 10 students, towards the Middle School Graduation Diploma, can be viewed online by logging into the school website then using your child's login name and password to enter the appropriate section.

The Hauraki Plains exchange was held in the last week of term 2. This has been going now for 47 years and is always a highlight for the students in our top netball, soccer, hockey, basketball and rugby teams. We retained the "Mahurauki Trophy" which is played for each between the

schools, but only just. On the first day we won the boys basketball, girls soccer and girls hockey, but lost the girls basketball, boys hockey and the netball, so both schools had won 3 events. On the Tuesday the boys soccer was a 4 all draw so it all came down to the First

DATES

Tuesday August 4

- BOT meeting

Thursday August 6

- Australian Mathematics Competition

Friday August 7

- Sport & Cultural Photos

Tuesday August 18

- Senior Options Evening
- Careers Evening

7:30-9pm, New Gym

Thursday August 20

- Immunisation day #3

XV rugby which was won, just, by our boys.

During the July school holidays, a group of Year 8 and 9 students with three teachers traveled to Singapore. Unfortunately they could not visit the Dunearn Secondary School with whom we have built a strong bond due to worry about the swine flu (they have a 7 day stand-down for anyone who has travelled overseas) but all involved still had a highly successful and enjoyable trip and we look forward to maintaining this contact in the future.

The senior school ball was held at the Belfry at Ascension Vineyard on Saturday 25th July. It was another very successful occasion. We are fortunate indeed to have such a wonderful venue on our doorsteps. The theme this year was masquerade and the students dressed up magnificently. A formal sit down meal was followed by some ballroom dancing and then "Missing Link", a group made up of past students from Mahurangi College, kept us all on the dance floor through to midnight. Thank you to Mrs Newlove and all her helpers, particularly the ball committee of Imogen Edwards, Jordon Endemann, Rachael Fleming, Karl Bottema and Samantha George.



Students and staff in Singapore

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- The school jazz band will be performing at the Bay of Islands Jazz festival next weekend.
- The junior boys rugby team has made it through to the final of the North Harbour Intermediate schools competition against Northcross Intermediate. This will be at the Albany Stadium on Saturday 1st August at 4pm as the curtain-raiser to the North Harbour versus Canterbury NPC game.
- A number of our other sports teams are in the top four of their North Harbour competitions and we wish them well for a strong finish to the season.

Kua tae mai nei kit e korero te reo Maori I nga wa katoa. Hei konei ra

- David Macleod, **Principal**

NCEA FEES

The NCEA fees are now due and can be paid at the college office. Please note that these fees are collected by the College on behalf of NZQA (NZ Qualifications Authority).

The fee is \$75 per student. For parents or caregivers that have a community services card or are beneficiaries the fee is reduced. An application form is available from the college office. Please ensure the fees are paid as soon as possible to avoid a late penalty of \$50. Please contact the college office if you have any further enquiries.

- Mr H Vaughan, **Assistant Principal**

SINGAPORE TRIP

During the first week of the July holidays eighteen year 8 and 9 students, along with Mr Howson, Miss Turnbull and Miss Davies, went on our bi-annual trip to Singapore.

Usually we visit our sister school Dunearn Secondary School, but unfortunately we were unable to see them due to strict quarantine regulations regarding H1N1.

The first shock to our systems was figuring out how to acclimatise ourselves to the 30 degree heat and 90% humidity. The 12km hike through rainforest and mountain biking on the island of Pulau Ubin (a traditional Singapore Island) helped considerably!

One highlight of the trip was getting to explore the variety of South East Asian cuisines on offer: Indian, Malaysian, Chinese, curries, laksas, octopus and chilli.

Everyone took at least one risk and tried something new.

We spent time exploring markets, shopping malls, the infamous Orchard Road, the Arab Quarter, Little India, and Chinatown. We learnt to use the MRT- underground train, and caught buses and boats!

Some of us had the opportunity to go through a land boarder and cross over into Malaysia for a day. Others experienced all that Sentosa Island has to offer.

Everyone experienced their own unique adventure that I am sure they will never forget.



RUGBY ROUNDUP

A disappointing loss for the **4th grade** at the weekend against Westlake 2nds meant that they will have to beat some tough opposition to make the top four of the competition. The **5th grade** were a little bit relaxed in the second half of their game which allowed the Orewa team to come within a try of victory. The 5th grade are still on course for a semi-final spot. The **7th grade** had a comprehensive 44-0 win against Rosmini 2nds, while the **6th grade** struggled against Rosmini, the top team. The **Girl's 1st XV** extended their lead at the top of the table with a comfortable 36-17 win over Massey.

Struggling again with injuries, the **1st XV** battled hard for a 13-13 draw against Rangitoto on Saturday. Manai Rudolph

finished superbly in the corner to give Mahurangi the lead in the second half but Rangitoto replied immediately and it wasn't until the final minutes that Shaun Payne crashed over for the saving try after a good break from Conor Lawson.

Well done to the **Y7&8** rugby team who won 6 out of 7 games over two Tournament days to reach the final of the North Harbour competition. The boys will play Northcross intermediate in the final which will be a curtain raiser for North Harbour's opening game against Canterbury this Saturday at North Harbour Stadium

King's School from England will be arriving on Sunday and will play two games against our boys on the Monday. If you are billeting a member of the King's squad then it is important that you are there at 3:30pm to collect them outside the main office.

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