



TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

February 2020

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PRINCIPAL
Mrs Gorrie

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Mr Jager
Mrs Mortimer

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
Mr Hartzenburg

YEAR 9 DEAN
Mr Aislabie
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Miss Park
Arawa, Miss Maber
Tainui, Mr Robinson
Tokomaru, Mr Ashford-Beck

YEAR 10 DEAN
Mr Masters/Mr Rowe
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Pipe
Arawa, Mr Leary
Tainui, Mrs Spindler
Tokomaru, Mrs Lemon

YEAR 11 DEAN
Mr Aitken
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Stringer
Arawa, Miss Baylis
Tainui, Ms Scott
Tokomaru, Ms Hagan

YEAR 12 DEAN
Ms Gemmell
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Kurian
Arawa, Mr Rekatsinas
Tainui, Ms McLaren
Tokomaru, Mr Sparks

YEAR 13 DEAN
Mrs Livingstone
FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mrs Jager
Arawa, Ms Osborne
Tainui, Mr Darby
Tokomaru, Mrs Oliver



Dear Parents and Whanau,

Ki ora and welcome to 2020

We would like to welcome all our new students and families to Te Aroha College. Thank you for choosing your local school and we look forward to working in partnership with you to achieve fantastic futures for all our students.

It has been a very busy few weeks starting with teacher only day where we welcomed our new staff, welcomed back staff from leave and set the tone for a great year ahead. We have a great staff who are amazingly talented educators.

We have welcomed new staff

- Kat Lemon - Head of Learning Physical Education, Health and Outdoor Education
- Jiji Kurian—Head of Learning Sciences and Physics
- Stavros Rekatsinas - Biology and Science
- Catherine Spindler - Agriculture and Science
- Emily Osborne - History and Social Science
- Matt Robinson - Outdoor Education
- Danny Sparks- Metal technology
- Kurt Sweeney - ICT and Technology

We welcome also back staff

- Jenni Baylis-TIC Art
- Terry McArdle - Social Studies
- Dean Leary - Social Studies, Media Studies Tourism and Foods

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HE WAKA EKE NOA HE TU MANAWANUI KI TE KEI O TE WAKA



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Year 13 camp followed at Waihi Academy for two days. As our first leadership programme for the year we focused on what it is to be a GREAT student at Te Aroha College. We want to commend our amazing year 13 students on their incredible efforts to step up and make a positive difference for all our students in their final year. Congratulations to our Senior Leaders, Co Presidents Regan Traynor, and Katelyn Hedley and Deputy Co Presidents Tyla Burge and Jackson Thornton. We also want to thank our prefects team for their support during the camp in preparation for the Powhiri.

Our welcome Powhiri on Wednesday 29th January marked the formal start to the year for all our Year 9 students. Thank you to all the families and whanau who came along. It was wonderful to meet you all and share a meal together. We have also welcomed eight long stay international students from Japan, Korea and China. Thank you to our Board for their presence and support of our welcome. Thank you to John Byers who spoke on behalf of our Primary Principals and special thank you to Walter Biddle for his role as one of our school Kaumatua.

Our welcome assembly for all students on Friday 31st January saw the introduction of all our senior leaders and staff and focused on being our best selves in 2020. It was great to see everyone in the hall again marking the start of the year. Being GREAT at Te Aroha College is all about Global Participants, Respect and responsibility, Effective communicators, Active Achievers and Thoughtful Leaders. Thank you to our Board Chair, Mrs Teena Cornes for welcoming in the year for all our students.

A major event for our first day back was the reinstatement of the school tradition of having a 'full school photo'. We would like to thank our John Conway our property manager for his fantastic building efforts in constructing the pavilion stairs that could accommodate 350 students and 40 staff. Thank you to our photographer for his patience and we would also like to acknowledge all the students for their efforts in getting organised so quickly.

On Monday 3rd February we held our Excellence Assembly celebrating both the achievements of our NCEA students in 2019 and we celebrated the achievements of our Taiwan traveling ambassadors.





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New and returning staff: Danny Sparks, Kurt Sweeney, Catherine Spindler, Jiji Kurian, Emily Osborne, Dean Leary, Matt Robinson, Stavros Rekatsinas, Terry McArdle





Academic Excellence in NCEA

Congratulations to the following students for their fantastic achievements in NCEA. Both full Excellence and full Merit endorsements are an incredible effort and show the depth of academic talent we have at our school. Students who have achieved these awards have completed 50 or more NCEA credits at either Merit or Excellence level. These awards also support students to gain extensive tertiary study scholarships when they head into the next chapter of their education. Congratulations to all our top achievers:

Level 1: Excellence

- Iona Mortimer
- Braye Stewart
- Julian Davis Gorrie
- Isla Roos
- Samantha Oosthoek
- Brodie Paynter

Level 1 Merit

- Ava Jones
- Breeje Schuler
- Jarden Roudon
- Regan Adams
- Hayley Robinson
- Junior De Young
- Caleb Bayley Conder
- Monique Peters
- Raneigh Hannah
- Hollie Storey





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Level 2: Excellence

- Jasmine Gorman
- Angela Harris
- Katelyn Hedley
- Toni Keenan
- Samuel Dromgool
- Yolanda Mortimer
- Keara Costar
- Freya Clewlow
- Rowan Carey

Level 2: Merit

- Kaitlyn Johnstone
- Amelia Simmonds
- Hailey Findlay
- Tyla Burge
- Jasveen Singh-Mahal
- Jackson Thornton
- Regan Traynor

Level 3: Excellence

- Paige Spooner
- Sonya Williams

Level 3 Merit

- Tatiana Karika

We are very pleased with our overall academic achievement results. Year 11 and 12 results have well exceeded our expectations. Congratulations to all our students for their efforts to build their futures.

Taiwan Ambassadors Programme

We had seven students compete in an intensive 17 day programme in Taiwan during the Christmas Break. Iona Mortimer, Braye Stewart, Julian Davis Gorrie, Samantha Oosthoek, Brodie Paynter, Raneigh Hannah, and Stephanie Cornes. They visited 3 schools in Taiwan, lived in home stays and attended an international school conference where they competed with 10 international Asian schools and 10 Taiwanese schools on a topic of food sustainability, one of the united nations international priorities. They won the top platinum award in the competition for their presentation and work with their Taiwanese Sister school. This was an incredible achievement as they were some of the youngest competitors in their secondary school division. We thank the Waihi Academy for their incredible efforts to take our little school to the world and help us to be GREAT.



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House Captains

Congratulations to our newly appointed senior house captains. It is great to have such talented senior students taking on these vital roles and responsibilities for our school and leading our houses as we begin preparation for Swimming Sports and Athletics. Remember all students are required to attend these full school events to support their houses.

House Captains for 2020 are ...

Tainui - Jasmine Gorman and Jacinda Nicholls

Aotea - Sophie Nickel and Kane Dunsmuir

Arawa - Ana Nicholas and Josh Conroy

Tokomaru - Rowan Carey and Sam Dromgool



Self Management - Taking Responsibility for Ourselves

We are focusing on positive learning culture in our school for the first 100 days working hard to ensure all our students are learning ready when they attend each class each day. We expect our students to be 'self managing' around getting to their classes and being ready to learn. This includes having checked the next day's timetable the night before school and organised all the right books and equipment. Turning up to class ready for work with a charged digital device, setting up and beginning each class starter activities without needing reminders and completing the set work in each class that is required to the highest possible standard.

To be a successful student in 2020 you need:

- A pencil case with pens and pencils
- A school bag
- The right books for every lesson
- The right PE gear
- The right and correct uniform
- **The right attitude to learn**

You also need to take care of yourself, have breakfast, eat lunch, eat dinner and get enough sleep.

Phones

In 2019 we introduced the phonebox policy where students must hand in their phones during class. This was extremely successful in supporting a strong learning culture focused on learning and work completion. We also remind all students and parents that student phones must be placed in the phonebox for every class including form class and cannot be used during learning time. Students who choose not to do this will lose the 'privilege' of having phones at school.

Uniform

If you need support with uniform we also have a large stock of second hand items and if you have spare uniform could you please return it as we will share these to other families who may need it.

Changes in administration

You will all notice we have made major changes to administration. All student and parent enquiries now come through the front office. This has been an important change to support our students and parents to feel they can access what they need to support the learning journey.



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Questions or Feedback

We remind all parents and whanau that should you have any comments, questions or concerns please feel free to contact us as your information on how this is going for your students is important. Deans are the first port of call at secondary school and their contacts are included in the news letter.

We look forward to the term being as positive as the first week and thank our student body for their ongoing positive efforts both in the classroom and with the many and varied co-curricula options that have been on offer.

Whāia e koe te iti kahurangi. Ki te tuohu me he maunga teitei — *(Seek the treasures of your heart, if you bow, let it be to a lofty mountain)*

Heather Gorrie

Principal

