



TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

June Newsletter 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 Steffert

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



As June rushes by and we all get back into the swing of on site school operation we want to acknowledge the positive progress our students are making in what has been a challenging year. It has been great to move to Alert Level 1 and hold our first full school assembly since March. It has also been great to see our sports teams begin training and practicing again. Thank you to all our coaches who have planned their restarts.

Academic Progress for Seniors

Senior students have just completed their first checkpoint for all NCEA studies. This will be a critical indicator of progress and Parents and Caregivers will receive a detailed letter on where each student is at. Deans will also be supporting students and families who need to catch up any work that is behind. It is critical that we all work together to ensure we have a keep up culture for the rest this year. The checkpoint will run every five weeks to ensure that everyone is informed of progress on a regular basis.

Parents evening will be on the first week back in Term 3 on Tuesday 21st July.

Progress Reporting for Juniors

Junior reports are being written at the end of the term. We are very focused on ensuring work completion for juniors and building good working habits in class after the time away.

A PURPOSE JOYFUL A COURAGE BLAMELESS
HE WAKA EKE NOA HE TU MANAWANUI KI TE KEI O TE WAKA



Learning from Lockdown

Covid Lockdown student surveys have been completed with some very interesting feedback from students on how they developed self management skills during their time working online.

The rest of the year will have calendar changes to accommodate NCEA changes and wider school programme changes to ensure all students are successful in 2020. We will provide full updates in the next newsletter as we shift our focus on to term 3. We have also worked as educators to keep the best of what we learned around online teaching and learning to support our in school teaching practice.

Supporting Work Readiness and Employment

We would like to congratulate the 12 senior students and David Masters who completed their Level 3 ForkLift Licence at school last week. This was a fantastic opportunity and we were really pleased to work with a new partner in providing such a worthwhile programme.

We have students who are also about to complete their scaffolding certificates, first aid and workplace safety programmes. Thank you to Sarah Verran-Tye for creating these opportunities.

Smart Day - Pushing the Boundaries

We have also been excited to restart the Smart Day programme. It's great to have our students out enjoying their passions, working on their futures, contributing to our community and building up their C.V.s with experiences that make them stand out from the rest. Thank you to our local and regional experts who are supporting our student learning. A special thank you to our staff who work really hard to create exciting and dynamic programmes every Thursday. William Pike has restarted with rail trail rides and mountain walks.





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Beauty and the Beast

Rehearsals are again in full swing for the production of Beauty and the Beast. It has been great to be able to reschedule this major school production to be performed at the end of term 3. Thank you to the extensive support crew of community members who are making this possible. The costumes have arrived and they are spectacular.

Sports Organisation

The Sports leadership team of Kat Lemon, Wendy Livingstone and Robyn Williams have undertaken a significant body of work through this year to ensure our sports processes within the College are centralised and allow for positive student engagement and increased participation across all codes. This work has reviewed all health and safety systems, reviewed and upgraded all travel systems, created new booking systems for facility use, reintroduced the Pavilion for availability for teams for weekend and weeknight use and completed a full review of sport uniforms and sport funding. Please direct any questions or queries regarding sports to Kat and the team.

The weights room is now available for senior students to use. Students will need to see Health and PE staff to get a user agreement and then attend a tutorial before using this facility. There are lunchtime activities available to all students run by staff and outside providers such as Thames Valley Hockey. Students are encouraged to keep up-to-date with the notices of what's on. Monday and Wednesday the sand volleyball court is set aside for junior students and Tuesday and Friday for senior students.





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New Staff

We have welcomed Warren Seffert to the technology team. Warren comes to us as a Morrinsville local with considerable local knowledge of our area. He is a very experienced hard materials and automotive specialist. We are very lucky to have him join our teaching team.

College Frontage Bus Safety

Can we please ask for URGENT support to ensure safe drop off and pick up parking practice around the College front prior to 8.45am and after 3.05pm. The bus bay area must remain clear for buses only during these times. The buses have to turn across Stanley Ave and pull into the bus bay. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE BUS BAY AREA OR BUS TURNING ARC. Please use the metalled area in front of the Gym for drop off and pick up or park past the College exit gates. We would really appreciate everyone's support and cooperation on this to ensure we can maintain safety in this critical area.

For those students who bike to school, helmets must be worn at all times and we remind all students to adhere to the road rules and ride only on the designated cycle ways.

We are asking our local traffic police to support us with their presence over the coming weeks.

Uniform

Te Aroha College is a uniform school. We expect all students to be in the correct uniform without excuse. This is part of our basic standards and expectations. We appreciate the winter term has challenges but the uniform design has plenty of options to support everyone being warm and comfortable. We also have a constant supply of second hand items to ensure that all students can have the right clothing to meet the uniform code. Sweatshirts are not part of our uniform code and cannot be worn.

Students can purchase School Jerseys for \$85 to \$90 - these have become a popular option

Students can also purchase the school shell jacket for \$75

Students can wear only WHITE thermals under the uniform shirts.

Students must wear Black polishable shoes and black socks

Harrys in Thames Street, Morrinsville are our uniform supplier. 078896865

Phones

Now we are at Alert Level 1 all students must turn their phones off and place the classroom phone boxes during all classes. This, like uniform, is a basic expectation for all students.



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School Accounts

School accounts will be sent out to parents and caregivers over the coming weeks. We appreciate that times are tough for a number of our families and ask that you please give us a call or email rjohnson@tacol.nz and discuss payment options, including automatic payments. We are happy to help wherever we can to ensure students can participate fully in school life.

Working Together

We appreciate that everyone has gone through tough times in the last few months. Please appreciate that all our staff are doing their best to ensure every student can be successful and are supporting our basic expectations. We know you are also doing your best as families and we are here to work with you to support your students. We ask for positive communication and patience with all our staff members as we too have the best interests of your students at heart.

Year 8 transition to college

We are starting our primary school visits soon. If you have any questions please contact Samantha Mortimer (DP) on smortimer@tacol.nz

From the Nurse

Our school Nurse Teresa is available for student support and information. Our focus is supporting mental health post Lockdown

- Just a thought website - Helps to keep well being on track <https://www.justathought.co.nz/>
- 1737- is a free service for New Zealanders feeling down, anxious, a bit overwhelmed or just needing to chat to someone. You can call or text us for free 24/7
- Calm Harm APP- Provides tasks to help you resist or manage the urge to self-harm.

We have all been through an unprecedented time, be kind to others and yourself!

It is important to now follow-up on health concerns that may have been put off during lock-down.

Teresa McGovern 022 6810 929 or teresa.mcgovern@pinnacle.health.nz

Health clinic is open Monday-Wednesday during school hours



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Board of Trustees News, June 2020

Board of Trustees News

The Board of Trustees have met since we have returned from Covid Lockdown and carried on the work of positive forward progress for the school.

Thank you to our school community

We would like to express our public thanks to the staff, students and parents for their work and engagement with Te Aroha College through what has been a very challenging time for everyone. We acknowledge and thank our staff team for their hard work and adaptability in being able to transform a school literally overnight to a digital online platform and then successfully return our students to an in school culture.

Staff Trustee Elections

We have welcomed Peter Jager to the Board as the Staff Trustee. We also acknowledge the work of Rachel Scott as Staff Trustee and thank her for her considerable contribution to the Te Aroha College Board.

Major Building Project Approved and Wider School Improvements

The board of trustees has completed the approval process for the major rebuild of Blocks B and D. This is an exciting opportunity for modernisation and upgrades for two major blocks including toilet blocks. This will see over 2.1 million dollars spent on our school over the next six months.

We used lockdown to progress our school renovations and the completion of the “foods” area rebuild is almost completed. We have completed the exterior upgrades to the Pavilion and have begun replacing all the walkway spouting and night lighting. The school security has also been fully upgraded and work is continuing on a full cleaning review.

Supporting Sport and Community Engagement

The Board have worked closely with the Head of Health and Physical Education and her team to support the development of a full review of sport through the school. As a school and community we are aiming to provide opportunity for positive engagement in sport and support the many codes that operate within the College. We would like to thank the Health/Phys Ed team for their work in this area.

Government Announcement

We have been pleased to see that the government is planning to reintroduce night classes and community education. This is a real positive for our school and community that will allow us to share our facilities and support lifelong learning in our community. We will provide more information as it is announced.