



TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

February 2021

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admin@tacol.nz

PRINCIPAL
Mrs Gorrie

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS
Mr Jager
Mr Aitken
Mr Darby

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
Mr Hartzenburg

YEAR 9 DEAN
Mr McArdle

FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Rowe
Arawa, Mrs Oliver
Tainui, Mr Darby
Tokomaru, Mr Sweeney

YEAR 10 DEAN
Mr Aislabie

FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Stringer
Arawa, Miss Maber
Tainui, Mr Robinson
Tokomaru, Mr Ashford-Beck

YEAR 11 DEAN
Mr Masters

FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Pipe
Arawa, Mr Kurian
Tainui, Mrs Spindler
Tokomaru, Mrs Lemon

YEAR 12 DEAN
Mr Aitken

FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mr Stringer
Arawa, Ms Baylis
Tainui, Ms Scott
Tokomaru, Ms Hagan

YEAR 13 DEAN
Ms Gemmell

FORM TEACHERS
Aotea, Mrs Jager
Arawa, Mr Rekatsinas
Tainui, Ms McLaren
Tokomaru, Mr Steffert



Dear Parents and Whanau,

Ki ora and welcome to 2021

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. After 2020 we know that anything is possible and in this newsletter we celebrate the resilience of our staff, students and school and the success that has come through the challenges of 2020.

It has been a very busy few weeks starting with two teacher only days where we took time to ensure thorough planning for 2021, welcomed back staff from a well-deserved break and set the tone for a great year ahead. We also completed a staff-wide first aid programme to ensure we can meet any student emergency needs. We are very lucky to start 2021 with a great team of staff who are amazingly talented educators and who we know will make success possible for all students in 2021.

We welcome new staff and welcome back some familiar faces in new roles:

- Warren Seffert - TIC Metal Technology
- Kurt Sweeney - ICT and Mathematics Teacher
- Sam Spindler - Teacher Aide

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



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We also welcome Steve Darby as Deputy Principal of Junior School and Grant Aitken as Deputy Principal of Senior School after Sam Mortimer was appointed to the Principal's Position at Greymouth High School in December 2020. They will join Peter Jager who is Deputy Principal of School Operations in 2021.

In late January a small group of senior staff and our senior students travelled to Greymouth to formally pass Sam Mortimer over to her new position as Principal as part of her welcome Pōwhiri. This was a very moving event, signifying our school's contribution in Sam's journey to school leadership. We wish Sam all the best in her new position

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. We also want to acknowledge the amazing group of Year 12 leaders who joined us in a new initiative to develop senior school leaders over two years.





Congratulations to our Senior Leaders, Co-Presidents Julian Davis-Gorrie and Sarah Yetton, Deputy Co-Presidents Junior De Young, Caleb Bayley-Conder, Madison Darby and Raneigh Hannah. We also want to thank our Prefects for their support during the camp in preparation for the Pōwhiri.

Student Prefects 2021

Caleb Bayley-Conder

Madison Darby

Julian Davis-Gorrie

Junior De Young

Raneigh Hannah

Zoe Lynd-Jones

Eshriya Narayan

Samantha Oosthoek

Brodie Paynter

Hayley Robinson

Isla Roos

Braye Stewart

Hollie Storey

Sarah Yetton





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Our welcome Pōwhiri on Wednesday 3rd of February 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. A special thank you to Mr Kevin Johnson for his wonderful Whaikorero from Te Aroha Primary and Mr Hariwhenua Searanke. We also thank our Komatua Walter Biddle for his wonderful contribution to the event. Thank you to our Board Chair Teena Cornes for her support of our welcome.

Our Pōwhiri marked the 40 year anniversary of the House system of Arawa, Tainui, Tokomaru and Aotea. To signify this we planted four kowhai trees as part of the welcome process.

Our welcome assembly for all students on Friday 5th of February saw the introduction of all our senior leaders and staff and focused on being our best selves in 2021. 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.





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D Block reopened and B Block on the way

On Tuesday the 9th of February we opened the first phase of our \$2.1 million renovation welcoming staff and students to the new and improved D Block interior. We are very excited to have our staff and students in state-of-the-art classrooms and look forward to the exterior and B Block completion in the coming weeks. We thank the Ministry of Education for their support in this critical build and our contractor Total Help Limited for their considerable work over the last six months to make this possible.

Excellence Assembly

On Tuesday 9th of February we were very pleased to have Jasmine Gorman speak about her school journey and celebrate her national achievement of an academic scholarship award in Classics. We also celebrated Keara Costar for her two scholarships in Statistics and English. These awards are the highest academic awards in the secondary school system placing both students in the top 5% of students nationally.

We held our Excellence celebration acknowledging the achievements of our NCEA students in 2020, the achievements of our Taiwan virtual ambassadors and we welcomed the Year 12 leaders to our leadership programme.





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 46 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

- Isabelle Bray
- Harrison Burge
- Stephanie Cornes
- Harlan Roudon
- Brooke Titchener

Level 1: Merit

- Astin Ericsson
- Ngataiawa Pirini-Maika
- Blair Thai
- Kizeah Libalib
- Mickey Ye
- Cody Dyer
- Josh Saxon-Aliifaalogo
- Makani Strickland
- Donovan Bailey
- Emma Nicholls
- Ben Hay
- Sarah Niven
- Sharneet Singh-Mahal
- Keisha Wootton
- Ashton Carey
- Clio McLaren
- Libby Gleeson
- Kase Martin
- Kalim Thomson





Level 2: Excellence

- Julian Davis-Gorrie
- Isla Roos
- Braye Stewart

Level 2: Merit

- Jarden Roudon
- Sarah Yetton
- Brodie Paynter
- Samantha Oosthoek
- Hollie Storey
- Hayley Robinson
- Junior De Young
- Hope Pollock

Level 3: Excellence

- Keara Costar
- Jasmine Gorman
- Samuel Dromgool
- Iona Mortimer
- Amelia Simmonds
-

Level 3: Merit

- Rowan Carey
- Cheyenne Hannah
- Angela Harris
- Toni Keenan
- Jasveen Singh-Mahal
- Gary Vu

2020 Scholarship

Classics - Jasmine Gorman

Statistics - Keara Costar

English - Keara Costar

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





Taiwan Ambassadors' Programme

We had six students participate in an intensive online programme in Taiwan during the Christmas Break: Braye Stewart, Julian Davis-Gorrie, Samantha Oosthoek, Brodie Paynter, Raneigh Hannah and Stephanie Cornes. They defended their winning title from 2019 with 10 international Asian schools and 10 Taiwanese schools on a topic of Cyber Safety for students. They won the top Gold award in the competition for their presentation and work with their Taiwanese Sister school. This was an incredible achievement as they were online working with their international sister school teammates 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.





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 2021 are ...

Tainui - Aston Hurd and Sam Oosthoek

Aotea - Brodie Paynter and Hayley Robinson

Arawa - Logan Heremia and Leah McCreedy

Tokomaru - Isla Roos and Eshriya Narayan

We look forward to their contribution to the wider student leadership team.



Year 12 Leaders

We have announced a team of Year 12 leaders to support our school-wide leadership development plan. These students have already completed their first major tasks of supporting our new Year 9s and will be undertaking a number of positive projects throughout the year.

Ashton Carey

Ngataiawa Pirini-Maika

Harlan Roudon

Emma Nicholls

Isabelle Bray

Keisha Wootton

Stephanie Cornes

Harrison Burge

Ben Hay

Josh Saxon-Aliifaalogo

Josh Jeffries (absent)





Self Management - Taking Responsibility for Ourselves

We are focusing on a positive learning culture in our school for the first 100 days, working hard to ensure that all our students are 'learning ready' in every class, every 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 organising 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 are also part of this important process.

To be a successful student in 2021 you need:

- A pencil case with pens and pencils
- A school bag
- The right books for every lesson
- The right PE gear
- The right 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

We run a phone box policy where students must hand in their phones during class. This is 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 phone box for every 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 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.

Administration and support team

All student and parent enquiries come through the front office. This is important to support our students and parents to feel they can access what they need to support the learning journey.

A major thank you to our cleaning and ground's team who have also worked very hard to have the school ready to start the year.

Questions or Feedback

We remind all parents and whanau that should you have any comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. Deans are the first port of call at secondary school and their contacts are included in the newsletter.



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Communication

Please note that as a school we endeavor to keep students, parents and whanau as update as possible. Teachers, deans and school administration regularly email and text to get in touch. Please check that your contact details are up to date. You can check and update your contact information by signing into the parent portal at: <https://tearoha.parents.school.nz/>. Please use your secure Care-giver username and Caregiver Password, as provided by school. How to Portal Guide and Username and Password will be sent out shortly to all Year 9 and new students. Alternatively, you can call the office on 078848625 or email office@tacol.nz.

DOWNLOAD
OUR SCHOOL
APP



<https://tearohacollege.apps.school.nz/install/>



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Absentee



Contacts



Calendar



News



Sports



Daily Notices



Portal



Alerts

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Sporting Events Term One

The first whole school sporting event is **Swimming Sports on Thursday, 18 February**. This day is for all students, attendance will be marked throughout the day. It is a great opportunity for students to develop their house spirit. We ask caregivers to show their support for this event also by not excusing their students, there are plenty of fun activities for non swimmers and it important that students are there to support and encourage competitors. Caregivers and whanau are most welcome to come along as spectators. If you are available to help on sports days or as coaches/managers of sports teams please don't be shy. Contact wlivingstone@tacol.nz or rwilliams@tacol.nz





Sporting Events Term One

Term One is very busy with lots of sporting events, please refer to the Plan on right.

For further information and updates on sport at Te Aroha College you can follow our

Te Aroha College Sport Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/TeArohaCollegeSport>



Week 2	Wednesday 10 th Feb	Tainui & Arawa non-champ swim heats
	Thursday 11 th Feb	Aotea & Tokomaru non-champ swim heats
	Friday 12 th Feb	Tennis Champs
Week 3	Tuesday 16 th Feb Block 2	TAC Champ swim heats
	Thursday 18 th Feb	TAC Swimming Sports
Week 4	Wednesday 24 th Feb	TV Tennis Waihi
	Wednesday 24 th Feb	TV Show Jumping Thames
	Thursday 25 th Feb	TAC Athletic Heats
Week 5	Monday 1 st March	TAC 1500m & 3000m athletic finals
	Thursday 4 th March	TAC Athletic Champs
Week 6	Monday 8 th March	TVSS 3x3 Bball (Te Aroha)
	Wednesday 10 th March	TV Swimming Sports Thames
Week 7	Wednesday 17 th March	TV Athletics
	Friday 19 th March	TAC Triathlon
Week 8 (Summer Tournament Week)	Wednesday 24 th March	WBOP athletics
Week 9	Monday 29 th March	TV Triathlon Cooks Beach
	Wednesday 31 st March	TV Touch Paeroa
Week 10	Friday 9 th /10 th /11 th April	North Island Athletics
Week 11	Wednesday 14 th April	TV Bowls Matamata

Board of Trustees

The first Board of Trustees meeting is to be held on Monday, 22 of February at 6.30pm, all welcome to attend. To contact the board please email Rebecca Johnson, rjohnson@tacol.nz.

Members of the Te Aroha College are:

- Teena Cornes—Chairperson
- Fiona Ryan
- Debbie Burge
- Andrew Gemmell
- Matt Turner
- Braye Stewart—Student Representative
- Peter Jager—Teacher Representative
- Heather Gorrie—Principal
- Rebecca Johnson—Board Secretary



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Final Message

We look forward to the term being as positive as the first week has been and thank our students for their ongoing positive efforts both in the classroom and with the many and varied co-curricula options that are 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.*

Heather Gorrie

Principal

