



# TE AROHA COLLEGE

*A purpose joyful; A courage blameless*

March 2022

106 Stanley Ave  
Te Aroha 3320

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Te Aroha 3342

Ph. 07 8848625  
admin@tacol.nz

**PRINCIPAL**  
Mrs Gorrie

**DEPUTY PRINCIPALS**  
Mr Jager  
Mr Aitken  
Ms Scott

**GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR**  
Mr Hartzenburg

**YEAR 9 DEAN**  
Ms Gemmell  
**FORM TEACHERS**  
Aotea, Mrs Jager  
Arawa, Mr Raubenheimer  
Tainui, Ms McLaren  
Tokomaru, Mr Main

**YEAR 10 DEAN**  
Mr McArdle  
**FORM TEACHERS**  
Aotea, Mr Rowe  
Arawa, Mrs Oliver  
Tainui, Mr Darby  
Tokomaru, Mr Daroux

**YEAR 11 DEAN**  
Mr Aislabie  
**FORM TEACHERS**  
Aotea, Miss Park  
Arawa, Miss Maber  
Tainui, Mrs Spindler  
Tokomaru, Mr Ashford-Beck

**YEAR 12 DEAN**  
Mr Masters  
**FORM TEACHERS**  
Aotea, Mr Pipe  
Arawa, Miss Halford  
Tainui, Mr Kunnil  
Tokomaru, Mr Masters

**YEAR 13 DEAN**  
Mr Aitken  
**FORM TEACHERS**  
Aotea, Mr Stringer  
Arawa, Ms Baylis  
Tainui, Ms Scott  
Tokomaru, Ms Hagan



## Dear Parents and Whānau

It has been an exciting few weeks and a very busy term as we have settled everyone into school and completed as much of our summer programme of full school sports events as the Red Traffic Light levels allowed. We have been able to enjoy Swimming Sports, Athletic Sports and the Doubles Tennis Championships. We have also had a number of student-led events including fundraising through 'Out of Uniform' days supporting our service model of student leadership and Friday fun activities.

We have also celebrated strong NCEA results including Excellence and Merit Endorsements, Scholarship success and high levels of achievement for our senior students despite the challenges of 2021. Te Aroha College students are resilient achievers and we are very proud of their successes. This also celebrates the calibre of Te Aroha College staff who every day create dynamic and successful learning programmes that ensure all our students can reach their potential.

## Hybrid Learning, Student and staff safety

We have seen a large increase in student active cases of Covid-19 in our community and school community in the past few weeks. This continues to affect our staffing ratios and our ability to offer a full on-site teaching programme.

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



## Hybrid Learning, Student and staff safety (Continued)

We made the decision to operate our pre-planned systems of Hybrid Classroom Learning in Week 5 and have continued with this and Online Learning to ensure that we can still deliver quality education to our students as part of our Te Aroha College Covid-19 Response Plan.

We will be gradually adapting this through Weeks 8, 9 10 and 11 as we hope to move back to full on-site learning for the final three weeks of Term 1 if staff numbers allow.

We are very grateful for the continued parental support to ensure students are engaged with their online Google classrooms and are attending any set online lessons or meetings along with attending on their set school days. Please contact the Year Level Deans if you have questions or concerns.

We also want to publicly acknowledge our hard-working students who are showing great resilience and our amazing staff who continue to innovate and design programmes that are interesting and engaging through the multiple learning platforms we are now teaching from.

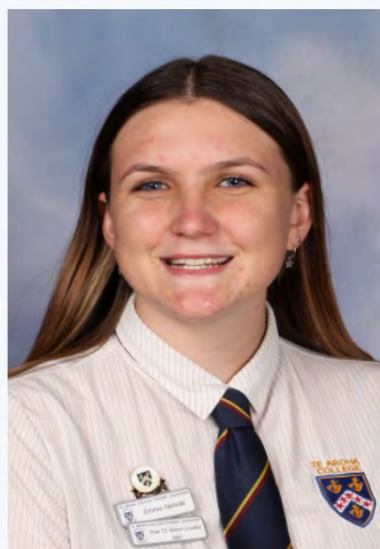
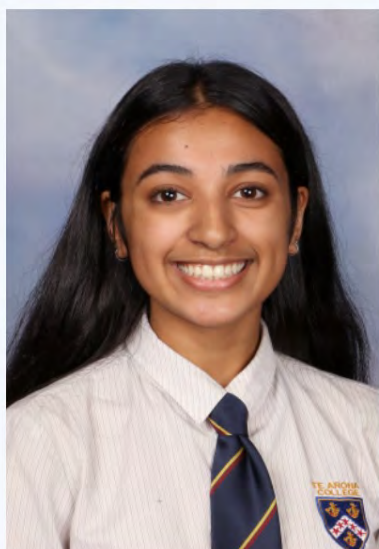
We hope that this will only be a temporary measure as we move through the peak of this phase of the pandemic in our local community and look forward to having everyone back on-site as soon as possible.

## Congratulations to our 2022 House Leaders

The selected senior students play a vital leadership role in supporting their House, creating positive engagement in events and running and managing events. These students have done a great job with both Athletics and Swimming and we look forward to what they will bring to our House competitions as the year progresses.

- Aotea - Ngataiawa Pirini-Maika; Sharneet Singh-Mahal; Kalim Thomson
- Arawa - Donovan Bailey; Harlan Roudon
- Tainui - Kizeah Libalib; Emma Nicholls; Summa Roskam
- Tokomaru - Clio McLaren; Clayton Meredith; Mickey Ye





House Leaders  
2022





## Sports Success

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate our students who excelled in all our sporting events. Their efforts were great, as were the number of records broken in our full school events. We also would like to congratulate every student who chose to have the courage to get out there and give it a go. Thank you all for your efforts and a special thanks to Patrick Aislabie, Ken Rowe and Steve Darby for their creative management of our full school events.

## House Competitions

Our House competition is in full swing with our houses vying for top spot through Swimming and Athletics.

Athletics Provisional House Points

Aotea - 2358

Tainui - 1178

Tokomaru - 1165

Arawa - 1105

*Athletics is yet to be completed with high jump, relays and some long distance track events still outstanding when we return from Covid Safety Hybrid Learning.*

## Swimming House Results

Aotea - 5420

Tainui - 4420

Tokomaru - 1735

Arawa - 1140

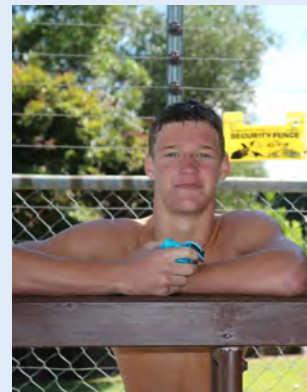




## Swimming Records on the Day

Jayden Darby

Event	Old Record	New Record
33m Backstroke	21.21	20.25
33m Butterfly	18.65	18.53
33m Freestyle	17.87	16.97
100m Backstroke	1.08.99	1.08.57



Baraka Maina

Event	Old Record	New Record
33m Back-stroke	25.03	24.78



## Swimming Champions and Runners up

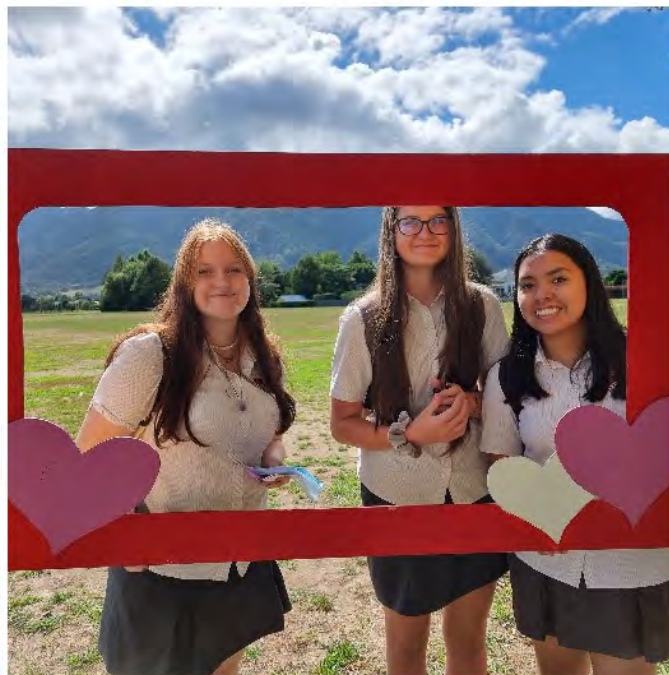
Swimming Age Group Champions	Champion	Runner Up
Junior Girls	Millah Burge (AOT)	Greer Gemmell (AOT)
Junior Boys	Calan Diprose (TOK)	Samuel Corden (TAI)
Intermediate Girls	Jessica Bray (AOT)	Hannah Davis Gorrie (TAI)
Intermediate Boys	Toby Shotton (TAI)	Richie Gemmell (AOT)
Senior Girls	Keisha Wootton (TAI)	Annabelle Oosthoek (TAI)
Senior Boys	Jayden Darby (TAI)	Ngataiawa Pirini-Maika (AOT)





## Student-Led Events

Our senior student leaders raised over \$500 for their Valentine's Out of Uniform Day and ran a very successful first event before we went to the hybrid model of learning. We look forward to returning to full school in the coming weeks to continue their exciting plans for student engagement.





## Grease - the 2022 Production



*Book, Music and Lyrics By JIM JACOBS and WARREN CASEY*

*BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORiGiN™ THEATRICAL [www.origintheatrical.com.au](http://www.origintheatrical.com.au)*

Te Aroha College's **Grease** production is off to a flying start with rehearsals on Tuesdays and Sundays. It will be performed to the community in five shows, between June 28th and July 2nd.

We will also rehearse during Thursday's Smart Day.

So far we have 36 students involved in the band, cast and crew.

There will be a number of adults from the school and community, supporting our students with acting, singing and backstage work.

Thanks again to local piano teacher, Vivienne Genet who is our official Ministry of Education "Creative" in our school.

We have been very lucky to win a Ministry of Education grant to help pay for the rights to this iconic musical. The students are very happy as they already know most of the songs.

Isabelle Bray, Keisha Wootton and Chenara Melrose are leading our choreography team. We have already begun planning those big all dancing, all singing, all acting numbers which make musicals so exciting.

We'd like to give a special thank you to Teena and Richard Cornes for helping us fundraise - we very much appreciate it.

Thank you in advance to Ngaio and Jason Bray for agreeing to collect the Grease car for us from Te Puke High School.





9 Alexandra Road, Te Aroha West

# Forge Market Night

Join us for something different!!

Food! Coffee! Stalls!

Support local talent

Forge fudge, Plants, Soaps, Tupperware, Pepper  
& Me products, Local Honey, Flowers & more

Sausage Sizzle supporting Te Aroha College Grease Production

**Join us Friday 25th March**

**4pm till 8pm** [www.theoldforgekitchen.co.nz](http://www.theoldforgekitchen.co.nz)

07 884 8338







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## Summer Code Sports

Our Summer sports teams have begun challenging seasons and have made the best of the circumstances with Volleyball and Cricket and fielding teams in their regional competitions.





## Tennis Doubles Championship Winners

The tennis championships were well contested with some highly competitive matches. The singles tournament will be completed when we return to full school in the coming weeks.

Junior Boys - Calan Diprose and Lucas Bedford

Junior Girls - Taranpreet Singh-Mahal & Greer Gemmell

Intermediate Boys - Michael Wade & Ky-Mani Kaumoana

Intermediate Girls - Hannah Syme & Hannah Davis-Gorrie

Senior Boys - Harlan Roudon & Donovan Bailey

Senior Girls - Emma Nicholls & Summa Roskam

## Sports and Cultural Activities - Changes to National Requirements from the 12th of March

With the many changes of managing our school through a pandemic we wanted to provide the latest official update regarding involvement in sports and cultural events for vaccinated and unvaccinated students:

### **Section from Sport NZ Update provided to schools on the 10th of March 2022**

*Changes to school sport come into force through the COVID-19 Public Health Response Amendment Order from 11.59pm Saturday 12 March 2022.*

*All children and young people, regardless of their vaccination status, can participate in school-organised teams and groups, or as an individual representing the school in a competition or event. This applies whether on or off the school site, and to registered schools only.*

*School organised teams, groups and individuals are to be treated as if they are vaccinated and cannot be required to show a My Vaccine Pass.*

*This means the capacity limits for vaccinated students are applied when sport takes place out of school hours, or off school grounds.*

*Supporting staff, including coaches, managers, teachers and parent volunteers continue to be required to be vaccinated. This includes student coaches both when they coach teams from their own school, and those from other schools. They will still be required to show a My Vaccine Pass if the external venue or facility requires.*

*Sport NZ has updated their School Sport guidance which can be found [here](#).*

*The Ministry of Education will provide an update through their bulletin and DIA will provide guidance for Local Authorities.*

*Other organisations will also need to update their policies and websites as a result of this change.*

*Please refer to our FAQs in the first instance or if you have further queries then contact us at [covid19response@sportnz.org.nz](mailto:covid19response@sportnz.org.nz).*





## School Food Programme

As part of the Ministry of Education Free Food in Schools programme every student gets a free lunch every day they are at school. This has been a positive game changer for Te Aroha College and as we move into the colder months we are preparing to offer hot food meals from Term 2 onwards.

The food provided is made fresh, on-site, everyday by our Foods Team of Karyn Blair and Amy Cochran. The programme is based on the Healthy Heart food standards and ensures our students have a great balanced meal every day including fruit, healthy snacks and a range of wraps, salads, sandwiches and pasta dishes. The team also caters for special dietary requirements such as dairy or gluten free. Any leftover food is available for students to take home with them in the afternoon and this has proven very popular.





## Welcoming New Staff

We would like to warmly welcome Ben Hill to our sports co-ordinator's position. Ben comes to us with an exceptional set of skills and experience as a retired professional sports player of football and with a wealth of sports management experience. We are very fortunate that he and his wife have chosen to leave Auckland for the quieter life in Te Aroha and look forward to his contribution to our sports programme both in school and in our community.

We would also like to introduce our Learning Support Team. The Learning Support Team plays a critical role in ensuring all students can reach their learning potential. We are very pleased to have Terry McArdle, SENCO, Megan Bruce Lead Teacher Aide and Teacher Aide Lorraine Jayme working to provide innovative and supportive programmes for our learners across the school.







Our Head of Science, Jiji Kurian has been awarded a place in the Science Teaching and Leadership Programme run by the Royal Society Te Aparangi. He is one of eight teachers selected nationally. This programme is funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and will help Jiji to swap his classroom teaching for research activities at Plant and Food Research for two terms. He will have the opportunity to undergo a professional development programme organised by the Royal Society Te Aparangi which includes a short leadership course run by Otago University.

On returning, Jiji plans to develop our junior Science curriculum with more investigative activities and real world problem solving to make it more engaging. We wish him all the best as he works through his sabbatical.

## **Nuts and Bolts and Upcoming Events**

### **Senior Student Assessments**

Senior students are coming up to their first major NCEA assessments. Please make sure that you discuss this with your student and ensure that work is handed in on time. Deans and Teachers are always willing to help if you need support, especially as we work through our current Covid conditions and hybrid learning model. The rules around NCEA are very clear and students must meet all deadlines and keep up with the required work load.

## **Positive Learning onsite and from home**

We are focusing on a positive learning culture in our school through term 1 despite the current challenges of Hybrid learning and we are all working hard to ensure all our students are learning ready when they attend each class each day both at school and online. We expect our students to be 'self managing' by getting to each class and being ready to learn. This includes checking the next day's timetable the night before school and organising all the right books and equipment. It also means 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. We remind all parents 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' contact details are included below.

### **Dean Contacts:**

**Year 9: Danielle Gemmell, [dgemmell@tacol.nz](mailto:dgemmell@tacol.nz)**

**Year 10: Terry McArdle, [tmcardle@tacol.nz](mailto:tmcardle@tacol.nz)**

**Year 11: Patrick Aislabie, [paislabie@tacol.nz](mailto:paislabie@tacol.nz)**

**Year 12: David Masters, [dmasters@tacol.nz](mailto:dmasters@tacol.nz)**

**Year 13: Grant Aitken, [gaitken@tacol.nz](mailto:gaitken@tacol.nz)**



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## Student Volunteer Army

We are part of the Student Volunteer Army national programme that rewards community service. Students have the opportunity to sign up and log their hours for any volunteer work completed in school or after school hours. Students receive a series of badges for the hours worked. The SVA awards carry considerable prestige and are highly valued by scholarship panels for our seniors considering University in 2023.

Students wishing to sign up to the Student Volunteer Army programme can see Mrs Verran-Tye.

## Uniform

As the weather cools down, we remind all students that there is an expectation that students will either have a school jacket or blazer and polishable black shoes. Non regulation shoes or sweatshirts are not part of the uniform. We have a large selection of second hand uniforms and are happy to help our families ensure all our students are warm through winter.

## Easter Break and the End of Term

We will break for Easter and the Holidays on Thursday 14th April. School will return for Term 2 on Monday 2nd of May.

## Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Te Aroha College Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday 30th of March at 6pm in the College Staffroom. This has been postponed from the 23rd of March due to Covid concerns.

If you wish to get in touch with our Board, Debbie Burge is the presiding member (Chair) and can be contacted on [debburge75@gmail.com](mailto:debburge75@gmail.com)

## Finally

We look forward to the rest of the term being as positive as the first seven weeks have been and I would like to thank our student body for their ongoing positive efforts and our hard-working staff for their continued dedication.

Heather Gorrie

Principal

Te Aroha College

**WE SUCCEED TOGETHER**  
**Ki te kāpuia e kore e whati**





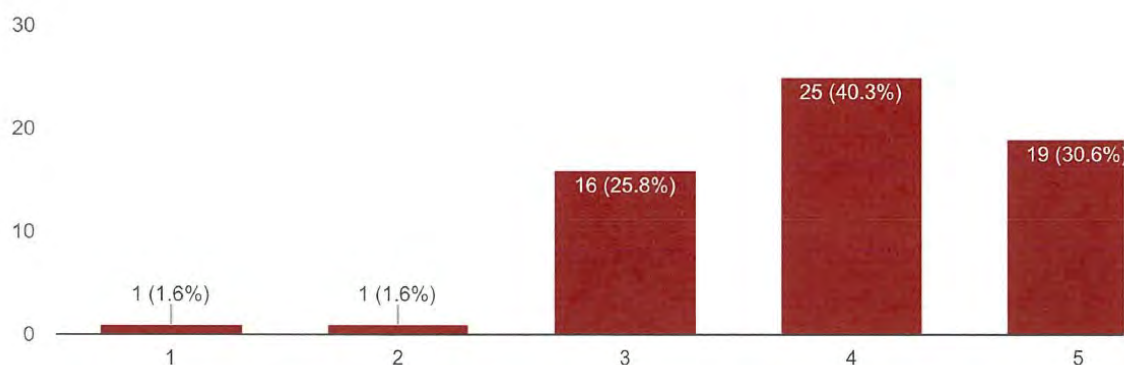
## Parent and Whānau Feedback

We were very pleased to receive a large number of responses to our parent survey. Thank you to all those parents who took time to let us know what is working well and what we can improve on.

**Note:** On the scales 1 is poor 5 is very good

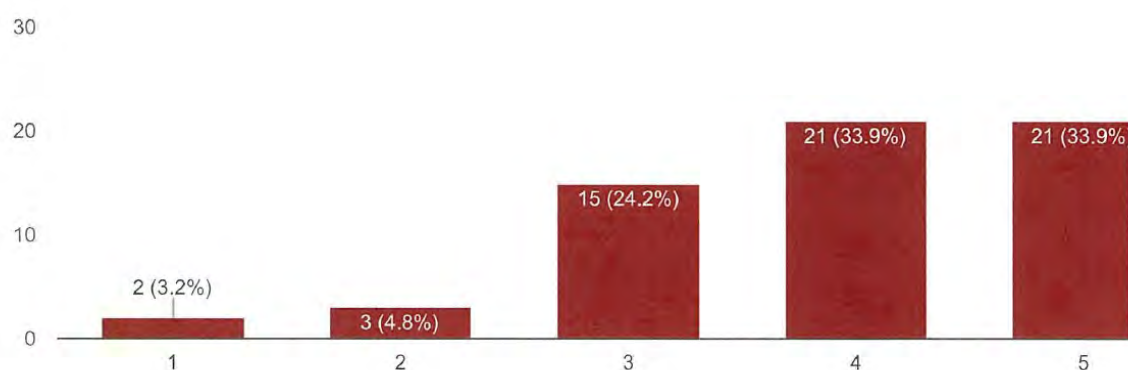
What are your impressions of the Te Aroha College grounds?

62 responses



Communications with parent/caregivers have been well managed regarding the first 5 weeks of school

62 responses



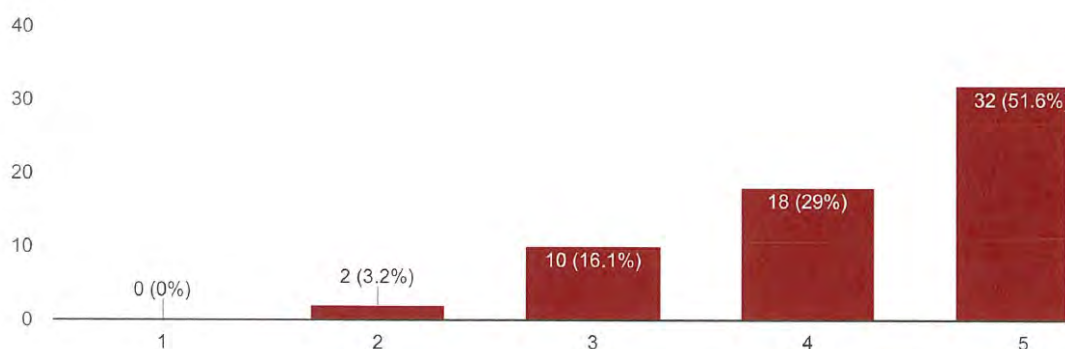


## Parent and Whānau Feedback (Continued)

Note: On the scales 1 is poor 5 is very good

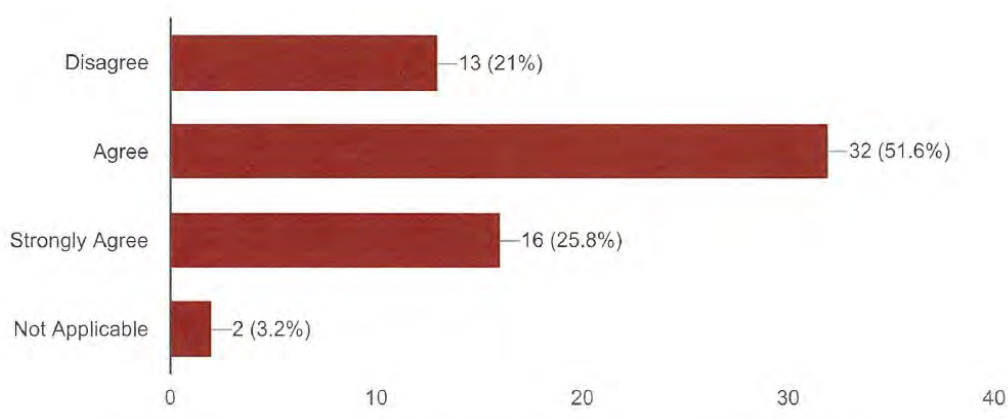
Uniform is being managed well by my child/ren

62 responses



My student/s are coping with mask wearing (If your student does not have an exemption)

62 responses





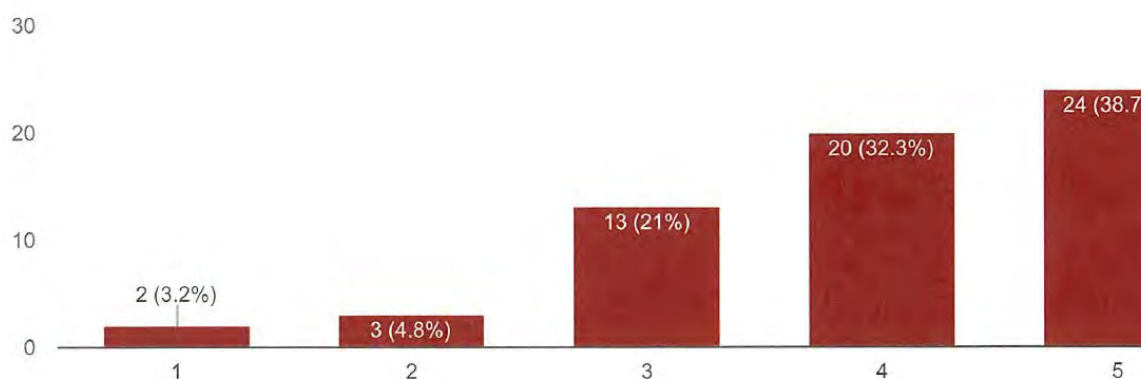


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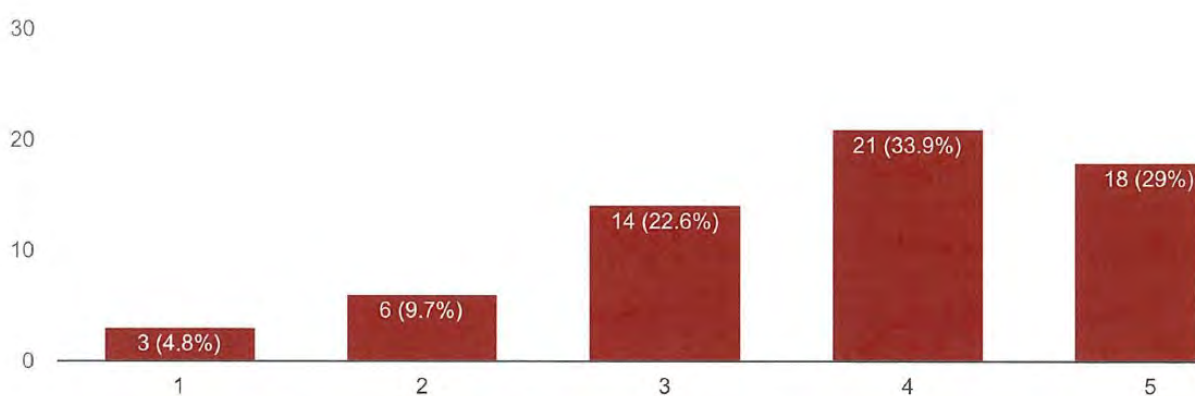
Communications with parent/caregivers have been well managed regarding Covid and safety plans

62 responses



My child/s google classrooms are working well for each subject

62 responses



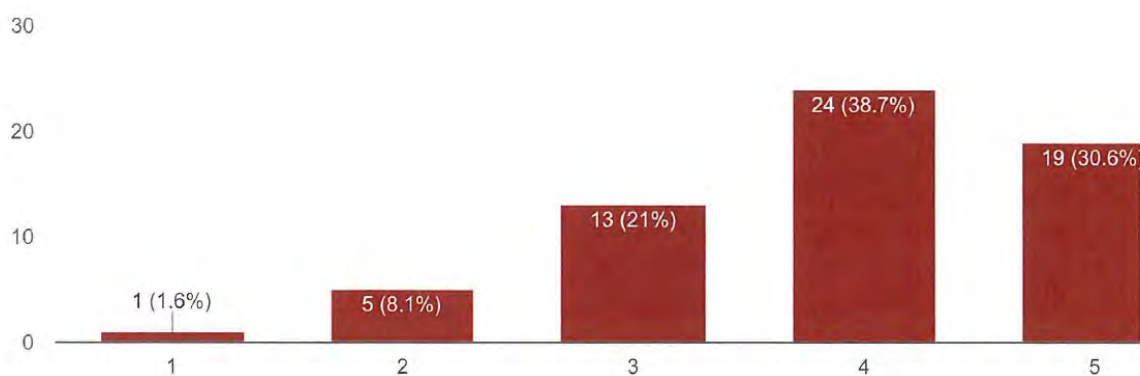


## Parent and Whānau Feedback (Continued)

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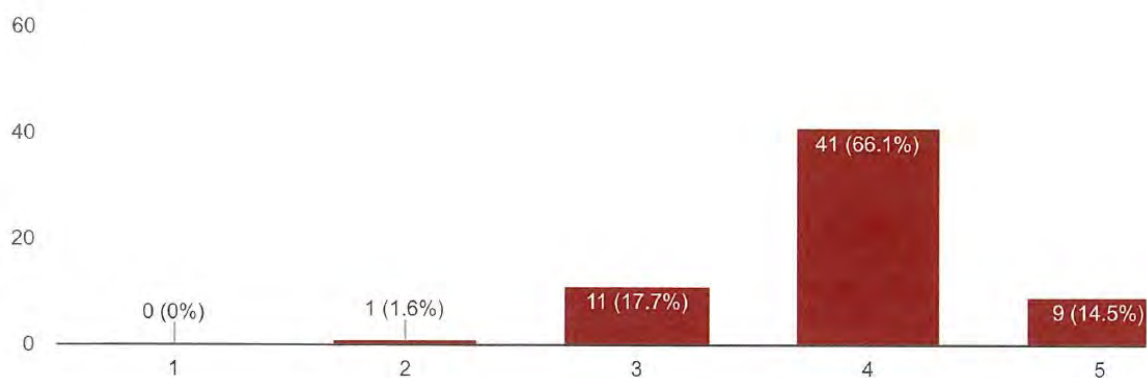
Te Aroha College Facebook communications and celebrations are positive and informative

62 responses



What are your student/s impressions of the classrooms and learning areas?

62 responses





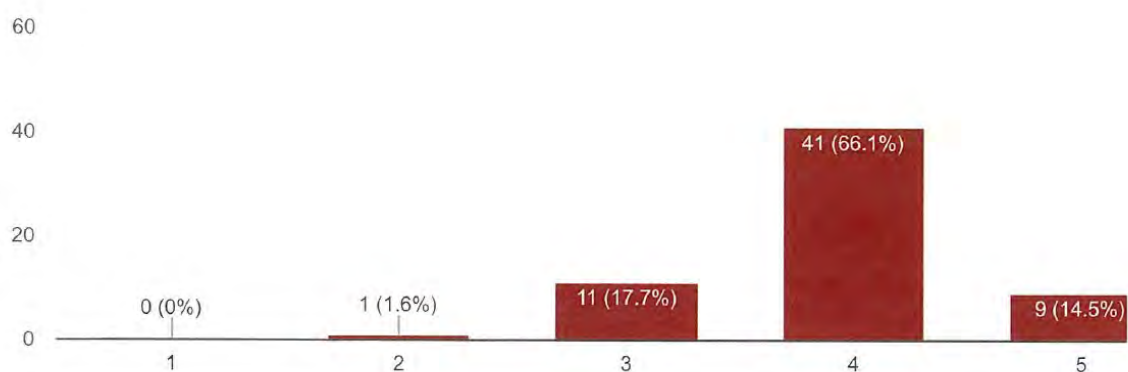


## Parent and Whānau Feedback (Continued)

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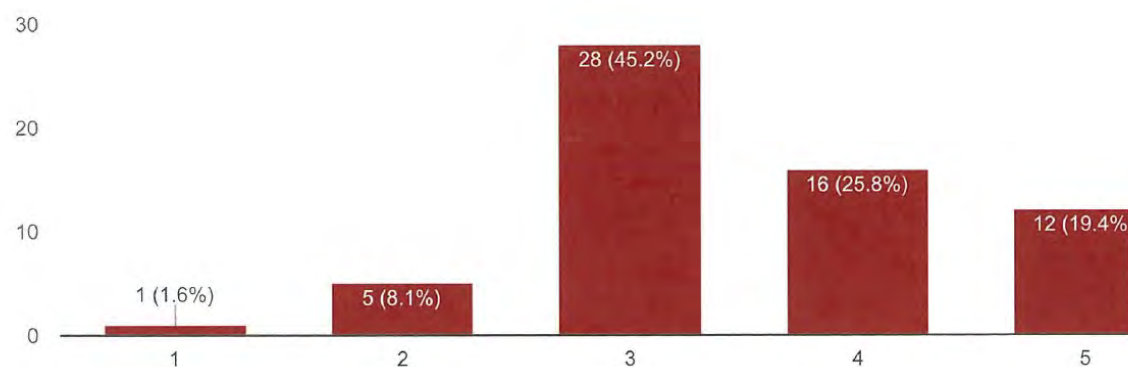
What are your student/s impressions of the classrooms and learning areas?

62 responses



The recent swimming sports day ran well with the new structure

62 responses





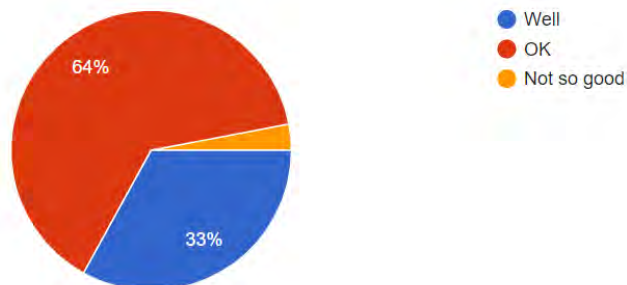
## Student Feedback

We have also worked to gather junior and senior student voices. The results from these surveys were also very pleasing and signal a great start to the year despite our challenges with Covid.

### Juniors - Student Voice

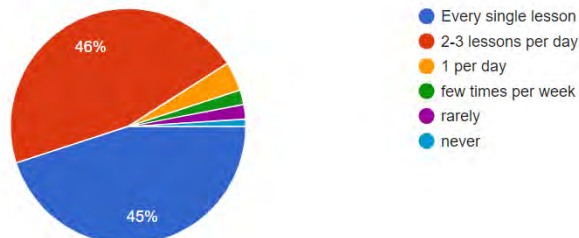
How have you found the last 6 weeks back at school.

100 responses



I regularly use my chromebook in my lessons

100 responses



Level of Engagement with Online Learning

100 responses



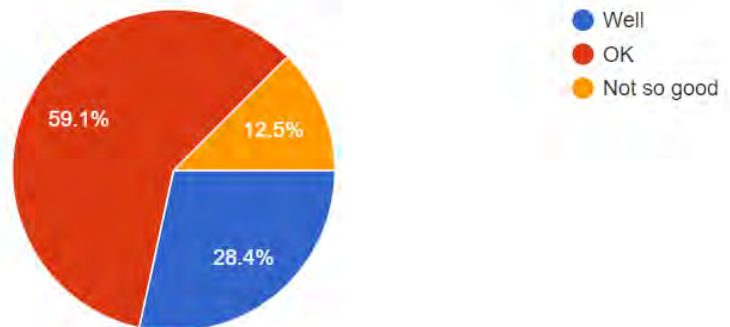




## Senior - Student Voice

How have you found the last 6 weeks back at school.

88 responses



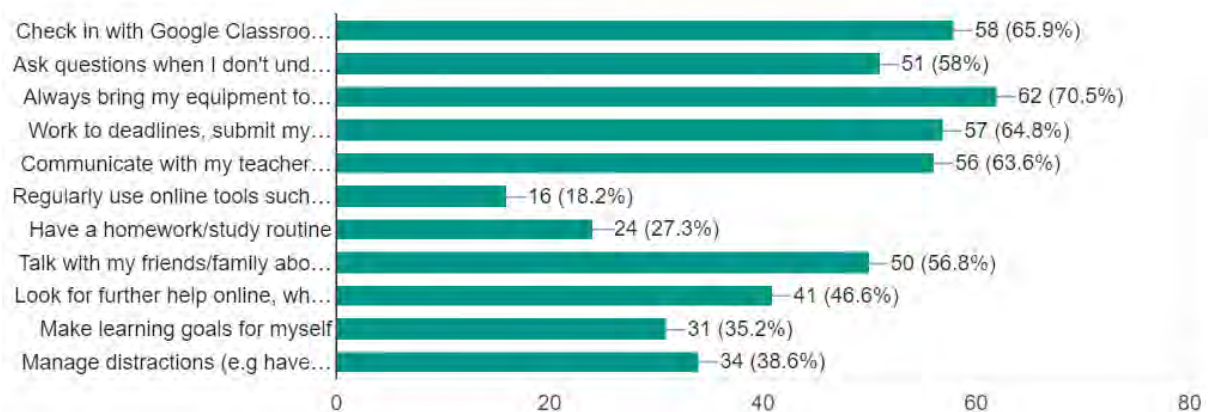
## Level of Engagement with From Home Learning

88 responses



What strategies, habits, routines do use to support your learning at school and home? Check all that apply to you (Please check other, and name any other strategies that help you)

88 responses

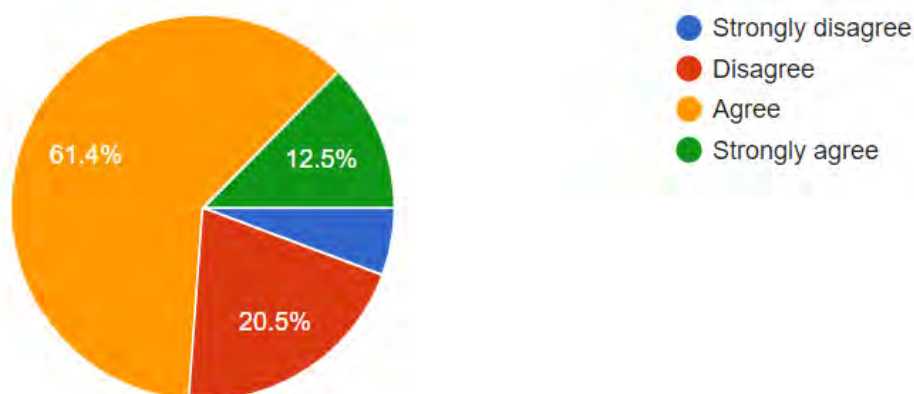




## Senior - Student Voice

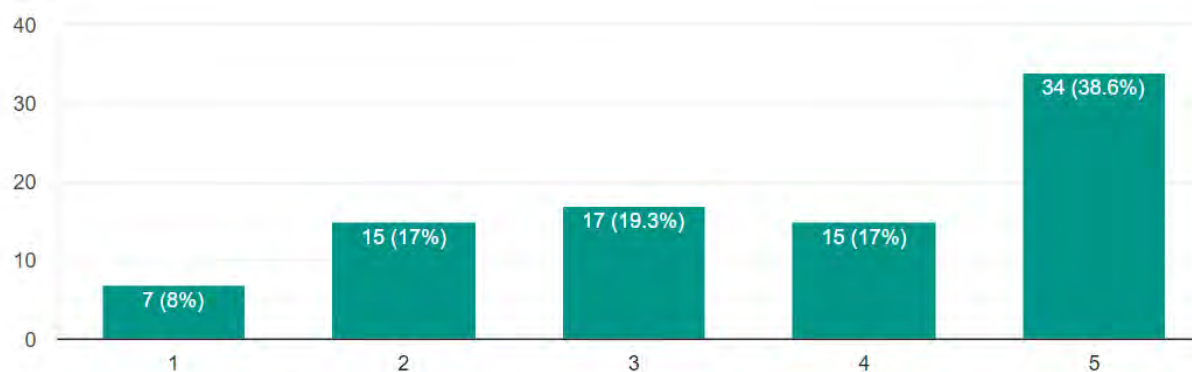
Lunch Programme is delicious and healthy

88 responses



Well Being - Anxiety Level around Learning and Covid-19

88 responses



**Note:** 1: Very Anxious, 5: Very Calm