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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tena koutou e te Whaanau



We have had a great start to the 2023 school year, and it is hard to believe that we are at the end of week 4. The highlights of the beginning of the year were once again welcoming our Year 9 students to Fairfield College through a poowhiri. It was a privilege to escort our Year 9 students to Te Aratiatia marae and to formally welcome them to their new secondary school. Being able to include parents and whaanau this year in the poowhiri was also a highlight because of Covid in 2022 we were unable to include parents and whaanau in this important event.

Another highlight was the annual Fairfield College Year 9 student and whaanau barbeque - an event that we were unable to hold in 2022 because of Covid. Thank you to those parents and students that attended. We look forward to connecting with those parents that were unable to attend. A special thanks to the senior student school leaders that supported the event through taking care of the cooking duties, organising furniture, and cleaning up after the event. Our traditional Year 13 camp in Whaingaroa was another highlight (See pictures on Page 3). We look forward to supporting all Year 13 students to have a successful and enjoyable final year of secondary school. A highlight of our 2023 year will be acknowledging and farewelling our Year 13 students at their graduation which will be held at Te Aratiatia on November 3.



The Core Business of Fairfield College

I want to clarify what the Board of Trustees and the staff see as our core business. Our core business is to provide a learning environment that supports our students to improve learning, enable progress, and raise achievement. The learning, progress, and achievement that we are supporting extends beyond academic learning. Engaging in learning experiences that strengthen a student's cultural, social, emotional, and physical development are also a priority.

Educational research shows that strengthening school whaanau relationships is a key lever in raising a school's capability to deliver improved student outcomes that we are continuously seeking to achieve. It is my hope that as parents/caregivers you feel that there is an open and approachable school atmosphere that welcomes your contact, queries, and feedback. The Board of Trustees are in the process of completing the 2023 School Strategic and Annual Plan. These documents will be available for reference on the school website on March 13.

The Importance of School Attendance

Regular school attendance is critical in optimising student learning and achievement. For a student to be



Kaihono Attendance & Engagement Officers pictured with Richard Crawford from left: Tina Travers, Maryanne Thompson and Rena Williams

<p>REMEMBER THE 3Bs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be respectful • Be responsible • Be the best you can be 	<p>Kia mau ki te takitoru</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me whai whakaaro • Me ū ki ngā tikanga • Me eke te taumata
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PRINCIPALS MESSAGE CONTINUED

considered a regular attender they need to be attending school at least 90%. Please ensure that your children strive for regular school attendance. If a student is absent from school for two days in a row without whaanau notice the school will endeavour to contact whaanau to seek clarification and offer support. Please inform the school if your child is going to be absent and be selective of the reasons that you allow your child to be absent. Irregular school attendance is a major barrier to student learning and achievement. We look forward to working with whaanau and our school community to improve Fairfield College's overall level of school attendance.

NCEA Presentation - March 1

The National Certificate of Education (NCEA) is undergoing significant change which will impact on our current Year 10 students. This presentation will commence at 6pm on March 1 in the school library. The objectives of the presentation are:

- Explain the current requirements of NCEA and how these are designed at Fairfield College
- Explain the changes to NCEA that will be introduced in 2024, 2025, and 2026.

Fairfield College Athletics Day 2023

On Tuesday February 28, we will hold our annual Athletics Day. This is a highlight of the school year in which parents and whaanau are welcome to attend. The event is held at Porritt Stadium and will start at 8:55am and conclude at 2:30pm. School will not operate on site on this day and students are instructed to go directly to Porritt Stadium.

Ngaa mihi nui
Richard Crawford
PRINCIPAL

POOWHIRI Y9 STUDENTS & STAFF



FFC staff welcoming new students and staff



New students and whaanau lead to marae by Ngaati Wairere & DP Sarah Sumnerfield



FFC staff on the paepae



Principal Richard Crawford addressing students, whaanau and staff



Official greeting of new staff and students



FFC staff Gabrielle Bain NZSL Interpreter

Poowhiri for Year 9 & new staff 2023

We were very fortunate to begin our school year with the Year 9 students and whaanau with a poowhiri at our school marae, Te Aratiatia. The weather held out long enough before the skies opened to yet another outpour of rain, unusual for this time of the year.

We were pleased to see so many whaanau members tautoko their young ones as they start their time at our kura. Together we hope to create a strong partnership guiding these young people to achieve all they aspire for, and very much appreciate those whaanau members who were able to be a part of this special start for Year 9 students.

The poowhiri was a great way to start the first day at school for the students and we were pleased to see everyone enjoying the day

by getting to know more about Fairfield College. Special thanks to Matua Tangi, Eddie Neha (FFC school kaitiaki) and Ngaati Wairere kaumatua who supported not only our staff and kura, but also our new pupils as they were welcomed to Fairfield College.

To the Year 9 students, we hope you found your first weeks at school enjoyable. To our new and returning whaanau, thank you for choosing to entrust us with your young people. We look forward to moving forward on this journey with you all.

New staff pictured from left: Joseph Neha; Daniel Scanlon; Rowan Porter; Puneet Barr; Reuben Crean; Antonia Raynel; Matua Ranapia Keepa-Ratahi
Absent: Gabrielle Bain (NZSL Interpreter)



Be respectful
Be responsible
Be the best you can be



Me whai whakaaro
Me ū ki ngā tikanga
Me eke te taumata

Year 13 Camp



"Year 13 Camp was an amazing experience that I'm sure challenged all of us. Mentally and physically I struggled. But I carried on pushing. Each day inspirational speakers would take their time to motivate us to pursuing careers that we enjoyed. I considered the food to be the best part with a variety of meats and vegetables. I enjoyed getting to know all of my fellow Year 13's. All in all I loved camp."

—Year 13 student
Helena Tee



RNZAF SCHOOL TO SKIES



During the Christmas holidays in January, Mrs Lisa Janek (HOF Science) took the opportunity to attend a teacher residential camp with the RNZAF. The "School to Skies" camp is an opportunity for teachers who work in STEM subjects to experience trades and career opportunities through the defence forces. The camp was based at Whenuapai and the

teachers experienced hands-on trades and careers associated with the air force. Teachers also experienced the Youth Development Unit and learnt basics of team work including drills! There was also a day spent with the Navy at the Devonport base and seeing how science and technology research is related to defence careers. There were many highlights from the six day camp. But surely the best ones were visiting the bridge and engine rooms of the HMNZS Aotearoa (navy supply vessel) and the ultimate experience, a flight on a C-130 Hercules over the Auckland harbour with views over the city and harbour bridge. Mrs Janek hopes to pass onto students ideas and opportunities that defence force careers can offer, and change some misconceptions. Her wish is that students see how Science and Mathematics learning can lead to more career options; in many areas where there is a huge shortage of skilled employees. With defence force careers being a great pathway option for many students to consider.



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The Apollo Project Sports Grant is back for 2023! Organised sports is getting a significant helping hand thanks to the financial support of Apollo Projects.

We encourage all students to participate in some form of extracurricular sports at Fairfield College. Students who register and get involved in sports this year at Fairfield College have the opportunity to gain financial assistance to support them in their journey to get physically active. The sports grant can be used to cover students' registration fees, sports levy, sports equipment, personal protection for sports, uniforms and any other barriers that could prevent students from playing sports.

If students would like more information regarding this sports grant and / or how to apply, please see our Sports Coordinators, Toni or Vikki, or email Mr Gibbard at gibbardk@faircol.school.nz. Applications are always open throughout the summer and winter seasons, and are available at your convenience via this online application form. Click on the [Apollo Project Sports Grant Application](#) to apply now or on our school website and Facebook page.



TERM ONE

FEBRUARY

- 22 Year 9 Mechatronics Workshop
- 23 Year 9 Whaanau BBQ 5:30pm
- 24 Dress Up Day: Mountain Spirit
- 27 OED200/300: Extreme Edge trip
- 28 **ATHLETICS SPORTS DAY**—Porritt Stadium (all students to attend)

MARCH

- 1 NCEA Information Evening 6:00pm
- 2 OED300: Rock Climbing
- 3 University of Waikato visit
- 6-10 Inter-Mountain Touch Challenge
- 8 University of Auckland visit
- 9-10 OED200: Snorkelling & Climbing trip
- 13-15 STARS Adventure Day @ Pirongia
- 16 **PPTA Strike—there will be no school for students**
- 20 OED200: Rock Climbing trip
- 22 Massey University visit
- 23 OED300: Rock Climbing trip
- 24 Swimming Sports for competitors only
- 27-28 OED300 Trip to Castle Rock
- 28 Honours Assembly
- 29 Tug of War Kairoi vs Maungatautari
- 29 OED200: Rock Climbing trip
- 30 Tug of War Kakepuku vs Pirongia
- 30 PPTA AGM

APRIL

- 5 Heart Children NZ evening show
- 6 Inter-Mountain Event: Tug of War/Haka
- Last day of Term 1
- 7 Good Friday
- 8 Fairfield Market Day

TERM TWO

- 24 Teacher Only Day
- 25 ANZAC Day
- 26 Students start back Term 2





FAIRFIELD COLLEGE ATHLETICS DAY

TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

All students are required to attend Athletics Day at the Porritt Stadium on Tuesday 28th February at 8:55am — 2:30pm (normal school hours). Please make your own way to and from the stadium (there will be NO school bus). Please ensure that you bring plenty of fluids, a hat and sunscreen as we are predicting another hot sunny day. Normal lunches will be provided. Please check FFC Facebook in case of postponement due to weather. Come dressed in your Mountain colours for a fun day!



**ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR AT
FAIRFIELD MARKET
EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA**

Easter Saturday, 8 April
New market at Fairfield College
25 Bankwood Road, Hamilton
8:30am - 1:00pm

Opening first day Easter Saturday then every 3rd Sunday of the month.
If you would like to inquire about an indoor or outdoor stall email:
ffcmarketday@gmail.com