



Message from the Principal

Tena koutou e te Whaanau



It has been a very eventful first month of our 2021 school year. We started the year by welcoming our students back in our normal staggered start formation with all levels back to school by February 9. Our Year 13 camp and Year 9 poowhiri were highlight events of the month. It was also our privilege to host our Prime Minister the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern and the Associate Minister of Education Jan Tinetti.

A Prime-Minister comes to Fairfield College

February 18, 2020, was a memorable day for Fairfield College. Staff, students and Ngaati Wairere welcomed the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern along with her entourage of other government dignitaries including the Associate Education Minister Jan Tinetti to our school.

We were privileged to hear the Prime Minister speak about her love for the Waikato, being born and raised within the region. She said that as she was growing up she lacked confidence and never ever thought she would one day be the Prime Minister of New Zealand. Despite this she worked hard and did what was necessary to stay on track which included working in a local Morrisville Fish n Chip shop to earn petrol money so that she could get to university. She encouraged our students to believe in themselves and to work hard so that they could achieve their goals.

She also spoke about the government's commitment to provide more equitable outcomes by removing barriers that were

hindering educational engagement for many students. One such barrier is the accessing of period products which she referenced as period poverty.

She spoke about data from a Youth 19 Survey that was released in February

2020 which reported that over 21% of students in decile one schools had missed school due to a lack of menstrual products with 14% missing more than one day a month.

We were pleased to hear the Prime Minister make an announcement that the government would be starting a national programme from June to offer free period products to all students. The Prime Minister thanked Fairfield College for being leaders in this new pilot scheme.

A group of our students met with the Prime Minister afterwards to talk about matters that concerned them and how the government would be able help them.

For many of our school whanau, meeting a Prime Minister in the personal way that we did

IN THIS ISSUE:

- | | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| Pg 1 | • Principals message |
| Pg 2 | • Principals message cont'd |
| Pg 3 | • Collage of PM's visit to FFC |
| Pg 4 | • Y9 Poowhiri
• Y13 Camp |

Fairfield College

PO Box 12-228
Hamilton, 3248
NEW ZEALAND
Phone: +64 7 853 5660
Fax: +64 7 853 5679
Email:
adminfc@faircol.school.nz
Website: www.faircol.school.nz



will be a once in a life time opportunity. In my 31 years of teaching this is only the second time that a Prime Minister has come to a school that I have been connected with. Thank you to our students who really stepped up for this occasion. Thank you also to our whaanau from Ngaati Wairere who came to support us during this important day.

Ka ora Ka Ako Programme

In a previous communication I provided details about the Ka Ora Ka Ako programme. The programme is designed to ensure that all of our students have daily access to a healthy lunch. Ka Ora (being well) to enable students to learn (Ka Ako).

Overall our students are responding well to the programme and are appreciative of what they are receiving. From a school and community perspective it is assuring to know that all of our students while at school have access to healthy food.

Vending Food Machines at School

When the school joined the Ka Ora Ka Ako programme the contractor who managed the canteen did not renew their lease. This was understandable and expected. For the next three months we have decided to trial a food and drink vending machine that will be located in the library foyer. This is the first time that the school has explored this option and we will evaluate the quality of the service through student feedback after three months. The vending machines will provide choice and alternatives for students. The products that will be offered are non-sugar drinks and food that have a healthy star rating.

Year 9 Barbecue – March 3 (5pm)

I hope that our Year 9 students are adjusting well to their new secondary school environment. It is exciting to see both their enthusiasm and their nervousness as they adjust and settle in. The annual Year 9 barbecue is an important informal event where parents are able to connect with the teachers of their children. I encourage all Year 9 parents to place this date in their calendar and to attend with their children.

Athletics Day – March 4

Because of raised alert levels we had to postpone our Athletics day that was scheduled for Tuesday February 15. This will now be taking place on Thursday March 4. This will be held at Porritt Stadium and lunches will be provided for all students. All students are expected to attend and participate in the event. Students need to be at the stadium by 8:40am as we have a full day of activities which will last until 3pm.

Please ensure that your children come directly to the stadium. We also encourage them to bring sun smart material such as hats and lotions.

We will communicate any postponement of the event because of weather between 7am and 7:15am. We will do this through text messaging and the school face book page. If the event is postponed school will operate as normal.

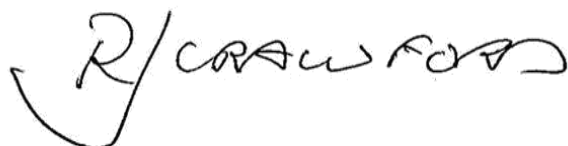
The Core Business of Fairfield College

I want to finish the first newsletter of 2021 by clarifying what the Board of Trustees and the staff see as our core business and key priorities. Our core business is to provide a learning environment that supports our students to improve learning capacity, enable student progress, and raise student achievement. The learning, progress, and achievement that we are driving to enable goes beyond academic learning but also learning that improves their cultural, social, emotional, and physical development.

Educational research shows that strengthening school whaanau relationships is a key lever in raising a school's capacity to deliver the improved student outcomes that we are continuously seeking to achieve. It is my hope that as parents/guardians you feel that there is an open and approachable school atmosphere that embraces your contact, queries, and feedback.

The Board of Trustees are in the process of completing the 2021 Charter. From March 1, the Charter will also be available for reference on the school website. This will also include the strategies to achieve the priorities that the Board of Trustees has set as well as an analysis of variance document that reports the level of achievement that the school has achieved relative to the 2020 student achievement improvement goals that were set in the 2020 Charter. We were disappointed in some of our results and acknowledge the backdrop of Covid-19 that had some influence on our results. We look forward to 2021 and in working with the board and our community to raise the level of achievement across the school.

Ngaa mihi nui
Richard Crawford
PRINCIPAL



School Calendar

Upcoming
Events

TERM ONE

MARCH

- 1-2 OED100 Camp
Yr 12 Health & Safety in the Workshop
- 2 WINTEC Presentation
- 3 OED300 Lead Climb Practice
Yr 9 and Whaanau BBQ—5:00pm
- 4 ATHLETICS DAY—at Porritt Stadium 8:40—3:10pm
- 9 University of Waikato visit
- 10—11 OED200 Rope Systems and Tourism Camp (Auckland)
- 12 Swimming Sports—at FFC, competitors only
- 13 Inter-Mountain Touch Competition all week
- 17—18 Yr 9 STARS Camp
- 18 Learning Conferences
- 19 Dress Up Day
- 23—25 OED300 Lead Climb Camp
- 29 OED100 Tourism Experience
- 30 WINTEC presentation

APRIL

- 2 Good Friday (School closed)
- 5 Easter Monday (School closed)
- 6 Easter Tuesday (School closed)
- 9 OED300 Lead Climb Assessment Trip
- 13—14 Yr 12 Health & Safety in the Workshop
- 14 Yr 13 Height Safety Intro Workshop
OED200 Rope Systems
- 16 Lincoln University visit
Mountain Event: Tug of War and Haka Competition
END OF TERM 1

MAY

- 3 TERM 2 BEGINS

The Prime Minister's Visit to Fairfield College





Pictured front left to back: Whaea Charlotte, Whaea Vinnie and Ms Cholewa welcoming Year 9's with open arms at the Poowhiri

Year 9 Poowhiri

On Friday the 5th of February, we welcomed our Year 9 students of 2021 to Fairfield College at our school marae, Te Aratiatia. We were pleased to see so many whaanau members tautoko their students as they start their time at our kura and had the special presence of our Year 12 students to also welcome them, alongside our staff.

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 on the various rotations.

I would like to take this opportunity to again welcome our Year 9 students. I hope you have found your first few 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 working with you throughout your students schooling, here at Fairfield College.

Year 9 Dean—Mrs Charlotte Major



New students and staff welcomed to Fairfield College



Principal Richard Crawford speaking at the Poowhiri

Year 13 Camp

Over half of our Year 13 students took the opportunity of attending our Year 13 Camp at the Christian Youth Camp in Raglan from Wednesday February 3rd to Friday February 5th.

It was a fantastic three days. Apart from enjoying the amazing beach views, our students were engaged in team building activities, spoken to about leadership opportunities and given some valuable information from various guest speakers.

They also tried their hand at archery, target shooting and the big slide.

On Thursday night they showcased their talents in the hall. There was everything from some talented solo performers, through to some entertaining large group acts. Ethan Wright stepped up and took the role of MC and he did a fine job.

Thanks to everyone who attended camp. It was a great way to start the year.

Year 13 Dean—Mrs Jenny Heta



Year 13 Camp at the Christian Youth Camp in Raglan