



PAPAMOA
COLLEGE

CONNECT

Message from the Principal

Kia Ora

With the end of the year rapidly approaching I want to outline again how the learning commons will be arranged for 2012. With the addition of 150 year 7 students next year, the total school roll will be approximately 600 students. The currently unused learning commons will be opened to accommodate the roll growth, therefore making a total of 6 learning commons. This new learning commons will be called Puke – meaning hill in Maori. The name Puke compliments the other learning commons: Maunga- mountain, Tatahi – coast, Awa – river, Motu – island and Moana – sea. Each name reflects a part of our local environment, which fit together to form the region as a whole.

With six learning commons, we will dedicate 3 of them to be part of a lower middle school and will include Y7 & 8 classes - some being composite Y7/8 classes. The remaining 3 learning commons will be made up of Y9 & 10 classes. We see the move to the lower and upper middle school learning commons as the next phase of the development for the learning commons. I am very much looking forward to 2012, because it will be the first year that we have the entire middle school structure, and the complete learning programme in place.

The lower middle school learning programmes will be very similar to what has occurred this year. In the upper middle school, the learning will still be based around the inquiry process, and in addition, students will learn from specialist English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science teachers.

Students will also have access to other specialist teachers in the areas of technology, physical education, visual arts and performing arts. The curriculum structure overview is also included with this newsletter.

To accommodate the increasing student roll we have been busy interviewing and appointing new teachers. As soon as the appointment process is completed and positions confirmed, we will be able to let you know who these new teachers are. Interest has been high from the teaching community, with large numbers of applications received.

We have had to modify the start and finish times for the school day for 2012. School will now start 5 minutes later at 8.50am and finish 5 minutes earlier at 3.10pm. The reason for this is to balance the amount of contact vs non contact time teachers are entitled to as specified in the secondary teachers collective agreement.

There is a lot going on at the moment at school!

It makes for a busy but exciting campus to work and learn at. I do hope you are able to celebrate with us at the upcoming Sports Awards and Middle School Prizegiving. Students will also be issued with their final school report for the year on their last day of school - Wednesday 7 December.

Regards

Steve Lindsey

What's Happening?

Careers Day

Wednesday 30 November

This will be a great opportunity for all students to get a taste of what their chosen career is really like. Teachers have offered over 20 possible career paths for students to experience. The day will involve small groups of students visiting work places in the community and having experts coming into school to provide first-hand information on what each job involves.

Sports Awards

Thursday 1 December

Our first sports awards will be held in the Theatre from 6.30pm – 8.00pm. Parents welcome to attend.

Inter-Whanau Top Town Competition

Monday 5 December

A fun filled day of challenges and events. All spectators' welcome!

Middle School Prizegiving

Wednesday 7 December

Prize giving will start at 11.00am in the gymnasium. Parents & family are very welcome.

Swimming Development Group 2012

We are hoping to run another Swimming Development course during term one 2012. If your child needs to develop their confidence in swimming, please contact Mr Bricklebank before 2 December 2011.

Term Dates

Term 4 ends – Wednesday 7
December

Term 1 2012 – Tuesday 31 Januaray



Meet the Board of Trustees

The Papamoa College vision is "To create successful people who value relationships and community and are committed to learning for life." So – what has the board done recently to model our vision?

The board was represented and led discussions at the last Parents & Friends Group meeting. Member of the board met the staff at the completion of a teacher only professional training day. The first Saturday in November the full board met for in-house governance training funded by the Ministry of Education, and various board members are participating in further governance related training run by the New Zealand School Trustees Association during the month of November. The board has also met at its scheduled board meeting.

Following on from last month's Connect we believe it is important for you to know who we are and this month I'd like to introduce you to Darryn Bennett.

Angela Hayden
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

This is my first time as a member of any Board. My goals and objectives are to ensure that we, as a Board, do what is right for our children and the school.

As a brand new school, we will have some growing pains, but believe that with co-operation between our community, the parents and the school we will make Papamoa College the best school for our children.

Leah Mikaere and I will be involved in formalising the Whanau Group. We will be working with the group to ensure that the students are supported and given every opportunity to excel in their academic, sport and cultural desires. We will be setting dates for future Whanau group meetings and would like to encourage all those interested to come along and see what we are about as well as offer your input into the group.

I am married to Sherry and we are the proud parents of three daughters. The oldest attends Mt College, my middle daughter is in Papamoa College while my youngest goes to Te Akau ki Papamoa and will be starting at Papamoa College in 2012. Whenever possible I am a loud and proud supporter of the kids playing sports. As parents, we actively encourage our kids to participate in sports and extra-curricular activities in the school. I am a regular on school camps and have as much fun as the kids.

I spend most of my working time in Auckland working for Air New Zealand as a Ramp Manager. I also worked in the United States for 13 years for Continental Airlines. Working in the airline industry has given me many opportunities to visit places and meet some famous people. The most famous would have to be President George Bush Sr and Barbara Bush at an Ice Hockey game in Houston. There have been numerous others through the years. I have been heavily involved with the RWC during September and October moving the teams equipment around New Zealand. This has given me the opportunity to meet 14 of the 20 rugby teams participating in the cup. I would have to say Namibia was the friendliest team to work with while others have had their moments (depending on the results the night before)."

Darryn Bennett
Parent Representative
Board of Trustees



Support our Students

Hi, my name is Jack Bates.

I am hoping that you can help support my development towards professional football career and help me raise funds for an opportunity to represent the Ricky Herbert Football Academy as an Elite player for the U14 squad that will travel to Australia in December 2011. I am one of only two footballers to represent the Western Bay of Plenty region in the U14 and U16 RHFA squads.

I am very excited that faith has been shown in my ability and it is my ambition and desire to become a professional footballer and one day represent the All Whites.

It is not easy to get into this squad of 17 players as the squad has been chosen from across New Zealand. The RHFA is considered to be the top football academy in New Zealand, and it is run by Ricky Herbert who is the manager of the Wellington Phoenix and New Zealand All Whites.

There is a long road ahead with a lot of extremely hard work. I am fully committed to meeting this challenge and hopefully you will be willing to help my development and progress towards becoming one of Papamoa and New Zealand's top sports persons, I would be very grateful.

I will be raising funds by doing sausage sizzles and do some raffles in the college. Please help me get to Australia.

Jack Bates



SCHOOL - SOCIETY - SPORT

