



PAPAMOA
COLLEGE

CONNECT

Principal's Message

The first term of 2013 has been a successful one.

With 2013 being the first year for Year 11 and NCEA, there is a sense of urgency and focus on achievement that is motivating for both students and teaching staff. Academic success for Year 11 students is a significant priority for 2013, and there has been a considerable amount of time and effort invested into establishing a learning environment that reflects the importance of achievement throughout the year and also at the end of year exams.

Each Year 11 student uses a learning guide that provides a framework to organise their learning by setting objectives, recording reflections on their learning and including next steps. Year 11 Pathway teachers work closely with the students to help guide them through their learning. Ask your child to explain how they use their learning guide.

The organisation and processes are in place to effectively assess student learning using NCEA. The Principal's Nominee (Dave Ballard - Deputy Principal) liaises closely with NZQA to ensure we are meeting all regulations. NZQA have also offered to provide the

school with additional support and training for relevant personnel as required. All staff and students have received a NCEA handbook that outlines the systems and processes in place to administer NCEA at Papamoa College. Guidelines include moderation processes, authenticity of work requirements, and the process for appealing a grade.

A NCEA information evening is being held on Wednesday 17 April 7.00pm, for parents new to NCEA, and will provide information on standards based assessment. This evening will be a beginners guide to NCEA and is an opportunity to gain a further understanding of the qualification structure that all year 11 students are being assessed against.

We also have a number of print publications that explain how NCEA operates. These can be obtained from Reception. The NZQA website www.nzqa.govt.nz is also a good place to browse and look for information.

I hope you can attend the information evening.

Regards

Steve Lindsey
Principal

What's Happening

Whanau Support Group Hui

The next Whanau Support Group Hui is on Tuesday 16 April 6pm-8pm in the staff lounge. All welcome.

Board of Trustees Elections

The Elections will be held on Thursday 30 May 2013. Closer to the time you will receive information and nomination forms. If you think you would like to stand for the Board of Trustees and are keen to find out more about what is involved, email: board@papamoacollege.school.nz

ICAS

ICAS provides an opportunity for all year 4 - 13 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. Further information and entry forms are available at Student Services.

Term Dates

Term 1 Ends: Friday 19 April 2013
Term 2 Starts: Monday 6 May 2013

Tertiary Awareness Afternoon

In Term 2 on the 14 May we will be hosting a Tertiary Awareness Afternoon for Year 11 students and parents. It will be from 4pm - 6pm in the Theatre and will feature representatives from all major Universities, BOP and Waikato Polytechnics, Armed Forces and many more.

NCEA Information Evening

Wednesday 17 April at 7pm in the Theatre. This evening will be a beginners guide to understanding the NCEA qualification structure.

DID YOU KNOW...

You can receive this newsletter via email? If you wish to do this, simply go to our website, click on 'News and Events' tab, then newsletter and fill in the subscription form.

www.papamoacollege.school.nz

Supporting our smokefree school

Did you know that our school is auahi kore/smokefree?

This means that no one is allowed to smoke at any time, anywhere in the schools grounds and buildings. Thanks for your support by not smoking in our school.

Visit smokefreeschools.org.nz or kuraauhikore.org.nz to find a quit support service that's going to work for you, as well as places to source low-cost patches, gum and lozenges.



Building Update

Construction has begun!

If you have been at school over the last week, there is no way you would have missed that the construction of the new building has begun.

The field next to Tatahi and Maunga is now a sea of large wooden poles that are being progressively driven into the ground. Unfortunately this process creates a large amount of noise and vibration throughout the campus. The underground structure is a significant part of the building's safety features in the event of an earthquake and/or tsunami.

Hawkins Construction will build the new building that has been designed by ASC Architects. This consortium was also responsible for constructing of our current facility.

Phase two will include environmental features such as collecting rainwater from the roof for toilets, plenty of windows for natural light, and the use of natural ventilation to prevent having

to use energy hungry air conditioning units. A copy of the design plans can be viewed at Reception.

Feel free to come down after school hours or in the weekends, to check out the progress being made. The construction site is fenced off to prevent any injury from hazards etc.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may result from this construction process.

Any short-term nuisance will be off-set by being able to make use of a purpose built 21st century learning facility.



Young Leaders Forum

Jarrad Marshall and I had the opportunity recently to attend a young leaders forum for the Bay of Plenty. We had a breakfast with lots of other young leaders from many schools round the Bay of Plenty and with two Mayors, Stuart Crosby and Ross Paterson.

We were given the chance to ask a question as a young person about the future of the Bay of Plenty, and had the mayors answer them in the fancy conference room.

We were lucky to have this opportunity as we are such young students, but we are very grateful we were given the chance.

Emily McKay
Year 11



Grandad Speaks

Book Review of:

"Dead Dan's Dee" by Phyllis Johnston

Important social history wrapped up in a great yarn.

Too much Facebook, Youtube and Xbox are depriving our nation's children of the opportunity to know themselves and their history through reading.

How much do our children know of our past, and of the trials and tribulations of ordinary people who so often proved themselves to be extraordinary?

Dee was just such a person, so too was her Dad, Dan.

"Dead Dan's Dee is set just after The Great War, during a tuberculosis epidemic. Dead Dan's "Dee" is brought up by her stricken and somewhat Bohemian mother and aunt. Dee is different, and when forced into an orphanage following the compulsory confinement of her caregivers, she just can't bear it and cleverly engineers an escape.

With her mother dead and aunt still in hospital, Dee rekindles the search for her father Dan who did not return from the Great War. She finds solace in the artistic temperament that she inherited from him.

Rumour and innuendo cloak Dan's demise in Europe and when Dee finally discovers the fate that became him, she is overwhelmed by confusion, and questions the nature of humanity and the society that she is part of.

The Great War and the circumstances of Dan's death, T.B, Bohemians and orphanages are all aspects of necessary knowledge from the past that helps us to understand our present.

Here you have important learning and enjoyment free from the English Department, read it together with your young person.

Grandad aka Mr Chris Parsons English Teacher



Are you a friend of your Child's Facebook?



Why is it people sometimes behave very differently on the Internet than they would face to face? Sometimes that behaviour is drastically different, with young people (and adults) being more aggressive or nastier than they would ever be normally. A part of the answer may be disinhibition - we tend to lose our inhibitions on the Net. This isn't always a negative situation. For example, a young person may be more out-going and confident on the Net than they are face to face. But it is very negative when someone is bullying or threatening others.

The world of the Net is not a giant computer game or a special anarchistic online society exempt from the rules of our offline society - far from it. The law online is much the same as the law offline.

We also all need to remember that our behaviour online has much the same impact as our behaviour face to face.

In some ways, however, being victimised online can intensify the stress and hurt caused. With bullying in cyberspace, there is no 'safe' place - it is with kids 24 hours a day. Posting negative content on the web about a person gives that bully a global audience.

There is growing research evidence that the bullying young people experience online is often coming from their peers and 'friends'.

Those who choose to behave in anti-social ways on the Net risk getting caught. They have left a trail, albeit an electronic one, that is much easier to follow than they probably think. Schools have bullying and harassment policies to deal with offenders and very serious incidents of harassment should be reported to the Police for investigation and possible prosecution.

If we can better understand disinhibition, and the anti-social behaviour that may result, we can better educate to encourage more positive interactions on the Net. Also, the very factors that may encourage negative behaviour may also encourage risk-taking behaviour.

The best strategy is to educate children and young people about the importance of safe and responsible use of all communication technologies, including the help that is available when they have a problem and the very real consequences of indulging in negative activity.

(Article from the netsafe website)

How can you help keep your child safe?

Make sure they use the Internet in a public space, in the lounge or dining room, not in their bedrooms.

Become their friend on Facebook, so you can regularly keep an eye on what is happening.

Talk to your young ones about cybersafety and positive use of the World Wide Web.

Visit the netsafe website with your child www.netsafe.org.nz



Swimming Sports

The annual Papamoa College Swimming Sports was held at Papamoa Community Pool on Friday 22 March. The weather was shining and over 80 competitors came to demonstrate their athletic ability in the pool. The tremendous support from parents made this day the success that it was, thank you to all of the helpers that played a part in the day!

30 swimmers produced a qualifying time that now allows them to represent Papamoa College at the Year 7/8 Western Bay of Plenty Competition to be held at the Greerton Aquatic Centre and the Secondary School Competition at the Rotorua Aquatic Centre, in Week 11 of Term 1.

Congratulations to all of the swimmers that competed on this day and good luck to all of our Papamoa College Representatives in the next stage of their competitions.

Mrs Kim Remus
TIC Swimming

Inspired Learning. Exciting Futures.



Bus Changes

What changes to the eligibility rules are taking place?

The Ministry is changing the rules on eligibility for School Transport Assistance. This rule change will mean more students are eligible for School Transport Assistance.

From the beginning of Term 2 (6 May 2013), children will be eligible for School Transport Assistance under the following circumstances:

- If students in Years 1-8 live more than 3.2 km from their nearest appropriate school
- If students Year 9 or above live more than 4.8 km from their nearest appropriate school

What does this mean for Papamoa College?

As the school has only recently received the information from the Ministry of Education, we will not be in a position to make the necessary changes as of Monday 6 May.

Due to the fact that our school currently enrolls students from Years 7-11, we will now have a significant number of students who will now be eligible for MOE funded bus transportation. There will be a considerable amount of time and

organization involved to ensure that all students who are eligible to utilize this service are able to do so.

For this reason, we will be reorganising our systems and routines over the next few weeks in an attempt to have this service available to all students as soon as possible in term 2.

For further information and Ministry School Transport links please go to our website:

www.papamoacollege.school.nz

Mr Shane Burgess
Deputy Principal



Top Schools

Papamoa College competed at the Western Bay Top Schools Competition at Paengaroa School.

We took a team of twelve students. Everything was going fantastic, our parents had set up camp under a tent and then it hit us... the rain! It came at about 10.30am and did not stop all day.

The activities included a variety of fun, team building games where we all worked together. We smiled through the miserable weather conditions and demonstrated superb teamwork.

We are so impressed and proud that our first ever Papamoa College Top Schools Team came 4th overall!

Thank you to all of the parents who supported us on this day and kept our spirits up!

By Ezra Petley and Emily Pol.

2013 Top Schools Team



Help Your School. Help The Environment!

Introducing "Paper From Homes" initiative

Paper From Homes is an exciting new fundraising partnership between your school and Fullcircle Recycling – New Zealand's leading paper recycling company.

Paper From Homes is simple, green and rewarding. All you need to do to raise money for your school is to bring your used paper (including newspapers, junk mail, magazines, books, and flattened cardboard boxes) and place it in the specially marked "Paper From Homes" recycling bins that are conveniently located at the back of the college carpark. Fullcircle Recycling will empty the bins and pay the school for the paper placed in them. So, the more paper from homes, the more money the school will make.

Start now! Bring us your paper from home, help your school's Parent and Friends Group raise money, develop awareness of the benefits of recycling and create a better environment for us all.

The clearly marked green bins are located on the far side of the college carpark. They will be accessible before school from 7am until 6pm. (Gates will be locked after 6pm and on weekends)



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