



Message from the Principal

Kia Ora

Term 2 is rapidly coming to a close. Life on campus has continued to be busy both inside and outside the classroom.

Information Evenings

Thank you for those parents that attended the recent parent information evenings (Thursday 17 & 23 June). They provided a good opportunity to share information regarding the school's approach to learning, assessment structures and developments for next year involving student choice and the learning commons organisation. For a summary, please read the article in this edition of Connect. We will hold another information evening in mid term 3 to provide a further opportunity for parents to learn more about the school.

Assemblies

Full school assemblies are held at 2.30pm every Friday (except when it is day 3) in the theatre. These assemblies are an opportunity for the entire school to come together as a whole. Over the last few weeks, students have run the assemblies with each learning commons presenting aspects of what life is like in their learning commons. It has been great to see so many students leading these events. Parents are very welcome to attend these assemblies.

Welcome to new staff

A special welcome to the new staff who have recently joined us: Mrs Nadine Shine has been appointed to teach the new year 9 class. This class begins on Monday 11 July. Mrs Melanie Hill is a new part-time Food Technology teacher, and Mr Peter Jacobi is working in the Technology area as a technician with equipment maintenance and resource preparation.

Parent/Caregiver Tours

We are continuing to run tours for parents/caregivers of existing students, every Wednesday 9.15-10.00am. These tours provide a good opportunity to see how the school operates during the day and to see students learning in the learning commons and specialist spaces. Please contact reception to secure a booking on one of these tours.

Are you receiving information sheets and newsletters?

Clearly if you are reading this edition of Connect, you have received it. However, some parents are finding that their child is not delivering information sheets home. The ensure you receive the school wide information sheets and newsletter Connect, you can subscribe to receiving them by email. To sign up go to our website,

www.papamoacollege.school.nz

click on the 'news and events' tab and then click 'newsletter' fill in your details on the form and click 'subscribe'.

The last day of term is Friday 15 July. Students will receive their first written mid year report to take home. Accompanying this report will be information on how to make a booking with your child's teacher, for a Parent Student Conference on Wednesday 10 or Thursday 11 August.

Please enjoy a happy and safe holiday.

Regards

Steve Lindsey

What's Happening?

Board of Trustees Elections

The election results will be available on Friday 15 July 2011.

In the name of Art... can you help?

Do you have any cast-off fabrics, samples, collage / craft materials that we could use for students mixed-media projects?

Examples

- buttons and beads
- old wrapping paper
- magazines
- hinges
- craft wire
- scrapbooking bits and pieces
- interesting objects such as old musical instruments
- old surf/skateboard

These would be used for still-life projects. What might be junk to you now, could be the makings of a masterpiece! Donations can be dropped into the College Reception.



Example of a still-life project

Sewing Bee

We are holding a sewing bee in the school holidays to make the 'Mowtown' costumes for the Choir Festival. We are urgently needing a few people to lend a hand, cutting, sewing, ironing, fitting etc. If you can help on Saturday 23 July please email Maureen Verstegen on mverstegen@papamoacollege.school.nz

AIMS Netball

Our AIMS Netball team requires an umpire. If you hold a minimum of a 'Local Centre Practical' qualification and are available from the 29 Aug - 2 Sep please email Mrs Mackay at: jmackay@papamoacollege.school.nz



Dance Club



In term 1 our school started up the Papamoa College Dance Club. The idea behind it is to give students an opportunity to learn a range of new dance styles and have some fun with them. Each term, the group will learn a new dance in a different style/genre.

Term 1, the students learnt a Broadway piece from the stage show "A Chorus Line". The students showed not only that they are wonderfully talented but also that they are truly focussed and committed. It was an absolute pleasure to work with these girls.

In term 2, we started the new, and very different style of hip-hop. This was a very popular choice amongst the students and is a great contrast to the Broadway style of term 1.

The students will be performing their dances at the end of each term for the school, and then at the end of the year as part of our Arts Festival. We look forward to some busy, and exciting months ahead.

Ms Lucy Cresswell
Performing Arts Coordinator

Sports Talk

Netball

Five Papamoa College girls are currently in representative netball teams. They played at their first area tournament on Sunday 19 June hosted by Whakatane Netball with fantastic results.

Teams from Whakatane, Opotiki, Rotorua, Katikati, Te Puke and Harbourside (Mount) years 7, 8 and under 15 competed in half hour games.

Atareta Rauwhero-Stevens and Kahukura Carter are in the year 8 Harbourside team, and won their division convincingly.

Mackenzie Tane and Sophia Epapara are in the year 7 Te Puke team, and they came second/runner up in their division against the year 7 Rotorua team.

Bree Meyer is in the year 7 Harbourside team. Her team put in an awesome effort holding on well against Rotorua, but eventually succumbed to both Rotorua and Te Puke in a nail biter.

Bree, Mackenzie and Sophia are in the year 7 Papamoa team together, so it was a fierce battle with a few parents dividing their loyalties!

Congratulations girls. We are all proud of your efforts.

School Cross Country

The ground was very wet but the sun came out for the cross country on Tuesday 21 June. It was a great event. Congratulations to all for completing the course. The following students due to their placement at the School Cross Country, qualified to represent Papamoa College at the Western Bay Of Plenty Cross Country Champs at Waipuna Park on 8 July 2011. Well done.



School Cross Country Results

1st	Name	2nd	Name	3rd	Name
Year 7 Girls	Isobel Straffon	Year 7 Girls	Sophie Epapara	Year 7 Girls	Taylor O'Conner
Year 7 Boys	Ethan Severinsen	Year 7 Boys	Keegan Miller	Year 7 Boys	Matthew Torrey
Year 8 Girls	Tyler Ryan	Year 8 Girls	Taliya Boyd-Zame	Year 8 Girls	Lucy-Grace Cullen
Year 8 Boys	Arithon Rigney-Scott	Year 8 Boys	Sam Hayden	Year 8 Boys	Ethan Broomhead
Year 9 Girls	Tiana Oakes	Year 9 Girls	Charlee Taua	Year 9 Girls	Paige Taua
Year 9 Boys	James Oliver	Year 9 Boys	Jacob Clarke	Year 9 Boys	Rocky Kiwi

Matariki - Hangi



Hangi

Another big thank you to all those people that helped make our first school hangi a success on Wednesday 22 June.

Approximately 170 people enjoyed the great food and each other's company, on a crisp but clear night.

A special thank you needs to be made to Rina Greaves, who was the main organiser for the Hangi and coordinated the menu, preparation of food and materials, and the overall logistics of the event.



Thank you also, to Dallas Epapara and his team of men who worked tirelessly putting the Hangi down. The food was cooked to perfection!

As mentioned previously, we have been recognising Matariki (Maori New Year) in a variety of ways. The aim of the hangi was to provide an opportunity to reach out and invite whanau to the school and share a meal together. It was great to see students, parents, and staff coming together to enjoy this event. The proceeds from the hangi will be used to provide our Kapa Haka group with uniforms.

Thank you for supporting our first Hangi.



Early Notification System

Student attendance is a high priority for us. We know that students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful. To improve our attendance procedures, Papamoa College will be introducing an innovative method to communicate with parents on the day of an absence, if your child does not arrive at school as expected. This is not only essential from an academic perspective, but is also important for safety reasons.

From early next term, parents will be notified of an absence in the first instance by a text message, or if no mobile phone number is provided, either a landline voice message or e-mail. You are asked to provide a reply within 1 hour of this notification, to confirm knowledge of your child's absence.

It is still essential that parents/caregivers contact the school in advance if you know your child is to be absent or late.

Updating Parent Contact Details

As part of the process of implementing this exciting new system, the school is seeking your assistance. We already have an extensive list of parents' contact details, however we would like to make sure our records are fully up-to-date.

During the next week, we will be sending home a copy of your contact details that we have on our records. Could you please check these for accuracy, sign the form and return it to school before the end of week 1 term 3, even if no changes are required.

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation in helping us improve our communication with you.

Mr Dave Ballard
Deputy Principal



Intergrated learning & learning through inquiry



Student learning at Papamoa College is largely organised around an integrated context. This means that the various learning areas (English, Mathematics, Social Science, Science, etc) are learnt in the context of an overall theme. The term 2 theme for the school has been Leadership. Therefore all units of work have been related to aspects of leadership. For example: 7AWA have been looking at natural disasters and leadership structures that support an effective response. 78MAU have been exploring local and national leaders. 9MOT have based their learning around a 'survivor' framework and the effects that a range of leaders have had on society.

The other very important aspect of learning at Papamoa College is learning through a process of inquiry. Students are posed a series of questions, which require a process of investigation to answer and that can be backed up with evidence.

For younger students, teachers teach the necessary skills and techniques needed for the inquiry process. Teachers will set the question and provide a structured framework to follow. For more able students, teachers will take a facilitating role and guide students where necessary. At the end of the inquiry process there is an end result e.g. presentation. It is important to note that throughout the inquiry process the teacher is still guiding and providing direct instructional learning experiences.

Learning through inquiry requires the students to be active learners, take responsibility for their learning and therefore become more engaged with their learning.

Your child's teacher is more than happy to explain integrated learning and the inquiry process.



Learning Commons 2012

Planning for 2012 is well underway. We are anticipating another 150 students to join the school at year 7 next year, which will mean a total school roll of 600 students (approximately).

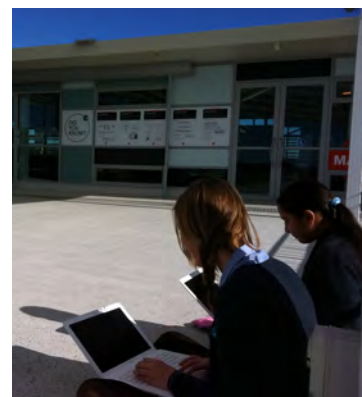
We will operate all 6 learning commons (we only operate 5 this year) and plan to have three year 7 & 8 learning commons and three year 9 & 10 learning commons. This means that a year 7 & 8 commons will likely have two year 7 classes and two year 8 classes. A year 9 & 10 learning commons will have two year 9 classes and two year 10 classes. By separating the year 7 & 8 and year 9 & 10 classes into different learning commons, this will enable us to continue to focus on meeting the developmental needs of the students.

The middle school years are characterised by rapid growth through social, physical, cognitive (thinking) and emotional developmental stages. Year 7-10 students will all be experiencing growth at different rates in these areas.

It is important to make sure we cater for and support students as they transition their way through these years of rapid change.

The learning commons spaces have worked well to accommodate three classes this year. It is encouraging to see the flexible learning spaces being reorganised to respond to the learning needs of the students. Furniture can be easily moved within the learning commons to create a variety of learning spaces.

For next year there will be a maximum of four classes connected to a learning commons. We will be arranging the timetable so that all areas of the school are being utilised as learning spaces. This will mean that there won't be four classes of students in one learning commons at once. Some classes might be in the specialist learning areas or outside, while others may be in the learning commons.



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