

NEWSLETTER

24 February 2023

Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Caregivers

My thoughts and best wishes to members of our community who are still working through the effects of the extreme weather recently. I am meeting with our Head Students next week to discuss how we can support the fundraising efforts.

It has been great to celebrate a range of student events in the past two weeks. Our Academic Excellence Awards saw 160 students presented with Academic Excellence badges acknowledging being endorsed with either merit or excellence in NCEA last year (see photos on next page). These are tremendous achievements. One of my messages to students at the awards ceremony was to continue to challenge themselves, aim to be the very best that you can be, and strive for higher things.

On Wednesday we held our first Athletics Day for some time. It was one of the best ever! The mix of whānau spirit, competition, participation and fun was perfect. One of the highlights of the day was the whānau chants – an opportunity for each whānau to unite and perform in front of the others. I have included photos on the next page to try and give you a feel for the fun that was had by all.

On 15 February we welcomed all our Year 9 students and families to join us for our annual Year 9 Meet the Teacher Evening. The evening was a great chance for families to become more familiar with the college and meet their child's whānau teacher and other senior leaders. This event was well attended and the feedback has been very positive. I would like to thank all the families who were in attendance. In upcoming weeks, we will be holding similar events for families of Year 10-13 students (see dates on the next page). I strongly encourage all parents and caregivers to attend these events.

I would like to remind you that our Student Services Team have excellent systems in place to support our students and families. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Tanya Newman (tnewman@onetreehillcollege.school.nz) for further support and information. There is also a number of external services available - please do not hesitate to contact them at any time:

• Youthline: 0800 376 633 or txt 027 4 youths

Domestic Violence Centre: 09 303 3939
Pasifika Health Services: 09 828 4307

• Parenting Place: 09 524 0025 or 0800 535 659 or <u>www.theparentingplace.com</u>

Internet safety: netsafe.org.nzFor immediate help call 111

Students can book to speak to a counsellor, social worker or see the nurse via the following link: http://bit.ly/OTHCStudentServices

This week we will open our Homework Centre for 2023. This will be open every day until 4:45pm in the Knowledge Centre. All students are welcome to attend. For further details, please refer to the attached brochure.

Ngā mihi nui,

N Coughlan Principal

Uniform Refresh

As a school we are always looking for ways we can improve, and as part of this, we wish to seek feedback from our parent community on our current school uniform. We are considering whether we need to refresh our school uniform and parent feedback is very important. We are also consulting with our students and staff. Once all feedback is collated, we will be able to make decisions. As part of this consultation phase, parents are invited to complete an online survey to indicate their preferences. Please complete the survey at the following link https://forms.office.com/r/F9fCfggRH0

The survey is now open and will close on Tuesday 28 February at 5pm.

Drop-off & Collection of Students

For the safety of all students, parents are to drop-off and collect their child outside of the school grounds each day. We understand this is a minor inconvenience, but safety is always our priority. The gates will be closed between 8:30am to 9am; and 3pm to 3:30pm. Please arrange for a dropoff/pick-up point somewhere off Rockfield Road. For safety reasons do not stop outside the school gates, or on yellow lines, as this may cause accidents and infrigment notices may be issued by Auckland Council.

Laptops and Devices

All students are required to bring their laptop or device with them to school every day. Laptops are an important learning tool in classes. Laptops should be fully charged every night in readiness for the following day. A reminder that mobile phones are not acceptable learning devices.

Academic Excellence

Awards 202.





Coming Events

27 February Board of Trustees Meeting, 4:30pm

7 March Year 10 Meet the Teacher Evening, 6pm

10 March Teacher Only Day Polyfest

16 March PPTA Industrial Action (TBC)

20 March Year 11-13 Meet the Teacher Evening, 6pm

27 March Board of Trustees Meeting, 4:30pm

7 April Good Friday – End of Term 1

PPTA Industrial Action Thursday 16 March

Unless the industrial situation is resolved, PPTA have informed all secondary schools that their members will be on strike on Thursday 16 March. This will mean students will be required to stay at home on this day. If there is not adequate supervision available at home, we will be providing some supervision at the college.







