

# **NEWSLETTER** 10 February 2023

# Principal's Message



#### **Dear Parents and Caregivers**

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning students and staff. It has been wonderful seeing familiar faces and meeting our new Year 9 students. Last Tuesday a pōwhiri, welcoming our new students was held - it was a wonderful first day for our new students. I found myself watching the Year 9 students as they nervously and excitedly spent their first hours in the school that will be an extension of their whānau for the next five years, and not for the first time, I felt honoured that we have been entrusted to be the guiding hand for these stages of your child's development and learning.

The year has already started very well with the release of our NCEA achievement results for 2022 – which were excellent, considering the disruptions to the school year due to covid. These results emphasise the high-quality teaching and learning taking place at the college. Student achievement was well above national averages in all NCEA levels, including University Entrance.

As we have done in previous years, we will continue to place significant emphasis on our 'Attitudes to Learning' which are fundamental to student success. One of these attitudes which we have stressed this week has been ensuring all students are on time to school (8:40am for an 8.45am start to lessons). Please remember that school begins on a Tuesday at 9.10am for a 9.15am start to teaching and learning. I would like to thank all families for their support with this in 2023.

Yesterday at senior assembly, our 2023 Head Students were announced (pictured):

Head Boy	Mosese Taufahema
Head Girl	Courtney Matthews
Deputy Head Boy	Samuel Jones
Deputy Head Girl	Loma Weatherley



They are all excellent young leaders who will serve our students, college and community very well. Their leadership skills are already very evident and will be of real benefit to the student body throughout 2023.

This week we have been reminding students of the One Tree Hill College values and expectations, as well as the agreements that they made when enrolling at the college. These are required to create the most positive environment possible for all students and staff. I would like to remind students and parents/caregivers of the following:

- Wear correct uniform the uniform code is very clear. Students are reminded that only OTHC branded items are to be worn. Boys must be clean shaven if not they will be required to shave at school. No facial piercings are permitted, including nose rings. Hair must be a natural colour. Any non-regulation items will be confiscated until the end of term, or returned, upon collection by parents/caregivers.
- Mobile phones, headphones, and airpods are not to be seen or used inside any building, otherwise they will be confiscated.
- **Laptops** all students are required to bring their laptop with them to school. Laptops are an important learning tool in classes. Laptops should be fully charged every night in readiness for the following day. Mobile phones are not acceptable learning devices.

Finally, as you will no doubt be aware, further stormy weather is on its way, I send my best wishes out to our community – please stay safe and be prepared for a wet start to next week.

Best Wishes,



### Senior Leadership Team 2023



 

 Back Row:
 Mr Scott Davies, Mr Shree Kumar, Ms Shannon Nelson, Ms Katie Philson

 Middle Row:
 Mrs Lorraine Biggs, Mr Geraint Tagaloa, Ms Collette Whittle

 Front Row:
 Mrs Christine McKnight, Ms Emma Beale, Mr Nick Coughlan, Mrs Meredith Raukura, Mr Terry Kimiangatau

#### Whānau Leaders 2023

The introduction of the whānau system at One Tree Hill College has been very successful and much of that success is down to the excellent leadership at the helm of each whānau. If you have any questions with regards your child or the college in 2023 please do not hesitate to contact your child's respective Whānau Leader.

Miro Whānau Kōwhai Whānau Tawa Whānau Hīnau Whānau Miss Husband & Mr Eiman Miss Pullein & Mr Maea Brown Ms Eliason, Miss Murray & Mr Davies Ms Keresoma, Mr Tuia & Ms Whittle Extension 847 Extension 848 Extension 830 Extension 867

#### **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 drop-off/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.

#### Athletics Day – Postponed until Friday 24 February

Due to the wet weather expected next week, we have decided to postpone Athletics Day until Friday 24 February. Therefore, next Friday will be a normal school day. Students are reminded to wear normal school uniform on this day and bring all their equipment for learning.

#### **Student Services Centre**

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

## **Coming Events**

*15 February* Year 9 Information Evening, 6pm

*16 February* Academic Excellence Awards

**23 February** Whanau Hui, 6pm

24 February Athletics Day (all students)

**27 February** Board of Trustees Meeting, 4:30pm

*10 March* Teacher Only Day

*16 March* PPTA Industrial Action (TBC)

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.

