



# Putaaruru College

## Newsletter

Term 1  
Week 11

### Principal's Message

The last week of Term 1. Thank you to all of our parents and caregivers who took the time to attend Wednesday's parent / teacher / student interviews. The three way conversations we have at these meetings is invaluable to progressing students in their learning. Reports are available through the portal so that parents / caregivers have a good idea of where their student is at in their learning.

You are invited to our end of Term Achievers' Assembly, at which the achievements of students in a range of fields over the first term, will be acknowledged. I am sad to say that this will be my last Achievers' Assembly an event I have particularly enjoyed and valued as a celebration of the positive in our school.

Next Term, June 2 to be exact we will be welcoming our new Principal Ms Sharon Moller, currently a Deputy Principal at Huntly College, to Putaruru College. You will be kept informed of timings and the like for that day. However, it would be great to see a good representation of our school community present, to formally welcome her into the school.

Approaching the end of term, it is up to me to wish everyone a restful and refreshing two weeks break. Eleven weeks, even with Easter

Break included, is a long term. Lots of students however have made good strides towards their learning goals. A few will have to pick up the pace next term as we identify candidate for the catch up programme in week 3.

As winter approaches, a decision has been made with regards to an addition to the school uniform. A school Hoodie will be available for sale through student services at cost of \$45. This should make available an extra layer of warmth for those who need it. It also means that there is not need to wear the non-regulation hoodies that appear from time to time and end up being removed. The state of our uniform and how it is worn is something that reflects on all of us as a school. The uniform and how smart it looked was something commented on by all the candidates for the Principals' position.

Have a safe and restful break.

Ngā mihi,

Mr Mike Ronke

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<b>Determination</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>Respect</b>	<b>Excellence</b>

## Whānau Rōpū

E ngā whānau maha o te kura, tēnā koutou katoa.

The Whānau Rōpū of Putaaruru College have their second hui for the year on Monday 17th May at 7pm in A1.

All whānau are invited to attend the hui and staff of Putaaruru College are more than welcome to attend also.

If you would like to know more about what and who we are...

Nau mai, whakatau mai rā.

## End of Module Reports

The Years 9 and 10 End of Module Reports will be published on the portal today (Friday 16th April).

If you are having difficulty accessing the reports, please contact Student Services so they can assist you.

## Calendar

### Friday 16th April

Last Day of the Term 1

Achievers' Assembly for Years 7,8,11,12,13

Year 9-10 End of Module Reports on Portal

### Monday 3rd May

First day of Term 2

### Monday 17th May

Whānau Rōpū Hui in A1—7pm

### Wednesday 19th May

Teacher Only Day—NCEA Focus

### Friday 21st May

Safety Matters Course—Day 2

### Wednesday 2nd June

Pōwhiri for New Principal

### Thursday 3rd June

Sexwise Programme

### Tuesday 8th June

Year 7/8 Option Rotation 2 Report on Portal

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### Module B11's Team Challenge Assessment Day

On Tuesday 13th April, Mr Berkers, Mrs Curphey and Ms Jackson took 29 students out to Waipuke Park on Lake Karapiro to run them through some teamwork based Outdoor Ed challenges. Starting with being abandoned half way up the driveway, the students in their teams needed to share the load of their kettlebell to reach the lakefront. This was followed by getting over an 'electric fence' (nb: not a real one but one that got progressively higher) and then getting your teammates across a river (not the actual Waikato). At the end, they needed to practice their first aid responder skills by carrying an 'injured' team member (again fictitious ) to safety. Luckily everyone survived, both the activities and the windy roads in minivans. Ka pai team!!





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### Film Crew Visit to “Tour of Duty—the Ultimate Paintball Experience”

On Friday 9 April, Mr Joe took his Film Crew on a reward trip to “Tour of Duty – the Ultimate Paintball Experience” in Cambridge. I had the privilege of joining them as the driver of the second van. What an exhilarating and hilarious experience. Exhilarating, because I had never before witnessed 15 quiet, sweet, senior students turn into savage, blood-thirsty Rambo’s intent on shooting you multiple times with hard paint-filled round pellets that left a sizable welt. And hilarious because I had never before seen how excited Mr Joe could get when he had a weapon in his hands. Not that he knew how to aim it, mind you! Still, he seemed content to put it on fully-automatic and spray the entire horizon with pellets in the hope that one might somehow find its mark!



Champion of the day has to go to Jack Periam who masterfully snuck across an acre of forest without being seen by the enemy team. He single-handedly shot all of 5 defenders hiding in their fort and managed to seize their flag and win the day.

This was a great day of fun, of strategy, of working together as a team. And yes – we came home with paint stuck so deep into crevices we didn’t know existed. And what parts of our body escaped the paint, succumbed to welts and bruises! But the pain was worth it. It doesn’t get any more exciting than this. And we would all gladly do it again tomorrow!

Mr Abernethy



## Tuikura Wānanga Tuatahi Recap

Kia Ora e te Whānau

Last weekend, Harata and I took the opportunity to attend the first of three wānanga for a mean as kaupapa called Tuikura. This wānanga was held in the heart of te iwi o Pirirākau, just outside of Tauranga Moana at Paparoa Marae, Te Puna. Tuikura 'weaving schools' is a kaupapa set up for senior rangatahi Māori from kura all around the motu, where we come together three times a year to explore ngā pātai:

Nō hea koe? Ko wai koe? E haere ana koe ki hea?

Where are you from? Who are you? Where are you going?

**Te kaupapa mō te wānanga tuatahi:** Nō hea koe?

We dove deep into kōrero and whakaaro about Māori history, battles fought by our tūpuna, and what we can think about to contribute to our whānau, hapū, iwi, and Aotearoa in general today....all while exploring what makes us who we are, where we come from, and what a privilege it is, to be Māori. With about 12 tuakana who have all previously been involved in the Tuikura kaupapa, and 15 other rangatahi māori from all over the motu, we spent the weekend establishing lifelong connections, and engaging in kōrero that spark massive whakaaro like our revitalisation of te reo me ngā tikanga Māori, and reclamation of whenua. We think of ourselves as Māori today, and acknowledge the warriors that carved the pathway that allows us to express who we are now, while also recognising that our fight is still not over.

Being surrounded, supported, and connected to so many bright and talented Māori, gives me the confidence to say that the future of our culture is in very capable hands.

All round it was an amazing weekend, with an amazing kaupapa, surrounded by ngā rangatira mō apōpō.

One third down and it has already broadened our perspective on Te Ao Māori and Aotearoa as a whole, and not only our confidence in te reo, but our confidence in ourselves have grown. We owe the biggest thank you to Mr Ronke for making this experience possible and for creating the opportunity for us to be a part of this. A kaupapa set up BY Māori, FOR Māori, to ENHANCE Māori, where we have nothing to lose and everything to gain. An exciting journey that both Harata and I are so grateful to be a part of, and so eager to explore.

Bring on wānanga tuarua.

Written by Daley Nicholls

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### Amazing Race 2021—Module C14

Last Friday students in year 9 and 10 competed in The Amazing Race along the Waikato River from Horahora to Jones Landing. These students have been training hard for this event all term, working on their strength, and fitness in order to achieve the best results. The race started with a 4.5km kayak from Horahora reserve to the Pokaiwhenua stream. Students were then tasked with solving a math puzzle to unlock their bikes before biking 12km along the river trail to the Arapuni dam where they had to solve a logic puzzle before being able to complete their race with a run to Jones Landing, approximately 3.2km away.

Congratulations to the Yellow team of Dan Kerton, Aaron Davey, Quin Farrell and Ashton Petley for winning the race in a time of 1 hour and 53 minutes.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and supporters who came out on the day to offer our students a little moral support and help get them through the day.

