FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Students
Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome to all of our new families/whānau for 2019. A big thank you to all of those who joined us at the powhiri on Wednesday 30 January. Once again we have had a high level of demand for places at all levels and the roll is well above Ministry projections. This year represents the third successive increase in Year 9 enrolments. We expect final timetables to be settled by the time you read this and I would like to thank seniors and staff for their patience during this time.

STAFF NEWS

This year we welcome a number of new staff – Mr Chapple (Japanese), Miss George (Science), Mr Nevin (Graphics), Mrs Reilly (Maths), Mr Seumanu (English), Mrs Stowers (Science) and Miss Greig (Director of Sports).

We also welcome back Mr Cook (HOD Science) from his refreshment leave, and Mr Kilty (English) from his secondment to Massey University.

UNIFORM

A reminder that we are a uniform school (Years 9-11). This means that correct uniform is to be worn every day, including shoes. If your child has an incorrect uniform item they may be sent home until it is rectified. We do have loan shoes if shoes are the issue. These are issued for the day and we would expect the issue to be sorted quickly as our loan pairs are for short term use, not long term.

Please note, covered shoes are required in the workshops and at times in the science labs. The most recent Laboratory Code supplied by the Ministry of Education makes the requirements clear: shoes must be non-slip and closed, i.e. protect the top of the foot, and must not allow any part of the foot to come into contact with the floor. For this reason, if your child does not have covered shoes they may not be able to partake in learning activities.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In case you were not aware the College has a Facebook page to pass on information and share our successes. We would encourage you to check this out over the coming weeks - www.facebook.com/awatapu

Students and whānau have access to a service to help resolve cyberbullying and online harassment. Students and whānau can contact NetSafe to help resolve complaints about harmful digital communications. The service includes:

- Reviewing and investigating individual complaints;
- Advising on legal implications;
- Mediating between the complainant and the instigator; and
- Referring unresolved complaints to the District Court’s new civil process.

For more information, please visit the NetSafe website: www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/harmfuldigitalcommunications/

DONATIONS

Like many schools we ask for a donation; a reminder that this donation is tax deductible. These funds are important as they allow the College to offer a wide range of activities that we could not otherwise offer.

REMINDER

In order to assist in the smooth running of the school I would ask parents/caregivers to ensure that:

- Contact details we hold are current and correct (this can be done via the College portal)
- Your child arrives on time ready to learn
- Your child is always in full and correct uniform
- You support the school’s discipline structure
- That subject/extra-curricular/camp fees are paid in a timely manner

Gary Yeatman
Principal
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Lauren Read for her excellent work in NCEA Level Two Agriculture and Horticulture last year. Lauren gained an Excellence award, and was the most successful dual student (correspondence and mainstream schooling) in New Zealand.

POWHIRI

Kia ora, nau mai haere mai to our Year 9’s and new students at Years 10-13 who attended Wednesday’s powhiri. Once again we welcome our largest Year 9 intake for many years. We look forward to a successful and enjoyable year.

SCHOOL NEWS . . .

STUDENT LEADERS 2019

Male Co-Leader Sam Grimwood
Female Co-Leader Charlee Newby
Student Council Secretary Abii Bingle
Student Council Treasurer Niamh Frizzell
Sports Captains Kaitlyn Hook
Bryn Thompson
Performing Arts Captains Josh Rickard
Kobi Shearer
Academic Captains Ellie Kilty
Noah Macdermid
House Leaders:
Hillary
Noah Macdermid
Bryn Thompson
Rutherford
Sarah Royds
Ben Schwarzenbach
Sheppard
Jesse Cox
Ashleigh Squires
Ngata
Malachy Kingi-McCavana
Helena McLachlan
BOT Student Rep Bryn Thompson

Charlee Newby
(Female Co-Leader)
Sam Grimwood
(Male Co-Leader)

STAFF UPDATE

Principal Mr Gary Yeatman
Associate Principal Ms Jane Horton
Deputy Principal Mr Nick Reid
Deputy Principal Mr Hector Hatch

Heads of Houses
Hillary Mr Jason Binsted
Mrs Mary-Jane Scott
Rutherford Mrs Sarah Orme
Mr Mike Tuck
Sheppard Mr Peter Howarth
Mrs Angela Povey
Ngata Mr Stephen Fisher
Ms Laura Griffin

DROP-OFF AND PICK UP-POINTS

With the increasing roll, we are noticing more traffic congestion at the Botanical Road gates. This is causing issues with the school buses trying to enter and exit the bus bay. As such, we ask that parents/caregivers refrain from parking in the bus bay before and after school. We also ask that parents/caregivers avoid driving into the College grounds and refrain from parking on the yellow lines on Botanical Road. Pedestrians and cyclists are encouraged to use the side exit on Wikiriwhi Crescent.
STUDENT/PARENT ON-LINE PORTAL

The Student/Parent portal is an online tool which gives students and parents/caregivers direct access to the following information:

1 NCEA Summary - NZQA ratified results and stored results. Please note that the latter are results held by the College which may not yet be confirmed with NZQA and should not be considered official.

2 Current Year Results - results for internal and practice grades for the current year.

3 Attendance and Timetable - please note that the attendance data is not live - a three day delay applies. Should you have any queries about your son/daughter’s attendance records, please contact, in the first instance, our Student Attendance Administrator, Mrs Gurney, on 06 356 4817 ext. 8858.

4 Reports - copy of school reports.

5 Awards - significant awards received.

5 Calendar - calendar of school events.

6 Notices - daily notices for students.

7 Library - lists books issued and if overdue from the Awatapu College library.

8 Details - changes to key details can now be made by the primary caregiver e.g. student and caregiver emergency contact and medical details.

9 Financials (under details) - this feature allows you to pay fees by credit card. Part payments are permitted. Receipts can be downloaded and a full payment history is also displayed, including the method/s of payment e.g. eftpos, automatic payment or credit card.

Details regarding how to access the portal and the Kamar iPhone/Android app, including passwords, will be emailed or posted out. You should receive this information in the coming weeks.

If you have any issues regarding the portal please email the School Office at office@awatapu.school.nz. We also encourage parents/caregivers to follow us on Facebook and refer to the College website for the most up to date information regarding school news and events.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Parent Reminders:
If your child is absent from school, this must be reported to the school on the day of the student’s absence by contacting the Student Attendance Administrator:

PHONE: 06 356 4817 ext. 8858
EMAIL: saa@awatapu.school.nz

For longer periods of absences, permission must be sought from the Principal prior to the student’s intended leave. Please note, even when permission is given the Education Act only allows a Principal to grant permission to be absent for up to five school days.

Student Reminders:
Late to school:-
Report to the Attendance Office with a note and sign the late sheet.

Ill at school:-
Request a sick note from your teacher and take it to the Sick Bay. Do NOT contact your parents/caregivers and ask them to pick you up - the school will arrange this and sign you out.

Appointments during school time:-
Provide a note in your log book, or an appointment card, and report to the Attendance Office to sign out. If you return the same day, return to the Attendance Office to sign in.

Accidents:-
Report to a Duty Teacher or the Attendance Office/sick bay and complete an incident form. Alternatively, request a note from your teacher and take it to the sick bay.

REMINDER

Over the summer season, students are reminded of the importance of staying hydrated and bringing a water bottle to school. Dehydration can cause dizziness, weakness and fatigue, leading to a lack of concentration and poor work output.

Students are also reminded that it is forbidden to use or be in the possession of drugs, including unauthorised medicines (such as panadol). If a student requires medicine for pain relief, this will be issued by the sick bay attendant. Vaping and smoking is also not permitted.

Phone +64 6 356 4817
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Kyann Williams who received her Level 2 Touch Refereeing badge over the holidays and was awarded with the opportunity to ref the U12 Boys’ Division 1 Final at the Northern Inter-Provincials.

NATIONAL ATHLETICS CHAMPS

Congratulations to Noah Macdermid who competed at the National Athletics Championships recently and won bronze in the U20 3000m champs. Noah has been running extremely well recently, gaining personal bests in all distances. We wish him all the best as he competes in an athletics meet in Hamilton this weekend.

JUNIOR TOUCH NATIONALS

Congratulations to Kyann Williams and Ryleigh Hadfield who have been selected to compete in the Junior Touch Nationals in Rotorua over the weekend 7-11 February. We wish Kyann and Ryleigh all the best for the tournament.

SUMMER SPORT

Summer Sport is about to get underway! The sports on offer this term are: Cricket, Touch, Volleyball, Archery, Waterpolo, Lawn Bowls and Triathlon (one off event). Information regarding summer sports will be sent home to interested students and their parents/caregivers.

Before any student can be placed in a team, parents/caregivers must complete a health and permission form. A link to complete an electronic health and permission form will be emailed to parents/caregivers. To access this link, parents/caregivers will need to sign-in using their portal details. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact our Director of Sport, Miss Greig, by emailing sport@awatapu.school.nz or phoning 06 356 4817 ext. 8839. Alternatively, paper forms are available from Miss Greig’s office.

Students and parents/caregivers are reminded of the College’s expectations for players:

- Players must uphold the principles of fairplay
- Fees must be paid in a timely manner
- Players must wear their sports uniform correctly
- As representatives of the College, players must reflect in the community the standards that are upheld within the College

SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

Swimming Sports will be held on Thursday 14 February at the Lido. Students entered in competitive events must make their own way to the pool by 8.45am. Students not entered in competitive events will attend school at the normal time of 8.45am. The whole school will attend the afternoon (weather permitting) and all students who are not entered in competitive events can participate in the inter-house tabloid competition. We encourage students to participate in as many of these fun events as possible as all entries gain points for the inter-house competition. All students will be dismissed from the pool at 3pm to return to school or make their way home.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Athletic Sports will be held on Thursday 7 March at the Massey University Athletics Track. Students are required to be at school by 8.10am on this day and will be bussed to the track (provisions have been made for bus students who arrive later than this). Students are not permitted to take private transport. Students are required to pay $2 toward the cost of the bus. Students will return to school via bus at 3pm.

www.awatapu.school.nz
SCHOOL NEWS...

FROM THE LIBRARY

It has been a busy start to the year and it is wonderful to see so many students visiting the library. The library is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 4pm. A reminder, if the title of a book is not in the library or there is a series of books that you would like to read, please let Mrs Knap know. Suggestions are always welcome! Students can keep up to date with new titles being added to the library, eBook and audio collections by visiting our website library.awatapu.school.nz

WORDSWORTH

Welcome to all new families to the school. I love it when someone tells me about a good book they have read. I now have a list on my phone of books to read. As your child moves into adulthood, being able to get information from text becomes vital for future successful learning and managing in this print overloaded environment. Secondary school marks crossing the line from learning to read to reading to learn. We encourage each family to ensure daily reading. Daily regular reading is beneficial for the following reasons:

▪ Building reading stamina
▪ Developing comprehension
▪ Extending general knowledge
▪ Widening vocabulary
▪ Supporting academic success

Many of our students tell me that they never read unless the teacher tells them to. It would be a wonderful achievement if we could change this. All parents can help to promote reading by:

▪ Encouraging their children to read for study and for recreation
▪ Setting aside time free of computer and television
▪ Showing an interest in what the student is reading
▪ Making regular trips to the library to provide reading material
▪ Downloading books onto devices
▪ Sharing their own reading with the student

Students who see others reading are more likely to read themselves. In particular, men who read set an excellent role model for our young men who are sadly over represented in the statistics for remedial readers.

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

A special WELCOME is extended to the following students who hail from different countries around the world. While some students have travelled with their own families to live here in Palmerston North, the others are living with homestay families.

Ali Khadim Hussain  Afghanistan
Minhao Hu  China
Danny Lampkin  England
Greta von Ehren  Germany
Serina Hirano  Japan
Haruna Kitada  Japan
Haruna Noboru  Japan
Kou Oida  Japan
Takato Okuhara  Japan
Erina Tanaka  Japan
Yuzu Yamamoto  Japan
Rabia Mohamed Sali  Myanmar
Yaakob Mohamed Sali  Myanmar
Jani Shofi Rahman  Myanmar
Marnu Mynhardt  South Africa
Charlise Waterson  South Africa
Anyeka Thongsamittipat  Thailand
Minh Hoang Pham  Vietnam

UNDERSTANDING NCEA

Understanding NCEA is a booklet designed for use by students, parents, and the wider school community. It is designed to be a guide to understanding how NCEA works and the importance of having a plan, choosing subjects, career planning and aiming for endorsements. The booklets are available in several languages from the NZQA website: http://goo.gl/hJUR4s

Other useful information on that web page include the “How NCEA Works” video. This is a popular animation that provides basic information about NCEA and is particularly useful as an initial overview for parents and students new to secondary school. The video can be viewed in various languages.

To help clarify information about University Entrance (UE) and find out more about the minimum requirements, approved subjects etc, visit http://goo.gl/FDWMZi. NZQA have also introduced an App that contains clear and succinct information about UE. The NCEA Guide App includes a link to the more detailed UE information on the website, as well as plenty of useful advice about NCEA itself. Visit http://goo.gl/wwLYtm for links to download the App.

Phone +64 6 356 4817
COMING UP …

YEAR 9 WHĀNAU WELCOME

Family and whānau of Year 9 students are invited to attend a welcome BBQ on Tuesday 12 February from 5pm to 6pm in the school cafeteria. Parking is available in the front carpark. Food and beverages will be provided. This is an informal way for students, parents/caregivers and teachers to get to know each other. We hope to see you there!

SEQUINNED SUITS & PLATFORM BOOTS

Awatapu College is pleased to present this year’s production - Sequinned Suits and Platform Boots. Performances run from 2nd-4th May 2019 in the College Auditorium. Tickets are $10 from the school office (limited door sales available). Mark these dates in your calendar - this promises to be a show not to be missed!

YEAR 10 CAMPS

Year 10 Camps will run during Week 7 of Term 4 (25 November - 29 November 2019). These camps give students the chance to experience new things that cannot be taught in the classroom environment. These camps range in price but can cost as much as $500. As this is a costly exercise, particularly so close to Christmas, we can set up automatic payments anytime to help budget for this. Forms are available at the office. Alternatively, you can contribute to your student’s camp fund at any time by making a small payment at the school office or online via the portal. For further information, please contact Mrs Newton by emailing newtonk@awatapu.school.nz

TEACHER ONLY DAYS 2019

At the time of writing, the Teacher Only Days for 2019 are as follows:

- Friday 8 March
- Friday 17 May
- Wednesday 18 September

Normal classes will not run on these days. Please note, these dates may be subject to change. Please visit our website or Facebook page for the most up to date information.

TERM DATES 2019

Term One: 30 January to 12 April
Term Two: 29 April to 5 July
Term Three: 22 July to 27 September
Term Four: 14 October to 6 November (Seniors)
14 October to 5 December (Juniors)
COMMUNITY NEWS . . .

MAORI SCHOLARSHIP
Applications for the Māori Education Trust 2019 Scholarship Programme are open. The following scholarships are available to Māori secondary school students who meet the respective scholarship’s criteria:

Year 9 – 13
- Sister Anne Henry Scholarship
- Edward Carlton Holmes Memorial Scholarship

Year 9
- Ti Maru Māori Trust Secondary Boarding Scholarship
- Rose Hellaby Scholarship

Year 12 – 13
- RJ Graham Scholarship

Year 13
- VW & LM Rosier Scholarship

Visit www.maorieducation.org.nz to download an application form. The closing date for applications is 4.30pm Friday 1 March 2019.

PARENTING HELpline
Parent Help is a non profit organisation supporting parents to build resilient and positive families/whānau. The free confidential parenting Helpline is available 9am-9pm, 7 days a week providing advice, support and practical strategies on any parenting challenge.

FREE PARENTING HELPLINE
0800 568 856
all issues – all ages
9am - 9pm, 7 days a week
www.parentshelp.org.nz

MACARTHY TRUST GRANT
Awatapu College wish to thank the Thomas George Macarthy Trust for their generous donation which has enabled the library to purchase new books and computer resources for our students.

OfficeMax Myschool
You’ll find your child’s school stationery list online at myschool.co.nz
It’s easy to shop online, in-store or by phone.

FIND YOUR LIST

Phone +64 6 356 4817
COMING UP

**Week 3 (11 - 17 February)**
- Tue 12: Year 9 Whānau Welcome 5-6pm
- Wed 13: ID Photos (Years 10-13) Gateway Health and Safety Course
  Board of Trustees Meeting 5.30pm
- Thu 14: School Swimming Sports - Lido
- Fri 15: ID Photos (Catch Up)

**Week 4 (18 - 24 February)**
- Fri 22: Assembly

**Week 5 (25 February - 3 March)**
- Wed 27: Education Trust Meeting 5.30pm
  PTA Meeting 7pm
- Thu 28: AWD Athletics - Massey Athletics Track

**Week 6 (4 - 10 March)**
- Tue 5: Engagement Reports Published
  Year 12 ME Talk (Period 1)
  Junior Idol 1.30pm
  Vietnam and Cambodia Information Night
- Wed 6: Junior Idol 1.30pm
  Year 13 Geo Trip to Manawatu River
- Thu 7: School Athletics - Massey Athletics Track
  House Banner Competition
- Fri 8: **Teacher Only Day - School Closed**
- Sat-Sun: Relay for Life

**Week 7 (11 - 17 March)**
- Mon-Fri: Festival of Cultures Week
- Wed 13: Board of Trustees Meeting 5.30pm
- Thu 14: Cultural Soiree 7pm
- Fri 15: Assembly
  Mufti Day
- Sat 16: Manawatu Inter-Secondary School Athletics

**Week 8 (18 - 24 March)**
- Thu 21: Year 12 History Trip to Wellington
- Fri 22: Assembly

**Week 9 (25 - 31 March)**
- Tue 26: Year 11 Geography Trip to Mt Bruce
- Thu 28: Year 11 History Trip to Waiouru

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**AWATAPU COLLEGE HOMESTAY**

We are looking for caring and welcoming homestay families for our international students.

Being a homestay family is a rewarding experience for NZ families. It is a great chance for the entire family to discover new cultures and languages and provide international students with a wonderful ‘KIWI’ experience.

We have several opportunities every year for families to host, short term (from 7 days to 10 weeks) or long term (3+ months).

When you choose to host with Awatapu College you receive 24 hour support for both you and your international student. You receive a weekly payment of $250, paid fortnightly in advance.

Our staff have over 20 years’ experience working with homestay families and students and are ready to help you and your family welcome an international student into your home.

**For more information please contact:**

AWATAPU COLLEGE
International Department
P: 356 4817 ext 8883
E: internationaloffice@awatapu.school.nz
W: www.awatapu.school.nz
F: Awatapu College International