



PAPATOETOE
HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

TERM 2

22 May 2020

A big welcome back to all our families—the last couple of months have been difficult for everyone in different ways. My thanks go to staff, students and parents for their endurance and versatility in returning to “normal”. Thanks to students for the amazing job they have done following all the new rules onsite.

Expectations on site

We continue to monitor advice from the Ministry of Health and the Auckland Regional Public Health Service, and emphasise that school is safe for students to return to. We do want to reinforce our messaging from this week:

- Continue to be vigilant with good hygiene practices. Wash hands regularly and keep your distance.
- If students are not well, keep them at home. Students becoming sick during the day will be sent home by the school nurse.
- Send your children to school...it is safe for them to come and important that in class learning resumes as quickly as it can.
- Please send your children to school with their own drink bottles filled at home with enough water to last the day. We do have water fountains at school that will be available for bottle refill during the day, and these will be regularly sanitised through the day. We ask that students use them to refill bottles only, not to drink from the fountains directly.
- Please ask your child not to share their devices (phones or laptops).
- Support students to clean their devices when they return home each day.
- Please continue to reinforce all the necessary personal hygiene rules that we have become so used to in the past couple of months.
- All visitors, including parents and caregivers who come on site need to sign in at the visitor register.

Staffing changes

The Board's appointment of Mr Barry Williams to the position of associate principal left a vacancy on our senior leadership team for a deputy principal and I'm pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Teresa Rifle, effective from the start of term 3. Mrs Rifle is an experienced deputy principal and comes to us from St Mary's College. We thank Ms Ele Griffiths and Mrs Sheela Lal for their work while the appointment process took place.

School uniform

With the approach of colder weather, we remind you of the following uniform items that can be worn by students for additional warmth:

- Jersey, jacket, beanie, available from The Uniform Shoppe, 1 Ronwood Avenue, Manukau —<https://www.theuniformshoppe.co.nz/product-category/manukau/papatoetoe-high/>
- A plain white or light grey short-sleeved T-shirt with a round neck may be worn under the regulation school shirt.

Students late to school

Now that we have returned a little more to normal, we will be focusing on students being in class on time. Students who arrive after the 8:45am bell (9:55am on Wednesdays) will need to sign in before going to class. Your assistance in ensuring that your child is at school on time is appreciated. Please make sure they are at school by 8:40am on Monday to be ready for learning.

NCEA 2020

The recent lockdown period has presented schools with a number of challenges, including how we can ensure that students are not disadvantaged with regard to their qualifications. Due to the time we have spent learning from home, I have asked all of our heads of learning to look through their senior courses and to revise how they are made up, in terms of number and type of standards. We want to ensure that courses are providing sufficient credits for students to gain qualifications at their NCEA level, in a way that is accessible and acknowledges any opportunities that may have been lost over lockdown. Students will have different assessment needs over the next 6 months and whilst some may require additional support, others may be well on track to attaining the goals they set for themselves. We are awaiting an announcement from the Minister of Education with regard to any structural changes to NCEA for 2020, but in the meantime are getting plans in place to make things work for everyone this year. Feel free to contact your subject teachers should you wish to know more about how their course may be modified going forward.

If you have any queries or concerns feel free to communicate these directly to the Heads of Learning by email or call direct on 278-4086

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again next week.

V R Couillault, Principal