



WHANAU UPDATE

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INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION MEETINGS (IEMs)

Speaking of whānau time and celebrating the success of our learners, Individual Education Meetings (IEMs) will occur **online on Thursday, 24 March** and will run the full day from 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (last appointments at 7:45 PM). The school will be closed for normal instruction on this day. Students are expected to attend their IEM with their caregiver. IEMs are a meeting between the student, their whānau and the kaiārahi (whānau teacher) and are 15 minutes in duration. The purpose of these meetings, led by the student, is to celebrate the learning that has occurred, discuss difficulties and barriers to learning, support that is needed to overcome any barriers and set some learning and wellbeing goals. More information will be communicated to the community in the coming week for how to book online.

**SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY
24 MARCH**



School Apps^{NZ}
an App mobile

We are encouraging all whānau to download the SchoolApp instant messaging tool. Using SchoolApp we are able to send information alerts to specific users or the whole school instantly. It is immediate and doesn't rely on users to be on social media or checking their emails. You can download SchoolApp from your Google Play store or Apple store.

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back to all our Kaipara College families and a special welcome to our new students and their families. Firstly I would like to thank all our parents and caregivers for getting your students into a school routine and focussing on learning to begin our school year. Despite the unsettled nature of the last two years and the prospect of disruption continuing, our students have returned ready to learn, ready and keen to be part of our school community on site again and are enjoying being back face to face as are our staff. As I visit classrooms, I am heartened to see examples of great learning going on and settled, focused, engaged and hardworking students. Students are also doing a great job regarding remembering to bring and wear their masks, despite the recent high temperatures and humidity. We have celebrated a number of other **successes** already this year, in particular in the areas of equestrian, swimming, athletics and wrestling. Congratulations to all those students involved, for your participation, hard work, commitment and resilience because we know success requires all of these attributes and also thank you to your families for their continued support.

We know that students have had **interrupted learning** over the last two years and all our teachers are working hard to **identify gaps** in learning for each student and putting in place plans to **accelerate learning** in those areas. We would also appreciate your assistance in this by talking to your student regularly about what they are learning at school, any difficulties they are having and whether their learning needs are being met. If you have any concerns in this regard please contact your student's whānau teacher in the first instance.

In my short time as Principal I have had a number of questions regarding whānau time. **Whānau time** is an important part of our school day and is integral to the learning, wellbeing, sense of belonging and achievement of success for all of our students. The aim of whānau time, through our pastoral curriculum (called Te Puāwaitanga o Kaipara), is to support every student to have mana, purpose and opportunities both at school and beyond. Within a school-wide framework, each year level has a pastoral learning programme that is especially designed for them, which is personalised for each whānau group by the whānau teacher.

The role of the whānau teacher is to be a significant adult in the life of their students, to provide support, to challenge growth, to care, to expand possibilities, to know and value the student for who they are and what they bring, and develop a trusting relationship with the student and with the student's whānau. The whānau teacher of your student is usually the first point of contact with the school regarding concerns or questions. We would also love to hear about the great things your student is doing outside of school, as we are not always aware of these things. Whānau time contributes significantly to our students' sense of **belonging** to our school community and therefore also is integral in their achievement of **success**.

Thank you again to all whānau for your continued support as we manage our way through the Omicron phase of this pandemic. On the following page you will find reminders, clarifications and updates on COVID-19 and other matters.

Ngā mihi nui, Cindy Sullivan

STUDENTS AT HOME DURING OMICRON

As Omicron continues to affect our staffing levels we have made the decision to continue rostering home our senior students on an ongoing basis and until we advise otherwise. Please keep an eye out for daily reminders on Facebook and Instagram as well as SchoolApps, identifying where in the rotation students are. The at home roster for this week is as follows:

Monday	28 Feb	Year 12
Tuesday	1 Mar	Year 11
Wednesday	2 Mar	Year 13
Thursday	3 Mar	Year 12
Friday	4 Mar	Year 11

Other than the above rostering, the school remains open for instruction currently and all other students are expected at school, on site as usual, unless they are following COVID-19 isolation requirements or have another medical condition (medical certificates should be provided for extended absences). The school is unable to provide additional online learning for students who are well but choosing to work from home, except that work which is already provided on Google Classroom.

Close contacts and isolation in phase 3

Phase 3 of New Zealand's response to Covid-19 indicates that close contacts are now only those people who live in the same household as a positive case of COVID - 19. Your child is to stay home if

- ◆ they test positive for COVID 19
- ◆ someone in your household tests positive
- ◆ they are symptomatic even if they have had a negative test

If your student or someone in your household tests positive for COVID 19, please email Claire Farnan at cfarnan@kaipara.school.nz and follow the Ministry of Health's advice which can be found [here](#). If your student is required to isolate but they are well, they should be learning at home following their school timetable, accessing work from their Google Classrooms. For all other absences, please advise us using the usual methods.

Students Coming To School

All students are expected to attend school face to face unless they have COVID-19, are isolating because a household member has COVID, they are unwell with other illnesses or they have an appointment. In all instances please notify the school.

Protecting ourselves against the spread of COVID-19 at school

We follow Ministry of Health advice to mitigate the risk of spread of COVID-19 at school in the following ways:

- ◆ Staff and students wear masks when inside at all times, and on the buses
- ◆ Teaching spaces are well ventilated
- ◆ All adults on site are fully vaccinated
- ◆ Encourage distancing when outside

Please ensure your student brings a mask to school (and a spare) and remind them to wear them on the bus to and from school.

What happens if we have too many teachers away due to illness or isolating requirements?

We constantly monitor the number of teaching staff we have available. Currently we are rostering learning from home for our senior students on a 3 day cycle, Y13, Y12 and then Y11 because we have insufficient teaching staff to teach all students face to face. We will continue this rotating cycle until we have sufficient staff to fill all classes. Reminders of where we are in the rotation will be notified the day before via school social media and SchoolApps. We urge you to download the app if you haven't already as it will allow you to be updated quickly.

When students are rostered home they are expected to carry on with their learning as per their school timetable. All work will be on google classroom.

Phones at school

With an emphasis on supporting our students to be self managing, we are allowing the use of phones at interval and lunchtimes. During class however, phones may only be used for teaching and learning purposes as directed by the teacher.

What to do if your child is unwell at school

Keep your child at home if they are unwell. If your child becomes unwell while at school, you will be notified and asked to collect your child as soon as possible.

As always, please feel free to contact your child's kaiārahi at any time if you wish to discuss your child's learning or experiences at Kaipara College.

Other Notices

Change of Address/Caregiver Details

Please let the school know if you change address or your student's living arrangements change. It is imperative that we have correct information in case of an emergency. For students who catch a school bus, failure to let us know about an address change may also affect their access to the correct bus or mean you miss important alerts. Email info@kaipara.school.nz to advise changes.

Did you know you can follow your student's academic progress throughout the year via the parent portal? If you have misplaced your parent portal login details, contact the office on 09-420 8640 for assistance.

School Payments

Please note, due to bank changes, we are no longer able to accept cheque payments. School payments can be made via EFTPOS at the school, or by direct credit to our bank account ASB 12-3139-0002717-00

SCHOOL DROP OFF PICK UPS

A reminder to caregivers who drop off or pick up students via the school carpark's drop off/pick up zone, that the exit from the carpark onto Rautawhiri Road is left turn only at peak times. The queue caused by caregivers trying to turn right during these times, creates a health and safety risk and causes congestion through the carpark. We appreciate your assistance with this.



We post regular updates using these methods of communication, as well as email. Please search Kaipara College and follow us to stay up to date.