

Thames High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga



Kia kōtahi ai te piki ake, kia ikeike rawa ki te taumata / We grow together to achieve one's true potential.

Whānau Pānui

15 October 2021

Kiā ora e te whānau

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Welcome back (Naumai hoki mai)

Term 4 starts on Monday 18 October. The last day for students is Thursday 16 December, followed by a staff only day on Friday 17 December.

For Years 11 to 13 this term sees the culmination of the year's effort. To complete internal assessments and prepare for external assessments.

Students that are not currently on track to achieve their qualification are being actively supported by our mentoring team, headed by Mrs C Hurley. Additional learning and assessment opportunities have been offered. It is important to take these opportunities. Students that have external assessments will be actively learning from their practice exams last term and making the most of the support they can get from teachers.

Year 9 and 10 students will have some class changes this term in the last rotation of the core and High Interest Project rotations. For them it is important to make as much progress as possible, completing all work with their best effort.

We look forward to the celebration of the academic year with our Prizegiving events. See below about how these will be different this year.

We are also looking forward to our annual Year 13 Leavers' Dinner on Friday 29 October. On that day at school the Year 13s will enjoy a dress up day with a 'choose a decade' theme.

Please be sure to check the other key dates that are at the end of this bulletin.

Canteen

Thanks for understanding about our Canteen operation as it is managed with temporary staff and wonderful student volunteers. There may be supply issues for some regular items. We will keep you informed if there are further limitations needed.

Uniform

Term 4 is a good time to remind about our [uniform expectations](#) to continue to show pride and respect for our school. Please take the opportunity to look at the requirements if you are purchasing new items. If there is a specific issue, please contact your child's rōpu or whānau kaitiaki regarding uniform issues or short-term passes needed.

The items that we have found mostly at issue is the wearing of hoodies and incorrect caps / hats – these have been taken for safekeeping, socks – we have been contacting parents and supplying socks if needed.



The consistency of jewellery will be focus during Term 4 also. Students can wear one stud or sleeper ring in each lobe. No other jewellery is expected or may it be taken for safe keeping for the term or until a parent collects the items. While uniform can be a contentious matter, we appreciate support of the agreement upon enrolment, to follow the uniform standards.

Support or help with uniform

We are very keen to help support any issues regarding uniform, please contact our [Student Support Office](#) to make enquiries about donated items, loan items and how to access the Student Equity Fund. We have funds available for those in need and we treat such enquiries with sensitivity. If you have items to donate, please contact Student Support.

Email: studentsupport@thameshigh.school.nz
Phone: 07 868 8688 and ask to speak to Student Support.

The uniform committee of the board is reviewing our uniform policy and we will report in due course about some changes that may be expected from 2022 and 2023.

NCEA Examinations and study leave

NCEA examinations are due to start on **Monday 22 November**, starting with Level 1 Te Reo Rangatira, Level 2 Physics and Level 3 Business Studies. The examinations continue until **Tuesday 14 December**. The full timetable is below.

Candidates will be issues with an individual timetable, instructions, and admission slips. Examinations are managed by the NZQA Exam Centre Manager, Mr C Nixon, with the help of our NZQA Principal's Nominee, Ms J Fletcher, and our SENCO, Ms M Coles (special assessment conditions). Supervision and management of the examinations is completely up to the Exam Centre Manager who is employed directly by NZQA, and in charge of the exam supervisors.

We will advise of Study Leave arrangements, for students who have external assessments. Those that are not on track to achieve NCEA

and who need to complete internal assessments or only have a few external examinations will be expected to get support from teachers directly, as will not be given leave.

For students who are on track and have external assessments or who have completed their NCEA qualification, study leave will start after the senior prizegiving (17 November). If that is the case, then these students will only need to attend when they have an examination. It is important to consider the transport arrangements needed. For those who need to bus in to school, there will be suitable space in the library for on-site quiet study before an examination.

[2021 Examination Timetable \(pdf\)](#)

Prizegiving

Our prizegiving ceremonies are a great annual celebration of the achievement of students, where we can all recognise their successes.

Seniors (Years 11-13): Wednesday 17 November, 7 pm.

Juniors (Years 9-10): Monday 13 December 14 December, 1 pm.

Because we are likely to remain at Covid Alert Level 2 we are planning the events to comply with the restrictions on gatherings. The Ministry of Education has advised us that as prizegivings are not required for the curriculum we need to avoid these events until Alert Level 1.

While we are finalising our plan, we expect to have a combination of physical (with appropriate limits on numbers and spacing) and virtual event. That means we can hold a limited event or number of events that are live streamed or other online meeting format. This will mean we can have students, staff and very limited guests, to keep the gathering within the rules, but allow friends to witness the event virtually.

More details will follow. We may need to split the senior awards into two groups, Year 11 and Years 12-13. All going well we will be back to level 1 by the time of the junior prizegiving.



NCEA Accord Day 4 - Friday 26 November

As you will know there are big changes coming to NCEA (see the other notice) and, as part of the preparation there are several Staff Only Days (NCEA Accord Days) that have been planned this year and next year.

The fourth day will now be on **Friday 26 November** as the government has allowed us to change from the original planned date. This will allow better support of students to complete and prepare for assessments.

NCEA examinations will still occur on this date, but other classes will not be held.

End-of-year activities

End-of-year activities for Years 9 and 10 will run from Tuesday 14 December until Thursday 17 December.

There is a proud tradition of running camps and other day activities for Year 10 at the end of the year. Details for these activities have been sent out earlier by the teacher-in-charge, Ms D Sawyer. It is important that activities are selected as they will only go ahead if there are enough for each activity.

For Year 9 there is an in-school programme of activities that will be confirmed – details will be shared later.

Year 12/Year 13 Student Exhibition Competition

The Thames Society of Arts is holding an exhibition competition at the old Thames North School for Year 12 and Year 13 students in October. The purpose is “to foster interest in and promote the appreciation and execution of works within the various fields of the fine and applied arts and to hold periodic exhibitions in Thames of local artists.”

1st First prize \$1500, 2nd Second prize \$500, 3rd Third prize \$250

Details about the entry requirements were published on [our website](#) and [Facebook](#) earlier when details were sent to us during the term break.

Arts Exhibition Evening

We are looking forward to the annual Art, Photography, Visual Art Design exhibition on Tuesday 9 November from 5.30 to 7.30 pm in the School Library.

Numbers will be limited to conform to the limit on non-curriculum gatherings and ensure adequate physical distancing. Masks and other level 2 protocols will be in place.

Music will be performed by some senior students.



Parents Forum

Our next Parents Forum will be held Monday 18 October from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm in the Staffroom.

This is an opportunity to network with other parents and get support on common issues, and keep parents informed and consult about important topics.

Please join this group "for parents, by parents". All are welcome.

Topic – Strategic Plan / Annual Plan for 2022. An opportunity to give us some feedback about [our current plan](#) and what you think we need to prioritise in the next few years.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Tracey Reed (Principal's PA): traceyreed@thameshigh.school.nz

Te Ao Māori Strategic Rōpū Hui

Our next Te Ao Māori Strategic Rōpū Hui are on Tuesday 2 November and Tuesday 16 November.

Our key topic is about our ongoing review of the Strategic Plan as we head towards the Board Strategic Planning Session on 20 November 2020.

These hui will be held from 6.30 – 8.00 pm in the Wharenui at Thames High School, *Te Puna o Te Pito Mata*.

Naumai, haere mai – all are welcome to join us as we continue to make a positive difference for Māori.

If you are interested in joining the hui, please contact Tracey Reed (Principal's PA): traceyreed@thameshigh.school.nz

Support and information about NCEA

NZQA have developed [resources](#) to help parents/whānau and ākonga (learners) to understand the [changes happening to NCEA in the next few years](#).

[Whānau Pocket Guide](#) (pdf) - this seeks to help whānau understand the NCEA Change Package and consider ways of supporting their tamaiti to succeed.

[Ōku Wawata/My Aspirations Pocket Guide for Ākonga](#) (pdf) – this seeks to support a conversation between parents/whānau and their tamaiti about their wawata/aspirations through and beyond NCEA.

[Fact Sheet about the changes to strengthen NCEA](#) (pdf) - this explains the seven changes as part of the NCEA Change Programme.

One important change that has happened in a review of NCEA subjects available for learners across the New Zealand Curriculum Levels 2 and 3, and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa Levels 1 to 3. The revised subject list has a total of 67 subjects.

Of course, Thames High School cannot offer all of these subjects, but this is important information to stay up-to-date with what is happening, especially what opportunities we have to offer different subjects in the future.

[The New Zealand Curriculum Final Subject List \(56 subjects\)](#)

[Te Marautanga o Aotearoa \(11 subjects\)](#)

For more information, please see the [NCEA new subject site](#).



What subjects lead to

Another great resource that students and parents may find useful are a series of 18 graphical posters in English and te reo Māori that link curriculum subjects to future educational pathways, qualifications, jobs, and careers.

Ki hea mai? Where to? Posters that show ākongā where subjects can lead them.

e.g. [Health and Physical Education](#)

Health and Physical Education

He oranga ngākau, he pikinga waiora.
Positive feelings in your heart will enhance your sense of self-worth.

Levels 1-3 Certificates

Air Force Airmen/Airmen	Firefighter	Phlebotomist
Air Force Officer	Furniture Painter/Worker	Police Officer
Armist Leader	Gamekeeper	Professional Scrimpsperson
Army Officer	Groundsworker	Ranger
Army Soldier	Health Care Assistant	Recruitment Co-ordinator
Carer/Carer	Hunter/Trapper	Recycling/Recycling Collector
Carpet Cleaner	Landrider	Security Officer/Guard
Cheerleader	Nanny/Child Carer	Sports Coach/Officer
Cheer	Navy Officer	Stonemason
Clinical Coder	Navy Sailor	Street/Park Cleaner
Dental Assistant	Outdoor Recreation	Teacher Aide
Dentist	South-Islander	Teacher
Dispensing Optician	Parking Officer	Wine Cleaner
Diver		

Levels 4-6 Certificates and diplomas

Anaesthetic Technician	Floor Covering Installer	Booker
Beauty Therapist	Health and Safety Advisor	Scarfholder
Biochemical Technician	Health Promoter	Shedding Technician
Brick and Blocklayer	Joiner	Stonemason
Community Development Worker	Massage Therapist	Support Worker
Community Kaitiaki	Medical Laboratory Technician	Youth Worker
Emergency Management Officer	Recreation/Therapy/Fitness Instructor	
	Pharmacy Technician	

Levels 8-10 Postgraduate qualifications

Acupuncture	Naturopath	Secondary School Teacher
Biochemist	Occupational Therapist	Social Worker
Biochemical Engineer	Optometrist	Speech-language Therapist
Chiropractor	Oral Health Therapist	
Chemist	Pharmacist	
Dental Technician	Physiotherapist	
Environmental/Public Health Officer	Podiatrist	
Kaitiaki/Health Māori	Primary School Teacher	
Medical Imaging Technologist	Psychologist	
Medical Laboratory Scientist	Radiation Therapist	
Midwife	Registered Nurse	

TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO
[www.thameshigh.school.nz](#) | [www.thameshigh.school.nz/education/post-16](#)

SUBJECT MATCHER - Select a subject to find out what careers it leads to.

CAREERQUEST - Find out more about your interests and find out what careers they lead to.

FREEPHONE - Call 0800 001 001 for career information.

Qualifications

Congratulations to former students who have recently graduated from Victoria University of Wellington.

Bailey Fabish - Bachelor of Tourism Management

Scott Garrett - Master of Public Policy

Tillesha Harford - Bachelor of Health

Wonjae Lee - Master of Applied Statistics

Ruby Ngamane-Harding - Bachelor of Health

Taylor Vogels - Bachelor of Science

Kristine Yap - Bachelor of Building Science

If you know of other successes – sporting, academic, careers / promotions, etc. - of our Alumni., please share them with us. We'd love to share these in future panui and on our [Facebook Events and Celebrations](#).

Summer Employment Opportunity for Youth - Smart Environmental



Smart Environmental Ltd, Thames is giving our youth, taiohi / students an employment opportunity over the summer period – especially as peak collectors.

These roles may also suit parents or friends. Click the link for the roles that are available:

[Peak Expressions of Interest](#)

Refuse Transfer Station Operator

Peak Collector

Peak Driver

Dates: 22 December 2021 – 10 February 2022 (End date is flexible depending on role)

Should you have further queries, contact: peak@smartenvironmental.co.nz

Ngā manaakitanga

Michael Hart

Tumuaki / Principal

principal@thameshigh.school.nz

07 868 8688



Key Dates 2021

Events and dates are still subject to change and will be advised.

Mon 18 Oct	Term 4 starts
Fri 22 Oct	Nominations / applications for Senior Leader positions
Mon 25 Oct	Labour Day (School closed)
Tue 26 Oct	Full Board Hui – 5.30 pm, Wharenui (Te Puna o Te Pito Mata)
Fri 29 Oct	Dress up day for Year 13 Students Only (Theme: Choose a Decade)
Fri 29 Oct	Year 13 Leaver's Dinner (Thames on Kirkwood) – 6 pm
Fri 5 Nov	Muffi Day (for all)
Tue 9 Nov	Arts Exhibition Evening (Library) – 530 to 7.30 pm
Wed 17 Nov	Senior Prizegiving (7 pm) – details to be confirmed – physical / virtual event
Fri 19 Nov	Year 11-13 "End-of-year" Reports
Mon 22 Nov	NCEA Exams start (until Thu 14 Dec)
Sat 20 Nov	Board Strategic Planning (9 am – 1 pm) Wharenui
Friday 26 Nov	NCEA Accord Teacher-only Day 4 (change of date)
Mon 29 Nov	Full Board Hui – 5.30 pm, Wharenui (Te Puna o Te Pito Mata)
Mon 13 Dec	Junior Prizegiving (1 pm)
Tues 14 Dec to Thu 16 Dec	Year 9 and 10 end-of-year activities, including Year 10 camps (TBC)
Thu 16 Dec	Last day for Year 9 and 10 students
Fri 17 Dec	Year 9-10 "End-of-year" Reports
Fri 17 Dec	Staff only Day / End of School Year

Key Dates 2022

(subject to change)

Thu 27 Jan 2022	Staff only day
Fri 28 Jan 2022	Kahui Ako Whanaungatanga (Connections) Day
Mon 31 Jan 2022	Anniversary Day (holiday)
Tue 1 Feb	Course Confirmation Day (Years 11-13)
Wed 2 Feb	Powhiri for new students (Year 13 in support) School starts for Year 9 Orientation for Year 9
Thu 3 Feb	School starts for all Years 10-13
Mon 7 Feb	Waitangi Day observed.
Tue 8 Feb	School term continues...
Thu 14 Apr	End of Term 1
Fri 15 Apr	Good Friday
Term 2:	Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July
Term 3:	Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September
Term 4:	Starts Monday 17 October, and ends no later than Tuesday 20 December

