

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

26 November 2021

Kiā ora e te whānau

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Senior Prizegiving 2021

We held our senior prizegiving on Wednesday 17 November, where we recognised outstanding academic achievement and successes in the wider life of the school.

Over 100 taiohi (students) were recognised for their commitment and diligence to achieve personal excellence across the broad range of subjects at Thames High School.

Many thanks to all those who watched the live streaming event and those who have viewed later. Almost 350 viewed the unlisted YouTube channel.

Many thanks to the technical crew who made this happen (Graeme Hodgson, Luke Moxsom and Oliver O'Neill)

Congratulations to all award winners, but the following premier academic awards are highlighted here.

Dux and Proxime Accessit

Dux and Proxime Accessit (runner-up up to the Dux) are very prestigious awards and reflect the pinnacle of academic commitment and achievement.

The Dux for 2021 and recipient of the Pak'n'Save Award is
Jenny Yan



Proxime Accessit for 2021 and recipient of the ASB Bank and Ricoh Award is
Stella Cory-Wright



The top academic awards for Years 12 and 11 are:

The Poulgrain Cup and The Ricoh Prize for Scholastic Excellence in Year 12:

Delilah Ballantyne



The 1955 Pupils' 75th Anniversary Cup and The Ricoh Prize for Scholastic Excellence in Year 11:

Chevy Barnes



Junior Prizегiving 2021

We look forward to our junior prizегiving on Monday 13 December from 1 pm. The approach to this event will be similar to the senior event.

The original reason to have this ceremony at this time was to avoid the clash that has often occurred with national athletics competition. We also had many absences after the end-of-year activities as taiohi were tired from camps.

Even though the athletics event is cancelled due to Covid-19 and the activities involve local trips not camps, we will keep the date as we have had that in our calendar and the timing of the trips (and originally camps) is based on the date set.

Scholarships

Eleven Year 13 students have been offered scholarships a total of almost \$100,000 with some worth the equivalent of \$25,000 in course and accommodation fees. Many thanks to the University of Waikato, the University of Auckland, University of Otago, University of Victoria Wellington, Wintec and NZ School of Tourism. Almost 50% of our Year 13 cohort are heading to tertiary education next year.

The **Stephen Bowater Memorial Scholarship** recipient is **Tiana Russek**.

Awarded to an all-rounder in school life, demonstrating personal qualities in reasonable balance, who is pursuing tertiary study next year.



It was fantastic that Tiana was able to 'meet' with Stephen's parents, Eric and Margaret and his brother, Mark in an online meeting after our awards evening.

The recipient of the **Toyota Scholarship** is **Tarryn Hooper**.

For making a substantial contribution to the wider life of school including sport, service, leadership and maintaining a very strong academic record.



We really appreciate the sponsors of our awards and prize giving: Pak n Save Thames, Ricoh, Toyota (Thames), Baxters Furniture, Photolife and Aeroview Garden Centre.



Senior Leaders 2022

We are fortunate to have great young people who reflect our values and tikanga and are committed to making a positive difference and build great connections across the school.

Academic Leaders	Chevy Barnes Milly Hinson
Cultural Leaders	Delilah Ballantyne Ava Leathem
Environmental Leaders	Emma Fogg Tyler Groenewald
House Leaders	Alana McKee Millar Morton
Welfare/Wellbeing Leaders	Alex O'Grady Grace Wood
Sport Leaders	Xavier Brown Ella Liddell

Manukura will be selected next year.

Head Students 2022

In 2022 we have a team of four in the head student team. Congratulations!

Deputy Head Students	Izzy Fox Graeme Hodgson
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Head Students	Nicole Reid Luke Steward
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StudyIt forums for NCEA students

StudyIt forums are another resource that can support your students in preparing for their exams in NCEA Levels 1-3 English, maths or science.

[Access the StudyIt forums here.](#)

StudyIt has moderated forums for students to discuss NCEA achievement standards with other students and facilitators. General study and exam advice, including tips on how to study smart, are also available.

Other Major Award Winners

Te Rangatahi e ranga i nga tira award

This taonga is awarded to the Māori student who has contributed to the Māori student community of Thames High School and/or the wider Māori community of Thames or Hauraki.



Kia-Leisha Turoa

The Bruce Belk Memorial Cup

Awarded to a Year 13 student, or students, who have achieved outstanding academic and all-round success.



Daniel John

Prime Minister's Vocational Excellence Award

For outstanding commitment and achievement in programmes that develop skills, knowledge, and attributes to build a career in an industry.



Shane Speed



Business One Trophy

For outstanding dedication & commitment by a student in any field

Lilian Balfour



The Class Of 1992 Leavers Cup

This cup is awarded to the student who has made a significant contribution to the school and community

Oliver O'Neill



AMP Trophy

For Best All-round contribution to Thames High School Sport.

Pounamu Kini-Cooper



The Steven Hadley Award

For most outstanding sporting achievement.

Congratulations to **Pounamu Kini-Connor**

Vaping – results from national survey

We have previously written about vaping and how the law prohibits from school. It is pleasing we have had fewer incidents at school, although it still is an issue every so often.

We encourage parents to discuss the issue with your children and discourage them from vaping. The school is smoke and vape free and therefore we treat possession and use of cigarettes and vapes seriously as it is a significant health issue, as well as being not permitted in schools.

Alarming results from NZ's biggest ever youth vaping survey

The results of a major survey looking at the vaping habits of secondary school students were released earlier this month. The survey found that:

- 26% of students reported vaping and 15% reported smoking cigarettes in the past week
- Nearly 20% of students are vaping daily or several times a day, the majority with high nicotine doses
- Over half of those vaping were vaping more frequently and at higher nicotine doses than last year.

The report was initiated by the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation (ARFNZ) in partnership with the Secondary Principals' Association of NZ (SPANZ).

Letitia Harding, Chief Executive of ARFNZ and co-author of the report, said, "While vapes can be a useful tool to help adults quit smoking when combined with behavioural support, **this survey makes it clear that many young people are picking up high nicotine vapes without ever having smoked a cigarette, and swiftly becoming addicted to nicotine.**

Professor Scott Harding, cardiologist and co-author of the report, said, "**We are seeing new evidence emerge all the time about the harms caused by e-cigarettes,**" he says. "While they might be less harmful than combustible cigarettes, they still expose users to toxic substances that have been shown to adversely affect the heart and lungs."



There are also specific risks for adolescents, whose brains and bodies are still developing.

“While vaping is often perceived as harmless by young people, there is increasing evidence showing significant health risks,” says paediatric respiratory physician and co-author Professor Philip Pattermore.

“For example, vaping with nicotine has been consistently associated with depression, ADHD and conduct disorders in adolescents, and nicotine exposure has been shown to impact learning and memory.”

ARFNZ has made several recommendations to curb the rise in teen vaping, including limiting the nicotine content in vaping products to a maximum of 20mg in line with the EU directive 2014/40; raising the legal age to purchase vapes to 21 years; and banning in-front-of-store window advertising and product display by retailers. They also recommend preventing the sale of vaping products within a 1km radius of schools

Ngā manaakitanga

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Key Dates 2021

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

Mon 22 Nov to Thu 14 Dec	NCEA Exams continue
Friday 26 Nov	NCEA Accord Teacher-only Day 4
Mon 29 Nov	Full Board Hui – 5.30 pm, Wharenui (Te Puna o Te Pito Mata)
Mon 13 Dec	Junior Prizegiving (1-3 pm) – physical / virtual event
Tues 14 Dec to Thu 16 Dec	Year 9 and 10 end-of-year activities, Day trips only this year.
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 Mon 7 Feb Tue 8 Feb	School starts for all Years 10-13 Waitangi Day observed. School term continue.
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:	Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December 2022.

