

# 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

21 December 2021

Kiā ora e te whānau

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### Junior Prizegiving – Congratulations

Our Junior Prizegiving was a successful and live streamed event. We celebrated the academic and sporting achievements of our taiohi for 2021. The event had a different feel with only having taiohi/ students and kaimahi / staff in the Hall. We look forward to the future of our whānau being present in the hall as well as online. Congratulations to all our Junior Taiohi Prizewinners, pictured are our Final Award winners.

Sir George Finlay  
Oratory Cup

Winner of Year 10  
Speech Competition

**Maia Harrison**



Don Snowden  
Silver Medal  
Award

Best all-round  
Junior Girl in Sport

**Hannah Laurence**



Don Snowden  
Silver Medal  
Award

Best all-round  
Junior Boy in Sport

**Austin Court**



Ian Stirling Trophy  
Most Outstanding  
Sporting  
Achievement

**Charlize Davy**



David Nankivell

Best all-round  
Junior Student

**Elliott Dent**



Thames High  
School Award

Year 10 Dux

**Jacob Rush**



## School timetable 2022

We have made some minor changes to the [School Timetable / Hōtaka for 2022](#)

Thames High School Timetable/Hōtaka										
Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday			
8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:45
Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75	Period 1 75
10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00
Whānau/Rōpu or Assembly* 15	Whānau/Rōpu 20	Whānau/Rōpu 20	Whānau/Rōpu 20	Whānau/Rōpu 20	Whānau/Rōpu 15	Whānau/Rōpu 15	Whānau/Rōpu 15	Whānau/Rōpu 15	Whānau/Rōpu 15	Whānau/Rōpu 15
Interval 10:15	Interval 20	Interval 20	Interval 20	Interval 20	Interval 25	Interval 25	Interval 25	Interval 25	Interval 25	Interval 25
10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40
Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75
12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00
Period 3 75	Period 2 75	Period 2 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75	Period 3 75
13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15	13:15
Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45	Lunch 45
14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00
Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70	Period 4 70
15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10	15:10

Period 4 on each day is 70 minutes with all other periods being 75 minutes. There previously was a transition time between periods 2 and 3.

Break times will be more uniform across the week – lunch being 45 minutes and interval 25 minutes.

On days we have an assembly (typically on Monday) then we have slightly changed times, with periods 2 and 3 being 70 minutes each.

## Junior Curriculum 2022

As reported earlier the way that Year 9 and 10 classes are organised has been reviewed after consultation. We are very pleased that the proposed changes have proved possible within the 2022 timetable. These changes are an extension to the changes made in 2021 which meant that learning programmes for Years 9 and 10 students were more consistent than in the past.

**Year 9** – have a combination of whole-year core subjects and core term rotation subjects.

- **English, Maths, Health and Physical Education and Science** - 3 periods per week for the whole year
- **Social studies** - 2 periods per week for the whole year. Social studies will have an emphasis on local and Aotearoa history.
- The remaining six periods a week will consist of two sets of four subjects rotating for a term each. In 2022 the rotations are:
  - Music, Drama, Tikanga / Te Reo Māori, Digital Technologies
  - Art, Kai (Food), Materials Technology, Tikanga / Te Reo Māori

**Year 10** – core subjects (12 periods a week) and semester options (8 periods a week)

- **English, Maths, and Science** - 3 periods per week for the whole year
- **Health, physical education, social studies and Tikanga / Te Ao Māori** - 1 term each
- Three options (two with 3 periods a week and one with 2 periods a week). The options are still subject to change but are expected to be. Students will take two from each set of five options. Unfortunately, not everyone will get their first two choices, but we think there is good variety on offer to cover the range of subjects expected in the NZ Curriculum.

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Band Slam	Kai	Sport
Kapa Haka	Art	Enterprise
Drama	Materials	Matariki Kites
Health	Digital Tech	Cirque
Community Connections	Creative Materials	Singing our history

## Sport 2022

The WSSSA Executive Committee has recently confirmed that all **WSSSA Sanctioned events for 2022 are to be run under Covid Vaccine Certificate (CVC) conditions and guidelines**. Please see the below statement sent on behalf of the WSSSA Executive Committee Chair Susan Hassall:

*The Waikato Secondary School Sports Association (WSSSA) have confirmed that all WSSSA sanctioned events in 2022 will operate under CVC guidelines which means that all participants, coaches, managers, and officials will be required to show proof of a My Vaccine Pass.*

### 2022 Thames High School and TV sport event dates

Attached is the [2022 Thames High School and TV sport event dates](#) currently available.

Our Thames High School gatherings are highlighted in yellow. Swimming and Athletics are school spirit days, where the whole school is involved in the day and house colours and house pride are on show.

The [WSSSA Covid Protection Framework](#), shows the guidelines from Sport Waikato. We have given an indication of where events will sit within the sport settings. These are subject to change.

Please be aware that a basic guideline is, if the sport is not a THS event or on THS grounds then a vaccine pass may be required.

## Supporting Sport

Thank you all for your contribution of Sport at Thames High School

Thank you to all our taiohi / students that got involved in sport this year. Let's hope the 2022 sports calendar can go ahead as planned under the new traffic light system.

A huge thank you to all our whānau and community members that help us to organise, coach, manage, umpire, and transport our teams to the events throughout the year. Without you, sport at Thames High School could not happen.

**If you are keen to support sport in 2022**, please complete the Expression of Interest form by [clicking this link](#).

## Senior Course Confirmation (Years 11-13) Tuesday 1 February

Years 11 to 13 taiohi need to attend course confirmation on **Tuesday 1 February**.

If taiohi / students do not attend course confirmation they may not get the subjects that they want as subject sizes must be managed.

<b>Years 12 and 13</b>	<b>11:00 am – 1:00 pm</b>
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</b>

**All Year 12 & 13** are required to confirm their timetable. They must go to the **School Hall at 11 am** to be welcomed back and to get information about the process to confirm their timetable.

**Year 11** only attend course confirmation if there are gaps, clashes or changes requested.

An email will be sent by **Tuesday 25 January** confirming the provisional subjects in taiohi / students' timetables. This will indicate if option choices fit the timetable or clash.

Given our school is open for instruction on this day, taiohi / students are expected to arrive in **full school uniform**.

## Year 13 Lunch and Study Passes

It is a privilege for Year 13 taiohi / students to go to town at lunchtime (not interval). They will be allowed only after we are assured that they are attending classes and have got their uniform to the standard expected.

Until that decision is made, they must remain onsite.

Once there is a pattern of meeting expectations of their presentation, behaviour, attendance, and punctuality, we will also consider the issuing of off-site study passes for study periods during period 1 or 4, from week 5 in Term 1.

## Year 12 & 13 Individual Learning – (ILG)

ILG time is scheduled into Year 12 and Year 13 timetable to allow space for taiohi / students the opportunity to complete work not completed in their classes, homework or catch up on missed schoolwork, due to attending off site activities, work experience, Wintec etc during the school week. Taiohi / students will be allocated a room to work under supervision. Once good routines have been established then there is expected to be more flexibility in the use of this time. Taiohi / students should be able to work (with permission) in other areas of the school, as needed for their studies, for example Art.

## Year 11 Hauora Programme

This is a one-year compulsory course for all 11 taiohi / students. It is designed to provide taiohi / students with an overview of health and wellbeing. It embraces the four dimensions of hauora (Te Whare Tapa Whā)

- Mental health/Taha Hinengaro,
- Family health/Taha Whānau,
- Spiritual health/Taha Wairua,
- Physical health/Taha Tinana.

## Pōwhiri – Wednesday 2 February

**We expect that all Year 13 taiohi / students** along with kaimahi / staff as Tangata Whenua (hosts) are at school on this day at **9 am** for a 9.30 am start with pōwhiri for Year 9 taiohi / students and any new kaimahi / staff members and taiohi / students. Whānau are encouraged and welcome to attend.

At the conclusion of the powhiri, Year 13 taiohi / students will be assigned to a Year 9 Rōpū class to tautoko / support them during the day. The day finishes at 3:10 pm.

## Buses

As advised earlier there was a review of bus contracts by the Ministry of Education.

**Go Bus** are the new providers of bus services from 2022. Their buses are white with a Go Bus logo on the side of the door.



We have been informed that most of the current drivers are returning in 2022, which is great news, and we look forward to working with Go Bus.

With the new bus company come new guidelines for our taiohi / students.

These guidelines are:

- All students **MUST** be in Thames High School uniform to be picked up by the bus unless it is a Muffi Day.
- **Only eligible students** will be allowed on the bus route, based on the address which we have for them. Eligible students must be at least 4.8 km from the school.
- If an eligible student has invited a friend to their house, or they need to use an alternative bus to get to an event, or work, this **MUST** be communicated to the school, prior to them getting on the bus. This is for health and safety requirements, and to ensure that there will be enough space on the bus. Being allowed on the bus is at the discretion of the bus company and the

school based on the number of students on the day and other factors which may affect eligible bus users.

- A signed contract will be required for all eligible students which will be sent out early in 2022. If the contract is not returned then alternative transport arrangements must be arranged by caregivers / parents.
- If there are any issues which arise with any taiohi / students on the buses, this may result in them being refused entry to the bus. This will be communicated in writing to the parent / caregiver by the school and / or bus company.
- There have been stops in the past where ineligible taiohi / students have been picked up. Go Bus are currently looking at ways where these stops may continue, though there may be a charge for this service as it is not funded by the Ministry of Education. When we have more details we will provide this to the users concerned.
- If you have any other issues or questions please contact the school and we will provide contact details of Go Bus.

## Kaimahi / Staff Updates

Naumai haere mai (welcome) to new staff members:

- **Mr Luke Devery**, HOD Drama, replacing Matua Allen Paora-Quirk.
- **Ms Carolina Tornero Martos** starts in the mathematics department, replacing Mr Nitesh Gounder who has accepted a role at another high school closer to home.
- **Mr Joshua Dix** also joins the Mathematics department, as Mr Neufeld has replaced Mrs P Jager.
- **Mr Tezhar Paymani** joins the English department as a long-term reliever (LTR) covering for Ms J Yorke, who is on parental leave.

Congratulations **Mr Daniel Neufeld**, who has been appointed as Head of Mathematics, replacing Mrs Petro Jager, who has retired. Mrs Jager has worked in our kura for 22 years and leaves behind a legacy of excellence; we wish her all the very best.

Also retiring is **Mrs Coralie Hurley**, Head of English who will be missed and we wish her all the very best. We are currently recruiting for a replacement.

The following staff are leaving our kura and we wish them all the very best: Mr James Elder, International Director who will be going overseas to work; Ms Gemma Fisher, who has accepted a role as teacher of HPE at another school; Lynley Russek, Learning Support Coordinator, who is also going overseas to work; Wendy Des Baux, Science

Technician and Dylan Wade, Itinerant Music teacher; Mrs Bee Palmer, Student Support Officer (fixed term position) and Catherine Hall, Teacher Aide (fixed term position).

### Vacancy: Support Staff Administrator(s)

We seek enthusiastic team members to join our Support Staff.

**Roles** (refer below for Role Descriptions)

- 1) **Student Support Officer**  
(Monday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm)
- 2) **Part-time Receptionist**  
(Friday 8.30 - 3.30 pm)
- 3) **Vocational Assistant**  
(12 hours per week, negotiable)

The Vocational Assistant and Part-time Receptionist could suit one person (total 18.5 hours).

Refer to the [Thames High School website for further details](#).

**Applications close: Wednesday 19 January – 4 pm**

Click links for:

- [Role Description Student Support Officer](#)
- [Role description Part-time Receptionist](#)
- [Role description Vocational Assistant](#)
- [Non-Teaching application form](#)

Enquiries about the position and applications (letter, CV, application form) to: Tracey Reed, Principal's PA  
Email: [traceyreed@thameshigh.school.nz](mailto:traceyreed@thameshigh.school.nz)

Ngā manaakitanga

Michael Hart  
Tumuaki / Principal  
[principal@thameshigh.school.nz](mailto:principal@thameshigh.school.nz)

### Key dates 2022

As always, dates may be subject to change and will be advised.

Tue 25 Jan	Senior student leaders' training / induction
Wed 26 Jan	Office opens / New Staff day
Thu 27 Jan	Staff only day
Fri 28 Jan	Kahui Ako Whanaungatanga (Connections) Day
Mon 31 Jan	Anniversary Day (holiday)
<b>Tue 1 Feb</b>	<b>Course Confirmation Day (Years 11-13 expected)</b>
Wed 2 Feb	<b>Powhiri for new students</b> (Year 13 expected to attend in support) School starts for Year 9 Orientation for Year 9
<b>Thu 3 Feb</b>	<b>School starts for all Years 10-13</b>
Mon 7 Feb	Waitangi Day observed.
Tue 8 Feb	School term continues.
<b>Thu 14 Apr</b>	<b>End of Term 1</b>
Fri 15 Apr	Good Friday
<b>Term 2:</b>	Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July
<b>Term 3:</b>	Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September
<b>Term 4:</b>	Monday 17 October to <b>Friday 9 December 2022.</b>

