

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.

Update Whānau Pānui

19 August 2022

Kiā ora e te whānau

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NCEA Accord Day – Monday 22 August

The second of four Accord Teacher-Only days for 2022 is on **Monday 22 August**. There is **no** school for taiohi / students on this day.

There are four Teacher-Only days allocated in 2022 to support the implementation of changes to NCEA.

The dates of upcoming Accord Teacher-Only days are **Friday 25 November and Monday 28 November** although one of these days may be transferred to Term One next year to allow schools in our wider area to work together.

Masks update

Thanks again to all taiohi and our community for supporting the expectation to wear masks for the first four weeks of term, following the request of the Associate Minister of Education.

From next week, when school resumes on Tuesday 23 August, we return to the standard expectation of the framework at Orange traffic light setting. This means, "masks must be worn by ākongā aged 12 and above on school and public transport. It is also strongly recommended by public health officials that face masks are worn by students and staff in Year 4 to 13 when indoors, including combined classes when learning and during indoor assemblies."

In cases and circumstances in our community indicate that there is an outbreak of winter sickness then we may return to the requirement, but that will be advised.

Parents' Forum

The parent's forum is a rōpū which meets once a month. The purpose of the forum is to provide information about Thames High School and to connect with Whānau. The format of our meetings is a 20-minute presentation of a topic with time for questions and then 30 minutes of an open forum.

The next parent forum is on **Monday 22 August** at **6.00 pm** – topic; Extra Curricular Activities available at Thames High School.

The dates and topics for our next meetings are:

- **19 September** – Learning Support
- **7 November** – Topic to be confirmed

Tracey Hinton is the facilitator of the Parent Forum. Please forward any questions to email

thsparentforum@gmail.com

Tracey Hinton
Parents' Forum Facilitator

Mufti "Daffodil" Day

Tautoko Te Rā Daffodil –
Friday 26 August

Daffodil Day symbolises hope for all New Zealanders impacted by cancer.



You may wish to [donate directly to the Cancer Society](#).

To wear mufti, taiohi are expected to donate a gold coin to the cause - all proceeds go to the New Zealand Cancer Society. Donations will be collected in the morning and there are no IOUs. **If someone can remember to wear mufti, then they can remember a coin OR they can pay by EFTPOS at the Accounts Office.** Everyone is encouraged to wear something yellow, and they may also wear a daffodil or similar.

The normal dress code for a Mufti Day is clothing, although casual, that must be appropriate for a school workplace environment. This includes, but may not be limited to:



- No slogans referring to smoking, alcohol and drugs, any sexual connotations or any inappropriate signs or insignia.
- Footwear is to be smart / casual. Suitable footwear i.e. enclosed shoes must be worn for practical classes (Health & PE, Science and Technology)
- The normal expectations of hair colour apply, so please do not colour your hair for this day.
- Do not bring any props or costumes, as they be inappropriate or be distraction to learning in the classroom e.g no onesies, no themed outfits, or costumes.
- No bandanas are to be worn.

Should clothing that is deemed as not suited to the school workplace, the school reserves the right to ask students to change either into provided school uniform, if available, or the item(s) may be corrected with the help of caregivers / whānau. For consistency, decisions about what does and does not meet the standards above will be decided by members of the Senior Leadership Team. Parent and caregivers / whānau support is expected and appreciated.

“I AM HOPE” Presentation

An ambassador of the Key to Life Charitable Trust, Tai Tupou, will be doing a presentation on the “I Am Hope” school programme (founded by Mike King).

The presentation is about “normalising the inner critic in mental health, encouraging young people to reach out for help, and giving examples of tools to keep themselves well and see hope through sharing our own journeys.”

This was originally scheduled for Friday 19 August however will now be on Thursday 25 August from 2 pm, for all taiohi.

PISA Involvement

On Tuesday 23 August, a group of students between Years 10 and 12, who have been selected at random to represent Aotearoa New Zealand, will take part in PISA 2022. PISA is a large international research study that place every 3 years. There are 6,300 students from NZ and over half a million students from over 80 countries taking part.

PISA stands for the Programme for International Student Assessment. The study looks at how well students can use their knowledge in real world situations in three key areas: reading, mathematics, and science, as well as creative thinking. The study also collects information on student perceptions, attitudes and experiences and home and school environments. By taking part students will help the PISA organisation to understand and improve how

well our education system prepares students for life and success in the modern world.

Thanks to those students who have been randomly selected for taking part in PISA.

Board Election Update

CES, Returning Officer for 2022 elections emailed voting papers to parents / caregivers as recorded in our student enrolment database on Wednesday 10 August. Those who do not have an email address, your vote was posted to you.

There are six vacancies on the board for parent representatives and there were thirteen nominations. You can read the candidates' profiles [here](#).

Votes must be received by **4.00 pm on Wednesday 7 September**.

Parent and Staff election timeline:

Election Day	Wed 7 Sept
Board Takes Office	Wed 14 Sept

Student election

The student board member election (annual election) will be held on Wednesday 21 September 2022.

Time:

Call for Nominations	Tues 30 Aug
Nominations close (12 noon)	Mon 5 Sept
Voting forms/link sent out	Mon 12 Sept
Election Day	Wed 21 Sept
Board Takes Office	Wed 28 Sept
1 st board hui for Student Rep	Mon 31 Oct

As always, we welcome comments.

Ngā manaakitanga

Michael Hart

Tumuaki / Principal

principal@thameshigh.school.nz



Key Dates

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

Term 3:	Monday 25 Jul to Friday 30 Sept
Mon 22 Aug	NCEA Accord Day (Staff only day)
Mon 22 Aug	Parents' Forum (6.00 pm)
Fri 26 Aug	Mufti "Daffodil" Day
Wed 7 Sept	Election Day – Parent/Staff Rep
Wed 14 Sept	Board Takes Office – Parent/Staff Rep
Wed 21 Sept	Election Day – Student Rep
Wed 28 Sept	Board Takes Office – Student Rep
Mon 26 Sept	Full Board Hui – 5.30 pm, Wharenui (Te Puna o Te Pito Mata)
Thu 15 Sept to Tue 20 Sept	Senior School Exams (Y11-13)
Thu 21 Sept	Numeracy Assessment (Y10)
Fri 30 Sept	End of Term 3

Term 4:	Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December 2022.
Mon 24 Oct	Labour Day
Wed 16 Nov to Fri 18 Nov	Junior School Exams (Y9-10)
Mon 31 Oct	Full Board Hui – 5.30 pm, Wharenui (Te Puna o Te Pito Mata)
Wed 2 Nov	Senior Prize giving
Mon 7 Nov-	NCEA Exams start
Fri 2 Dec	
Fri 25 Nov	Teacher Only Day - NCEA Accord Day
Mon 28 Nov	Teacher Only Day - NCEA Accord Day
Fri 9 Dec	Last day Term 4

