



Whānau Pānui 2023 Year 9 New Entrants

13 December 2022

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Kia ora e te Whānau

As we prepare for the start of 2023 this pānui has some important information for our Year 9 taiohi/students.

Our first day for Year 9 taiohi/students is **Wednesday 1 February 2023, starting with a Pōwhiri.**

This is the Wednesday after the Anniversary Day weekend. Please arrive by 9 am for a 9.30 am start.

2023 Starting Programme

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Wed 24 Jan | School Office open for new enrolments and enquiries. |
| Mon 30 Jan | Auckland Anniversary Day School closed |
| Tues 31 Jan | Course confirmation Day for Year 11 – 13 students. |
| Wed 1 Feb | Pōwhiri for Year 9 and new taiohi / students and staff members. All Taiohi, whānau and community welcome to attend. Orientation for Year 9 (Only Year 9 & 13 taiohi / students at school) |
| Thurs 2 Feb | Timetabled classes begin for all year levels. Arrive by 8.35 am for 8.45 am start. School day starts at 8:45 am with a Rōpu class. |
| Mon 7 Feb | Waitangi Day observed (no school) |

Pōwhiri

We start the year with a pōwhiri for new taiohi / students and kaimahi / staff. Whānau are encouraged and welcome to attend. All community and whanau are welcome to attend.

As Manuhiri (visitors), please gather from 9:00 am for a 9:30 am start. Gather outside the waharoa (entrance to the Wharenui) on Sealey Street.

Wait for the karanga (calling) that begins the pōwhiri. Please join us for the Pōwhiri to welcome you to Thames High School followed by kai (tea, coffee and a biscuit) to formally end the pōwhiri.

Tangata whenua (hosts) will be represented by all kaimahi / Staff and all students/taiohi are invited to join.

Year 10-13 along with thier whānau are invited to join our pōwhiri to welcome new taiohi / students and whānau to our kura.

Orientation

After the pōwhiri, taiohi will move to the hall and library courtyard area, whānau are encouraged to join them. There will be tea, coffee and a biscuit (kai) to formally end the pōwhiri.

After kai, taiohi will be move to their Rōpu class to begin their orientation activities, including activities run by our Student Senior Leaders in the afternoon. More detailed information will be sent to whānau in Janurary.

The day ends at 3:10 pm, please note buses will be running on this day.

Rōpū class and organisation

Here at Thames High School, house spirit is a focus for 2023. Our Rōpū/Whanau are organised into the house groups – Rudman House -Blue, Adams House - Green, Hoult House- Yellow and Dorrington House – Red. Along with more opportunities to connect with our senior school who are organised in Whānau by house groups, this will enhance house identity and belonging. .

Information about specific timetabled classes will be sent at the beginning of the year.



Bus information for 2023

The provider for our bus service is Go Bus. The times and pick up locations will continue to be the same as in 2022. As part of the expectations for using this service taiohi/ students are to be in full school uniform and to exhibit 'Our Tikanga – Our ROLES' at all times. The bus service will be running on Wednesday 1 February for all students.

Bus Schedule

This schedule may be subject to change. Any changes will be communicated directly to students who use the bus service.

School Bus Timetable

| Bus | | Morning | After school |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Tairua/Hikuaui | Tairua Toilets | Depart time 7.30am | Arrival times 4.25pm |
| | Prescott's Garage | 7.45am | 4.10pm |
| Tapu | Tapu Campground | 7.40am | 4.10pm |
| | Royal Oak Hotel | 7.55am | 3.50pm |
| | Waiomu | 8.05am | 3.40pm |
| Puriri | Te Puru | 8.10am | 3.35pm |
| | Puriri School | 8.05am | 3.40pm |
| | Matatoki School | 8:10am | 3:30pm |
| | Totara Valley Road | 8:15am | 3:25pm |
| | Totara Store | 8:15am | 3:25pm |
| Parawai | Devcich Gate | 7.45am | 4.00pm |
| | Kauaeranga Valley | 7.55am | 3.45pm |

School timetable 2023

The timetable/Hōtaka for 2023 is the same as 2022 with assemblies held on a Wednesday. .

| Thames High School Timetable/Hōtaka | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|-------------|----|--------------------------|----------|-------------|----|-------------|----|
| Monday | | Tuesday | | Wednesday | | Thursday | | Friday | |
| 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 |
| 10:00 | | 10:00 | | 10:00 | | 10:00 | | 10:00 | |
| Whānau/Rōpu | 20 | Whānau/Rōpu | 20 | Whānau/Rōpu or Assembly* | 20 | Whānau/Rōpu | 20 | Whānau/Rōpu | 20 |
| 10:20 | | 10:20 | | 10:20 | | 10:20 | | 10:20 | |
| Interval | 25 | Interval | 25 | Interval | 25 | Interval | 25 | Interval | 25 |
| 10:40 | | 10:40 | | 10:40 | | 10:40 | | 10:40 | |
| Period 2 | 75 | Period 2 | 75 | Period 2 | 75 (70") | Period 2 | 75 | Period 2 | 75 |
| 12:00 | | 12:00 | | 12:00 | | 12:00 | | 12:00 | |
| Period 3 | 75 | Period 2 | 75 | Period 3 | 75 | Period 3 | 75 | Period 3 | 75 |
| 13:15 | | 13:15 | | 13:15 | | 13:15 | | 13:15 | |
| Lunch | 45 | Lunch | 45 | Lunch | 45 | Lunch | 45 | Lunch | 45 |
| 13:55 | | 13:55 | | 13:55 | | 13:55 | | 13:55 | |
| 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 | |

Please check out the [parent portal](#) on the Thames High School Website to view the timetable, attendance, and school calendar. Login is with a student ID number and either a student password or a caregiver password. Login information will be sent out via email to each student/taiohi and caregiver. Please note that timetable information will not show until mid January.

Year 9 Curriculum (Summary)

As covered in the enrolment information our curriculum at Year 9 aims to be both innovative and to provide a programme that prepares students for their future studies.

All subjects are held as a rōpū class, generally moving to each subject.

- Year-long courses for English and Mathematics.
- PE and Health, Social Studies and Science will also feature year-long programmes at Year 9.
- Term Rotations of the following subjects which will give a taster of this subject area include; Art Digital Technology, Drama, Māori/Tikanga, Music, , Technology (Food, hard and soft materials).
- Themes throughout the year to bring cohesion across the curriculum. For example Matariki.
- The school day will start at 8:45 am with an 8:40am warning bell and finish at 3:10pm.
- Rōpū and Whānau classes will be after period 1 and before interval (morning tea).

Stationery and BYOD

Stationery lists and the requirements for devices have been updated and [can be found on our website](#) or by [clicking this link](#).

Being prepared for class is a great start to making progress. Taiohi/students are expected to be organised and bring what they need to support their learning.

The basics include a school bag, stationery (books, paper, pens, etc.). A suitable learning device (laptop or chromebook) is a preferred item.

As being prepared for class is a priority for all our taiohi, in 2023 we will provide each Year 9 and 10 student with a stationery start-up pack. This pack includes; 2 1B5 (lined), 1E5 (math), 3 pens, ruler, pencil, eraser, refill, colouring pencils. As a whānau you may want to purchase your own or additional stationery.

Each pack costs \$8, any donations towards this initiative are welcome. This was trialled in 2022 and we would like to offer this again in 2023. We also welcome any feedback on the provision of the stationery.

Pastoral Care in 2023

Rōpū Kaitiaki

The main point of contact for parents/caregivers and the school is the Rōpū Kaitiaki. It is a hallmark of Thames High School that this relationship between the school and Whānau is strong as there is a relatively small number of taiohi / students and whānau the Kaitiaki connects with.

Our 4 Rōpū Kaitiaki for 2023 are:

Mr Shane Major – Adams House
Mr Joshua Dix – Dorrington House
Mr Jamie Wickham– Hoult House
Mr Tezhar Paymani – Rudman House

Kaiāwhina / Pastoral Care Leaders ('Deans')

Our Kaiāwhina will be supporting our Rōpū and Whānau Kaitiaki in creating ways we can celebrate and support our students/taiohi to be the best they can be.

Our Kaiāwhina (formerly know as Deans) for 2023 are:

Mrs Carolyn Green - Year 9 and 10 with a focus on Year 9
Ms Jasmine Yorke - Year 9 and 10 with a focus on Year 10
Dr Nichola Voice - Year 11 focus
Ms Jen Fletcher - Year 12 and 13 focus

Deputy Principals / Tumuaki Tuarua

For Years 9 and 10 taiohi/students and their whānau the key deputy principal is Mrs Natalie O'Neil natalieoneil@thameshigh.school.nz. For Years 11 to 13 taiohi/students and their whānau the key deputy principal is Mrs Penny Keet pennykeet@thameshigh.school.nz. Tumuaki / Principal Mr Michael Hart is also available to discuss concerns or queries. Principal@thameshigh.school.nz

In addition to the Rōpū or Whānau and Deputy Principals, we are very fortunate to have a school guidance counsellor, Ngaio Repia, a Whare Hauroa Nurse Three days a week, Angela Hewlett, and access to a Doctor's services (1 Day a week).

We are also fortunate that we will have two Youth Workers for 10 hours per week as part of the 24/7 Youth Network. Our lead contact is Mr Michael Wilkes and we thank the Living Well Trust for their support in allowing this to happen since 2021 and again in 2023.

Uniform

Please be sure to review the [uniform expectations on the website](#).

Be sure to start school as we mean to continue – in complete and correct school uniform. Please take the opportunity during the break to get uniform items that fit correctly.

This includes shoes – please be sure to review the shoe styles that are expected.

Shoe styles

Shoes are meant to be smart and tidy plain black polishable shes, **not** "casual" shoes.

See below for some examples (these show the 'look' and are not meant to be an exhaustive).

We welcome inquiries to check that shoes are suitable, rather than the disappointment of being asked to replace shoes.

Not: canvas and or rubber-toe flat skater shoes or sneakers or sports styled trainers/shoes or basketball boots, etc. **Not** the shoes marketed as "school sneakers".

Boys styles of shoes (examples only)



Girls styles of shoes (examples only)



We always welcome comments, queries or suggestions.

Please email office@thameshigh.school.nz (for general inquiries) or principal@thameshigh.school.nz (for the principal or call 07 868 8688)

Ngā mihi o te Meri Kirimete me te Tau Hou – Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Natalie O'Neil

Tumuaki Tuarua / Deputy Principal

natalieoneil@thameshigh.school.nz

2023 Key dates for reference

Dates may be subject to change. Check out the school calendar on our [website](#).

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Wed 24 Jan | Main office open for enquires and enrolments. |
| Thu 26 Jan 2023 | Staff only days |
| Fri 27 Jan 2023 | |
| Mon 30 Jan | Anniversary Day (holiday) |
| Tue 31 Jan | Course Confirmation Day (Years 11-13) |
| Wed 1 Feb | Pōwhiri for new students (All Year 13 in support) Invitation to all whanau, taiohi and community. <u>Orientation and first day for Year 9</u> |
| Thu 2 Feb | School starts for all Years 10-13 Timetable commences |
| Mon 6 Feb | Waitangi Day (holiday) |
| Tue 7 Feb | School term continues. |
| Fri 10 Feb | THS Swimming Carnival (Whole school) |
| Tues 14 Feb | Teen Esteem for Year 9 students begins. Continues until Thursday 2 March. |
| Wed 1 Mar | THS Athletics Day (Whole school) |
| Mon 6 Mar | THS Selected Events for Athletics (Those who enter only) |
| Thu 6 Apr | End of Term 1 |
| Fri 7 Apr – Sun 23 Apr | School holidays Includes Good Friday, Easter Monday, and Easter Tuesday |
| Term 2: | Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June (Tuesday 25 April ANZAC day) |
| Sat 1 July – Sun 16 July | School holidays (includes Matariki 14 July) |
| Term 3: | Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September |
| Sat 23 Sept – Sun 8 Oct | School holidays |
| Term 4: | Monday 9 October to Friday 8 December 2023*. |