



## Whānau Pānui – 20 March 2023

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### Tumuaki / principal's message

It's hard to believe that school has been underway for seven weeks, and we only have three more weeks of Term One. Since the interruptions to schooling from the Gabrielle weather event we have had 21 days of school, and have enjoyed school-wide events such as House Sports Day and the Swimming Sports.

Year 13 students have enjoyed their camp. Many thanks to the staff (Mrs Slee, Mrs Fletcher, Mr Rogers, Mrs Emery and Whaea Rawinia McLean) who ran a superb camp with many memorable moments. Year 9 students have now completed their one-day Teen Esteem programme, that has helped build self-confidence and resilience. There have been many EOTC (education outside the classroom) activities, making the most of the warmer weather in Term One.

The muffin day for the flood relief on Friday 24 February, raised \$1,150 with \$650 for Red Cross and \$500 for the Mayoral Relief Fund. What a great effort; much appreciation to those who contributed to this appeal.

Winter sport is building up, with trials and trainings, and it is brilliant to see so many signs up to get involved. Many thanks to our Sports Coordinator, Mrs Tessa Watts, Teacher in charge of Sport (Mrs Green) for organising this all. Many thanks to staff, parents and senior students who are coaching or managing teams. We rely on many people to support sport.

We encourage you to contact staff when there are queries or concerns. The sooner we know about something that isn't right or that we need to improve on, the sooner we can make it right.

Michael Hart  
Tumuaki / Principal

### Message from Head Students

Term 1 has been super busy with all the activities going on. After having full school swimming sports and athletics it has only made us and the other senior leaders more excited for the events to come.

Our ball committee have been working hard planning the ball this year, being held on Saturday 6 May, and are really looking forward to this.

We are also excited to bring back the junior social that we have not been able to have for a few years now and are hoping to have more information around dates soon.

Kyla Wilson / Millar Morton  
Head Students

### Parents Forum

The first hui for 2023 will be held on **Monday 20 March** at **6.00 pm** in the our staffroom; enter via the main entrance. All welcome, no sign up required.

The format of the hui is informal, and we welcome feedback, suggestions, and questions. Our deputy principal, Mrs O'Neil and Learner Support Coordinator, Ann Hoover will be there to korero with you.

So please drop in and enjoy a cuppa and biscuit and chat to us.

### Reporting to Parents

Each year taiohi / students receive three reports, one 'interim / progress report in Term One and Two reports, one in Term Two followed by an opportunity to meet teachers, and one in Term Four to conclude the year.

Due to the disruptions at the start of Term 1, the interim Term One Progress Report has been delayed. This report is a brief report with four learning indicators. This is so there was sufficient classtime for teachers to gauge effort, progress, respect for learning and respect for others. These will be sent to whānau on Wednesday 29 March.

Parents / caregivers are reminded that you can monitor the attendance and achievement of your tamariki / child through the [parent portal](#), as assessments are completed and results are published.

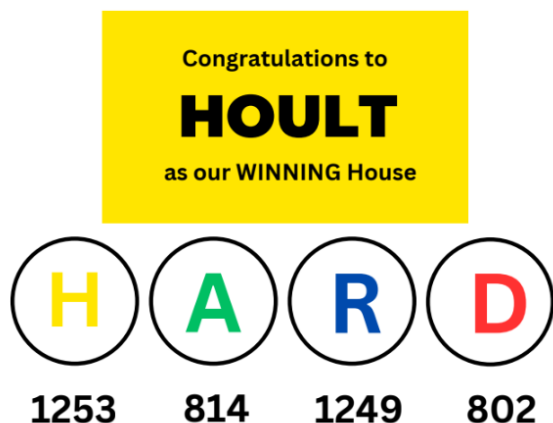
Natalie O'Neil  
Deputy Principal



## Sports

### House Sports Day

Thames High School students participated in House Sports Day held on Wednesday 1 March with House based activities and supported their House by wearing House colours. Here are the [results](#) from the fun full day event.



### Thames Valley Athletics Day

We had 35 athletes attend the Thames Valley Athletics Day on Tuesday 14 March at Paeroa Domain and we have achieved some awesome results. We are excited for those athletes who will be competing at the Wai/Bop event on Tuesday 21 March.

Here are [results 1](#) and [results 2](#) for those taiohi / students who placed in the top 4 for events.

A special thank you to Kim Court and Walter Wiki for transport and assisting with our taiohi / students.

Also, a thank you to Miss Fletcher and Mr Harrison for your help to make this a fantastic athletics day and Mr Harrison on the outstanding job on the Javelin event. Everyone was very grateful!



### Waikato / Bay of Plenty Athletic Championships

Congratulations to **Austin Court, Isayah Boyd, Wetere Kingi, Ellie Johnston, Blaze Houghton** and **Torin Young** who are representing our school and Thames Valley at the WAI/BOP athletic championships being held at Porritt Park in Hamilton on Tuesday 21 March. Good luck to all our athletes.

### Gymnastics

Ellie Johnston competed at the 2023 CMG Tumbling competition for gymnastics held at Bruce Pullman Park.

The skill level to enter was extremely difficult. Ellie completed both her tumbling passes well and nailed her landings. Ellie was 4<sup>th</sup> very narrowly missing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done, Ellie!



Tessa Watts  
Sports Coordinator

### Careers / Gateway

#### Upcoming Career events

- First Aid all day course to be held on 20 / 21 March in the THS library.
- Canterbury University visit for Year 12 & 13 students on the 24 March in the Careers Centre.

Leanne Donovan  
Careers Advisor

### Library overdue books

*The world's largest fine for an overdue library book stands at \$345.14, the **amount owed at two cents a day.** (The book was returned after 122 years.)*

Students have been sent an email asking for the return of any overdue books in return for a sweet treat (or they can bring a sweet treat to the librarian).

Is reading for pleasure, a door to success?

If you encourage your child to read for pleasure, they will really reap the benefits. It might not seem like a particularly important task, but actually, research shows that **reading for pleasure can be directly linked to children's success throughout their time at school and even into adulthood.**

We have a great range of books for all ages. If we do not have a particular book you would like to read, please see Ruth in the library who will get the book for you.

Ruth Howes  
Librarian



## Covid-19 Update

In the last week there were 681 new cases of Covid-19 in the Waikato region. A reminder around Covid rules if you feel unwell with common symptoms of Covid-19 like the symptoms of a cold or influenza.

### Definitions

<b>Active Confirmed Case</b>	Confirmed cases are people who have received a positive PCR test OR someone who has received a positive result on a Rapid Antigen Test. For more details, <a href="#">see the COVID-19 case definition</a> .
<b>Active Case - probable</b>	A probable case is when someone is diagnosed based on their exposure to other people with COVID-19 and on their symptoms.
<b>Infectious</b>	Reinfections are cases in an individual who reported a case 29 or more days previously.
<b>Recovered</b>	Recovered cases are people who had the virus, where at least 7 days have passed since their symptoms started and they have not had symptoms for 72 hours, and they have been cleared by the health professional responsible for their monitoring.

Test kits are available from the community chemist and we have plenty of masks available from our school.

## Key dates 2023

Dates are **subject to change** and will be advised.

### Term 1: Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April

Mon 20 Mar	Parents Forum
Wed 23 Mar	Progress Reports sent to whānau
Mon 27 Mar	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>
Fri 31 Mar	Class ID Photos
Thur 6 Apr	<b>Last day of Term 1</b>
Fri 7 Apr –	<b>School holidays</b>
Sun 23 Apr	<b>(Includes Good Friday, Easter Monday, and Easter Tuesday)</b>

### Term 2: Wednesday 26 April to Friday 30 June

Mon 24 Apr	<b>School closed for instruction.</b>
Tues 25 Apr	<b>ANZAC Day (holiday)</b>
Wed 26 Apr	<b>Term 2 – Day 1 starts</b>
Wed 3 May	THS Cross Country
Sat 6 May	Senior School Ball
Mon 15 May	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Fri 19 May	<b>Pink Shirt Day &amp; Bully Free</b>
Mon 22 May	Parents Forum
Mon 29 May	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>

Mon 5 Jun	<b>King's Birthday (holiday)</b>
Mon 12 Jun	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 19 Jun	Parents Forum
Mon 26 Jun	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>

Fri 30 Jun	<b>Last day of Term 2</b>
Sat 1 July –	<b>School holidays</b>
Sun 16 July	<b>(includes Matariki 14 July)</b>

<b>Term 3:</b>	<b>Monday 17 July to Friday 22 Sept</b>
Mon 17 Jul	<b>Term 3 – Day 1 starts</b>
	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 24 July	Parents Forum
Mon 24 Jul	Spirit Week (TBC)
Mon 31 Jul	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>
Mon 14 Aug	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 21 Aug	Parents Forum
Fri 25 Aug	Daffodil Day
Mon 28 Aug	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>

Tue 29 Aug	School Photos
Mon 11 Sep	Te Wiki o te reo Māori Haka Wars
Mon 18 Sep	Mental Health week
	Parents Forum

Fri 22 Sept	<b>Last day of Term 3</b>
Sat 23 Sept –	<b>School holidays</b>
Sun 8 Oct	

### Term 4: Monday 9 October to Friday 8 December 2023

Mon 9 Oct	<b>Term 3 – Day 1 starts</b>
Mon 16 Oct	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Tues 17 Oct	Sports Awards
Thurs 19 Oct	Leavers Dinner
Mon 23 Oct	<b>Labour Day (holiday)</b>
Tues 24 Oct	Parents Forum
Mon 30 Oct	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>
Tues 7 Nov	<b>Senior Prizegiving 7.00 pm</b>
Mon 13 Nov	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 27 Nov	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuui)</i>
Mon 4 Dec	<b>Junior Prizegiving</b>
Tue 5 Dec –	End-of-year activities for Years 9 and 10
Thu 7 Dec	
<b>Fri 8 Dec</b>	<b>Last day of Term 4</b>

