



Whānau Pānui (Newsletter) – 5 May 2023

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Tumuaki / principal's message

As we reach the end of the second week we are looking forward to the Senior Ball, and weekend sports. It has been great seeing teams practising and wonderful to see support on the side-lines. I look forward to seeing all sports in the coming weeks. Thanks so much to everyone involved in making sports happen, helping with transport, gear, and organisation. It takes a village to support learning and sport!

It was brilliant to recently have had the presentation of our senior leaders' badges and the kākahu for the head student team. The kākahu were blessed at the start of the year at our pōwhiri, and we have since consulted on the correct protocol (tikanga) to present these. Many thanks to whānau and friends who were able to join us for this special event.

We have now had two teacher-only days, one to focus on NCEA changes and the other on the changes to the NZ curriculum. It is valuable to have uninterrupted time to understand matters that will impact on our school curriculum. Thanks for your support of these days, especially with the industrial action adding to the days away from school for students.

As you will read below, the industrial action is continuing next week. It is very disruptive, and I continue to hope that there is a resolution / settlement soon.

Michael Hart
Tumuaki / Principal

Industrial Action

In the week ahead there are two significant industrial actions that have been confirmed by the PPTA. Unless there is an agreement to halt actions:

1. The "rostering home" of year levels continues – as below.
2. A full strike affecting all year levels on Thursday 11 May.

Strike – Thursday 11 May

The strike is a regional action (upper North Island). Other areas in the country have different strike days.

The school will be closed for instruction on Thursday 11 May, but we will have supervision available for those under 14 where parents/caregivers cannot make other arrangements. Please contact the office office@thameshigh.school.nz or 07 868 8688 if you would like to send your young person to be supervised in the library.

Rostering home

Rostering home is a national action – the whole country has the same day for these year levels.

This means that PPTA refuse to teach or supervise these year levels on the days below. We advise these year levels to therefore stay at home as we cannot supervise at school. Please diarise these dates.

For the Year 9 rostering home, again we can offer supervision for those younger than 14. Please confirm with the office.

Week 3

Tuesday 9 May - Year 12 Thursday 11 May - Year 13

Week 4

Tuesday 16 May - Year 9 Wednesday 17 May - Year 10

Week 5

Thursday 25 May - Year 11

Week 6

Tuesday 30 May - Year 13 Thursday 1 June - Year 12

Week 7

Tuesday 6 June - Year 10 Thursday 8 June - Year 9



ANZAC Day



On Tuesday 25 May our student leaders and tumuaki / principal, Michael Hart and tumuaki tuarua / deputy principals, Penny Keet and Natalie O'Neil represented Thames High School, attending ANZAC Civic Ceremony at the Thames Civic Centre.

It was an honour to participate in the parade and to lay a wreath in commemoration of the soldiers from Thames who fought and died in the great wars. Head student Millar Morton spoke at the event. It was moving to hear about Millar's great-grandfather who fought in WW11 and whose medals Millar wore in his remembrance.

[#thegreatestgeneration](#)



Nestled on the grounds of Thames High School is the monument in remembrance to former taiohi / students and staff that left and never returned. This ANZAC Day we paused to remember them.



Don't ever forget

Presentation of Kākahu to Head Students

We held a special assembly on Wednesday 26 April, first day of Term 2, where Brendon Wilkinson, board member presented our head students **Millar Morton** and **Kyla Wilson** and deputy heads **James Harvey** and **Jess Sara** with a kākahu / cloak.



A Kākahu is a special woven cloak that recognises the mana of those who choose to step into and are chosen for a leadership role. It is a taonga that honours the wearer.



Our student leaders will wear the kākahu on special occasions and at presentations. At the end of the year the head and deputy leaders will present the kākahu to the new student leadership team.

All our student leaders were also presented with their badges in celebration of their leadership.

It was lovely to have the support of whānau at this special presentation.



Parent Forum

Our second hui for 2023 will be held on **Monday 22 May** at **6.00 pm** in our staffroom, enter via the main entrance.

Amy Rakete, Parent Forum facilitator will advise of the topic/s closer to the hui.

Please join us over yummy kai & a cuppa.

Amy Rakete
Parent Forum Facilitator

Sports

Cross Country

[Cross Country](#) for competitive runners was postponed due to the bad impending weather forecast where this event will now be held on **Monday 8 May** at **1.45 pm**. Competitive runners will leave school, head up Richmond, around to Hill Street, through the bush, down the Karaka and back to school.

- **Junior male and female / Intermediate female – 4 km**
- **Intermediate male / Senior male and female – 6 km**
(including Irishtown loop)

Competitive runners to bring change of clothes, running shoes and medical needs and remember to sign up.

Carolyn Green
TIC Sports

Open Water Swimming Championships

An awesome achievement to **Nova Sawyer** who competed in the 500m open water race at the 2023 Aquaknights Zonal Secondary School Open Water Swimming Championships held during Easter weekend at Mt Maunganui. Nova was placed 6th overall. Well done!



Tessa Watts
Sports Coordinator

Careers / Gateway

Upcoming Career events

- Rural Health Careers on 8 May at 2.00 pm in the Careers Centre
- Otago University Open day on 7 & 8 May at Otago University
- Lincoln University visit on the 15 May at 2.00 pm in the Careers centre
- Auckland University Engineering information evening on the 15 May at 6.00 pm at FMG Stadium Waikato
- AUT visit on the 16 May at 12 noon in the Careers Centre
- Georgia Cook – Dietitian visit on 23 May at 12 noon in the Career Centre
- Waikato University Open day on the 26 May from 8.45 am to 3.10 pm at Waikato University
- Defence Force visit on the 30 May at 12 noon in the Careers Centre

Leanne Donovan
Careers Advisor

Community Notices

Winter Tennis coaching

[Thames Tennis Club](#) coach Shannon Paki is offering tennis coaching during Term 2 and Term 3 every Friday (8 Fridays of each term) starting on Friday 5 May from **4.00 pm**. Venue is Thames Tennis Club, Brown Street.

There are different groups for age and ability. The cost depends on the group you are in. Please discuss this with Shannon email shannonpaki@gmail.com

Mental Health & Resilience

FREE community workshop where you can learn to improve your mental health and learn how to support others with mental health. This event is being facilitated by Jordan Smith and to be held Monday **8 May** at 7.00 pm at the Thames Racecourse.

Supper and resources provided. Register by emailing: thames@equipperschurch.com

Community Workshop
Learn to improve your mental health and how to support others.
Monday 8th May, 7PM
Thames Racecourse
Resources & Supper provided
Register by emailing:
thames@equipperschurch.com
FREE EVENT

Mental health & Resilience
IN YOUR WHĀNAU
With Jordan Smith

Dance Theatre Enrolments

Enrolments are open for the [Thames Hauraki Dance Theatre](#) Term 2 for ages 4 years old upwards and adults. Ballet, Jazz and Contemporary. Your first class is **free**.

For more information contact Sarah on 021 618 179 or email sarah@thdt.co.nz or visit www.thdt.co.nz.

Key dates 2023

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

Term 2: Wednesday 26 April to Friday 30 June

Mon 24 Apr	Staff only day (NCEA Changes) School closed for instruction.
Tues 25 Apr	ANZAC Day (holiday)
Wed 26 Apr	Term 2 – Day 1 starts
Mon 1 May	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)</i>
Fri 5 May	Staff only day (NZ Curriculum) School closed for instruction.
Sat 6 May	Senior School Ball
Mon 8 May	THS Cross Country
Mon 15 May	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Fri 19 May	Pink Shirt & Bully Free Day
Mon 22 May	Parents Forum 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Mon 29 May	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)</i>
Mon 5 Jun	King's Birthday (holiday)
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 (Wharenuī)</i>
Fri 30 Jun	Last day of Term 2
Sat 1 July – Sun 16 July	School holidays (includes Matariki 14 July)

Term 3: Monday 17 July to Friday 22 Sept

Mon 17 Jul	Term 3 – Day 1 starts Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 24 July	Parents Forum 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Mon 24 Jul	Spirit Week (TBC)
Mon 31 Jul	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)</i>
Mon 14 Aug	Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Mon 21 Aug	Parents Forum 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Fri 25 Aug	Daffodil Day
Mon 28 Aug	Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm <i>Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)</i>
Tue 29 Aug	School Photos
Mon 11 Sep	Te Wiki o te reo Māori Haka Challenges
Mon 18 Sep	Mental Health week Parents Forum 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm

Fri 22 Sept
Sat 23 Sept –
Sun 8 Oct

Term 4:

Mon 9 Oct
Mon 16 Oct
Tues 17 Oct
Thurs 19 Oct
Mon 23 Oct
Tues 24 Oct
Mon 30 Oct

Tues 7 Nov
Mon 13 Nov
Mon 27 Nov

Mon 4 Dec
Tue 5 Dec –
Thu 7 Dec

Fri 8 Dec

Last day of Term 3

School holidays

Monday 9 October to

Friday 8 December 2023

Term 3 – Day 1 starts

Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Sports Awards
Leavers Dinner

Labour Day (holiday)

Parents Forum
Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm
Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)

Senior Prizegiving 7.00 pm

Te Ao Māori Strategic Ohu (TAMSO)
Board hui 5.30 – 7.30 pm
Te Puna O Te Pito Mata (Wharenuī)

Junior Prizegiving

End-of-year activities for Year 9 and
Year 10

Last day of Term 4

School Summer Holidays Begin

