

**WELCOME TO THE 2018 SCHOOL YEAR and a particular welcome to new students and families who begin their association with Pukekohe High School.**

We have 500 new students this year and this number continues to increase with on-going enrolments. Year 9s account for 420 of these students and this is the biggest year 9 roll in the history of the school. As is our tradition, the school year started with a powhiri for those new students who were recent enrolments, along with 28 new members of staff.

#### **NEW STAFF**

In a time of a much publicised teacher shortage, we have been very successful in being able to recruit teachers for all but three vacancies. Through a combination of retirements, teachers on leave and teachers moving to other schools, we ended the year with 18 teacher vacancies and five non-teacher vacancies. An anticipated increasing roll has resulted in 23 teaching and 4 non-teaching appointments being made. Among these we have seven teachers from overseas and eight New Zealand-trained first year teachers. Among our new staff there are four ex-students of the school. The three unfilled teaching positions are being covered by three of our regular and experienced relievers until permanent appointments can be made.

#### **MISSING NCEA GRADES**

Recent media articles have pointed to some students from last year not having NCEA credits that they had achieved being recorded on their Records of Achievement. Contact from one such student alerted us to 11 students in a Level 3 class being affected in this way. While this was quickly corrected, our investigations of why this occurred clearly identified that the fault lay with the school in that a set of grades that were supposedly transferred to NZQA had not been done so. This clearly would have caused distress to the affected students which the school regrets and apologises for.

A second case affected 7 students across a range of subjects. These students were part of a large transfer of NCEA grades to NZQA but had their submitted "Achieved" grades changed to "Not achieved". This situation was discovered by the school in mid-January and corrections were made. At this stage we are unable to determine what caused the grades to be changed during the transfer process. We have been in contact with NZQA to help source the problem and to look at any improvements that may be needed in our NCEA data management. Again we regret any stress that this caused those affected students.

#### **WHARE WAANANGA OPENING DAWN CEREMONY – Saturday, December 16**



Teena koutou katoa ! He tohu teenei ki a taatou!! He waka eke noa taatou! Kua eke a Tangaroa!

Greetings everyone! This is an indication! We are all in the same boat! Its awesome!

#### **e-LEARNING START-UP**

Firstly, our thanks to all of the parents and students who have started the year with BYOD. We appreciate that this is a significant financial commitment from families at the start of a school year, with all of the other costs of returning to school routine. Staff are excited to be able to use a wider range of technology in the classroom with students and we look forward to the outcomes of this work.

It is timely to acknowledge the work of our network staff who have paved the way for this digital direction at Pukekohe High School. The upgrade of the wireless services to the school was completed late last term and, during the holidays, over 160 laptops were prepared for distribution around the school, for use by students who do not have BYOD.

#### **MANAGEMENT POSITION CHANGES**

- Mrs Bakker has been appointed head of guidance.
- Mrs Bodman has been appointed dean of Day House, replacing Mrs Mulcahy in that position.
- Mrs Karauria has been appointed assistant head of the social sciences faculty.
- Mrs Taylor has been appointed head of drama while Mrs Stutzman is on leave this year.
- Mrs Neville has been appointed assistant principal replacing, Mrs Tipene who is on study leave this year.

#### **MANAGING STUDENT COURSES**

There are 128 different subjects and 236 subject classes in our senior school. These subjects have been developed over the years in response to student learning needs and their future pathways. Our subject range is extensive and is seen as an attraction for many students wanting to come here from other schools. Into these subjects and classes we have to fit 900 senior students while maintaining acceptable class sizes.

For most, this fit occurs easily – for around 20 percent it is not so easy. The combined effect of previous year's exam results, students wishing to change their courses from that selected last year, and timetable clashes means re-designing their courses. This is done by individual interview and, regrettably, does take time. We appreciate the patience of affected students as this is completed.

## SCHOOL CONTACTS

Pukekohe High School: 09 237 0117 Website: [pukekohehigh.school.nz](http://pukekohehigh.school.nz)

Ext No.

222	<b>Mr McKinnon</b> - principal,	<a href="mailto:exec@pukekohehigh.school.nz">exec@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
225	<b>Mr Mathias</b> - associate principal	<a href="mailto:mh@pukekohehigh.school.nz">mh@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
228	<b>Mr McDonald</b> - assistant principal	<a href="mailto:mb@pukekohehigh.school.nz">mb@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
268	<b>Mrs Cornu</b> - assistant principal	<a href="mailto:cu@pukekohehigh.school.nz">cu@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
227	<b>Mrs Neville</b> - assistant principal	<a href="mailto:nv@pukekohehigh.school.nz">nv@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>

## GUIDANCE

Ms Bakker is head of guidance / counsellor with Mr Judd and Ms Purchase assistant counsellors.

They are available for students and families to contact if required.

Ext No.

215	<b>Mrs Bakker</b> – HOD Guidance	<a href="mailto:bz@pukekohehigh.school.nz">bz@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
231	<b>Mr Judd</b> - counsellor	<a href="mailto:ju@pukekohehigh.school.nz">ju@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
243	<b>Ms Purchase</b> – counsellor	<a href="mailto:pu@pukekohehigh.school.nz">pu@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>

## CAREERS

Ext No.

216	<b>Ms Boyes</b> - HOD Careers Development	<a href="mailto:by@pukekohehigh.school.nz">by@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
283	<b>Mrs Stone</b> - Gateway co-ordinator	<a href="mailto:sj@pukekohehigh.school.nz">sj@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
232	<b>Mrs Jolly</b> - careers centre	<a href="mailto:jl@pukekohehigh.school.nz">jl@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>

## DEANS

Ext No.

244	<b>Mr Cooper</b> - Blake	<a href="mailto:cp@pukekohehigh.school.nz">cp@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
282	<b>Mrs Bodman</b> - Day	<a href="mailto:bd@pukekohehigh.school.nz">bd@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
229	<b>Mrs Masemann</b> - Jellicoe	<a href="mailto:mm@pukekohehigh.school.nz">mm@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
257	<b>Mr Orton</b> - Massey	<a href="mailto:or@pukekohehigh.school.nz">or@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
252	<b>Mrs Allen</b> - Perkins	<a href="mailto:al@pukekohehigh.school.nz">al@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>
260	<b>Mrs Parkinson</b> - International	<a href="mailto:pk@pukekohehigh.school.nz">pk@pukekohehigh.school.nz</a>

## HEALTH CENTRE

Ext No.

212	<b>Mrs Avery, Mrs Polwart</b> - school nurses.
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## NEW PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT Thursday 15 February 2018 - 6-7 pm school hall

This is an opportunity to meet school leaders, Deans, Curriculum Leaders and find out about how Pukekohe High School works for you and your child. We look forward to meeting you again.

## BYOD SECURITY

We recommend that students take a photo of their device in the following positions and save this in a folder named "Security" on Office 365 – Onedrive:

- closed on the table, capturing any writing on the surface of the device.
- open on the table, capturing any writing on the surface of the device.
- underneath, capturing any writing.
- you should also create a file with the make, model and serial number of your device.
- Include your name, VFT code and the date.
- **Save this into your "security" folder.**

## OFFICIAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

Thank you to our students and parents who keep up-to-date with our school events and initiatives through our school newsletters. We rely on students to take these home and share them with families, and we support family and whānau by keeping a record of every newsletter on our website. We appreciate those of you who follow-up newsletters with phone calls to discuss any concerns you may have.

For distributing school information, we use the following methods:

- school newsletters – issued fortnightly, archived on school website. If you would like an email notification, please add your email address to the subscription section at the bottom of the school's website homepage.
- daily notices – available online
- school website
- letters in the mail
- emails from addresses ending in [@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:@pukekohehigh.school.nz)
- occasional text messages reminding our community about events

We remind our school community, that there is an official source of information about what is going on here at school, and if you cannot access it, we encourage you to visit the main office to collect a copy of newsletters in person and ask your questions directly.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE / ABSENCE

If your student is absent from school, please do **one** of the following:

1. **PHONE**  
**Attendance line 237 0198** and leave your students name and reason for absence.  
A note to the homeroom teacher when the student returns is a requirement.
2. **EMAIL**  
**[attendance@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:attendance@pukekohehigh.school.nz)**  
A follow up note is not required.



## Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

# \$500

ASB lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. To be eligible for this donation your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the residential property provided to ASB. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property. Only one donation will be given per customer. Donations will be made by ASB on behalf of the customer to the chosen school upon full draw down of the new home loan. This offer excludes loans for business purposes and bridging.

ASB Bank Limited 56290 12478 0617

## THE TOOTH GROUP - FOR FREE DENTAL CARE AT SCHOOL

The Tooth Group is the new dental provider. A friendly reminder to please fill out dental enrolment forms if you would like your child to receive free dental care at school. We welcome a new dental company called The Tooth Group who are based at Pukekohe High. Enrolment forms to be returned to the student centre as soon as possible.

Enquiries to: [info@thetoothgroup.co.nz](mailto:info@thetoothgroup.co.nz) / 07 855 7764



## FEEDBACK

The school would appreciate feedback from parents, guardians and students on items in this newsletter or on other school issues that you wish to raise. Send your comments to [feedback@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:feedback@pukekohehigh.school.nz)