

Pukekohe High School

# THE KOHE LEAF

TERM FOUR 2019

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**THE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:** Kia ora koutou. At the time of writing there are only two weeks of the school year remaining, and the usual Term 4 sensation of tempus fugit or "time flies"! This last newsletter of 2019 is an opportunity to look back on some of the things that have been achieved this year, and the chance to look ahead to changes planned for 2020.

We are currently in the middle of our House-based Year 10 camps at Tapapakanga Regional Park, a new venture for the school and a replacement for Te Ara Poutama. The feedback from students has been extremely positive, and the success of these camps owes much to the leadership of Ms Williams, Ms Remington and Mr Forch, as well as the active participation of students and staff. We intend that these camps will become an important experience for Year 10 students for years to come.

This year we also wish to celebrate the growing involvement of our community in the life of the school. This takes many forms – regular hui and fono for our Maaori and Pasifika families; a small but committed Parent Teacher Association; and the positive interactions at this year's parent-teacher conferences. Next year we are planning a new school website and more frequent newsletters to keep our whole community better informed. The move to a horizontal structure for our system of pastoral care, and the appointment of two Deans per year level, is also intended to make the school more responsive to the needs of our students and their families.

As we look back on 2019, we also want to celebrate improved attendance by our rangatahi. The number of students attending for 90% or more, the Ministry's definition of regular attendance, has risen by 8% this year, a significant improvement. We are determined to improve still further on that figure next year because of the close correlation between regular attendance and academic achievement. As a school we are aware that the key driver of attendance lies in ensuring that we have engaging learning experiences for our young people. I look forward at the start of next year to reporting on the successes that our senior students have achieved in their NCEA courses in 2019.

To those students and their families who are leaving Pukekohe High School at the end of this year, I wish you well for whatever the future holds for you. To all our PHS community, my best wishes for a happy Christmas and a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Ngaa mihi nui ki a koutou.

Richard Barnett

## WAKA AMA SUCCESS FOR OUR GIRLS



Six girls represented Pukekohe High School at the recent Junior Auckland Secondary Schools Waka Ama regatta: Keziah Tarapa, Aimee Tautari, Arianna Moana, Oralia Renata, Marissa Gallagher and Meleane Clarke.

We were also grateful to take three amazing volunteers who worked tirelessly in the loading bay, Olivia Russek, Trinity O'Sullivan and Pono Pomare-Brown.

The girls had two races. The first, a 500m race including a turn, where they won their heat by seven seconds and headed into the championship final as the fastest qualifying team. The girls paddled hard to bring home a silver medal in their 500m championship final.

The second race was a 250m straight sprint where the team hit a headwind out in lane 4 and finished fourth place in their heat and fourth place in their plate final, missing out on a medal by milliseconds. It was a glorious day for Waka Ama at our school bringing home our first set of Waka Ama medals.

## UPCOMING EVENTS / KEY DATES

### TERM 4 EVENTS

Week 8

MAAORI ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION (Tues 3 Dec)

SENIOR SIGN OUT DAY (Wed 4 Dec)

YEAR 13 GRADUATION (Thu 5 Dec)

Week 9

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS

(Year 9 - Mon 9 December, Year 10 - Tue 10 Dec)

LAST DAY OF YEAR (Tue 10 Dec)

2020

### TERM 1 EVENTS

COURSE CHANGES (Thu 23 and Fri 24 Jan)

Week 1

AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY DAY (Mon 27 Jan)

STAFF ONLY DAYS (Tues 28 and Wed 29 Jan)

POOWHIRI (Thu 30 Jan) Year 9s and Y13 Peer Support

FULL SCHOOL (Fri 31 Jan) All students

Week 2

WAITANGI DAY (Thu 6 Feb)

Week 5

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES (Thu 27 and Fri 28 Feb)

Week 8

POLYFEST (Wed 19, Thu 20 and Fri 21 Mar)

Week 10

SUMMER TOURNAMENT WEEK (Mon 30 Mar - Fri 3 Apr)

Week 11

END OF TERM (Thur 9 Apr)

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# TERM FOUR UPDATE



# 2019



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## TOP AWARDS AT SENIOR PRIZE GIVING



Congratulations go to all of our senior award winners across Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Special mention goes to our two top award winners of the evening, Olivia Martin (Dux) and Sagar Kumar (Proxime Accessit).

Olivia Martin's awards included:  
Excellence in Level 3 English, Mathematics with Calculus, Mathematics with Statistics and Physics  
Dux Medal  
Bradleigh Benton Cup  
Top Senior Physics Student  
Lamont-Allen Cup  
First in Year 13 English  
Benton Scholarship \$500 – Top Physics Student

Sagar Kumar's awards included:  
Excellence in Level 3 Biology, Chemistry, English, Mathematics with Calculus and Physics  
Gemma Anderson Cup  
Proxime Accessit  
Rambhai Memorial Trophy – Top Indian Student  
Allen Cup – Top Year 13 Science Student  
Science Faculty Cup – First in Year 13 Biology  
Science Faculty Cup – First equal in Year 13 Chemistry  
Benton Scholarship – Top Biology Student \$500

Amongst other notable awardees from the evening, Robert Chapman and Samantha Rasing were the recipients of the Ina Lynch Achievement award and each received \$1000.



Photography courtesy of Richard Spranger Photography. For more photos from the night, please visit Richard's website at the link: <https://spranger.photoshelter.com/>

## MAJOR SPORTS AWARDS



The Annual Sports Awards were held in the Cobham Hall, Pukekohe High School in late October. Andrew Jeffcoat, our guest speaker was a four times national Short Course Open Champion in Backstroke and Freestyle. He competed in the 2018 World Championships in China and earlier this year he swam just 0.01 seconds off the New Zealand Open record for the 50m Backstroke. Kiana Swain invited Andrew to speak about his experiences in sport and the challenges he has faced as a professional athlete. Congratulations go out to all of our award winners on the night.

### Major Sports Awards

Caitlyn Marx - All Round Sportswoman of the Year – C Pritchard Cup  
Rawinder Singh - All Round Sportsman of the Year – 6A 1959 Cup  
Kiana Swain - Most Outstanding Performance by a Girl – Lions Club Trophy  
Ben Lowe - Most Outstanding Performance by a Boy – Welander Shield  
Swimming Team - Best All-Round Team – National Bank Cup, Commitment to Preparation and Performance – McQuoid Trophy  
Bradley Johnston - Official of the Year – McKinnon Trophy  
Aidan Sarginson - Fair Play Award – McMillan Trophy  
Lucia Harris - Leadership in Sport – Ken Hemopo Trophy  
Ella Herangi - Endeavour in Sport – Malcolm Hood Cup  
Corey Perry - Sports Prefects Award – Sports Prefects Trophy

For the full list of awardees on the night, please visit <https://www.pukekohehigh.school.nz/>

## BUSINESS ENTERPRISE STUDENTS SHINE

With over 4000 students participating in the Young Enterprise Scheme in 2019, the competition was always going to be tough. Only eight teams are selected to represent the region – Pukekohe High School had three of them. They were Eco Orbs – with their biodegradable soap for the great outdoors, Urban Scrunchies – with their scrunchies made of fabric offcuts from Trelise Cooper and other NZ Fashion designers, and finally REPEAT – kicking one time use items from the home with items that can be used REPEATEDly. Pukekohe High School came second with Eco-Orbs, Kara Murray (CEO, Chief Executive Officer) and Morgan Hill (CFO, Chief Financial Officer) led the team to success on the night. Jess Vandermeer and Lisa Naidoo led Urban Scrunchies to third place for the region. A fantastic result for these teams!



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## A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR ALL AT THE YEAR 10 TAPAPAKANGA CAMP



**"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bow lines, sail away from the safe harbour and catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover" - Mark Twain**

Over the last few weeks, Year 10 students embarked on the journey to Tapapakanga Regional park to take part in the 2019 Camp. Each house spent three days taking part in a huge range of activities, from raft building and tramping to beach art and scavenger hunts. A large container packed with equipment was prepared and shipped out to the park in readiness for the exciting time ahead. The container was designed and painted by talented students from the art department. A big thanks to Mitre 10 for all the paint, building supplies for the container and camping kit, and to Carter's Tyres for all the inner tubes. Also, thanks heaps to Powell Transport for the shift. Students were expected to budget, shop and prepare all meals for their group (10 students) and were camping in tents provided by the school.

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# 2019



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## TEACHERS ENGAGE IN TREATY PD



The kaupapa (theme) for the teachers' professional learning and development day was Te Tiriti o Waitangi. There was a morning workshop for all teachers, facilitated by Rachael Tuwhangai, followed by the afternoon spent in faculties, discussing and planning for the development of this kaupapa and the integration into learning programmes for 2020. Rachael works as the Managing Director of MAPSS, focusing on Teacher PLD, Evaluation and Research, Online Language Teaching and Assessment, Digital Technologies including App Development and Board Directorships. Rachael is also a New School Build Governance Facilitator, which involves supporting Boards of Trustees through the New School Build Process.

Teachers had the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi from a historical context ('The Past'), how Te Tiriti o Waitangi is included in our current practices ('The Present'), and the commitment to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi into 'The Future' to enable equity and excellence. Teachers engaged in collaborative sense-making about the implications of Te Tiriti o Waitangi for teaching and learning and began planning to integrate this into teaching and learning programmes for 2020.

## MICROSOFT SPECIALISTS



Year 11 students Ranko Sasanami and Brody Austen are the first to gain Microsoft Office Specialist qualifications at Pukekohe High School. Brody successfully gained the Level 2 Word qualification and Ranko the Level 2 Excel qualification. In a trial programme in 2019, Brody and Ranko undertook online learning for these exams during their Computer Applications classes. Both students worked very hard to gain and master the skills needed to pass these internationally recognised certificates.

Ranko is currently doing further learning during senior exam/study time to do the Word exam – if successful she will apply for NCEA Credit Inclusion for eight (8) credits, which should see her successfully complete NCEA Level 2 before she returns to Japan for 2020 following her year at PHS as an international student.

In 2020 all Computer Applications students will be a part of this programme and all PHS students are encouraged to take advantage of the learning, qualification and employment opportunities that open up through Microsoft Office Specialist, Microsoft Office Master and Microsoft Technology Associate learning and qualifications. These are a great addition to any CV as well as for employment and skill development for those heading into tertiary education. Whaanau are also welcome to join in the uptake of this opportunity. For further enquiries see Mrs McLeod, HOD Digital Technologies, in Upper Massey if you want to be a part of this exciting new initiative PHS is providing, or contact her via email. [mq@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:mq@pukekohehigh.school.nz).

## TUFF MUDDERS



Our departing Year 13 students went out with a slightly muddy bang as they took part in the 'Tuff Mudders' event. There were some very grimy and odorous individuals making the trip home, but all had a fantastic time and helped each other through the course. It was a great effort by all of the students and teachers who helped organise the event.

Pukekohe High School  
**JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS**  
YEAR 9 - MON 9 DEC  
YEAR 10 - TUE 10 DEC  
Pukekohe School Hall

We look forward to celebrating excellence in our:  
**Year 9 Prizegiving – Monday 9 December – 12:30pm**  
**Year 10 Prizegiving – Tuesday 10 December 9:30am**  
Students receiving awards will have letters sent out in Week 8. Typically these prizegivings are no more than 90 minutes. We look forward to seeing families at these events, celebrating prizewinners with us.

Pukekohe High School  
**2020 ENROLMENT**  
STILL OPEN

REMINDER TO ENROL YEAR 9s FOR 2020  
We are seeking all outstanding Year 9 enrolments for next year. Year 9 students who enrol by 28 November will be eligible to attend our Orientation Days on 2 & 3 December. We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Pukekohe High School  
**HAPPY CHRISTMAS**  
SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR

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