

Newsletter



PUKEKOHE HIGH SCHOOL

Issue One, 20 January 2023

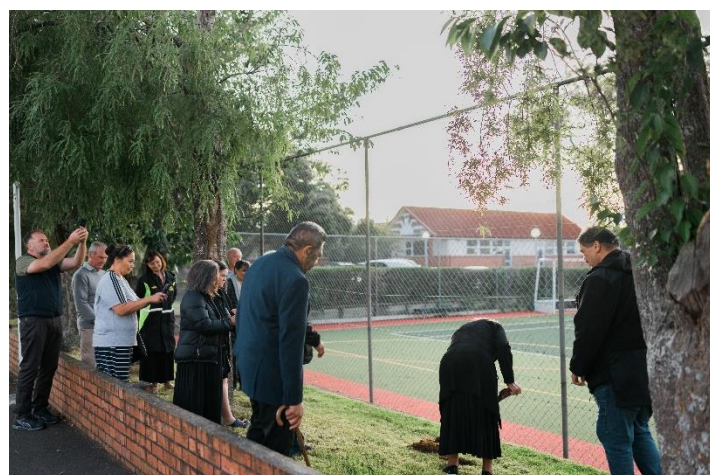
From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

I would like to wish all our community a Happy New Year and welcome new students and parents to Pukekohe High School for the start of the 2023 school year.

New building

Work has started this week on the new teaching block at the Harris Street entrance. This is stage 1 of the campus development plan that will see a two storey, 10 teaching space block completed early in 2024. On Monday we held a blessing for the new building led by representatives from Ngā Hau e Wha marae.



Although it has taken longer than expected to begin this exciting project, we are really pleased to have this underway. A reminder to all our students and community that the area is out of bounds and not accessible to the public for safety reasons during the building programme.

New staff

I am delighted to welcome the following new appointments to Pukekohe High School and wish each staff member a successful and enjoyable first year.

Art

- Rebecca Jamieson

English

- Samaah Hussain
- Vannessa Jooste
- Katrina Miller

Social Science Department

- Anita Devi
- Joshua Wilson
- Isaac Hornburg
- David Taylor
- Ellie Reynolds

PE

- David Faitala
- Tanya Bennett

Hard Materials Technology

- Aatik Kumar

Guidance

- Teresa Elder

Maths

- Michelle Wallis
- Chloe Coull
- Suresh Prasad

Science

- Arnie Cabral
- Dinesh Gosai
- Poonam Ram

Te Wahanga Whakaako

- Jade Chamberlain

New phone policy

As announced at the Junior Prizegivings last year and in the December newsletter, PHS is adopting a new approach towards student cell phones in 2023 – all phones must be switched off and left in school bags during every lesson. Teachers will not be asking students to use their phones in class so it is important that large screen devices (laptops or chrome books) are brought to school. We will review the success of this initiative with students and whānau during the year. If students do take their phones out during class time, they will be confiscated for the remainder of that day and be available for collection from the Student Office after period 5. Phones will still be available at the beginning and end of the school day to contact their families if needed. We intend that this new approach will improve relationships between students and with their teachers, and lessen disruption to learning.

New courses for 2023

For the first time, we are offering Psychology as an NCEA option at Year 12 (which in 2024 will be offered at Year 13 as well). Psychology is one of the most popular courses at university currently and we are excited to be offering it to an enthusiastic group of Year 12 students. This year we are also offering a Level 2 Building course at PHS that will be taught by a lecturer from Te Pūkenga/MIT – again an exciting collaboration.

Ngaa manaakitanga

Richard Barnett
Tumuaki – Principal



Important Dates for your Diary

Thursday 02 February 2023

- Pōwhiri for new students
- All Year 9 and new students will assemble in the front courtyard where they will be greeted by staff and peer support leaders.
- Our pōwhiri will be held on the grass area in front of the school. Parents and whānau are welcome to attend. Following the pōwhiri, students will spend the day with their new Whānau Rōpu (form class).

Friday 03 February 2023

All Year 9 students at school continue their induction process with peer support students.

Monday 06 February 2023

Waitangi Day | School Closed

Tuesday 07 February 2023

All year levels to attend school. Students will go directly to their Whānau Rōpu.