

Newsletter



PUKEKOHE HIGH SCHOOL

Issue Five, 23 August 2024

From the Tumuaki

Whaia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei.

*Seek the treasure that you value most dearly, if you bow your head,
let it be to a lofty mountain.*

Malo e lelei, kia ora koutou and greetings to the Pukekohe High School community.

Welcome everybody to the mid-point of term three. As we approach a busy part of the school year it is an important time to reflect on what has been achieved so far and where we are headed throughout the remainder of the year and into 2025.



Learning and achievement:

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our senior students who continue to track towards their NCEA qualifications. As this newsletter goes to press, our achievement data tells us that over 53% of all internally standards have been completed. 82% of these standards have been completed at achieved level or higher. There is much work still to come, including NCEA literacy and numeracy co-requisites for Years 10 and 11 students in week eight of this term, grading exams for Years 12 and 13 in week 9 and external examinations for Years 11-13 taking place in October and November.

Junior students continue to work on their learning programmes and assessment in all of their classes. Progress can be monitored through the Kamar parent portal alongside the fortnightly engagement reports that go out.

It has been pleasing to see many students taking up the offer of extra support through homework clubs and other opportunities that are being presented by departments. I would like to acknowledge the staff involved in running these extra sessions. Further information about these extra opportunities is included later in this newsletter.

Extra-curricular:

In my first month as Principal, I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to get out and observe the range of extra-curricular activities that Pukekohe High School students are participating in. From the recently completed KBB music festival, to the Autaia haka theatre event, to YES market days to the range of sporting teams competing in Counties and Auckland competitions, our students continue to represent the school with pride, enthusiasm and skill. More about many of these activities to follow.

Whether it be in a coaching, management or organisational capacity, I would like to express my thanks to members of staff and the community for enabling these activities to take place. These experiences offer not only an avenue for students to pursue their passions but also opportunities to develop positive traits and habits that feed into other aspects of life.

Strategic Plan:

The school has just begun the process of constructing our new strategic plan. This will act as our guiding document for the next three years (2025-2027) and help us to shape the type of school that we want for our young people and community as we move forward. To help us, it is essential that the community has an input. The following is a link to a survey. I would appreciate parents and caregivers completing this as we continue with this process.

<https://forms.office.com/r/e5EqzdcEcq>

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the staff at school as we head towards the busiest academic time of the year. I would like to thank them for their ongoing commitment to the education of our rangatahi. I would also like to welcome our two new Deputy Principals who will be joining us on Monday. Sofia Kaur from Onehunga High School and Kirsty Couper from Waiuku College will be great additions to our kura.

All the best for the remainder of the term.

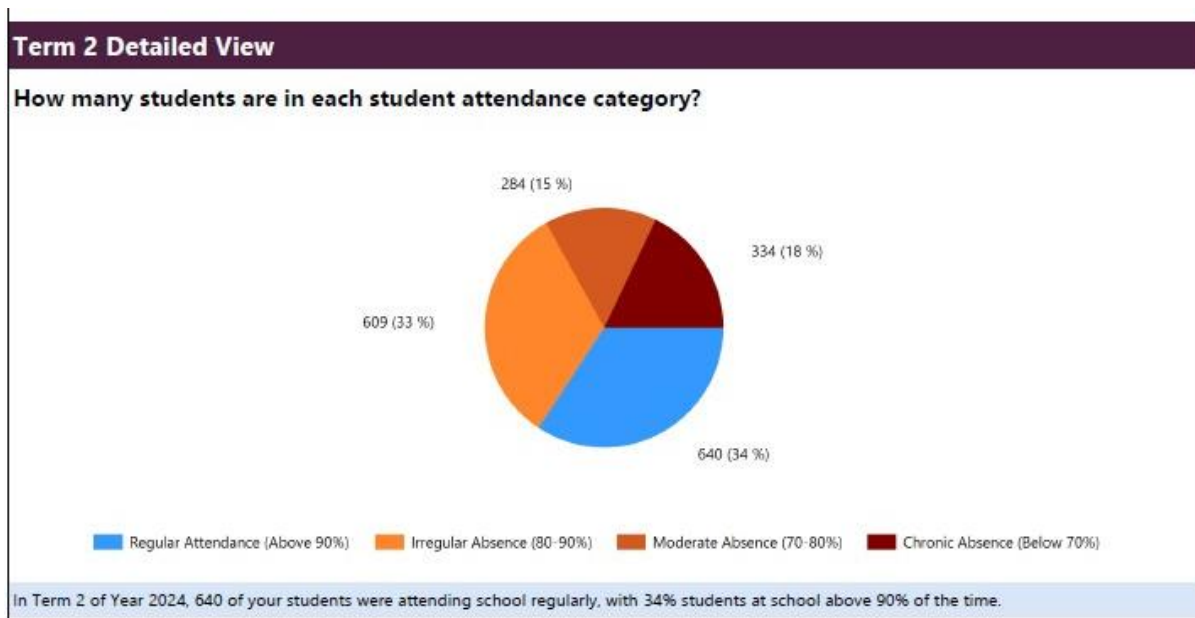
Murray Saunders

Attendance

Improving attendance is one of our annual goals as a school. In order to raise attendance, we are reliant on a partnership between student, teacher, family and school. Messaging to our community around the importance of attendance and sharing our school attendance data is one way that we can keep this important issue at the forefront of everyone's thinking.

A reminder, the target for regular attendance at school is 90%. Every period and everyday counts towards this attendance figure.

The chart below is a snapshot of how many Pukekohe High School students sat in each attendance category for term 2 of 2024.



Amokura / Student Council Update

Kaunihera Pacifika | Pasifika

This year, the Pasifika Council has had the opportunity to help organize a few new events. For the first time in 5 years, with the help of a big community, we kicked off the year with Poly Fest; taking a Tongan and Kiribati group up to the stage, and holding a Fiefia night to celebrate and display our students hard work to our families and friends. So far we've got to celebrate both Samoan and Kiribus language week, displaying our cultures through dance, food and tapestry. As of now we are currently in Tongan language week. We'll be performing this Friday at lunchtime. Soon we will work alongside the Māori and Arts & Culture council to organise the upcoming multicultural language week. We are excited to see what happens!



Kaunihera Hauora | Well-being

During this year the Wellbeing council has delved into many activities. Within the first week of school, we were already planning a school-wide event (Valentines Day). Students could purchase a rose for their loved ones to be delivered on the 14th of February. The Wellbeing council has also set up events such as pink shirt day and other school wide mufti days. One of our councils th goal this year was to make the ball more affordable for students. We reached out to the community for preloved garments. We set up the basis of a rental system where students could come in and find a garment at a low cost. We are set to finish the year with a bang, with Spirit Week coming up during the end of the term. We have many more knots to tie before the end of the year, and plenty more fun to be had!

Kaunihera Haakinaina | Sports

Mālō e lelei! My name is Kimi Perenara and I am the 2024 Kaunihera Hākinakina. For some, sports season is coming to an end but for others as Tournament Week 2024 is approaching we are very excited to see all our Pukekohe high school athletes compete in different areas of their sports. We have a Papatoetoe exchange tournament next week on Wednesday 28th August. It is going to be a great day of sports so come on down and support our students and have a fun time. Over the past few months a lot of our sports teams have been fundraising towards Tournament week so stay tuned for the bake sales, raffles etc and help our students who love sports more than me make it to Tournament week.

Kaunihera Toi me Ahurea | Arts & Culture

This year my council and I have had the opportunity to organise large scale arts evenings to showcase local Pukekohe youth talent. We have also worked alongside the other councils to help organise community and school events. Coming up, we are in the midst of organising leavers gear for the class of 2024, this includes purchasable merchandise either being rugby style polos or hooded sweatshirts. We also have a cultural week at the end of this term which will showcase all the diverse and beautiful cultures within our school

Kaunihera Māori

As of late, the Māori Council has been preparing for Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, coming up in week 8. The Amokura Māori, Aldena and Daniel, recently performed along with the school kapa haka group at the Autaia Haka Theatre held in the Kiri te Kanawa theatre in the Aotea Centre. The school kapa haka group is now preparing a performance for cultural language week and Māori language week.

Kaunihera Akoranga | Learning:

Here at the Academics Council, we kicked off the year celebrating our Excellence achievers with our Scholars Evening Dinner. As off recently, we have just wrapped up our School Senior and Junior Writing competitions, along with our Te Reo Writing Competition run in partnership with the Māori Council. Some of our plans for the near future include reviving Mathex, a maths driven school competition that hasn't been seen since lockdown. Along with this we have our School Model UN Panel where political debates on world disputes will occur. As mock exams and externals arrive, we are looking to find where gaps in the learning space are and organising Tutorials/Lessons for extra learning in those spaces where needed.

Student Highlights

Top 10 Year Level Values Recognition (Weeks 1-3, term 3)

Year 9

- Brooklyn Murphy
- Pranchalee Niemeyer
- William Collins
- Palmmy Chaimut
- Zara Cameron
- Aria Hollingsworth
- Ashtrod Summer Padilla
- Elrich Macaskill
- Madi White
- Karma Adams

Year 10

- Taisha Taelima
- Jordon Hollard
- Memphis Phillips
- Rikki-Lee Mackay
- Simonne Bernice Bianan
- Luke Soppet
- Armani-Jayde Taituha
- Abigail van Huyssteen
- Daniel Baber
- Leo Miller

Year 11

- Jenicke Els
- Azalea Aupouri
- Catie Bertram
- Laila Cherrington
- Michael Ferguson
- James Holley
- Ryan Holmes
- Sevy Jacobs
- Abby Jamieson
- Tayla Johnson

Year 12

- Acacia Dickson
- Olya Eremee
- Anakah Cocker
- Grace Loubser
- Blake Watson
- Kalishaye Fowler
- Kyra Sheldon
- Elizabeth Morrison
- Charlotte Kolmer

Year 13

- Anyi Liu
- Bubutei Eremee
- Tana Greig
- Ben Leo Lauite
- Marcus Takaria
- Melia Vanele
- Matthew Wekking
- Ashley Pryor
- Annie McCorkindale
- Breanna Larkiewicz

Sports update:

WELL DONE TO OUR SPORTS TEAMS!

FOOTBALL GIRLS 1ST XI - 1ST PLACE IN COUNTIES SENIOR A GRADE IN PLAYOFFS FOR PROMO INTO A1 GRADE
FOOTBALL BOYS 1ST XI - 1ST PLACE IN COUNTIES MANUKAU A GRADE
BASKETBALL BOYS - JUNIOR & SENIOR TEAMS PLAY EACH OTHER IN FINALS OF THE FRANKLIN BASKETBALL COMPETITION
BASKETBALL GIRLS - BOTH TEAMS IN FINALS
HOCKEY GIRLS - SEMI-FINALS NEXT WEEK FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP
RUGBY - SEMI-FINALS, 2 HOME GAMES - 1ST XV VS ROTORUA BOYS & U70 BOYS VS HOWICK
NETBALL - PREMIER 1 - 2ND PLACE
PREMIER 2 - 2ND PLACE
SENIOR RED - CHAMPIONS SECTION 1 SR A
SENIOR BLACK - CHAMPIONS SECTION 3 SR A
YEAR A - 2ND PLACE IN SECTION 1
YEAR 10A - CHAMPIONS SECTION 1
YEAR 10B - 2ND PLACE - SECTION 1

PRINCIPAL PARTNER **STS** EST. 1921 westondesign

SECOND PLACE!
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LACROSSE GIRLS FOR FINISHING 2ND IN THE AUCKLAND DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONSHIP!

PRINCIPAL PARTNER **STS** EST. 1921 westondesign

CHAMPIONS!
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FOOTBALL BOYS FOR FINISHING 1ST IN THE AUCKLAND COUNTIES MANUKAU CHAMPIONSHIP!

PRINCIPAL PARTNER **STS** EST. 1921 westondesign

Girls Lacross

Congratulations to our lacrosse girls for finishing 2nd in the Auckland Division 1 Championship.

Boys XI Football

Congratulations to our XI Boys Football team for finishing 1st place in the Auckland Counties Manukau Championship.

Girls XI Football

The girls have had an incredible season, winning 13/13 games including the final 9-0 win. 97 total goals scored, with 16 different goal scorers throughout the season. They are now in the playoff round to gain promotion into the A1 grade.



Social Sciences Update

Y9 Social Action Event

On Wednesday 21 August, Year 9 Social Studies students took part in a social action to raise money for garment workers who want to upskill and find jobs with better work conditions. During their bake sale they raised over \$600. Ka Pai Year 9!



Business Studies Market Day

Incredible Achievement by Our Year 12 and 13 Business Studies Students!

Last Saturday's market event was a resounding success, showcasing the entrepreneurial spirit and innovative mindset of our talented students. With a focus on creative, sustainable solutions, exceptional customer service, and strong branding, our 20 student-run companies achieved a phenomenal feat—selling out their entire stock within just 3 hours!

A huge thank you to the Franklin Arts Centre for generously hosting us and providing a platform for our students to shine. Your support helped bring their ideas to life and allowed them to demonstrate what the future of business looks like.

This event was more than just a sale; it was a testament to the hard work, dedication, and excellence our students put into their ventures. We couldn't be prouder of their achievements!



Gateway/Careers Update

Learner Licence

Congratulations to our amazing students that studied hard on Thursday and passed their Learner Licence on Friday 16 August.



Outward Bound Scholarship Recipients - June 2024



Two Year 12 students (Coltyn McCorry & Isaac Calley) gained scholarships to attend Outward Bound New Zealand Whakatipu Course at Outward Bound New Zealand in partnership with the Auckland Business Chamber. The 8-day course consisted of sailing, tramping, rock climbing and a solo experience. This scholarship also includes 6 months of ongoing mentoring and support from the Auckland Business Chamber where they will be applying the learnings at home and continue to grow in readiness for their future.

MIT Nursing Tour



Eleven senior students attended a tour of the Manukau Institute of Technology Nursing School.

Students were shown around the clinical suites, simulation rooms and laboratories. Students were also given outlines of the different nursing degrees available, Bachelor in Nursing, Bachelor of Nursing Māori, Bachelor of Nursing Pacific and The New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing.

Maths Update

Mathex 2024

Mathex is a challenging and fast-paced mathematics contest for Year 9 and Year 10 students from schools across the region. Teams compete against each other to answer questions as quickly as possible. PHS performed fantastically at the event with 2nd and 3rd placings across the year levels.

A special thanks to our competitors: Shreya Pokhuriyal, Sasan Golchin, Rodoyna Mostafa, Urwa Basit, Reily Boyle, David Gillot, Drishti Raj, Rahma Moussa, Phoebe Sayer, Brooke Boniface, Otis Barry, Jing Yang Chua, Connor Richardson, Jacob Luscombe, and Jashandeep Singh Janja.

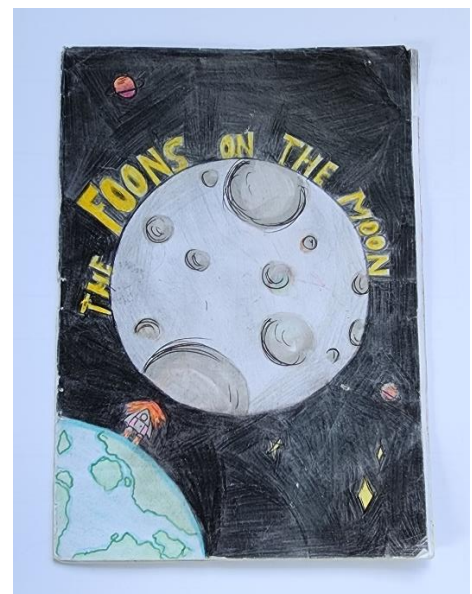
English Update

Storybook Winner

The judges of this year's Y9 Children's Book challenge were very impressed by quality of the books created by students in English classes throughout Year 9. The winning book "The Foons on the Moon" was well presented and had a positive message about Kotahitanga.

Winners of the Year 9 Children's Book Challenge.

Sarah McLaughlin, Pranchalee Niemeyer, Peyton Hari, Alice Kitchin from 9BTP & Tumuaki Murray Saunders.



Music Update

Pukekohe High School Choir

Our Pukekohe High School Choir achieved an outstanding 2nd place in the Under-17 category at the South Auckland Performing Arts Competition (SAPACS) this month. This achievement is especially exciting as it marks the choir's very first time participating in the competition.



Special congratulations go to our talented soloists, Landon Le Fleur and Chrystal Heagney-Hakim, and our beautiful accompanist Andre O'Callaghan. Their dedication and commitment truly made a difference and we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments.

KBB Music Festival 2024

Four Pukekohe High School music groups competed in the prestigious KBB music festival at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Parnell – Wind Band, Big Band, Stage Band and Concert Band. Our junior students performed for the first time on the big stage – well done.



Two students gained a position in the honours band. The honours band is made up of only the top students from the wider Auckland region. This is a massive achievement.

- Willow Thomson – Trombone
- Daniel Potter – Drum kit

Results:

Stage Band | Best performance of a New Zealand work | Silver Award

Big Band | Bronze Award

Concert Band – Tavite Tonga conductor | Silver Award

Wind Band | Bronze Award



Technology Update

Level 2 Catering

Our Year 12 catering students have been very busy learning their way around an espresso coffee machine and making coffee for the staff. This is part of their current unit standard, and combined with the theory assessment will gain students 4 credits at level 2 NCEA.

Students learn how to use the coffee grinder and doser, to tamp the grinds, and extract the shot. They also have to foam the milk and create the perfect coffee to deliver to the well deserving staff.

After enjoying their coffee, staff complete a feedback form which is returned to Catering teachers. This builds toward the student's portfolio for the practical component of the assessment.



We expect to see many of our students working as baristas in local cafes in the future.

Science Update

Franklin STEM Expo

In early August the Science teachers went down to the Pukekohe Indian Association hall with a cohort of 49 Level 1 science students to look at the Franklin STEM Expo. Daniel du Randt and Caitlin Stuart both won prizes (speakers) for completing a survey about STEM.





Kiribati Language Week

In week 2 of this term, we celebrated Kiribati Language Week.



Autaia Kahui

Our Kapa Haka Ngā Uri o te Kohekohe were one of ten schools invited to perform an original haka theatre performance at the Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre stage on Wednesday 21 August for Autaia. Autaia celebrates the richness, diversity, and importance of Ngā Toi Māori (Māori performing arts). Every school has a story to be told, and every student has a light to shine. It was a privilege and an honour to be amongst such talented Kura. Poho kererū katoa ahau ki a kōutou ngaku hei raukura. Proud as to be a kaiako at Pukekohe High School!! Our students are full of potential and talent!! Thank you all for a meaningful night!! Thank you for empowering us all!

Synopsis

Ngā Uri o te Kohekohe from Pukekohe High School is dedicated to honouring the history of our people. Our ancestors, many of whom were gardeners, worked tirelessly to provide for their whānau, embodying resilience and mana. We are proud of our Māori heritage and strive to make our tūpuna proud by acknowledging their sacrifices and contributions. Despite the challenges faced by Māori in Pukekohe, we remain committed to remembering and respecting their legacy.



Collaboration with Auckland Transport

A small group of dedicated students have collaborated with Auckland Transport and three other local schools to create a road safety campaign to help keep our young people safe on the roads around schools and the community.

We think they've done a fantastic job! Well done to all of the students involved.

Tongan Language Week

Our Tongan students visited Pukekohe St Josephs school to open Tonga Language week. In addition to this a Tongan feast was provided for students and staff at lunchtime on Thursday.

The week was capped off on Friday by a traditional Tongan cultural performance in the school hall at lunchtime.



Student Clubs and Groups Update



PUKEKOHE HIGH SCHOOL

Student Clubs & Groups 2024

*for further details students can check the
PHS Students Teams page*

Big band Jnr Jazz - Mon WR & interval	Lvl 3 Bio & Schlship - Fortnly Tues lunch
Choir - Y9-13 all levels - Wed after school	Lvl 3 Chem Schlship - Wed after school
Songwriting Club - Thurs after school	Lvl 2 Chem Tutorial - Mon lunch
Wind band - Thurs WR & interval	Lvl 3 Chem Tutorial - Tues lunch
Indian Dance Grp - every lunch	Snr Science Puuhoro taura - Wed P1
Extension English Y10-11 - Mon lunch	Snr Physics Tutorial - Thurs before school
Scholarship English - Wed 3.20-4.20	Science Tutorials Y9-Y11 - Wed after school
Math Hm/wk Club - Thurs after school	Badminton - Tues & Thurs lunch
Debating - Thurs lunch	Boys Lacrosse - Mon nights
Duke of Edinburgh - meet as required	Distance Running - Tues 3.30 & Fri 7am
E-pro8 - Tues & Wed after school	Girls Football - Tues 3.20 - 4.30
Filipino Club - Friday lunch time	Girls Lacrosse - Mon or Tues 3.20 - 5pm
Free lunches - Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri interval	Girls Rugby - Mon & Wed 3.30 - 5pm
LGBTQIA+ - ask a teacher for details	Tumbling Gymnastics - Wed 3.20 - 4.10pm
Model United Nations - Model UN Teams	E Sports - Thurs 3.30 - 4.45pm
Social Action - Fri lunch	Robotics - Monday after school
Wāhanga Hm/wk Club - Fri 3.30-4.30	
ZINE Club (art/comic/stories - Wed interval	

Launch of the Filipino Group

We are pleased to announce that last Friday, the Filipino Group was officially established at our school. This initiative was driven by the students themselves, who took the lead in approaching Miss Madelozo and Ms. Bernarte for guidance and support in creating the group.

The Filipino Group aims to provide a space where students can foster a sense of family and community within the school, allowing them to connect with and celebrate their cultural heritage while also sharing it with others.

To mark the occasion, the group held its first official meeting after school, where more than 40 students gathered to enjoy a shared meal of traditional Filipino food. It was a wonderful event that highlighted the strong sense of community and pride among our students.

We look forward to seeing how this group grows and contributes to the vibrant diversity of our school.



FREE Dental Service

We are excited to offer a free on-site dental service at Pukekohe High School for all eligible adolescents under the age of 18!

This convenient service provides comprehensive dental care, including check-ups and cleaning, right here at school. Tooth Groups team of professionals ensure that your child's oral health is in top shape, making it easier than ever to maintain a healthy smile.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity - all at no cost!

ENROL your child via the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/ToothGroup>



[FREE Dental Service Enrolment](https://tinyurl.com/ToothGroup)

Please click the link to complete this form.
[tinyurl.com](https://tinyurl.com/ToothGroup)

Y9 Hearing and Screening

On the 16-18 September the National Foundation for Deaf and Hard of Hearing are coming to the school to do hearing screening on our year 9 students. This is a fantastic opportunity to identify any hearing issues which may affect the learning ability and everyday life of our students. Information will be emailed to our Year 9 whanau.

Important Dates

Week 6:

- House Assemblies
- Photolife Y13 & Sport Teams Photos
- Papatoetoe Sports Exchange

Week 7:

- Spirit Week
- Winter Tournament Week
- House Colours Day | Friday 6 September

Week 8:

- House Assemblies
- Common Assessment Activity Y10 (selected students) & Y11 (selected students)
- Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (PHS celebrations)

Week 9:

- Grading Exams Y12 & 13
- Y9 Hearing Screening
- Mobile Dentist | you can register your child via <https://www.schooldentistry.co.nz/>

Week 10:

- Mobile Dentist
- Y10 Market Day
- Dance Showcase
- End of Term 3

Upcoming NCEA Exams/Assessments

Year 11 students are currently completing in class external assessments in most subject areas. Each subject area will have informed students of these, including the lessons they will sit them in and what is required. Most of these external assessments require students to use their own laptops to complete.

Year 11 students who have not yet gained their literacy (reading and writing) and/or numeracy will be completing these as digital exams in **week 8**. Students will need to use their own laptops to complete these.

Year 10 students who have been identified as curriculum level 5 will also undertake the literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy exams during **week 8** and will also require their laptops to complete these.

Year 12 and 13 students will undertake grading exams during **week 9**. These exams offer students the opportunity to become familiar with the end of year exam and they form the basis for emergency grades if needed by NZQA.

Follow Us

Please ensure your contact details are up to date so you don't miss any communication from us. To update your details, please send an email to update@pukekohehigh.school.nz

Below are the different ways to find out more about what is happening here Pukekohe High School.



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<https://www.pukekohehigh.school.nz/>

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