



SAINT KENTIGERN

Whānau Pānui – Term One 2023 Ākonga Māori @ Saint Kentigern College

You are receiving this communication as your son/daughter is listed in our records as Māori or have an iwi listed. If this is not correct please reply to this email and we will have your personal information updated.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Nau mai, haere mai ki a koutou, welcome to the 2023 academic year at Saint Kentigern College. We begin the year with our thoughts centred on those affected by the recent storms and cyclone.

Though it has been a disrupted start to the year, it is one that started off with Māori culture front and centre – playing a huge part in both of our first major gatherings; the pōwhiri for new students and staff as well as our Prefect Commissioning. Both events were a fantastic blend of Māori and Scottish Heritage, things that make our kura a special place to be.

This email is to introduce myself to those that are new to the Saint Kentigern whānau, to re-introduce myself to returning whānau, to make mention of up-coming relevant events and opportunities, as well as support available.

Ko wai au? / Who am I?

Ko Takitimu tōku maunga

Ko Awarua tōku awa

Ko Kai Tahu tōku iwi

Ko Hamish Muirhead tōku ingoa

I am Hamish Muirhead, Kaihāpai Māori (Academic Advisor for Māori students) at Saint Kentigern College. I am available for one to one academic support and mentoring of Māori students as well as working with Head of Te Reo Māori Jasmine Martin and other staff to assist in raising the profile of Te Ao Māori and Tikanga Māori at Saint Kentigern College. The support of whānau in helping Saint Kentigern be a great place for ākonga Māori is crucial. We look forward to meeting with you and hearing feedback on how things are going for your tamariki, and to learn about your aspirations for them.

Whānau hui - 2023

This year we will have the following chances to meet. All whānau are welcome. Attendance reminders and confirmation will be sent prior to each hui.

Hui tuatahi – Term 1, week 6 – Wednesday 8 March, 8pm-9pm ([please click for intention of attendance so a Microsoft Teams meeting link can be sent out to those interested](#)).

Those who respond with their intention to attend will be sent a meeting link on Monday 6 March.

Hui tuarua – Term 2, week 5 – Wednesday 24 May

Hui Tuatoru - Term 3, week 9 – Thursday 21 September - Kaihāpai Māori available for individual meetings with whānau during Academic Conferences

COLLEGE

For Boys and Girls in Years 7-13
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Phone +64 9 577 0749

BOYS' SCHOOL

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Study Wananga (Wananga Wednesdays)

We will be holding study wananga in Term One, Two and Three to assist our rangatahi in achieving to their greatest potential. Please see the dates below – as well as information slides and sign up form.

Wananga Tuatahi – Term 1, Week 7 – Wednesday 15 March, 5.30pm to 8.30pm

Wananga Tuarua – Term 2, Week 7 – Wednesday 7 June

Wananga Tuatoru – Term 3, Week 7 – Wednesday 6 September

Please see the [attached slides](#) and [sign up form](#) for our first wananga. This is open to the first 40 students who register. Register by Sunday 5 March.

Te Amokura Prefects (Ngā Rangatira/Leaders):

Te Amokura Prefects were selected at the end of 2022. These are the Head students to raise the profile of Māori culture and to represent Māori and Pasifika students. Te Amokura prefects for 2023 are **Rawiri Martin** and **Jade Nomanī**. We know that both Rawiri and Jade will lead with distinction throughout the year.

Te Amokura Council

Te Amokura Council is our collective of Senior Māori and Pasifika students Led by our Te Amokura Prefects as mentioned above. This council assist in promoting and celebrating Māori and Pasifika culture here at St Kentigern College. Te Amokura Council comes under the care of Amanda Raea (Academic Advisor for Pasifika Students), Whaea Jasmine Martin and I. Students have been sent an invitation to apply to be on this council this year. Please discuss with your tamariki to have them consider applying this year. **Application for selection closes Friday 10 March.**

Te Amokura Assemblies (for Māori & Pasifika students)

Each term we hold an Assembly for Māori and Pasifika Students, 'Te Amokura Assemblies'. This term our assembly will be on Friday 17 March (week 7).

Te Reo Māori

With the continued growth of Te Reo Māori nationally in Aotearoa, Te Reo Māori is following the same pattern at Saint Kentigern College. The knowledge of both Te Reo Māori and Tikanga Māori is now being seen as fundamental within the business sector in our country.

Te Reo Māori classes in term one are centred on Tikanga (protocols) and the correct pronunciation of Māori language, extending on the foundations set in 2022. In addition to this there is the further focus on the correct use of grammar.

The powhiri for new students was a shining example of the ability to demonstrate new learning and adhere to tikanga. Te Reo Māori students played a central role in this process leading our haka powhiri. Well done to all of the students involved – ka mau te wehi!

Kapa Haka

We strongly encourage all our Māori students to take part in Kapa Haka as a way of connecting to our cultural heritage. In saying this, all students of all ethnicities are also encouraged to attend and share in our culture through Kapa Haka.

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Kapa Haka practices are at lunchtime on Wednesdays in Dance studios 1 and 2. Feel free to get in touch with our Head of Māori, Whaea Jasmine Martin, for information regarding Kapa Haka for your tamariki.

Whānau support in continuing to build kapa haka is necessary. If you are able to support in any way please also contact Whaea Jasmine.

Within this there are opportunities to take part on a casual basis or as a committed performer. Opportunities to perform this year include Dance Showcase, Cultural Celebration Evening and in school powhiri (assemblies, prize givings, key school events) in addition to other opportunities that may arise.

There are NCEA Credits on offer to those that are a part of the performance kapa haka roopu.

On Campus Experience Otago (opportunity for Year 13 students of Māori descent)

The On Campus Experience is an amazing, fully paid experience for students of Māori descent to experience campus life at Otago University, live in a residential college and meet an array of academics and support staff. This is held from 7 – 11 of May, coinciding with University of Otago Open Days (7 and 8 May).

If your tamariki are considering Otago for study in 2024 please encourage them to apply for this fantastic programme. Applications close on 17th March. Students can see more information and apply here at: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/future-students/oce/>

Whakapiki Ake: Supporting Māori into careers in Health through kaupapa Māori

The Whakapiki Ake Project is a Māori recruitment programme that works within a kaupapa Māori framework to support rangatahi Māori enrolled in secondary schools and kura. Whakapiki Ake promotes health as a career and entry into Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences health professional programmes. Whakapiki Ake supports the academic, cultural and social journey of students from Year 9 to graduation, encouraging whānau to participate.

If your tamariki are interested in a career in Health and are in any year level from Year 9 to Year 13 please contact Justine O'Dwyer, Head of Student Futures.

Seek to Inspire and Inform (SI'I) Outreach programme for 2023

University of Auckland (UoA) South Pacific Indigenous Engineering Students Association (SPIES) are seeking interest in participating in participants for their Seek to Inspire and Inform (SI'I) Outreach programme for 2023. SPIES aims to promote engineering to the wider Māori and Pasifika community by focusing on their social, cultural and academic well-being of aspiring engineers.

For more information or to register interest, please contact either myself (Hamish Muirhead) or Justine O'Dwyer, Head of Student Futures.

NCEA Information:

NCEA (National Certificates of Education Achievement) are national qualifications for secondary school students - one of two assessment frameworks used at Saint Kentigern College. It is important that whānau understand how their tamariki are being assessed (or going to be assessed in the future in the case of middle school students). [Click here for NCEA information for parents.](#)

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IB Information:

The International Baccalaureate is the other assessment framework used at Saint Kentigern. This begins in Year 12 for those that opt in and runs for two years. Please see the following link for IB information: [IB Diploma Guide for Parents](#)

Student Futures:

The Student Futures department frequently communicate information regarding subjects, careers, university study, scholarships along with other information relating to the future of our tamariki. Please keep an eye out for this information in your email inboxes. I would also like to direct you to the student futures OLE page for a wide range of information and resources regarding this.

[Student futures OLE page](#)

Other support people:

There are a wide range of support for our ākonga at Saint Kentigern College. See the list below of some ideas of who to see if support is needed:

Te Amokura Prefects

Tutor teacher

Head of House

Academic advisor for Pasifika students

Enhanced Learning Specialists

Te Amokura Council members

Subject teachers

School Counsellors

Student Futures

Boarding house staff (for tauira that are boarding)

Please look to the OLE for contact details of people within this support network.

Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive

Together; ākonga, whānau and kura, we can ensure the best for our rangatahi.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,

Hamish Muirhead

Kaihāpai Māori - Academic Advisor for Māori students

Health and Physical Education Teacher

Kāi Tahu/Ngāi Tahu

BPhEd, BTchg (Secondary)

Phone + 64 9 577 0749 EXT. 9363

Email Hamish.muirhead@saintkentigern.com

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