

Issue 22nd October 2021

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Upcoming Events:

- Mon 25th Oct Labour Day
- Tues 26th - Thurs 28th Yr 11-13 Exams
- Tues 26th Year 6 Activity Day
- Wed 27th BOT Meeting
- Thurs 28th Yr 7-10 Parent Teacher Interviews
- Thurs 4th Nov House Leader Speeches

Principal's Message

Kia ora whānau,

Term 4 is off with a hiss and a roar! The 'Principal's Message' today is designed to catch people up on a very complex term.

Prizegiving - our award ceremony at the end of the year can't run in its traditional format under Alert Level 2. We are currently looking at alternative ways of running this event. See page three for more details.

Senior exams - it's old news now that the official NZQA exams are now two weeks later than they were planned at the start of the year. The first exams for our students start on the 22nd of November with Level 1 Chinese and Level 2 Physics. Best of luck ākonga! However, if exams are impacted by higher lockdown levels we will be relying on assessment information collected throughout the year (including the practice exams next week).

Student leadership roles - Head students applicants gave a series of phenomenally awesome and inspiring speeches on Wednesday. The application process is completed with voting and interviews taking place today (22 October). Additional leadership roles (house captains and committee captains) will be appointed and/or voted on over the next few weeks. Head student appointments will be announced at the senior award ceremony.

Mandated vaccinations for staff - schools are still awaiting details of this requirement in the form of a gazetted health order. At the moment all staff will require their first vaccination by 15 November and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022. More details will follow. See last week's emails to parents and staff for additional information.

Face coverings at school - all parents or members of the public must now wear a mask and maintain distancing when stepping foot on school grounds. This includes immediately outside the school (e.g. leaving the car during student drop-offs). After 15 November, any non-vaccinated visitors to the school will not be permitted access to students during school hours unless they can show weekly negative COVID tests.

Face coverings on buses - despite some messages to the contrary, all students aged 12 and above must now wear face coverings on all school buses until further notice. The school has been providing temporary masks for those students who do not have them.

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Principal's Message (cont.)

Year 6 (new student) transition - our transition programme has had an extensive revamp based on fantastic information gathers from students, teachers and parents by our kāhui ako team. A letter has been sent out to all year 6 parents intending to attend Mackenzie College next year. If you've missed this letter please contact the school office for a copy and a prospectus. Our community is so privileged to have a top-achieving school at their own doorstep. See the Year 6 transition dates in this newsletter.

Special holiday - due to everyone's really hard work we've issued a special holiday. Please don't send your children to school on Labour Day (25 October).

This concludes our brief summary of the upcoming term. If you have additional questions do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kia pai te rā whakatā, have a great weekend.

Jason Reid

Spirit Week Fun





NCEA - Practice Exams (26-28 October)

We are following full NZQA rules for these exams. Students must bring their own equipment for the exam, including fully charged digital devices for the digital exams.

Please remind your student that they are not allowed into the exam late and cannot go back into the exam room once they have left.

Students will be allowed to leave the exam when finished, if they have booked a Covid injection. They will not be able to return to the exam room after this.

2021 Award Ceremony

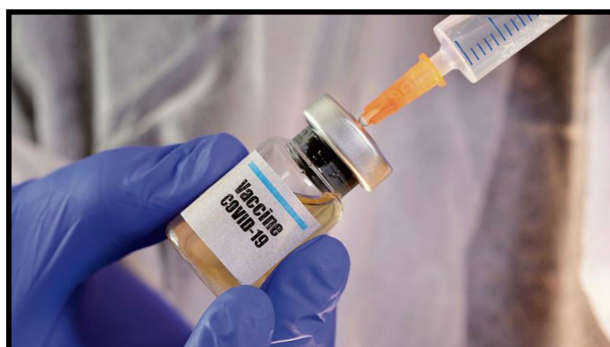
Due to Covid Level 2 restrictions the decision has been made for this year's Prize Giving to be run in two sessions. The first of these will be for the senior students on Friday 19th November. Unfortunately, there will be no parents or members of the community able to attend, but the event will be live streamed.

We ask that trophies be returned to school as soon as possible to allow for engraving to be completed. Thank you for your assistance in this.



Covid Vaccinations

Just a reminder about the COVID Vaccine Clinic at the Fairlie Community Centre from Wednesday 27th to Sunday 31st October, 10am until 2pm each day. Walk ins are welcome.





Ice Hockey Champions

Congratulations to Isaac and Hamish Ryall who both represented the U18 Dunedin Thunder at the South Island U18 Championships over the school holidays. This was a cut down version of the U18 National Champs, due to no team from Auckland attending.

The Dunedin Thunder went through the tournament unbeaten, winning the final against rivals Stampedo, from Queenstown, 4 - 2.





Junior Parent Teacher Interviews

For year 7-10 students we will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews on **Thursday 28th October**. Our teachers will be available from 3.30-8pm to discuss your students' academic progress. These interviews will focus on the important next steps required by each student leading up to the end of another unusual year.

Because of the tight time frame, we will not be sending out written reports, but after the interviews we will publish teacher comments from the interviews on the Kamar portal. (Please contact school if you have issues with accessing the portal. Passwords were sent out during lockdown)

To book an interview please go to schoolinterviews.co.nz and use code **hdx7r**.

Choose the staff members that teach your student(s) and times that suit you.

If you have any issues with this, please contact the school office and we can help you make your bookings.

We are looking forward to seeing you at these interviews.

Note: Masks to be worn between interviews, please.

Student Planners

The manufacturer of your children's planners produces some items for parents to consider as they help their child make good use of their planner. Here is an item that relates to what's in the planners over the coming fortnight:

To build the wellbeing of the whole school community there needs to be a shift in our thinking from what school rule was broken, why did it happen and what are the consequences, to this was a violation of our school community's trust, which affected and threatened respectful relationships. Then ask students how can they use their strengths to make things right for others and act more positively. This approach promotes school wide growth mindsets to ensure that the wellbeing of everyone is valued and matters.

This shift is about moving from external control by adults to showing students how they can use their top strengths to build their own internal control to understand what has to happen to make things right and how will it be done. Asking students who do the wrong thing to complete Restoring Esteem and Focus (see Individual Resources on website) will assist them to have empathy for others. Reflecting on the following questions focuses students on using their strengths to make changes themselves:

- who has been affected by what happened and how?
- what could I have done or said differently?
- what would I now do and say?
- what do I have to do to make things right?
- How can I use my top strengths to achieve this?





Year 6 Transition Dates

As mentioned in the Principal's Message, here are the dates for various upcoming transition events. Contact the school office if you require enrolment or transition information.

Year 7 Teachers Visit (Weeks 1 & 2 of Term 4) - Rachael Linklater and Claire Miles visit Year 6 students in their normal primary school classes.

Year 6 Activity Day (26 October - 1:30 - 3:15pm) - Year 6 students visit the college for a high-fun, low-stress and activity-based meeting with other Year 6 students. Bus students can catch their normal buses at the end of the day.

Visits to Primary Schools (9 & 11 November) - teachers from the college visit primary schools to talk with the year 6 students about any questions they may have.

First Class Visit (22 November - 2:15 - 3:15pm) - Year 6's first visit to a college classroom. They will experience what it is like to have a 1-hour high school class. Bus students can catch their normal buses at the end of the day.

Student Orientation (29 November - 11:30am - 3:15pm) - Year 6 students visit the college for a range of mini-lessons. This is designed to give an orientation of the school and to meet some more teachers. Students will need to bring their lunch.

Parent Information Evenings (29 November - 7:00pm in the Food Tech Block) - we have an evening at the college where we introduce parents to the college and answer your questions.

Open Day (1 December - 9:15am & 11:35am tours) - we are very proud of our students and their teachers and we would like to give you the opportunity to see our school in action. This is aimed at parents and wider whānau but you are free to bring your child to this tour of our school.

Year 7 Days (2-3 February 2022 - 8:55am - 3:15pm) - brand new Year 7 students will have the college to themselves for two whole days for orientation and peer support.

Mackenzie College Pōwhiri (4 February 2022 - 10am - TBC) - new students, their whānau (family) and Year 6 teachers are welcomed to the school community during our Whaikōrero (formal speech).





Spirit Week Fun





MACKENZIE COLLEGE

ARA O TE TIKI - THE PATHWAY TO WISDOM



MĀNĀAKITĀNGA

KINDNESS AND RESPECT



ASPIRE

WAWATA



GRIT

NIWHA



INTEGRITY

TIKA



CREATIVITY

AUAHA

MANAAKITANGA - ASPIRE - GRIT - INTEGRITY - CREATIVITY