



Issue 23 – 1

Excelling as a creative, innovative, can-do community

Paeroa College

Comment

10 February 2023



Welcoming our new students for 2023 to Paeroa College with a pōwhiri last Tuesday.



Coming Events

10th February
Swimming Sports

10th February
EME Awards

17th February
Māori Awards

24th February
Athletics Day

27th February
Board of Trustees Meeting

4th March
School Ball

6th March
Year 9 Vision & Hearing Check

21st March
School Photos

4th – 6th April
Year 13 Camp

7th April
Last day Term 1

Principal's Message

Tēnā koutou katoa,

What an absolute pleasure it is to welcome all new and returning staff and students to the 2023 school year. Paeroa College has continued to experience considerable roll growth over the past several years and we have begun the year with our largest year 9 cohort in over a decade. It is humbling to acknowledge the trust you and your whānau place in us as you bring your children, your most precious taonga to us for their secondary school education. This school sits firmly at the heart of Paeroa and our aspirations for our young people and their future.

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to the new staff we are privileged to have among us. This year we welcome 7 new teachers to Paeroa College. I also welcome new whānau from Goldfields school, and new support staff.

I would like to acknowledge the relentless commitment and resilience shown in 2022 by the Board of Trustees, the staff, the community and iwi, the families and whānau and our students. I am humbled by the commitment that continues to create our positive student-centred educational environment with high expectations for all students.

We have established an expectation of excellence and the spirit of Mahi Tahi Kia Kaha. We are determined that every student will discover their own path, their own place to stand, from which they can contribute to their community and wider society. Our vision has once again resulted in outstanding academic progress and NCEA achievement. With pass rates far above local and national averages, we have lots to be proud of. In addition, many of our students have knocked it out of the park with their efforts. We will celebrate our 30 students who earned Excellence, Merit or Vocational Pathways Endorsements with an Awards Dinner on 10 February. These are awesome achievements. However, I am sure you will agree that the success of our school is measured not only in school qualifications, but more importantly in the character of our young people. They are outstanding.

As the year begins, the buildings and grounds are filled with the laughter and voices of our students; it is really cool to have them back. Please be assured that my phone line is open. My door is open. And I promise to find the time to sit with you to hear your aspirations for our young people and any challenges or concerns you hold in your hearts. I hope you will always feel that I value your time and, more importantly, that I value you.

Ngā manākitanga,

Amy Hacker
Tumuaki/Principal

Attendance Matters

A student who misses one day on average a week, misses almost a whole term in a year.

There is a clear and measurable link between attendance and both academic and personal success. Please work hard to ensure your child attends school every day. The Ministry of Education considers regular attendance to be 90%. In a 10 week term, this equates to no more than 5 days absence, for any reason, including illness and other justified reasons.

Family holidays, appointments and meetings should be arranged outside of school term time, whenever possible. If this scheduling is unavoidable, and the absence is for a full day (or more) please request a leave of absence in writing from the Principal, at least 7 days in advance. The Principal will respond in writing and help facilitate your child's continued learning during the leave. The leave will be recorded for Ministry of Education purposes as Justified.

If your child is not in school, learning from home as approved by the school, or on a school activity, they are absent, regardless of the reason. This is true even if the absence is *Justified*. The Ministry recognises *Justified* absences to include absences due to short-term illness, bus breakdown, accident, road closure, national/local representation, bereavement, and exceptional family circumstances. Absences can also be *Explained*, meaning that you have notified the school, but the absence does not fall within the Ministry guidelines for *Justified* absences. *Explained* absences include reasons such as: caring for younger siblings, working on assignments, shopping trips, and unapproved holidays during term time. These types of absence are not recognised as being valid reasons for students to miss school.

- Student responsibilities:
 - Arrive at school on time (8:40)
 - Attend classes on time and remain in class the entire lesson
 - Sign in at the Student Centre if you are more than 10 minutes late for the start of the school day.
 - Stay within the school grounds.
- Parent/caregiver responsibilities:
 - Phone or text the school when your child is unable to make it to school.
 - Avoid scheduling appointments during school hours
 - Personally sign students in and out if they need to leave school during the day for any reason.
 - Provide a written note, phone call or email to explain student absences on the day or as soon thereafter as is practical.

Smoke & Vape

Paeroa College reminds all families and students that schools are Smoke and Vape-free Zones. Vaping and cigarettes are prohibited by law at all times in all schools (including our grounds and buildings).

Vaping poses a significant health risk for young people. We challenge the perception that it is a harmless alternative to cigarettes. There is currently a lack of research regarding the harmful effects and long-term health issues caused by the use of vape. As a school we continue to take a strong disciplinary stance on the elimination of vaping products and their use within school hours. We also strongly recommend that you protect your children from vaping outside of school hours.



Change of Details

Please remember to let us know if you or your emergency contact for your child changes or your details change i.e., home phone number, your cell phone number or new address should you move houses, even your email address.

This way we can make sure our information is going to the correct place when sending reports, letters, newsletters or should we need to ring you regarding your child.

Lunches in Schools, Period Products & Breakfast Club

We are very excited to let you know that our school will be continuing our free and healthy school lunch programme for 2023.

All parents want to provide their children with a healthy lunch every day. But, as you will know, there are many reasons parents can struggle, often through no fault of their own. We know that some of you will have been particularly affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Offering lunch for all our children as well as local employment opportunities is the fair and right thing to do. This is why we participate in this programme. Catering for every child means we do not need to identify those who need it more than others. However, lunches are not compulsory, and you can continue to provide your child's lunch if you wish.

Lunches cater for the diet, health and cultural needs of all students, whilst making sure they are healthy and nutritious. All food meets New Zealand food safety standards. The lunches are available free of charge for all Paeroa College students.

Three amazing local women run and prepare our school lunches: Sally Dustow (Head Chef) and her team. Weekly menus are posted on the College social media pages Facebook and Instagram.

You can find out more about the programme at: www.education.govt.nz/free-and-healthy-school-lunches

If you have any further questions, please contact Rana Lloyd ranal@paeroacollege.school.nz, or the Ministry at school.lunches@education.govt.nz

We are kindly supported by the Kickstart Breakfast Programme sponsored by Sanitarium and Anchor. Breakfast club is every school morning from 8.00am - 8.35am. It is run by the senior students and a member from Rotary Paeroa. Every student and staff member are welcome.

We are also supported by Kidscan. Kidscan provide our students with morning tea consisting of osm bars, fruit pottles and packets of nuts and seeds.

We also have free period products for all of our students.

When you need items, these can be obtained from the student centre. These are totally free for your entire time at Paeroa College.

So, if you are starting as a Y9 and you go through to Y13, that means you would have had 5 years of free products - that's right your caregivers no longer need to buy these items at the supermarket. Yes, we cover both pads and tampons, regular and super.

New Teaching Staff for 2023

We would like to introduce our new teaching staff for 2023.



Geri Allen
SENCO



Paul Beisly
Deputy Principal
(March-November)



Geoff Livingstone
English



Zara MacFarlane
Art (Term1)



Victoria Menary
Music



Rosalie Nathan
Rumaki



Melissa Tonkin
English / Literacy

We would also like to welcome our new Teacher Aid Tania Harding.



School Leaders for 2023

Head Students:



Hayden Lance – Learning, Grier Buchanan – Community, Teremoana Herekiuha – Manukura, Milah McGahan – Sport, Jamie-Lee Owen – Wellbeing & Alex Baggs Te-Wani – Arts & Culture.



House Leaders



Maru - Gracie Owen & Matai Alexander



Ngakotu – Giovanna Smith &
Phoenix McKain



Rapiri – Shaniya Nand & Aleisha Sankey



Tara – Amelia Parrish & Abigail Cox

Returning to School with Asthma

As children return to school after a break, it is important to ensure that they are able to manage their asthma effectively.

Asthma can have a significant impact on a child's ability to attend and participate in school. Symptoms such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, and chest tightness can make it difficult for a child to focus and stay active in the classroom. Asthma can also cause fatigue, which can make it difficult for a child to keep up with their schoolwork.

When asthma attacks are severe, a child may be forced to skip school because they need to stay home until their symptoms subside. Parents, teachers, and school administrators should work together to make sure that children with asthma get the help they need to control their symptoms and do well in school.

Here are some key points to consider when helping children with asthma return to school:

- Follow the [asthma action plan](#): Parents should review their child's written asthma action plan with them and make sure they understand what to do in case of an asthma attack. It is also important to ensure their inhaler and spacer are kept at school or in their school bag. Talk with the school to ensure that the child's inhaler and spacer is easily accessible during school time and that they know how to use it properly.
- Preventative measures: Children with asthma may be prescribed preventive medications such as inhaled corticosteroids to help control inflammation in the airways and reduce the frequency of asthma attacks. It is important for parents to ensure that their child takes these medications as prescribed, even when they are feeling well, to help prevent asthma symptoms from occurring at school.
- Keep your school informed: Parents should make sure that their child's teacher and school nurse are aware of their child's condition. This will help ensure that the child's needs are met and that the school is prepared to handle any potential asthma emergencies.
- Communicate with the school: It is important for parents to stay in communication with the child's teacher and school nurse about their child's asthma and any changes in their condition. This will help ensure that the child's needs are met and that the school is prepared to handle any potential asthma emergencies.

Student / Parent / Caregiver Information

Student Services

Parents / Caregivers please note the number to text to advise the school your child is absent is 021 0885 8220- This is for TEXT only

Please Note – The student centre hours are:

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 3.30pm

To All Parents and Students

Please be reminded, when your child has an appointment or is leaving school for specific reasons, could you please contact the student centre to advise them of this, or send a note or copy of any appointment to school with the student. When a student is leaving school, the person collecting the student **must** come to the student centre to sign the student out unless prior arrangements have been made.

Medical Information



The school doctor is available most weeks either onsite or through a virtual appointment. These appointment times vary so it is best for students and whānau to inquire through our nurse for an appointment.

Our school nurse is Sue Els. Sue will be here on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday's 9.00am – 3.00pm

We have counsellors available at school. This service is available on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9.00am – 3.00pm.

School Accounts

To keep on top of your school account, the school has an automatic payment system where you can set up a regular payment into your child's account. This can be as much or as little as you would like. Please note: Some school fees are payable within certain time frames.

The account number is: Payable to Paeroa College BOT

Account 03 1572 0004693 00

Particular – please make sure you have the student's name in this part.

Code – the student's school number – this can be given to you by contacting the school.

Buses

Any queries regarding buses, please contact Pauline Kisling via email at paulinek@paeroacollege.school.nz

Important Contact Details

Senior Leadership Team

Principal – Amy Hacker	amyh@paeroacollege.school.nz
Deputy Principal – Miah Williams	miahw@paeroacollege.school.nz
Deputy Principal – Tina Youngman	tinay@paeroacollege.school.nz
Deputy Principal – Andrew Cameron	andrewc@paeroacollege.school.nz

Deans

Year 9 & 10 – Achievement – Emma Black	emmab@paeroacollege.school.nz
Year 9 – Pastoral – Felise Tai'i	feliset@paeroacollege.school.nz
Year 10 – Pastoral – Chris Doak	chrisd@paeroacollege.school.nz
Year 11 – Pastoral – Darcy Knyvett	darcy@paeroacollege.school.nz
Year 11, 12 & 13 – Achievement – Ramai Gurnick	ramaig@paeroacollege.school.nz
Year 12 & 13 – Pastoral – Keely Muller	keelym@paeroacollege.school.nz

Absences – ext 201 or dial 1 at the prompt or TEXT **021 0885 8220**

Accounts / Executive Officer – Debbie Gould	debbieg@paeroacollege.school.nz
Principal's PA – Yolande Lowe	yolandel@paeroacollege.school.nz
Student Services – Deb Berry	deb@paeroacollege.school.nz
Careers – Denise Grimmer	deniseg@paeroacollege.school.nz
Learning support & Student well-being –	andrewc@paeroacollege.school.nz

PO Box 144 Paeroa 3640

Phone 07 862 7579

Fax 07 862 7578

www.paeroacollege.school.nz

Bank Account: Paeroa College BOT 03 1572 0004693 00

PAEROA COLLEGE TREATY

MAHI TAHI KIA KAHA

We respect people, their belongings & our environment

We promote a caring, safe & welcoming environment

We appreciate our people and place

We are supportive of each other

We own our actions & decisions

We are organised and prepared

We are committed to learning

We show pride in all we do

We are role models

We are inclusive

We are kind



PAEROA COLLEGE

“Excellence in Everything”