



TE AWAMUTU COLLEGE

Creating Learning Success for Every Student

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YEAR 9 PARENT/CAREGIVER EVENING

Thursday 22 FEBRUARY 2018

7.30 PM IN THE STAFFROOM

PURPOSE: An opportunity for Parents/Caregivers and Year 9 Students to meet and talk with the Year 9 Deans, Form Teachers and Senior Staff. This will be a time to share information and ask questions of staff present.

TIME: 7.30 - 8.30pm approximately

FORMAT:

- Welcome and introductions
- Year 9 student timetable
- Home Learning expectations
- PB4L
- Discipline system
- Reward and Acknowledgment system
- Guidance Counsellor role
- Question time
- Meet with Form Teachers

Year 9 Deans: Kate MacDonald and Jason Barnfield
Ph.871-4199 ext. 209

Deputy Principal: Wayne Carter



YEAR 9 NEWSLETTER 2018

February 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to all Year 9 students and their families. We have had an excellent start to the year with students settling extremely well into their new routines. All students have been able to follow their timetables and find their way about the school with ease.

Attendance and Achievement

A focus at Te Awamutu College is on promoting achievement by having excellent attendance. We know that if a student attends all classes every day and completes all school work tasks, then they will do well at school. Students must have at least 80% attendance to be eligible to participate in sport or cultural activities. It is also easier for students to achieve if they have a regular routine to their day, have adequate sleep, eat sensibly and healthily, keep up-to-date with their school work including homework and participate in sports and cultural activities. Please assist by encouraging a positive attitude to school.

Absences

If a student is absent from school, their absence must be promptly explained. Phone the College (871 4199, press 1) and leave a message; send the student to school the next day with a signed note of explanation for the absence, which is given to the Form Teacher; or simply email us at absentees@tac.school.nz

Uniform

The students are all wearing their new uniform with pride. Please remember though, that there are to be no canvas shoes to be worn and T-shirts under uniforms are to be white. Black Roman sandals or black leather school shoes are to be worn. Any incorrect uniform items need to be explained by a note from home and this must be signed by the Dean.

Jewellery items allowed are: one pair of **plain** ear studs or sleepers, one ring, one chain/necklace, one bracelet. NO facial piercings are to be worn to school. Please support the students to get it right.

Home Learning

All Year 9 students have been given a Te Awamutu College homework diary. All home learning is recorded in this diary, so that parents and teachers are aware of what has been set and completed. Home learning helps the students to consolidate what they have learnt in class each day. Students can also record upcoming tests and events in this diary.

Appointments

If students have appointments during school time, they must bring a note or appointment card from home explaining the purpose of the visit and the time the student is leaving. Students will then get a pass from the Deans' office during Form Time, sign out in the Student Centre as they leave and sign in when they return. This is important in case of emergencies in school as we need to be able to account for all students at all times.

Extra Curricular Activities

Students should listen to and read the daily notices for any sports or cultural team meetings and practices. Students at Te Awamutu College are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the wider school community. Good luck to those participating in the **Swimming Sports Wednesday 21 February** and in the **school Athletics Day Friday 23 February**.

Year 9 Integrated Curriculum Study

This term all Year 9 students will take part in an integrated curriculum study, "Our Class and O-Tāwhao, Our Marae". In all their subjects, learning will be related to this topic in some way. As part of this study, all Year 9 Form Classes will be attending a marae noho (marae stay over) at O-Tāwhao (our school marae). The purpose of the marae stay over is to practise leadership, organisational and thinking skills and to foster positive relationships. Also attending will be some of their teachers, Learning Support Assistants, Deans, Senior Management and student leaders.

The Form Class will be organising the stay over themselves, with support and guidance from their teachers. Activities are likely to include swimming, team building and some formal learning.

We are keen for there to be no financial cost although students may be asked to contribute some food items.

The classes will be attending on the following dates:

9TA	Tues 20 Feb	9KI	Wed 21 Feb	9CL	Thurs 22 Feb		
9SA	Mon 26 Feb	9HG	Tues 27 Feb	9RI	Wed 28 Feb	9BD	Thurs 1 Mar
9AD	Mon 5 Mar	9SY	Tues 6 Mar	9KA	Wed 7 Mar		

BYOD (Bring your own device)

We have been pleased with the way in which our students have approached this new way of learning. The Year 9's have shown responsibility and perseverance when dealing with their devices and online learning. Teachers have established expectations around the use of these devices and are beginning to integrate the online element in engaging and meaningful ways. We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and caregivers for their support in this venture. We have had a positive start to the year and have high hopes for the remainder of the year.

It is expected that all Year 9 students have a personal laptop or tablet for use in class.

Concerns

If for any reason you have a concern regarding your child, please feel free to phone us. We teach as well, so are not always available at the time, but we will return your call as soon as we are able.

Wayne Carter
Deputy Principal

Kate MacDonald
Year 9 Dean

Jason Barnfield
Year 9 Dean