



# Te Awamutu College Newsletter

## 31 May 2024

Dear Parents/Caregivers

### **COMMON ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES (Reading, Writing and Numeracy)**

In Week 4 we had 300 Year 10s, 150 Year 11s, 30 Year 12s and 4 Year 13s attempting to gain the numeracy and literacy requirements for NCEA.

We were pleased by attendance rates and the serious attempt made by the great majority of students.

Thank you for your understanding about Year 12 and 13 study leave so that we had sufficient rooms and supervisors.

We look forward to getting the results. A further opportunity will occur in Week 9, Term 3.

### **FACEBOOK, WEBSITE AND SCHOOL SIGN**

Don't forget to utilise these tools to keep up with our news, successes, information etc.

### **SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (SPANZ) CONFERENCE**

Included at our most recent conference, was the opportunity to hear from and ask questions of both the Minister and Associate Minister of Education (Erica Stanford live and David Seymour by zoom).

It was interesting to hear more details around their respective key priorities:

Erica Stanford

- raising achievement
- closing the equity gap
- reviewing NCEA after pausing changes to Levels 2 and 3
- refreshing of NZ curriculum
- property issues
- learning support review
- assessment and interventions
- teacher supply and teacher training

David Seymour

- attendance
- healthy school lunches programme
- charter schools

Erica Stanford was certainly more receptive to questions and feedback.

### **STAFFING**

Quality teacher supply has been voiced as a current major concern of principals.

An update on our situation:

- Hayley Wards (Mathematics & Statistics) left at the end of Week 4 – to be Head of Mathematics at Ōtorohanga College.
- Ben Heaton (Digital Technologies) left at the end of Week 5 – to venture in to the dairy farming sector.
- Tessa Norton-Campbell (Science) heads off mid Week 6 to travel and do relief teaching.



- Ros Elliott (Gateway and Careers) leaves us at the end of Week 7 for a role at the University of Waikato.
- Laurel Silvester (English and Year 12 Dean) has gained a position at Rototuna Senior High School and finishes with us at the end of Week 9.
- Rosemary Brandon (Mathematics & Statistics) commences maternity leave at the end of the term.
- Olivia McFarlane (Social Sciences) joins Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu from Term 3 on.

To all of these valued staff members - we thank you for your mahi, loyalty and dedicated service to the College. All the best for your future.  
Kia Kaha.

As you can appreciate, these resignations have led to a lot of time and effort in filling the vacancies. This process continues.

Quite a few students will be experiencing teacher changes as a result.

New or returning staff (who have started or will in Term 3):

- Bill Crombie (Mathematics & Statistics)
- Steve Tanfield (Mathematics & Statistics)
- Kathy Miller (Science)
- Nataliia Kravchenko (Science)
- Morgan Pound (English)

### **SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S SABBATICAL**

I have been fortunate to be awarded the above for 10 weeks leave.

I will be attending the 2024 International Confederation of Principals Conference in Mombassa, Kenya, with a theme of "Future Pathways for Learning and Learners".

I will undertake some professional reading around topical educational issues and after 16½ years Principalship, take time to rejuvenate and recharge.

I will commence my leave in Week 9, Term 2 and return to school for Week 9, Term 3.

Acting Principal will be Wayne Carter.

I thank the Board for their support and all those staff that will "step up and help out" in fulfilling roles or tasks during my sabbatical.

Kia Kaha.

*J. Membery*

Tony Membery  
Principal

