



PAKURANGA COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER 18
Weekend Friday 18 November 2011



Dear Parents / Caregivers

As we head into the final three weeks of school, the college is as busy as ever. The NCEA exams are progressing well; the senior students I have spoken to after various examinations have generally been positive (the degree of positivity generally relates to the level of preparation that was done!)

The examinations will have finished for most students by Wednesday, 30 November which is **senior sign out day**.

Students in the junior school are very busy in class. This is a very important time of the year for them as there is a lot of learning to be done before the end of the year to ensure they have the best possible preparation for next year's classes. Staff are currently preparing final reports which will be issued on 7 December.

Junior Prize Givings – Wednesday, 7 December

Parents and caregivers are warmly invited to attend their son or daughter's junior prize giving on Wednesday, 7 December. As usual, we will hold three Prize Givings during the day, as follows:

Nikau and Rimu	9.00am
Kauri and Totara	11.00am
Matai and Pohutukawa	1.00pm

Compulsory Fees and Parent Donations

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who have continued to support the college by ensuring their fees are paid promptly and who have been able to pay the parent donation. The parent donation is not compulsory; however, we cannot cover all of our expenses without this income. We rely on the parent donations for sport, music and computer equipment, paying internet access costs and the IT infrastructure.

As the school magazine 'Pegasus' is entirely funded from the donations, it will not be issued to students who have not paid the donation. If there is a special circumstance which a parent would like me to consider, they will need to write to me outlining that circumstance.

We are anticipating having some spare copies of the magazine and have decided to sell them as a fundraiser at \$60 each in the last week of term.

Michael Williams
Principal

Talanoa Pasifika BBQ and Farewells
Wednesday 30 November at 6.00pm

All our Pasifika families are invited to our end of year BBQ. On this occasion we would like to farewell our Year 13 students and Mr Tutagalevao

Year 10 Digital Classes

We are currently finalising the 2012 timetable and have identified that there may be some spaces in the Year 10 digital classes next year.

If your child would like to be considered for this class please email Richard Dykes (dks@pakuranga.school.nz) to indicate your interest.

Parents Consultation – Facebook and Social Networking

The college is currently developing some information and guidelines around how we can best protect our young people online, especially on social networking sites such as Facebook.

On Tuesday 29 November, we would like to meet with 20-30 parents who can share their thoughts about how the college, parents, students and outside agencies might be able to work together to promote students' online safety.

This meeting will be at school from 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

If you would like to attend, please contact Richard Dykes (dks@pakuranga.school.nz). We will let people know the exact venue when we have a clear indication of numbers.

The Careers Department wishes all departing students the very best in their future endeavours. If any students have difficulties in entering the course of their choice at the start of 2012, Mrs Sinclair and Mrs Birdsall will be available for consultation by email after NCEA results are made available. Mrs Sinclair's email is jsinclair@pakuranga.school.nz and Mrs Birdsall's email is bir@pakuranga.school.nz.



Photography Club There will be an exciting new opportunity for interested students to be involved in a Photography Club next year. The Photography Club aims to be a platform for any student who wishes to develop their photographic skills and learn some new techniques. Activities for members could include: photographing annual school events such as the Fashion Show, Cultural Night, and Year 9 and 10 Social. Visits to Art Galleries, darkroom and/or digital photography workshops, run by senior Photography students. Any other suggestions are welcome.

If students are interested they can contact Mrs de Schrijver on DSR@pakuranga.school.nz for more information.

SPORTS

Cricket

1st XI Boys – had a 2 innings ou right win over Kelston Boys and they will play their final game against Orewa College this Saturday.

Junior Boys – have had a great season winning all their games except one.

Tennis

The school tennis competition runs over terms 1 and 4 and this year we had 7 teams competing. The final results are in and congratulations to Mrs Cussen's Intermediate Girls team who won the A3 division and were promoted into the A2 grade and Mr Gibby's Junior Boys who won the Junior East grade.

Touch

The junior touch competition has been running for the past few weeks on a Tuesday after school at Macleans College. We have both a girls and boys team entered and we are happy to say both teams will play in the semi-finals on Tuesday 22 November for a place in the finals.

Baseball

The season kicked off again two weeks ago and our boys are continuing on with their winning streak from term 1 not having lost a game.

Hillcrest Exchange

On 6 December 150 staff and students will travel to Hillcrest High School in Hamilton to compete in our annual junior sports exchange. We are looking forward to a great day of sports and to hopefully bring home the trophy

Athletics Nationals

A group of the schools top athletes will be travelling down to Wellington to compete in the NZ Secondary Schools Athletics Champs to be held on 10 and 11 December; we wish them the best of luck.

Coming Attractions!

Nov 6	General Election (<i>Gymnasium</i>)
30	Seniors sign out
Dec 01	Yr 12 Leadership Day
06	Hillcrest Exchange
07	Junior Prize Giving