



# NEWSLETTER

## Porirua College

TERM 2 WEEK 3 - 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021

### Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou katoa,

It's great to be back for Term 2 with all our students after an amazing Colours Day at the end of Term 1. I want to thank our students and whānau for your support and understanding when we lost Phil Skipworth. It was heartwarming to see so many of you during the tangi, paying respects and sharing the aroha we all have for a unique person. We miss Phil every day, but we also know how to look after each other through the lessons he taught us.



We welcome Karl Payne and Franki Light to the Senior Leadership Team for Terms 2 and 3. They will be Acting Deputy Principals while John Topp is away on well deserved study leave to complete his Masters of Secondary School Leadership. We also welcome Franki Traini as

our new second in the Physical Education Faculty and Rhonda Turner as a permanent PE and Transition teacher.



All the very best to Katherine McKinlay who is leaving to spend some time with her young family. She has been an inspirational Head of English and we will really miss her.

Students just keep arriving this year and we had to open an 8th Year 9 class last term, so all houses now have two Year 9s. We have really enjoyed welcoming them all to life at PC. The older students are being real leaders in how we use our voices, take action as learners and respect our identities and those of others. This year we are particularly appreciating sharing the free school lunches together in houses. Hot meals are going to be a regular feature as the weather gets colder. Practices for polyfest will also help us all keep warm! If anyone has problems getting warm winter uniform, please let us know so that we can help out.

Our final 2020 NCEA results have come through and we are really proud that of all our Year 11-13 students who left PC last year, over half of them had passed Level 3. Students still here who gained endorsements at Level 1 or 2 were celebrated and given badges at an assembly at the start of this term. We do get asked lots of questions about NCEA and other issues so we have decided to start an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) area in our website and put these in newsletters. If you

have something you've always wondered about, do just email and ask so that we can include your question. Also, come along to the NCEA information evening Tuesday 18 May 6pm in Rangituhi (Green) house.

Do keep encouraging students to come to school every day and focus on learning, but please also understand that anyone with a sore throat does need to stay at home until they are better. Just let us know if they are ill and stay in touch!

Ngā mihi mahana,  
Ragne Maxwell  
Principal/Tumuaki  
Porirua College

### In Memory of Phil Skipworth

Phil enjoyed words so here are my words for Phil.

We call ourselves K2K, kanohi ki te kanohi: face to face, as demonstrated by the hongī harirū.

The hongī begins with the joining of hands, which speaks of the way Phil connected with us all, particularly the way he held us together, held us up so that we can connect with others, hold each other up.



Next as we hongī is sharing the breath of life, tihei mauri ora, which reminds us of all that Phil shared with us, including his life stories. Some old stories were difficult but Phil had created new good stories so demonstrated to us not to get stuck in our old problems but to grow new stories of hope and goodness.

Then there is the kihi, kiss, which speaks of aroha. Phil shared his heart of aroha with us so that we might have more aroha for each other, including seeing beyond appearances and circumstances to look for the aroha in each other's hearts.

Finally, there is the shared kai. Phil was generous with kai, always caring by feeding students. Let's be generous in our care of each other as we grieve.

Sadly no more kanohi ki te kanohi, face to face, but gratefully always heart to heart.

"Grief never ends, but it changes. It is a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness nor a lack of faith: it is the price of love." (Elizabeth 1st)

By Steve Barnsley - Guidance Counsellor

## Staff Changes

### We Welcome Rhonda Turner



Hello, Talofa, Tena koutou. I am excited to being permanently appointed to the Physical Education and Transition departments. I have been fortunate over the last few years to have been working at Porirua College and NZQA, both positions in part

-time roles. I look forward to teaching and working with your child, helping them on a pathway towards their dreams and ambition.

### Kia ora koutou!

My name is Franki Traini and I have joined the Health and Physical Education department.

I am originally from South Africa and have been enjoying the beautiful Aotearoa for the past 8 years, the land I now call home. I am excited to be a part of the vibrant Porirua College community and look forward to sharing my passion for life long physical activity with our students. In my spare time you'll find me walking my dog, hiking, surfing and enjoying quality time with the special people in my life.

I can't wait to meet you all!



## Farewell

We farewell, Ms Katherine McKinlay, Mr Kevin Markland and wish them both well.



## Porirua College Open Afternoon Thursday 10th June 3.30pm—5.30pm

We are excited to welcome you and your family to our college

- Students and families can take a guided tour of our college or, if you would rather, feel free to look around by yourselves.
- You will be able to meet Faculty teaching staff to chat about possible subject choices and to see what is on offer for 2022.

3.30pm—5.00pm : College Tours

5.00pm—5.30pm: Refreshments in Whiti Te Ra & Principal

Presentation

### Other Upcoming Events

Thursday 20th May - PC Pink shirt day

Friday 21st May - Race Relations Day

Monday 31st May - Samoan Language Week

## Celebrating US



1) Evening of music entertainment from our Senior Music students. Whiti te Ra hall, this week Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 6:30pm, gold coin entry 'Celebrating Us'

2) All the best to our 2 Barbershop Groups competing at Regionals on Thursday, May 27th, at Wellington College.

### Students are:

Mixed Quartet - Faivalu Faivalu, Melena'a Moala, Falefiaoali'i Failautusi & Deziah Amaru-Erskine

Girls' Quartet - Pualele Foma'i, Filiga Uila Ropati, Luafululima Manase & Rouru Letele - Akavi

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How can I monitor my child's attendance and progress?

It is now possible for you to access a student's timetable, attendance and achievement at school using the internet. Access is through the Porirua College Website, click on Parent Student Portal and enter your login details which have been emailed earlier in the year. If you require them again please contact the school office.

Throughout the year reports and assessments will be posted on the portal and you will be able to access them at any time.

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SHOW WHO YOU ARE.

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**Porirua College develops powerful learners who are willing and able to use this quality in the service of their communities.**



## Sports Notices



Porirua College is making huge strides in a new and growing area of competition : Esports. After a trial tournament last year, our students have organised, with the help of Mr Daly, two teams to compete at the regional and national level. Porirua College is competing in the NZSSEL NBA2k21 5v5 tournament and the CSW League of Legends Division 2 League. After practising through the school holidays our League of Legends team, captained by Hayley Pawley, won their first game against Queen Margaret's College on May 12.

### Sports at PC

Sports at PC is now fully underway with our teams competing in multiple sports tournaments such as the Esports, Futsal, Rip Rugby and Volleyball Regionals Tournaments. Our Winter Sports teams are now underway and we have multiple teams in Badminton, Basketball, Esports, Netball and Rugby Union. Exciting events coming up include the first Beard Cup Trophy match this Wednesday 19th May at the Jerry Collins Stadium where our 1st XV will face off against Mana College.

#### Sports Fees

Just a reminder Sports Fees for weekly competitions is \$30 for every sport. This must be paid at the office. 1 day tournament fee is \$10.

#### Sporting Achievements

Our Senior A Girls Volleyball team competed in the NZSS Volleyball Nationals Tournament on 22nd - 26th March in Palmerston North. They won some very close matches and managed to secure a spot in Division 3 and in the Top 4 of Girls teams in the Wellington Region that competed in this tournament. Well done girls!

Our Esports Team, Senior 3x3 Basketball team and Junior/Senior Boys Rip Rugby teams also made their final in the College Sport Wellington tournaments held in March.

#### ***Congratulations to the following students on their Sporting Achievements so far this year:***

Tevita Finau - IPC U19 Black Volleyball Male Team  
 Gladys Foisaga - IPC U19 Volleyball Female Team (Reserve),  
 Tournament Team in the College Sport Volleyball Regionals Tournament  
 Nino Mason - Easter Classic Developing Sox Boys Squad 2021  
 Ezra Panapa - Taranaki U17's Maori Rugby League Team  
 Hope Pawley - NZ Barbarians U18 Mixed Flag Team  
 EJ Roebeck - 1st Place in Western Zones Athletics -Shot Put  
 Cyrus Time - Qualified for 100m final in Western Zones  
 Please let Api know if your child has made a representative team in their respective sport via email: [ataufa@pen.net.nz](mailto:ataufa@pen.net.nz).

#### PC Sports Social Media

Keep up to date with Sports at PC by following the 'Porirua College Sport' group on Facebook or following @poriruacollegesport on Instagram.

**Senior A Girls Volleyball Team at the NZ Volleyball Nationals Secondary School Tournament in Palmerston North.**



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## Porirua College Career Presentations

Here are some Open Days that are coming up. If any students are interested can they please come to see Nadia in the Careers Office to register their names.

### CAMPUS OPEN DAYS:

Whitireia Campus - Porirua - Wednesday 28th July

WelTec Campus - Petone - Wednesday 11th August

Te Auaha and Cuba St Campuses - Wellington City - Friday 20th August

Can you also please add our upcoming in-school presentations

Tertiary institution	Presentation at school
Victoria University	Tuesday 9th March- Library 12.05-1pm
New Zealand Defence Force	Tuesday 18 May - Library 12.05-1pm
University of Auckland	Tuesday 25 May- Library 12.05-1pm
Waikato University	Tuesday 1 June- Library 12.05-1pm
Massey University	Friday 4 June - Library 12.05-1pm
Whitireia/ WelTec/ Te Auaha	Tuesday 8 June- Library 12.05-1pm
Otago University	Tuesday 15 June- Library 12.05-1pm
University of Canterbury	Tuesday 22 June- Library 12.05-1pm
Victoria University- Course planning	Tuesday 31 August - Library 12.05-1pm

### What About Me Survey

Approximately 150 students from our school have been randomly selected to take part in a Health & Wellbeing survey on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Responses from our students will contribute towards government decisions to:

- Support healthy development as young people grown into adulthood
- Keep track of government funded policies and programmes to make sure they are working for young people
- Get better outcomes for young people through helping to improve policies and services

If you would like any further information about this survey, please contact Melissa Cathro, Policy Manager, Child and Youth Policy, Ministry of Social Development, tel: 027 201 4290, email: [melissa.cathro002@msd.govt.nz](mailto:melissa.cathro002@msd.govt.nz)

## Colours day



To end term one our kura celebrated in typical Porirua College style! Our four houses took part in an amazing day filled with haka, chants, dance, sports and most importantly school spirit! Whiti Te Ra was packed with ākonga using their voice, taking action and being proud of their identities. Congratulations to our student leaders who helped to organize such a successful day. Ka mau te wehi PC!



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