

PORIRUA COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



Term 3 - Week 1
Friday 18 July, 2025



Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te Kāreti o Porirua and welcome to Term 3.

Thank you for supporting the many events we had last term, especially when you were able to see your tamariki, their work, and their efforts in culture and sporting events. It was very pleasing to see so many whānau come to the Parent Teachers evening.

Term three is a very full term with completion of assessments, Te Kiwa Nui, Subject Selection and Goal Review, to name just a few events.

At Porirua College, we believe that every day at school matters. When our students are present, they are connected—to their learning, their friends, and their future goals. Regular attendance is the single biggest factor that supports achievement and progress.

📈 Why Attendance Really Matters?

Did you know that attending school **90% of the time** means missing only 1 day every two weeks? But even that adds up to almost 4 full weeks of learning over the school year. That's a lot of missed opportunities—especially when students fall behind, lose confidence, or feel disconnected from their peers.

On the other hand, students who attend school regularly:

- **Perform better academically**—across all subjects and especially in NCEA.
- **Develop stronger friendships and social skills**, leading to better hauora/wellbeing.
- **Build habits of commitment and responsibility** that last well beyond school.
- **Have more opportunities** to take part in Cultural (Te Kiwa Nui) Groups and Sports Teams.

In short: **being present sets our students up for success now and in the future.**

🌱 How We Track and Support Attendance

From the first roll mark in class, our team is actively supporting students to be in the right place at the right time, and learning. Here's how our attendance system works:

- **Classroom Teachers** mark rolls in every lesson ensuring that lateness and early leavers are accurately recorded.
- **Learning Coaches (LCs)** follow up on absences daily and contact whānau by the third day of any unexplained absence.
- **Pastoral Leaders (PLs/APLs)** identify students whose attendance drops below 80%, support whānau, and connect students to services like mentoring, tuakana-teina support, or timetable changes.
- **Senior Leadership Team (SLT)** meets regularly to monitor attendance trends and support interventions across the school.

All of these steps are designed to identify patterns early, communicate clearly with whānau, and offer real support.

💡 What You Can Do

You play a huge role in helping your tamariki succeed. Here's how you can help us:

- Let us know each day if your tamariki is absent and why.
- Make sure we have your current phone number and email.
- Talk to your tamariki about the importance of coming to school and staying for the full day.
- If your tamariki is avoiding school or struggling, talk to us. The earlier we know, the more we can help.

We're also encouraging whānau to use the **Kamar app** to check attendance, timetables, and messages. If you haven't set it up yet, see the quick guide included below or contact the school office for help.

🌟 Celebrating Success

We love recognising improvement. Each house awards **certificates for excellent or improved attendance**, and our teachers regularly celebrate progress with students and whānau. Attendance is about belonging—and when students are here, they grow.

Together, let's support our rangatahi to be present, prepared, and proud.

If you need help or have questions about your child's attendance, please contact their Learning Coach or Pastoral Leader.

Ngā mihi nui,

John Topp
Tumuaki Tuarua

COMING UP IN TERM 3

Ignite Y9 Choices Workshop	15 July
Kiribati Flag Raising	
Yr 10 Trip to Parliament #1	18 July
Yr 10 Trip to Parliament #2	21 July
Youth Health & Wellbeing Survey	22 July
Censor for a day	23 July
Yr 9 Hearing Screen Test	25 July
Vanuatu Bislama Language Week	28 July
Yr10 Trip to Parliament #3	
Ignite Yr12 Sports Leadership	29 July
Cook Island Maori LanguageWeek	4-8 August
CSW Senior Netball Tournament	7 August
Te Kiwa Nui	8 August
Ignite Yr 9 Choices Workshop	12 August
Real Talk Presentation	15 August
Course Selections 2026	18 August
Tongan Language Week	18-22 August
Ignite Yr 9 Choices Workshop	19 August
Tikanga-a-Iwi (Social Science) Trip (Rotorua)	20-22 August
Staff only day	22 August
Simply Dental onsite	25 August
Ignite Yr 9 Choices Workshop	26 August
Senior Examination Week	1-5 September
Ignite Yr 9 Choices Workshop	2 September
Papua Mew Guinea Language Week	8-12 September
Ignite Yr 12 Sports Leadership	9 September

IMPORTANT MESSAGE



Porirua College



School Board Elections Parent Election Notice

Nominations are open for the election of five parent representatives to the school board.

All eligible voters will receive a nomination form by mail. Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided with the nomination form.

If you need more nomination forms, contact the school office.

Nominations close at **12 noon 6th August 2025**. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination.

As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day, which you can view.

Voting closes at **4pm on 10th September 2025**.

Signed Phillipa Mann

Returning Officer

KAPA HAKA REGIONALS



Kei aku whakatamarahi ki te rangi, kei aku whakateitei ki te whenua,
tēnā tātou katoa!

Hei te 16 o Hune, i tutū ai te puehu o ngā rangatahi o ngā Kura
Tuarua o Tawa me Porirua, ki te whatarangi o ngā Whakataetae Kura
Tuarua ā-motu ki Te Whanganui-a-tara, kāti ake, he nui ngā mihi me
mihia.

While the entire performance stunned the audience it was the
powerful Moteatea that was the standout moment. With its blend
of beautiful harmonies as well as its use of contemporary
storytelling it brought to light issues that are currently having a
devastating impact on Māori culture. It was the creative ability of
composer Motown Parata and the powerful performance by our
ākonga that earned the combined Porirua and Tawa Colleges' roopu 1st Place in this item.

However, this wasn't the only accolade for Te Whare Haka o
Awarua. They would go on to place in almost all sections and be
ranked among the top kura in the competition.

Porirua College cannot emphasise how elated we are for all tauira
who took part in this massive campaign. Your dedication and
perseverance was outstanding! Every single one of you not only
did yourselves but your whānau, your kura and your tipuna proud.

We would also like to acknowledge Matua Motown Parata our Te Ao
Haka Kaiako and lead tutor of our roopu. Without your creativity,
strength and leadership this journey would not have been nearly as
successful as it was. In addition to Motown, special thanks go to
Teremoana Tokaduadua, Rakairoa Hori and our numerous
supporters who stepped up to tautoko this important kaupapa.

Finally, ngā mihi to our TC and PC whānau who allowed us to push
your taitamariki to be the best kaihaka they could be. Without your
support none of this would have been possible.

Shout out to Wesley Osman and Whaea Louise Carter for sharing
their stunning photos. Ngā mihi korua!

Mauri Ora,
Motown and Ngarangi



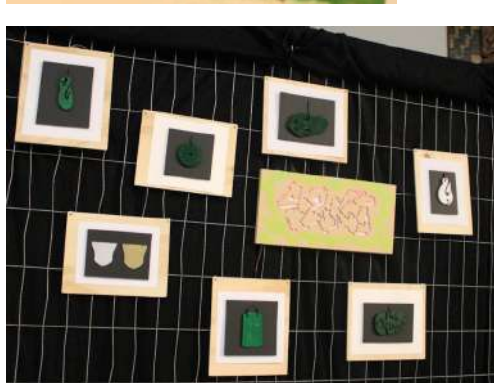
MATARIKI ART SHOWCASE



In week nine of term two Creative Arts, Technology and Māori Performing Arts staff and students came together for our first Matariki Arts Showcase. This evening was an opportunity for whanau and staff to come and see the creative work of our students.

Whiti te Ra was set up with a gallery of students' work from Visual Arts, Toi Matahiko and Toi Whakairo. Staff, students and community had the opportunity to peruse the visual arts, enjoy some kai and be entertained with performances from Kapa Haka, Music and Performing Arts over the course of the evening.

Over the following days, many classes had the opportunity to visit the space and see the work of their peers. Thank you to everyone who made this evening such a success. We are hoping this will now be an annual event, held during Matariki.





Te Kiwa Nui is on Friday 8th August at Te Rauparaha Arena.

Students are expected to find their own way to the arena and be there before 8.30am on the day.

[click here](#) to purchase tickets and view session timetable OR

go to:
<https://tickets.ticketSPACE.co.nz/tickets/te-kiwa-nui-2025-college>

The following groups will be performing this year:

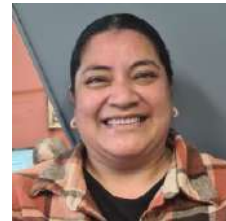
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – NIUE	
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – TUVALU	
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – TONGA	
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – COOK ISLAND	
 BVC, PC, TC – KIRIBATI	
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – SAMOA	
 PORIRUA COLLEGE – TOKELAU	
 PC, TC – KAPA HAKA	



The National deaf and hard of hearing association is coming to the school on the **25th of July** to conduct hearing screening with the year nine students.

They are only here for one day so please try to ensure that students are here on the day. If the student recognized as having a hearing issue, the association will provide free care and will be in touch with the family/whanau

NEW STAFF



Talofa lava, my name is Lepa Maiava-Tuimaolo and I am your new receptionist at Porirua College...

I'm Samoan and have lived in Porirua all my life (same house believe it or not) and I must say that the Porirua community is the best!

I'm very excited to be working at Porirua College, not only because I was raised in Porirua but because I get to witness the amazing work students do and the amount of support the teaching staff put in to help students achieve their short and long term goals.

There is a Samoan proverb "*So'o le fau i le fau*" which means "*The strength of the coconut lead braid lies in the weaving together of individual strands*" - for me this translates to how we all work together as one and by supporting each other, this empowers unity and emphasizes strength.

SPORTS NEWS

Junior Girls Rugby – A Season to Be Proud Of

Our Junior Girls Rugby team had an awesome season this year, with a total of 30 players signed up - a clear sign that rugby is thriving here at Porirua College!

The girls finished 5th in their division, picking up two solid wins along the way. While the weather had its say – with a few games unfortunately called off - the team showed heart, grit, and real potential every time they stepped onto the field.

We're also proud to see some of our Junior players stepping up and getting the chance to join the U18 Girls side here at Porirua College.

Recently, a few of them were part of a special jersey presentation, joined by one of our very own ex-PC students - Ayesha Leti-l'iga. Ayesha, now a Black Fern and one of the stars of the international women's rugby scene, shared her inspiring journey with the team, showing our girls just what's possible.

The talent we have here is exciting. There's so much natural ability among our wāhine, and with a strong, experienced coaching team behind them, the future looks bright. A big shout out to Nangi Teatukura and Syntyche Maiava-Tuimaolo for leading the forwards, and to Sherri Burgess for stepping up as head coach and backs coach.

With 2026 just around the corner, we're already looking forward to an even stronger season in 2026!



Senior Girls Rugby - Off to a Strong Start

Our Senior Girls Rugby team had their first hit-out of the season on Wednesday 16th July against a strong St Mary's side. While the final score didn't quite go our way (42-22 to St Mary's), our girls showed real determination, fighting hard right to the final whistle.

The team is feeling pumped and ready for what's shaping up to be an exciting season! Next week is a big one, with two home games lined up.

We'll be playing a catch-up game against Mana College on Monday 21st July at the Porirua College field, then 2 days later we take on Wellington Girls' College on Wednesday 23rd July - also at home. We'd love to see our school whānau out there supporting the girls. Come along, bring some energy, and cheer them on - it's going to be a great week of girls' rugby here at PC!

To catch some highlights and Photo's from the game, be sure to follow Kae-Li Photography on Instagram.

Boys 1st XV

What a massive night it was on Wednesday 25 June at the Jerry Collins Stadium. Our Porirua College 1stXV took on Tawa College for the Beards trophy, our boys did amazingly well and almost bringing the trophy home, however Tawa College was able to hold onto their lead and the trophy remains with them for now.

Final score 22-17 to Tawa College.

Well done to the coaches, managers who do so much behind the scenes and to the players for showing up and giving it 100%



Boys 1st XV team took on Tawa College for the Beard Trophy on Weds 25 June

COMMUNITY EVENT

On the 27th of June, the last day of term two, a large number of year 12 and 13 students made their way to the Pacifica night market in Cannons Creek to sell their products to the people of Porirua.

After the practice market day the students had a school during week seven, the ākonga had perfected their business practice, prices and product to a T.

Sadly, you can rely on everything except for the weather, and it was bucketing down. The persistent rain did nothing to dampen the spirits of our young entrepreneurs, who turned up early, set up their stalls, and peddled their products to a consent stream of customers.

I have never seen a group of students more respectful and positive while participating in an option school activity.

By the end of the market night, every student had cleaned their workstation, calculated their earnings, and made their way home having completed an immense achievement.

With the teacher support from Joesph Lawrence, Michelle Brunt, Yasmin Mackenzie, and Claire Oram, the ākonga were able to learn valuable business skills as well as gained confidence in their ability to complete an extremely difficult, nerverrecking task to a high level.

Although their assessment is not finished, they have completed what seemed impossible only a few months ago, and successfully represented Porirua College to an extremely high level. They should all be very proud of themselves for the work they have completed.





Bus Safety Reminder for School Communities

Kia ora,

You may have heard about the recent accident involving a student from Aotea College who was hit by a vehicle while crossing in front of a bus. To help promote bus safety, I'm working with Metlink and Tranzit Coachlines to provide resources for schools.

Tranzit has kindly allowed us to use their materials, including helpful bus safety guidelines. Please consider including a reminder in your school newsletter about the importance of safe driving around schools and buses, especially as school bus schedules settle in during the first few weeks.

Here are some key bus safety topics to highlight:

- Safe behavior when starting the school bus journey, especially for first-time bus users.
- The importance of driving at 20 km/h when passing a school bus.
- Encouraging good bus behavior from all students.

Tranzit also offers special bus safety presentations, mainly for primary and intermediate students. If you'd like to arrange something for older students, feel free to get in touch. When using these resources, please include a note: "Thanks to Tranzit Coachlines for sharing these resources with us."

I'll stay in touch with Metlink, and once their new resources are ready, I'll ensure they include local students to make it more relevant to our community.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Cheers,

Paulette Pavelich
Porirua City Council
Email: Paulette.Pavelich@porirua.govt.nz

