

# PORIRUA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Term 1 - Week 5 2027



Nau mai, haere mai, welcome back to Porirua College 2026!

We have had a great start to the year with 132 Year 9s and 620 students on the roll. We are particularly pleased to welcome all the new students and staff who have joined our PC whānau. We really enjoyed the Year 9 days out and meal with you. It was a shame not to be able to do the noho marae this year, but we enjoyed connecting with you on goal setting day.

Our prefects started the year with a leadership camp and are doing a great job in their houses:

**Kenepuru:** Christie de Thierry, Devantaye Skipworth, Diani-Jaquire Lewis, Kingston Teinatoa, Raymond Peita

**Rangituhi:** Andrew Mokalei-Leiataua, Ezekiel Fuimaono, Kwash Marsters, Lahzaye Rangitakatu, Panitai Vailahi, Tairi Mataio

**Tangare:** Angela Penetito, Hayley Vaea, Olivia Karini, Saedee Simmons-Price, Teriki Motiua

**Whitireia:** Alysshah Suailua, Matthew Mafuolo, Missouri Maifala, Siliala Wright, Skylah Lihone, Vanessa-Jane Lolagi

Thank you for all your support with getting students into school, attending regularly and wearing their uniform. We are doing a consultation re uniform as we haven't done this in the last ten years. Make sure you have your say, either in the survey that will come out or at Parents Evening in week 7.

We are delighted with over half of our students having attendance above 90% in the first week of this year. Being here to learn is the first step to success and without all the support from whānau we wouldn't be in this great place. Thank you for coming in for goal setting hui and helping set high expectations for 2026.

PC Pride is in evidence all around the kura with our taura and kaiako living out our new values:

**Manaaki** - caring for others and our environment

**Tuakiri** - standing strong in our identities and respecting the identities of others

**Ako** - teaching and learning; we all have something to give and something to receive

We have a new strategic plan for 2026 - 2028 based around these PC Pride Values. Over the next three years we aim to see our attendance and achievement continue to improve, with all our taura leaving us with a plan for their future. We want to continue to grow our te ao Māori space in the centre of the kura, showing our commitment to partnership in te Tiriti o Waitangi. We also want to keep improving our property with covered walkways and maybe even a seated area for our gym.

It's going to be another great year here at PC. Athletics Day was awesome and we are already looking forward to our usual lively house competitions on Colours Day at the end of term. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for photos of all the events coming up.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ragne Maxwell  
Principal/Tumuaki

# CALENDAR EVENTS

Event	Date & Time	Location
Simply Dental onsite	Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th March	
Whānau Māori Evening	Thursday 5th March @ 5:30pm - 7:00pm	Te Ao Mārama
10JGJ - Trip To Parliament	Friday 6th March	Parliament Buildings Wellington.
10HBE - Trip To Parliament	Monday 9th March	Parliament Buildings Wellington.
AR100 Trip 2026	Monday 16th March	Ngāti Toa Domain
Whānau Hui on attendance & uniform	Wednesday 18th March @ 5:00pm-6:00pm	Rangituhi
Board Meeting	Thursday 26th March @ 5:30pm-7:30pm	<b>Calendar events can also be viewed on our website <a href="http://poriruacollege.school.nz">poriruacollege.school.nz</a></b>
Colours Day	Thursday 2nd April	
Last day of school	Thursday 2nd April	
School Holidays	Monday 6th to Sunday 19th April	
Anzac observed - School is closed	Monday 27th April	

# ATTENDANCE

A huge shoutout to our incredible whānau, ākonga, and staff for such a fantastic start to the year! This jump in attendance is a direct result of the collective mahi we're all putting in.

We're thrilled to see 371 of our students hitting 90% attendance or higher! Let's keep this momentum rolling—every day in class is a new chance to succeed, because every day counts.

## Porirua College Attendance Update:

**371 students have  
90% attendance or  
higher**

That's more than just a number—it's a reflection of the hard work, early mornings, and commitment you're all putting in to make this year a success.

Showing up is the first step toward reaching our goals



## REPORTING AN ABSENCE?

Freephone: 0800 002 373

Text: 027 237 5465

Email: [poriruacollege@pen.net.nz](mailto:poriruacollege@pen.net.nz)

# 2026 LEADERS



Head Students  
Siliala Wright & Ezekiel Fuimaono



Deputy Head Students  
Skylah Lihone & Matthew Mafuola

# P R E F E C T S



# YR13 PREFECTS CAMP



During the 1st week of school, our year 13 prefects headed to a leadership camp at the Hillary Education Outdoor Centre in the Tongariro National Park, which is in the middle of the North Island.



It was an amazing experience that challenged our leaders both physically and mentally. The prefects were pushed beyond their comfort zones as they rock climbed, caved, abseiled, kayaked, hiked, jumped from waterfalls as well as an overnight camping experience on or near Maunga Ngauruhoe.



The purpose of the week was to display a growth mindset, grit, resilience and to trust in one another. These skills can then be transferred to their leadership role back at PC. The camp was a highly successful and memorable experience.



Thanks to Matua Michael for making it happen.



# CACTUS 2026



CACTUS first started at Porirua College in 2016. And is up and running again this year. CACTUS stands for Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit and Support. It is led by the Porirua Police Youth Team in conjunction with Porirua College and with the support of Porirua Healthy Safer City Trust, Porirua City Council and Partners Porirua.

CACTUS is designed to extend a young person's mind and physical capability, with a focus on teamwork, goal setting, leadership and discipline. It aims to instill discipline and self esteem into young people, encouraging them to look and listen before they act and increasing their future opportunities. This year, for the first time, there are also three Porirua College students doing the course a second time as student mentors.

The programme runs for eight consecutive weeks with students arriving at 5:30 am three days a week to complete physical training, army drill (marching), team building activities and to listen to guest speakers. This also includes each student choosing and sharing an inspirational quote. The programme finishes with the longest day. A twelve hour day full of many physical, mental and group challenges.

## TRADES ACADEMY

We are excited to acknowledge the following students who have successfully completed the application process and are participating in the Wellington Trades Academy this year. Trades Academy, delivered in partnership with Whitireia and WelTec, gives our ākongā the opportunity to try out a trade while still at school. Students attend weekly courses off-site, gain valuable NCEA credits, and experience what tertiary learning and industry training is really like.

This programme helps build independence and confidence - students are provided with Snapper cards to travel to and from their courses, giving them a taste of managing study beyond the school gates. We have seen fantastic success from this pathway over the years, with several past students going on to enrol in full-time Trades programmes at Whitireia and WelTec after leaving school.

We are proud of our students for stepping into this opportunity and wish them all the best as they begin their Trades journey this year.

### SALON/BEAUTY SERVICES

#### Monday & Tuesday

Sally Shawaf

#### Thursday & Friday

Abigail Vailoa

Amayah-Eline Lopa

Ripeka Rankin

### HEALTH PATHWAYS

#### Thursday

Enxy Corpuz

Ezekiel Fuimaono

Fakaalofa Kaue

Sheina Patulot

Nazareth Tinielu

### CONSTRUCTION/MIXED TRADES

#### Thursday & Friday

Kingston Tangaroa-Elia

Lyrell Joe

### DIGITAL MEDIA

#### Thursday & Friday

Benjamin Vaea

Daniel Mika

Nabeel Mohammed

Poseidon Marsters

Raymond Peita

Roydon Takao-Cox

# DRIVERS LICENCE

The Careers Department at Porirua College is now taking names for students who are interested in gaining their Learner Licence or progressing to their Restricted Licence through our Drive for Life programme.

## You must be:

- 16 years of age to sign up for this course.
- hold a learners license to sign up for the schools D4L driving programme

Spaces are limited, so students are encouraged to pay their \$50 to reception as soon as possible.

## Learner Licence:

Students attend a course held off-site at Partners Porirua during the school holidays. The cost is \$50, payable to the school front office. Students must also have a valid Passport or Birth Certificate. Information letters will be sent home in Week 8 to those who have registered and paid.

## Restricted Licence:

Students who already hold their Learner Licence can join our in-school driving programme. Lessons run every Tuesday starting Week 5, Term 1. The cost is \$50, payable to the front office. Once payment is made, students will be added to the driving list.



**Date:**  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Location:**  
**Te Rauparaha Arena**

**Times:**  
**9:00am-2:30pm**

After a successful turnout last year, we are pleased to once again offer the RYDA Road Safety Education workshop to our Year 12 students. This full-day programme, delivered in partnership with NZ Police, is designed to support young people as they begin gaining their driver licences.

The workshop covers important topics such as understanding risk, the impact of speed and distractions, responsible decision-making, and strategies for staying safe on the road. Students will also explore powerful road safety campaigns and real-life scenarios. Year 12 is a key age group for this learning, as many students are starting their licensing journey.

We look forward to another impactful and engaging day for our ākonga.



# ATHLETICS DAY 2026



WELCOME

# NEW STAFF MEMBER



Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Bula vinaka and warm Pacific greetings to the community of Porirua College.

I am the new Pacific studies teacher for NCEA level 2 & 3, the Samoan teacher for year 9's and one of the Rangituhi Social studies teachers. I grew up in the 237 and attended Cannons Creek primary, Brandon intermediate and am an ex-student of Porirua college #usohard.

I am a proud Samoan and Tongan, raised by strong values that I hope to instil into the fānauako of Porirua College. The reason I returned back to PC is to help our future generations realise that nothing is impossible if they put the hard yards in.



The proverb that I always carry even through adversity is:

*"Many plans are in a persons heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails" - Proverbs 19:21*



## SCHOOL NOTICES



### SCHOOL HOURS

Day	Start	Finish
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri	9:00am	3:05pm
Weds	9:00am	1:50pm
Lunch	11:20pm	12:00pm

### SCABIES

Scabies is a very itchy skin rash (especially at night) caused by a reaction to a tiny mite that burrows under your skin.



Scabies spreads easily between people through close skin-to-skin contact and won't go away without treatment.

Scabies is usually treated with a cream called permethrin which kills the scabies mite. Get this from your pharmacy or on prescription from your doctor. You need enough cream to treat everyone in your household, even if they don't have any symptoms.

For more information see: [healthify.nz/health-a-z/s/scabies/](https://healthify.nz/health-a-z/s/scabies/)

Health New Zealand  
Te Whatu Ora



All students must wear full school uniform everyday



Maths Support at Porirua College - Need more info?

Head of Faculty Mathematics: Jen Crisp [jcrisp@pen.net.nz]

Asst Head of Faculty & Numeracy Coordinator: Bex Lawton [rlawton@pen.net.nz]



Feel free to reach out to your child's maths teacher at any point, you can find contact details on the school website [www.poriruacollege.school.nz](http://www.poriruacollege.school.nz)

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



## Casting call

Do you aspire to be an influencer?  
Is a career in social media your calling?  
We have an opportunity for you...

We're looking for Porirua-based rangatahi aged 15-19 to help spread the word about the **2026 Porirua Careers Expo** on 5 May. Could this be you, or someone you know?

There are two different opportunities

Be in our video:	Be in our photos:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take part in a video shoot (up to one day).</li> <li>You must be engaging and confident to speak to the camera and be able to put our script into your own words.</li> <li>Video will be used on social media channels and on our website in April and May advertising the expo.</li> <li>Successful rangatahi will receive North City vouchers to the value of \$200.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take part in a 30-minute photo shoot.</li> <li>You must be confident, happy to pose and work it for the camera.</li> <li>Photos will be used in printed posters and social media channels and on our website in April and May advertising the expo.</li> <li>Each of the successful models will receive a \$25 North City voucher and their photos.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Keen?</b> Create a short intro video of yourself and send the completed video link, your name, age and contact details to <a href="mailto:communications@pcc.govt.nz">communications@pcc.govt.nz</a> by Sunday 1 March.</p>	<p><b>Keen?</b> Email a recent photo of yourself, your name, age and contact details to <a href="mailto:communications@pcc.govt.nz">communications@pcc.govt.nz</a> by Sunday 1 March.</p>



## Cannons Creek is getting a new library and The Cage is getting an upgrade

Drop in to find out more and share your thoughts with us about what you would like to see in these community spaces and the surrounding area.

**Tuesday 17 February, 4-6pm**  
**at Freedom House, 174 Bedford St, Cannons Creek**

Light refreshments will be provided

[poriruacity.govt.nz](http://poriruacity.govt.nz)

**poriruacity**



**FREE VACCINATIONS**

## Dog Health Event

Get your dog vaccinated, microchipped and treated for parasites for **FREE\*** in Cannons Creek, register online now!

**WHEN:** Sunday, 19 April 2026  
**TIME:** 9:30am — 2:30pm  
**WHERE:** Porirua College, 64 Driver Crescent, Cannons Creek, Porirua



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER\*\*

\*Pre-registration is required • Pre-registration available from 16 March – 15 April 2026 • Free vaccinations and parasite treatments while stocks last

\*\*Alternatively email [wellington.n.info@spca.nz](mailto:wellington.n.info@spca.nz)

**SPCA**



## Matavai

Matavai is the Ministry's dedicated newsletter for Pacific families, educators and communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.

This newsletter will provide monthly updates on key education priorities, regional events, success stories and opportunities for training and scholarships.