PORIRUA COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

Term 4 - Week 4
Tuesday 5th November, 2024



Tēnā koutou katoa. As we approach the end of another year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on our achievements and look forward to the exciting opportunities that await us in the future.

Our students have been focused and working hard to achieve their NCEA credits and some of our ākonga have already completed their goals for the year. We are incredibly proud of them. For those students who need more time and support to complete their assessments, we offer Mahi tahi in the library. Information and details about this will follow in this newsletter.

Some of the highlights of 2024 have been seeing our students performing in Te Kiwa Nui, our drama production, and listening to our school band throughout the year. Our sporting teams have been strong challengers in the various competitions. We have seen students demonstrate academic resilience and achievements in their learning and assessments. Our students have excelled, with many receiving awards and recognition for their hard work and dedication.

We look forward to celebrating our students' achievements during our sports, junior and senior prizegivings. At this stage of the year, we also look forward and plan for the future.

Several projects are underway to improve our school's facilities and resources for 2025. You may have noticed there is a new purple building onsite, Mahinawa, which is a specialist school and resource centre. Our library is moving to Tangare and in its place will be our Te Ao Māori space. We also have two new full sized netball courts that will be built behind the gym. Our gym and outdoor changing rooms are both being refurbished and will be back in use Term 1 2025.

We farewell our Year 13 students at the end of this year and we wish them all the best for their future pathways in study or work. We look forward to hearing about everything they achieve in the future and know that they will go on to make positive contributions to our community. As one year group graduates another group starts and enrolments are well underway with our future year 9 students. If you know of any year 8 students who want to join Porirua College next year, but haven't had their enrolment interview yet, please get them to contact our office to book an enrolment time.

We wish you a wonderful summer break with your whānau. We hope our students are well-rested and ready for 2025, and we look forward to welcoming them back at the start of the school year.

Ngā mihi nui,

Georgina Walker
Acting Deputy Principal - Tumuaki Tuarua

NZQA EXAMS

EXAM PERIOD:
Tues 5th November to
Thurs 28th November

EXAM START TIMES:
Morning: 9:30 AM
Afternoon: 2:00 PM

LOCATION
Whiti Te Ra
(School Hall)

PREPARATION GUIDE

To ensure you're fully prepared for your examinations, please keep the following in mind:

- **Arrive Early**: Make sure to arrive at least 20 minutes before your exam starts. Don't forget to bring your examination entry slip!
- **Create a Study Plan**: Organise your study time effectively by creating a study plan. This will help you manage your time and cover all the necessary material.
- **Attend Workshops**: Take advantage of all school workshops. They are designed to help you review key concepts and improve your exam techniques.
- **Review** old examination questions to familiarise yourself with the format and types of questions you may encounter.

Good luck! And remember: preparation is the key to success! You've got this!

DAY	TIME	NCEA Level 1	NCEA Level 2	NCEA Level 3
Tuesday 5th Nov	9:30 AM		L2 Mathematics and Statistics	
	2:00 PM	L1 Gagana Samoa	L2 Biology	
Wednesday 6th Nov	9:30 AM			L3 English
	2:00 PM	L1 Geography		
Thursday 7th Nov	9:30 AM		L2 English	
	2:00 PM			NCEA L3 History
Friday 8th Nov	9:30 AM	L1 Mathematics and Statistics		NCEA L3 Chemistry
	2:00 PM			

DAY	TIME	NCEA Level 1	NCEA Level 2	NCEA Level 3
Monday 11th Nov	9:30 AM			NCEA L3 Calculus
	2:00 PM			
Tuesday 12th Nov	9:30 AM	NCEA L1 English		
	2:00 PM		L2 Drama	L3 Samoan
Wednesday 13th Nov	9:30 AM		L2 Chemistry	
	2:00 PM	L1 Gagana Tokelau	L2 Geography	
Thursday 14th Nov	9:30 AM			
	2:00 PM	L1 History		
Tuesday 19th Nov	9:30 AM		L2 History	L3 Physics
	2:00 PM			
Thursday 21st Nov	9:30 AM	L1 Physics and Earth Space Science		
	2:00 PM		L2 Economics	
Friday 22nd Nov	9:30 AM		L2 Physics	
	2:00 PM			
Monday 25th Nov	9:30 AM			L3 Geography
	2:00 PM			
Thursday 28th Nov	9:30 AM		L2 Samoan	
	2:00 PM			L3 Music Studies

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Yr 10 Ignite Ontrack:** Nov 4 - 6, 12, 26
- **NZQA Exams:** Nov 5 - 28
- **Papua New Guinea Lanuage Week:** Nov 11 - 15
- **Yr 10 Pacifica Victoria University Day:** Nov 12
- **Simply Dental Onsite:** Nov 13 - 22
- **Solomon Islands Language Week:** Nov 25 - 29
- **Activity Days:** Dec 10 - 11
- **Senior Prize Giving:** Dec 10
- **Junior Prize Giving:** Dec 12
- **Senior Leadership Training:** Dec 13

YEAR 12 RYPEN CAMP





Each year, thanks to the generosity of the Plimmerton Rotary Club, two outstanding Year 12 students have the chance to attend a leadership camp for the weekend. These students are chosen based on a range of qualities, including leadership and citizenship within the school community. This year's participants were Hazel Teaurima and Dezil Misky, both of whom were deserving of their selection.

Hazel and Dezil made their way to the Kawhatau Outdoor Education Centre near Taihape for a weekend during the recent holidays. They were accompanied by nearly 40 other students from across the North Island. Throughout the weekend, Hazel and Dezil visited the Waiouru Military Camp, engaged in various physical and mental team challenges, including rafting, and attended presentations by guest speakers. They developed leadership skills while forming new friendships and enjoying their time together. Congratulations to both of them for representing PC so admirably!



Romeo & Tusi was originally created as a collaboration between Pacific Underground and a group of young actors that were being tutored as part of a holiday arts programme in the 1990's. An Aotearoa and Pacifica spin on Romeo and Juliette was born, where Romeo was Māori and Juliette (Tusi) was Samoan. After reading many plays, this funny (and challenging) production hit me as the right fit for our Performing Arts class.

It was an absolute privilege to direct the senior production of Romeo & Tusi, and a privilege to watch the growth and development of the students in this class over the course of the year. For many of our cast it has been their first year in Performing Arts, or the first time they have been in the class since they were Year 9. Tale as old as time, many hours of rehearsal (both in and out of class time), practicing with friends and family, and worries about not being ready for opening night went into getting the show on the stage. I could not be prouder of what our young people presented on opening night; they were funny, energetic, charming and so brave in their performances. They handled their nerves smoothly, supported each other backstage, and had the audience chuckling, what felt like, every other line. Through the whole process I have been frequently impressed with their talent, hard work, resilience and willingness to go above and beyond.

Romeo & Tusi was an immensely rewarding way to finish our first year of performing work together. I am very excited for the future of Performing Arts here at Porirua College.

Laura Dawson - HOF Creative Arts

Cast:

Anaru - Lincoln Pawley-Tatuava / Jericho Tangaroa
Tusi - Missouri Maifala / Rina Leota
Ruby - Hazel Teaurima
Mrs Aiu - Kaycious McLellan-Turua
Mrs Heke - Jericho Tangaroa / Lincoln Pawley-Tatuava
Minister - Vanessa-Jane Lolagi



Romeo and Tusi: Stage Images

SPORTS AWARDS



PLIMMERTON ROTARY CLUB TEAM OF THE YEAR

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM



SENIOR GIRLS FALEMAKA SPORTS TROPHY ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

TOTOGATA VAEA

SENIOR BOYS SPORTS CUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

UPOKOTEA UNUIA

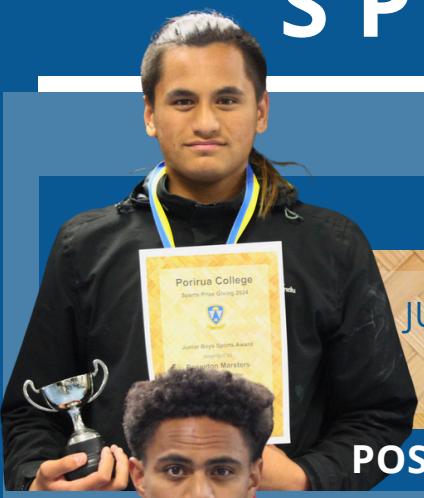




ALBERT ALAPATI SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

1ST XV RUGBY TEAM

SPORTS AWARDS



JUNIOR BOYS SPORTS TROPHY

POSEIDON MARSTERS



PHIL SKIPWORTH TROPHY

EZEY CAYAMAY



DAVID UNDERHILL RUGBY TROPHY

TANIELA TUANGALU



MOST IMPROVED FOR SENIOR BOYS KI O RAHI & 1ST XV RUGBY BACK

RICHARD AFAMASAGA



JUNIOR GIRL SPORTS TROPHY & ALL ROUND EXCELLENCE GIRLS RUGBY

KAEWA-LI LUKITAU



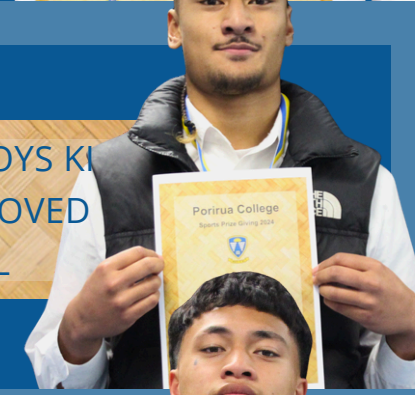
ALL ROUND EXCELLENCE IN RUGBY & SENIOR BOYS KI O RAHI

NINO MASON



IGNITE CHARACTER ATHLETE AWARD

STEVE MATOKA TIATIA



PC PRIDE SENIOR BOYS KI O RAHI, MOST IMPROVED SENIOR BASKETBALL

NEWMAN LIUA TAUALA



PHIL SKIPWORTH COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

BEN JASPAERT



PC PRIDE SENIOR BASKETBALL

TIAHOMAIWHETU BAKER- RAHI

NEW STAFF



Claire Vera

Kia ora, back in the Philippines, I had seven amazing experiences teaching math. I have gathered a lot of knowledge and experience from those years of teaching. However, during those years, a desire to seek out new things ignited inside of me. The seven years felt more like a comfort zone, and since professional progress is no longer probable, I feel the desire to try new things and explore more. Porirua College has the challenges I'm seeking. I always have faith in every student's potential. Each student is special in their own way that doesn't mean they are not good for some subjects. They will always do something that makes them special that they are good at.

Most of the time I would spend my free time sleeping. I would say I have a close relationship with my bed. There's another hobby that is not quite usual for a person my age and that is watching anime. I'm a huge fan of anime (especially Attack on Titan) where I collect merch like action figures and I plan to build a room to store all my collections.

Teaching in Porirua is a learning experience, particularly when it comes to kids from diverse backgrounds. Initiatives at the school that encourage diversity, inclusivity, and community involvement have my support. I'm confident that my stay in Porirua will help me grow and that I can learn more about individuals with different cultures. To students, my advice is when reaching your dreams, facing real-world challenges, whatever you do, don't forget to enjoy and be genuinely happy in life. Don't let other people define your happiness and success. You are special in your own way.

Thank you.



Solomon Esera

I'm thrilled to be joining Porirua College as a receptionist in the main office! My name is Solomon Esera, and I bring a background in teaching young children as a Sunday School teacher and working with various Samoan cultural groups at the college and university levels. While I don't have formal teacher training, I've held key leadership roles in music and performance groups, and I'm excited to bring those skills to the school.

Growing up in Porirua, I have a deep connection to this community and a strong desire to give back. I want to enhance our school's environment and support the staff and students through my administrative work. My goal is to provide the best service I can, creating a safe and approachable space in the reception area for everyone who needs assistance.

Outside of my role at Porirua College, I enjoy pursuing various musical activities and staying active. A teacher who has inspired me is my former college teacher, Mrs Marilyn Baigent. She was more than just a teacher—she was a classroom mother to many students. She pushed us to sing and compete, and always wanted the best for us.

I'm also looking forward to getting involved with Porirua College's cultural performance groups, whether it's helping to plan rehearsals, printing out lyrics, or facilitating practice sessions. Additionally, I'd love to contribute to the musical sector.

My advice for students is: "Do it for yourself." I'm eager to learn more about Porirua College and find the best ways to serve our community!

KURA KAI

Kura Kai embodies the value of manaakitanga with the mission of “whānau cooking for whānau.” They raise funds to provide chest freezers to supported high schools, including Porirua College, and build a community of volunteers to prepare nutritious meals. These meals are distributed to support rangatahi and their whānau, with parents invited to come to Porirua College for some kai, which can be picked up from Room K2K, Main Office.

Focusing on secondary schools, Kura Kai aims to motivate students to complete their education and instill the practice of manaakitanga, encouraging them to care for their community and support those in need.

Four Key Pou (Focus Areas)

Tahi: Response to Poverty and Emergency
Rua: Empowering Rangatahi (Youth)
Toru: Community Engagement
Whā: Kaupapa Māori Values

CONTACT

PORIRUA COLLEGE

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