



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEEK 9 | TERM 2 | 2025



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PAPATOETOE HIGH SCHOOL



@PAPHIGH.OFFICIAL



Vaughan Couillault
Principal
MEdLM, PGDipSM, BCom, DipTchg

Principal's message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we conclude another busy term, I would like to take a moment to thank you for all your support over this past school term and provide some key updates regarding coming events. Firstly, we have outsourced the role of the returning officer for the upcoming board elections. This ensures that the electoral process is managed efficiently and transparently. Schooled has been appointed as the returning officer, and you will soon receive a letter in your mailbox or email with instructions and details regarding the electoral process. Three of our current board members have confirmed their intention to stand for re-election. We encourage all eligible members to participate actively, as we have genuine vacancies on the board that need to be filled.

Additionally, I would like to remind our senior students about study leave for 2025. We have mentioned in assemblies that we will be creating criteria around the allocation of study leave and students will need to have demonstrated progress prior to them being granted study leave. The decisions we make will be based on staff input and achievement data and are designed to support our students' academic success.

The school ball is a significant event taking place on Wednesday 2 July (at 7pm), and we look forward to this annual celebration. Please ensure timely drop-offs and pickups; the doors will close at 8:00pm and the ball will conclude at midnight. Kindly ensure your child is picked up promptly so that staff can also leave in a timely manner. Ellerslie Convention Centre has confirmed a strict pass system for vehicles entering the premises on the evening of the ball. Only one vehicle per attending school student will be able to access the grounds. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Over the term break we have several activities planned, including school production rehearsals and the Tironui Music Programme. These events promise to be enriching experiences for our students.

In term 3 we will also be conducting student progress interviews, offering the option to meet in person, via phone, or Teams/Zoom/etc. This flexibility aims to accommodate everyone's preferences and schedules.

Lastly, there will be changes to the Year 9 timetable starting next term to accommodate the changeover of our half year courses. Students will have receive their updated timetable on the last day of term. You can also check the KAMAR portal for timetable information.

I wish everyone a restful term break and look forward to seeing you all back, safe and sound, ready to tackle the challenges of the new term.

Warm regards,
Vaughan Couillault
Tumuaki/Principal

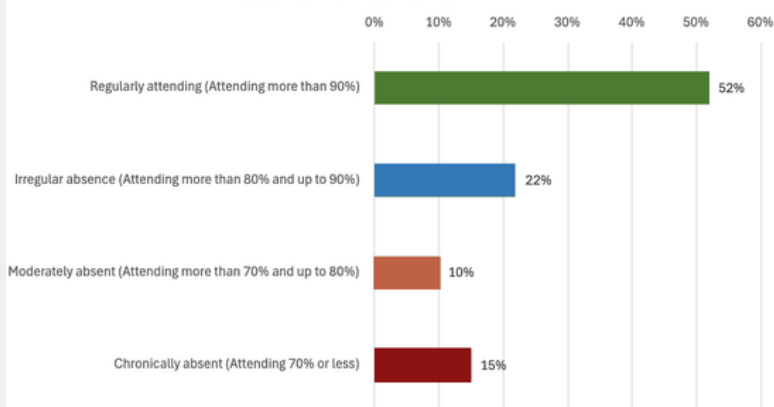


REMINDERS

ATTENDANCE

Our latest school-wide attendance data shows that 52% of students are regularly attending school, which means they're here more than 90% of the time - this is a great effort and something to be proud of!

2025 Term 2 Attendance

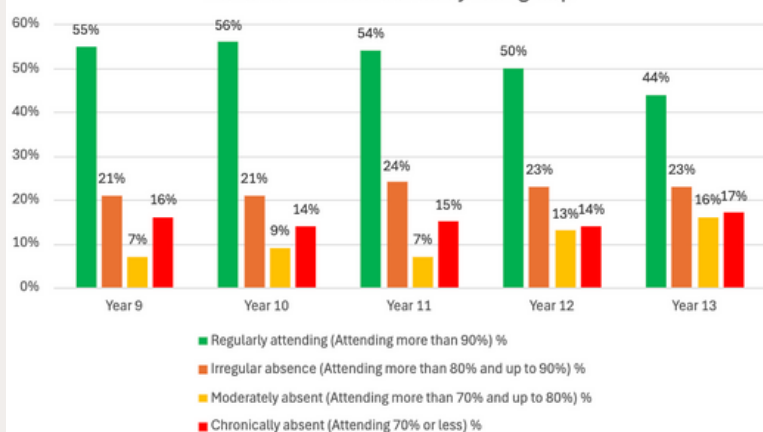


With us being a trial school for the STAR (Stepped Attendance Response) program, it's great to see that more than half of our Year 9, 10, and 11 students are regularly attending school, with 54-56% attending over 90% of the time. This shows strong engagement from our junior students - KA PAI!

Please continue to report your child's absences to our School Office. If your child will be travelling during the school term, you will need to write a letter to the principal stating the dates your child will be away and the reason for the travel. For appointments during school hours, please contact the school before you pick up your child or send your child in with a note. This will ensure a pass is ready for them and help us get your child to their appointment on time.

Regular attendance has a big impact on student progress and success, so let's keep working together to support all students to be here and ready to learn everyday. Lastly, please make sure to check your email inbox for your child's Term 2 STAR attendance update. Have a safe holiday.

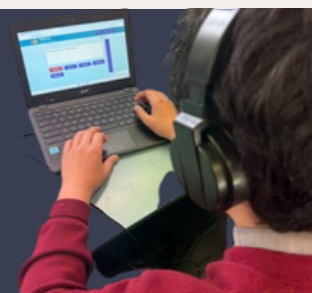
2025 Term 2 Attendance by Year group



TERM 3 KEY DATES

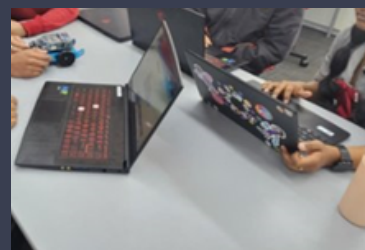
- July 2: Senior school ball
- July 21: Student progress hui
- July 30 - Aug 2: School production
- Aug 3 - Aug 8: Cook Islands language week
- Aug 11 - Aug 15: Art expo
- Aug 18: School CLOSED for instruction
- Aug 18 - 23: Tongan language week
- Aug 27 - 27: Music evening
- September 1 - 12: LIT/NUM assessments
- September 14 - 20: Te wiki o Te Reo

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)



Papatoetoe High School is fully committed to embracing the digitally fluent culture of the 21st century, and we understand the importance of enabling learners to achieve through individualised student-centred and authentic learning opportunities. The use of personal devices will expose our students to endless opportunities, allowing them to become confident and fluent digital citizens in a forever-changing landscape.

Please support us in our BYOD journey. You can purchase a device for learning from any major retailer.



The NZMA logo is displayed in white text on a blue rectangular background.The Apollo Projects logo features the word 'Apollo' in a large, bold, black font, with 'PROJECTS' in a smaller, black font below it. A small orange square is positioned to the right of the 'o' in 'Apollo'.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both NZMA and Apollo Projects for their continued support of our students. NZMA support our students by providing grants to be used to purchase music instruments, art supplies and much more from the arts fields. Apollo Projects do the same but for students who wish to pursue their passion for sports by providing grants to students to purchase sports gear. If you would like to know more about these opportunities see Miss Ralphs for information about the arts grants and the sports co-ordinators for the sports grants.

Mr Barry Williams

PHS BRUCE HUNTER LIBRARY

MATCH THE SHELFIE TO THE SELFIE

This term we held a competition in the library called 'Match the Selfie to the Shelf-ie' where students had to match the correct staff member to their respective bookshelf.

Congratulations to the winner of this competition Shakshi Naidu Year 9, and the runners up Rheeya Prasad, Penelope Isaia, Nallie Ta'ala and Laylah Keelan-Feo Year 10.



READERS CUP

On Thursday 19th June six Year 9 students travelled to Sacred Heart College to compete in the Readers Cup competition. The students were Reet Kaur, Zafeerah Khan, Joy Takitaki, Victoria Takitaki, Irae Tupalu, Shalom Vai-Harris. The girls had one term to read 6 books and then answered quiz style questions on the day. They represented PHS with such a positive attitude! Well done, team!

BOOK OF THE MONTH

July: Shalom Vai-Harris 9DL reviewed this book as part of the Year 9 Readers Cup competition. Impossible Creature is a book for anyone who has a love for fantasy-based worlds, tear-worthy plots, and well-described characters. This is an underrated gem, and I promise you that it will not disappoint.



WHAKATŌNGIA TE KĀKANO

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI

Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki
Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi
Mānawa maiea te Mātahi o te Tau.

Whano, whano
Haramai te toki ata huakirangi
Haumi e Hui e Tāiki e!

He nui te mihi ki a koutou katoa!!



Matariki is a time for reflection and remembrance of those who have passed. Our Manukura organised a native tree planting, accompanied by a waiata by Year 13 tauira, nā Tarani Takai. While Matariki is a celebration, it also serves as a reminder to honour those who departed—“Matariki whanaunga kore; Matariki tohu mate.”



Planning for the future means considering our goals for the rest of the year and beyond. Learning from the past is essential for moving forward. “Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua” (I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on my past). To support this, a box will be placed in the library to collect everyone’s hopes and dreams for the future.

We hope you made new memories with your whānau. Remember the past, enjoy the present, and plan for the future. Ngā mihi whānau mā.

“Manawatia a Matariki e te Whānau!”

Matariki is a time for reflection and remembrance of those who have passed. Our Manukura and our Arts and Cultural Leader organised a native tree planting, accompanied by a waiata by Year 13 tauira, nā Tarani Takai. While Matariki is a celebration, it also serves as a reminder to honour those who departed—“Matariki whanaunga kore; Matariki tohu mate.”



WHAKATŌNGIA TE KĀKANO

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI

PLD FOR KAIAKO

The staff at our kura strongly support Te Ao Māori and appreciate guidance from our taura Māori. Learning "Tūtira mai ngā iwi" during Matariki celebrations was a highlight for our Kaiako. Ka rawe!



SHARED KAI

To wrap up the week, we enjoyed a shared kai with our Kaiako, featuring favorite soup recipes and delicious fried bread, named "Matariki ahunga nui" (The great mounds of Matariki). Kai reka!



SCHOOL VISIT

At Papatoetoe High School, we celebrated Matariki with our tamariki. We began the week by visiting Papatoetoe Central, where we expressed gratitude for their piupiu by engaging with their taura through games and performances. Sharing resources leads to wonderful outcomes—"Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou, ka ora ai te iwi" (With your basket and my basket, the people will thrive).



GAMES FOR TAMARIKI

Our Manukura Wāhine and other leaders engaged the students in a game of Ki o Rahi on the field during lunchtime. Everyone had a lot of fun! Karawhiua!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 2 Term 3 Whānau rōpū hui

Week 3 Term 3 NCEA hui

We will be in touch with our whānau māori with dates and times for these events. Check emails and text messages.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE PITCH CHALLENGE

Around fifty Level 3 Business Studies students recently participated in the Young Enterprise Scheme pitch challenge, held at Whitecliffe Design School in Manukau. The event provided our students with an invaluable opportunity to showcase their entrepreneurial skills and present their innovative business ideas to a panel of local business professionals and YES staff members.

Our students rose to the occasion magnificently, demonstrating the high calibre of talent and creativity that Papatoetoe High School is known for. The enthusiasm and professionalism displayed by all participants truly represented our school values, and it was clear that the experience was both educational and enjoyable for everyone involved. The highlight of the day came when the judges expressed genuine interest in purchasing the products being pitched!

This achievement reflects the excellent preparation and guidance provided by our Business Studies department, as well as the dedication and hard work of the students themselves.

Faafetai lava
Mr Van der Klift



ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Congratulations to our Moth plant pod collection team who collected nearly 16,000 (the actual number is 15,982) pods and placed first among the Otara-Papatoetoe local board zone schools. Special mention to Vaishnavi and Sai Sharma, who collected 7,416 pods), Victoria Warfield (5,992 pods) and nurse Jones, from our Richards Centre who collected 2,363 pods. Thanks, too, to all those students and staff who also contributed to this tally.



Thanks to Cate Jessep and Ross Martin, from Auckland Council's Sustainability team for the donation of more than 200 native trees and shrubs and coordinating the planting of these with our students along the banks of our school stream. Well done to the team for your effort planting in conditions that were less than ideal.



COMMERCE - MARKET DAY



GATEWAY & CAREERS

As we approach the end of term 2, Year 13 students are busy with university applications and scholarship opportunities. If you are not planning on attending university next year, please come to G5 and have a chat about possible pathway options. We would like all senior students to leave school with a plan in place.

GIRLS IN INFRASTRUCTURE

We took 10 girls to the Girls in Infrastructure event where the girls learned about various careers in infrastructure and were able to visit the quarry in Drury.



SOUTH AUCKLAND CAREERS EXPO

We also took 250 senior students to the South Auckland Careers Expo where 88 providers were on hand to showcase various pathway options to students. Students were able to speak with providers, gain information to help them make informed decisions about their future.



UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION SCHEDULE TERM 3

University of Auckland

Thursday 31 July lunchtime in the library

AUT

Tuesday 29 July lunchtime in the library

University of Otago

Tuesday 5 August in G5

UNITEC

Monday 11 August in G5

MIT

Thursday 14 August in G5

TRADES ACADEMY 2026

We will be advertising our Trades Academy opportunities in September. Trades Academy are available to students who will be in Year 12 or 13 in 2026. We will email information to students with the options available closer to the date. We have limited spaces so students must register this year for the opportunity next year.

Please come and speak with Mrs Parshotam in G5 if you have any questions regarding your pathway, subject selection, or anything careers related. Have a restful break and look forward to working with you in Term 3.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

Thursday
7 August 2025

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

Wednesday 13 August
2025 - Students must
also apply accommodation
by this date

UNIVERSITY of OTAGO
Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtāro
NEW ZEALAND

Friday
15 August 2025

AUT
UNIVERSITY
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Monday
1 September 2025