

# **NPGHS NEWSLETTER**

February 2024

# Tēnā koutou katoa

We have had a very smooth and successful start to the school year and lessons and activities are well underway. I'd like to say a huge thank you to all our staff, teaching and non-teaching, for creating such a welcoming and encouraging environment.

I know students will have a list they want to achieve this year. It might be in sport, music, activities out of school, in their subjects, friendships, or something else entirely. Some students will be working towards gaining their drivers licence, getting a part time job, or making sure the next step in their educational pathway is achieved. The year at NPGHS is full of opportunities too and sometimes the hard part is narrowing it down to the things that matter the most.

Our new students have arrived full of expectation and have immediately started learning the routines of life at NPGHS. Although things might be a little different than they were used to, and the school is probably a bit larger, I am sure they will quickly settle in and find new friends. Parents of new students have already had the opportunity to attend a very warm and genuine pōwhiri, and to meet in person with their taiohi or young person's Kāwai Huia teacher. We hope that you all feel this is now very much your school. All of our staff are available if you have any questions, and contact details for Teachers, Deans, and Senior Leaders can be found on our website at

https://www.npghs.school.nz/about/our-people

It was exciting to see our returning students coming back to school too and I thank our parents and whānau for helping ensure everyone is well prepared for the year. Please continue to support us by ensuring that your daughter or young person leaves the house in correct school uniform each day, and with their laptop fully charged and ready for learning.

Uniform rules can be found at

https://www.npghs.school.nz/enrolment/uniform-information. Please note that sandals must be worn with the backstraps in place. Birkenstock's or other sandals which do not have a backstrap are not to be worn as part of the uniform. We know that occasionally a student might not have their usual uniform available and a short-term pass can be requested from Student Services before the school day begins. If you need assistance with the provision of uniform please contact Deputy Principal Suzanne Bradburn sbradburn@npghs.school.nz and if you are finding it difficult to provide a laptop for daily use at school please contact Deputy Principal Kevin Byrne kbyrne@npghs.school.nz

Our intention is to 'catch students doing things well' and we appreciate your support to ensure that they are set up for a very successful day, each and every day. We value the partnership between school and home and look forward to celebrating with you as the young people around us achieve great things. A number of those celebrations are shared on facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/npghs">www.facebook.com/npghs</a> or in the 'doing and achieving' section of our website <a href="https://www.npghs.school.nz">www.npghs.school.nz</a>. Both are good places to visit when you'd like some positive and inspirational news.

It promises to be a wonderful and exciting year ahead, and I look forward to all that students will learn and achieve this year.

Ngā mihi mahana Jacqui Brown Principal





## **NCEA Results**

As we start the 2024 school year, we know that many students are reflecting on their NCEA results from 2023. There are some outstanding individual results and we look forward to recognising these students in future assemblies. Included below is a brief summary of the provisional 2023 NCEA results and we are incredibly proud of the successes students have achieved. You will note that achievement rates at NPGHS remain well above the national level and even above schools of the same equity band. This is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of students, the expertise of teachers, and the support of whānau and family.

Achievement rates	NPGHS	Equity Band	National
2023			
Level 1	86%	67%	60%
Level 2	84%	77%	72%
Level 3	77%	67%	66%
University Entrance	61%	47%	44%

If your taiohi/young person achieved the results they were aiming for, I'm sure you celebrated with them and we also want to say congratulations. If they didn't quite reach their goals, remember that NCEA can be achieved over time and teachers are ready to help make this year even more successful.

# **Leaders Assembly**

On Friday 2 February, our student leaders received their badges. Our Manu Tāiko, Danielle du Buisson, was presented with the Korowai from former Manu Tāiko, Lottie Moffat. Danielle received this with honour and pride and she responded with these words:

"With this korowai, I not only devote myself to the responsibilities of my new role. But I vow to serve this kura and its ngā ākonga to the best of my abilities.

As I look out upon our kura, I am filled with pride and gratitude. We have once more grown in our diversity, as the new Year 9 students are welcomed into our whanau. It is now our responsibility to show them the ways of our tangata.

'He hono tangata e kore e motu; ka pa he taura waka e motu'. Unlike a canoe rope, a human bond cannot be severed. This whakatauki speaks so much truth to the bonds we form within our kura. They are the relationships that will impact who we are and what we will become. So we must choose wisely who we decide to surround ourselves with, for they have a great hand in forming us as people."





# Volunteer Reader/Writer or Reader/Computer Assistants

This year we have a significant number of students with dyslexia or other learning needs who have been approved reader/writer or reader/computer assistance by NZQA for their assessments. We are looking for volunteers to work with these students during their assessments. Generally, this means assisting a student for 1-2 hours, three or four times each term, when they have an assessment during the school day. If you are able to assist more often, we would be very grateful.

Training will be provided, but the main attribute you need is to have a calm, patient and supportive personality. You do not need to know anything about the NCEA subject being assessed as you are not permitted to help the student, but you do need to be able to read instructions out clearly and write or type at a reasonable speed.

If you can volunteer some time to help these students show what they know and can do, please email:

Shirley McVicar, Head of Awhina Learning Centre —

smcvicar@npghs.school.nz

or phone: 028 2554 2802.

# Periods are a fact of life for half the population. Period.

Access to period products: Information for parents and whānau.

Periods are a normal part of life for half our population and no one should miss school because of their period. Young people can't always access the products they need to feel comfortable at school and sometimes they may simply get caught unprepared. Whatever the reason, free period products for young people who need them means that they don't have to miss school because of their period.

As parents and whānau, your daughter's education and wellbeing is important to you. Providing period products is part of supporting their wellbeing. Students can visit WaiOra, Student Services, or many of the student bathrooms, to collect the period products they need when they are at school. Then they can better focus on their learning.

# **Reminders**

#### Leave passes:

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless they have a leave pass. This includes at lunchtime and at interval, when students are required to stay onsite.

#### **Keeping students safe:**

Please do not drive in or walk in to the school grounds to drop off or pick up students. Short stay drop off and pick up carparks are available on Mangorei Road. Parents and whānau, and all visitors, need to sign in at the main office on arrival.

#### Reporting an absence from school:

Use the SchoolBridge app, email <a href="mailto:attendance@npghs.school.nz">attendance@npghs.school.nz</a> or phone 06 757 3899.

You can download the SchoolBridge app by searching for SchoolBridge in your app store or scanning the QR code

here. You sign in by clicking on the option which links to the same email address that you have provided us with eg. Yahoo, Microsoft, Google, Apple or via facebook logon.

To access the SchoolBridge Web based Dashboard you need to open your internet browser, search for NPGHS and click 'Sign In' on the top right of the home page.





# **Tabloid Sports 2023**

#### **Final Results**

1<sup>st</sup> - Aotea

2<sup>nd</sup> - Kurahaupo

3<sup>rd</sup> - Tokomaru

4<sup>th</sup> - Tainui









# Browse school websites free via Zero Data portal

To encourage everyone to access school | kura websites on their mobile devices without being charged for data, the multi-agency Zero Data initiative has added over 2,000 kura and school websites to the updated Zero Data portal. You can access important updates from school, regardless of whether you have data credit or not.

To learn more information about this initiative, visit: Zero Data Portal – New Zealand Government

## **2024 DATES**

#### TERM 1

1 February - 12 April

Wed 6 March Athletic Sports
Fri 8 March Swimming Sports \*\*
Mon 11 March Taranaki Anniversary
Fri 29 March - Tues 2 April Easter

\*\* please note change of date

#### TERM 2

29 April - 5 July

#### TERM 3

22 July - 27 September

#### TERM 4

14 October - 16 December

### **CONTACT US**

#### **RECEPTION**

reception@npghs.school.nz

#### ABSENTEE

attendance@npghs.school.nz

#### **ENROLMENTS**

enrolments@npghs.school.nz

#### **BOARDING**

hostelenquiries@npghs.school.nz

### **FOLLOW US**

#### **WEBSITE**

www.npghs.school.nz

#### **FACEBOOK**

www.facebook.com/npghs

#### **INSTAGRAM**

**Npgirlshighschool** 

#### **SCHOOLBRIDGE**

'SchoolBridge' on app store