

HUNTLY COLLEGE PAANUI

Thursday 29 February 2024 - Term 1, Week 5



Rachael Parker - Principal
Nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa

What an absolute privilege it is to lead my students, my staff and to serve our community.

When I was 7 years old I had a new entrant teacher at David Street School in Morrinsville who inspired me to become a teacher. Mrs. Willis believed in me as a learner and this made me think to my young self that I want to become a teacher just like Mrs. Willis.

In 1997 I started my primary school teaching degree and completed my Bachelor of Teaching in 1999. My very first teaching position was at Tauhei Primary in 2001. Interestingly, this was my mothers primary school.

I absolutely love teaching in the Huntly community. Working in a community with people that are like me is very rewarding. What drives me in my teaching profession are the students. They are such awesome human beings. I am passionate about advocating for young people, they always need someone in their corner.

My husband Darryl and I have four children Tiana (24), Haley (20), Jessie (16) and Jackson (14). I live on a bull farm in Te Akau which is surrounded by the Whaingaroa harbour.

I look forward to leading our kura while having fun together.

Nga mihi

Principals Welcome Message

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome to the start of the 2024 school year. It was wonderful seeing the return of our students and seeing new faces too at our annual school powhiri. I am so excited about 2024, this is our year to SHINE and to THRIVE!!

Our school vision states: I stand tall and proud, embracing who I am and honouring my whakapapa.

What an aspirational vision that captures what we want for every student, teacher, staff member, our school, our whaanau and our community.

We have co-designed four key drivers or pou that will direct our planning and reporting this year:

Our students - Empowering students to learn and connect with self and others.

Our staff - Promoting wellbeing and quality teaching for all to thrive.

Our school - Creating a safe learning environment that is well resourced.

Our whaanau, our community - Strengthening partnerships to enhance educational outcomes for all.

Meet our Senior Leadership Team for 2024

Kandy Pohatu - Deputy Principal

Ko Taupiri te maunga

Ko Waikato te awa

Ko Waikato te iwi

Ko Tainui te waka

Ko Ngaatiwhawaakia te hapu

Ko te Kaitumutumu te marae

Noo Raahui Pookeka ahau

Ko Kandy Subritzky-Pohatu tooku ingoa.

Teena taatou katoa.



Raised on a little lifestyle block on the West side, I attended Huntly Primary and then on to Huntly College, where I spent some of my best years grounding myself firmly in my identity, learning who I was and where I wanted to be.

I have always felt the need and desire to give back to the hapori, my community, who helped raise and nurture me. I naturally stepped into teaching, where I found I could truly make a difference.

I believe our students are our taonga, a gift, and I feel a great sense of responsibility and urgency to ensure our taonga get the best, because they deserve the best!

I look forward to meeting and working with more of you, as the saying goes, "it takes a village to raise a child", and I wholeheartedly believe in this koorero.

We need your support whaanau, and we cannot do it without you!

Nei raa te mihi maioha ki a koutou te whaanau o too taatou kura.

Meet our Senior Leadership Team for 2024

Charmaine Mason - Deputy Principal

Teena koutou e te hapori o
Te Kura Tuarua o Raahui Pookeka
Ko Taupiri te maunga
Ko Waikato te awa
Ko Waikato te iwi
Ko Maurea te marae
No Raahui Pookeka ahau
Ko Charmaine Mason ahau
Teena taatou katoa



I was born and raised in Huntly, attending Huntly West Primary and Huntly College. I had the best schooling experiences at these schools with most of my memories being centred around sports, subject camps and extra curricular activities like Kapa Haka, Stage Challenge and Dance.

My teachers opened my world from being a shy Year 9 to being Deputy Head Girl. Going through university studying Sport and Leisure Studies and not wanting to waste my degree I completed a teaching degree. Although I swore black and blue, I would never be a teacher because of the commitment my teachers had for us, I did it anyway. Fast forward 10 years, I do not regret my decision. Serving our community to the best of my ability is of great honour and privilege.

I can confidently confirm that with education - knowledge is power and is key to all things. As we work together in our students' lives, this is achievable.

No reira, teena koutou teena koutou teena taatou katoa

Reti Hedley - Deputy Principal

Mai Maketu ki Tongariro ko Ngatoriorangi ki te keei,
ko Tia ki te Tauihu.
Tihei Mauriora.

I am a proud descendant of
Te Arawa waka and now after
spending many years in Waikato I
have a strong connection with the descendants of Tainui waka.

I have spent my entire life immersed in Maoridom and have grown an appreciation for all things Maori. My passion has always been Music and 10 years ago I was fortunate to land the music position here at Huntly college. Luckily for me, I have been blessed with years of musical performances, composing, and experiences with students who inspire me even to this day.

In recent years, I have taken on the role of Deputy Principal and I am committed to learning and growing in this space for the benefit of our kids and our families.

I want to mihi to all who have allowed me to grow and look forward to working with our Rangatahi in this capacity.

Mulligan Murray - Deputy Principal

Ko Te Rangi Aniwaniwa te maunga
Ko Rangaunu te moana
Ko Māmari me Kurahaupo ngā waka
Ko Waimanoni te marae
Ko Tuwhakarete te tangata
Ko Ngāi Takoto te iwi
Ko Mulligan Murray ahau



Hailing from Kaitaia, I was the youngest of twelve children, raised by extraordinary parents. Our life was challenging but fulfilling. Feeding twelve children was no small feat, and with a father frequently ill, requiring 6-hour journeys every other weekend to visit a specialist, our family faced both struggles and joys.

My mother had to become our family's very own superhero, adeptly handling all our 'little' whanau problems. Despite her own limited educational opportunities, she was determined to ensure her children received a meaningful education. This dedication from mum played a significant role in fostering my love for learning. I feel incredibly lucky to have had a mother so committed to her children's education, even when not all of us were easy to manage. This early influence has led to a lifelong passion for learning.

As an educator, I aim to foster a love for learning in our students, driven by the belief that education is a powerful tool for growth and opportunity. I am excited to work together with our Huntly whaanau to provide the best learning experience for our taura, inspired by a proud sense of identity, our whakapapa, and by those who believed in us.

Mauri ora!



WHAT'S ON AT HUNTLY COLLEGE

Thursday 29 February 2024 - Term 1, Week 5

Curriculum Changes

This year sees a number of changes to NCEA and how we assess our students. These changes mostly impacting our Level One cohort as we will be offering students the new standards as well as the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisites. On Wednesday 6th March at 6.00 pm, there is a whaanau NCEA Workshop at Huntly College to learn more about these changes and how you can best support your student. All are welcome to attend.

Timetable Update

Our 2024 timetable has had a revamp to ensure we are providing students with the fundamentals to meet the new NCEA changes. Puna Matauranga is an addition to our curriculum and is the first block of learning in the morning. Puna Matauranga allows for targeted teaching and learning of the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisites. The other change is our new Sports, Culture and Leadership block of learning every Friday afternoon. Every teacher and student are involved in some sort of physical activity, creative venture or leadership opportunity. Both Puna Ako and I am Modules are still offered, alongside Pathways, which is now delivered on a Friday for two blocks of learning rather than the previous full day on a Wednesday.

Chiefs Manawa visits Pathway Students

We were very delighted in hosting 10 of the 2024 Chiefs Manawa players at our kura on Friday 9 February. Deklyn Wilson led a mihi whakatau for our visitors. After whakawhaanaungatanga, Year 9 and Year 10 students were split into groups to participate in some skills and drills led by the Chiefs players. At break time, the players stayed around and 'mixed and mingled' with our students playing basketball and touch rugby with some of our senior students. Our staff and students were a little star struck from the experience. Here is some feedback from Kirstin, Chiefs Community Engagement Leader - *I received a lot of positive feedback from my crew. Huntly College students were awesome! We love getting out and about, so it was such a good time, it was our pleasure! The office was buzzing on Friday*

To top off a wonderful time, the team donated brand new kit of Chiefs, Adidas clothing to distribute to deserving students. We are going to give these away at our next school assembly.

Athletics

Friday 16th February the energy was high as our students took to the field competing in various track and field events for our annual athletics day. Students wore their whaanau colours with pride; cheering on their peers, and waving their banners high in the sky. Some students came close to beating some of the records that had been set as far back as 1989! We ended our fun filled afternoon with whaanau relays and a delicious sausage sizzle.

To the whaanau who were able to come and support your student, thank you very much, your presence was noticed and appreciated not only by our students but also by our staff. We are excited to be taking a team of students to Zone Athletics in Te Awamutu on Thursday 7th March, to represent our kura amongst other Waikato Schools. You are more than welcome to also attend this event and support your children!



WHAT'S ON AT HUNTLY COLLEGE

Thursday 29 February 2024 – Term 1, Week 4

Year 13 Leadership Camp in Kawhia

Our Year 13 students attended a two-day Camp in Kawhia on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th of February. Bursting with excitement, we arrived with an infectious energy which we carried into our first activity, stand-up paddleboarding. Singing, talking, eating and sharing time together was a huge highlight, and could not have been possible without close supervision of the wifi password. The following day we embarked on a historical biking trail around Kawhia learning about the local histories involving Hoturoa and the Tainui Waka. We also learnt about the escapades of Te Rauparaha and Potatau Te Wherowhero during the 17th century. The energy in the camp was so high that the trip back to Raahui Pookeka was silent. The sign of a great camp!

Attendance

Why is attendance so important?

Students who miss school frequently can fall behind in their learning, social skills and sense of belonging at school. Good attendance shows potential employers that a young person is reliable and demonstrates commitment.

What are the legal requirements?

Students aged 6-16 years old are legally required to attend school every day and it is everyone's responsibility to make sure our students attend and engage in learning. The Ministry of Education has set regular attendance to school at 90% attendance. In 2023 our school average attendance rate was 55% which is well below the expected rate of regular attendance.

Who should I inform if my student is not at school?

Letting the school know is your number one priority. There are several ways you can inform the school of your student's absence: Phone the Office on 07 828 7152, Email your student's Puna Ako Teacher, Skool Loop App or our school Website. Please always state the reason why your student is absent from school. Teachers are to follow up with their students who are not attending their classes by either a phone call, text message or an email. Also, teachers and Senior Leaders of the school may do a home visit on occasion.

Who can I talk to about the challenges we are experiencing with getting our students to school?

Phone the school and make an appointment to see a Deputy Principal or your student's teacher to discuss your concerns. We are always here to help you support your student and attend school regularly. Together we can support each other!

Uniform

It has been wonderful seeing our students in uniform this year. With our promotional period drawing to an end in Week 5, we strongly encourage whaanau to purchase the school polo shirt, this can be purchased from Les Kossof & Sons, Main Street, Huntly. If you need any assistance in regards to uniform, please don't hesitate to contact the School Office.



WHAT'S ON AT HUNTLY COLLEGE

Thursday 29 February 2024 - Term 1, Week 5

BIG DAY OUT - IN KAWHIA (Monday, 26 February to Friday, 01 March)

Students participated in our annual Big Day Out which was in Kawhia this year. This trip was filled with activities and adventure that encompassed our school vision which is:

"I stand tall and proud, embracing who I am, and honouring my whakapapa"

Students will also be immersed in Waikato - Tainui histories pertaining to that area, along with building leadership, self-confidence, creativity and life skills.

Upcoming Key Dates

Week 6:

Wednesday 6th March @ 6.00 pm - NCEA Whaanau Workshop

Thursday 7th March - Zone Athletics Te Awamutu for selected students (Details going home on Friday 1 March)

If you have any questions or any concerns, please feel free to pop into kura and talk with our senior leadership team, Puna Ako teacher or any classroom teacher. Our doors are always open. Alternatively you can email the school on admin@huntlycollege.school.nz or principal@huntlycollege.school.nz to make an appointment to discuss your concerns.

