

*Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of Mana College,
Tena koutou. Talofa Lava. Fakalofa atu. Kia Orana.
Taloha ni. Malo e leilei. Greetings to you all.*

Welcome to 2016!

I would like to begin by letting you know that we are tremendously proud of the huge improvement in our NCEA results last year. At NCEA Levels 1 & 2 we have increased our results by over 20% and are now sitting at the mid to late 70's. As well as this a number of students gained Merit and Excellence endorsements at Levels 1 and 2. The official NCEA data will be released at the end of March and we look forward to celebrating this in the media. We have already acknowledged and celebrated our highest academic achievers at school assemblies.

It is really pleasing to see how much our students have enjoyed the experience of academic success, and it is our goal that they continue to do so at even greater levels.

2016 promises to be a really busy year where we can consolidate and build on our ongoing improvements and success. Academic achievement continues to be our priority so that every student at Mana College is given the opportunity to achieve at their highest possible level.

Nga mihi nui,
Marion Tuite, Acting Principal

Our Vision & Commitment

It is timely that we remember our focus on our school vision and commitment because it drives everything we do. I believe it is vital that we live and breathe this commitment every day.

- We do and will continue to provide purposeful pathways for your/our children
- We will ensure that every student is able to access and gain meaningful achievement
- There will be high expectations of everyone in the college – students, teachers, Board and our whanau
- Our students will demonstrate pride in all they are and all they do.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

Our PB4L journey continues – we are now entering our third year. 2016 has seen the start of our Reward Token system, which involves students being awarded rewards for showing positive behaviour in the classroom, around the school and in the community.

The programme is becoming more embedded in our school culture now and I believe is one of the reasons why we have had such a settled, positive start to the year.

Our PB4L expectations are:

- M** Manaakitanga
- A** A'o or Ako
- N** Ngakau
- A** Aspire

Student Leaders Camp

Student leaders from both Mana College and Porirua College attended a two day camp at Kaitoke to enhance their leadership potential.

A range of character building and team work activities was offered, including activities such as the Giant Swing (working together as a team and pushing individual limits), High ropes (pushing individual limits and team encouragement), Canoeing (team work and pushing individual limits) and Team building.

In the evening there was an inspirational speaker who talked about, "you can be what you want to be", it is all up to you. The students listened with intensity and were drawn in by the message.

It was a tremendous camp and a credit to the students who participated. The camp staff all thought that we were from only one college. The students 'blended' extremely well and there was a tinge of sadness when the camp ended. A real bond was forged between the two colleges.

In my opinion it was one of the best student leader camps I have been on and I can only say how impressed I was with the student leaders from both Mana College and Porirua College.

He kotuku rerenga tahi *A White heron flies once*

Tony Braddock, Year 12 Dean





Senior Pathway Conferences

Next week we are holding the first of our Senior Pathway Conferences with Year 11, 12 and 13 students and their whanau.

Monday 21 March Year 11
 Tuesday 22 March Years 12 & 13

These are important meetings with the year level Dean and designated Senior Leader, and look at goals, academic progress and vocational pathway planning. I urge you to make an appointment using the online interview booking service or ring the office and book through Cheryl.

Athletics Day

On Friday 26 February we held a most successful Athletics Day at Kura Street Park. All credit must go to the organisation and event planning by Ms Tusa, other PE staff and senior students. It was a fun filled day and several whanau members who attended commented on the really positive atmosphere in the park. Students participated and performed to the very best of their ability and there was a real sense of whanau and community. A number of athletes were chosen to compete at Western Zone Athletics and Rosi Lomani, Yr 12, will be heading to the Regionals after gaining 1st in the Senior Girls 100m and 200m and 2nd in the Long Jump.



Careers & Transition

The Careers and Transition Department have had a busy start to the year. Careers Interviews have been conducted for targeted Year 12 & 13 students and the initial First Aid course of the year was completed last week. It was very successful with all students gaining their First Aid Certificate and 4 credits.

A group of students from the transition class are completing their forklift licence this week and up to 20 students will be taking part in a Hearing and Manual Handling course, both of which have Level 3 credits attached.

The first group of STAR short courses are being organised. They include Hairdressing, Beauty Introduction and Trades. All these courses will take place through Whitireia New Zealand.

Help Rebuild Lives in Fiji

As a school we would like to support the Fiji Cyclone Appeal. If you can donate any of the following goods please bring all items to the school office by 18/3/16.

- Non perishable food items (tinned goods, flour, rice, etc)
- Linen (towels, blankets, sheets, pillows, etc)
- Kitchen utensils, including pots, pans, etc
- Toiletries, specifically soap, sanitary pads, etc
- Tents of all sizes, water tanks and containers, tarpaulins
- Infant milk formula, diapers, etc
- Construction tools, generators, torches, solar powered lights
- Water purification tablets, mosquito/insect repellents

These will be delivered to a central collection point in Wellington. Thank you in advance for your support.

Coming Events

Thursday 17 March – BOT Meeting @ 6pm
 Monday 21 March – Yr 11 Pathway Conferences
 Tuesday 22 March – Yrs 12/13 Pathway Conferences
 Friday 25 March – Good Friday, school closed
 Monday 28 March – Easter Monday, school closed
 Tuesday 29 March – Easter Tuesday, school closed
 Monday 11 April - Thursday 14 April – Year 9 Camp
 Friday 15 April - Last day of Term 1
 Monday 2 May – Term 2 begins @ 10am