

# NEWS



**Community - Acceptance - Respect - Excellence**

Issue 1 10th February 2022

## INTRODUCING OUR 2022 STUDENT LEADERS



**Introducing our Opihi College 2022 Student Leaders:**  
Deputy Head Student Chylsea Martin, Deputy Head Student Sophie Hall,  
Head Student Emily Wells and Head Student Upendhar Gadikoppula

# *From across the Principal's desk...*



## ***Kia ora and welcome to an exciting new year at Opihi College***

Due to the Covid restrictions the start of year has a slightly different look and feel to it. The two major differences are that we have been unable to welcome our new students, their whanau and staff to the college with a Mihi Wakatau (this is due to the restrictions of gatherings for noncurricular activities and the restrictions on singing) and of course the mask mandate. However even throughout this challenging time school does continue and we hope that your child has had a positive start to the year.

### **Covid and some new rules**

We are all dealing with the ever changing and challenging world of Covid 19 and being a school we have both generic and specific rules and guidelines that we need to follow under the current red level setting.

Like all facilities we are required to be able to track and trace all people who come on site in case we have an active case at the College. If you need to come on site, please make sure you report to reception.

Masks now a legal requirement to be worn by all staff and students (Year 4 and above) while at school. They must be worn inside any building, and on school transport. Masks must be the type that attaches to the head either through an ear loop or a head loop. Bandanas, scarves, or t-shirts pulled up over the mouth and nose are no longer acceptable.

We recognise that some adults and children will be exempted from wearing a mask, including those who have a disability or health condition. We are happy to accept an exemption card or letter from a medical practitioner or health provider, as confirmation of their medical exemption. This will need to be provided to the office.

For any student who is failing to comply with the legal requirement of wearing a mask, and who is not exempted, we will manage this behaviour in accordance with the uniform and health and safety rules of our school.

We are currently unable to carry out physical activity, play wind instruments or sing indoors under the current alert level. This unfortunately will affect several subjects, but we are working on ways to still provide as normal a program as possible.

Rules are different for curriculum and non-curriculum activities. Therefore, you may see us enforce rules for extra-curricular activities differently to class-based learning. Things such as the vaccine mandate do not apply to students attending school based curriculum sport but if they wish to participate in a sports team or an event they may be required to be vaccinated. The use of external facilities maybe different if the activity is curriculum or non-curriculum. It is highly recommended that we do not carry out any large gatherings inside with this in mind we are not running any assemblies.

### **Athletics Sports – Wednesday 2nd March**

Athletics Sports will run with some alterations to reduce interaction between students and equipment. Unfortunately, we will also not be able to have parents/whanau attending this event.



## **Swimming Sports – 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March 1-3pm**

Swimming sports will go ahead but in a different format. Rather than our whole school attending the swimming sports, students will be invited to enter. However, because we are holding the swimming sports at the Temuka Pool (which is council operated), only students who are fully vaccinated are eligible. School will continue to run as normal for the students not participating in the sports. We will not be able to [have parents/whanau attending this event.](#)

## **Teaching**

As with the last few years, teaching and learning face to face may be restricted further as the year goes on. Whether this is due to self-isolating, dealing with the effects of Covid or teachers being affected by the same. For some parts of the year, online/distance learning may have to take place for individuals or groups. Our teachers at Opihi College have spent a lot of time making plans to provide the best learning opportunities for our students no matter what comes our way. I would encourage you to also be preparing.

Some things to think about

- \* Are your contact details at the school up to date?
- \* Do(es) student(s) have a device to complete work at home?
- \* Do you have a quiet space in your house for school work and online class meetings?
- \* Is your student(s) able to use Zoom and Google Meet?
- \* Have ongoing conversations with student(s) about their learning and get them to show you their google classrooms for their subjects.
- \* Make sure your student(s) is able to and regularly checks their school emails

## **School Improvements**

We are continuing to improve the infrastructure of the school with the final part of the major building upgrades (Music block) due for completion at the end of Term 1. This space is starting to take shape and we are very excited to have this up and running. The work on better and more secure access in and out of Kowhai House is hoped to start during the Term 1/2 holidays. Unfortunately supply issues have significantly affected the resurfacing of the tennis/netball courts and at present we do not have a proposed date for this work. However, the school environment is real asset to the school and a huge thanks goes out to Bruce Mattingly, his team and the entire school community for maintaining their great work.

## **Goals**

One of our school goals for this year is to become more involved in our community. We are continuing to look at ways to expose the tamariki to some of the many things that Temuka, and its surroundings, have to offer and sharing what we have with our community. So once Covid restrictions allow, you may see more of the staff and students of Opihi College.

Hopefully 2022 is a hugely successful and enjoyable year for all of the Opihi family, and as always, if you have any ideas, thoughts, concerns or any information you think would help us to provide a better service, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Nga mihi  
Tony Robson

A date for your calendar:

**PPTA TEACHERS' PAID UNION MEETING  
MONDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2022**

**Classes will finish at 1.00 pm on this day**

# OPIHI COLLEGE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



**PRINCIPAL**  
**Mr Tony Robson**



<b>Deputy Principal</b>	<b>Miss Henderson</b>	<b><a href="mailto:hendersonv@opihicollege.school.nz">hendersonv@opihicollege.school.nz</a></b>
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	<b>Mrs Rose</b>	<b><a href="mailto:roseb@opihicollege.school.nz">roseb@opihicollege.school.nz</a></b>
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	<b>Mr Grace</b>	<b><a href="mailto:graces@opihicollege.school.nz">graces@opihicollege.school.nz</a></b>

## HOUSE DEANS

Aoraki	Mr Smith	<a href="mailto:smithr@opihicollege.school.nz">smithr@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Rata	Mr Grace	<a href="mailto:graces@opihicollege.school.nz">graces@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Opihi	Ms Busson	<a href="mailto:bussonr@opihicollege.school.nz">bussonr@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Pacific	Mr Gerber	<a href="mailto:gerberf@opihicollege.school.nz">gerberf@opihicollege.school.nz</a>

## FACULTY HEADS

Art & Technology	Mr Peters	<a href="mailto:peterse@opihicollege.school.nz">peterse@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
English	Ms Kate Manson	<a href="mailto:mansonk@opihicollege.school.nz">mansonk@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Gateway / Careers	Mrs Verge	<a href="mailto:verger@opihicollege.school.nz">verger@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Learning Support	Mrs Gold	<a href="mailto:golda@opihicollege.school.nz">golda@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Maths	Mr Smith	<a href="mailto:smithr@opihicollege.school.nz">smithr@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
PE / Health	Miss Haines	<a href="mailto:hainess@opihicollege.school.nz">hainess@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Science	Mrs Robson	<a href="mailto:robsons@opihicollege.school.nz">robsons@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Social Sciences	Mr Simon Goodman	<a href="mailto:goodmans@opihicollege.school.nz">goodmans@opihicollege.school.nz</a>
Year 7 & 8	Miss Manson	<a href="mailto:mansonk@opihicollege.school.nz">mansonk@opihicollege.school.nz</a>

<i>Bus Controller</i>	<i>Mr Smith</i>	<i><a href="mailto:smithr@opihicollege.school.nz">smithr@opihicollege.school.nz</a></i>
<i>NZQA Nominee</i>	<i>Ms Henderson</i>	<i><a href="mailto:hendersonv@opihicollege.school.nz">hendersonv@opihicollege.school.nz</a></i>
<i>School Counsellor</i>	<i>Mr Sharp</i>	<i><a href="mailto:sharpj@opihicollege.school.nz">sharpj@opihicollege.school.nz</a></i>







## CONGRATULATIONS

*Opihi College are proud to congratulate all of their 2021 Award Winners:*



*Proxime Accessit Hailey Larsen & Dux Georgia Hammond*

*Georgia Hammond was awarded the Comer Cup for top academic scholar in Year 13 and Dux of Opihi College. She also won a University of Otago Dux Scholarship, the Pat Gillett Book Award, a University of Otago 150th Entrance Scholarship, Awards for Outstanding Attainment in Biology, Design & Visual Communication, Health and Statistics, the Heartland Ricoh Award, a Dowell's Office Products Award and the Nulake Trophy for Excellence in Senior Maths.*

*Hailey Larsen was awarded the Burrough Family Cup for Proxime Accessit, Runner up to the Dux. She also won a Merit Award for Biology and Health, Johnson Trophy for Outstanding Attainment in English and a Dowells Office Products Award; Outstanding Attainment in Physical Education, a Mackenzie Supply Services Award, Outstanding Attainment in Statistics and the NuLake Trophy for Excellence in Senior Maths, and a University of Otago Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship.*



*Opihi College Sports Champions:  
Ashley Rhodes, Hailey Larsen, Logan Larsen, Harris Bagrie*

*Madeline Hammond won an Endeavour Award for Biology, the Winnington Wilson Cup for Outstanding Attainment in History, the Millar Engineering Award, Outstanding Attainment in Painting, a Dowell's Office Products Award and a University of Otago 150th Entrance Scholarship.*

*The Prime Minister's Award for Vocational Excellence was awarded to Upendhar Gadikoppula.*



*Upendhar Gadikoppula  
Prime Minister's Award for Vocational Excellence*

*Ashley Rhodes was awarded the Ken Bridge Trophy for Best All Round Junior Sportswoman, and Hailey Larsen the Keith & Jean Dippie Trophy for the Best All Round Senior Sportswoman. Harris Bagrie was awarded the Temuka Pakeke Lions Trophy for the Best All Round Junior Sportsman, and Logan Larsen the Peattie Family Trophy for the Best All Round Senior Sportsman.*

*Well done to all of our many award winners!*



*Fonterra Science Award Winners with Head of Science Mrs Robson*



# NCEA ENDORSEMENTS

**Congratulations to all of the students who achieved NCEA Endorsements in 2021:**



*Above left:* **Merit Endorsement NCEA Level 1**  
Rexxa Albarico & Mitchell Perfect  
*Above centre:* **Excellence Endorsement Level 1**  
Amelia Holland & Grace Bennett  
(and left) Bailee Bryce-Gillett  
*Above right:* **Excellence Endorsement NCEA L2**  
Calan Meechang  
*Right:* **Merit Endorsement NCEA Level 2**  
Ashleigh Griffiths, Emily Wells, Sophie Hall



## Contact Details

It is very important that your contact details are kept accurate and up to date. All caregivers of current students have this week received a login to go into our KAMAR portal (our Student Management System). Please log into this portal and check that all your details are correct with particular emphasis on phone numbers and email addresses.

This week we have also sent home a paper copy of the details we hold on file for your child/ren and would appreciate you checking these, making any alterations if necessary. If you haven't been able to get onto the Portal, or in the instance that nothing has changed, please sign and return to signal you have checked it.

In the case of us having a Covid outbreak within the school we want to be sure that we can contact any close contacts quickly and to do this we need you to make sure we hold the most up to date and correct information.

## School Lunches

We are happy to provide school lunches during 2022 for all students. Libelle is our provider and the menus will be published prior to the week. These lunches are completely optional and you are more than welcome to continue providing your child/ren with their own packed lunch, or alternatively, our canteen is continuing to operate as well. Families will need to provide morning tea.

## Newsletters

We issue a newsletter which are sent out electronically, though families can request a paper copy by contacting the office. The newsletters are also published on our school website.

## Portal

You can access the portal via our school website – [www.opihicollege.school.nz](http://www.opihicollege.school.nz) The login section is at the bottom of the page. Students and parents have separate logins, as parents can view other information like financial sections that students cannot. All parents will be sent an email with their log in details. These login details remain the same each year. The portal is great for checking attendance, timetables, notices, academic results, school calendar and other important information.

## Cell phone policy

Two years ago we implemented a change for students in regard to having cell phones at school. This will continue this year. The key points of our policy are:

- \* No cell phones are to be on the student while in the classroom.
- \* During class, cell phones are to be left in their bag, or placed in the cell phone holder, or given to the teacher to place in a locked drawer.
- \* If the students have a cell phone on them during class, we go onto a 3 strike system:
  - Strike 1 - cell phone will be removed for the remainder of the day. The phone may be collected by the student at the end of the day.
  - Strike 2 – cell phone will be removed for the remainder of the day. It is to be collected by a parent/caregiver from the office.
  - Strike 3 – cell phone will be removed until a meeting is held with a parent/caregiver and a plan is in place regarding cell phone at school.



## Lunch and Transport Passes

If your child wishes to go home for lunch, they need to fill in a lunch pass application form. These are available from the office and need to be completed each year.

Also, if your child wishes to bring a vehicle to school, they need to fill in a transport form. These are available from the office too.

## Lateness

Every student must be at school by 8:40am when the bell for Whanau goes. This then gives them time to be in class which starts at 8:45am. If for any reason your child is late, they need to come to the office with a note and sign in.

## Absences

If your child is absent for the day, please leave a message on our absence line as early as possible. A message can be left on the message line during out of hours times.

## Appointments

If your child needs to leave school during the day for an appointment, a parent or caregiver must ring the office to notify them of that appointment, or send a signed note to school with your child. A text message via your child's phone is not acceptable, as we are unable to verify its authenticity.

## Sick Bay

If your child becomes unwell during the day, they are to come to the school office to be cared for in the sick bay. If necessary, the office staff will then contact parents/caregivers if required. Please remind your child to follow these procedures, rather than texting parents themselves or just leaving.

## Uniform

Please refer to our website for our uniform guidelines - [www.opihicollege.school.nz/our-school/uniform](http://www.opihicollege.school.nz/our-school/uniform). If your child for any reason is wearing the incorrect uniform, they are to present a signed note from a parent/caregiver to their Dean as soon as they arrive at school. Otherwise feel free to contact your child's Dean regarding any other uniform issues.

## Stationery

The Opihi College office have a limited range of stationery available for purchase by students. The items we can supply are:

1B8 exercise books	\$1.40
1E8 exercise books	\$1.40
Clever Kiwi books	\$3.00

## Trustees

The Opihi College Board of Trustees would like to welcome interested parents, or supporters of the school, to their friendly committee. If you are interested in joining our Board please contact the office for more information.



**BLAKE**  
Inspire

Kia ora,

**Great news! Applications for BLAKE Inspire have been extended and now close 20 February!**

Have you applied yet?

BLAKE Inspire is our annual environmental leadership programme and together with the Ministry for the Environment, we are looking for up to 100 young leaders from across the country to participate in one of our three programmes in either April, August or October.

**Could this be you or the budding environmentalist in your life?**

If you are a current year 11-13 student who is interested in the environment and spending a week with like-minded peers, then make sure you apply for our fully-funded programme today.

BLAKE Inspire delegates will work with scientists and environmental leaders to develop leadership skills and learn about environmental issues and how to take action to tackle them. Fully-funded by the Ministry for the Environment and zero cost to the students, delegates just need to bring their passion for the environment, commitment, and energy!

Applications are in two parts and now close at midnight on Sunday 20 February – have you put yours in yet?

Don't miss out on this epic opportunity, and please reach out if any questions!

Ngā mihi nui,  
BLAKE

"BLAKE Inspire is an environmental leadership programme and together with the Ministry for the Environment, they are looking for up to 100 young leaders from across the country to participate in one of three programmes in either April, August or October. If you are a current year 11-13 student who is interested in the environment and spending a week with like-minded peers, then make sure you apply for this FREE programme. Applications close midnight on Sunday 20 February. For more information go to: <https://www.blakenz.org/programmes/blake-inspire/> or see Mrs Robson."

## University Scholarships for Year 13 Students

MoneyHub, a consumer finance website, has published a guide to hundreds of scholarships for any student planning to start university in 2023. The comprehensive list includes scholarships offered by every university as well as those specifically available to local students. A list of privately-funded, Maori, Pacific and International university scholarships completes the list. Applications close throughout the year, with tens of millions of dollars available. MoneyHub has also published a list of tips for scholarship success. For more details and to find suitable scholarships, visit the [MoneyHub Scholarship page](#)



# AJ's HOSPITALITY CANTEEN MENU

Chicken Wraps \$4

B.L.T. Wraps \$4

Sausage Roll \$2.50

Cheese Rolls \$1

Garlic Bread \$2

Meatball Sub \$3

Pies \$2.50

Raspberry Chocolate Log \$2

Southern Chicken Stick \$1

Savoury \$1

Noodles – Chicken or Beef \$3

Chips \$2

Donuts \$2.50 Lollie Cake \$1

Slice \$2.50 Cake \$1

## *Ordered for lunch*

Fries \$2.50 Frankfurters \$3 Wedges \$3

Chicken Burger \$3.50

5 Nuggets & Chips \$5

Lasagne Topper \$3

FROZEN MOOSIES & JUICIES \$1.50

VANILLA ICE-CREAM TUB \$2



## *Drinks*

Bottle Water \$1

Cool Sips \$2

Up & Go \$2.50

Lipton Iced Tea \$4

Keri Juice \$4

