



New Plymouth Girls' High School Te Kura Taitamawāhine o Puke Ariki

Shape Your Future | Tāraia Tāu Wāheke

Newsletter 1 – March 2020

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PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT



Kia ora koutou katoa

Welcome to 2020, what an exciting year we have ahead of us. As always, it has been an eventful and busy start to the year. We have our new ten-day timetable and our new senior modules and we will be consulting widely on junior curriculum development and how we may continue to develop our learning opportunities for all our students.

We are excited by these new opportunities, and we hope our students and school community will be equally excited by the change. We will be in discussions with students throughout the year about what they want to learn and how they want to learn to ensure we deliver rich, authentic learning programmes that will prepare our students for their future.

Our Waka Huia events got off to a fantastic start with a well-attended and contested Swimming Sports on 12 February and Athletics Sports on 19 February. I really want to commend our Year 13 Leaders and Peer Supporters for how they have thrown themselves into these and other events and how enthusiastically they have supported our new students and our incoming Year 9's. They have really embodied the school values. Thank you to all our students and staff for making these days so much fun.

Congratulations to the 25 students who achieved 34 New Zealand Scholarships across 13 subjects. Special congratulations to Breanna Camden, Dux Literati, who achieved five scholarships in 2019 to add to the three she achieved in 2018. For the second year running, she achieved Top Scholar (top in country) – this time for Statistics – and she has been awarded a NZ Outstanding Scholar Award (one of only 58 students in the country). Well done to all our past and present students for their achievement in NCEA, Scholarship and Vocational Awards.

Victoria Kerr
Principal



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Website

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www.npghs.com

Email

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STUDENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

Scholarship Results

Last Name	First Name	MoE Year		Scholarship Subject	Scholarship Outcome
		Level			
Bishop	Melanie	12		Biology	Scholarship
Bishop	Melanie	12		Media Studies	Scholarship
Camden	Breanna	13		Chemistry	Scholarship
Camden	Breanna	13		Classical Studies	Scholarship
Camden	Breanna	13		English	Scholarship
Camden	Breanna	13		Statistics	Outstanding
Camden	Breanna	13		Calculus	Scholarship
Che Ismail	Adriana	13		English	Scholarship
De Vantier	Kim	13		Geography	Scholarship
Donaldson	Brooke	12		Biology	Scholarship
El-Haddawi	Dania	12		Geography	Scholarship
Fisher	Hannah	13		Media Studies	Scholarship
Frost	Jessica	13		Economics	Scholarship
Frost	Jessica	13		Geography	Scholarship
Frost	Jessica	13		Statistics	Scholarship
Grieve	Eleanor	13		Drama	Scholarship
Gunasinghe	Savithi	12		Chemistry	Scholarship
Jackson	Maya	12		English	Scholarship
Kehely	Laura	12		Geography	Scholarship
	Jessica				
Li	(Chun)	13		Economics	Scholarship
McQuay	Myah	13		Photography	Scholarship
Roper	Portia	13		Photography	Scholarship
Schoultz	Tamrin	13		Art History	Scholarship
Simmers	Amelia	12		Chemistry	Scholarship
Simmers	Amelia	12		Biology	Scholarship
Simmers	Amelia	12		English	Scholarship
Simpson	Rebecca	13		Geography	Scholarship
Simpson	Rebecca	13		Biology	Scholarship
Simpson	Isabel	13		Accounting	Scholarship
Stroud-Bennett	Darla	12		Biology	Scholarship
Tvrdeich	Elizabeth	13		Accounting	Scholarship
Van Burgsteden	Olivia	13		Economics	Scholarship
Wingate	Jessica	13		Economics	Scholarship
Wingate	Jessica	13		Accounting	Scholarship

Absences

If your daughter is absent from school, please ring the absentee line 06 757 3897 or email absentee@npghs.school.nz in the morning. If you are planning for your daughter to be absent from school on a personal or family trip, you must seek leave of absence from the Principal in advance by emailing admin@npghs.school.nz.

Music News

Published Composer

Mrs Woller has just got word that her choral work for female choir called '*I'll Cut My Heart*' is going to be published by Australian music publishing company *Middle C Music* and will be available for schools and choirs around New Zealand, Australia and the United States to purchase and perform. Mrs Woller has a Bachelor of Music in Composition and has composed several works for choir and small ensembles. Jubilate has sung a couple of Mrs Woller's compositions including '*I'll Cut My Heart*', '*Hope is a Thing with Feathers*', and this year the choir will be performing two of her compositions including one that was a collaboration with Miss Lamb who wrote the text called '*Emergence*'.

Itinerant Music Lessons:

The timetables have been put up in the Music Block notice board as well as sent to all students' emails. Students on waiting lists will be contacted as soon as a place becomes available.

Monday:	Voice and Drums
Tuesday:	Guitar, Clarinet and Brass
Wednesday:	Strings and Saxophone
Thursday:	Flute, Piano and Bass Guitar

Musical Groups:

Students are encouraged to be involved in the following activities:

Combined Jazz Band "Stage Band 1" - for saxophone, trombone, trumpet, keys, drums, bass guitar and electric guitar players. Usually by invitation only but if you play one of these instruments and are interested please email Mrs Woller at jwoller@npghs.school.nz - Tuesdays 7.45-8.30am at NPBHS Music Room.

Orchestra: Tuesday lunchtimes in the Music Room.

Combined Concert Band: For brass, woodwind and percussion players - Tuesdays 3.30-5pm in the Music Room

Jazz Combo - For players who have been learning for a year or more. Saxophones, flutes, clarinets, brass, piano, bass guitar/double bass, drums, vocals, guitar. If interested, please email Mrs Woller at jwoller@npghs.school.nz - Wednesdays at interval in the Music Room.

String Group: Wednesday lunchtimes in the Music room. Students getting string lessons are expected to attend. Others also welcome.

Harmony: Student-led singing group, no auditions, singing pop songs. Thursday lunchtimes in the Music Room.

Jubilate: Auditioned choir - Thursdays 3.30-5.00pm in the Music Room.

Ukuladies: Student-led all-comers ukulele group, no auditions - Friday intervals in the Music Room.

Chamber Music: Small ensembles to compete in the Chamber Music Contest in June. Looking for anyone who has played for at least two years, especially pianists who are good note-readers. Contact Mrs Woller at jwoller@npghs.school.nz.

Rockquest: Want to form a band or be a soloist or in a duo? Contact your friends and enter Smokefree Rockquest. Practice rooms are available for rehearsals. Look up the details at www.smokefreerockquest.co.nz.

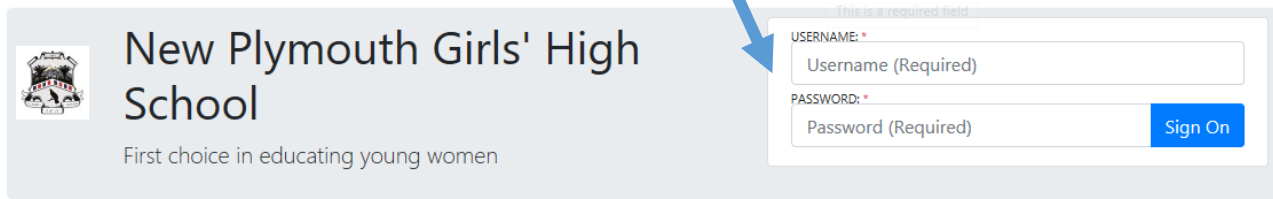
Goal Setting

Last year parents were surveyed and the feedback received indicated that parents value Goal Setting but no longer feel they need to come into school to be part of the process. Goal Setting has been running for so long and is now embedded into the culture of the way we do things at New Plymouth Girls' High School. Therefore, Goal Setting this year is taking place during Kawai Huia time. Students have been emailed the instructions. They are still writing their goals in the Student / Parent KAMAR Portal as done in previous years. Then Kawai Huia teachers will discuss with students the Goals they have set. This process starts Friday 28 February and will go for the next 2 – 3 weeks. Please talk to your daughter about this process and encourage her to think carefully about developing goals that are appropriate for her.

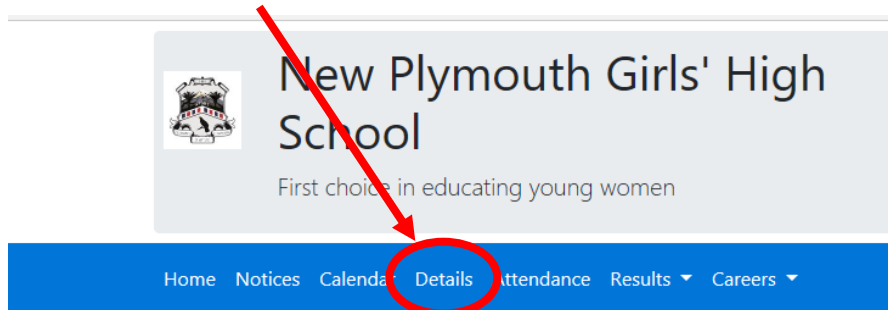
KAMAR Parent/Caregiver Portal Update – Edit Student Details

It is important that the school has accurate contact details. If you have or will be changing address, phone numbers or family circumstances, these can now be updated in the KAMAR portal. Below is a how to guide.

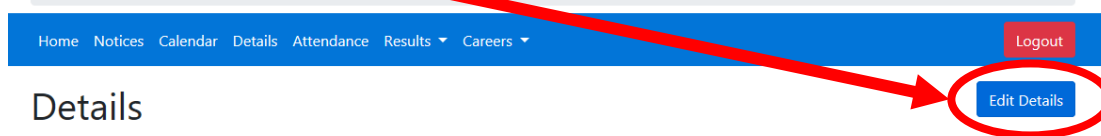
1. Firstly, access the KAMAR portal using the web address - <https://kamar.npghs.school.nz/index.php>
2. Login using the student username and use the parent/caregiver password. Please contact the school office if you have misplaced the password.



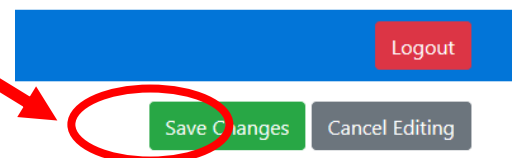
3. Click on the “Details” tab



4. Click on “Edit Details”



5. Add changes in the appropriate boxes, then click “Save Changes”



Our Admin Staff will receive a notification and will process the changes. They may request for supporting evidence to be supplied if required, e.g. Birth Certificate, etc.

Hostel Highlights

Kia Ora Koutou. A huge welcome back to all our boarders and families. This year is going to be one out of the box!

What an extraordinary start to 2020. Numbers continue to increase and the buzz of female voices echo throughout our walls.

We opened on Sunday 26 January and welcomed 26 new Year 9 girls. We now have 31 and another joining us mid-February. New Plymouth Girls' High School and Scotlands is fast becoming the preferred option for schools and boarding. Thank you to all families that have passed on wonderful comments, shared helpful knowledge and encouraged other families to check us out. I have been overwhelmed with the response.

One of our goals is to provide a safe, warm and welcoming environment. To measure this success, I think we asked a couple of our new Year 9 girls to evaluate their first few days of boarding during Orientation Week. Although nervous, here are some of their comments:

“Everyone was very welcoming, better than I expected.”

“I don't miss my mum as much anymore. This has turned into my family.”

We will continue to learn and grow together to create a space where all are welcomed, feel that sense of belonging and make long-lasting friendships.

One precious moment to share is the memorial for Megan Washington, an ex-boarder, who lost her battle to illness a year ago. Her friends organised a plaque in remembrance to Megan and fastened it to a park bench that stands proudly in our space at Scotlands. Check this out and other news on Facebook and Instagram.

Marina Walsh
Scotlands Hostel
hostelenquiries@npghs.school.nz

SPORTS

Hockey 2020

The 2020 hockey season is upon us. Last year we had a successful season with our 1st XI maintaining their status of being in the top tier Federation Cup /Marie Fry Cup tournament which will be held in Hawkes Bay from 31 August to 5 September this year.

We want to encourage new students and returning players to register as soon as possible. To register, players need to go to the following link: <https://bit.ly/2TQJZ38>

Registration needs to be done prior to the trials which are being held on the following afternoons at the Hobson Street Turf starting at 3.30pm Players must go straight down to the turf after school.

Trial Dates:

Monday 24 February: Year 9 and 10's and those new to the school.
Monday 2 March: For all year 11's to 13's

We aim to have at least six teams again this year. Three in the Premier Grade (1stXI, 2ndXI and Junior A XI) and three in the Championship Grade (3rd XI Junior B XI and Boarders XI). The following dates for exchanges with other school have been confirmed to date: 20 May, WCS; Whanganui, 23 June; WHS New Plymouth, 4-5 August; HGHS, 12 August; PNGHS, 27 September; NSW touring team.



Photo of 2019 tournament team after a win a tournament.

Mr Athol Hockey

Touch

The following players from NPGHS have been selected to play for Touch Taranaki to participate in the Bunnings Junior Touch Nationals which will be held in Auckland at Bruce Pulman Park in Papakura from Thursday 13th February 2020 – Sunday 16th February 2020.

Under-16 Girls
Madison Hann
Katarina Rio
Pypa Ward
Montana Zammit
Marara Murray

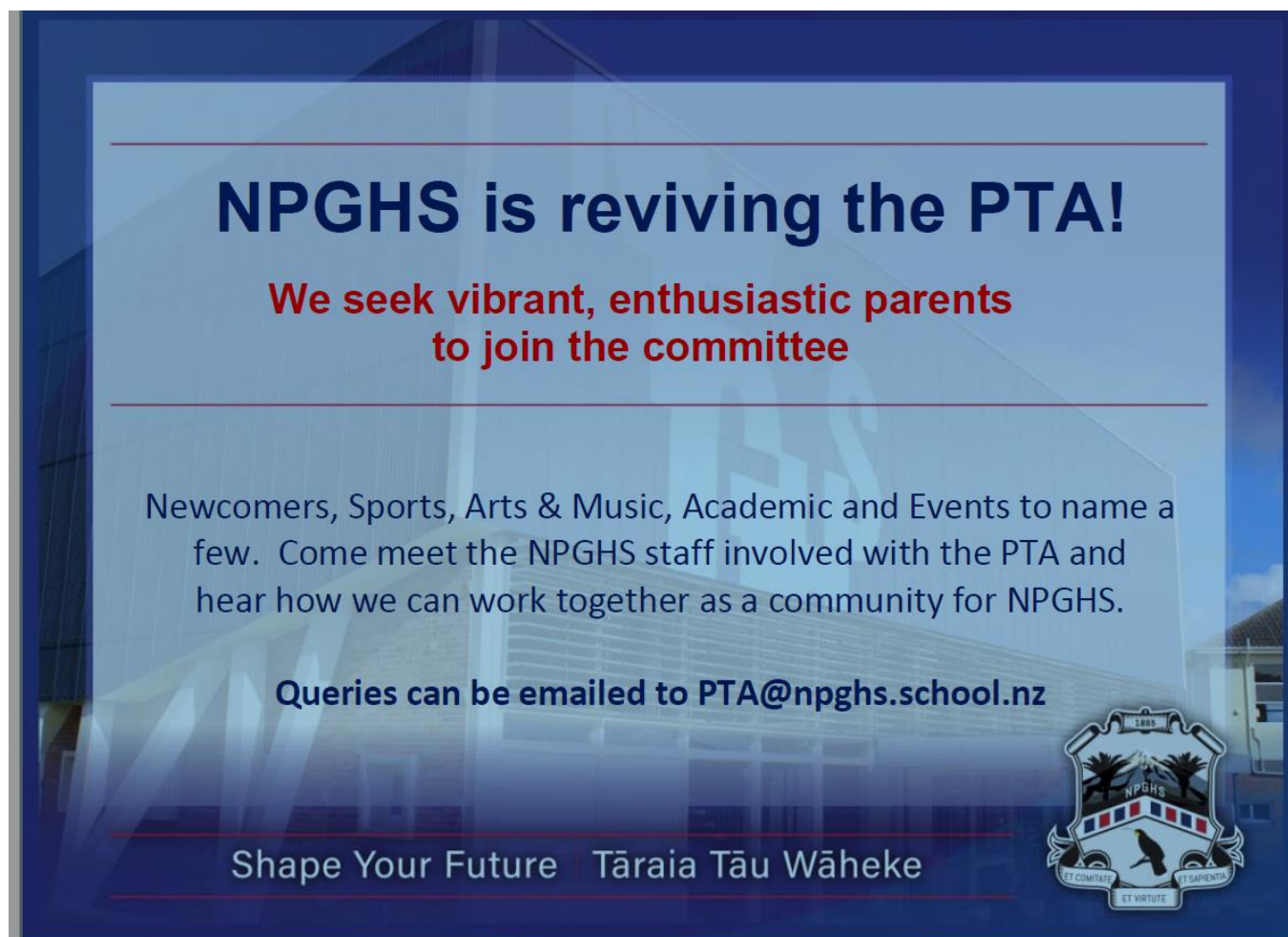
Under-16 Mixed
Jahnae Graham
Charlese Graham
Olivia Kahui-Hill
Miya Ishihara



Also, results from NZSS Track & Field – Miya Ishihara was 2nd in the Junior Girls triple jump and Laura Kehely was 4th in the Open 2km walk.

Waka Ama

Congratulations to Maria Phillips-Nassif and Jaetaami Fraser who have qualified to represent New Zealand at the Waka Ama International Va'a Federation World Cup championships being held in Hawaii in August.




NPGHS is reviving the PTA!

We seek vibrant, enthusiastic parents to join the committee

Newcomers, Sports, Arts & Music, Academic and Events to name a few. Come meet the NPGHS staff involved with the PTA and hear how we can work together as a community for NPGHS.

Queries can be emailed to PTA@npghs.school.nz

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TERM DATES

2020	
Term 1	28 January – 9 April
Term 2	28 April – 3 July
Term 3	20 July – 25 September
Term 4	12 October – 9 December