



1 APRIL 2024

# NAENAE COLLEGE

He moana  
pukepuke e  
ekengia e te waka

A choppy sea can be  
navigated by a waka

Kia ora e te whānau



Happy Easter! Easter is a very significant time for many in our community. The Easter story has different meanings for everyone. For some, it is a chance to stop, take some time, and mark the sacrifice of Jesus, Allah, Mary the mother of Jesus, and other gods. For others, Easter is a chance to stop, take some time, and be with family and friends. And for others, it is just a few days off to look after our wellbeing. However we choose to celebrate, currently, I think it is important to remember that the Easter story is also one of hope and faith.

So please take the time to eat some chocolate, pray, sleep in, or do whatever it takes to look after your whole wellbeing. But most importantly, I ask that we all focus on the message of hope that comes with the Easter story, and we can all have faith in humanity.

We have had some excellent events recently that I would like to highlight:

## **Learning Conferences**

Thank you to all who attended this event. We had the highest parent turnout of my six years here. Conversations between home and the staff are vital as we look to share tamariki's learning journey. We had 473 bookings, with a 72 percent attendance rate at those. Generally, our junior students' attendance is higher than the senior students'. One of our challenges is to make this event more meaningful for those seniors, and I welcome any suggestions from our community on how we can improve this experience.

## **The Relay for Life (report from Tanweyn Siencyn, HOD Careers and Transition)**

*"Just two weeks before Relay for Life, Madison and Paige stepped up with a brilliant idea: forming a Te Whānau Tahi Naenae College team. Despite the short timeframe, they tackled the challenge head-on, and wow did they succeed!*

*With the brilliant support of their parents, Marissa and Kelly, as well as assistance from staff, the team grew to an impressive 31 members. Together, they embarked on an incredible journey, raising an astounding \$3,804.95 for the Cancer Society.*

*The event itself was nothing short of electrifying, inspiring, emotional, and yes, tiring! Walking from 3pm to 8am the following day is no small feat, but as a team, they shared the laps and conquered it together! Relay for Life provides a platform for us all to celebrate those who have battled or are battling cancer, to celebrate our carers, to honour and remember loved ones lost, and to fight back by raising awareness and funds for the Cancer Society."*



We extend our gratitude to the Naenae community for your generous donations. We are immensely proud of our taura, staff, and whānau who rallied together to support this kaupapa. Looking ahead, inspired by Madison and Paige's initiative, we are already planning to get another team together next year. Together, we will continue to stand and support The Cancer Society!

**Secondary School's National Volleyball Tournament (report by Yvonne Manuel, Director of Sport)**



Learn to move ahead  
at [nzma.ac.nz](http://nzma.ac.nz)

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

*'What a privilege to be on the spot and witness breakthrough moments. Our boys coming off the back of tough games, mentally pushing through to refocus on the task at hand. Not resorting to disappointment or frustration - but shifting their mindset. This becomes tangible for the kete that they take with them. Ben's leadership can only be described as transformational.*

*The same leadership can be said for Avah Vailini and Jasper Taito. They nurtured and guided the young girls, displaying nothing less than 100 percent effort on the court. Breakthrough moments from Meme Isa'ako learned to push past the pressure and not resort to disappointment. She was smiling and had her head up. Kijiana Tuatoko had little game time, but when she was on the court, she put 100 percent effort into it.'*



Finally, a few weeks ago, I sent out attendance data and I would like to take the time to explain what some of this means. The percentage of attendance sent out is calculated by the Ministry of Education (MOE), not the school. For attendance purposes, a student is either in school or not in school. Per the MOE guidelines on attendance, the reason for a student not being in school is not considered. As a school, we understand that there are a variety of reasons students cannot be at school, and this is defined as 'justified' or 'unjustified'. It is important to remember that we also do not have control over these codes; these are also set by the Ministry. What we as a college do know is that the more you are in school and in class, the better your chances of success will be. In term two, I will send this data out again, BUT this time I will report to you only the 'unjustified' codes. These are the areas that we are all looking to improve on, and I will encourage you to have conversations at home about how you can support this important mahi.

Chris Taylor  
Principal

## SchoolBridge App

If you haven't already, please download the SchoolBridge App to receive the latest news and communications from the College, advise us of absences and book learning conferences.



**Naenae College**

**Download Our App**

Scan the QR Code to download. Or  
Search "**schoolbridge**" on your mobile AppStore or PlayStore.

Download on the **App Store** GET IT ON **Google Play**

Once you have downloaded the app, you can sign in using your school account information. Please contact the school if you need help with your account details.

### Reminders from Accounts:

Service Academy fees due now.  
Summer Sports Fees due now.

### Payment options:

- A. Eftpos/Cash - can be paid directly at Reception
  - B. Automatic/Online payment - Naenae College  
Account number 02-0540-0044653-00
- Please remember to put your child's name in the reference.

You can make your payment in one lump sum or spread your payments by term, monthly or fortnightly with automatic payments. Fundraising options are available to help pay your sports fees if required. Please see Mrs Manual at the sports office for more information.

## Term dates - 2024

- Term 1 – Monday 29 January to Friday 12 April
- Term 2 – Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July
- Term 3 – Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September
- Term 4 – Monday 14 October to Thursday 12 December

### Public holidays 2024

- 6 February – Waitangi Day
- 29 March – Good Friday
- 1 April – Easter Monday
- 25 April – ANZAC Day
- 3 June – King's birthday
- 28 June – Matariki
- 28 October – Labour Day

**If your child is away from school,  
please advise us via the  
SchoolBridge App (absences) or  
call Student Services on  
04 5677175 or 0800 662 655**