



10 October 2025

NAENAE COLLEGE

He moana
pukepuke e
ekengia e te waka

A choppy sea can be
navigated by a waka

Kia ora e te whānau

It feels like only yesterday we were welcoming our new rangatahi into the kura, and here we are, navigating the final stretch with another busy term. The wet days and colder temperatures can sometimes make the journey a bit choppy, but I am consistently heartened by the dedication I see from our students and the strong support from our wider community. The reference to the waka in our whakatauākī is symbolic of our journey together. If you have any concerns or need help with navigating any issues, then please don't hesitate to reach out. As the tumuaki of this kura, I am always willing to receive feedback or have visits from our community.

We are so proud of the way our students are currently approaching their derived grade exams. They have shown incredible focus and determination, and this mahi is a key part of our effort to raise academic expectations across the kura. The commitment shown by our rangatahi in these exams is truly encouraging and sets a strong foundation for their NCEA journey.

Taofi Saolotoga and Alilia Yusa (Gagana Sāmoa)
Nikisha Strachan, Jasnoor Kaur and Grace Stanford (History)

We want to express how incredibly proud we are of all the students who are taking on the scholarship-level exam.

Their dedication and hard work in preparing for this challenging assessment are truly commendable.

This journey is not just about academic success; it is a powerful example for our entire school community.

The aspirational choice these students have made—to challenge themselves and strive for excellence—is a lesson we can all learn from. As the whakatauki says, "He waka eke noa" (we are all in this canoe together). When one of us looks to better ourselves and takes on a challenge, it lifts the whole waka.

Their courage and commitment inspire us all to pursue our own personal bests.

We wish them all the very best for their exams.

I'm very pleased to announce the results of our recent triennial Board of Trustees election. We saw a higher voter turnout than in our last election, which is a fantastic sign of our whānau's engagement. A big congratulations to the newly elected members who will now take on the important mahi of leading our school.

Naenae College School Board Triennial Election

23 September, 2025

DECLARATION OF RESULT

Parent Representatives (5 vacancies)

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Milica Zivanovic | 58 |
| Arif Ali | 54 |
| Hoani Smith | 49 |
| Daniel Bowbyes | 47 |
| Kelly Palmer | 46 |
| Karel Dulver | 41 |
| Naga Ganesh Gorla | 18 |
| INVALID VOTES | 0 |

There being 7 candidates and 5 vacancies, I hereby declare the following duly elected:
Milica Zivanovic, Arif Ali, Hoani Smith, Daniel Bowbyes, Kelly Palmer

School Board Triennial Election
8 September 2025

Declaration of Result
Staff Representative (1 vacancy)

Rebekah Gaffney 28
Candidate B 14
INVALID VOTES 0

There being 2 candidates and 1 vacancy, I hereby declare
Rebekah Gaffney duly elected.

School Board Annual Election
17 September 2025

Declaration of Result
Student Representative (1 vacancy)

Keira Harrison 43
Candidate B 42
Candidate C 38
Candidate D 31
INVALID VOTES 5

There being 4 candidates and 1 vacancy, I hereby declare
Keira Harrison duly elected.

The first task for our new Board is to create the Strategic Plan for the next three years. This plan will be directly shaped by the valuable feedback provided in the surveys last term from parents, students, and staff. The voice of our community is so important as you provide the greatest advice on what each and all students need. We need this input to inform the future travel of the 'waka.'

Chris Taylor, Principal



CAA Reading Results

After both CAA events our 2025 Reading percentage pass was 69.64% compared with 57.3% in 2024.

This is an approximate increase of 12% from 2024 to 2025 which is to be celebrated and a testimony to the hard work of students and teachers throughout 2025.

Some ways to support your student with their reading at home include:

- Encouraging your student to read books at home - this includes fiction, non fiction, religious texts, cooking together and reading recipes (also involves numeracy), sports
- Reading together and talking about what you are reading as a whānau which can include listening to the news and talking about current events to help build vocabulary and general knowledge
- Analysing songs and music and listening to podcasts and audiobooks
- Talking to older whānau members to hear their origin stories
- Viewing, discussing and analysing social media posts
- Spelling competitions at home for commonly used household words.



Year 12 Reiley Andrews has been selected in the NZ U18 Ice Hockey Team to compete at the IHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship, Division II Group A event, taking place 19-25 January 2026 in Istanbul, Turkey.



Students speaking at the AEC Educators Conference

On Friday 31 October, four of our students will be attending UpliftEd, the Aotearoa Educators Collective Conference to speak honestly of their experience of school: what worked, what they needed but didn't get, suggestions for what the system needs to be and do, what the system and sector needs to know about them and their lives.

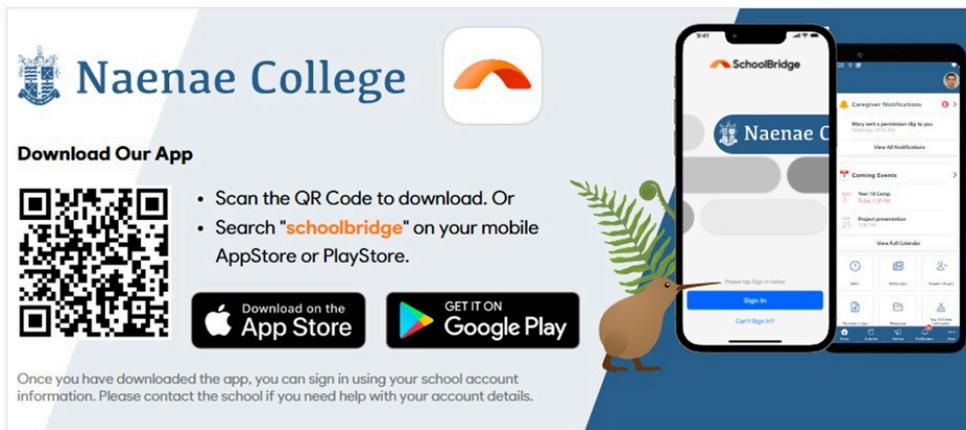
Jasnoor Kaur, Helen Nansen, Lyanne Metuli Tuluauau and Nikisha Strachan will represent our kura in front of a room full of educators from around New Zealand and Australia. This panel will be facilitated by the Children's Commissioner Dr Clare Achmad. This is an incredible opportunity for our young people to shape the education system that they deserve and have their voices heard on a national platform. We could not be prouder of our students representing their whānau and our kura at this internationally recognised conference.

[Here's more info](#) about the conference.



Save The Dates!

- Tuesday 21 October: Services March Out Ceremony 2025 10:00am to 11:30am
- Wednesday 22 October: Sports Awards Evening 6:00pm
- Thursday 30 October: Senior Prizegiving 6:30pm to 8:30pm (Doors open 6pm). Last day for seniors, early closure
- Tuesday 4 November: NCEA exams begin
- Friday 14 November: Teacher Only Day
- Thursday 27 November: Senior Graduation 6:30pm (Doors open 6pm)
- Monday 8 December: Junior Prizegiving 6:30pm to 8:00pm (Doors open at 6pm). Last day of school for 2025.



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.

SchoolBridge App

Please download the SchoolBridge App to receive the latest news and communications from the College, advise us of absences and book learning conferences.

From Accounts:

For any school payments required during the year.

Payment options:

A. Eftpos/Cash - can be paid directly at Reception

B. Automatic/Online payment - Naenae College Board of Trustees

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 fees if required. Please see our accounts office for more information.

Term dates - 2025

Term 1 – Monday 27 January to Friday 11 April

Term 2 – Monday 28 April to Friday 27 June

Term 3 – Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September

Term 4 – Monday 6 October to Monday 8 December

Public holidays 2025

6 February – Waitangi Day

18 April – Good Friday

21 April – Easter Monday

25 April – ANZAC Day

2 June – King's birthday

20 June – Matariki

27 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**