



### ***Attendance***

Have you checked the portal this week? Do you know your child's attendance % for the year?

In Term 3 seniors prepare for subject entry examinations (which count for NCEA as derived grades) and all year 9-12 students select their options for next year.

Thank you for working with us to maximise learning opportunities for current study and future pathways this term through our students being in class, on time.

### ***Junior Subject Report Night 4-7pm Thursday 10 August***

Please book online [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) code **zjxa2**

We look forward to meeting you to inform you of your child's progress and discuss their next steps for learning.

### ***Junior Options Expo.***

Junior Options Expo is now being combined with Junior Reports night. This will be based in the Hodge Learning Commons if you wish to ask questions around any options that your child would like to choose in 2018. Online option selection via the KAMAR portal will close on the 14<sup>th</sup> August.

### ***Year 9 and 10 Junior Diploma***

Over the next fortnight, Year 9 and 10 students will be formally introduced to our Junior Diploma in assemblies run by Mrs Sulzberger, Deputy Principal in charge of assessment. The Junior Diploma has been tailored to our school and look, sounds, feels like NCEA through the assessment of common assessment tasks.

Attached is a flyer with more information about the system. You can see your child's assessment results live at any given time through the KAMAR portal. Mrs Sulzberger will be available at the Options Expo in the Hodge Learning Commons on junior subject report night on the 10<sup>th</sup> August if you would like to ask any further questions around the system.

### ***Boys Basketball***

Our U15, U17 and Premier Boys teams won their finals of the central zones completions over the last couple of nights.

They will now compete at the Greater Auckland championship and do the business there later this month.

### ***Girls Lacrosse***

Our Senior Girls team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the central zone competition and will compete in the Greater Auckland championship on Thursday.

### ***Tips for to Improve Test Success***

Parents often ask how they can support their children when it comes to test time. There are many strategies that can help depending on the learning style of the child, the subject, the type of test etc. Below are some generic tips that can act as starters for a discussion about how best to support your child.

#### **1. Have a Positive Attitude**

Approach the big test as you would approach a giant jigsaw puzzle. It might be tough, but you can do it! A positive attitude goes a long way toward success.

#### **2. Make a Plan**

The week before the test, ask your teacher what the test is going to cover. Is it from the textbook only? Class notes? Can you use your calculator? If you have been absent, talk to friends about material you may have missed. Make a list of the most important topics to be covered and use that as a guide when you study. Circle items that you know will require extra time. Be sure to plan extra time to study the most challenging topics.

#### **3. The Night Before**

Cramming doesn't work. If you have followed a study plan, the night before the test you should do a quick review and get to bed early. Remember, your brain and body need sleep to function well, so don't stay up late!

#### **4. The Morning of the Test**

Did you know that you think better when you have a full stomach? So don't skip breakfast the morning of the test. Get to school early and do a ten-minute power study right before the test, so your brain is turned on and tuned up.

#### **5. Test Time**

Before the test begins, make sure you have everything you'll need - scratch paper, extra pencils, your calculator (if you're allowed to use it). Understand how the test is scored: Do you lose points for incorrect answers? Or is it better to make guesses when you're not sure of the answer? Read the instructions! You want to make sure you are marking answers correctly.

#### **6. Manage Your Time**

Scan through the test quickly before starting. Answering the easy questions first can be a time saver and a confidence builder. Plus, it saves more time in the end for you to focus on the hard stuff.

### **7. I'm Stuck!**

Those tricky problems can knock you off balance. Don't get worried or frustrated. Reread the question to make sure you understand it, and then try to solve it the best way you know how. If you're still stuck, circle it and move on. You can come back to it later. What if you have no idea about the answer? Review your options and make the best guess you can, but only if you don't lose points for wrong answers.

### **8. Multiple-Choice Questions**

The process of elimination can help you choose the correct answer in a multiple-choice question. Start by crossing off the answers that couldn't be right. Then spend your time focusing on the possible correct choices before selecting your answer.

### **9. Neatness Counts**

If your 4s look like 9s, it could be a problem. Be sure that your writing is legible and that you erase your mistakes. For machine-scored tests, fill in the spaces carefully.

### **10. I'm Done!**

Not so fast - when you complete the last item on the test, remember that you're not done yet. First, check the clock and go back to review your answers, making sure that you didn't make any careless mistakes (such as putting the right answer in the wrong place or skipping a question). Spend the last remaining minutes going over the hardest problems before you turn in your test.