



"Maa mahi,  
ka ora"



Matamata  
College

CONTACT

29 November 2019

### YEAR 10 EOTC WEEK

As always, our students represented our community in a positive light while out and about during Year 10 EOTC week. Given that the Monday was very wet, it worked out well that we had planned our programme indoors for most of the day. Students researched where they were going for the week and used their mapping skills to locate our key sites. During the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, groups were out and about bringing the curriculum to life. Some of the values that underpin the New Zealand Curriculum are "community and participation" and "ecological sustainability" and our week was all about promoting these values. During the service part of the week, groups completed community projects which ranged from painting out at Tangata Marae to helping to form a new bike track at Wairere School. Out at Maungatautari, students experienced the unique environment, learnt about Predator Free 2050 and were given ideas about how they can take part in protecting our native species. On Friday, students spent the morning finishing off their group presentations followed by a shared lunch that all groups had contributed to preparing throughout the week. We hope our year 10's felt challenged throughout the week through what they learnt and we aim to explore how we can connect more with the community through similar service based projects.



**SENIOR AND JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS**  
Open Invitation to all parents, caregivers and whanau. Please come and celebrate the magnificent achievements of our students.

LOOKING AHEAD	
Fri 29 Nov to Wed 4 Dec	
Y 9 & 10 Faculty Days	
<b>Tuesday 3 December</b>	
Senior Prizegiving	7.30pm
<b>Thursday 5 December</b>	
Junior Prizegiving	11am
Term 4 ends approx. 12.30pm (buses run at normal time)	
<b>Tuesday 28 January 2020</b>	
Y9 First Day	Y13 First Day
Powhiri for ALL new students	
<b>Wednesday 29 January</b>	
Y9 Orientation	Y13 Camp Night
<b>Thursday 30 January</b>	
Y10, 11, 12 First Day	





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## YEAR 9 CAMP WEEK

It was a tricky start to camp with the weather and classic student 'over-packing' delaying our arrival to Finlay Park. Thanks to some good old Kiwi-ingenuity and grit we managed to get all students and their belongings out to camp. The boys rolled straight into their planned activities with the girls completing a variety of different team challenges as we did our best to keep them occupied whilst we waited for the weather to improve. The boys are to be commended for their positive attitude to camp on this first day in what was at times, some truly miserable conditions. The girls eventually arrived at Out-camp in the late afternoon and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening and morning in the outdoors. The girls got stuck into making their shelters and cooking their food over an open flame. The Out-camp staff really enjoyed their company and their positive attitude.

Day Two saw an improvement in the weather. The boys had another full day of activities and by the afternoon their energy levels were beginning to fade. Thanks in the most part, to a lack of sleep despite the efforts of the staff! The girls were back on main camp by lunch and into their own set of activities. The activity highlights for both the boys and girls were Water Skiing, Animal Survivor and Stand-up Paddle Boarding. The Finlay Park and Pairere Water-Ski club were so good with the students encouraging them to get involved and overcome their fears. Tuesday evening was completed with a fun quiz prepared and delivered by Ms Lewis. The best part of the quiz involved students having to connect baby photos to members of staff at camp.

Day Three had the boys depart for their Out-camp experience with the girls continuing on at the main camp by themselves. It was amazing how much calmer everything became with the boys occupied in the outdoors. I arrived with Miss Claassen (our on-site photographer) just before dinner to be greeted by two goats being skinned and prepared for dinner. The boys (and myself) were engrossed learning how to skin and prepare meat by a local hunter. The result was a delicious goat curry a couple of hours later. The night concluded for the boys with a glow worm trip and then a hot milo before bed. Both the boys and girls found the glow work experience fascinating. Early the next morning, just like for the girls, Mr Craig took the group through some history of the area before demonstrating his 'land wars' rifle.

The final day of camp brought glorious weather (of course). By now there were many tired bodies looking forward to home. We still managed to find time to send kids down the hydro-slide, flying fox, black slide and along the inflatable in the pool. This summed up the theme of camp, getting wet lots of times, but still lots of fun to be had. We managed to get all the weary bodies and the majority of belongings (gotta love lost property) back to school by 3pm on Thursday. We left behind the hard-working kitchen team of Mrs Hooper, Mrs Autridge-Hughes and Miss Atkins to finish their pack up. Thankfully they were able to get away pretty quickly after a tireless effort feeding us all for the week. Alongside these staff and the ones I have already mentioned were several teachers who were outstanding in their efforts. Without them camp would not have been possible. All the teachers involved were:

Ms Lewis, Mr Craig, Mr Redwood, Mr Bennison, Mr Lal, Miss McCarty, Mrs McIntyre, Mr Chand, Miss Claassen, Mrs Hooper, Mrs Autridge-Hughes, Miss Atkins, Miss Parkes, Miss Steffert, Miss Duncan, Miss Adams-O'Riley, Mrs Finlay, Miss Kriel, Mr Kilham, Mrs Goldsmith, Mrs Allison, Miss Ablett, Mr Venkataiya, Mr Deo, Mr Appelman.

It was great this week to wrap things up with a camp assembly. Miss Claassen produced another great set of video highlights and certificates and prizes were awarded. Congratulations to the winning girls group, 'The Hulkets' and winning boys group, 'The Geeks'. Mr Hills.

