

# MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL: J.M. Inger, M.Ed.Admin (Hons), B.A., Dip.Tchg



13 September 2022

## SPECIAL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Students

### New long-term strategy for COVID-19

You will be aware that New Zealand has now moved to a new long-term approach to COVID-19. These changes have been made by Cabinet based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand.

This new approach will result in some changes to the way in which we operate here at school, while some things will not change:

- **Household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to complete a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, students and staff who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms are able to continue to attend school.** This is good news as school is the best place for students to be so that they can be engaged in their learning, and connected with their teachers, classmates and friends
- Information on how to get RAT kits can be found here: [Request a RAT– Ministry of Health](#)
- Mask wearing is no longer required in schools
- All of the other recommended public health measures will stay in place, as we know that they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses, including COVID-19 and flu. These include ensuring that our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, that we all maintain good hand hygiene and that we encourage everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows
- **Most importantly, if any student or staff member is feeling unwell, they must stay at home and take a RAT test if they have any symptoms which may be COVID-19**
- **Any student or staff member who presents as unwell at school will be asked to go home.**

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY IMPLICATIONS

You will also be aware that Cabinet has decided that New Zealand will observe a public holiday on Monday 26 September to mark the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. This means that we have had to make some changes to our school planner. **In particular, our senior exams which were to have run in the last week of this term will now begin the previous Friday 23 September and they will still run for five days. Senior students will have study leave during these five days which will commence from the start of the day on Friday 23, even though the exams will not commence until the afternoon that day as we must set up the PAC for these exams in the morning, following our Dance and Drama Showcase the previous evening which cannot be shifted.**

Our internal exams will once again take on increased importance this year as our teachers collect evidence as a back-stop in case any students contract Covid and are unable to attend their NCEA external exams in November. Results from these internal exams will help teachers to look at evidence and recommend derived grades should these be necessary.

**Our exam timetable was sent out two weeks' ago to our students' school email addresses, but with this change of dates there have been some changes which are shown in the new exam timetable which is attached to this newsletter.**

Our internal exams are compulsory for all senior students (unless they and their teacher have agreed that they do not need to sit their internal exam) and any student not coming in to school to sit their exam will need to do so at a later date.

**All senior students who are on study leave from Friday 23 September only need to come in to school to attend their exams. When they do not have scheduled exams they are expected to be studying at home.** If they are a bus student then we can provide rooms for them to study in when they are not actually sitting exams.

**The morning exam will run from 9am to 12pm, with the afternoon exam running from 1pm until 4pm.** Some bus students may therefore need to arrange alternative transport to get home if they have an afternoon exam.

Some exam rules:

- Students must wear correct uniform in the exams
- They must gather under the Canteen canopy 15 minutes before each of their exams, to be brought into the PAC
- No cell-phones are allowed to be brought into the exam room. They must be in the student's school bag at the back of the PAC in silent mode
- All pens, pencils and calculators can only be brought into the exam room in a clear, see-through snap-lock-type plastic bag
- Drink bottles may be brought into the exam, but they must be clear plastic with no writing on them
- Those students requiring reader/writers will be collected at the PAC before the exam begins
- Students having an exam clash must see Mrs Keightley at the Office **before the study leave period begins** to arrange another exam session in which to sit one of their exams.

### **Attendance at the Queen's Funeral**

We have learnt that ex-student Greg Gifford, who is currently an Acting Sergeant in the New Zealand Army, has been chosen to be part of the New Zealand contingent to represent Aotearoa at the Queen's funeral. Greg has already left the country to be at the funeral. This is a massive honour and definitely something that his family and we feel very proud of.

Of course, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who is also an ex-student of this school, will also be attending the funeral in London.



John Inger  
Principal

## 2022 SENIOR END OF YEAR EXAM TIMETABLE – Weeks 9/ 10 Friday 23 September to Friday 30 September

AM	Friday 23 Sept	VENUE	TUESDAY 27 Sept	VENUE	WEDNESDAY 28 Sept	VENUE	THURSDAY 29 Sept	VENUE	FRIDAY 30 Sept	VENUE
			12 CHEM	PAC	11 SCI 1-4	PAC	11 MATH 1-4	PAC	13 ENG	PAC
<b>9 -</b>	<b>STUDY LEAVE</b>		13 BIO	PAC	12 HIST	PAC	12/13 JAP	L3	12 PHYSICS	PAC
<b>10am</b>	<b>FOR SENIOR</b>		11 FOOD TECH	PAC	13 ACCT	PAC	13 STATS	PAC	12 ECO	PAC
	<b>STUDENTS</b>		11 DRAMA	PAC	13 AGSCI	PAC	12 BIO	PAC	11 ECO	PAC
			12 FOOD TECH	PAC						
			12 CHEM	PAC	11 SCI 1-4	PAC	11 MATH 1-4	PAC	13 ENG	PAC
<b>10 -</b>	<b>STUDY LEAVE</b>		13 BIO	PAC	12 HIST	PAC	12/13 JAP	L3	12 PHYSICS	PAC
<b>11am</b>	<b>FOR SENIOR</b>		11 FOOD TECH	PAC	13 ACCT	PAC	13 STATS	PAC	12 ECO	PAC
	<b>STUDENTS</b>		11 DRAMA	PAC	13 AGSCI	PAC	12 BIO	PAC	11 ECO	PAC
			12 FOOD TECH	PAC						
<b>11-</b>			12 CHEM	PAC	11 SCI 1-4	PAC	11 MATH 1-4	PAC	13 ENG	PAC
<b>12pm</b>	<b>STUDY LEAVE</b>		13 BIO	PAC	12 HIST	PAC	12/13 JAP	L3	12 PHYSICS	PAC
	<b>FOR SENIOR</b>		11 FOOD TECH	PAC	13 ACCT	PAC	13 STATS	PAC	12 ECO	PAC
	<b>STUDENTS</b>		11 DRAMA	PAC	13 AGSCI	PAC	12 BIO	PAC	11 ECO	PAC
			12 FOOD TECH	PAC						
	Friday 23 Sept	VENUE	TUESDAY 27 Sept	VENUE	WEDNESDAY 28 Sept	VENUE	THURSDAY 29 Sept	VENUE	FRIDAY 30 Sept	VENUE
<b>1-</b>	11 ENG 1-4	PAC	12 ENGLISH	PAC	13 CHEM	PAC	13 CALC	PAC	12 MATH (MAS/MAC)	PAC
<b>2pm</b>	12/13 AGRIBUS	PAC	13 HIST	PAC	11 GEO	PAC	12 GEO	PAC	13 PHYS	PAC
	12 ACCT	PAC	11 HIST	PAC	11/12/13 TE REO	PAC	11 MUS	B1	11 AG SCI	PAC
	13 ECO	PAC			12 AGSCI	PAC	13 CLASSICS	PAC	13 GEO	PAC
					13 FOOD TECH	PAC			11 ACCT	PAC
<b>2-</b>	11 ENG 1-4	PAC	12 ENGLISH	PAC	13 CHEM	PAC	13 CALC	PAC	12 MATH (MAS/MAC)	PAC
<b>3pm</b>	12/13 AGRIBUS	PAC	13 HIST	PAC	11 GEO	PAC	12 GEO	PAC	13 PHYS	PAC
	12 ACCT	PAC	11 HIST	PAC	11/12/13 TE REO	PAC	11 MUS	B1	11 AG SCI	PAC
	13 ECO	PAC			12 AGSCI	PAC	13 CLASSICS	PAC	13 GEO	PAC
					13 FOOD TECH	PAC			11 ACCT	PAC
<b>3-</b>	11 ENG 1-4	PAC	12 ENGLISH	PAC	13 CHEM	PAC	13 CALC	PAC	12 MATH (MAS/MAC)	PAC
<b>4pm</b>	12/13 AGRIBUS	PAC	13 HIST	PAC	11 GEO	PAC	12 GEO	PAC	13 PHYS	PAC
	12 ACCT	PAC	11 HIST	PAC	11/12/13 TE REO	PAC	11 MUS	B1	11 AG SCI	PAC
	13 ECO	PAC			12 AGSCI	PAC	13 CLASSICS	PAC	13 GEO	PAC
					13 FOOD TECH	PAC			11 ACCT	PAC

1. If a student has an exam clash they must see Ms Keightley in the student office to arrange an alternative time before Wednesday 21 September.
2. A clash or Scholarship exam can be sat in any of the free exam slots that a student might have.