



#3 11th April 2025

# Dargaville High School

Tēnā tātou katoa,

Today is the last day of Term One, which has been a very busy term for a number of reasons. There have been a number of class trips, careers trips, Gateway workshops, sports, competitions, and Kapa Haka.

The week beginning the 24 March was very busy, starting with a large number of senior students undertaking a learner licence course, as one step towards gaining their drivers license. We also had a group of students attend the EPRO8 regional challenge in Whangarei and the Police Academy went whitewater rafting at the Vector Wero facility in Auckland. Lastly, the Senior Girls' Volleyball team competed in the North Island Senior Secondary School Volleyball competition, also in Auckland.

The first meeting between the Principals and Head Students from Dargaville High School, Otamatea High School, Rodney College and Ruawai College was held last week. This year our group has grown to include Bream Bay College. Also last week, a number of senior students undertook a Health and Safety Course and a Heights Course. Additionally, a number of Year 13 students attended Polyfest in Auckland. During the midst of a busy week, we also had an ERO onsite visit from Tuesday to Thursday.

Our Kapa Haka roopu have been practising hard in preparation for performing at this year's Tai Tokerau Festival. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival and we returned to where it began, Opononi Area School. The roopu performed on stage on Wednesday and represented the school with pride. A big thank you to the staff, tutors and whānau who have worked on or helped with the campaign.

The Showquest students have also been practising very hard and are preparing for the regional Show Quest on May 1st (the first week of Term Two).

As we look to Term Two, a reminder of the government's goal to raise school attendance throughout New Zealand. As a school, we will continue to follow up on absences and would appreciate your support in this.

As I have stated, today is the last day of Term One. Term Two begins on Monday 28th April. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Nāku nā,

Mike Houghton  
Tumuaki



## BYOD DEVICES

Year 9 students are encouraged to bring a device to school everyday to assist with their learning.

Parents are able to purchase a device or rent a device from the school.

Please contact the school office for more details.



# Trustee Treasure

When schools encourage children to practise reading at home with parents, the children make significant gains in reading achievement compared to those who only practise at school.

Families whose children are doing well in school monitor out-of-school activities. Examples: Setting limits on TV watching/ devices, checking up on children when parents are not home, arranging for after-school activities and supervised care.



To register go to our website: [nwfcnz.org](http://nwfcnz.org)

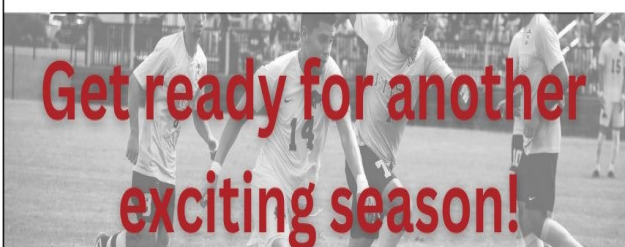
Please register on as soon as possible so we can register our teams.

All players must complete a registration form.

Open for ages 4 years and up.

Season commences Saturday 3rd May.

Any queries to [nwfc1953@gmail.com](mailto:nwfc1953@gmail.com)



## SCHOOL COSTS – PAYMENT OPTION

With regard to your school costs, did you know you can set up an automatic payment to pay these off? If you are interested in this option, please call in and see Liz Pocklington at the school office to make the arrangements.

# Girls Volleyball Championships

In Week 9, our senior girls volleyball team travelled to Auckland to compete at the NISS Senior Satellite Volleyball Tournament at Barfoot & Thompson Netball Centre. The girls played some great volleyball against some strong teams across the 3-day tournament, winning 4 out of 7 games and placing 15th out of 24 teams. You have done the school proud. Well done, girls!

Thank you to Mr Amoroa for your dedication to volleyball at our school and to Sarah for looking after the group and keeping us well-fed.





# Dean Report

Sarah Martin—Towai House Dean

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we end the first term of 2025. It is pleasing to see the students engaging and foster a sense of belonging in the new vertical form system at the school and a special mention and congratulations to all the new leaders of the four houses but especially Towai house leaders Ti-Jaye Aloua, Gabby Kumar and Gloria Te'o. These leaders will help guide the students in all house activities.

## Attendance Reminder

We'd like to remind all parents and students about the importance of regular attendance. Every day counts! If your child is unable to attend school, please notify the office as soon as possible.

## Uniform Policy

With winter coming, it is important that your child comes to school in the correct uniform. Long pants need to be straight, no cargo pockets and no cuffs at the bottom, they must also have no logos. Jackets must be plain black and the school sweatshirt is the only permissible one. For a full list of uniform requirements, please visit our school website or contact the office.

## Mobile Phone Policy

A friendly reminder that phones are not to be used at any time during the school day (this is a government policy) this includes earbuds and headphones.

## Events

It is pleasing to see the large number of students taking part in extracurricular activities. Many winter sports are in full training mode. Basketball and Volleyball are in the middle of their season and tournaments respectively. Showquest pupils are rehearsing for their performance in the first week of term two, and Kapa Haka are performing at the Te Tai Tokerau this week. There are also many clubs knitting, art and gardening. Well done to all those students taking part.

I am looking forward to being the dean of Towai House and watching our students participate in school events and continuing to commit to excel in their education.

If you have any questions about your child, please do not hesitate to get in contact with their dean.

# Diary Dates

Monday 28th April	Year 9 Option Taster 3 Starts
Wednesday 30th April	Gateway Heights Safety Course
Thursday 1st May	Showquest
Friday 2nd May	Building Academy Heights Course

## Stay up to date with a snap of your fingers



### Our School Communication All In One Spot

- School Alert Groups • Cancellations • Direct Absentees
- Contacts Directory • School Events • Daily Notices
- Plus Much More!



School Apps<sup>NZ</sup>  
snApp mobile

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'SchoolAppsNZ' & choose our school once installed.

# Heights Course

Several students from the Building Academy and Gateway Programme attended a Safety at Heights Course in Whangarei on 2nd March.

This course saw the students learning how to correctly harness themselves while working at heights and correct techniques while working at a height.



## From the Board

From time to time, you may have an issue that needs to be discussed further in order to resolve it.

We would encourage you to view our policies directly, as you are able to click on other helpful links within the policies also. The policies are on the website [schooldocs.co.nz](http://schooldocs.co.nz). From there you just type 'dargaville high school', then it takes you to the user name and password, which are both the same, lower case "darghigh".

Please see below a piece from the policy that explains the process:

*Concerns and complaints can be raised verbally or in writing. If a concern or complaint raised verbally cannot be resolved through discussion, the person who receives the information may make a written record of the discussion or ask that the concern or complaint be received in writing.*

- \* Anyone who has a concern or complaint should raise it as soon as possible with an appropriate person at the kura. This is usually with a staff member who is directly involved (e.g. classroom kaiako, kaiako in charge of a programme). The person who receives the concern or complaint may refer the matter to a more appropriate staff member, which may include senior staff, the tumuaki, or the board.*
- \* Serious matters can be raised directly with the tumuaki, who may escalate the matter to the board as required.*
- \* A concern or complaint about the tumuaki should be raised with the presiding member.*
- \* A concern or complaint about the presiding member should be raised with another board member.*

*If a person feels their concern or complaint has not been resolved after receiving a response, they may escalate the matter to the tumuaki or board.*

In case you are unfamiliar with some of the words used, please see the following chart:

- \* presiding member - previously known as the board chair
- \* kaiako - teacher
- \* tumuaki - principal

It is important to remember that all staff are approachable and happy to assist or redirect you to the person who can best help you.