

10 December 2019

Dear Parents, Caregivers and students of Gisborne Girls' High School & Tairawhiti Services Academy.

Kia ora koutou e nga matua me nga tauira o Turanga Wahine, o Te Tairawhiti Services Academy hoki.

Welcome to all students and their whanau who will be attending Gisborne Girls' High School and Tairawhiti Services Academy in 2019 either as a new enrolment or as a returning student. We are looking forward to a productive and successful year. This letter is to inform you of some important information concerning the start of the school year. If you have any questions that are not answered by this letter please don't hesitate to contact the school. The school office will re-open Thursday 17th January from 9:00am to 2:30pm.

A. School Year Commencement

1) Tuesday 29th January: Year 9 and any new enrolments at any level

All Year 9 students and any new enrolments at other levels, along with their whanau, are invited to attend the official powhiri and welcome to the school. As this is the important first event for our Hinetu Programme which involves a collective partnership with whanau and community to foster and embed our school values it is expected that all new students and whanau attend. At this welcome students will meet their form teacher, receive their timetable and visit their form room. A barbeque will be provided, and we hope that all new enrolments will take this opportunity to meet the people who will be their important support network for the new school year. Students are to attend in correct school uniform. Please assemble at the bus bay on Stanley Road at 5:15pm.

2) Wednesday 30th January: Year 9 students and Prefects only

School starts at 8:25am and students are to report their Form Class. Year 9 students are asked to bring a pen, drink bottle, lunch and their swimming gear. School will finish at 2:00pm. The Kaiti buses will be available to take students home at this time; other bus students can remain at school until the country buses depart at their usual time.

3) Wednesday 30th January: Timetable issues Year 11-13 Students only

All 2019 Year 11-13 students will receive an e-mail in the new year outlining their timetable. Only those students who want, or need, to discuss their timetable are to come to the Hall between 10am -1.00pm this day. **If no changes are needed then students are not require to attend on this day.**

4) Thursday 31st January: Years 9-11 students and Prefects only

School starts at 8:25am. Years 9-10 students are to report to their Form Class. Year 11 students are to meet in the Hall for assembly. School will finish at 2:00pm. The Kaiti buses will be available to take students home at this time; other bus students can remain at school until the country buses depart at their usual time.

5) Friday 1st February: Years 12 and 13 students only

School starts at 8:25am. Years 12 and 13 students are to report to their Form Class. School will finish at 1:00pm. The Kaiti buses will be available to take students home at this time; other bus students can remain at school until the country buses depart at their usual time.

6) Monday 4th February: Full school

Lessons commence today and the normal school timetable will operate. The school cafeteria "Star Café" will be open from this day.

B. Uniform

All students are expected to come to school every day in correct uniform. Students must wear the regulation uniform items appropriate to their year level. Included in this mailout is a copy of our Parent Handbook. I draw your attention to the section outlining the uniform requirements, where you will also find the uniform price list. For the powhiri the Tairawhiti Services Academy students are required to wear the following: black flats, black skirt, white long sleeve dress shirt (females), black dress shoes, black dress trousers, white long sleeve dress shirt (males).

The uniform shop is open **Thursday 17th - Friday 18th January and Tuesday 22th - Friday 25th January from 9:00am - 2:00pm**. The office and uniform shop will be closed Monday 28th January for Anniversary Day.

C. Stationery

Stationery lists will be issued to students when they receive their timetable on their first day at school. As the stationery requirements are subject specific it is best to issue the lists once timetables are finalised to avoid purchasing items that may then not be needed. The school does not sell stationery, but the various outlets in town offer good deals throughout the first weeks of school. Our lists are also found on <https://www.myschool.co.nz/Gghs>. Students are requested to have their stationery by week two.

D. Bank Information

Enclosed with this letter is the form to change or set up automatic payments to the school. Many parents find this a very convenient way to cover school expenses. If you would like to set up an automatic payment for 2019 you simply need to complete the details on the form and take it in to your current bank or you can complete this process online. **Please ensure that the student's full name is recorded in the 'Particulars' and 'Reference' part of the form.**

E. Important Contact Information: Academic Deans

Year 9 Grace Davidson	email: grace.davidson@gghs.school.nz
Year 10 Rita Halley	email: rita.halley@gghs.school.nz
Year 11 Justine Ward	email: justine.ward@gghs.school.nz
Year 12 Ingrid Meister	email: ingrid.meister@gghs.school.nz
Year 13 Christine Bevan-Hutana	email: chrissy.bevanhutana@gghs.school.nz

The first term is always a busy one and Term One, 2019 promises to be no exception. The Athletics Sports will be held on Wednesday 27th February and the Swimming Sports on Thursday 7th March. Further details will be announced later. Parents and caregivers are very welcome to attend both of these events. An overnight camp for all Year 9 students will be held at a local marae in March. This camp provides an opportunity for the Year 9 students to come together and interact with Academic Deans, teaching staff and senior students in a relaxed environment. Details and a consent form will be given out early in Term One.

We look forward to seeing you in 2019 and hope your student will take advantage of all that Gisborne Girls' High School and Tairawhiti Services Academy has to offer. We wish you and your whanau a happy Christmas and all the best for the start of the new year.

Yours sincerely



Jan Kumar
Principal