



WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Te Kura Tuarua o Taraika ki Pukeahu

PRINCIPAL: Nigel Hanton *BTchLng, Dip Ed Man, AdvDipTch*

21 October 2016

Dear Parents / Caregivers

All students in year 10 will be sitting end of year examinations this year in English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science and Health and Physical Education (HPE). The exams will be held from Thursday 17 November to Friday 18 November.

The timetable for these days is as follows.

Thursday 17 November	Friday 18 November
9.00 – 10.30 – Social Studies exam	9.00 – 11.00 – English exam
10.30 – 11.30 – Morning Break	11.00 – 12.00 - Break
11.30 – 1.00 – Science exam	12.00 – 1.00 - Mathematics exam
1.00 – 2.00 – Lunch break	1.00 – students finish for the day
2.00 – 3.00 – HPE exam	
3.00 – School ends for the day	

On the following page I have included some information on:

- the content of each exam,
- some information on how and what to study for each subject to help your student as they prepare for these exams.

You will receive results from these examinations on the portal and at junior prizegiving on Wednesday 14 December.

Good luck!

Regards

Dominic Killalea

Deputy Principal

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

English

The English exam is 2 hours. There are two parts to this examination. In the first part, students will be required to write an essay about a book, story, poem or film that they have studied in class this year. In the second part students will answer questions about short pieces of writing that they have not seen before (unfamiliar texts).

Health and Physical Education

The HPE exam is 1 hour. All questions are a page long and will allow for all stages of SOLO to be applied. Students will be given revision worksheets before the examination.

Mathematics

The exam is 1 hour and will be appropriate to the student's chosen Mathematics course in 2017. Please note – phones, ipads etc are NOT ALLOWED as calculators.

MAA112: These students will do an algebra exam. It will involve knowing algebra techniques and using them to solve problems in context. It will be a **non-calculator** paper and will be practice for the external 1.2 MCAT which these students will sit next year.

MAS112: There will be two tasks: a Number task and a Statistics task. **Students will need a calculator.** The exam is designed to test a student's ability to use their number skills to solve a real-life problem and to draw graphs and calculate statistics in order to analyse data. These papers will be practices for 1.1 Number and 1.10 Multivariate Data, which are 2 of the internals in the MAS course next year.

NUM111 and **ATM112** (Arotahi): These students will sit an exam with portfolio type questions on Number, Measurement and Statistics.

Students will need a calculator.

Science

The Science exam is 90 minutes. The first half of the paper will be done online and so students will need to bring a charged laptop and a calculator for this section. The second part of the paper will be a written question planning a fair test. Students will need to bring a pencil, ruler, eraser and a pen for this section.

Social Studies

The Social Studies exam is 90 minutes. Students will be expected to study and analyse resources attached to an important issue or event. Students will need to be able to identify viewpoints held by individuals or groups and explain why they hold these different viewpoints. In order to achieve higher grades students will also be expected to identify the perspectives that underlie these views.

HINTS & TIPS - *What should I be studying?*

English

Part 1: When you studied texts in class, you will have found some important quotes from your text that demonstrate the main purpose(s) of the author, poet or director. This purpose could be to show something about how people interact or change, or to comment on an idea such as racism or the environment. You will also have discussed how authors, poets, and directors use language features to communicate with their audience. Revising the work you have done from your favourite text study and memorising quotes will prepare you to write an essay in the exam.

Part 2: You should make sure you are familiar with some verbal language features such as metaphors, similes, alliteration, and assonance. You will need to be able to identify these in the exam.

Physical Education and Health

Topics covered by the exam are: the importance of physical activity, consent, nutrition, with a decision making grid applied to a scenario.

Mathematics

The best way to revise for any Maths exam is by **doing questions**. The more you practise, the greater your chance of being able to answer problems successfully. It is also useful to make yourself revision cards. These should contain a method and an example e.g.

Expanding a bracket
multiply what's outside by
everything inside
e.g. $3y(2y - 5) = 3y \times 2y - 3y \times 5$
 $= 6y^2 - 15y$

Finding a percentage of a value
% + 100 x value
e.g. Find 28% of \$345
 $28 + 100 \times 345 = 96.6$
Interpreting answer in context:
\$96.60

MAA: Those doing the algebra paper should revise simplifying, indices, solving equations, expanding brackets and factorising.

MAS: Those doing number and statistics should revise fractions, decimals, percentages, ratio, estimation, box and whisker plots and calculating statistics.

NUM/ATM: These students should revise fractions, decimals, percentages, area, perimeter, volume and calculating statistics.

Teachers will revise these topics with students in class and will give them sheets of questions to practise. They can also get help from the following sources:

- MyMaths
- www.mathsisfun.com
- Khan Academy

Science

Use your SOLO learning log as a guide as to what to study for the exam. Looking over work you have done this year on fair testing would also be useful.

Social Studies

In class you will have discussed viewpoints when studying different topics. As the exam approaches you will be presented with examples from previous exams and you will be able to see how you should approach the exam itself. Taking time to watch the news or read newspapers will give you the opportunity to think critically about what people say and why they say it.