



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 9 will be sitting end of year examinations this year in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies 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 – 10.30 – English exam
10.30 – 11.30 – Morning Break	10.30 – 11.45 - Break
11.30 – 1.00 – Science exam	11.45 – 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 90 minutes. Students will be required to write an essay about a book, story, poem or film that they have studied in class.

Health and Physical Education

The Health and Physical Education exam is 1 hour. There is a mixture of multiple choice and questions that require an extended response. Extended response questions will allow for all stages of SOLO to be applied.

Mathematics

The Mathematics exam is 75 minutes. There are 5 sections on Number, Algebra, Statistics, Measurement and Probability, assessing at levels 3, 4 and 5. Each section will take approximately 15 minutes.

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 to the exam. The second part of the paper will be a written question on graphing and interpretation skills. You will need to bring a pencil, ruler, eraser, pen and calculator 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 this viewpoint.

EXAM HINTS & TIPS

What should you be studying?

English

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.

Health and Physical Education

You will be given revision worksheets in classes before the examination.

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. Teachers will revise the topics with students in class and will give them sheets of questions to practise. They can also get help from the My Maths website.

Science

You need to use the SOLO learning log issued at the start of each topic as a guide on what to revise.

Social Studies

In class you will have discussed viewpoints when studying different topics, especially migration and culture. As we approach the exam we will present you 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.