

POTO COLLEGE HOUSE

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO 1 | February 2020 |

MANAGER UPDATE

Kia ora, my name is Stacey Grant, I'm the new manager of Poto College Hostel. I'm born and raised in the Wairarapa and have always called this home. The first month in the role has wizzed past, with lots going on including:

- Hosting 90 under 13 cricketers over Anniversary Weekend,
- Orientation of the Poto House Leadership Team,
- Orientation for new entrants and year 9s, and the
- formal opening of Poto College House on Sunday 9 Feb

Thanks to all of those who have supported me, with a special mention to the Trust and Sharon Haeta.

Over the next four weeks the team and I will be working with the kids to develop a shared understanding on what it means for the hostel to be their home away from home, including the values we hold, the rules we follow and how we look after each other. We look forward to sharing this with you.

With my wife Gretchen and two sons, Austin 12 and Xander 8, we look forward to making Poto House our home and your child's home away from home.



Figure 1 Mike Higginbotham and Stacey Grant at Opening BBQ

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- We encourage you to keep in touch, early communication is the key. If you have not completed your child's 'Term leave forms' we need those back by Friday next week at the latest. Sharon or I need to be informed of any additional requirements or changes to the form by 5pm Monday of the relevant week.
- Any outstanding Application and Boarding Contract forms need to be returned ASAP.
- When coming on site to Poto House, we need to know you are here. Please ensure you come to the office or call the duty phone upon arrival.
- Masterton Medical has offered to come to the Hostel to provide the Winter Flu Jab on 1 April 2020. For them to come to us on site we need to have a minimum of 10 students committed to receiving the vaccination. The cost per person under 18 years of age is \$25. Can you please indicate to Sharon or I by **Friday next week** if you would like your child to have their vaccination, so we can book Masterton Medical to come.
- We have a collection of unnamed clothing gathering in the laundry, please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled.

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Matron Sharon Haeta: 06 370 0415 email: office@waicolhostel.co.nz

Chairman Poto Trust Mike Higinbottom: 06 372 6860 email: mikeandjodie@farmside.co.nz

WHAT IS COMING UP THIS MONTH?

- It is the Wairarapa College Whanau Day on **Tuesday 25 February**. The kids will not have school as a result, however the hostel will be open. Please let us know if you will be picking your child up early that day or if they will be staying with us, so we can organise activities.
- On **Wednesday the 26th**, Wairarapa College closes at lunch time to allow the teachers to attend a paid union meeting.
- On **Thursday 27th** is Athletics Day. Any parents who are coming in to support their child are welcome to pop into the hostel dining room through the day to grab a cup of tea and muffin.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

- Poto College House was formally opened on Sunday 9 February; it was great to see many of you. We hosted approximately a 100 people and the dinner was amazing.
- The Students supported the first 'Kids Triathlon' as volunteers and made us all proud (see picture below: Max Donaldson and Caleb Stewart- Campbell)
- The Boiler decided it was time to let us know that it needed some TLC, the trust was extremely responsive and has put a maintenance plan in place
- Prep has started! We expect full participation and will provide as much support as we can to ensure this.
- The kids have started summer sports and some even pre-season training for winter codes - a lot of running!
- A lot of swimming been happening. Big thank you to Hostel House Parents Ken & Catherine McKinlay, Kerry & Deidre Hare and Ryan Wilson for keeping the kids cool while they're on duty

