



YOUR PASS TO YOUR POTENTIAL

PACIFIC ADVANCE SECONDARY SCHOOL

AN INNOVATIVE SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR PASIFIKA BY PASIFIKA

23 February 2023

Kia ora e te whānau

I am writing to inform you that your son/daughter will be attending a school outing this Friday the 24th of February. We will be attending Te Matatini o te Rā - a national Māori performing arts festival, to be held at Eden Park - as we explore our theme 'Mana Tangata - He Haerenga', in Te Reo Māori.

Our taura will be accompanied by myself, Matua Brian, and Tinā Parehuia on this day-long trip. This will be a hot day, please ensure students bring only their essentials:

- Full School uniform
- Water bottle
- Hat
- Ili/fan
- le lava-lava (sarong)
- Phone (to document the day)

There are food stalls at the venue, and students are welcome to bring a small pocket allowance to spend at the festival - while remaining mindful of others. School will provide a packed lunch for students to take to the event.

We will be travelling in school vans, leaving school at 8.30am, returning to school at 5:30pm. Please arrange to pick up your son/daughter from school.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at 02102912807, or Tinā at 0274871689.

Nāku noa,

Mr Brian Enari (Uncle Brian)

Te Matatini is a significant cultural festival and the pinnacle event for Māori performing arts. Held every two years, it is one of the most highly anticipated events for performers, their whānau and the mass of passionate Kapa Haka fans throughout the world.

The festival prides itself on being a whānau friendly, smoke, and alcohol-free event. It has an open-door policy, where all people are welcome to come and experience the timeless tradition and spectacle of Kapa Haka.

Hosted in a different city each time, the festival draws thousands of people who come to witness the best of the best. For many, it is a chance to not only experience Kapa Haka excellence, but to also reconnect with friends and family and express their loyalty and pride in their whānau on the stage.

For the Kapa Haka, the festival is the culmination of years of hard work, passionate commitment and unswerving dedication to bring their best to the national stage. Thousands of hours would have been spent in composing, teaching, rehearsing and organising forty performers. First to qualify at their regional competition, then to prepare a single performance compressed into thirty minutes for the national stage. All with the intent to captivate, beguile and impress judges and audiences enough to progress to the final competition day and win the supreme title of Toa Whakaihuwaka.

All I can say is that on the basis of what I experience at Te Matatini the world is missing out on one of the truly great musical experiences. The passion, the intensity, the sweet harmonies, the ferocity of the haka, the creativity of the groups and the sheer dedication of the performers make this an experience that lives in both the memories and the heart for the rest of your life.

– Bruce Elder, *Sydney Morning Herald (Te Matatini Festival 2007)*

Hosted in a different city each time, the festival draws thousands of people who come to witness the best of the best. For many, it is a chance to not only experience Kapa Haka excellence, but to also reconnect with friends and family and express their loyalty and pride in their whānau on the stage.

For the Kapa Haka, the festival is the culmination of years of hard work, passionate commitment and unswerving dedication to bring their best to the national stage. Thousands of hours would have been spent in composing, teaching, rehearsing and organising forty performers. First to qualify at their regional competition, then to prepare a single performance compressed into thirty minutes for the national stage. All with the intent to captivate, beguile and impress judges and audiences enough to progress to the final competition day and win the supreme title of Toa Whakaihuwaka.