

**To: Parents/Caregivers of Year 9 Students 2023**

**Re: Junior Examinations: Thursday 8 June to 14 June.**

Please find below information regarding the topics to be assessed during the upcoming examinations in the four 'core' junior subjects. Further assessment information, and copies of previous years' examination papers, can be found on subject Stratus pages - <http://stratus.pnbhs.school.nz/>, your son will need to use his school username and password to log in.

## **9 English**

There are two sections to the exam:

### **Unfamiliar Text**

Students will read a number of short fiction and poetry texts.

- They will answer a variety of short answer questions that focus on;
  - surface comprehension and inference skills
  - identifying and explaining the effects of language features
  - summarising main ideas
- Students should expect to spend approximately 80 minutes on this section.
- This section represents 70% of the overall mark.

### **Punctuation and Grammar**

- This section assesses students' knowledge of basic punctuation and grammar including:
  - full stops, commas, apostrophes
  - capital letter use
  - complete and incomplete sentences, sentence types
  - homophones, parts of speech
  - subject-verb agreement
  - alphabetical order
- This section represents 30 % of the overall grade.
- Students should expect to spend 40 minutes in this section.

## **9 Mathematics**

Calculators should be used in this examination.

### **Number:**

- This section covers basic mathematical calculations, fractions, use of order of operations, place value, integers and word problems.

### **Geometry & Measurement:**

- This section covers length, perimeter, area, volume, time, conversion of units, angle rules, transformations, shape recognition.

## **9 Science**

Total Marks 120

Materials needed: Pen, pencil, ruler

Stratus Science 9 Page has past examinations, Learning Outcomes, and plenty of resource materials and questions for students.

There are three sections to this examination: Grand Total: 120 Marks

Unit 1: Why is Science, Science? (Introduction to Science) Total 45 Marks

- 30 Multiple Choice
- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks),
- 1 Public Science Issue Question (5 marks),
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks)

Unit 2: Sea-Level Rise (Separation and Matter) Total 45 Marks

- 30 Multiple Choice,
- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks),
- 1 Public Science Issue Question (5 marks),
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks)

Unit 3: Electricity Production (Energy) Total 30 Marks

- 20 Multiple Choice
- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks)
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks)

\*\*The Midterm examination will not cover the Pros/Cons of different Electricity Generation Methods

## **9 Social Studies**

There are 4 sections in this examination. This examination is worth 100% of the mid-year report grade.

The sections are:

1. Resource Interpretation (30%)
2. Identify and Demonstrate parts of a Paragraph (25%)
3. Data Skills (30%)
4. Current Events (15%)

### **Section 1: Resource Interpretation (30%)**

Students will be assessed on their ability to make sense of written texts and interpret sources, including those with different perspectives and views, and provide evidence-based conclusions.

The topics will be:

- **The success and difficulties of Māori society pre-European arrival**  
(e.g. *how Māori lived, organised themselves, managed resources like food, tools/weapons used, living in a new climate, tribal conflict*)
- **How Māori identify and interact with the land**

### **Section 2: Identify and Demonstrate parts of a Paragraph (25%)**

Students will be assessed on their ability **to identify and demonstrate the components of a PEEL paragraph**. This means writing meaningful text for the purpose of formal writing.

The topic will be **Te Ahu A Turanga (the Manawatu Gorge)**. Students will be provided with resources which they must then demonstrate the skill of identifying or writing an appropriate Point, Evidence, Example, and/or Link sentence.

In the end-of-year examination, this will transition to students being expected to write a scaffolded paragraph. Note: students will not be expected to write a full paragraph.

### **Section 3: Data Skills (30%)**

Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate information using social science practises. Specifically, this means their ability to

- identify key features of a map and bar graph AND show understanding of grid referencing
- read and interpret data from bar graphs and tables (e.g. *recognise basic patterns, relationships and/or trends*)
- provide evidence-based conclusions

### **Section Four: Current Events (15%)**

This section will involve students answering multichoice-style questions, showing cartoon interpretation, and short-answer questions. The purpose is to assess student understanding of important current events.

The current events will be from early 2023 to now.