

Waihi College Newsletter



PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT



WOW what a frenetic start to the school year it has been. The weeks seem to be rushing by and already we are over half way through Term One. There have been a large number of different activities for students to get involved with including: Swimming, Athletics, Tennis, Camps and Fieldtrips, Powhiri and Kapahaka to name but a few with lots more on the horizon: Productions and Trashion Quest etc. Winter sport is getting closer and the organization is starting to happen now. So keep your eyes and ears open for school notices and get involved.

On the 18th February we officially welcomed all our new students and staff to Waihi College. It was the first time we have had a powhiri for our manuhiri and I was delighted with the warmth and collective respect that everyone had for each other. The school feels like it has settled for the year!!!

We are also working on better ways to communicate with families/whanau. The new **website** will be live soon as well as a new **parent portal** to our school network to allow parents the opportunity to access information about the learning of your child.

Information will be sent home soon to help you access this portal. Traditional methods of communication are also available and will continue for those that don't have access to the internet e.g newsletter and notices.

The EMPIRE strikes back!!! It is great to see the **EMPIRE** House winning both the Y9-13 **Swimming and Athletics** competitions this year. After many years of trying your perseverance your resilience has paid off. Awesome!!

Congratulation to all the Champions and Record breakers, your performances will be remembered.

(See the sports pages for results)

It was great to see so many Parents attend the **Y7/8 Meet the Teacher Interviews** last week. Your input is always valued and helps us to stay in touch with the developments of your child.

Interim reports will be issued for all **Y9-13 students** March 11th and Deans will be contacting parents they particularly wish to speak to. You as Parent or Caregiver could also request an interview with the Dean/Teacher by contacting the school office.

"Be the best you can be and keep reaching for the stars."

Alistair Cochrane

Athletics and Swimming Sports



MUFTI DAY!!! Friday 13th March—Donation: 1 can of food for the local Foodbank. Bring your can to your LAG teacher by Friday 13th.

This newsletter can be found on the College Website—www.waihicol.school.nz

Performing Arts Success

Waihi College is extremely proud of their performing arts group, Troupe Waihi, who travelled to Hamilton recently to support our Drama teacher Luke Devery with a keynote speech at the Creative Communities Development Summit. Although the Troupe do not perform in Waihi very often, they travel extensively throughout the North Island to festivals and events, with an ever increasing reputation as one of the leading performance groups of this sort in New Zealand. The conference, organised by Creative Waikato, was a national event aimed at supporting those who build strong and beautiful communities through creativity within the Waikato. It attracted delegates from throughout the country, from Canterbury to Whangarei, the Great Barrier and the Chatham Islands.

Troupe Waihi's vibrant and funny presentation included character performances from existing and new members, as well as video submissions from Troupies now living in Canada, Germany, Austria and Canterbury. Our students shared their experiences of the Troupe's unique creativity with the summit delegates, talking about the reciprocity between the older and younger performers, the connection to the outside world and wider communities and of the enterprising nature of their work, followed by a Q&A session.

You can see Troupe Waihi in action at the Matarangi Festival on Saturday April 11th, or at the opening game of the FIFA U20 World Cup in Whangarei on May 30th. New members are always welcomed, so check the morning notices if you want to perform at one of our upcoming events

Beach Hop Half day

To support our Waihi Community **Pre-Beach Hop** (Wednesday 25th March) Waihi College is closing school earlier at 11.45am to allow all students and staff to participate in the day. There will be three of the regular four periods, Interval will be shorter and the canteen will only be open at Interval. The buses will run at their normal time (3.15pm).

Students that wish to stay at school will have supervised classes in the library.

HeadzUp

Cruize, Marc, Alyssa and myself were fortunate enough to attend the HeadzUp Leadership Course at the University of Waikato. We were welcomed and broke the ice with a question and answer panel. After some lighthearted advice we played some crazy games to get mingling. We ended up in two huge groups screaming support while the two remaining paper-scissors-rockers fiercely battled it out. We were then split into six groups with people we didn't know and learnt some awesome skills like how to give a feedback sandwich, how to motivate an uninterested audience, and how to run an interview. After a team photo and a delicious lunch we were split into four groups and did some outside the box activities. We had to make a video advertising leadership, sculpt our vision of our schools culture out of play dough and make a musical piece showing leadership. We did some awesome stuff, met some awesome people, and had an awesome sleep in the car on the way back home. Overall it was a brilliant experience and I gained many life skills. 10/10 would recommend this to a friend.

Kate Dunstall

Science Help Thursdays

Senior students are encouraged to come to C block after school on Thursdays and get some extra help or just take advantage of being in a studious space with access to computers if necessary. Every Thursday. See you there.

Dr Ruttersmith

College Parent Teacher Friend Association

All parents/caregivers/whanau of Waihi College students are warmly invited to attend the inaugural PTFA meeting here at the College on Sunday 15th March in the Staffroom.

The meeting will take approximately one hour and will begin at 4pm. Light refreshments will be supplied. Any queries can be directed to me at justinh@waihicol.school.nz

Service Coordinator

This year Waihi College is embarking on a mission to boost the Service area of our school. Our Arts Coordinator, Mrs Jenny Twidle, has been given some extra hours every week to work as liaison between the school and our community. Mrs Twidle is a passionate volunteer, with hundreds of hours over many years given to St John Ambulance, Playcentre, Waihi Multiple Birth Support Group, Scouts and Search and Rescue. Her goal for Service at Waihi College this year is to work alongside the student Service Leader, Justine Hollis, to provide a lot more service opportunities to our students and to increase the amount of 'giving back' to our local community.

"Service helps youths to develop leadership qualities, promotes civic knowledge and can strengthen student academic performance and self-esteem," Mrs Twidle says. "Service is one of the pillars of our school, alongside Academic, Sport and Culture. It's time we really lifted its profile."

Service opportunities within the school include Student Mentoring and Peer Support, the Breakfast Club, Librarians, Sports Coaches and Referees, and taking part in fundraising events such as Jandal Day, Shave for a Cure and SADD Week (Students Against Dangerous Driving). Mrs Twidle wants to extend Service to include helping members of the local, national and international community. As part of this new initiative, she is looking in to the possibility of starting a Leo Club at school. This group would work alongside our Waihi Lions Club - community members who are united in their desire to make a difference by contributing their personal time and talents to help other people. Their motto is "We Serve".

The increase in service opportunities for our students will also link nicely in to our House system. Rachael Hall is currently working on some new guidelines which will allow House Points to be awarded for Community and School Service work. So, watch this space!

COLLEGE SPORT

Swimming Championships

Great weather and lots of colour at the Y9-13 Swimming this year. With the House Leaders being chosen at Year 13 Camp, they were in action and getting everyone involved and in the pool, even if it meant pulling a few off the bank.

Another great day in the pool for **Jack Hendy** smashing 4 Intermediate Boys records:

2L Breaststroke 55.36s was 55.57 - 1994

1L Backstroke 20.06s was 21.44 - 1997

2L Backstroke 45.55s was 46.25 - 1997

3L Backstroke 1.13.88m was 1.15.79 - 1997

Good luck at age group nationals Jack!

Congratulations to our Champions for 2015

Junior Girl - **Gemma Walker** 28pts

Runner-up - **Jamie Mudford** 11pts

Junior Boy - **Tommy Steele** 18pts

Runner-up - **Aiden Wild** 15pts

Interm Girl - **Aoife Hennessy** 28pts

Runner-up - **Sidney Morgan** 17pts

Interm Boy - **Jack Hendy** 30pts

Runner-up - **Reece Kennedy** 20pts

Senior Girl - **Kate Dunstall** 21pts

Runner-up - **Yvette Kingsford** 19pts

Senior Boy - **Simon Wild** 16pts

Runner-up - **Zion Matangi** 11pts

Athletics Championships

Y9-13

Once again a well run day and the House Parades were a great way to start the day! Participation was high this year which was great to see, and this certainly helped Empire take the title.



Congratulations to new record holders:

Andrew Keenan - Snr Boys High Jump - 1.82m was 2007 - 1.78

Bradley Colman - Intermediate Boys Javelin - 37.92m was 2012 - 35.47m

Petra McCowatt - Intermediate Girls Shotput - 10.78m was 2013 -

10.01m

Kyjuan Gray - Junior Girls Javelin - new 17.98m was 2010 - 17.32m

Champions and Runners-up

Jun Girl - **Qiana Wharepapa** 15pts

Run up - **Kyjuan Gray** 10pts

Jun Boy - **Morehu White** - 13pts

Run up - **Damian Donn** - 10pts

Int Girl - **Petra McCowatt** - 30pts

Run up - **Korrina Lindsey** - 24pts

Int Boy - **Tristan Goodhue** 12pts

Run up - **Ryan Kingsford** 10pts

Senior Girl - **Grace Clare** - 15pts

Run up - **Alyssa Thurston** - 10pts

Senior Boy - **Luke Fraser** - 16pts

Run up - **Andrew Keenan** - 11pts

Congratulations everyone on an awesome day!

Pancake Day Obstacle Relay



On the 20th February the whole school was involved in our Pancake Obstacle Relay. It was great to see everyone up on the field enjoying the sunshine and getting involved in the fun. Well done to all of students that signed up for their houses, you did a great job! **Dominion** were the winners of this event, followed by **Amaranth**.

Thames Valley Swimming

A small group of athletes travelled to Thames on 24th March to take on the Thames Valley.

Congratulations to **Te Huia Apaapa** who broke his 25m AWD Backstroke record, was 26.73s now 25.33.

Also to the following athletes who placed in the top 3 in their races:

Jack Hendy 1st - 14-15y Boys 50m Backstroke, 100m Backstroke, 50m Freestyle

Gemma Walker 2nd - 13 & under Girls 50m Backstroke, 3rd - 13 & under Girls 50m Freestyle

Aoife Hennessy 2nd - 13 & under Girls 100m Breaststroke, 3rd - 13 & under Girls 50m Breaststroke, 100m Freestyle

Luke Fraser 3rd - 16 & over Boys 50m and 100m Breaststroke

Reece Kennedy 3rd - 14-15y Boys 100m Freestyle

House Points

With Swimming, Athletics and our Pancake Relay completed the house points are as follows:

Empire 1169

Royal 1039

Dominion 1021

Amaranth 972

Netball Coaches

If you are interested in coaching a netball team this year please contact Rachael on 027 870 0937. Thank you to those parents who have already come forward.

Code Start Dates:

22nd April - Tauranga Basketball League

2nd May - Junior Netball Opening/ Grading Day, Rugby and Football

3rd May - Thames Valley Basketball League

13th May - Senior Netball Opening/ Grading Day

Triathlon Year 9-13

Friday 13th March

You can enter this event as an individual or as a team. Information will be on the noticeboard and forms must be signed by parents before the day. Get in and get some house points!

Touch NZ Elite Academy

Congratulations to **Deija Gray** and **Kaliti Matangi** who have both been chosen for the Touch NZ Elite Academy.



15 Players from each grade were chosen. U17 boys, girls and mixed and U15 boys, girls and mixed.

Good luck guys.

Rachael Hall

COLLEGE NEWS AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Music Lessons

There are music lessons available at College, these are free and provided by qualified teachers from the Itinerant Music Scheme. We can offer tuition in flute, clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, violin, cello and beginner piano. There are still places in these classes but they are filling quickly. We also have a guitar tutor as part of this scheme. This is an extremely popular option and many have chosen it in the past. While priority needs to be given to senior pupils taking Music for NCEA or in Year 10 Music, as well as those who have already started with the tutor there may be a few places open for starters. Pupils would need their own guitar at home for practice. In the next few days I will be organising classes and once this is done I will have a better idea of how many places we have. Many will be disappointed but please bear in mind that we are also learning guitar in our normal music classes as well. Any questions regarding these lessons please give me a call at school or at home on 863 6480. Since writing the above we have

discovered the likelihood that a second guitar tutor may be available.

Bob Paton

School Photos

LAG and Individual photos are on the 9th March. Year 8 students who are going to camp that day need to wear uniform to school so that they can have their photos done before leaving for camp.

Sibling photos are available - must be pre paid - envelope at the Front Office.

Junior Youth Rugby Ripa - 5th Grade

There is no **Unofficial** weigh in this year. Please register at www.sportsground.co.nz/waihiathleticrugby

Official Weigh In is Thursday 19 March 3.30pm-5.30pm and **Thursday 26th March**, 3.30pm-5.30pm. It is important that you attend one of these weigh in dates if you wish to play this season.

New players need to bring a current photo and a **copy** of their birth certificate. Any queries contact Andrea Evetts-Jones 0211787438 or Matt Walker 021438758

Rainbows End Night Rides



All Rides Open, Live Music, Fun For All The Family, Live Acts.

Try the Brand New Stratosfear

5-11pm Saturdays

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18.

Go online for more information at www.rainbowsend.co.nz

Waihi Beach Medical Centre invites you to a free evening with John Kirwan.

Discussing issues around Teenage and Adult Mental Health, with a focus on depression, anxiety and the dangers of recreational drug use.

Where: Waihi Beach Community Centre

When: Friday 20th March

Doors open at 6.30pm, presentation starts 7pm. Counsellors and mental health staff will be available and a light supper will also be available.

Sewing Room

The Sewing room will be open Thursday nights 7-9pm to anyone who wants to learn to sew, have help to sew a project, or generally borrow our equipment.

Upcoming Events

March

6th	Year 7/8 Tennis Champs
9th-11th	Y8 Camp (SSm & VLi)
9th	School Photos
10th	TV Tennis Champs
11th	Interim Reports Issued
11th-13th	Y8 Camp (FMu & JCo)
11th	Ball Expo
13th	Mufti Day
13th	Triathlon Champs
17th	WSS Tennis
18th	Attitude Assemblies
18th	TV Triathlon
19th	Y7/8 Swimming Champs
20th	AUT Health Careers Trip
20th-24th	L2 South Island Trip
25th-26th	SADD Year 11
25th	Beach Hop Warm Up Day
25th-27th	Year 9 Beach Camp
26th	BOP Zone 7/8 Swimming
27th-29th	Elite Sports Camp
28th	NISS Athletics
30th	TV Touch Competition

April

1st	Talent Quest
2nd	End of Term 1

Missing Phones

Please be aware there have been some recent incidents of missing smart phones. It is important that students are aware of the security of their devices - staff or the office will secure them when students ask. Please talk with your child about being extra vigilant. Best practice is if your phone or device is missing immediately report it. Any students that find phones need to hand them into the office or to Mrs Tucker.

Is there a future apprentice in your family?

A draft Code of Good Practice for New Zealand Apprenticeships is now out for consultation. If your teenager is thinking about an apprenticeship in any vocation, then this is important to them. Visit www.tec.govt.nz to find out more. Feedback closes on 31 March 2015.

Kensington Road, Waihi

Waihi College Rugnet

at Waihi College Hall

Ticket Entitles
Bearer to
1 free beer/wine
and supper
\$15 per person or
\$100 for a table of 10

Saturday

14th March

2015

7pm til Midnight

8 FULL-TOTE & BAR FACILITIES
RACE PROGRAMME

Derby Race Night

Organiser: Matty Matich - 027 442 8039

Courtesy Van Available, contact Matty Matich or Reuben Wells 021 135 8975