

# Waihi College Newsletter



## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT



Term two is all but over and what a great term it has been. Students and staff have been involved in a wide variety of activities both in and out of the classroom and I have had many positive comments about the way our students behave and achieve outstanding results.

**Spirit Days** were held early this year to try and avoid the pressure of end of year exams for senior students. (Usually at the end of term three) **What an awesome three days!!!** Led by the student house leaders and staff the three days were filled with colour, costumes, enjoyment and fun. Special thanks to Jay McKechnie who compered the days for his endless energy and resilience in keeping the activities moving and making sure all were getting involved and having fun.

Congratulations to **EMPIRE** for their victory in the inter-house competition and to Katrina Pipe, Sam Bayes, Jamie Mudford and Liam Roberts for being named as those who displayed the most spirit whilst making things happen for others.

**International Education** is a significant part of our school these days with as many as 25 international students being in the school and community at any given point in time. July is a common change over point due to the European school year ending and starting again. I would like to take this opportunity to farewell those students heading home. We have all got to know each other better and I thank you for adding

diversity, culture and friendship to our lives.

**John van der Zwan** has been the International Director for the past few years and his expertise, knowledge and business acumen has been recognized by Education New Zealand. John has been employed to be the Managing Director of a new international education organization (SIEBA: Schools International Education Business Association) which will support schools throughout New Zealand. John starts his new job on July 1st and I wish him all the best. In the interim **Diana Board** will step into the role of managing our international programme and Jenny Twidle and Esther Kuizinas will assist with Administration and Home Stay coordination. Permanent appointments will be made later in the year.

The **RUGNET** tour to Australia departed on Wednesday morning. Thank you to all who helped out, who gave up their time or dipped into their pockets to support these young people. I am sure they will have an awesome experience and will come home with many stories. They will also come home with a degree of independence, resilience and confidence that they have learnt along the way.

Well done to all those parents who managed to meet the teachers on **INTERVIEW** day. If there are things we could do better please feel free to email me so we can make Improvements for the future. [principal@waihicol.school.nz](mailto:principal@waihicol.school.nz)

I hope you all have a good midyear break. See you back at school on July 20th. Please stay safe on the roads.

*Alistair Cochrane*

## Spirit Days 2015



This newsletter can be found on the College Website—[www.waihicol.school.nz](http://www.waihicol.school.nz)

## COLLEGE NEWS

### Spirit Days

Held a term earlier than usual, our 2015 Spirit Days has been hailed one of the most successful ever. Participation, attitude and atmosphere were at spectacularly high levels this year. Wednesday saw the launch of Spirit Days with a full school assembly and introduction. The much anticipated Teacher Lip Sync was then followed by the crazy Pineapple Eating contest. Thursday was costume day, where you could dress as anything starting with the letters in the word ADVENTURE. There were some very innovative homemade costumes and plenty of quirky characters packed in to the hall to cheer on the House Feeding Relays and Balloon Shave. The afternoon was jam-packed with action in the gym, kicking off with a full school Balloon Popping activity, Chicken Running, Gladiator, Sack and Chariot Races and the annual Tug-O-War. Meanwhile, in a galaxy far away, the computer suite was crammed with gamers for the LAN battle and hundreds of students were combing the grounds and classrooms for hidden ping pong balls. Friday was our delightfully bright fruit cocktail day, with everyone dressed in House Colours. Teacher Hot Seat involved a battle of House Staff answering questions and smashing eggs on their heads if they answered incorrectly. This was followed by the House Dance Off, Breakfast Relay, Don't Forget The Lyrics, the Milk Suck and Marshmallow Find. Spirit Days concluded with the best House Lip Sync entries we have seen for years! The mighty Empire House took top place this year, with the junior Silberer Cup going to Jamie Mudford, Liam Roberts and Samuel Bayes, and the senior Jodie Alsdorf Shield being awarded to Katrina Pipe. These students exhibited the spirit of giving and fun that Spirit Days is all about. Congratulations to you all!

### Spirit Of Adventure

I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to go on the Spirit of

Adventure, voyage #692. I was driven up to Auckland on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June to spend my first night on the boat with the other out of towners. It was quite daunting saying goodbye to my family, knowing I would be left with a group of strangers. There were a few kids who stood out to me as confident teens who were at the top of the socialising spectrum. Standing there looking at all the unfamiliar faces I felt far from confident.



After spending the first night in our not so cushiony bunks, we were joined by the remaining trainees from Auckland, which brought our head count to a grand total of 36 (not including crew). We were split into four groups – Port A, Port B, Starboard A and Starboard B – so we could each rotate around the main, mizzen, mid-ship and foredeck stations. It was full on from the get go and the crew were all hard at work teaching us the ropes. The days were long and consisted of waking up at 6:45am for the morning swims, hurrying to get in line for breakfast, attending colours (when the captain tells us the game plan for the day), cleaning the ship, going hard at it for the day with lunch in between, then getting as far forward in the dinner line as possible so we could be first to get seconds.

From morning swims to climbing the rigging our days were long and eventful. We rafted to shore and did a hike on Great Barrier, we did team bonding activities and speed dating to get to know each other a bit better, we saw dolphins, whales and schools of fish and we even got to have a BBQ and toasted marshmallows at Smokehouse Bay. One of my highlights was getting to

have our first shower on day 5 for a solid three minutes. You learn to appreciate simple things like being able to eat whatever you want, when you want, and having a bit of privacy when you are going to the toilet...

A challenge for me would definitely have been making the first initial step to make friends. I was extremely happy to have been put in a group with people who I could connect with and enjoyed being around. Everybody on my voyage was awesome and we became a tight knit group by the end of it. The great thing about the Spirit is that you can get so many things out of it; like the knowledge of how to sail a ship, how to tie knots, leadership and teamwork skills and not to mention cool photos for your Instagram. The main thing I got out of my adventure would be the confidence to enter a situation with unfamiliar people and surroundings, and get the best result from it.

I would encourage anyone seeking a bit of adventure and open for any challenge to go on the Spirit of Adventure. It is an awesome way to meet new people and an opportunity I am so happy to have had.

If anyone is keen to know more about what you get up to, feel free to come have a chat with me.

#SOA #SONZ #voyage692

*Millie Dunstall*

### Waihi's Got Talent

#### We're looking for talent!

Singers, comedians, dancers, musicians, variety acts, solo, duo, trio or groups are invited to enter Waihi's Got Talent.

There's \$3,600 worth of prize money up for grabs thanks to the Waihi Beach RSA and proudly supported by Go Waihi and Gold FM. Junior, Intermediate and Senior category winners take away \$1,000 for their school and \$200 for themselves.

Heats will be on Friday the 31st of July and the 7th and 14th of August with the final on the 21st at the Waihi Beach RSA.

Waihi College students see Jen Twidle for entry forms and info.



## COLLEGE SPORT

### Western BOP Cross Country

Mrs Smith took a fiercely competitive group of Year 7 and 8s to this year's event and the results across the board were outstanding. Congratulations to the following place getters:

#### Year 7 Girls

7<sup>th</sup> – Mia Morgan  
8<sup>th</sup> – Kyla Walker

#### Year 7 Boys

3<sup>rd</sup> - Ashton Owen-West  
4<sup>th</sup> – Taine Atger  
20<sup>th</sup> – Ben Hennessy  
24<sup>th</sup> – Kalani Smith

#### Year 8 Girls

1<sup>st</sup> - Tasmin Skinner  
7<sup>th</sup> - Paizley Gray

#### Year 8 Boys

10<sup>th</sup> Thomas Spicer  
19<sup>th</sup> – Toby Grindlay  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Matthew Pedersen

### BOP Cross Country



The next event on the calendar for these young runners was as part of the Western Bay team to compete at Bay of Plenty Cross Country in Opotiki on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Seven of our students made the long trip down. Special thanks to Shar Skinner and Anne Marie Spicer for taking them. They also helped the Western Bay Zone to win the event.

Placings:

#### Year 7 Girls

13<sup>th</sup> – Kyla Walker

#### Year 7 Boys

6<sup>th</sup> – Ashton Owen- West  
16<sup>th</sup> – Taine Atger

#### Year 8 Girls

13<sup>th</sup> – Tasmin Skinner  
32<sup>nd</sup> – Paizley Gray

#### Year 8 Boys

27<sup>th</sup> – Thomas Spicer

Awesome results from all of our athletes!

### Thames Valley Squash

Well done to our students who attended the TV Squash Championships this year. Some great squash was played across the day. The boys had a good day with Alfie Derham, George Croker and Dale Burndred taking out the Division 2 and Ryan Miller, Jordan Haimona and Jacob Drake coming runners-up in this division. Calin Samson, Ben Fry and Bryn Cotton-Tait won the Plate in Division 1.

### Cheerleading Excursion

A new addition to Waihi College this year is the cheerleading squad run by Alyssa Thurston and Lizzy Willis. The coaches and girls have been training hard and were rewarded with a day in Tauranga to learn new skills with cheer coach and to practice their aerial techniques at the tramp park. They are working towards the Year 7/8 Aims Games tournament in September. We wish them luck.

### Tapuwae Tournament

Congratulations to our referees who helped at the primary schools Tapuwae Tournament on the 17<sup>th</sup> June. Although not a school day they gave up their time for their community. Organiser Rachael Coll said a parent on the sidelines asked if Waihi College students were running the tournament which was a testament to their initiative, give it a go attitude and professionalism in the sports arena. Well done to Paea Toki, Kyjuan Gray, Mahonri Koopu, Awatea Wanihi, Gemma Walker, Jacob Drake, Quinton Mitchell, Saane Vaiola, and Leah Butterworth, you have done us proud.

### Badminton

With the Waihi Badminton Club flourishing many of our families are choosing this sport to play together. Some of our students are doing very well, competing in the BOP and Waikato competitions. Tyron Chapman and Royce Mercer joined forces with a pair from Te Puke to take out the Western BOP Junior Boys Championship and now move on to the Bay of Plenty event in August. Siblings, Lorielle Chapman, Sabrina

Chapman and Brooke Mercer also took out the Senior Girls Western BOP Championship and progress to the next stage. We wish them all luck.

Good luck also to Brooke, Royce and Elizabeth Mercer who are representing BOP in the **New Zealand Badminton Age Group National Championships** in Palmerston North this weekend.  
*Rachael Hall*

### Spirit Day Photos



## COLLEGE NEWS AND COMMUNITY NEWS



### Short Term Host Families Needed Urgently

Waihi College is once again hosting girls from Kyoritsu Girls High School Japan. On the 2nd of August this year we have 21 girls aged between 14 and 16 from Kyoritsu arriving for 12 days. They would all love to be hosted by a family that has a college age girl and I am looking for just 7 more families.

If you think you are able to host one of these girls I would love to hear from you as soon as possible. Host Family payments do apply.

Diana Board

Waihi College International

Ph: 027 4755 900

Email: dianab@waihicol.school.nz

### News from the Nurse

**IMPORTANT** message from the nurse. For the next 2 terms the days I will be here are changing to Monday, Tuesday Thursday and Friday. I will still be working the same hours. Please take note of my timetable on my clinic door. The doctor's clinic on Mondays continues to be very busy. Some days Dr Greaves can see up to 16 students over the 2 hours she is here. So if possible could you please see the nurse prior to Monday doctor's clinic to book an appointment.

I am seeing many students with sore throats at present. According to guidelines on sore throat management all school children with sore throats will have a throat

swab done. These results go to Dr Greaves. This sore throat management programme is to try to reduce the incidence of rheumatic heart disease in NZ – a complication of Strep A throat infection. Some children may be given antibiotics here at the school clinic. If your child is unwell with a sore throat over the holidays it may be advisable for you to take them to your GP to get a swab taken. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to phone me.

### School Ball

The School Ball will be held on Friday 17th June out at the Waihi Academy, Landlyst Road, Waihi.

### Tailored Hair

Hair from \$65  
Makeup from \$40  
Hair and makeup \$90  
Limited spaces available.  
Call 863 3577



### Waihi Family Dental Centre

Waihi Family Dental Centre are now open at 6 School Lane, Waihi and are providing **FREE** dental treatment for Year 9 to Year 13 students.

To make an appointment or for any further information please phone 863 7272.



### Holiday Fun at Rainbows End—Night Rides with the Edge

When: Saturday 4th, 11th, 18th July

Time: 5-11pm

All rides open, live music, fun for all the family.

Try the brand new Stratosfear.



### Community Oral Health

Is your 13-17 year old missing out on free dental care?

If your adolescent hasn't had a dental appointment with a dentist, the July school holidays are a good time for them to get their teeth checked and to have any necessary treatment, all for free.

Waikato District Health Board's Community Oral Health Service is running a holiday service for dental care, to ensure that more of our young people are taking advantage of receiving dental care while it's free.

Our new community dental van will be situated at Waihi College, by the school gym, these July holidays: (6 - 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2015) and the treatment is FREE for under-18s.

We will be posting out appointments to those students we have enrolled and who are due for their annual assessment.

**Please** let us know as soon as possible if your allocated appointment is not suitable by phoning us directly on: 021 359 798.

However, if you are not enrolled with the Community Oral Health Service and would like a dental assessment, please contact us on: 021 359 798 or 0800TALKTETH (0800825583) to make an appointment with us or we can direct you to the new Waihi Family Dental Centre who are now enrolling adolescents.

Spread the word, it's free and it's all good!

### Upcoming Events

#### July

2nd-12th	Rugnet Tour
3rd	End of Term 2
17th	<b>School Ball</b>
19th-21st	OE Kayaking Trip
20th	Term 3 Begins
21st	Auckland Uni Course
24th	First Aid
27th-29th	Year 13 Geo Trip
27th	Catering Trip

## GREAT TEETH FOR FREE

Get your smile sorted for FREE. High school, course, work or couch, you get FREE dental care until your 18th birthday – take advantage of the free service now!

A list of dentists is available at [www.waikatodhb.health.nz/dental](http://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/dental) or phone 0800 TALK TEETH (0800 825 583)