

## **Meet the new sports coordinator of Waihi College!**

**By Daniel Su and Jenna Singh**

An exciting (or dreadful) moment most people experience in their lives; starting a new job. Waihi College recently began looking for a new sports coordinator who could work in our small community, our whanau, and was successful in their search. Chantelle Gorecki joined Waihi College with the aim of bringing something new to the table.

Before being our sports coordinator, she worked as a PE teacher in Auckland for three years. As a child, she always liked physical activity, and enjoyed playing sports, so doing a job that is related to sports was what she pursued.

A typical day in a sports coordinator's life has "lots of emails, lots of phone calls, lots of permission slips, contacting parents, caregivers, and coaches, organizing venues" as Chantelle says. It's safe to say that a typical day is also a hectic one. Not only does she do all these things, she also arranges for teams to compete in Thames Valley, tournaments in Tauranga, Tough Guy and Gal Challenge, et cetera.

Chantelle worked on the school's swimming sports, a recent event, alongside Mr Wall. Getting people to participate was one of the many things she did to contribute to swimming sports. Attempting "to get kids hyped up", Chantelle says.

When asked about athletics day, she mentioned that she will be doing a lot of the behind the scenes work while PE teacher Mr Webb is arranging most of the content of the athletics day. One of the main aspects of any event is to ensure everything goes smoothly. This includes making spreadsheets for house points, sign up forms for each separate event and organising teams to compete in Thames Valley.

Given the new environment, Chantelle does not feel like an outsider. She describes people at Waihi College as "really friendly, willing to help and supportive" which is completely different from her previous workplace in Auckland where everything was busy and chaotic. The difficulties she faces are limited and when asked about any hardships, Chantelle said "I don't think I have any, I guess just figuring it out but that's a given, starting a new job". She also says that being surrounded by colleagues is lovely, like Wendy.

Just like any job position, it is always important to work on the bigger and better future. So Chantelle has set a few goals around sports in Waihi College, "having a broader range of activities people can get involved with. I'd love to have cricket going here. I'd love to have Volleyball have more of a presence. So my goal is for the students to have more options." A school where students are not limited to the "mainstream" sports, will be a good one. We look forward to these new changes Chantelle will bring to Waihi College.