

WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 27 | 2024

SPIRIT DAYS

The 2024 Waihi College Spirit Days wrapped up with plenty of fun, activity, and excitement. The competition was fierce as students and staff donned their house colours and brought noise and energy to every event. Empire house emerged victorious, followed by Amaranth. in second place, Dominion in third, and Royal in fourth. Special recognition was given to Maya Dodd who took home the Jodi Alsdorf Cup for Senior Spirit, and Kate Goodwin, who won the Emilie Silberer Cup for Junior Spirit. Awesome effort from everyone who took part!

Don't forget to check out the action-packed photos on the School Photo section of the website! **Photos have been uploaded to our [School Photos page found under Latest News](#)**, remember you do not need a Drop Box account or join the Waihi College team to view the photos - just chose the 'view with browser' option.



PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora Whanau,

I trust you have had a good break, or at least a change in routine, and time to connect as whanau over the term break.

It has been really neat to have everyone back at school, and hear the energy our young people bring to this space. For our Seniors, it is a very short term, and turn around, and the pressure on them will be mounting. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support your young person. Keeping a routine, with fresh air and lots of water, actually does make a big difference to how they can approach their exams and pressure; so please do help them to be mindful of this.



Over the term break, some of our students went on to do amazing things! Including our surfers - big congratulations to you all, and particular mention of Beau Fitzgibbons, who ranks 3rd Nationally in his category! Outstanding!

We have many prizegiving and occasions coming up, in quick succession, so please do keep an eye on our website for updates and information. **This week we have Team Sports Prizegiving on Wednesday at 9am**, followed by our **Senior Student celebration hangi, on Thursday** - whanau of senior students, are welcome to pop in and join us! We are hoping to be eating about 12:30/1pm, up at the farm unit - if you pop into the office, they can help you get to the right space!

Next week, we are hosting the first Top Sports Awards night, with guest speaker Tara Remmington; so we have plenty to look forward to.

We have begun our staffing placements and interviews for 2025. We are please to let you know that we have filled several vacancies that have come up. Congratulations to the following staff, who are either continuing the journey, or new to our kura:

Ms Anne o'Hagan, Social Sciences.

Mr Matthew Hallam - HOD Maths

Mr Stuart Pratt - Year 7 & 8 teacher

Further positions are being advertised, and we will let you know how we get on, later in the term. We also welcome Mr Michael Watson, to our Groundsman job, this week.

In other news, we continue to refurbish and categorize our photos that were taken down from the hall while it was being refurbished. We are looking forward to completing this mammoth task, and having these taonga restored up on our walls.

As always, we love to hear about what is working well for you and yours, so please do reach out and let us know.

Nga manaakitanga,
Briar

THE BIG CLEAN-UP

Waihi College showed its community spirit at the end of Term 3 with a successful Big Clean-Up event. Under gorgeous sunny skies, staff and students enthusiastically took part, collecting an impressive amount of rubbish. The event highlighted the college's dedication to keeping the environment clean and fostering a sense of teamwork. Student leaders were on hand to reward those who went above and beyond, handing out chocolates to those putting in extra effort.

The winning house was Dominion, followed closely by Empire, Royal then Amaranth. All houses earned well-deserved house points for their participation. The event was a resounding success, reflecting the commitment and enthusiasm of the entire Waihi College community



COMING UP

Prizegiving Dates:

- 15th October: Volunteers Evening @4.30-6.30pm: Waihi College Hub Space

- 16th October: Sports Teams Awards @9am: Waihi College Hall
- 21st October: Special Sports Awards: Bowentown Boating Club (invite only)
- 29th October: Senior Art Expo @3.45-5.45pm in the Hub Space
- 29th October: Cultural Prizegiving @6pm: Waihi College Hall
- 31st October: Senior Endeavour & Service Prizegiving: Waihi College Hall
- 1st November: Senior Academic Prizegiving: Waihi College Hall
- TBC December: Junior Endeavour & Service Prizegiving: Waihi College Hall
- 12th December: Junior Academic Prizegiving: Waihi College Hall

These can be found on our website under Keeping Informed (Important Dates) and are being updated as the term progresses.

Kia ora tātou,

Join us at one of our upcoming **Discovery Nights on Tuesday 8 October**, to learn more about the world of opportunities awaiting at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology.

Explore our diverse programs, vibrant campus life, and exceptional student support. Connect with faculty and get a first-hand look at what makes Toi Ohomai stand out. From engaging campus activities to personalised academic guidance, you'll find out why we're the top choice for your educational journey.

Don't miss this chance to see how we can help you achieve your goals. Bring your whānau and friends and discover why Toi Ohomai is the perfect place for you.



TALENT QUEST

The Waihi College Quad was alive with talent and excitement today as students gathered under perfect skies for the much-anticipated Talent Quest. The gorgeous weather set the stage for a vibrant showcase of creativity and skill, with a variety of performances from singing, dancing and instrumental. Our heartfelt thanks go to judge Kortnee, whose presence added a special touch to the event. Kortnee will grace the stage tonight at the Spring Concert with her much anticipated opera performance, and provided invaluable feedback and support to all the participants today.

The competition was fierce, but in the end, it was Jules Lovell and Bayley Goddard who took home the top prize of \$200, wowing the crowd with their standout performance of a White Stripes number. Jack Carpenter on electric guitar came in second, earning \$100, while Keara Yandall secured third place and \$75 with her beautiful performance of Lady Gaga's "Shallow" with vocals and guitar. The junior category saw a fantastic performance by the Junior Rock Band (Don't Fret) who won \$100 and left the audience cheering for more.

The atmosphere on the quad was awesome, filled with laughter, cheers, and an overwhelming sense of school spirit. It was a truly unforgettable afternoon that showcased the incredible talent and enthusiasm of Waihi College students.

For all the photos, head to our School Photos section under Keeping Informed.



SPRING CONCERT

The annual spring concert at Waihi College, held on September 25th, was a massive success, with an impressive turnout from the community. The evening featured a wide variety of performances, from the college's rock band and soloists to That Bloody Woman sneak peaks and opera singing, offering something for everyone. The talent and enthusiasm on display left the audience thoroughly entertained. Alongside the stellar performances, the raffles were a big hit, adding an extra layer of excitement to the event. The food and drink stall was bustling, contributing to the lively atmosphere. With such a positive response, many are already looking forward to next year's spring concert. Waihi College has once again proven it can bring people together for a night of music and community spirit. Massive thanks to Edwin for making this happen for our kids and community each year. Check out all the Photos in our Dropbox account via the School Photos page under Keeping Informed.



JAPAN TRIP

Over the end of term and the holidays, thirteen girls and seven boys from Waihi College had the incredible opportunity to visit Japan, accompanied by Magdalene Green and Nicole Clear with the girls group and Jay McKechnie with the boys group. Whaea Briar also attended with both groups for a few days. The w immersed themselves in the local culture through unique experiences and stayed stayed with host families, offering them a glimpse into everyday Japanese life and hospitality. Throughout their stay, they explored various parts of Japan, tasting a wide array of authentic Japanese cuisine. One of the highlights was dressing up in traditional kimonos, giving them a chance to embrace Japan's rich cultural heritage. They also participated in traditional painting, learning techniques passed down through generations. It was an unforgettable trip, packed with memories and experiences that will last a lifetime.





WAIHI COLLEGE WALL OF FAME

Waihi College is in the process of updating the Sports Wall of Fame

If you or anyone you know represented New Zealand in sport within the last 30 years, please email us on wendys@waihicol.school.nz or bandlwilloughby@gmail.com. Examples could be: you are a National Champ or have represented NZ in a national team. Please provide us details of the sport, the achievement made and the year it happened. We are collating everything and adding it to a spreadsheet. From there, a



sports panel will make any decisions and get in touch with you if they have any queries.

NURSE'S CORNER

WAIHI COLLEGE HAS A SCHOOL NURSE
AVAILABLE MONDAY-THURSDAY ALL DAY

POP IN TO THE BUILDING NEXT TO THE TREE OF
LIFE
WALK IN APPOINTMENT, OR TEXT/PHONE TO
0272983787

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IF YOU HAVE
ANY HEALTH NEEDS OR QUESTIONS
MARGIE GOLDSWORTHY / SCHOOL NURSE FOR
WAIHI COLLEGE



Ngā mihi, with kind regards
Margie (She/Her)

Margie Goldsworthy | SCHOOL NURSE

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BYOD 2025

Next Year, 2025, Waihi College will be moving to a **fully BYOD model**. BYOD stands for Bring Your Own Device. Students and teachers are working more and more with digital platforms for the distribution and completion of work in the classroom. By students having their own device, there is a seamless link between home and in school learning and the student can personalise their device to suit their own needs.

Why BYOD?

Personalised, flexible learning • Increased access to devices for learning activities eg Google Drive, research, skills practice etc • Seamless learning between home and school • 24/7 anywhere/anytime access to learning • Preparing for the future – IT/ collaborative/ cloud-based tools.

What sort of device do I need?

For most students, the most economical device is a Chromebook. Ideally the device would have a minimum of 4GB RAM, a minimum of 32GB and a screen that is large enough for the student to read information on easily. All Chromebooks will have access to Google classrooms and the Google suite where the majority of work is completed in class.

For senior students (Year 12 and 13) who have specialised courses, they may choose to purchase a laptop that has higher specifications and the ability to add course related programmes. Noel Leeming, PB Tech, The Warehouse, Harvey Norman and JB Hi-Fi are some of the examples of retailers that offer excellent deals for devices.

Expectations

The device must be brought to school each day fully charged and is expected to have a minimum charge life of 6 hours. Students will be expected to use their own device in class and there will be no option for borrowing a device if a student fails to bring their device. The student will work on paper if they do not bring their device to school.

What if I am unable to purchase a device?

Waihi College will have devices available for students to lease should they be unable to purchase one themselves. Students will pay a bond to lease the device for the year, they will take the device home and use it as their own for the year. Parents/caregivers and students will sign a contract agreeing to maintain the condition and return of the device with any loss or damage charged to the student.

More Information

Buying a device can be confusing with lots of overwhelming information. Please take a look at this handy guide from NetSafe NZ about buying a device and how to keep your child safe online.

<https://netsafe.org.nz/byod/>

As the 2024 year progresses, we will continue to give you more information.

This information can also be found in the [Administration & Policies](#) tab under Our School.



SPORTS WITH JESS AND JO

Sports Prizegivings

The dates have been set for Team Awards, Sports Volunteers (for coaches, managers, volunteers) Evening and Special Awards. Please pencil in the following dates.

Tuesday 15th October - Volunteer Evening, Waihi College Hub Space

Wednesday 16th October - Teams Awards, Waihi College Hall

Friday 18th October - Special Sports Awards, Bowentown Boat Club

Uniforms

With winter codes wrapped up or wrapping up soon please can all uniforms be returned to the Student Centre, Team Managers and or to the Sport Coordinator. Please can they be returned in a clean condition. Missing uniforms causes a huge problem with incomplete sets for future sports codes.

Say Thanks to Your Coach

As the winter season wraps up, it's the perfect time to say thanks to our coaches for everything they do. Sport New Zealand & Coach For Life Foundation NZ have launched a

campaign to help volunteer coaches feel valued and recognised for the great work they do – they are everyday heroes! Players & teams can say thanks to their coach by visiting <https://www.thankscoach.co.nz> to send their own personalised e-card or video message.