

# WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE 32 | 2024

## JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS: 11th & 12th December

As the end of the year approaches, we can look forward to our Junior Prizegiving's. As with the Seniors, we will have an **Endeavour & Service Prizegiving on the 11th** as well as an **Academic Prizegiving on the 12th**. If your child is receiving an award at either of these prizegiving's, you will be notified.

Details are as follows:

### 11th December:

- Year 9&10 Endeavour & Service Prizegiving @9.30am in the College Hall. Students will return to class afterwards.
- Year 7&8 Endeavour & Service Prizegiving @12 noon in the College Hall. Students will return to class afterwards.

### 12th December:

- Year 9&10 Academic Prizegiving @9.30am in the College Hall. Year 9&10 students will then be finished school for the year.
- Year 7&8 Academic Prizegiving @12 noon in the College Hall. Year 7&8 students will then be finished school for the year.

*Remember photos from all our school events can be found in the School Photo section for our website under Keeping Informed. You do not need the sign up for the Dropbox account to view the photos, just go to the 'continue to website' option.*

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora Whanau,

It's been an exciting week at school!

We've had our seniors in and out for different exams, and our juniors getting ready for next week's activities. Many are really looking forward to their trips coming up over the next two weeks.

Our year nine's are off on day trip options next week, and our year 10's will be learning about the hangi process, complete with making one, and feeding the junior school on Thursday - all welcome whanau, so please feel free to pop in for a chat and kai! The following week, Year 10's will be off on camp!

Please do make sure you keep an eye on our website and also our social media platforms to be informed as to what's coming up and what your young person may need.

A big shout out to our kaiako and staff, who are running some really exciting programs for our students to remain engaged with for the rest of the year. This week, our incredible writers, who entered a writing competition were celebrated, thankyou Mrs Barrow for facilitating this for our students! We have some budding word smiths amongst us!

It's scary to believe that we only have just over three school weeks left at school!

Every single day counts, so make sure you get yourself to school rangatahi, that you are ready to learn, that you're in the right place at the right time and doing the right thing, because we are noticing good things happening, and we're excited to be able to share that with your whanau.



Our staff are also busy planning already for 2025. Once again, please keep an eye on the calendar to make sure you don't miss various important events coming up.

We will be starting the year with a Leadership camp, for all of our Year 12 and 13's. This will be an opportunity for our young people to learn about what leadership is to them, and to plan forward, create goals and think about how they will reach these. It is also a great opportunity to bond, forge friendships and get to know our amazing staff. This will be from Feb 3rd - Feb 5th, and more info is coming!

Our newsletter will contain more info for you, along without social media platforms.

Finally, our Year 7 & 8 and Year 9 & 10 prize givings are both on the 12th of December. ALL are welcome to come along to celebrate our year and our students. My message to our young people is to come along and be glad for your friends, celebrate their success, just as we are thrilled to celebrate yours, fully knowing this looks different for each person.

Nga manaakitanga,  
Briar

## CRAZY COLOUR RUN - 6TH DECEMBER

We've now raised \$3,500 towards our new playground. Keep those sign ups rolling in! Soon you'll be able to start choosing prizes if you have raised \$10 or more - the more you raise, the more prizes you'll get. So far, the Ako with the most sign ups are Ms Fitz and Ms Kingston. By the end of next week, the winning Ako will be able to slime a teacher!!! Maybe you can choose which teacher? If not, let's just pick on Mr Davidson! Chat to your Ako teacher if you still need a sign up booklet.



If you don't have your profile yet, please go to [schoolfunrun.co.nz](https://schoolfunrun.co.nz) and create a student profile page. The more you raise, the better the reward. Grab a sponsorship brochure from your ako teacher if you haven't signed up yet.

Remember, although Seniors have left school, we would still love them to be involved with fundraising and on the day. Times will be posted closer to the date.

We're also looking for some community helpers, so if you're available please email the school on **wendys@waihicol.school.nz**. We are fundraising for an outdoor fitness area/school playground so let's do this!

## SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS

Waihi College is helping with the Shoebox Christmas this year. Shoebox Christmas Waihi is an organisation run by Kaylea Choat that collects and wraps gifts for those that might not otherwise get a gift on Christmas Day. This year, they would like our help collecting items they can gift to elderly people in our community. They are looking for tea, coffees, vouchers for food, coffee cups, soaps, crossword or puzzle books etc. if you think you can help, please drop your donation to the Student Centre or front office. These items need to be new, or in as new condition please.



## HAURAKI FESTIVAL

Te Ara Poutama did us proud over the weekend at the Hauraki Festival at Thames High School. Their passion and talent is inspiring to watch!





## WRITING COMPETITION

The team at Waihi Library hosted our students who participated in this year's school writing competition! Their creations were impressive, and the competition showcased the wonderful writing talent we have at Waihi College from years 7-13.

Stories ranged from a professionally written sports report, to a dark and adventurous journey and a semi-autobiographical account plus much more. Judges from Libraries across the Hauraki District loved the originality, passion and effort that went into the entries. The placegetters and commendations are as follows: -

### Year 7

1st Beau Wilson, 2nd Marlie Cochrane, 3rd Annette Otene

### Year 8

1st Ruby Searancke, 2nd Brielle Michalchuk, 3rd Samara McHardy  
Commendations - Harleen Kaur, Thierry Smith

### Year 9

### Year 10

1st Ryan Adams, 2nd Ruby Sargent, 3rd Jessica Yeh

Commendations - Abby Henderson, Jazmine Jones, Aiden Pemberton, Sami Hug

### Seniors

1st Bayley Goddard, 2nd Eva Carey, 3rd Zara Davies-Young

Commendations May Kwast, Iknoor Kaur

1st Zariah Brewerton, 2nd Jayne Pervan,  
3rd Tate Randell  
Commendations - Daria Galey, Julia  
Casillas

Head of English Jacqui Barrow is really proud of everyone who stepped up to take the challenge and is excited to see how many budding writers Waihi College has. "It takes courage to share ideas and creativity with others. I'd like to encourage everyone to keep the words flowing." The only new challenge for the placegetters was what to spend their prize money on!!



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### WAIHI COLLEGE TRADES SCHOLARSHIP 2025

This Trades Scholarship is for Year 11-13 students leaving school at the end of 2024 and have an apprenticeship or a confirmed place in a pre-trade course at Polytech.

Please email Mrs Graveson for an application form: [carolyng@waihicol.school.nz](mailto:carolyng@waihicol.school.nz)

Applications close Friday 22 November 2024



**Mrs Graveson will help you work out the attendance information required.**

## 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  
0272963787


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

M: 0272963787  
E: [margie.goldsworthy@pinnacle.health.nz](mailto:margie.goldsworthy@pinnacle.health.nz)

 Pinnacle  
Health



I would like to remind students who see me in the Nurses Clinic, please make sure you pop in and see me before the end of the school term, to prepare for the holiday season. Even if you do not usually see me, but you could use some advice or anything else. MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN. Especially if you are leaving school after this year. Even if you are not currently at school because of exams etc. you can still pop into school to see me.

I am taking annual leave this Christmas so will not be, as available, as I usually am over the Xmas holidays. As Benjamin Franklin said "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail". Margie, School Nurse

## SPORTS WITH JESS AND JO

### College A Coaches & Person in Charge Roles AVAILABLE

With the establishment of the sports committee this year, we are making some changes to how things are done moving forward to ensure there is a clear process with the appointment of PiC (person in charge) roles, and coaches of College A teams.

We are looking to appoint the Person in Charge of sporting codes & College A coaches at the end of 2024 as this will allow people the summer to start thinking about planning their programs.

If there are multiple people who apply for a role, then the sports committee will be in touch with people for more information.



We are looking for people to be in charge of the following codes:

- Volleyball
- Softball
- Touch

Being a person in charge of a sport entails:

**Key Tasks and responsibilities: To oversee and be the primary link between the athlete/student/volunteers/clubs /sports Coordinator and School Management.**

- First point of contact for the athletes/students during the school day for their sport alongside Sport Coordinator
- To ensure coaches and managers are aware of and understand the Waihi College expectations in their roles as mentors for our young people
- Support coaches and managers in their role as appropriate
- For investigation into matters arising from parents/students/whanau/opposition please direct to the sports committee.
- Produce any newsletters for your chosen sport if applicable
- Work with the sports co-ordinator to ensure that all teams have coaches and/or managers
- Organise and run trials along with the Sports Coordinator

We are also looking for coaches for the following College A teams:

- Basketball - Boys
- Basketball - Girls
- Football - Boys
- Football - Girls
- Rugby - Girls
- Volleyball - Boys
- Volleyball - Girls

Coaches for all other teams will be advertised in 2025.

If you feel this is something you would like to take on for 2025, please email your expression of interest and which code you would like to be in charge of, or the team that you are interested in coaching by please contact us by:

**Friday 22nd November,**  
to [sportscommittee@waihicol.school.nz](mailto:sportscommittee@waihicol.school.nz)

### **Thames Valley Secondary Schools Junior Volleyball Championships**

Last Tuesday our Junior A Girls and Junior A Boys Volleyball teams competed at the annual Thames Valley Secondary School Sports Volleyball Championships at Katikati College. The results were: Girls 1st Te Kauwhata 2nd Waihi 3rd Te Aroha 4th HPC 5th MBAS 6th KKC 7th THS 8th THS A Boys 1st Te Aroha 2nd KKC Yr 10s 3rd Te Kauwhata 4th MBAS 5th Waihi 6th KKC Yr 9s A huge mihi to our hosting school Juliet (Sport Coordinator) Katikati College.

Also a huge mihi to whaea Pam and Mr Michalchuk for your tautoko.

### **Year 7&8 Spiker Tournament**

Over the weekend our year 7&8 Mixed Volleyball team entered their very first volleyball tournament. Being a mixed team they had to compete in the boys division, to which they had very tough competition but they persevered and pushed through. Well done team and thank you to coach Niki Spiers and our parent helpers/supporters on the day.

### **Bay of Plenty Grapple Championships**

Congratulations and well done to Ava-Rose Kautai-King who won Gold at the Bay of Plenty Grapple Championships over the weekend. Ava-Rose went up an age bracket to the 14/15 year old section as no one was in her division for her age. This is her third time competing and she is the defending champion for the third year running. Well done Ava-Rose.





### **Hoop Nation Exposure Tour**

Congratulations to ex Waihi College student Aaliyah Hill who has made the u18 Women's Hoop Nations Exposure Tour Team 2025. Aaliyah and her team head to Melbourne, good luck Aali.

### **Lunchtime Sport**

Lunchtime sport has been going well with a more regular uptake of students participating. We play Multisport on a Tuesday & Thursday in the gym, and tennis has been popular on a Friday. Year 7 & 8's have been learning how to play Flag Football in preparation for the Te Kauwhata exchange at lunchtimes thanks to Jess Michalchuk. The sports gear in the Waka is well used and it is great to see all our students at lunchtimes playing sports either in the school grounds or at the gym. Keep up the participation everyone, awesome work

# COMING UP



- Tuesday 26th November - Te Kauwhata School Sports Exchange
- Wednesday 27th November - WBOP Year 7&8 Athletics







*Come and have lunch with me...*

**... we will discuss how you can empower your family with the tools to foster resilience and wellbeing in today's digital age.**

Friday 22nd of November  
**ONLINE** workshop  
12pm - 1pm NZT



With our Child Wellbeing and Mental Health Specialist  
**Vanessa McHardy M.A**

### **Join Me for a Thought-Provoking Lunch Discussion**

Discover the latest research on how smartphones and devices are impacting children's mental health. The findings are concerning—some experts point to their role in the escalating mental health crisis.

But there's hope. Together, we can explore practical, straightforward steps that can significantly improve your family's quality of life. Small changes can lead to big transformations.

### **Let's take action now—one step at a time.**

Reserve your spot for this lunch session and start empowering your family today. **Sign up** [here](#)

# BYOD IN 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.

# LUNCHES



## 18th-22nd November

Pasta Bolognese  
Ham & Cheese Sandwich  
Cheesy Tomato Pasta  
Teriyaki Chicken  
Mex Mince

## 25th-29th November

Mac n Cheese  
Ham & Cheese Sandwich  
Cheesy Tomato Pasta  
Cottage Pie  
Butter Chicken