

WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 | 2025

YEAR 7 & 8 MEET THE TEACHER

Waihi College is hosting a parent information evening on Thursday (13th February) at 5.15pm till 6pm.

Year 7 - Tainui Waka

Year 8 - Te Arawa Waka

We will be sharing information about the Portal, Camp, Our general programme. It is also a chance for them to meet their child's homeroom teacher and ask any questions.

See you there.



WAIHĪ
COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora and welcome back to Kura!

It is absolutely brilliant to have our halls buzzing with energetic young people!

I trust you all had a good summer break, and are excited for the new year (now a month in already!).

We were thrilled to welcome our new students and staff, this week, with powhiri. We are very much looking forward to getting to know you all, and are so glad you are here.



A few queries have come in, in regards to computers and where to put them during PE. We will be asking students to take their computers out of bags, during PE, to be stored in lockable storage, for the duration of the lesson (when not in use). This will be a trial to see if it works effectively, and we shall go from there. I am aware this time of year is terribly expensive for whanau, so if there is need to, please contact me, and we can make arrangements to pay things off, that work for your whanau. Please email

principal@waihicol.school.nz

You may have noticed on the letter previously sent out in the holidays, and also the students timetables, that our

Wednesday's are the same timings as the rest of the week, 8:45-3:10pm), and no longer have the earlier pick up time.

Also, just to confirm that Tuesday's are in uniform, as in all other days. If your young person requires mufti for their Super Tuesday, they are welcome to bring this to change during the school day, as required. If you would like to know more about some of the policies that govern our kura, please do pop over to school docs, and have a little read. I have included the most helpful below.

As always, I extend the invitation to contact me - we love to hear of your celebrations and support during trickier times.

Nga manaakitanga,
Briar

COMING UP

WAIHĪ COLLEGE



MEETING - 17/2 @ 3.15
AUDITIONS START - 18/2 @
lunchtimes



On Monday afternoon (17th Feb) from 3.15 to 4.30pm in the school hall, we will have a audition taster / meet and greet session with some food. Everybody who wants to be in the show is welcome and should try and make it. Then, each day from Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st we will have auditions in the hall for lead roles. Come and read lines and sing any ABBA song or any other song.. We need lots of boys too! It's going to be a lot of FUN! Come and see us if you have any questions but there will be a presentation in assembly on Tuesday 18th. The show will run from June 18-21.

Ms Berry and Mr Randell.

SCHOOL BASED IMMUNISATIONS

Public health nurses will be delivering two school-based immunisation programmes in your child's school during 2025

Year Seven Students-

These students will be offered the **Boostrix vaccine**, which is a booster for their early childhood immunisations of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). This is the same vaccination that would have been given to your child at age 4yrs if you consented.

Your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the Public Health Nurses at school.

- Information on the immunisations is included on the consent form which will be given to your child at the information session.
- Please complete the consent form and answer all the questions and return the form to school.

Year Eight Students –

These students will be offered the **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**, this vaccine is given to help protect against cervical cancer and other HPV related cancers; the vaccination will be given in two doses within the year.

Information about the vaccination programme will be given to students at school and this session may include watching the Ministry of Health Presentation on Immunisations and is designed specifically for this age group.

- If your child is not being vaccinated at school please complete section B and return the form to school
- Please check with your doctor or practice nurse if you are unsure if your child has had a tetanus injection in the last two years.

For further information on these vaccines phone **0800 IMMUNE (466 863)**. If you change your mind at any time regarding immunisation, please contact the Public Health Nurse. If you have consented and your child is away on the day of vaccination, they will be offered a catch up within 4 weeks

Jennie Hema

Public Health Nurse : 0272244484

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

M: 0272983787

E: margie.goldsworthy@pinnacle.health.nz

WAIHI COLLEGE

THE GENERATION OF SUN SMART KIDS



Don't forget to be SunSmart this summer

Protect yourself in **five ways** from skin cancer



SLIP



SLOP



SLAP



SEEK



SLIDE

- 1) SLIP: Clothing to **cover** as much skin as possible
- 2) SLOP: **Sunscreen** at least SPF 50 or SPF 50+ broad spectrum and water resistant
- 3) SLAP: Choose a broad-brimmed **Hat**. Caps and visors DO NOT provide enough protection
- 4) SEEK: Find a **shady spot**, but STILL always use other protection methods eg sunscreen.
- 5) SLIDE: Slide on some sunglasses. A **Hat and Sunny's** worn together can reduce UV radiation exposure to the eyes by up to 98%

STUDENT ABSENCES

We have several ways that you can let us know that your child/children will be absent from school.

You can ring the student centre from 8.30am or the front office from 8am 07 863 8349 or txt 021 830 055. If we have not heard from a caregiver by 10am then we will send a txt message and email to parents/caregivers. If you save the phone number/email address on this message it can be used for future absence notifications.

Please contact us every day that your child is absent unless you have told us in advance that they will be away for more than one day.

If your child has an appointment, please tell us what type of appointment it is e.g. Doctor, dentist etc as this affects the code we use.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM

We have a supply of second-hand uniform available. If you would like to have a look, please come and see us at the front office or the student centre.

PARENTS CORNER

Quick links for parents and whānau

About SchoolDocs

At Waihi College, our school policies are provided by SchoolDocs. SchoolDocs is an independent service that provides core policies that meet legislative and regulatory requirements and good practice, incorporating relevant school-specific information.

- For more information about policy management, see [Managing Policies and Procedures](#).
- For helpful information about this site, see [Help](#).

Quick links

This page provides quick links to information that may be of particular interest to parents and whānau.

The topics linked below are a selection of key policies and procedures – you have access to the whole site. Use the search function to find specific information.

Areas of interest	Key policies
	<i>Links in this table are to core and optional topics. If any links are inactive, it means that topic doesn't apply to our school or that content is covered somewhere else.</i>
Alcohol and drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Breaches of the Alcohol, Drugs, and Other Harmful Substances Policy – We use our student wellbeing and behaviour management policies to guide our response to possible and known student breaches.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance Procedures – Parents/Caregivers are expected to notify the school as soon as possible if their child will be absent. The school follows up ongoing attendance issues.
Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour Management – If you have concerns about an incident at school, please contact the school and the school will deal with the concern. • Bullying and Harassment – Harassment and bullying behaviour by anyone is not tolerated at our school.

<u>Cellphones</u> and personal digital devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cellphones – Our cellphones policy complies with government regulations and our approach to cellphones and other personal digital devices supports student engagement and achievement.
Closing the school (e.g. extreme weather, emergency)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Closure – The school may need to be closed for a variety of reasons – we keep parents informed through our usual communication channels.
Concerns and complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising Concerns and Complaints – Anyone who has a concern or complaint should raise it as soon as possible with an appropriate person at the school.
Contacting the school (communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating with Parents and Whānau – This policy outlines how the school and parents/whānau communicate and engage with each other.
Digital technology and online safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Technology and Online Safety – This policy outlines the issues and challenges associated with our students being competent and confident users of digital technology, and focuses on the safety of students.

Emergency (communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication During an Emergency, Disaster, or Crisis – In an emergency, disaster, or crisis the school contacts parents/caregivers/whānau when it can, using the emergency contact details provided, and releases information to the school community as appropriate.
Enrolment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolment – This policy outlines our enrolment conditions and process.
EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOTC Consent – This policy contains important information about parental consent, risk disclosure, and health information. • EOTC Supervision – This policy contains information about volunteering for EOTC events.

Food and nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Nutrition – This policy outlines how we promote a healthy food and drink environment at school.
Getting to and from school safely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting to and from School Safely – This policy outlines road safety at and around school, as well as travelling to and from school safely. If applicable, additional information (e.g. road patrol) is included here.
Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allergies – We aim to provide a safe environment for students with allergies. Parents advise the school of any allergies their child has, and provide an action plan as necessary. • Asthma – Parents should inform the school, if their child has asthma, update this information as necessary, and provide the necessary medication. • Communicating about Injuries and Illness – We follow school processes for contacting parents/caregivers or emergency contacts about injuries and illness. • Infectious Diseases – Students must stay away from school when they are unwell to stop illness from spreading. How long they should be home depends on their illness. Remember to let the school know the student will be absent. • Medicines – This policy explains how medicines are stored and administered.
Inclusive school culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive School Culture – We aim to create a safe and inclusive school culture where diversity is valued and all students and staff feel they belong.
Learning support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Support – The policies in this section outline how we support student learning needs, and who provides this support.
Police vetting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Vetting – Police vetting is an important part of our safety checking processes and is relevant to several policies.

BYOD IN 2025

This year, Waihi College has moved 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.

Lessons from Learning Support

What are Special Assessment Conditions (SAC)

Students with a permanent or long-term sensory, physical, medical or learning difficulty that directly impacts on their access to fair assessment for national qualifications may be eligible for Special Assessment Conditions, or SAC. SAC entitlements give students access to different types of support so they can complete internal and external NCEA assessments (exams). Some examples of SAC: special papers for vision-impaired students, writers or readers for students with learning disorders, such as dyslexia, rest breaks for students with diabetes, separate accommodation for students with anxiety disorder.

You can find more descriptions of what types of SAC are available here: [SAC available :: NZQA](#). Schools make submissions to NZQA for SAC on behalf of students. There is no charge for this process. Students give the school signed approval before the school sends the submission to NZQA. The school can gather information for evidence in a number of ways, including: the student's history of learning support provided at school. Comments and observations from teachers, the student and their parents or caregivers, medical or other reports provided by the student or their parents or caregivers, test results done by the school, for example, reading and writing tests, results of any trials of SAC.

Waihi College SAC Process

When your child is in Years 7 to 10 the school will be building a profile of any difficulties and how they are managing assessments. This profile helps build an informed application for SAC use for NCEA Level 1. It is important to raise any learning concerns that you may have for your child with the school as soon as possible and provide the school with copies of any medical or other reports that might help with the application. Through this process we identify students who are likely to be eligible for SAC. Students are then consulted and an application is lodged on their behalf. If the student's application is successful, students and teachers are notified and the student's SAC entitlements are then immediately available to use for assessments. Applications are currently being processed and students should be informed within the next few weeks if they have SAC entitlements. If you feel your child is eligible for SAC and would like to discuss the application process further, please contact our Learning Support Coordinator for years 9 to 13 Paula Galey paulag@waihicol.school.nz.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

At Waihi Beach Surf School, we're running an After-School Surf Program designed to help kids gain confidence in the ocean while having fun. The program runs for six weeks on Tuesdays, with expert coaching tailored for all levels—from first-time surfers to those looking to build their skills. Why it's great for students: Develops ocean confidence & surf safety awareness Builds resilience, balance & coordination Fun, active, and social outdoor learning. We'd love for your school to help spread the word by sharing this in your newsletter or with parents directly. Here's the link with all the details: <https://www.beachsurfschool.co.nz/product/after-school-program/> If you need any additional information, just let me know. Best regards,
Aidan, Waihi Beach Surf School: 0272458593



**WAIHI BEACH
SURF
SCHOOL**

AFTER SCHOOL SURFING PROGRAMME

Tuesdays 4-5.30pm
\$240 for 6 weeks
All equipment provided
Beginner - intermediate level

Phone: 0272458593
aidan@beachsurfschool.co.nz

**STARTS
18TH
FEBRUARY**

Register now

BRASS BAND LEARNER'S LESSONS

- **Day:** Tuesdays (excluding school holidays)
- **Time:** 4:15 PM
- **Where:** Kerepehi Brass Band Hall, 14 Matai St, Kerepehi
- **Cost:** Just \$5 per week
- **Instruments:** Cornet, Tenor Horn, Flugel Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Euphonium, Tuba*
- **Instrument Hire:** Available
- *Subject to age and skill level, at the music teacher's discretion.

We're incredibly fortunate to have Hamilton-based music teacher Clive Burnell as our tutor. Our lessons are open to everyone, and we've welcomed students from Ngatea, Kerepehi, Netherton, Thames, Te Kauwhata, Waikino, and Paeroa. We're passionate about nurturing the next generation of band players and are committed to giving you or your child the best possible start on this exciting journey. If you have any questions, feel free to drop in or email us - kerepehibrass@gmail.com. We are also having an Open Day on Tuesday 11 February at 5.30pm if you would like to catch up with us then. We hope to see you soon! www.kerepehibrass.co.nz

February 2025

Kia ora e te Whanau.

The Mobile Dental Unit that services your School and Community is located at Waihi, Beach School and will be there for Term 1, 2025.

Pre-schoolers and students are entitled to regular free dental check-ups from for 0 to 17 year olds. Students to year 8 are seen by the Mobile Dental Service. From year 9 they continue to be seen and treated for free by a private dentist until they turn 18 years old – please ensure you follow this up with your local dentist.

If you have an urgent dental concern for your child, or wish to make an appointment for your child's routine examination, please phone or text us direct on 021 359 798, or phone 0800 825 583, or email

AdminDental@waikatodhb.health.nz.

Ngaa mihi nui.



At the New Zealand Sailing Trust, we are passionate about inspiring young New Zealanders to develop leadership, teamwork, resilience, and environmental awareness through transformative sailing adventures. Since 2008, we've empowered over 16,000 participants, providing them with hands-on experiences that build confidence and an appreciation for the ocean. We are a Recognised Activity Provider for the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award, offering 5-Day Adventurous Journeys designed to cultivate an adventurous spirit and environmental consciousness.

Below are our 2025 journeys and I ask that you share these with your award participants, along with the flyer attached.

Our programs include:

5-Day Sail & Kayak Journey

13th – 17th April

A unique blend of sailing and kayaking with Auckland Sea Kayaks, enhancing navigation, resilience, and teamwork skills.

5-Day All Female Sail & Kayak Journey

13th – 17th April

A girls-only adventure designed to build self-confidence, communication skills, and lifelong friendships in a supportive environment.

5-Day Sailing Journey

22nd – 26th September

An immersive all-sailing experience, where students develop sailing expertise, navigation skills, and camaraderie at sea. These life-changing experiences are open to 14-18 year-

olds and qualify for: Bronze, Silver, & Gold Adventurous Journeys
Gold Residential Project. For full details on schedules, program specifics, and bursary opportunities, visit: <https://www.nzsailingtrust.com/youth>



YOUR ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY AWAITS

Join us on one of our unforgettable journeys and experience the thrill of sailing, the beauty of the ocean, and the power of teamwork!

Choose Your Adventure:

Sail & Kayak Adventure – Explore both the sea and shore with 2.5 days sailing and 2.5 days kayaking with Auckland Sea Kayaks. Build skills in navigation, weather reading, and environmental responsibility.

5-Day Sailing Voyage – Immerse yourself in an all-out sailing experience! Spend five days on board, learning teamwork, leadership, and essential sailing skills while making lifelong memories.

All Female Journey – A journey created to empower young women, fostering confidence, adventure, and leadership in a supportive, all-female environment.

\$1,575 per person

NZST is a Recognised Activity Provider of the Gold Residential and Adventurous Journey components of The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award.

Limited Spaces – Book Now!

Set sail on your next big adventure with New Zealand Sailing Trust!

<https://www.nzsailingtrust.com/youth>



NZ SAILING TRUST



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND | HILLARY AWARD



Do you like to Dance?

My name is Michael McPhee and I am a qualified and registered dance teacher.

This year I am running Ballet, Tap, and Jazz classes at local halls in Turua, and Karangahake.

Classes are available from age 4 through to Adults.

If you would be interested in trying a dance class please get in touch. I offer one free trial class before requiring enrolment.

Email: memcphee20@gmail.com

Mobile: 021 056 2085

I started Dancing at the age of 5, and now have over 23 years of dance experience and have been teaching for more than 10 years. In 2019 I took over the Lee Jarvis School of Dance (now Attitude NZ School of Dance) in Paeroa and have been working closely with the Thames Hauraki Ballet Theatre (now Thames Hauraki Dance Theatre) since 2020.

I have been very fortunate to learn from and work with many experienced dancers and dance teachers.

I have a Level 4 Diploma in Imperial Classical Ballet,
a Gold Award for Level 13 Glenn Wood Tap,
an Advanced Two Diploma and Solo Performance Diploma for Jazz.
And I am a Registered Teacher of NZAMD.

I endeavor to use safe and effective teaching methods to teach dance in a professional but fun and enjoyable atmosphere. My aim is to help students develop correct technique and a positive attitude towards dance, maintaining high standards of conduct and respect. - Mr Michael McPhee ANZAMD SPD



Come Dance With Us This Year!

ATTITUDE NZ
SCHOOL OF DANCE

Check out our
Facebook and
Instagram Pages

Phone: 021 056 2085

E-mail: memcphee20@gmail.com