

# WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 | 2025

## SWIMMING SPORTS

Swimming Sports yesterday was a fantastic event, filled with excitement, competition, and plenty of house spirit. The sun was shining, creating the perfect atmosphere for a day of racing and cheering. Students turned out in full force, proudly wearing their house colors and supporting their friends from the sidelines. The competition was fierce, but in the end, Amaranth claimed victory, followed closely by Empire, with Royal in third and Dominion in fourth. Adding to the lively atmosphere, the Leos ran a refreshing Juicie stall, while the basketball boys kept everyone fueled with a sausage sizzle.

It was a day of outstanding performances, the results are available on our website in the Latest News section and will be listed in our Sports Newsletter and Facebook page. Well done to everyone who participated and made the day such a success! To see all the photos from the day, please head to our [School Photos](#) section in the Keeping Informed tab from the main menu.



## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora Whanau

What a brilliant week just had, with our Swimming Sports and incredible young people, gaining house points for both participation and competition - we certainly have some amazing young athletes!

Big thanks to whanau who were able to come along for some of the day, and encourage our young people.

This week we have a further opportunity to share in the school day - with Athletics for years 9-13. If you are able to pop up to the field, we would love to see you!

You might be aware it is a Board election year. If you have a passion for our community, want to see our school continue to shine and support how we can continue to grow; come and have a chat!



The Board meets monthly, and looks at governance issues around supporting the function of our school, and walks alongside our Leadership Team to ensure equity and equality of education is at the forefront of our endeavors. You don't have to have had experience - and no question is a silly one to ask - so please flick me an email, or pop in for a chat.

As you will know, we want all students and staff to work in a drug free environment - and we pride ourselves at Waihi College about being proactive about this and are so pleased to be able to provide this. We have used the services of a drug detection dog team to screen our school for drugs over the last 3 terms.

This has proven an effective deterrent, and we will continue to do this to help provide a safe environment for our students and staff.

For new parents and students to our school, the process for screening is below. Should you have any questions, please do email them.

The process for the drug detection team would be:

- The drug dog team would arrive on site on a random school day
- The principal would discuss the areas of the school to be screened



- The drug dog team would be escorted around the school by principal and/or the deputy principals to screen the classrooms, storage rooms, amenities and outdoor areas
- If a classroom were occupied by students, they will be asked to vacate the room briefly so the drug dog team is able to screen the room
- The students will exit the classroom and line up outside the classroom - students themselves will not be screened
- Once all students are out of the classroom, the drug dog team will quickly screen the room
- If the dogs should show interest or give a positive indication in any area or item, then the drug team would point that out to the principal/deputy principal and we will take the appropriate action to follow up in accordance with school policy.

As always, I am very happy to chat through things on top for you, and hear of the celebrations for your young people!

Nga manaakitanga,  
Briar



WAIHĪ COLLEGE

# SAVE THE DATE

**Waihi College Ball**  
**17th May**

**More info coming soon!**

**[www.waihicol.school.nz](http://www.waihicol.school.nz)**

## SCHOOL WIDE

### REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Rehearsals are well underway for the upcoming Mamma Mia and a letter will be sent home shortly with a full rehearsal schedule. If you're unsure of the schedule or have any questions, please chat to Mr Randell, Ms Berry or Wendy

WAIHĪ COLLEGE

**MAMMA  
MIA!**



In support of Neurodiversity Celebration Week, we are holding a Forced perspective Photo Competition. We want you to capture a forced perspective photo that challenges the way we see the world. Get creative and

show us the world from your unique perspective. Forced perspective photography plays with depth, angles and illusions. Let your imagination run wild!

Email your entries to Wendy on:  
**wendys@waihicol.school.nz** with  
your name and house. Competition  
closes at 9am on 18th March.



# Forced Perspective PHOTO COMPETITION

Entries close 9am, 18.3.25

Get creative and show us the world from your unique perspective. Forced perspective photography plays with depth, angles and illusions. Let your imagination run wild!

CAPTURE A FORCED PERSPECTIVE PHOTO THAT CHALLENGES THE WAY WE SEE THE WORLD

EMAIL IT TO WENDYS@WAIHICOL.SCHOOL.NZ

INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND HOUSE IN THE EMAIL

Four examples of forced perspective photos: a dinosaur in a field, a person standing on a giant shoe, a hand holding a camera, and a person standing on a giant shoe.A smaller version of the Neurodiversity Celebration Week banner.The Waihi College logo.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### LOVE GRACE HANDBAG APPEAL

Do you have a handbag sitting in the back of your closet unused and forgotten?

Do you want to give back to your community and help support other women in need?

We are accepting handbag donations for the *Love Grace Handbag* appeal. Fill your handbag with essential items like deodorant, toothpaste, sanitary products or even things like perfume and makeup. The bags donated will go directly to the nearest women's refuge so you're supporting the women in your community.

### DONATE A HANDBAG TO WOMEN IN NEED

#### Love Grace Handbag Appeal

If you have a handbag you would like to donate fill it up with some essentials and bring it to the drop off point

**Waihi Drop Off point**  
Waihi college office



The Love Grace Handbag appeal is in honour of Grace Millane. Grace was a tourist in New Zealand when she was tragically murdered on a tinder date. Her family started this event in honour of her love of handbags, helping thousands of women in need focusing on raising awareness for domestic violence. Donations are accepted from 14th February - 8th



March 2025. If you're interested in giving your handbag to a new home where it will be used and make a difference, drop it off at the Waihi College office. And remember it's not just a bag, it's a symbol of hope, love, empowerment and support.

## COMING UP

### WHANAU MEET & GREET: 20TH MARCH

We will be holding a Whānau Meet & Greet afternoon between 3:30pm and 6pm.

This is an opportunity to meet the teachers as well as have some fun and kai.

More details to follow so keep an eye on social media, the Latest News section of our website and the newsletters.

WAIHĪ COLLEGE

## MEET & GREET 20TH MARCH



THE SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF  
NEW ZEALAND AOTEAROA  
TE PUNA WHARE MĀTAURANGA A KURA

### Poster Competition

#### Calling all artists/designers:

The School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (SLANZA) is looking for a poster to promote Aotearoa School Library Week 2025 (ASLW25).

We are looking for student artists to design an A3 portrait poster for ASLW25.

We would like the poster to reflect many aspects of a school library, and appeal to both tamariki and rangitahi. What makes a school library special? The books, the games, the people? Gathering with friends to share joy over a book, insta, or exploding kittens?

The poster must have space for us to add our logo and include the following details:  
Aotearoa School Library Week 2025  
4-8 August

The winner will receive a \$200 Prezzy Card.

Please send an electronic copy of your artwork by email to:  
auckland@slanza.org.nz  
Subject line: ASLW25 Artwork  
Entries must be received by 11:59pm on Friday 2 May 2025

Judges decision is final, no correspondence will be entered into.

### SLANZA (School Library Association New Zealand Aotearoa)

SLANZA would like to offer students the opportunity to design a poster for Aotearoa School Library Week 2025 and win a \$200 pressy card.

Artwork will be used for promoting ASLW25 and on all collateral for this year.

## PARENT CORNER

Waihi College is excited to join School TV.  
An online platform that supports wellbeing for schools. School TV is a resource for

parents, caregivers and educators to better support student wellbeing. We will be rolling out School TV for Waihi College soon so keep an eye out.



## DYSLEXIA CHECKLIST

### Dyslexia Checklist and Indicators

This leaflet is designed to be a 'loose' list of possible indicators of dyslexia. Even if you tick many of the boxes, this is not an assessment or confirmation of dyslexia, but it might be a useful starting point for people who wonder if they are dyslexic.

**There are many strengths associated with dyslexia and they are just as common as some of the weaknesses. People with dyslexia will find some things difficult but often will have other skills to help overcome these difficulties.**

**Many people with dyslexia will tick lots of these boxes:**

- ☐ I find it easy to explain a concept or idea but difficult to write it down.
- ☐ I read very slowly and might re-read several times before I am sure I understand.
- ☐ I lose my place or miss out lines when I am reading.
- ☐ I am creative.
- ☐ When I write, I confuse words that are similar.
- ☐ I often struggle to copy things down accurately.
- ☐ I am interested in people and can often see the potential in others.
- ☐ I make many spelling mistakes and have difficulty writing things like reports and letters.
- ☐ Some days I spell better than others.
- ☐ I have problems filling in forms.
- ☐ I have difficulty retaining immediate information and I have a reputation for being forgetful or lazy.
- ☐ I am good at thinking outside the box and seeing the whole picture.
- ☐ I get confused about dates and times.

[www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk](http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk)

- ☐ I find it difficult remembering telephone messages accurately.
- ☐ I find it difficult to organise myself.
- ☐ I am good at seeing solutions that other people don't see.
- ☐ I dread being given complicated instructions, asked to read out loud or take minutes.
- ☐ I find it easy to visualise ideas or concepts.
- ☐ I confuse left and right.
- ☐ I have difficulty giving directions and following directions.
- ☐ I am good at putting myself in someone else's shoes.
- ☐ Many of my difficulties get worse under stress.

People who do not have dyslexia might also experience some of these things. Whilst some of the indicators above might seem negative, it is important to remember that people with dyslexia have many strengths. With the right support, children and adults with dyslexia are capable of reaching their full potential.

### Further information

Dyslexia Scotland's website has information about assessment and identification of dyslexia for children and adults.

[www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk](http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk)

Dyslexia Scotland Helpline 0344 800 8484 or [helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk](mailto:helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk)

**Dyslexia Scotland**  
Charity No. SC 000951  
Registered No. SC 153321  
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## ADHD: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## ADHD : Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a **neurodevelopmental condition** that affects a child's ability to **focus, control impulses, and regulate energy levels**. It is one of the most common childhood disorders and can continue into adolescence and adulthood. It affects approximately one in 20 New Zealanders. ADHD is not a result of laziness or bad parenting; it is a medical condition that affects how the brain processes information. Children with ADHD often face **challenges** in the classroom, at home, and in social situations. **ADHD symptoms** can vary but often include Difficulty paying attention to details or making careless mistakes, Frequent daydreaming or trouble staying on task, Constant movement or an inability to sit still, Talking excessively or interrupting conversations, Impulsivity, such as acting without thinking or struggling to wait their turn, Trouble following instructions or completing tasks, Forgetfulness and misplacing items

With the right support system in place, children with ADHD can thrive and develop the skills they need to succeed in school and life. Within the school environment they may need extra support as they may **struggle** with Staying focused on tasks and instructions, Completing homework and classwork, Organizing materials and time, Remembering assignments and deadlines, Managing emotions and frustration, Sitting still or waiting their turn and Interacting with peers appropriately

### How a Parent Can Support Their Child

1. **Create a Structured Routine:** Children with ADHD thrive on consistency. Establish a daily schedule with clear expectations.
2. **Break Tasks into Smaller Steps:** Large assignments can feel overwhelming. Break tasks into manageable parts and provide step-by-step guidance.
3. **Use Visual Aids:** Charts, checklists, and timers can help children stay on track.
4. **Encourage Physical Activity:** Regular movement can help kids with ADHD release excess energy and improve focus.
5. **Practice Positive Reinforcement:** Praise and reward good behavior to reinforce positive habits.
6. **Communicate with Teachers:** Work with educators to develop strategies that support your child's learning style.
7. **Limit Distractions:** Create a quiet, organized workspace for homework and studying.
8. **Teach Social Skills:** Role-play different social situations to help your child learn appropriate responses.
9. **Be Patient and Supportive:** ADHD can be frustrating, but encouragement and understanding go a long way.
10. **Seek Professional Support:** Consult a doctor for a diagnosis and additional strategies and possible treatment options. <https://www.adhd.org.nz/>

# NURSE'S CORNER

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**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](mailto:margie.goldsworthy@pinnacle.health.nz)**