

WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8 | 2025

BAKE SALE

We are holding a bake sale on the quad this Friday at 11.30 (and again at 1.50 if we have left overs), with all money raised going to the **Rolleston-Bryan whānau**. Please drop any baking donations to the front office on Friday morning. We welcome baking donations from the community and also welcome them to come and purchase as well. Just sign in at the front office and head to the quad.

Sales are cash only.



PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora Whanau

I am incredibly proud of our students' efforts this term. It has been inspiring to see so many of them taking ownership of their learning and demonstrating creativity in their projects.

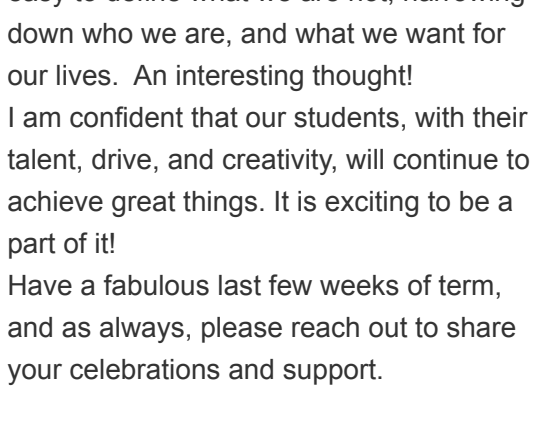
Our Wearable Arts (WOW) students have been particularly impressive, crafting stunning designs, in many cases creating their own fabrics, and bringing their visions to life.



The talent and dedication on display are truly remarkable. Our engineering students have also been busy, designing innovative solutions to create an outdoor lunch dining space for our kura. Their problem-solving skills and practical application of knowledge are commendable.

Furthermore, our "Shark Tank" students are tackling the challenge of school lunch issues with ingenuity, while our culinary students are working on creating and understanding what it means to create kai, with a healthy heart foundation tick, promoting and testing nutritious kai. During recent assemblies and in classroom discussions, I have been encouraging our students to dream big, pursue their passions, and define what success means to them – and then to actively chase those dreams. I believe in the power of ambition and hard work, and I want to empower our students to achieve their full potential.

Pursuing qualities like hard work ethic, simplifying some of the things we choose to let into our lives, connecting with like minded people and whānau, along with staying true to what makes your heart feel alive and content.



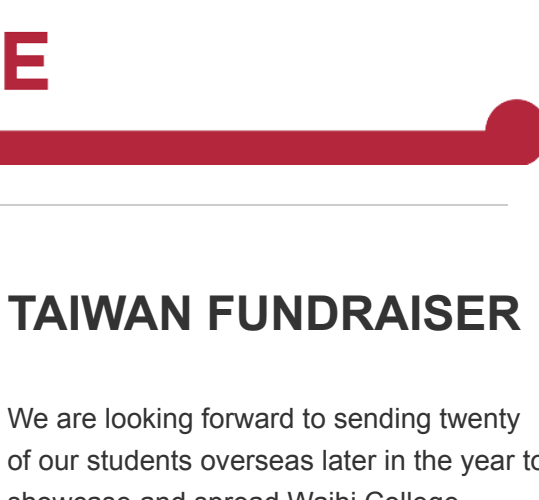
In a speech, the actor Matthew McConaughey made the valid point that it can be hard to know who we are - but it is easy to define what we are not, narrowing down who we are, and what we want for our lives. An interesting thought! I am confident that our students, with their talent, drive, and creativity, will continue to achieve great things. It is exciting to be a part of it! Have a fabulous last few weeks of term, and as always, please reach out to share your celebrations and support.

Nga manaakitanga,
Briar

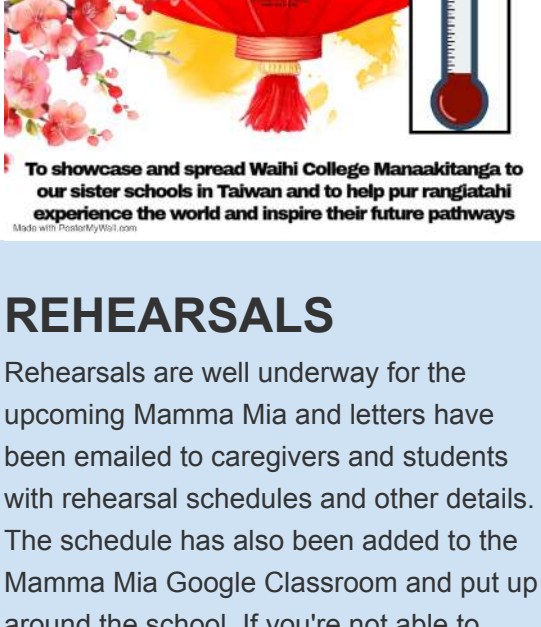
THANK YOU FROM THE WAIHI COLLEGE LEOS CLUB

From the Waihi College Leo's Club, and all of us at Waihi College, we would like to thank our students, staff and community for helping us raise \$2550 for Jake and his whānau. The funds are being transferred to his Give A Little page this afternoon.

Kia kaha Jake.



SCHOOL WIDE



TAIWAN FUNDRAISER

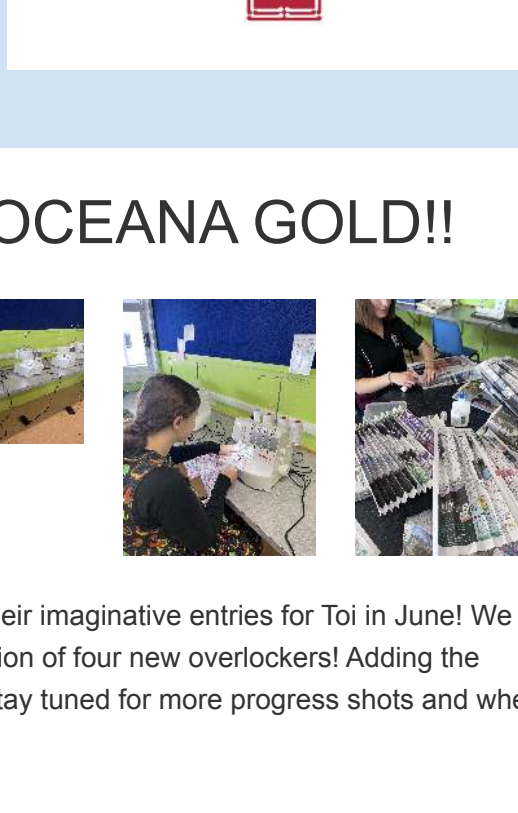
We are looking forward to sending twenty of our students overseas later in the year to showcase and spread Waihi College manaakitanga to our sister schools in Taiwan and to help our rangitahi experience the world, inspiring their future pathways.

If you think you can help, please get in touch.

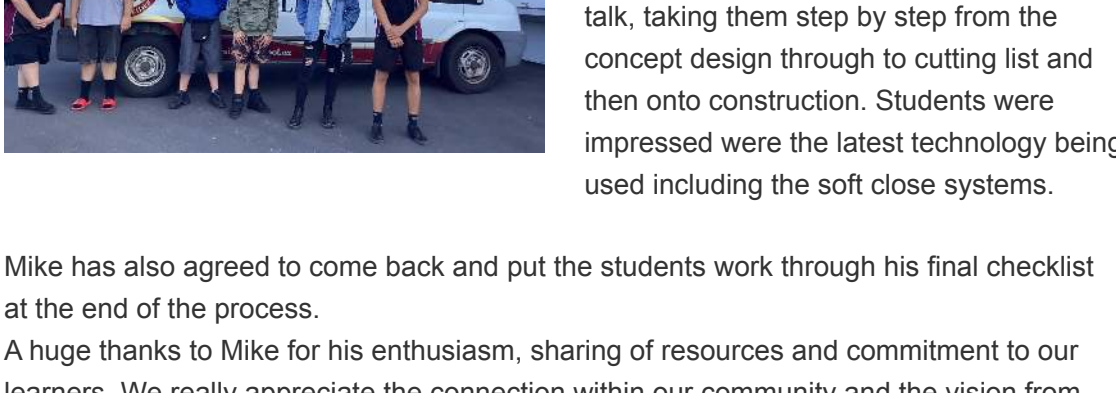
REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are well underway for the upcoming Mamma Mia and letters have been emailed to caregivers and students with rehearsal schedules and other details. The schedule has also been added to the Mamma Mia Google Classroom and put up around the school. If you're not able to make a rehearsal, please chat to Mr Randall or Ms Berry.

Our next Saturday rehearsal is in the holidays, on Sunday 27th (a slight change from Thursday 24th as originally planned)



THANKS AGAIN TO OCEANA GOLD!!



Our Wearable Artists are underway creating their imaginative entries for Toi in June! We would like to thank Oceana Gold for our donation of four new overlockers! Adding the perfect finishing touches to these garments. Stay tuned for more progress shots and when tickets are available!

LEVEL 2 BUILDING

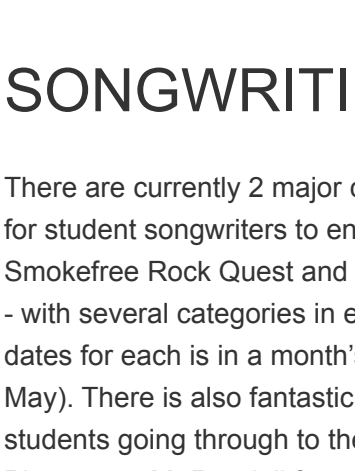
Our Level 2 Building class had a visit to Bakers Joinery last week as part of their Level 2 furniture making standard. Mike inspired the students with his tour and talk, taking them step by step from the concept design through to cutting list and then onto construction. Students were impressed were the latest technology being used including the soft close systems.

Mike has also agreed to come back and put the students work through his final checklist at the end of the process.

A huge thanks to Mike for his enthusiasm, sharing of resources and commitment to our learners. We really appreciate the connection within our community and the vision from Mike to put such effort into our youth.

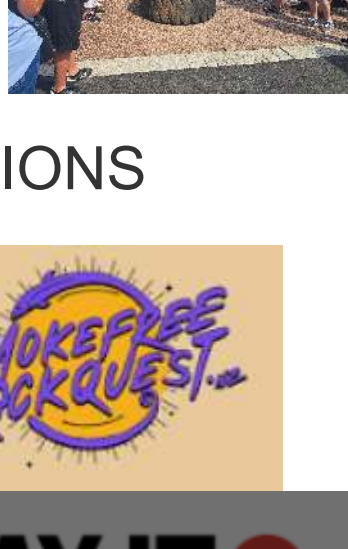
COMMUNITY NOTICES

BEACH HOP



BEST TOT ROD

Well done to Connor Peters who took out best Tot Rod at Beach Hop this year!



TE ARA POUTAMA

And well done to our fantastic Kapa Haka ropu, Te Ara Poutama, for their beautiful performance.

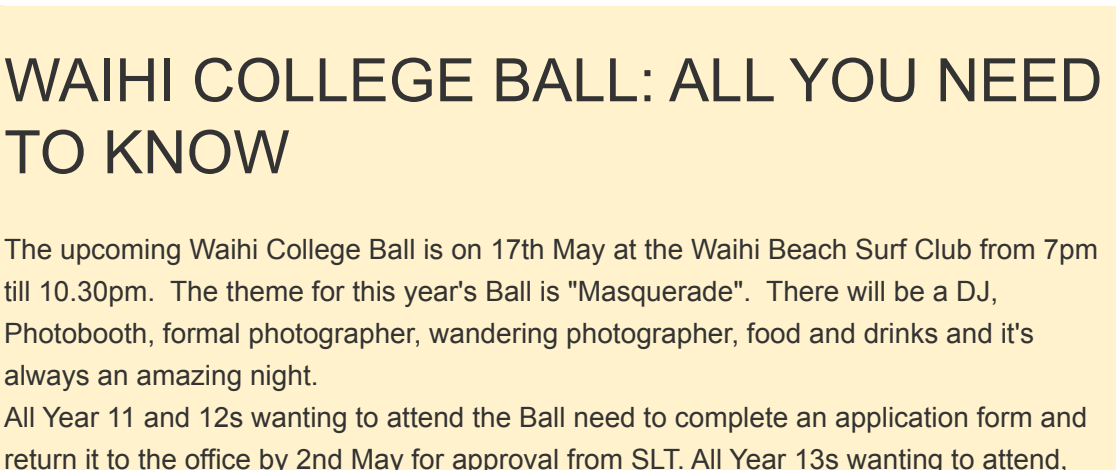


Well done to Xavier Hope, Joel Crockett, Beau Wilson and Owen Laing for taking part in the drag race!



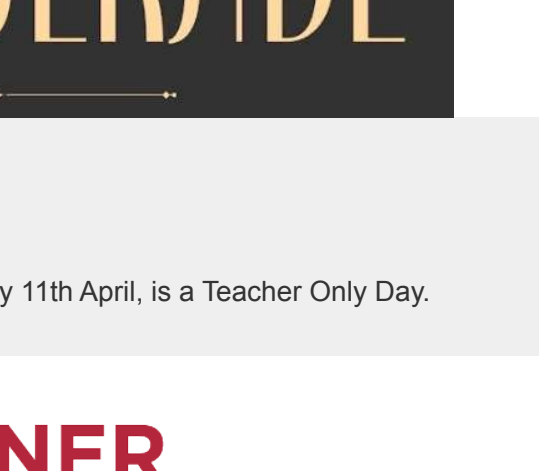
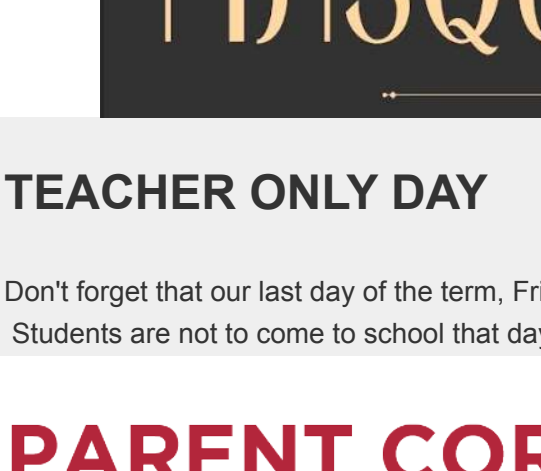
DRAG RACE WINNERS

Big shout out to Jamie Hughes, Stanley Anderson and Truman Alexander for winning the Drag Race and taking home \$250! Looks like they had a hand from Mayor Toby Adams too!



SONGWRITING COMPETITIONS

There are currently 2 major competitions for student songwriters to enter. The Smokefree Rock Quest and Play it Strange - with several categories in each. Closing dates for each is in a month's time (end of May). There is also fantastic prizes for students going through to the next rounds. Please see Mr Randall for more details. Student can enter as soloists or as a band and there are also opportunities for Maori waiata.



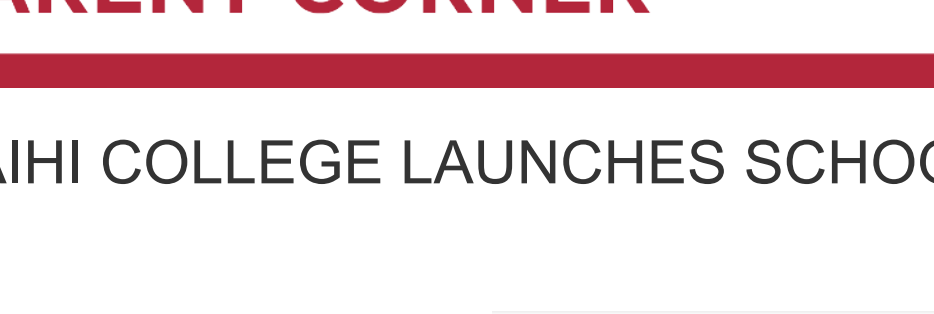
COMING UP

WAIHI COLLEGE BALL: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

The upcoming Waihi College Ball is on 17th May at the Waihi Beach Surf Club from 7pm till 10.30pm. The theme for this year's Ball is "Masquerade". There will be a DJ, Photobooth, formal photographer, wandering photographer, food and drinks and it's always an amazing night.

All Year 11 and 12s wanting to attend the Ball need to complete an application form and return it to the office by 2nd May for approval from SLT. All Year 13s wanting to attend, need to pop their name on the Year 13 list along with their partners name if they are bringing one from outside Waihi College.

Ball Applications can be collected from the office or downloaded from the Latest News section of our website. Tickets are \$80 each as per and will be on sale shortly.



TEACHER ONLY DAY

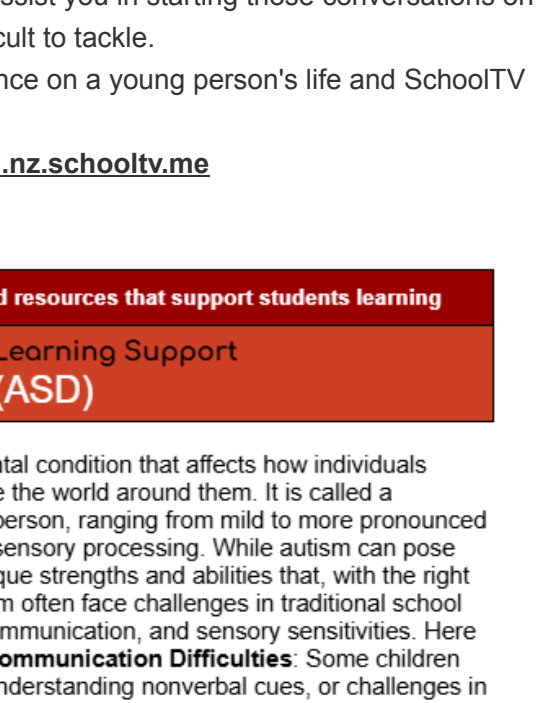
Don't forget that our last day of the term, Friday 11th April, is a Teacher Only Day. Students are not to come to school that day.

PARENT CORNER

WAIHI COLLEGE LAUNCHES SCHOOL TV

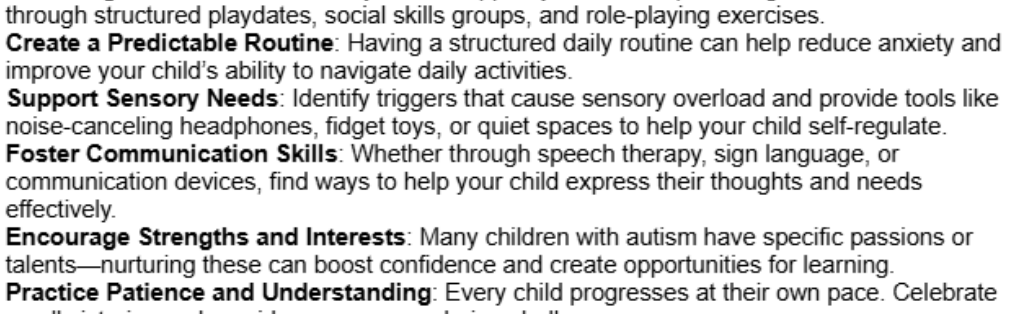
Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource implemented at our school to help support you in the challenges of modern-day parenting relating to youth mental health and wellbeing. Parenting is a learning journey and SchoolTV supports families by providing credible information from trusted sources with practical strategies to help alleviate some of the challenges being faced by young people today.

Watch video interviews with leading wellbeing specialists and browse a library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and other videos.



This award-winning resource helps families build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It will assist you in starting those conversations on topics that can sometimes be awkward or difficult to tackle. Parents and caregivers are the greatest influence on a young person's life and SchoolTV focuses on empowering confident parenting.

Explore SchoolTV today at <https://waihicol.nz.schooltv.me>



Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition that affects how individuals communicate, interact with others, and experience the world around them. It is called a spectrum because it presents differently in every person, ranging from mild to more pronounced challenges in social skills, speech, behavior, and sensory processing. While autism can pose certain difficulties, people with ASD also have unique strengths and abilities that, with the right support, can help them thrive. Students with autism often face challenges in traditional school settings due to differences in social interaction, communication, and sensory sensitivities. Here are some key ways autism may affect students: **Communication Difficulties:** Some children with autism may have delayed speech, difficulty understanding nonverbal cues, or challenges in engaging in back-and-forth conversations. **Social Challenges:** Many children with autism struggle with forming friendships, interpreting emotions, and engaging in group activities. **Sensory Sensitivities:** Bright lights, loud noises, and certain textures can be overwhelming for students with autism, making it difficult to concentrate or participate in class. **Repetitive Behaviors and Routines:** Many children with ASD rely on routines and may become distressed when their schedule changes unexpectedly. **Executive Functioning Issues:** Skills like organization, time management, and transitioning between tasks can be difficult for autistic students.

How Parents Can Help: As a parent, you play a crucial role in supporting your child's development and education. Here are some practical ways to help: **Educate Yourself and Others:** Learn as much as possible about autism and share this knowledge with teachers, family members, and caregivers to create a supportive environment. **Advocate for Your Child:** Work closely with teachers and school staff to ensure your child receives necessary accommodations, such as a learner profile. **Encourage Social Skills Development:** Support your child in practicing social interactions through structured playdates, social skills groups, and role-playing exercises. **Create a Predictable Routine:** Having a structured daily routine can help reduce anxiety and improve your child's ability to navigate daily activities. **Support Sensory Needs:** Identify triggers that cause sensory overload and provide tools like noise-canceling headphones, fidget toys, or quiet spaces to help your child self-regulate. **Foster Patience and Understanding:** Every child progresses at their own pace. Celebrate small victories and provide reassurance during challenges. **Seek Professional Support:** Therapies such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), occupational therapy, and speech therapy can be beneficial in addressing developmental and behavioral needs. **Take Care of Yourself:** Parenting a child with autism can be demanding. Seeking support groups, counseling, or respite care can help you stay mentally and emotionally strong.

WELCOME TO WAIKATO UNIVERSITY

Monday, 7th April. 9am—10am at Waihi College with Andrew Gibbs in Te Autaha (Senior Hub). All Yr13 students planning to or thinking about attending University in 2026 or beyond need to attend.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

A new course is running for Defensive Driving. There is a fee of \$225, full payment or minimum \$50 is due in the first week of Term 2 to secure confirmed students places. Registration is in the Gateway office. Over 4 consecutive weeks: Monday, 26 May, 9, 16, 23 June. Students must attend all days to pass the course.

WAIHI COLLEGE HAS A SCHOOL NURSE AVAILABLE
MONDAY-WEDNESDAY 8.30AM—4.30PM FOR YEAR 9-13
AVAILABLE FOR YEAR 7-8 IN EMERGENCIES

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

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

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

Margie Goldsworthy | SCHOOL NURSE
WAIHI
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