

# WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 27 | 2025

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Tēnā koutou katoa, e te whānau o Waihi College, As we come to the end of Term 3, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the energy, commitment, and achievements of our kura community over these past ten weeks. It has been a busy term, full of learning, challenges, celebrations, and opportunities for our young people to grow in their own unique ways.



### Congratulations to our New Board of Trustees

This month marks the beginning of a new chapter for our Board of Trustees. I would like to warmly congratulate **Victoria Menary, Gemma Barden, Tineke Douglas, Cat Sole-Osbourne, and Stuart Hartley** on commencing their three-year term. Each of you brings strength, passion, and valuable perspectives to our kura. We wish you all the very best as you serve our community in this important way. We will soon be announcing our Staff Representative who will be joining them—and together, this team will help guide Waihi College forward into an exciting future.

### Looking Ahead

The upcoming term will be the final push for 2025, and it is always a critical one: seniors preparing for externals, juniors continuing to build strong foundations, and plenty of opportunities across sport, arts, cultural, and leadership activities. We are excited for what's to come and know that with focus and resilience, our students can finish the year strongly.

### Term Break

As we head into the holidays, I encourage everyone to take the time to rest, recharge, and connect with your whānau and friends. Be safe if you're travelling, look out for each other, and enjoy the chance to reset. Term 4 will be here before we know it, and it promises to be a term filled with both hard work and celebration. Ngā mihi nui to our teachers, support staff, students, and whānau for the mahi, aroha, and commitment that you pour into our kura every day.

Have a safe and happy break—and we look forward to welcoming you all back, refreshed and ready for the final term of the year.

Ngā manaakitanga,  
Briar Principal | Tumukū Waihi College

## SCHOOL WIDE

### Partial Strikes – 15–18 September

From 9am to 3.15pm each day, PPTA members will not be able to teach, instruct, or supervise students in the following year levels:

- Monday 15 Sept – Years 12 & 13 All year 12 and 13 students will stay at home unless completing a derived grade exam (Year 12 English 9am, Year 13 English 1pm)
- Tuesday 16 Sept – Year 11 - Year 11 stay at home (students attending Trades, PCTI Food and Beverage or Gateway will still attend these courses)
- Wednesday 17 Sept – Year 10 Year 10 stay at home
- Thursday 18 Sept – Year 9 Year 9 stay at home

### Spirit Day Extravaganza!

Usually Spirit Days run over two days, but this year it's all happening in ONE epic day—Friday 19th September. Don't worry though, we're still packing in just as much fun, energy, and action! For Dress Up Day, the theme is EXTRAVAGANZA—pick a letter from the word and dress up as something that starts with it. The bigger, bolder, and brighter, the better. Let's make this one-day Spirit Day unforgettable!

WAIHI COLLEGE

SPIRIT DAYS

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept

Word: Extravaganza



SPIRIT DAYS 2025 WORD:

EXTRAVAGANZA



### Shave for a Cure & Spring Concert

On Tuesday 16th September, we're combining the amazing Head Shave with our much-loved Spring Concert. If you would like to do the shave or ponytail chop, pop your name on the Sign up sheet outside Jess and Wendy's office, or head to [www.shaveforcure.co.nz/join/WaihiCollege248](http://www.shaveforcure.co.nz/join/WaihiCollege248). Let's make this year's event bigger and better than ever! More details about the concert will come out later, but look forward to a night of giving, music, fun and food.

**COMBINED EVENT: 16th September at 5.30pm**

# SPRING CONCERT & SHAVE FOR A CURE

Help us raise money for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer NZ

<https://www.shaveforcure.co.nz/join/WaihiCollege248>

There's three ways you can help:

1. Sign up to shave or cut and start raising money
2. Donate to someone who's joined the cause
3. Come along on the night to support

**Music, Food & Fun while supporting a great cause!**

Made with PosterMyWagon.com

### YEAR 10 CAMP

Year 10 parents, please check your emails for information RE Camp! The camp will be held from Monday the 1st of December finishing on Thursday 4th December.

The main purpose of the camp is for students to experience kiwi camping and be self-sufficient. This will mean that students will be planning and cooking their own meals for the duration of the camp. This will include breakfast, lunch and dinner. The planning will be done at school but will require them to communicate with their group as well as their caregivers.

We also aim to build positive relationships whilst working in challenging outdoor beach activities. The students will be staying at Opoutere Beach Camping Ground, and possible activities they may be participating in include mountain biking, kayaking, beach activities, paddle boarding, team building, fishing and more.

At this stage we are looking to get an idea on how many students will be attending camp this year so we can start the initial planning stage of the camp. If you could please fill in the google form, it would be very much appreciated.

<https://forms.gle/TRDpPnskdnbCYk9>

WAIHI COLLEGE



FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS

A reminder that we have FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS available in the Student Centre. These are for our students to take home, not just an emergency supply at school. They are allowed to take whatever they need for use at home and can top up before the holidays too.

If your child feels a bit shy, feel free to pop in to collect products for them.

### SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

The time has come to think about what students have served their school or community (in a voluntary/unpaid basis), who deserve recognition. This can be from service in areas such as Hall Tech, helping at events after hours, Leo's Club, reffing, coaching, student council, service to marae, teaching kapa haka, service to the arts and much more. Please email us at [wendys@waihicol.school.nz](mailto:wendys@waihicol.school.nz) if you, or a student you know, deserves recognition. They will be awarded a certificate at our Service Prizegiving in Term 4.

WAIHI COLLEGE



SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

### SCHOOL TOURS & OPEN DAY

**OPEN AFTERNOON: Thursday 11th September, 3.00-6.00pm**  
An opportunity for parents and whanau of current Year 7&8 students as well as Year 6 students and whanau to visit the Year 7&8 classrooms, where students will be presenting information about different cultures who live in our local area.

**ENROLMENT FORMS DUE: Friday 12th September**  
The early return of enrolment forms will ensure that the Waihi College team have plenty of time to organise the 2025 program. Please return all completed enrolment forms to the front office at your Primary School.

**SCHOOL TOUR: Friday 31st October, 9.00-11.20am**  
This is an opportunity for all students who have enrolled to visit Waihi College and see how our school works. Parents are welcome to join their child on this tour.

**PARENT INFORMATION MEETING: Thursday 6th November, 5.15-6.15pm**  
Parents are welcome to visit the Year 7&8 area of the school and find out how the program works. It is a chance to meet the teachers, see the waka environment and ask questions.

**2025**  
Waihi College  
Kei konei tātou e tū āna

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For more information  
[www.waihicol.school.nz](http://www.waihicol.school.nz)  
Ph: 07 863 8349  
Briar Carden-Scott, Tumukū | Principal

Buses from:  
Waihi Beach  
Waikino  
Golden Valley & East  
Bowenmore  
Tauranga Rd

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT WAIHI COLLEGE



Science Technician  
Permanent

We are seeking an enthusiastic and well-organised Science Technician to join our Science Department. This role involves supporting our teachers to deliver engaging and safe practical science lessons for our students in Year 7-13.



International Director  
Permanent

Do you have a passion for developing capable science teachers and making a real difference to young people? Waihi College is looking for an enthusiastic and highly motivated International Director to lead our international student programme.

Our International Director is at the head of educating students from around the world to succeed in our schools. This role offers them the best management. It's also creating a safe, supportive and exciting experience where students feel they are home. You'll be working closely with the school's senior staff and teachers, who also have our international students in the excitement and passion.

WE HAVE RECENTLY ADVERTISED THESE JOBS ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS. PLEASE CHECK UNDER [WWW.WAIHICOL.SCHOOL.NZ](http://WWW.WAIHICOL.SCHOOL.NZ) AND HEAD TO THE LATEST NEWS SECTION UNDER KEEPING INFORMED FOR ALL THE DETAILS AND HOW YOU CAN APPLY.

## PARENT CORNER

### SCHOOL TV

Don't forget to check out what's happening this week on School TV such as their recent Special Report on Vaping and E-cigarettes.

<https://waihicol.schooltv.me/>

Wellbeing for schools

A resource for parents, caregivers and educators to better support student wellbeing.



WAIHI COLLEGE

STV Home

All Edi



### Little Lessons from Learning Support

Each week this term we will focus on research-based, interesting, grounded in neuroscience and engaging tips to help **parents** optimize adolescent brain performance

#### Strengthen Executive Function

- Use routines and reminders** – External structure supports their developing prefrontal cortex.
- Teach time awareness** – Use analog clocks and countdown timers to show time passing.
- Help them plan backward** – Break deadlines into smaller, manageable steps.
- Limit chaos** – Clutter and unpredictability increase stress and distractibility.
- Practice decision-making** – Don't fix everything—guide them to make their own calls.

#### Foster Connection and Belonging

- Keep communication open** – Even when they push you away, they need you close.
- Eat together regularly** – It boosts bonding and brain health.
- Be interested in their world** – Show up in their space (gaming, music, sports).
- Watch your reactions** – Teens are hypersensitive to tone and criticism.
- Give safe boundaries** – Structure = security, even when they say they hate it.

### TEACHING YOUR TEEN TO DRIVE?

Are you teaching your teen to drive or have a young driver in the family? This popular workshop is designed to help parents and caregivers support their children through the learning-to-drive process. Research shows that teens become safer drivers when their parents are involved and set clear boundaries. The Driver Coach program aims to give you the tools you need for this important journey.

**During this 1-hour workshop, you'll learn from a License Tester:**

- How the teenage brain works and the best approach to road safety education.
- The difference between instructing and coaching your child.
- Core safety issues for young drivers.
- How to understand the graduated licensing system.
- Tips for choosing a safe vehicle (explaining ANCAP stars).

This is a completely free session with no obligation. It's an excellent chance to get expert advice and support. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/1560691723959>

**DRIVE COACH**  
Helping you support your teen driver

Location and time:  
Thursday 16 October  
6:00pm to 7:00pm  
Bethlehem Baptist Church  
50 Bethlehem Road, Tauranga

Register now on Eventbrite

Powered by TOYOTA and ROAD SAFETY Education

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 / SCHOOL NURSE FOR WAIHI COLLEGE



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

Margie Goldsworthy | SCHOOL NURSE WAIHI M: 0272983787 W: [www.pinnacle.co.nz](http://www.pinnacle.co.nz)



This newsletter can also be found on our website: [www.waihicol.school.nz](http://www.waihicol.school.nz) under Keeping Informed on the main menu.