



College A Netball UNISS Campaign

UNISS 2025 was an incredible campaign for the College A netball girls. This week is what the girls have been working towards all year, and it did not disappoint.

This year we headed to Auckland Netball Centre in the heart of Auckland for a week of netball. Once again the weather turned it on for us as we had 4 and half days of glorious weather! The girls had 10 games over the 5 days, all with a very high level of competition, and sometimes the scoreline definitely did not reflect the skill and determination on the court. The results from our week;

- Game 1 vs Papatoetoe High School - Loss 14-33
- Game 2 vs ACG Tauranga - Win 31-12
- Game 3 vs Ormiston Senior College - Win 25-16
- Game 4 vs Bay of Islands - Loss 22 - 39
- Game 5 vs Te kura kaupapa maori hoani waititi marae - Win 26-24
- Game 6 vs Rodney College - Win 27 - 25
- Game 7 vs Hamilton Christian school - Loss 13- 31
- Game 8 vs Te wharekura o rakumaunga - Loss 28 - 31
- Game 9 vs Papakura High school - Loss 26 - 32
- Game 10 vs Te Wharekura o Rakumaunga - Win 16 - 10

The girls did themselves and the school incredibly proud every time they took the court throughout the week. They played with grit, determination, pride, skill and passion. They supported and encouraged each other on and off the court. This constant support is what meant the girls were able to get through the week, ending on a high.

At the start of the year the girls set a goal to finish top 8 in D grade this year, and they achieved that this year, finishing 7th! These girls have made both Leah & I incredibly proud as coaches. Thank you all for an incredible year!



Aims Games Netball

United, Fierce & Full of Sass: The Journey of Our Year 7&8 AIMS Netball Team

This netball season has been one for the books for our Year 7&8 AIMS Netball team. A journey marked by early mornings, intense competition, relentless growth, and a team culture that can only be described as unbeatable with a healthy dash of sass. Every Saturday morning, rain or shine, our team hit the road at 6:15am from Waihi, bound for Tauranga to play in one of the most competitive junior leagues in the region. Those 8am games didn't just test our athletic ability — they tested our energy, commitment, focus, and teamwork, but most of all growth.

Training with Purpose
Training sessions were more than just running drills — they were crafted with intention. The focus was on lifting our skill level, deepening our understanding of the game, and mastering set plays and strategies that would later become second nature on court. We analysed our strengths and weaknesses, learning how to play to them smartly and effectively. When the weather didn't cooperate, the gym became our battleground — working on strength and conditioning to ensure we could go the distance, physically and Mentally.

Stepping It Up: Cambridge League
In the final six weeks leading up to the AIMS Games, we added another layer to our preparation by joining the competitive Cambridge Y7&8 league. Monday afternoons became high-stakes showdowns, providing the perfect opportunity to sharpen our skills against fierce opposition. These games pushed us harder, made us smarter, and brought us even closer as a unit. The added pressure and challenge were exactly what we needed. We learned to adapt, communicate better, and trust one another more — essential ingredients for success on the AIMS stage.

The Culture That Set Us Apart
What truly made this team special wasn't just our gameplay — it was our culture. United. Supportive. Resilient. Passionate. Committed. And, of course, always bringing the sass and humour. Whether it was encouraging each other through tough trainings, pulling together in tight games, or laughing until our sides hurt or busting out the lyrics at the top of our lungs on the van rides, we built something greater than just a team. We became a whānau. A Huge Thank You to Our Whānau

Speaking of whānau — none of this would have been possible without the incredible support from our families. From the early morning drop-offs to trainings and games, to stepping up when help was needed, your dedication behind the scenes did not go unnoticed. The fundraising efforts, the sideline cheers, the messages of encouragement, and the way you've helped raise such amazing humans — we are truly grateful. Thank you for walking alongside us every step of the way.

AIMS: Growth in Every Game
When the AIMS Games finally arrived, we came in ready. Our preparation, both mentally and physically, was clear on the court. With every match, we improved. Each game showed growth — in confidence, in teamwork, and in execution. Our defensive game was a highlight, consistently strong and smart, shutting down opposition and creating opportunities for our attack to shine. And when we stuck to our game plan — the one we'd tirelessly honed — the results were undeniable.

To Our Dream Team: Coach Tui, Coach Shazz, Boss Lady Loush & Olivia
To our amazing management team — Coach Tui, Coach Shazz, and our Boss Lady Loush — thank you for everything. For giving so generously of your time, for sharing your knowledge, your wisdom, and your heart. You brought out the best in each of us. And to our awesome umpire Olivia.

You all played a massive part in our journey, and we are so grateful for the belief you had in us, even when we doubted ourselves.

Looking Back, Moving Forward
It's impossible to reflect on this season without feeling proud. Proud of the early mornings, the extra miles, the tough trainings, the wins, the lessons from the losses, and the laughter that held us together through it all.

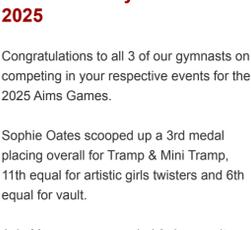
To our Year 7&8 Netball team — you've shown what it means to be dedicated athletes and even better teammates. AIMS may be over, but the fire you've lit this season is only just beginning. Here's to more growth, more grit, and more sass in the seasons to come. Let's go, team!



Aims Games - Cross Country

Congratulations to all our Cross Country runners on completing their races yesterday after what looked like a beautiful start to the day then around 10:30am the rain came down hard causing tough conditions to run in.

As usual it's vital to get ahead of the pack before the funnel like entrance filters out the mosh pit like start. Regardless of the result we are proud of our students for finishing their races successfully.



Aims Game Gymnastics 2025

Congratulations to all 3 of our gymnasts on competing in your respective events for the 2025 Aims Games.

Sophie Oates scooped up a 3rd medal placing overall for Tramp & Mini Tramp, 11th equal for artistic girls twisters & 6th equal for vault.

Ayla Meares was awarded 3rd on vault, and 5th overall. 12th equal for ball, 11th equal for artistic girls twisters, and 15th overall for twisters.

Natalie Connolly was awarded 2nd on vault and 3rd on floor, and 4th overall for Flyers.

Do you have news to share of your teamki and their sporting achievements, yes individual and club achievements as well. Remember we can only share what we know. Please email details through to Jess via email: jesso@waihicol.school.nz



Thames Valley Secondary Schools Rippa Rugby

Last Tuesday 2nd September Waihi College competed in the very first Thames Valley Secondary School Sports Association Championships for Juniors at Whitianga.

We had 3 teams enter and had some close wins, wins, and some losses. It was a great day and we are looking forward to what 2026 holds as we incorporate our senior students. Due to low entries in the senior grades meant we could not form a stable competition, we hope to improve on this in 2026.

Waihi College Mountain Biking

Waihi College students have recently formed a riding group with the focus on fun and enjoyment, while learning safety and riding skills to improve their capabilities on and off trail.

Our first session allowed the students to understand and complete the riders code, safety bike checks, and perform the skills required to access grade 3 trails. During the second session the group came together for a Friday evening ride at Blackhill.

The session covered rider testing and development. We had a great group of students who encouraged each other and accessed various trails throughout the park. Skills such as cornering, angulating and jumping were on display. Our next scheduled rides will include Whangamata and Rotorua bike parks.



School Squash Championships

On Monday 8th September we held our annual Waihi College School Squash Championship at the Katikati Squash Club. What a beautiful venue to play at, we are truly grateful and thank the Katikati Squash Committee for allowing us to utilise this space.

The results were:
Year 7&8 Boys
Champion - Jordan Holmes
Runner up - Jack Kayes
3rd - Elijah de oCampo

Junior Girls
Champion - Leah Kelly
Runner up - Rylee Kuizinas
3rd - Lexie Davies-Young

Junior Boys
Champion - Alex Townsend
Runner up - Eli Townsend

Overall - Jordan Holmes
Congratulations to all who competed.

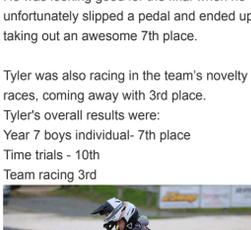


Aims Games Rugby 7s

Our team of 11 young men attended the Zespri aims games and participated in the rugby 7s tournament. We were fortunate to have a few year 8 students that attended last year to guide our year 7's on the tikanga of the tournament. Our first few days were hard mahi! We faced a handful of very skilled teams and managed to hold our own against them. Though we had faced losses the team kept their heads high, and morale was strong. Once we were placed into our grades the games were a lot more even. Our young men battled throughout winning the odd game. The team was lucky enough to perform our haka to the Fijian team in which Fiji responded with their own amazing haka. A few of the team even managed some full kit swaps with them (sorry parents).

The week was full of fun and laughs which I'm sure will be imprinted in the team's memories, a special mention of our morning rituals of helping each other into our super tight uniforms! haha. A big mihi to Jess Crockett (manager) and Kenny Crockett (coach) for their hard work during and prior to the tournament. Their morning fitness trainings worked wonders for the team's fitness. A big mihi to our year 8 students Jordan Holmes, Lebron Taulu, Noah McNeil, Lachie Hewlett, Logan Cooper, Realm Witika and Joel Crockett. Thanks for being great kaiiaki for our younger teammates!

Until next year Ka kite.



Aims Games Football

What an amazing week our boys had! Their coach won the 'Positive Vibes Only' award, for consistently displaying positivity, encouraging our players and as a result our team displays excellent sportsmanship and team spirit throughout the season and during AIMS's week.

We faced Katikati in the placing final. We were surprised to be the kati team, as they had beaten us at the Play exchange quite convincingly and while they did win, we held them back from scoring too many. The team improved exponentially throughout the week and they fought hard every game. A huge amount of resilience, teamwork and comradery was displayed by the team, which is what sport is all about, it is not about winning.

Daniel Carson won the sportsmanship award for the tournament, awesome work!



Aims GAMES BMX

Tyler Cochrane was on the final day of Aims Games with 3 x 1st places and a 2nd in the qualifying rounds, this put him through to semi-finals, where he placed 2nd.

He was looking good for the final when he unfortunately slipped a pedal and ended up taking out an awesome 7th place.

Tyler was also racing in the team's novelty races, coming away with 3rd place. Tyler's overall results were:
Year 7 boys individual- 7th place
Time trials - 10th
Team racing 3rd



Aims Games Surfing

Congratulations to Jack Kayes who finished his Aims Games campaign with a silver medal placing in the year 8 division. This is a huge achievement from 3rd place in 2024. What a way to wrap up Aims Games!!

Thames Valley u16 Representative Rugby Girls

Congratulations to Isla Freeman and Genevieve Unsworth on their selection for the u16 Thames Valley Rugby team.



COMING UP

- Tuesday 16th September - Oputere Adventure Race / Thames Valley Cross Country Championships
- Wednesday 17th September - Thames Valley Senior Volleyball Championships



WINTER SPORTS & SERVICES PRIZEGIVING

TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2025

9AM - 10:30AM

WAIHI COLLEGE HALL