

WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 36 | 2025

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whānau o Waihi College. As we head into the final stretch of the school year, I want to take a moment to acknowledge our young people — especially our Year 9 and 10 students — for the way many of them are showing our school values each day. These last few weeks can be busy and full of mixed emotions, but they also offer a great opportunity for our rangatahi to finish well, stay connected, and look after one another.



At Waihi College, manaakitanga sits at the heart of who we are. Over this time of year, manaakitanga is shown in the small everyday choices: being respectful, helping a friend who might be struggling, showing gratitude to teachers and coaches, and contributing positively to our school environment. We continue to encourage our students to be in the right place at the right time, make sensible decisions, and stay focused on doing their best.

This is the same message we are sharing with our Year 9 and 10 students:

- Continue to uphold manaakitanga in your friendships.
- Make choices that help you finish the year strongly and safely.
- Stay connected, stay kind, and keep showing the best of who you are.

A story that reflects this beautifully comes from one of Aotearoa's sporting heroes — Sophie Pascoe. Sophie's success as a Paralympic swimmer is extraordinary, but what truly stands out is how she carries herself. Through setbacks, early mornings, and the sheer grind of training, she has consistently spoken about the importance of representing her whānau, her country, and those who support her with humility and determination. Her journey reminds us that success isn't just about medals; it's about attitude, resilience, and the way we treat the people around us.

To all our whānau — thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and partnership with us. Your guidance at home helps reinforce the values we nurture here at kura, and together we help our rangatahi flourish.

Ngā mihi mahana,
Briar Principal | Tumuaiki Waihi College

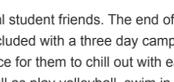
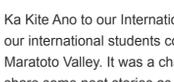
SCHOOL WIDE

The best way to keep informed with dates and events is by using the Portal and viewing our School Calendar. If you need help logging into the Portal, contact us at office@waihicol.school.nz or on 07 863 8349.

HAURAKI CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Kia ora koutou, A huge mihi to our amazing students who took part in the Hauraki Cultural Festival last weekend. We've heard they represented our kura with real pride and mana. Their performances were full of heart, and we couldn't be prouder. We're looking forward to sharing photos soon so everyone can enjoy the vibrant spirit of the day. Ka mau te wehi, team!

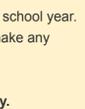
KA KITE ANO



Ka Kite Ano to our international student friends. The end of year two week programme for our international students concluded with a three day camp at Waipapeke Farm in the Maratoto Valley. It was a chance for them to chill out with each other, reflect on the year, share some neat stories as well as play volleyball, swim in the river and sit around the campfire at night. The food, planned and prepared by the students, was fantastic. It really was sad to see so many of them for the last time but we hope we have given them some awesome memories to take home with them. Ka kite ano. Mr Tait.



REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE



Please remember all school accounts need to be cleared by the end of the school year. Sue will be sending out invoices later this week. Get in touch with her to make any payments or if you have any queries.

Also a reminder to Senior students about documents day on Thursday.

BYOD

Waihi College is a BYOD school (Bring Your Own Device). Students are required to have a device for their classes from Year 7 through to Year 13. 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.

WHAT SORT OF DEVICE DO I NEED?

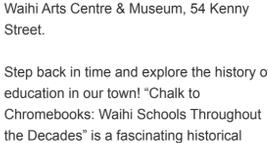
For most students a standard Chromebook is sufficient. Chromebooks have already built in Google suites including Google classroom that is used throughout the College. For senior students in Year 12 and 13 who have more specialised courses or are thinking of moving on to University they may wish to purchase a laptop.

WHERE CAN I GET A DEVICE?

You can purchase a device from most electronic retailers and they often have some good sale prices (particularly Black Friday and Boxing Day deals). Purchasing a device is often something that can be financially supported by family members as a Christmas gift.

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. Contracts for 2026 are available in the student centre now (devices won't be issued until the start of the 2026 school year)



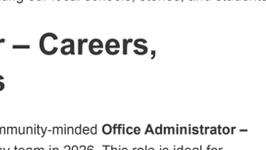
Check out the full Year 7&8 slide presentation on our website in the Year 7&8 section, under School Life.

www.waihicol.school.nz

Chalk to Chromebooks!

Opening Night is 28 November at the Waihi Arts Centre & Museum, 54 Kenny Street.

Step back in time and explore the history of education in our town! "Chalk to Chromebooks: Waihi Schools Throughout the Decades" is a fascinating historical exhibition created by our amazing Year 13 student, Bella Paulsen. From slate boards to digital screens, see how learning has evolved through the generations.



Don't miss out on this incredible event celebrating our local schools, stories, and students!

Office Administrator – Careers, Gateway and Trades

Waihi College is seeking a committed and community-minded **Office Administrator – Careers, Gateway and Trades** to join our busy team in 2026. This role is ideal for someone who enjoys supporting rangatahi, thrives in a dynamic school environment, and brings strong organisation and initiative to their mahi.

Position: Office Administrator – Careers, Gateway & Trades
Hours: 15 hours per week (two parcels of 7.5 hours), Fixed Term, Term Time only
Start Date: 2 February 2026
Finish Date: 27 November 2026

Key Responsibilities

The role supports our Careers, Gateway and Trades pathways across Years 7–10 and includes:

- Providing general administration support for the Careers team
- Maintaining the careers calendar and appointment schedules
- Working with the Gateway Coordinator to secure suitable work placements with reputable employers and Industry Training Organisations
- Organising transport, clothing, equipment or PPE required by students on placement
- Visiting students and employers/brokers on Gateway placements once per term
- Maintaining Gateway, TEC and STAR databases
- Preparing TEC reporting
- Assisting TICs with ordering resources, assessments and enrolments
- Helping source work-experience opportunities when requested by a Deputy Principal

Who We're Looking For

We are seeking someone who:

- Is well organised, proactive, and confident using a range of digital platforms
- Enjoys being part of a collaborative, fast-paced team
- Shows reliability, flexibility and strong time-management skills
- Can work independently and problem-solve with initiative
- Holds a full driver's licence
- Brings a genuine heart for supporting young people and their future pathways

This role plays an important part in supporting our ākonga as they explore their strengths, interests and future opportunities. If you have a passion for youth, value connection, and want to contribute to a school that places people at the centre, we'd love to hear from you.

To apply: Please send a CV and cover letter to the Principal's PA at Waihi

Application: debbiec@waihicol.school.nz

Applications close: 5th Dec 2025 3pm

Win the Ultimate Australian Open Experience!

Your child could win the tennis trip of a lifetime with Tennis Hot Shots and Tennis New Zealand, plus win Tennis equipment for our school! The prize includes:

- Return flights from your nearest international airport to Melbourne for one child and one adult
- Australian Open tickets
- Two nights' accommodation
- The chance to perform the official coin toss before a big match on Rod Laver Arena and grab a photo with the star players
- A \$500 tennis equipment pack for the winner's school



The competition is open to all children aged 8–13 across New Zealand — no tennis experience required! **Enter now at www.tennis.kiwi/win.** Entries close **8 December** We'd appreciate you passing this on through your networks.

Ngā mihi nui,
Tegan Lloyd

Junior and Youth Participation Manager | Tennis NZ | Tēhēni o Aotearoa

P: 09 528 5428 M: +64 21 084 44 146 <https://tennis.kiwi>

PARENT CORNER

Enroute to 2026 Part 2

LITTLE LESSONS FROM LEARNING SUPPORT

- Build Future Skills**
 - Talk about career interests — visit open days, volunteer, or shadow someone at work.
 - Encourage digital literacy, critical thinking, and communication skills through projects or real tasks.
 - If they're older teens, help them get a part-time job or internship experience.
- Make Summer Count**
 - Balance relaxation and purpose — too much of either can lead to boredom or burnout.
 - Create a "summer list" together: places to go, things to try, people to see.
 - Capture memories — photos, journals, or digital scrapbooks — to mark the end of a school chapter.
- Ease Back into School Mode**
 - In the last 1–2 weeks before school starts: reset bedtime and morning routines.
 - Check uniforms, supplies, and device logins.
 - Talk about goals for the first term — academic, social, and wellbeing.
 - Encourage a positive mindset about returning: "new year, new opportunities"

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



This newsletter can also be found on our website: www.waihicol.school.nz under Keeping Informed from the main menu