

WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 37 | 2025

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou e te whānau o Waihi College, What an uplifting fortnight it has been across our kura. Our young people have been out in the community, on the moana, in the ngahere, and across the rohe embracing opportunities to grow, connect, and challenge themselves as we move toward the end of the school year....



Our Year 10 camp has been a true highlight. The experiences our rangatahi are having—testing their leadership, working in teams, and stepping bravely into new adventures—are setting them up beautifully for the senior school. I was fortunate to spend time with them over the past couple of days, taking groups of students out on the waka. Watching them feel the pull of the tide, the strength of the wind, and the rhythm of paddling together was inspiring. Their teamwork and determination were a living example of kotahitanga in action.

Last week, our Year 9s ventured over to Taurangi for paintball and escape-room challenges. The feedback we've received reflects immense pride—our students showed outstanding behaviour, representing Waihi College with maturity, enthusiasm, and mana. Ka rawe, e hoa mā!

This week, our Year 7 and 8 students are enjoying their time at Sapphire Springs, celebrating the year that has been and strengthening the bonds of whanaungatanga that make our junior school so special.

A huge mihi to all kaiako and support staff who make these experiences possible. Your commitment ensures our tamariki experience learning that stretches well beyond the classroom.

We're also looking forward to one of the most colourful events of the year—our Colour Run this Friday on the waka field at 1.50pm. Waihi Fire Brigade will be joining us to help cool everyone down, and it promises to be a joyful community moment.

Next week we gather for our Endeavour Prizegiving on Tuesday, followed by our Year 7–10 Prizegivings on Wednesday. Please check the details in this newsletter so you can arrive in plenty of time to find a seat. Prizegiving is a treasured chance to celebrate the breadth of talent, perseverance, and mana our students show every day. While not every student walks across the stage, we acknowledge the quiet leaders, the day-to-day grafters, the kind classmates, and those who uplift others through their actions. Your contribution to our kura is seen and valued.

As we close out 2025 and prepare for an exciting 2026, we remain committed to being the heartbeat of our community—a place where our young people grow, shine, and stand tall in who they are.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our celebrations over the coming days.

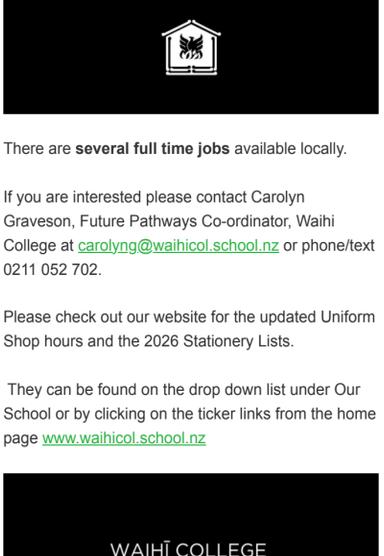
Ngā mihi mahana,
Briar Principal | Turuaki Waihi College

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.

ONYA AWARDS

The recent Onya Awards, hosted by Hauraki District Council, shone a warm light on the incredible people who uplift our community every day. These awards celebrate those who care for one another, protect and nurture our taiao, and bring energy, colour, and safety to the place we call home. They acknowledge our community champions — the ones who make a positive difference in so many meaningful ways. He mihi nui and heartfelt congratulations to our outstanding recipients: Bella Paulsen, Zoe Beth Naisby, and Greta Spicer. We're so proud of the way you embody the spirit of service and community.



WAIHI COLLEGE

COLOUR RUN

5TH DECEMBER

This Friday we have our annual Colour Run. This includes a full school mufti (please bring a gold coin to give to your ako teacher) and a free sausage sizzle. Students are encouraged to bring a change of clothes that they don't mind getting wet and dirty as well as a towel to dry off. Footwear and goggles optional. Bring on some fun!

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS

The time has come to celebrate our juniors and all the hard mahi they've put in this year.

On Tuesday 9 December at 1.45pm in the Waihi College Hall, we'll be honouring our Year 7–10 Endeavour & Service award recipients. Then on Wednesday 10 December, we'll come together again for our Academic Prizegivings — Years 9&10 at 9am, followed by Years 7&8 at 11am. We expect each Prizegiving to last around an hour and students can home afterwards.

Our community is warmly invited to join us, cheer on our students, and share in the pride of their achievements.

WAIHI COLLEGE

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS

Tuesday 9th @ 1.45pm:
Y7-10 Endeavour & Service Prizegiving

Wednesday 10th @ 9am:
Y9&10 Academic Prizegiving

Wednesday 10th @ 11am:
Y7&8 Academic Prizegiving

CHALK TO CHROME BOOKS

Bella Paulsen's amazing exhibition opened over the weekend and it's been a huge success. It's open all summer until 11th January. So make sure you get along and don't miss out. The museum opening times are:

- Monday 12-3
- Tuesday Closed
- Wednesday Closed
- Thursday 10-3
- Friday 10-3
- Saturday 12-3
- Sunday 12-3

CHALK TO CHROME BOOKS

Waihi Schools Through the Decades

OPENING NIGHT **23 NOVEMBER**

Waihi Arts Centre and Museum | 34 KENNY STREET

more information to come

FREE RYDA PARENT PROGRAMME

We're excited to invite your community to our FREE online event happening on 2nd December, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm (NZDT). But we need your support in helping us spread the word. Would you be able to please share these details with your school Facebook page and newsletter. If you happen to know anyone else that might benefit from this course we would really love for you to also let them know. Y

our community will learn how to: Unlock the Mysteries of the Teenage Brain: What Makes Driving a Challenge? Decode Risk Factors for Young Drivers Learn the art of Coaching a Learner Driver Help you support the transition to solo driving Set a plan for collaborating with Driving Instructors And much more. Could you share the event details on your social media channels or parent communication platforms? Even a quick post could make a big difference, helping us reach more families and ensuring this opportunity benefits as many as possible.

Register for FREE by visiting our Waihi College website and checking out the Latest News section under Keeping Informed

ROAD SAFETY Education

DRIVER COACH

Helping you support your teen driver

Online Event

OVERTIME

Our Year 9 rock band, Overtime, is performing at Christmas at the lake this Sunday at 3.15pm. Please come and support them.

They will also be playing at the prizegiving on the 10th

Year 10 Camp

Year 10 Camp is going great guns! And looks like they're having perfect weather too! Check back for more photos soon.

UPDATES:

Our school boiler has been decommissioned and we have 10 kg bags of West Coast coal for sale for \$10 a bag. Great Christmas gift for family to keep them warm over winter. To order please phone or text Carolyn Graveson on 0211 052 702 and we will deliver within Waihi/ Waihi Beach area.

WAIHI COLLEGE

LOOKING FOR WORK?

There are several full time jobs available locally. If you are interested please contact Carolyn Graveson, Future Pathways Co-ordinator, Waihi College at carolyn@waihicol.school.nz or phone/text 0211 052 702.

Please check out our website for the updated Uniform Shop hours and the 2026 Stationery Lists.

They can be found on the drop down list under Our School or by clicking on the ticker links from the home page www.waihicol.school.nz

WAIHI COLLEGE

STATIONERY LISTS AND UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

Please remember all school accounts need to be cleared by the end of the school year. Sue sent out invoices last week so please check your emails. Get in touch with her to make any payments or if you have any queries.

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)

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 College. deb@waihicol.school.nz
Applications close: 5th Dec 2025 3pm

PARENT CORNER

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 INTO THE BUILDING NEXT TO THE TREE OF LIFE WALK IN APPOINTMENT OR TEXT/PHONE ON 0272993787

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IF YOU HAVE ANY HEALTH NEEDS OR QUESTIONS

MARGIE GOLDSWORTHY | SCHOOL NURSE WAIHI

Ngā mihi, with kind regards
Margie Goldsworthy | SCHOOL NURSE WAIHI

www.pinnacle.co.nz | www.waihicol.school.nz

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