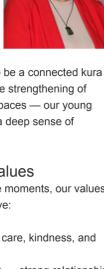


WAIHĪ COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 | 2026

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Tēnā koutou katoa e ngā whānau o Waihi, e ngā hāpori o te rohe, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. He mihi nui ki a koutou katoa — warm greetings to our community, whānau, partners, and supporters of Waihi College.



The past week has been a powerful reflection of what it means to be a connected kura and a united community. From celebrations of achievement, to the strengthening of relationships, to the shared experiences of learning in our local spaces — our young people are stepping into the year with confidence, courage, and a deep sense of belonging.

Celebrating Excellence, Pathways, and Potential

This week we have the privilege of acknowledging our scholarship recipients for 2025 and our NCEA Excellence and Merit endorsement students — young people who represent academic excellence, vocational success, perseverance, and commitment to growth. We are deeply grateful for our community partners, OceanaGold and the Gold Trust, for their long-standing partnership with Waihi College. Their support is more than sponsorship — it is belief in our rangatahi, investment in people, and commitment to the future of this community. These relationships reflect true whanaungatanga — shared purpose, trust, and collective responsibility for our young people. What we celebrate is not just achievement — but potential. Not just results — but resilience. Not just success — but the many pathways that success can take. Academic, vocational, trades-based, creative, leadership, service-focused — every pathway matters, and every future holds dignity and value. We will also honour our NCEA endorsement students, recognising not just grades, but the character behind them: perseverance, discipline, courage, late nights, resilience, self-belief, and the collective support of whānau, kaiako, friends, mentors, and community. Achievement is never individual alone — it is kotahitanga in action.

Living Our Values

Across all of these moments, our values are visible and alive:

- Manaakitanga — care, kindness, and respect for others
- Whanaungatanga — strong relationships and belonging
- Kotahitanga — unity of purpose and collective strength
- Kaitiakitanga — guardianship of our people, place, and future

These are not just words — they are lived daily through how we teach, learn, lead, and care for one another.

Camps: Connection, Courage, and Community

We also extend huge congratulations to all students who attended our day and overnight camps last week — an epic way to build relationships, strengthen whakawhanungatanga, and set the tone for the year ahead.

These experiences are about far more than activities — they are about:

- belonging
- trust
- confidence
- resilience
- teamwork
- connection to place
- learning through experience
- growing together as a community

A special thank you to our staff who led these spaces with care, professionalism, and aroha — creating safe, empowering environments and ensuring our young people could experience and connect with our local taiao and whenua. These moments matter. They shape identity, confidence, and connection to community.

A Collective Future

At Waihi College, we believe:

- Excellence is nurtured
- Success is supported
- Futures are built together
- Education changes lives
- Community matters

Our young people are not just learners — they are future leaders, builders, carers, innovators, artists, thinkers, kaitiaki, and changemakers. They carry the hopes of this community and the potential to shape a future grounded in care, courage, and contribution.

To our whānau — thank you for your trust and partnership. To our community — thank you for walking alongside our kura.

To our staff — thank you for your unwavering commitment to our rangatahi. To our students — you are the heart of everything we do.

Together, we move forward as one kura, one community, one whānau — grounded in values, guided by purpose, and united by kotahitanga.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.
Briar Principal | Tumauki Waihi College

SCHOOL WIDE

SCHOOL BRIDGE APP

Exciting news, Waihi College whānau! We're thrilled to announce that Waihi College will now be using the SchoolBridge app to help keep our community connected and informed. SchoolBridge makes it easy to view the school calendar, check notices, see timetables, and report student absences—all in one place. We'll also be rolling out digital permission slips through the app in the near future, making things even simpler for busy whānau.

The app is super easy to download — use the QR code or download via Apple Store or Google Play. If you want it on your PC, go to <https://waihicollege.school.nz/>. We're looking forward to using SchoolBridge to strengthen communication between home and kura and support our students together.

Nāu mai, haere mai to an easier way to stay connected.

STEP1: download the SchoolBridge App
Either scan the QR code or download via App Store or Google Play
STEP 2: Sign in with your school registered email
For caregivers, this is the email address you used when enrolling your student and for students, it is your school email address. If you are unsure, use the 'Request a Magic Sign-In Code' option



Pōwhiri

Last week we were proud to host a pōwhiri under clear skies, warmly welcoming new students, staff and members of our community into our kura and our wider whānau. It was a special opportunity to come together, to connect, and to affirm the values of manaakitanga and belonging that sit at the heart of our school.

We loved seeing whānau, friends and community members join us, marking the start of new journeys and strengthening the ties that bind our community together. As we move through the rest of the day, we're looking forward to continuing this positive start with a range of fun activities for our students. A wonderful way to begin the year — nāu mai, haere mai to our kura.

We were also especially proud to officially welcome our new staff at today's beginning-of-year pōwhiri: Harris Wang, Sharon Watkins, Bruce Lye, Tim Spurgeon, Rochelle Kean, Toni Kayes, and James Mitchelson. While some of these kaiako and staff joined us last year, it was wonderful to formally acknowledge and welcome them as part of our kura whānau today.



Year 7 Camp: Bowentown Campground

Thursday 19th - Friday 20th March. Please check your e-mails and fill in the google form as soon as possible so we can start organising things from our end!



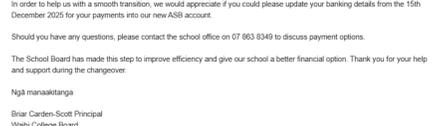
If you have any questions or did not receive this form email nikki@waihicollege.school.nz

Senior Leadership Camp

What an incredible way to kick off the year with our Senior Leadership Camp! Even though day one greeted us with a bit of rain (classic Kiwi summer), our students absolutely rose to the occasion, showing resilience, positivity and real leadership from the get-go. Across the camp, students took part in a range of awesome activities run by our incredible staff. They worked in their house groups for some challenges and mixed it up in random groups of 10 for others — a great way to build connections, confidence and whakawhanungatanga beyond their usual circles. There were plenty of fun, high-energy leadership and team-bonding games, lots of laughter, and some genuinely thoughtful moments of reflection too.

The final day was a real highlight. Working back in their house groups, students created powerful sculptures representing our core values: whanaungatanga, kaitiakitanga, kotahitanga and manaakitanga. The creativity, depth of thinking and collaboration on display was impressive and really showed the heart of our kura and the leaders our students are becoming. Huge mihi to the staff who made this camp such a success and to our senior students for bringing such great energy, care and leadership.

An amazing camp and a truly awesome start to the year



Year 12 and 13, please come and register your interest at the Gateway Office for this opportunity to see the scope of career opportunities for Tertiary graduates, apprenticeships and a wide range of labouring jobs. This trip is a pre-requisite to be accepted onto the Mining Skills Pre-start Course unless you have Trades Academy that day. Any questions, please see Mrs G in the Gateway Office.

Defensive Driving Courses 2026

First Defensive Driving course for this year starts on 9 March from 3:15 - 5:15 pm in Senior Hub. The course will run over 4 Monday afternoons from 9 March until 30 March. The cost is \$220.50 (significant saving by doing this through school) and is to be paid to Sue at the Front Office before the course starts. Come and put your name on the list in the Gateway Office. There are only 20 spaces available but we will run another course later in the year but please put your name on the list so we can plan ahead. Any questions, see Mrs G in the Gateway Office.

JumpStart Driving: Driving lessons 11 February from Waihi College. Please check the daily notices for driving times. If you have passed your Learners Licence in the holidays, come and get a registration form from the Gateway Office. Lessons are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Any questions, please see Mrs G in the Gateway Office.



MESSAGES FROM THE GATEWAY OFFICE

UNIFORM SHOP

OPEN HOURS | 2026
22 Jan - 12 Feb

OPEN HOURS | Term 1, 2026
17 Feb - 1 Apr

Thursday 22 Jan - Friday 23 Jan	2.00pm - 5.00pm
Tuesday 27 Jan - Friday 30 Jan	9.00am - 12.00pm
Monday 2 Feb - Thursday 5 Feb	8.00am - 11.00am
Monday 9 Feb - Thursday 12 Feb	8.00am - 11.00am

Tuesday	8.00am - 9.00am
Wednesday	1.40pm - 3.40pm

Closed on Public Holidays and Teacher Only days. Open hours may be subject to change.
Visit for more info: www.wcoluniformgroup.co.nz

Closed on Public Holidays and Teacher Only days. Hours may be subject to change.
Visit for more info: www.wcoluniformgroup.co.nz

CHANGE OF BANK DETAILS

9th December 2025
Tēnā koutou Caregivers
We are writing to let you know that we have recently made the decision to change banks. Waihi College will now be banking with ASB Hamilton.
If you make any automatic or online payments to us for your school payments, we will need to update our details so that your payment reaches our new account.
The account name is now **WAIHI COLLEGE BOARD**
Our new account number is **12 3171 0265271 00**
In order to help us with a smooth transition, we would appreciate if you could please update your banking details from the 15th December 2025 for your payments into our new ASB account.
Should you have any questions, please contact the school office on 07 863 8349 to discuss payment options.
The School Board has made this step to improve efficiency and give our school a better financial option. Thank you for your help and support during this changeover.
Ngā manaakitanga
Briar Carden-Scott Principal
Waihi College Board

ITINERANT MUSIC LESSONS

ITINERANT MUSIC LESSONS

If you are interested in music lessons this year, please go and see Mr Randell to pick up a permission slip asap. This year we are offering guitar, bass, singing, drums and piano. Lessons are free, go for half an hour within school time, and may be in group or individual format.

SEE MR RANDELL FOR MORE DETAILS

2026 Enrolments Now Available!

YIM INNOVATIVE YOUNG MINDS

SCHOOL OF DANCE
Classes held in Karangahake and Turua

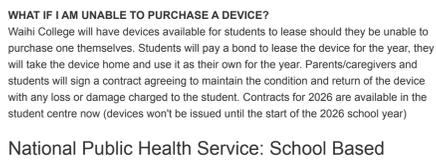
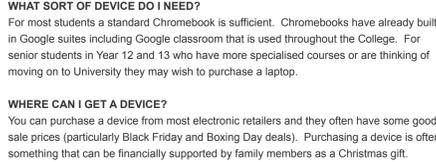
Any girl aged between 10 to 15 will be allowed to enter the program. We are looking for girls who are interested in dance, have a passion for learning, and are confident in their own abilities.

Phone: 021 056 2085
E-mail: enrolments@wcol.ac.nz

Visit our website: www.yim.org.nz

Hello Waihi/Waihi Beach! We're thrilled to share some fantastic news with you!

Introducing the St John Youth Programme – an incredible opportunity for our young leaders to shine and make a difference in our community! What is the St John Youth Programme?
The St John Youth Programme is not just about learning first aid and lifesaving skills; it's about building confidence, leadership, and resilience in our youth. From hands-on first aid training to community service projects, this programme empowers our young minds to become future leaders and compassionate community members. When and Where?
We are starting Term 1 2026 on 11th February.
Wednesdays from 4.30 to 6.00pm at the Waihi College Gym classroom, access via Rata St, during term time. Who Can Join?
This is open to all passionate young individuals aged from 5 to 18. Whether you're interested in healthcare, leadership, or simply want to give back to your community – the St John Youth Programme is the perfect place for you! Why Join?
Gain life-saving first aid skills.
Develop leadership qualities.
Make lasting friendships.
Contribute to community well-being.
Boost your confidence and resilience. How to Join?
Ready to embark on this exciting journey? Come along and visit your local division for a 2 week trial! Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to grow, learn, and give back! Spread the Word!
Help us build a community of empowered and compassionate youth by sharing this post with your friends, family, and anyone who might be interested. Let's make a positive impact together!



Drive is the official way to learn to drive
Drive has everything you need to get ready for your learner, restricted and full licence tests.
drive.govt.nz

DRIVE GO
Get ready for your learner licence with Drive Road Code. Learn the road rules through games and quizzes to unlock practice tests.
drive.govt.nz

DRIVE GO
Get ready for your restricted licence with Drive Go. Download the free app and learn the skills you need to be a good driver.
drive.govt.nz

WAIHĪ COLLEGE POOL: SECOND LUNCH ONLY

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE GOING TO THE POOL DURING FIRST LUNCH TO SWIM OR PURCHASE LOLLIES/ICE CREAM. THE SCHOOL HAS FULL USE OF THE POOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS: 9AM-11.30AM AND 12.30-3PM. HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL HAS FULL CONTROL OUTSIDE THESE HOURS



BYOD
Waihi College is a BYOD (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)

National Public Health Service: School Based Immunisations
Dear Parents / Caregivers,
Public health nurses will be delivering two school-based immunisation programmes in your child's school during 2026
Year Seven Students –
These students will be offered the Boostrix vaccine, which is a booster for their early childhood immunisations of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). They will also be offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. This vaccine is given to help protect against cervical cancer and other HPV related cancers; the immunisation will be given in two doses within the year.
Year Eight Students – These students will be offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, this vaccine is given to help protect against cervical cancer and other HPV related cancers; the immunisation will be given in two doses within the year.
Information about the immunisation programme will be given to students at school on (date)
If you do not wish your child to be at this education session please notify the class teacher.
Your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the Public Health Nurses at school.
Information on the immunisations is included on the consent form, which will be given to your child at the information session.
For further information about the immunisations see the links on the consent form.
Please complete the consent form, answer all the questions, and return the form to school.
If your child is not being immunised at school please complete section B and return the form to school
Please check with your doctor or practice nurse if you are unsure if your child has had a tetanus injection in the last two years.
For further information on these vaccines phone 0800 IMMUNE (466 863)
If you change your mind at any time regarding immunisation, please contact the Public Health Nurse below.
If you have consented and your child is away on the day of immunisation, they will be offered a catch up within 4 weeks
Public Health Nurse: Margaret Mansell
Phone: 021759839

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 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
M: 0272983787
W: www.pinnacle.co.nz

THIS NEWSLETTER CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: www.waihicollege.school.nz
under Keeping Informed from the main menu