WAIHI COLLEGE
# NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 4 2026

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora koe e whānau o Waihi College

Welcome back to a new school year and to our students who have joined us from other schools or who are starting their first year at Waihi College. We hope you had a great holiday and are ready for a fresh start. Our students are now settling into their classes and routines, and we look forward to a strong and positive start to the year.

### Celebrating Success

Congratulations to all students and staff in Creative Technology Kaiārahi Hayley Jones. It was a successful day for our students, with strong results across Food Technology, computing with artificial intelligence, and Hospitality. These results reflect the hard work, creativity and high standards that continue to be a feature of specialised and vocational learning at Waihi College. We also congratulate our students who have been selected for regional and national sports teams, performing arts groups, and other leadership and academic pathways. Well-earned recognition, and we are proud to see our students being rewarded for their commitment, skills and achievements.

### Learning Beyond the Classroom

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) opportunities provide students with valuable learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom. These opportunities broaden the curriculum, support wellbeing, and strengthen connections between students, staff and the community. We encourage students to participate in EOTC opportunities where they are available, and we thank our community for their support in making these opportunities possible for our students.

### Staying Ahead

As the year unfolds there will be many exciting opportunities for our students to participate in and to celebrate their achievements. We want our students to be connected through our newsletters and school communications, so that they can see what is happening across the school and feel part of the wider Waihi College community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being part of our school community.

Ngā mihi kia koe,
Mark Pickington, Kaiārahi Tūmatanui

## CHANGE OF BANK DETAILS

Please contact the school office on 07 8660 8000 or email admin@waihicollege.ac.nz

## CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure your contact details are up to date. Please contact the school office.

**Our old school account is due to close at the end of this month. Please update ASAP**

## COMING UP

## ST PATS DAY: 17TH MARCH

WEAR GREEN OR WEAR YOUR FUN AND GET A GOLD COIN

## FOOD DRIVE

**Help us support our local community with our upcoming Food Drive and Multi Day Hoodie**

Instead of bringing a gold coin, we're asking students to bring a tin or packet of food to donate to our local community. Students can also purchase our Multi Day Hoodie for $10 (cash only) and wear it any day they want, continuously raising funds for our Food Drive. This is a low-stakes, accessible way for students to participate in a meaningful community initiative and support their peers and their school.

Tins and packets will be donated to local food distribution centres to support families in our community.

Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community.

**Hoodie Order Form**

## TWAHI COLLEGE JUBILEE

**You're invited to celebrate 50 years of Waihi College as a year 13 student this 18th March!**

This year marks 50 years since Waihi College opened its doors to students, and we invite all former students – regardless of year or length of time at the school – to come back and celebrate. Expect a great night with lots of catch-up time, and some classic Waihi College memories brought back to life.

Come and reconnect with other alumni over a cuppa and a delicious afternoon tea, then head to the Waihi Beach Tavern for a great night out with your former classmates. The cost for year 13 students is $50.

We would love to see you there.

**Waihi College Students Explore Career Pathways in Mining and Resources**

Students from across the region gathered at Waihi College for our annual Careers Day, giving Rotorua Lakes High School students a chance to explore pathways in the mining and resources industry.

Students from Waihi College, Rotorua Lakes High School, Tauranga Boys' College, Tauranga Girls' College, Te Puke High School, Te Puke Intermediate and Te Puke Middle School participated in a day of hands-on learning and career conversations, connecting developments, human resources, and technology. The day brought together students, teachers, and industry professionals to discuss how the mining and resources sector is evolving and what it means for young people in the region.

Students heard from local and national speakers on the same stakeholder relationship theme seen continue across the day, from Waihi College's Principal Mark Pickington, who spoke about the school's community, to Kiwirail, which spoke about its work with iwi and hapū, and Waka Kotahi, which spoke about its work with local authorities and communities.

Students also had the opportunity to meet and speak with representatives from a range of companies and organisations. The day provided students with a practical opportunity to explore career options, ask questions, and gain a clearer understanding of the skills and pathways that support these industries.

Careers Day was a reminder that there are many pathways into the mining and resources industry, and that local people can be the best people to share those pathways with young people.

We would like to thank our partners, Waka Kotahi, Kiwirail, Waka Kotahi, Tauranga Boys' College, Tauranga Girls' College, Te Puke High School, Te Puke Intermediate and Te Puke Middle School, for their support in making this day happen.

## YEAR 9 CAMP

Last week, 74 Waihi College Year 9s went on a very successful camp to Kawhia Harbour. Thanks to the weather, the weather stayed fine, sunshine, lots of swimming, lots of laughing, and lots of fun. The weather stayed fine and