

WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 26 2026

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora e te whānau,
There has been plenty happening around our kura as we continue to improve our learning environment. Recent property projects include upgrading the gym ceiling and lighting, along with installing a new job-access system on our exterior doors. If you currently hold a master key, please return it to the school office, as these keys will soon become obsolete in many areas.



Planning is also underway for upgrades to the Music Block, including new windows and doors, and some internal modifications. Sadly, the large conifer at the front of the school will need to be removed. While we miss this familiar landmark, watch this space as we plan the next stage of beautification for this area.

Behind the scenes, we are preparing our 2027 timetable and class options. We are also introducing a school-wide room tidy-up so that we can begin Term 4 looking sharp and ready for another busy term.

Our students are looking forward to the Winter Sports Prizegiving during the first week back. Please mark this event in your calendars—whānau are warmly invited to attend and help us celebrate the commitment and achievements of our athletes.

This week is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori! While we strive to use te reo Māori throughout our everyday lives, this is a wonderful opportunity to make a conscious effort to give it a go. There are many fabulous resources and daily prompts available online—get amongst it and help us celebrate te reo Māori together!

Our senior students are counting down the days until the end of Week 4, when we will send them off in style to prepare for their examinations and begin the next stage of their journey.

I continue to be deeply impressed by the calibre of our young people—their care and commitment to one another and their genuine interest in social equity.

It has been heartening to meet recently with several student groups who have identified issues that matter to them and are developing plans to make a positive difference. Tino pai—through their voices, ideas and actions, the world is in good hands!

Mā whero, mā pango, ka oti ai te mahi.
With everyone working together, the work will be completed.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Brian Principal | Tumuaki Waihi College



Kia ora!
Ko _____ tōku ingoa.
Ko te _____ taku tino hākinakina.
Hello!
My name is _____ is my favourite sport.

DID YOU KNOW?

Giving back has long been part of Waihi College life!
For 20 years, Waihi College students have been supporting the 40 Hour Famine, alongside many other community through mufti days, bake sales, sausage sizzles, head shaves and community events.

It's a proud tradition of **Manaakitanga in action** — our rangatahi getting behind causes that make a difference.

Literacy and Numeracy Common Assessment Activities

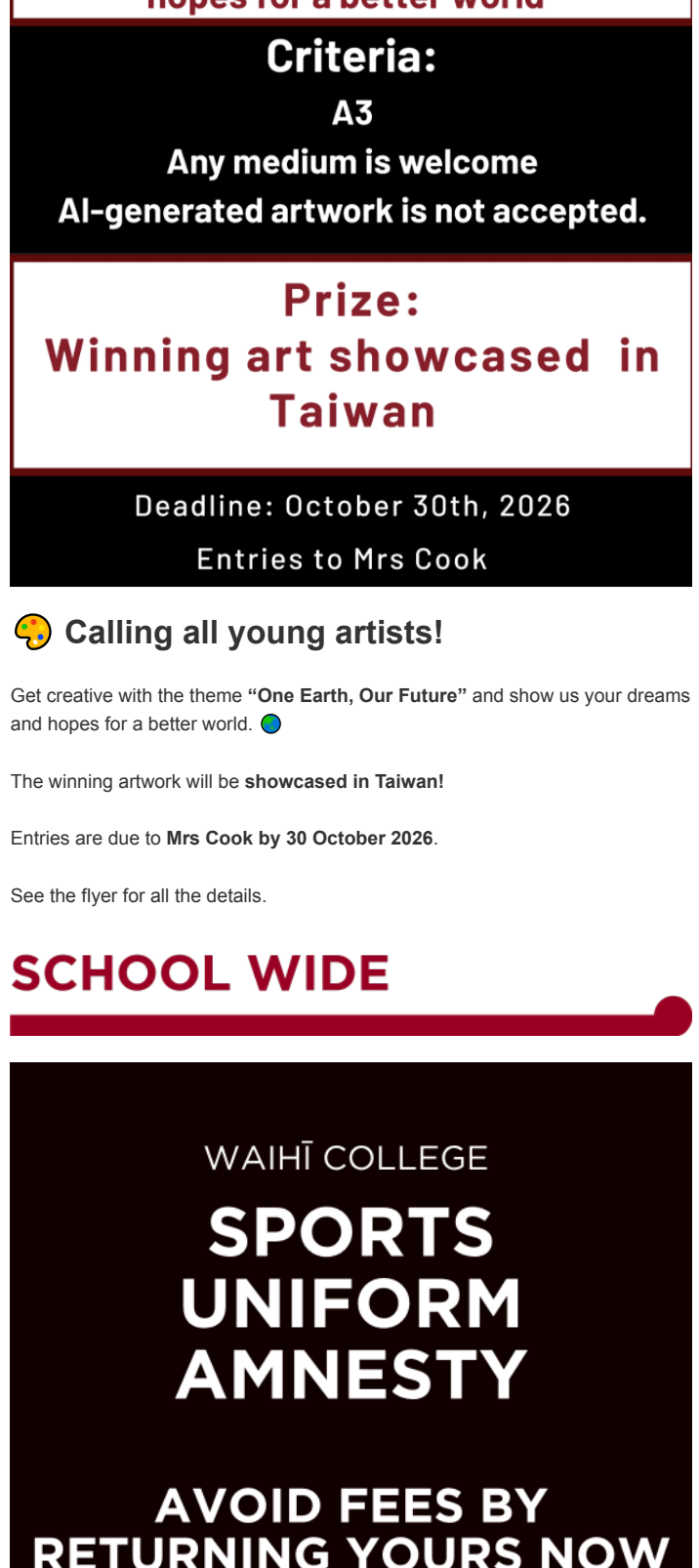
TIMETABLE Week ONE (7th - 11th September) START TIME 9.30am in the HALL				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 9 READING	Year 9 NUMERACY	Year 10 READING	Year 9 WRITING	Year 10 NUMERACY

TIMETABLE Week TWO (14th - 18th September) START TIME 9.30am in the HALL				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 10 WRITING	Senior R/W/N	Senior R/W/N	Senior R/W/N	Senior R/W/N Catchups

Please contact Jo Howell ASAP (jo@waihicollege.school.nz) if you have any questions.

COMING UP

Here's a snapshot of our upcoming month from the SchoolBridge calendar.



With so many sports fixtures, trips, events, assessments and activities happening throughout the term, our calendar is updated regularly. This snapshot is a great guide, but SchoolBridge is always the most up-to-date place to check what's happening at Waihi College. We encourage all whānau to check the SchoolBridge calendar regularly and download the SchoolBridge app to stay informed wherever you are. You can download the SchoolBridge app easily. Check out the instructions in the Parent Corner section of this newsletter, or head to the Keeping Informed section on our website.



16 SEPTEMBER 2026
NGA WAKA Open Afternoon
From 1.30pm to 4.00pm, all Year 6-7 & 8 students and their whānau are welcome to come and explore our Waka.
PLATE OF MUSIC AND FUN! Students showcasing what they've been working on this year.
MUSIC DEPARTMENT helping purchase new instruments.
OR SHAVE FOR A CURE supporting Blood Cancer New Zealand.
COLLEGE TOUR More information to follow.

PRIZEGIVINGS

Our students' year prizegivings are always an exciting time at Waihi College! With our students shining in so many different ways, we hold a number of prizegivings to mark their achievements, talents, service and hard work are recognised and celebrated. Here are the dates confirmed so far:

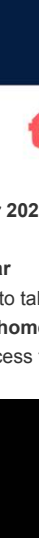
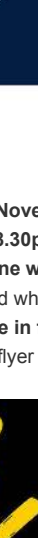
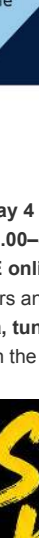
- Sports (Teams & School Champs) Prizegiving: 15th October
- Cultural Prizegiving & Art Exhibition: 27th October
- Sports (Top Awards) Prizegiving: 29th October
- Senior Service & Endeavour Prizegiving: 3rd November
- Senior Academic Prizegiving: 5th November
- Junior Service & Endeavour Prizegiving: 7th December
- Junior Academic Prizegiving: 8th December

WAIHI COLLEGE END OF YEAR PRIZEGIVINGS

Please keep an eye on the SchoolBridge calendar for further details, including times, as they are confirmed. We look forward to celebrating our ākonga and all they have achieved throughout the year!

SHAVE FOR A CURE & SPRING CONCERT

Tuesday 22 September | 6.30pm | Waihi College Hall
Join us for a fantastic evening of bravery, music, fun and fundraising as our Shave for a Cure event comes together with our Spring Concert!



Our Team

 Waihi College (C) Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$586.74	 Reese Neame Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$596.74	 Hamish Sanderson Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$43.50	 ID Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$505.75
 Jaxon Henderson Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$123.53	 Lachy Sole Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$141.42	 Rileigh Houston Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$141.42	 Rileigh Houston Raised for the Shave for a Cure page: \$141.42

SHAVE FOR A CURE & SPRING CONCERT
TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER | 6.30PM | WAIHI COLLEGE HALL
Join us for a fantastic evening of bravery, music, fun and fundraising!



SHAVE FOR A CURE
Shave, cut or colour your hair and help raise funds for Blood Cancer New Zealand!
Signing up is easy! Head to the Waihi College Shave for a Cure page: <https://www.waihicollege.school.nz/shave-for-a-cure>
Register and create your Shave for a Cure page!
Students under 18 need parental consent.



SPRING CONCERT
Enjoy live performances from our Music Department showcasing what they've been working on this year.
Come along and support our talented students!



GOLD COIN ENTRY
Bring a gold coin and choose where your donation goes:
MUSIC DEPARTMENT helping purchase new instruments.
OR SHAVE FOR A CURE supporting Blood Cancer New Zealand.



FOOD available
Food will be available to purchase on the night.
Proceeds will be shared between our Music Department and Shave for a Cure fundraiser.

ONE NIGHT, TWO GREAT CAUSES.
PLENTY OF MUSIC AND FUN!
ALL WHILE SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

Shave for a Cure
A huge well done to everyone who has already signed up for this year's Shave or Chop! There's still time to join them — are you brave enough? Sign up here: <https://www.shaveforacure.co.nz/fundraisers/WaihiCollege471> or head along to our amazing team members and help them raise money for this donating cause.

Spring Concert
Our Music students will take to the stage to showcase what they've been working on throughout the year. These performances form part of their music assessment requirements, so it's a wonderful opportunity for whānau and our community to come along, enjoy some great music and support our talented students.

Gold coin entry
Bring a gold coin at the door and you choose where it goes — either to our Music Department, helping support students through the purchase of new musical instruments, or to our Shave for a Cure fundraiser supporting Blood Cancer New Zealand.

Food
Food will also be available to purchase on the night, with proceeds split between the two causes. Whether you're braving the chop, taking the stage, supporting a participant or simply coming along for a great night, we'd love to see you there. One night, two great causes, plenty of music and fun — all while supporting our students and the wider community.

WAIHI COLLEGE ART COMPETITION

Theme:
One Earth, Our Future
Express your dreams, creativity, & hopes for a better world

Criteria:
A3
Any medium is welcome
AI-generated artwork is not accepted.

Prize:
Winning art showcased in Taiwan

Deadline: October 30th, 2026
Entries to Mrs Cook

Calling all young artists!

Get creative with the theme "One Earth, Our Future" and show us your dreams and hopes for a better world.

The winning artwork will be showcased in Taiwan!

Entries are due to Mrs Cook by 30 October 2026.

See the flyer for all the details.

SCHOOL WIDE

WAIHI COLLEGE SPORTS UNIFORM AMNESTY

AVOID FEES BY RETURNING YOURS NOW

Sports Uniform Amnesty
A friendly reminder that all sports uniforms are now overdue for return (unless you are competing at Aims Games).

If you are wanting to have your uniform bond returned, please ensure your uniform is returned ASAP. This includes First XV boys' Number 1s, which are required back urgently.

Please return all uniforms as soon as possible. Failure to return uniforms may result in fees being charged for a full replacement set. Thank you for helping us get our sports uniforms back and ready for next season!

FUTURE PATHWAYS WITH MRS GRAVESON

CAREERS & FUTURE PATHWAYS

LEAVING SCHOOL MAGAZINE LINK

To check out the current issue of the Leaving School Magazine, please head to this link: <https://oliverlee.co.nz/leavingschool-issue36/>

Secondary School Update

Berenga

From 2027, eligible students who were enrolled in Years 12 or 13 at any New Zealand secondary school during 2026 will be able to undertake their first year of study at Toi Ohomai's Rotorua (Mokoia) campus with **zero course fees**.

The initiative applies to all qualifications at Level 3 and above offered at the Rotorua campus and is available to students studying either full-time or part-time. At Toi Ohomai, students can choose from qualifications across a broad range of industries, including: Business Construction Engineering Information Technology Nursing and Health Teacher Education Tourism and Hospitality Agriculture Hairdressing and Beauty For more information about eligible programmes and enrolment options, please visit: <https://www.toiohomai.ac.nz>.

Getting ready for Subject choices, Trades Academy and Gateway 2027:

It is available each day between now and next Tuesday to discuss Career Pathways and options for students. Trades Academies and Gateway placements for 2027. Please email carolyn@waihicollege.school.nz or call me on 021 105 2702 or 07 863 849 for an interview time between 9am and 6pm.

Carolyn Graveson
Career Pathways Co-ordinator

TOI OHOMAI OPEN DAYS

Toi Ohomai Rotorua Campus
Thurs 17 September, 11am - 2pm
1 Mokoia Drive, Tihotanga, Rotorua

Ngā Rā Whakawāhi OPEN DAY 2026

COMMUNITY NOTICES

FREE ONLINE SAFETY WEBINAR

Parents, caregivers and whānau are invited to tune in to a **FREE online webinar on Wednesday 4 November from 7.00–8.30pm**. The **Digital Sexual Landscape and Online Harm**, presented by Tūturu in conversation with The Light Project, will explore the online world our young people are navigating today.

The webinar will offer practical, evidence-based information to help whānau better understand online safety, digital wellbeing and the challenges young people may encounter online, as well as how we can support them with confidence.

Wednesday 4th November 2026
7-8.30 pm
FREE Online Webinar

Whānau Online Safety Webinar

The Digital Sexual Landscape and Online Harm

Understanding and supporting young people with navigating their online world.

The online sexual landscape has dramatically changed how young people in Aotearoa learn, explore, and engage sexually.

The Light Project provides evidence-based presentations for parents and communities to help equip them with the knowledge, confidence and skills to understand and support young people in today's online world.

Tūturu in conversation with The Light Project

Join us for a kōrero exploring online safety, digital wellbeing and supporting rangatahi.

Link for Webinar

THE LIGHT PROJECT

Wednesday 4 November 2026
7.00–8.30pm
FREE online webinar

We encourage parents, caregivers and whānau to take advantage of this valuable opportunity. Grab a cuppa, tune in from home and join the kōrero!

Scan the QR code on the flyer to access the webinar.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

SUICIDE AWARENESS FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Come Together to Remember, to Connect and to Learn about Supporting Each Other

WAIHI EVENT CENTRE
1:30pm - 4:00pm

12TH SEPTEMBER, 2026.

KAI - FREE BBQ
INFO AND SUPPORT SERVICES
HEALING SPACE AND ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS
SPOT PRIZES FOR ALL
REMEMBRANCE TABLE
A DAY TO REMEMBER (BRING A PHOTO)

FOR MORE INFO
027 388 4041 (TEXT)

WAIHI COLLEGE TEACHER AIDE FIXED TERM POSITION

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE WILL:

- Have experience working with young people
- Build trust and positive relationships
- Be patient, resilient, and solutions-focused
- Have strong communication skills
- Work independently and in a team
- Participate in diverse activities
- Hold a Full NZ Driver Licence
- Pass Police Vetting

POSITION COMMENCES: Term 4, 2026
LOCATION: Bay Pathways (Offsite Learning Centre)
APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 22nd September, 2026

TO APPLY: Send a complete application, including CV and 2 referees, to Mrs Amanda Cook at amanda@waihicollege.school.nz

CONTACT: Amanda Cook (027) 836 1936

TEACHER AIDE WANTED

We're looking for a **Teacher Aide** to join our Waihi College team in a fixed-term position at **Bay Pathways**.

This role is **12 hours per week**, commencing Term 4, 2026. If you enjoy working with young people, building positive relationships and helping students succeed, we'd love to hear from you!

Applications close **28 September 2026**.

Hauraki District Libraries Waihi Library

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Craft Corner	Legs and Games

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Zany Zines	Craft Corner	Craft Corner	Amazing Art	Legs and Games

Hauraki District Libraries Hauraki Plains Library

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Groovy Gardening	Craft Corner	Zany Zines	Craft Corner	Legs and Games

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Craft Corner	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+

Hauraki District Libraries Paeroa Library

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Craft Corner	Zany Zines	Craft Corner	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Virtual Reality Bookings Required Age 10+	Groovy Gardening	Art Corner	Craft Corner	Legs and Games

PARENT CORNER

RYDA ROAD SAFETY Education

One day they're on training wheels. The next they're behind the wheel.

DRIVER COACH

Helping you support your teen driver

Free Webinar for parents and carers:

Tuesday 22 September, or Wednesday 9 September
From 7pm

This practical workshop, supported by Toyota New Zealand, updates parents on latest research and road safety approaches, outlines some of the conversations and strategies our facilitators share with their teens at Ryda, and provides an opportunity to ask questions and get advice from the experts.

- Unlock the mysteries of the teenage brain. What makes driving a challenge?
- Decode risk factors for Young Drivers
- Setting up the first driving lessons
- 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

Powered by **TOYOTA**

Event Title: Driver Coach Webinar for supervisors of learner and restricted drivers

Dates: Tuesday 22 September 2026
Wednesday 9 September 2026

Time: 7.00pm to 8.15pm including question time (NZST)

Cost: This is a free event

Registration: 22 September
9 December

REGISTER HERE:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/o/73401568303>

Parents & Caregivers – We'd love your feedback!

Know My Child, is gathering feedback from parents and caregivers whose child may learn, think, process or experience the world a little differently — whether or not they have a diagnosis or formal assessment.

PARENT & CAREGIVER RESEARCH

Does Your Child Need Something Different?

We want to hear from parents and caregivers who have ever wondered whether their child may learn, think, process or experience the world differently.

The anonymous survey takes approximately **12 MINUTES** and asks about your experience and what would have helped.

Your feedback will help inform the development of Know My Child and contribute parent evidence to upcoming conversations with the Ministry of Education.

Questions or want to know more?
Contact Kas at kas@knowmychild.org

COMPLETE THE ANONYMOUS PARENT SURVEY HERE:
<https://surveymars.com/q/71kbVkgou>

Know My Child
Understanding. Supporting. Together.

The anonymous survey takes around 12 minutes, and the more families who take part, the more valuable the findings will be. Your experiences could help shape future support for children and whānau.

Complete the survey here:
<https://surveymars.com/q/71kbVkgou>

Please feel free to share with other parents and caregivers who may be interested.

SCHOOL BRIDGE APP: Stay connected. Stay informed. Keep it simple

We're encouraging all students and caregivers to download the SchoolBridge app — your new first port of call for all things school-related.

- Mark absences in seconds
- Check notices and updates
- Stay in the loop wherever you are

Getting started is easy:

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

It's quick, convenient, and we'll be adding even more features as we go. Jump on board today and make school communication easier for everyone! Head to the Latest News section of our website for handy links.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: A GUIDE FOR WHĀNAU

Navigating school attendance codes can be confusing