

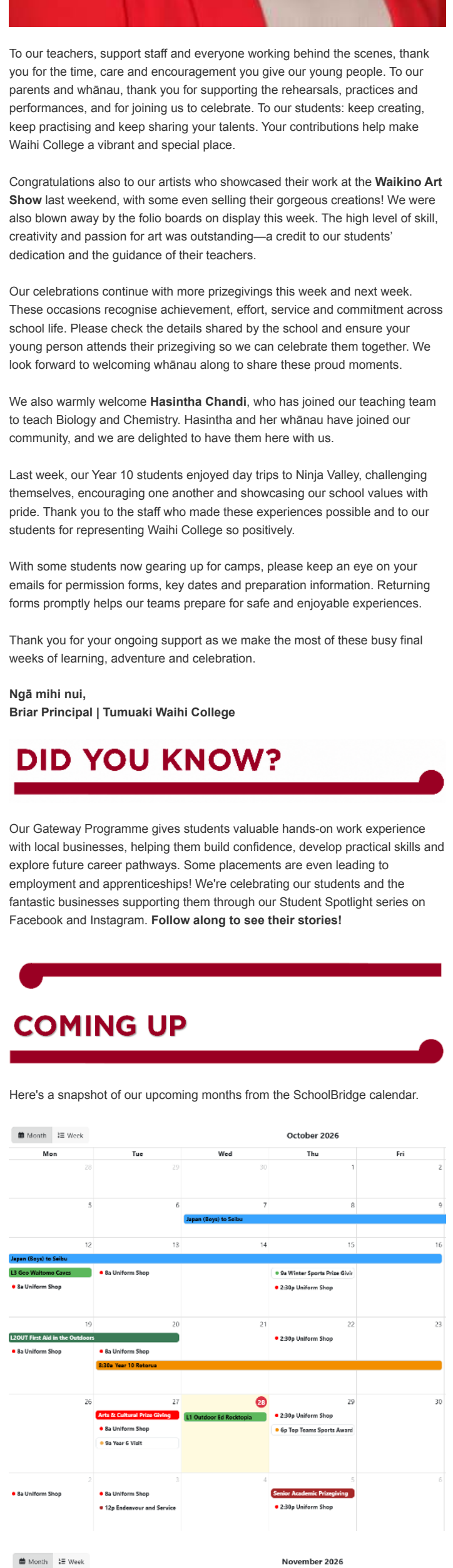
WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 30 2026

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora koutou,

What a wonderful evening we enjoyed at our Arts and Cultural Awards this week, celebrating the talent, creativity and dedication of our Waikato College students. Congratulations to all our award recipients and performers—you have given us so much to be proud of.



To our teachers, support staff and everyone giving behind the scenes, thank you for the time, care and encouragement you give our young people. To the parents and whānau, thank you for supporting the rehearsals, practices and performances, and for joining us to celebrate. To our students: keep creating, keep practising and keep sharing your talents. Your contributions help make Waikato College a vibrant and special place.

Congratulations also to our artists who showcased their work at the **Waikato Art Show** last weekend, with some even selling their gorgeous creations! We were also blown away by the folio boards on display this week. The high level of skill, creativity and passion for art was outstanding—a credit to our students' dedication and the guidance of their teachers.

Our celebrations continue with more prizegivings this week and next week. These occasions recognise achievement, effort, service and commitment across school life. Please check the calendar below to see when we can celebrate them together. We look forward to welcoming whānau along to share these proud moments.

We also warmly welcome **Haeletha Chandi**, who has joined our teaching team to teach Biology and Chemistry. Haeletha and her whānau have joined our community, and we are delighted to have them here with us.

Last week, our Year 10 students enjoyed day trips to Ninja Valley, challenging themselves, encouraging one another and showcasing our school values with pride. Thank you to the staff who made these experiences possible and to our students for representing Waikato College so positively.

With some students now gearing up for camp, please keep an eye on your emails for permission forms, key dates and preparation information. Returning forms promptly helps our teams prepare for safe and enjoyable experiences.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we make the most of these busy final weeks of learning, adventure and celebration.

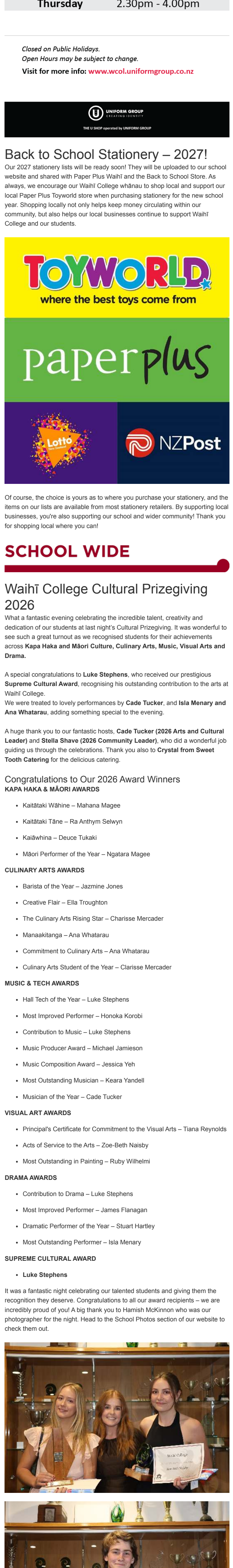
Nga mihi nui,
Brian Principal | Tumukaiti Waikato College

DID YOU KNOW?

Our Gateway Programme gives students valuable hands-on work experience with local businesses, helping them build confidence, develop practical skills and explore future career pathways. Some placements are even leading to employment and apprenticeships! We're celebrating our students and the fantastic businesses supporting them through our Student Spotlight series on Facebook and Instagram. **Follow along to see their stories!**

COMING UP

Here's a snapshot of our upcoming months 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 Waikato College. We encourage all whānau to check the SchoolBridge calendar regularly and download the SchoolBridge app to easily inform wherever you are. You can download the SchoolBridge app at <https://www.schoolbridge.co.nz>. Check out the instructions in the Parent Corner section of this newsletter, or head to the Keeping Informed section on our website.

PRIZEGIVINGS

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

- **Top Sports Prizegiving:** 29th October at 6pm in the Hall **BY INVITATION ONLY**
- **Senior Service & Endeavour Prizegiving:** 3rd November at 12 noon in the Hall
- **Senior Academic Prizegiving:** 5th November at 6pm in the Hall
- **Junior Service & Endeavour Prizegiving:** 7th December (day time) time TBC in the Hall
- **Junior Academic Prizegiving:** 8th December (day time) time TBC in the Hall



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 kōwhiri and all they have achieved throughout the year!

Year 7 Trip to Sapphire Springs

Our Year 7 students are looking forward to a fun day out at Sapphire Springs on **Wednesday 2 December (Week 8)**. The cost is **\$10 per student**, with payment due by **Friday 20 November (Week 6)**. We are also looking for some parent helpers to join us for the day. If you are available and would like to come along, please contact Ange Edwards at ange@waikato.school.nz.

We're looking forward to a great day!



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



THE U SHOP

YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

WAIHI COLLEGE

Term 4 Open Hours 2026

12 October - 15 December

Monday	8.00am - 9.30am
Tuesday	8.00am - 9.30am
Thursday	2.30pm - 4.00pm

Closed on Public Holidays.
Open Hours may be subject to change.
Visit for more info: www.wcol.uniformgroup.co.nz

Back to School Stationery – 2027!

Our 2027 stationery lists will be ready soon! They will be uploaded to our school website and shared with Paper Plus Waikato and the Back to School Store. As always, we encourage our Waikato College whānau to shop local and support our local Paper Plus Toyworld store when purchasing stationery for the new school year. Shopping locally not only helps keep money circulating within our community, but also helps our local businesses continue to support Waikato College and our students.



TOYWORLD

where the best toys come from



PAPERPLUS



Of course, the choice is yours as to where you purchase your stationery, and the items on our lists are available from most stationery retailers. By supporting local businesses, you're also supporting our school and wider community! Thank you for shopping local where you can!

SCHOOL WIDE

Waihi College Cultural Prizegiving 2026

What a fantastic evening celebrating the incredible talent, creativity and dedication of our students at last night's Cultural Prizegiving. It was wonderful to see such a great turnout as we recognised students for their achievements across **Kapa Haka** and **Māori Culture**, **Culinary Arts**, **Music**, **Visual Arts** and **Drama**.

A special congratulations to **Luke Stephens**, who received our prestigious **Supreme Cultural Award**, recognising his outstanding contribution to the arts at Waikato College.

We were treated to lovely performances by **Cade Tucker**, **Isla Menary** and **Ana Whatarau**, adding something special to the evening.

A huge thank you to our fantastic hosts, **Cade Tucker (2026 Arts and Cultural Leader)** and **Stella Shave (2026 Community Leader)**, who did a wonderful job guiding us through the celebrations. Thank you also to **Crystal from Sweet Tooth Catering** for the delicious catering.

Congratulations to Our 2026 Award Winners

KAPA HAKA & MAORI AWARDS

- **Kaitiaki Wahine** – Mahana Magee
- **Kaitiaki Tāne** – Ra Anthon Selwyn
- **Kāhāwina** – Deuce Tukaki
- **Māori Performer of the Year** – Ngatara Magee

CULINARY ARTS AWARDS

- **Bariata of the Year** – Jasmine Jones
- **Creative Flair** – Ella Troughton
- **The Culinary Arts Rising Star** – Charisse Mercader
- **Manaakitanga** – Ana Whatarau
- **Commitment to Culinary Arts** – Ana Whatarau
- **Culinary Arts Student of the Year** – Clarisse Mercader

MUSIC & TECH AWARDS

- **Hall Tech of the Year** – Luke Stephens
- **Most Improved Performer** – Honoka Korobi
- **Contribution to Music** – Luke Stephens
- **Music Producer Award** – Michael Jameson
- **Music Composition Award** – Jessica Yeh
- **Most Outstanding Musician** – Keara Yandell
- **Musician of the Year** – Cade Tucker

VISUAL ART AWARDS

- **Principal's Certificate for Commitment to the Visual Arts** – Tiana Reynolds
- **Acts of Service to the Arts** – Zoe-Beth Naisty
- **Most Outstanding in Painting** – Ruby Wilhelm

DRAMA AWARDS

- **Contribution to Drama** – Luke Stephens
- **Most Improved Performer** – James Flanagan
- **Dramatic Performer of the Year** – Stuart Hartley
- **Most Outstanding Performer** – Isla Menary

SUPREME CULTURAL AWARD

- **Luke Stephens**

It was a fantastic night celebrating our talented students and giving them the recognition they deserve. Congratulations to all our award recipients – we are incredibly proud of you! A big thank you to Hamish McKinnon who was our photographer for the night. Head to the School Photos section of our website to check them out.

