WAIHĪ COLLEGE
# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 32 2026

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora e te whānau,
Congratulations to our Year 8 students who competed in the recent North Island PCT Challenge, achieving an impressive **7th place overall!** This result reflects their commitment, teamwork and determination. We are proud of how they represented Waihi College, supporting one another and giving their best throughout the challenge. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and support the team.

Our senior examinations have commenced this week, and we wish all our students every success. Keep preparing, make use of the support and workshops available, and approach each exam ready to give your best. Thank you to our whānau and teachers for the encouragement and care you provide during this important time.
With our seniors focused on exams, we are looking to our Year 10 students to step forward as leaders. Through everyday actions—showing kindness, taking responsibility, including others and demonstrating our values—you can make a positive difference across our kura. We look forward to seeing our future leaders emerge as we finish the year together.

Thank you for supporting our teachers as we head into our Teacher Only Day. This time allows staff to learn about the new curriculum changes and consider what they mean for teaching and learning at Waihi College as we move into 2027. Working and learning together helps us prepare programmes that support and challenge our young people.

We appreciate your continued partnership as we make these final weeks of the year purposeful and positive.

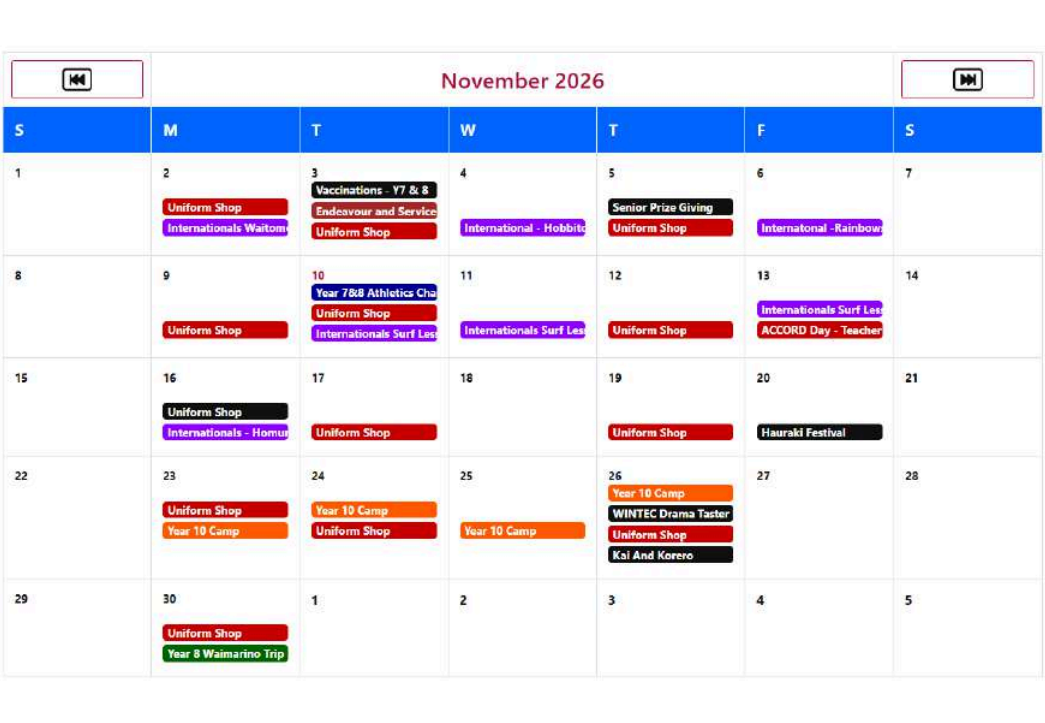
**Ngā mihi nui,**
**Briar Principal | Tumuaki Waihi College**

## DID YOU KNOW?

At our recent Senior Academic Prizegiving, Waihī College students were awarded an incredible **$127,000 worth of scholarships!**
What an amazing reflection of the talent, hard work and dedication of our senior students! We are also incredibly fortunate to have such a generous and supportive community behind us. These scholarships are about so much more than financial assistance – they represent people and organisations believing in our young people and investing in their futures. A huge **THANK YOU** to the businesses, organisations, trusts and individuals who continue to support our students and help open doors to exciting opportunities beyond Waihī College. We really do have an amazing community!

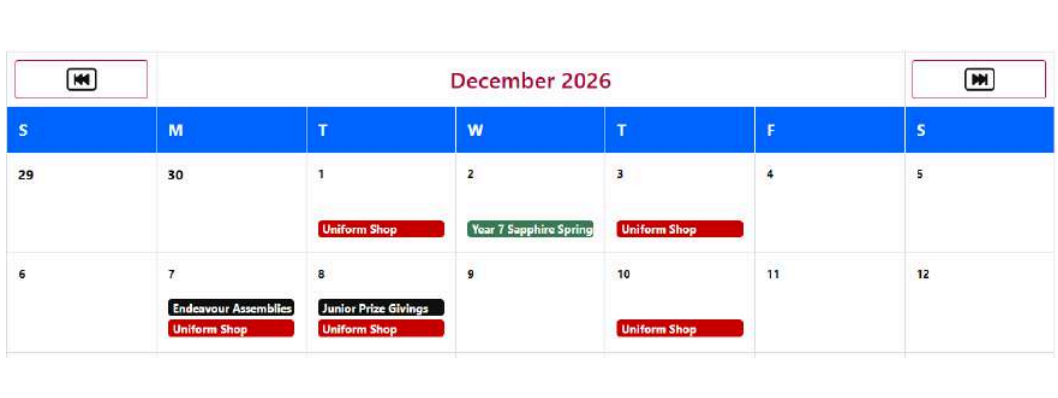
## COMING UP

Here's a snapshot of our upcoming months from the SchoolBridge calendar which cargivers and students can access via their SchoolBridge app.



November 2026

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2<br>Uniform Shop<br>Internationals Waitom | 3<br>Vaccinations - Y7 & 8<br>Endeavour and Service<br>Uniform Shop | 4<br>International - Hobbits | 5<br>Senior Prize Giving<br>Uniform Shop | 6<br>Internatonal -Rainbow | 7 |
| 8 | 9<br>Uniform Shop | 10<br>Year 7&8 Athletics Cha<br>Uniform Shop<br>Internationals Surf Les | 11<br>Internationals Surf Les | 12<br>Uniform Shop | 13<br>Internationals Surf Les<br>ACCORD Day - Teacher | 14 |
| 15 | 16<br>Uniform Shop<br>Internationals - Homu | 17<br>Uniform Shop | 18 | 19<br>Uniform Shop | 20<br>Hauraki Festival | 21 |
| 22 | 23<br>Uniform Shop<br>Year 10 Camp | 24<br>Year 10 Camp<br>Uniform Shop | 25<br>Year 10 Camp | 26<br>Year 10 Camp<br>WINTEC Drama Taster<br>Uniform Shop<br>Kai And Korero | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30<br>Uniform Shop<br>Year 8 Waimarino Trip | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |



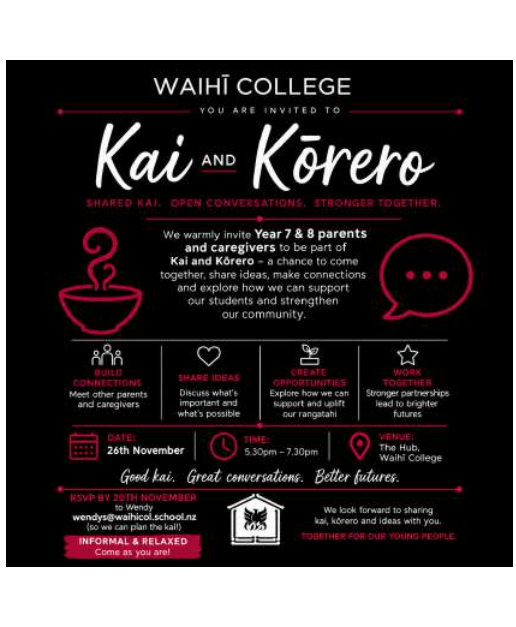
December 2026

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | 30 | 1<br>Uniform Shop | 2<br>Year 7 Sapphire Spring | 3<br>Uniform Shop | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7<br>Endeavour Assemblies<br>Uniform Shop | 8<br>Junior Prize Givings<br>Uniform Shop | 9 | 10<br>Uniform Shop | 11 | 12 |

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 Waihī 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.

### Kai & Kōrero – Year 7 & 8 Whānau, You're Invited!

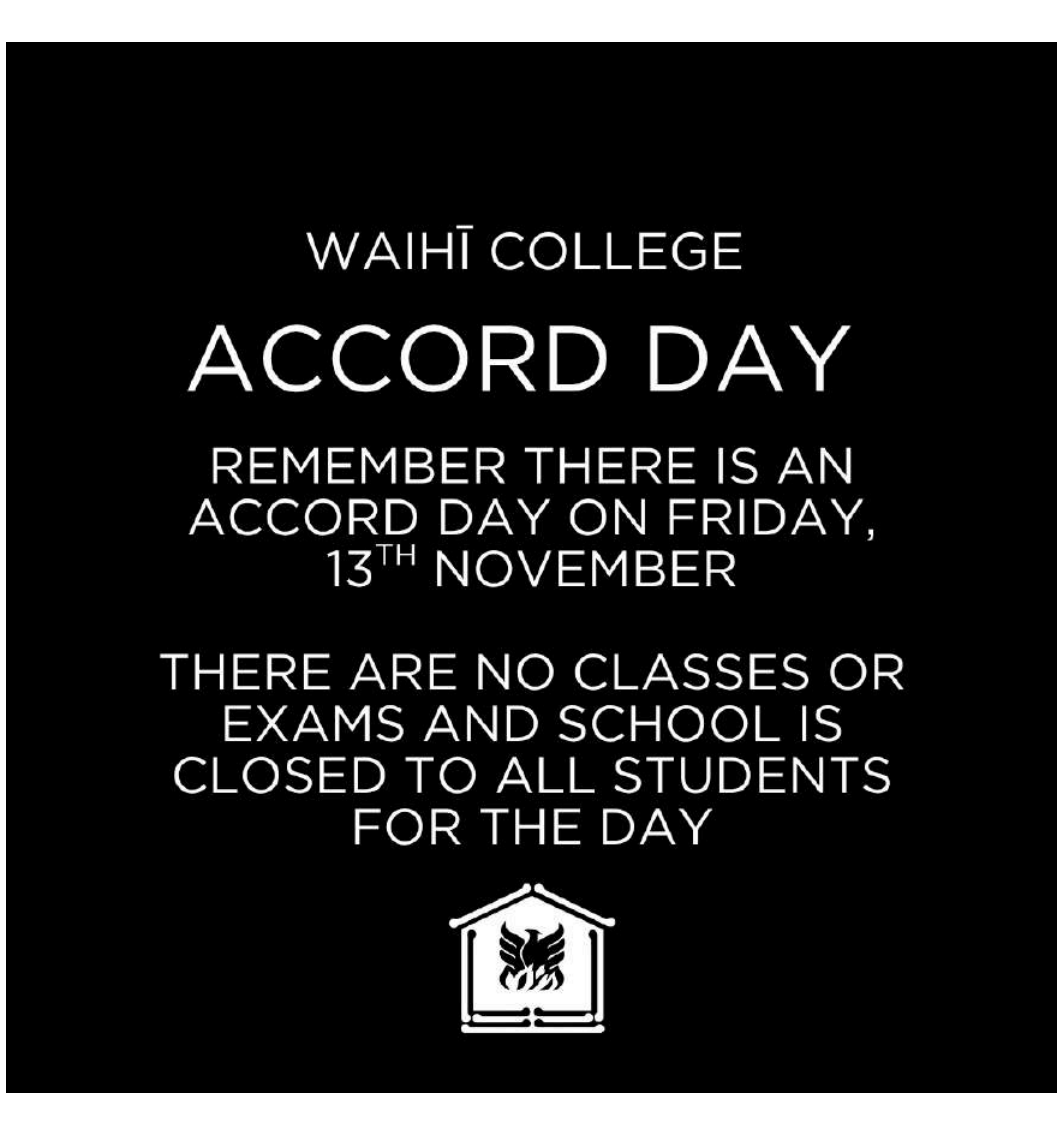
Following the success of our first Kai & Kōrero evening with our Year 9–13 whānau and community members, we're excited to do it all again – this time inviting our Year 7 & 8 parents and caregivers! Kai & Kōrero is all about bringing people together in a relaxed, informal setting to share some kai, make connections, exchange ideas and have open conversations about how we can best support our young people. There's no formal agenda – just good food, great conversations and an opportunity to strengthen our school community.



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
YOU ARE INVITED TO
Kai AND Kōrero
SHARED KAI. OPEN CONVERSATIONS. STRONGER TOGETHER.
We warmly invite Year 7 & 8 parents and caregivers to be part of Kai and Kōrero – a chance to come together, share ideas, make connections and explore how we can support our students and strengthen our community.
BUILD CONNECTIONS Meet other parents and caregivers
SHARE IDEAS Discuss what's important and what's possible
CREATE OPPORTUNITIES Explore how we can support and uplift our rangatahi
WORK TOGETHER Stronger partnerships lead to brighter futures
DATE: 26th November
TIME: 5.30pm – 7.30pm
VENUE: The Hub, Waihī College
Good kai. Great conversations. Better futures.
RSVP BY 20TH NOVEMBER to Wendy wendys@waihicol.school.nz (so we can plan the kai!)
INFORMAL & RELAXED Come as you are!
We look forward to sharing kai, kōrero and ideas with you.
TOGETHER FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

- Thursday 26th November
- 5.30pm – 7.30pm The Hub, Waihī College

Please RSVP to Wendy at wendys@waihicol.school.nz by 20th November so we can make sure there's plenty of kai for everyone! We'd love to see you there!



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
ACCORD DAY
REMEMBER THERE IS AN ACCORD DAY ON FRIDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER
THERE ARE NO CLASSES OR EXAMS AND SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO ALL STUDENTS FOR THE DAY

### WAIHĪ COLLEGE JUNIOR PRIZEGIVINGS 2026

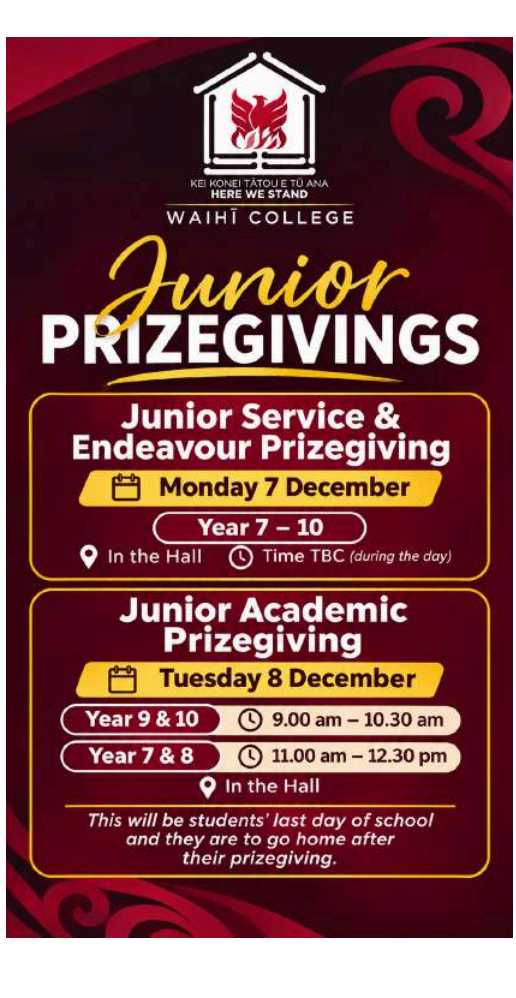
We're looking forward to celebrating the achievements, hard work and dedication of our junior students as we wrap up the school year!

🌟 **Monday 7 December – Service & Endeavour Prizegiving**
Years 7–10 | School Hall
Time TBC (during the school day)

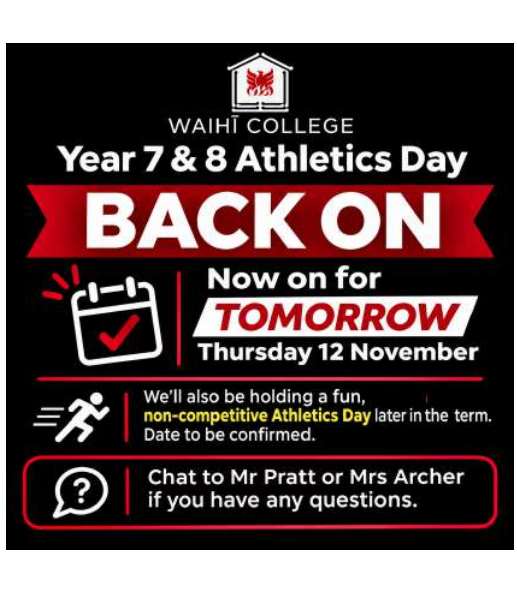
🎓 **Tuesday 8 December – Academic Prizegiving**
School Hall

- **Years 9 & 10:** 9.00am–10.30am
- **Years 7 & 8:** 11.00am–12.30pm

📌 **Important:** Tuesday 8 December is the last day of school for our junior students. Students are to go home following their respective prizegiving.



KEI KONEI TĀTOU E TŪ ANA HERE WE STAND
WAIHĪ COLLEGE
Junior PRIZEGIVINGS
Junior Service & Endeavour Prizegiving
Monday 7 December
Year 7 – 10
In the Hall Time TBC (during the day)
Junior Academic Prizegiving
Tuesday 8 December
Year 9 & 10 9.00 am – 10.30 am
Year 7 & 8 11.00 am – 12.30 pm
In the Hall
This will be students' last day of school and they are to go home after their prizegiving.



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
Year 7 & 8 Athletics Day
BACK ON
Now on for TOMORROW
Thursday 12 November
We'll also be holding a fun, non-competitive Athletics Day later in the term. Date to be confirmed.
Chat to Mr Pratt or Mrs Archer if you have any questions.

### YEAR 7 & 8 ATHLETICS DAY – BACK ON!

Good news! Our Year 7 & 8 Athletics Day is **back on for tomorrow, Thursday 12th November!**

We'll also be holding a **fun, non-competitive Athletics Day** later in the term, with the date still to be confirmed.

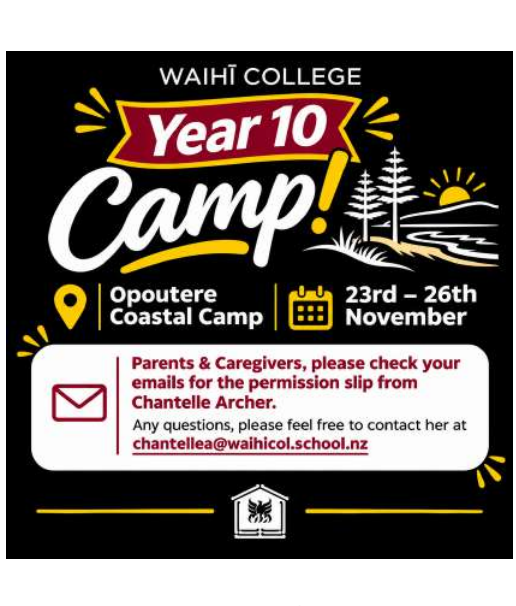
If you have any questions, please chat with **Mr Pratt or Mrs Archer**.

### Year 10 Camp

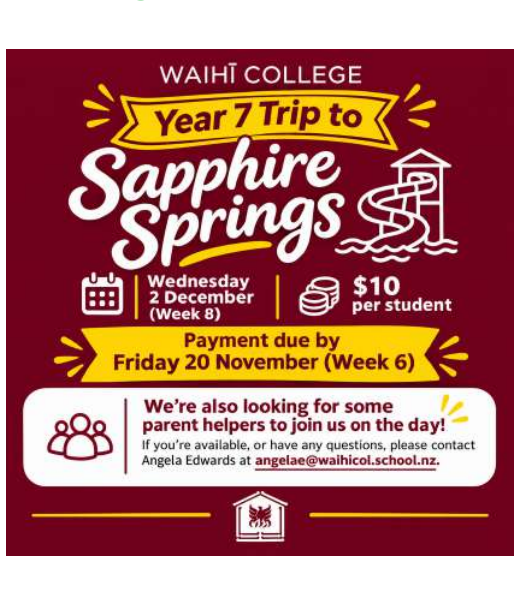
Planning and preparation is well underway for this year's camp at Opoutere Coastal Camp for 23rd November till 26th November.

Parents & Caregivers, please check your emails for the permission slip from Chantelle Archer.

Any questions, please contact her on chantellea@waihicol.school.nz



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
Year 10 Camp!
Opoutere Coastal Camp
23rd – 26th November
Parents & Caregivers, please check your emails for the permission slip from Chantelle Archer.
Any questions, please feel free to contact her at chantellea@waihicol.school.nz



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
Year 7 Trip to Sapphire Springs
Wednesday 2 December (Week 8)
$10 per student
Payment due by Friday 20 November (Week 6)
We're also looking for some parent helpers to join us on the day!
If you're available, or have any questions, please contact Angela Edwards at angelae@waihicol.school.nz.

### 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 on **angelae@waihicol.school.nz**. We're looking forward to a great day!

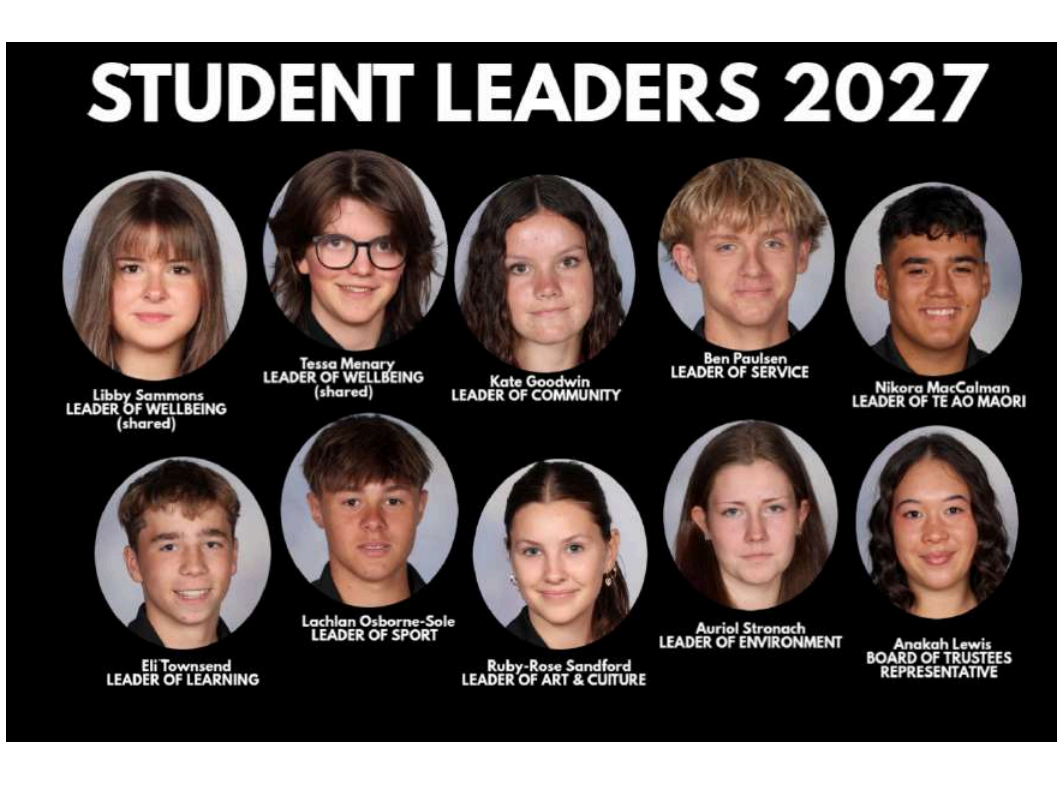
## SCHOOL WIDE

### Academic Prizegiving 2026

What a fantastic evening celebrating our students at last night's Senior Academic Prizegiving! There was so much love and pride in the room, not only for those walking across the stage, but also for everyone there cheering them on. A massive congratulations to our top award recipients: Dux – Zoe-Beth Naisby, Proxime Accessit – Zara Clare, Best All-Round Girl – Isla Menary and Best All-Round Boy – Rian Morgan.

2026 DUX: Zoe-Beth Naisby

So many incredible achievements, awards and scholarships to celebrate! We couldn't be prouder of our students and all they have accomplished this year. Keep an eye out for our special Senior Prizegiving newsletter edition, coming out next week, where we'll share all the awards, scholarships and highlights from this wonderful evening!



STUDENT LEADERS 2027

Libby Sammons LEADER OF WELLBEING (shared)
Tessa Menary LEADER OF WELLBEING (shared)
Kate Goodwin LEADER OF COMMUNITY
Ben Paulsen LEADER OF SERVICE
Nikora MacCalman LEADER OF TE AO MAORI
Eli Townsend LEADER OF LEARNING
Lachlan Osborne-Sole LEADER OF SPORT
Ruby-Rose Sandford LEADER OF ART & CULTURE
Auriol Stronach LEADER OF ENVIRONMENT
Anakah Lewis BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPRESENTATIVE

Congratulations to our Student Leaders for next year. We are super excited to have you on board and are looking forward to seeing what you can bring to our kura.

### We will have a full write up of all our Senior Prizegivings in our Special Edition Newsletter - please keep an eye out.

WAIHĪ COLLEGE
THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL COMMUNITY

Another fantastic show of community support!
Following the generous grants from Valder, One Foundation and The Lion Foundation that helped us purchase our new school van, **TW Farm & Electrical** have also kindly offered to contribute **$500 towards our new wheels!**
We're incredibly grateful for the generosity of these organisations and local businesses, whose support makes such a positive difference for our students and kura. Thank you!

TW FARM AND ELECTRICAL ONE FOUNDATION Valder Ohinemuri Charitable Trust THE LION FOUNDATION

### Congratulations to Our Mining Skills Development Programme Graduates!

We're delighted to share this fantastic post from **OceanaGold**, celebrating our Waihī College students who have successfully completed the latest Mining Skills Development Programme!

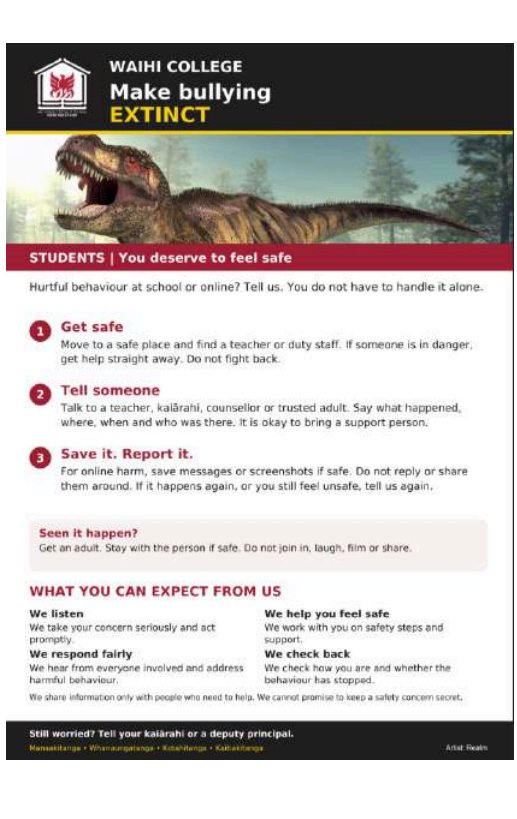
Throughout the programme, students gained valuable hands-on experience, including working at heights training, manual driving lessons, and an underground visit to explore the working conditions and wide range of career opportunities available in the mining industry.
The programme has helped students develop practical skills, safety awareness, confidence and discipline that will benefit them in whatever career path they choose.
As Ben, one of our Year 12 students, shared:
*"I wanted to go through the programme to learn about stuff I've never done before and the different opportunities. I'd say give it a go!"*
**A huge congratulations to all our graduates, and a big thank you to OceanaGold** for providing our students with such valuable opportunities and experiences.
*Content shared from OceanaGold's original post.*

### PCT Nationals

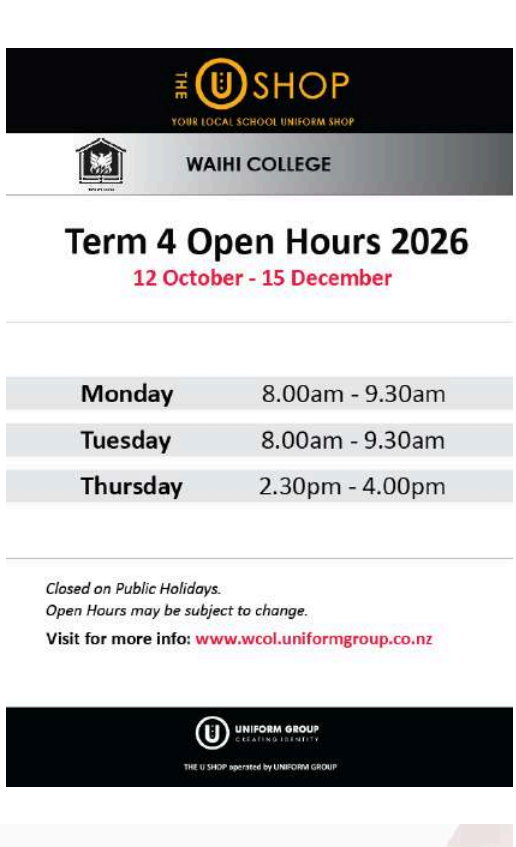
Last weekend, four of our Year 8 students proudly represented Waihi College at the National (North Island) PCT Challenge in Auckland. Kahu Appleton, Rikki Morgan, Carter Hewlett, and Sophie Oates earned their spot at this prestigious event after an outstanding victory at the regional PCT challenge.
Organised by Blue Light, the event brings together intermediate-aged students to participate in a variety of mental and physical challenges. The weekend's main event is the Police Competence Test (PCT) - the exact obstacle course used in the entry exams for new New Zealand Police recruits. The competition was fierce, with 11 top teams from across the North Island battling it out. Day 1 kicked off with team activation challenges at the Blue Light Youth Centre in Papakura, followed by a fun evening of ten pin bowling, laser tag, and arcade games at Time Zone Manukau. On Day 2, the intense action moved to Pulman Arena for the official PCT obstacle course.
Our Waihi College team delivered an incredible performance against very tough competition. They placed an impressive 5th in the PCT obstacle course and finished 7th overall on the final scoreboard. Most importantly, the students had an excellent time and maintained a fantastic attitude throughout the entire weekend. We are incredibly proud of Kahu, Rikki, Carter, and Sophie for their effort, teamwork, and for representing our school so well on a national stage.
*Also, thanks to Mr Hallam for getting our students there and being such a great supporter. Dream Team!*

### HOST FAMILIES WANTED FOR 2027!

Would you love to welcome an international student into your home? Waihī College is looking for friendly, welcoming host families for the 2027 school year! Hosting an international student is a wonderful opportunity to share our Kiwi way of life, learn about another culture, and make lasting connections.
Interested in finding out more? Rochelle and Magdeleen would love to hear from you and can tell you all about what's involved! Email on **rochellek@waihicol.school.nz** or **magdeleeng@waihicol.school.nz.** You can also find more information on our school website: https://www.waihicol.school.nz/international/hosting-%c2%b7-manaakitanga/
Help us give our international students a warm Waihī welcome!



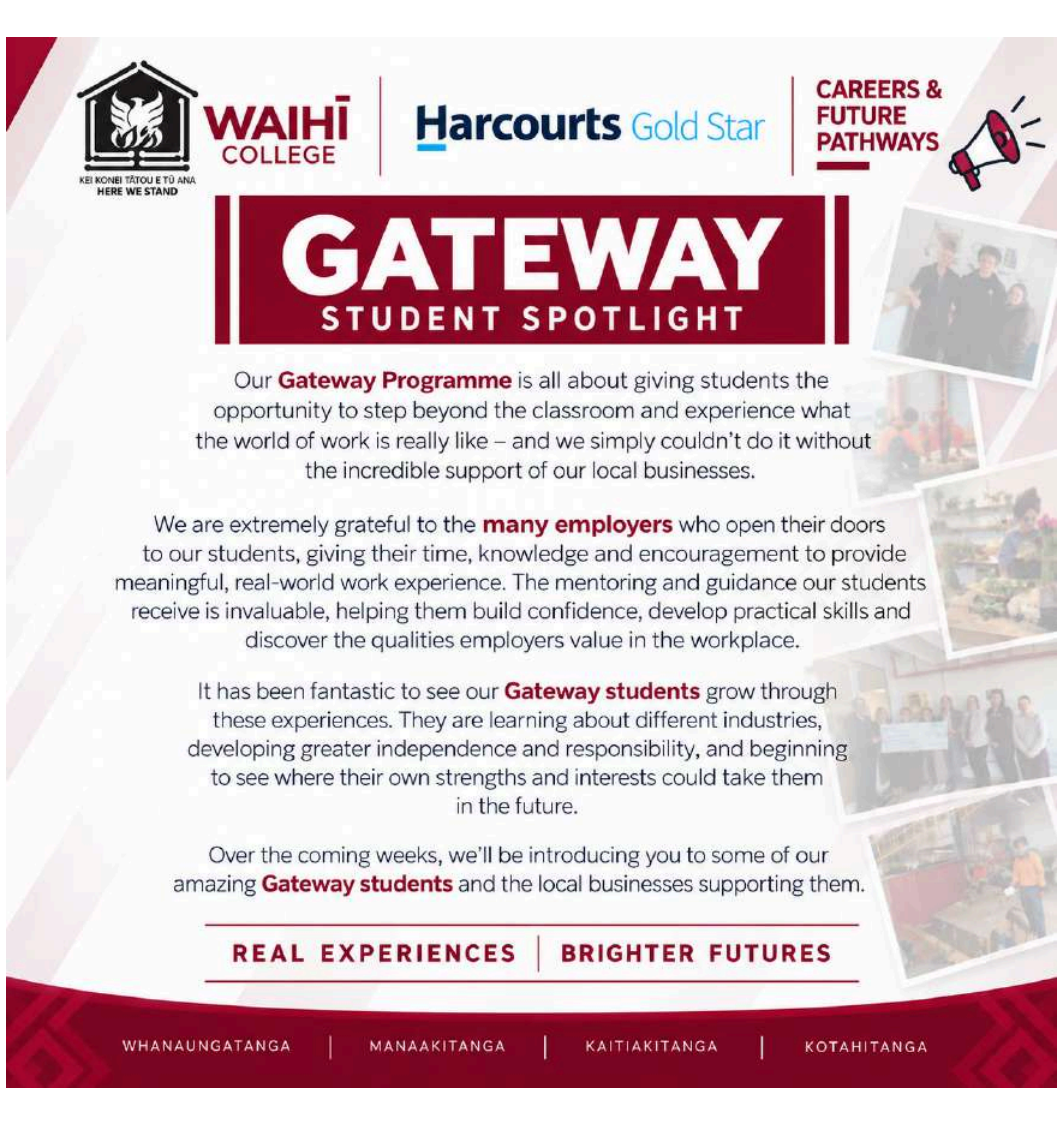
WAIHI COLLEGE
Make bullying EXTINCT
STUDENTS | You deserve to feel safe
1 Get safe
2 Tell someone
3 Save it. Report it.
Seen it happen?
WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US
We listen
We help you feel safe
We respond fairly
We check back
Still worried? Tell your kaiārahi or a deputy principal.



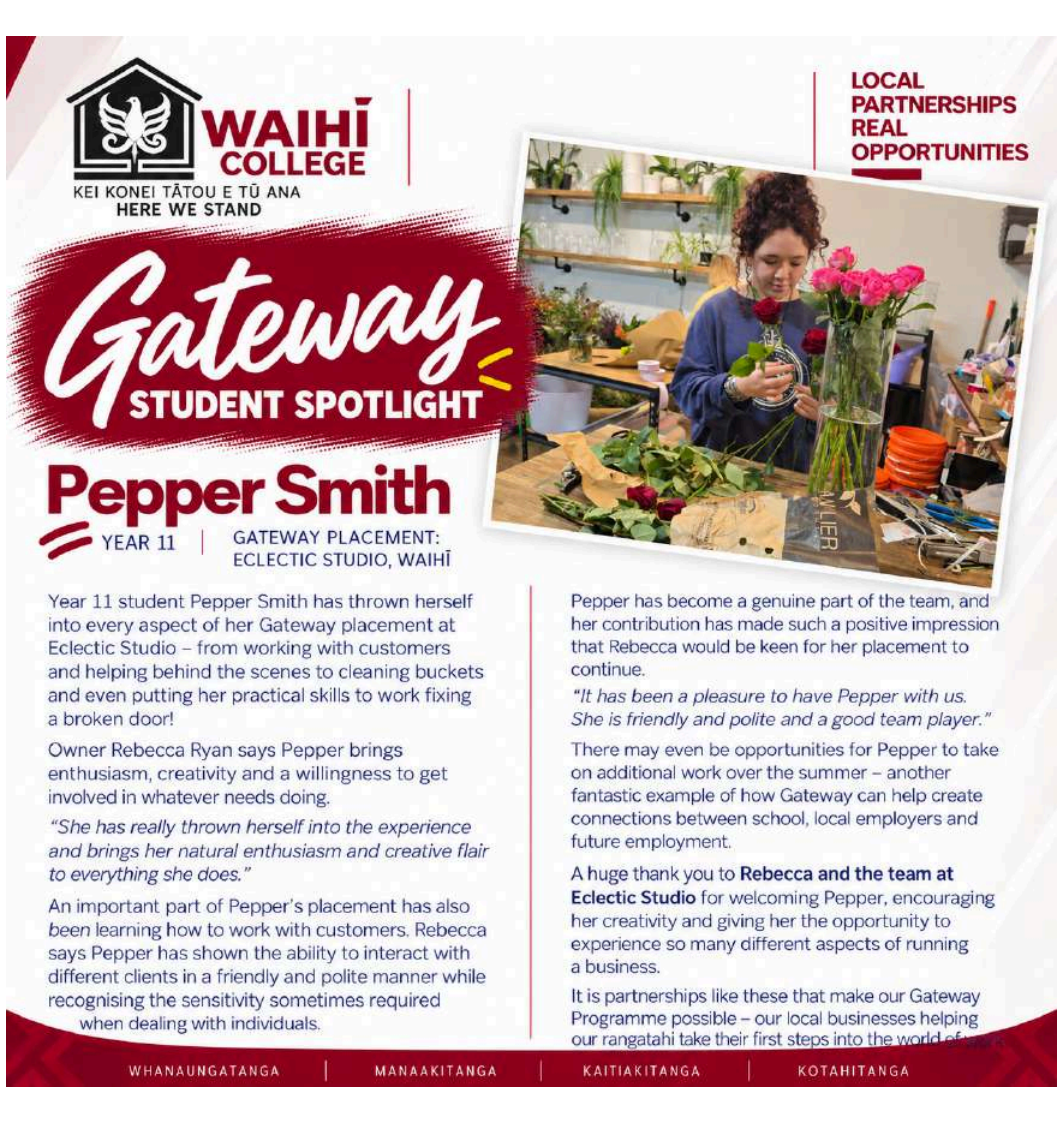
THE U SHOP
YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP
WAIHI COLLEGE
Term 4 Open Hours 2026
12 October - 15 December

| | |
|---|---|
| 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
UNIFORM GROUP



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
KEI KONEI TĀTOU E TŪ ANA HERE WE STAND
Harcourts Gold Star
CAREERS & FUTURE PATHWAYS
GATEWAY
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
Our **Gateway Programme** is all about giving students the opportunity to step beyond the classroom and experience what the world of work is really like – and we simply couldn't do it without the incredible support of our local businesses.
We are extremely grateful to the **many employers** who open their doors to our students, giving their time, knowledge and encouragement to provide meaningful, real-world work experience. The mentoring and guidance our students receive is invaluable, helping them build confidence, develop practical skills and discover the qualities employers value in the workplace.
It has been fantastic to see our **Gateway students** grow through these experiences. They are learning about different industries, developing greater independence and responsibility, and beginning to see where their own strengths and interests could take them in the future.
Over the coming weeks, we'll be introducing you to some of our amazing **Gateway students** and the local businesses supporting them.
REAL EXPERIENCES | BRIGHTER FUTURES
WHANAUNGATANGA | MANAAKITANGA | KAITIAKITANGA | KOTAHITANGA



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
KEI KONEI TĀTOU E TŪ ANA HERE WE STAND
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS REAL OPPORTUNITIES
Gateway
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
Pepper Smith
YEAR 11 | GATEWAY PLACEMENT: ECLECTIC STUDIO, WAIHĪ
Year 11 student Pepper Smith has thrown herself into every aspect of her Gateway placement at Eclectic Studio – from working with customers and helping behind the scenes to cleaning buckets and even putting her practical skills to work fixing a broken door!
Owner Rebecca Ryan says Pepper brings enthusiasm, creativity and a willingness to get involved in whatever needs doing.
*"She has really thrown herself into the experience and brings her natural enthusiasm and creative flair to everything she does."*
An important part of Pepper's placement has also been learning how to work with customers. Rebecca says Pepper has shown the ability to interact with different clients in a friendly and polite manner while recognising the sensitivity sometimes required when dealing with individuals.
Pepper has become a genuine part of the team, and her contribution has made such a positive impression that Rebecca would be keen for her placement to continue.
*"It has been a pleasure to have Pepper with us. She is friendly and polite and a good team player."*
There may even be opportunities for Pepper to take on additional work over the summer – another fantastic example of how Gateway can help create connections between school, local employers and future employment.
A huge thank you to **Rebecca and the team at Eclectic Studio** for welcoming Pepper, encouraging her creativity and giving her the opportunity to experience so many different aspects of running a business.
It is partnerships like these that make our Gateway Programme possible – our local businesses helping our rangatahi take their first steps into the world of work.
WHANAUNGATANGA | MANAAKITANGA | KAITIAKITANGA | KOTAHITANGA

### Well, that didn't quite go to plan…

To whoever attempted to help themselves to fuel from our caretaker's shed last night — it seems your getaway didn't go quite as smoothly as you'd hoped! While you didn't manage to get the fuel tanks off school grounds, you did kindly leave your containers behind on our top field. We've found them, so if you'd like your belongings returned, please feel free to contact Mike at propertymanager@waihicol.school.nz.

We're always happy to reunite people with their lost property

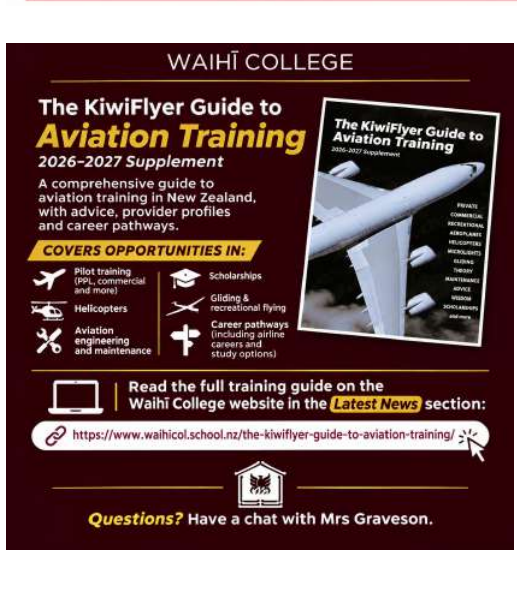
### Back to School Stationery – 2027!

Our 2027 stationery lists will be ready soon! They will be uploaded to our school website and shared with Paper Plus Waihī and the Back to School Store. As always, we encourage our Waihī 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 Waihī College and our students.

TOYWORLD where the best toys come from
paper plus
Lotto NZPost

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!

## FUTURE PATHWAYS



WAIHĪ COLLEGE
The KiwiFlyer Guide to Aviation Training
2026–2027 Supplement
A comprehensive guide to aviation training in New Zealand, with advice, provider profiles and career pathways.
COVERS OPPORTUNITIES IN:
Pilot training (PPL, commercial and more)
Scholarships
Helicopters
Gliding & recreational flying
Aviation engineering and maintenance
Career pathways (including airline careers and study options)
Read the full training guide on the Waihī College website in the Latest News section:
https://www.waihicol.school.nz/the-kiwiflyer-guide-to-aviation-training/
Questions? Have a chat with Mrs Graveson.

The **KiwiFlyer Guide to Aviation Training 2026–2027** is packed with information for students interested in exploring opportunities in the aviation industry!
From pilot training and helicopters to aviation engineering, scholarships and career pathways, this guide is a great place to start.

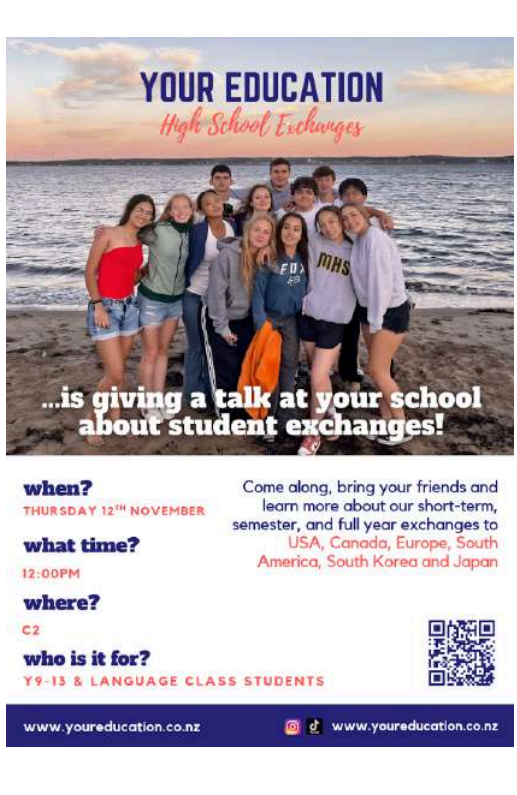
📖 **Read the full guide** on the Waihī College website under **Latest News**, or follow the link below:

🔗 https://www.waihicol.school.nz/the-kiwiflyer-guide-to-aviation-training/
💬 **Have questions or want to know more?** Pop in and have a chat with Mrs Graveson!

### 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/

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



YOUR EDUCATION
High School Exchanges
…is giving a talk at your school about student exchanges!
when? THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
what time? 12:00PM
where? C2
who is it for? Y9-13 & LANGUAGE CLASS STUDENTS
Come along, bring your friends and learn more about our short-term, semester, and full year exchanges to USA, Canada, Europe, South America, South Korea and Japan
www.youreducation.co.nz

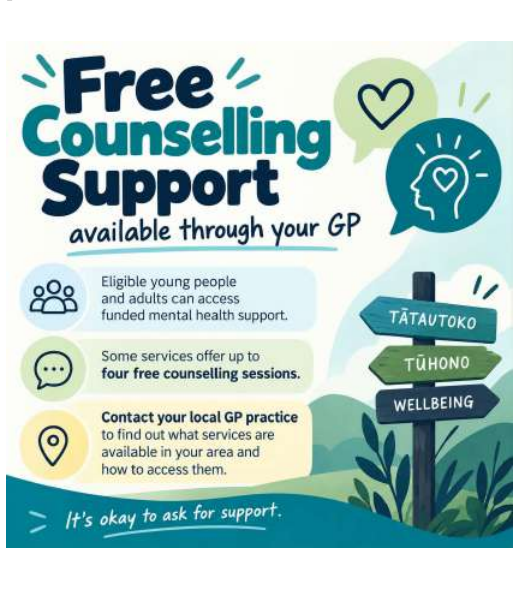
🌏 **Ever thought about going on a student exchange?**

'Your Education' is coming to Waihī College to talk about exciting exchange opportunities around the world!
📅 **Thursday 12 November**
🕛 **12:00pm**
📍 **C2**
👥 **Year 9–13 & Language Class students**

Come along and find out how you could experience life and school in another country, whether for a short stay, a semester or a full year!

### Free Counselling Support Available

Did you know that free counselling support may be available through your local GP?
Eligible young people and adults can access funded mental health support, with some services offering up to four free counselling sessions.
Whether you're experiencing anxiety, stress, low mood or other challenges, support is available.
Contact your local GP practice to find out what free counselling services are available in your area and how to access them.

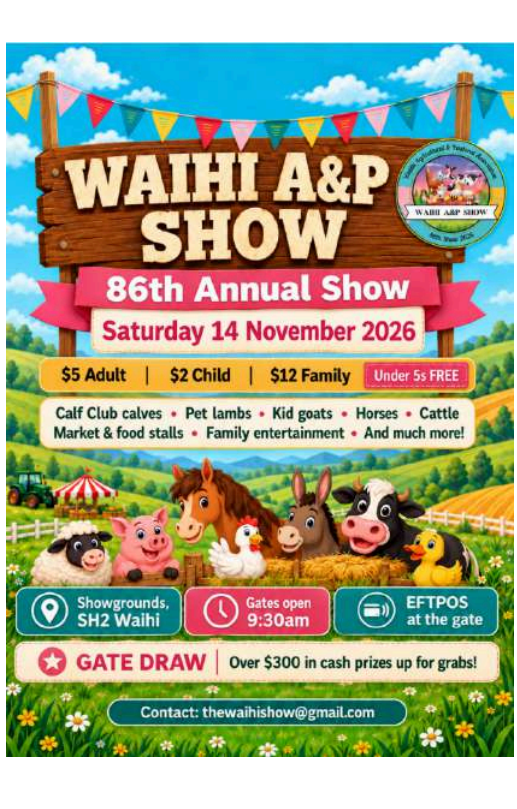


Free Counselling Support
available through your GP
Eligible young people and adults can access funded mental health support.
Some services offer up to four free counselling sessions.
Contact your local GP practice to find out what services are available in your area and how to access them.
It's okay to ask for support.
TĀTAUTOKO
TŪHONO
WELLBEING

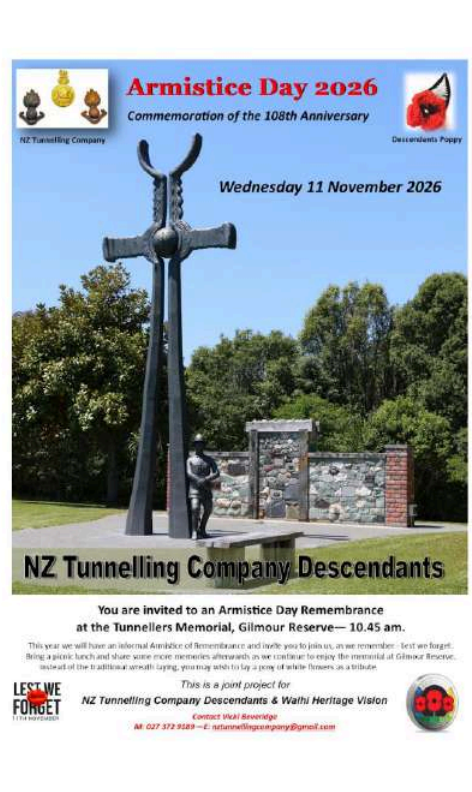
For more information, visit: https://www.healthnz.govt.nz/health-topics/mental-health/where-to-get-help/wellbeing-support

### ARMISTICE DAY 2026

The NZ Tunnelling Company Descendants & WHV warmly invite Waihi College to take part in the WW1 NZ Engineers Tunnellers Memorial commemoration on Armistice Day 2026 at Gilmour Reserve, Waihi. This special event provides an opportunity for young people to learn about and honour the men who served in the New Zealand Tunnelling Company during World War I. We would be delighted if your school could join us in remembering their courage and sacrifice.



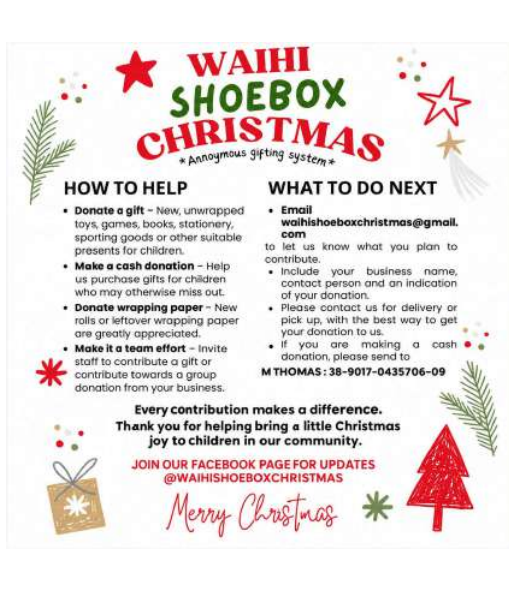
WAIHI A&P SHOW
86th Annual Show
Saturday 14 November 2026
$5 Adult | $2 Child | $12 Family | Under 5s FREE
Calf Club calves • Pet lambs • Kid goats • Horses • Cattle
Market & food stalls • Family entertainment • And much more!
Showgrounds, SH2 Waihi
Gates open 9:30am
EFTPOS at the gate
GATE DRAW | Over $300 in cash prizes up for grabs!
Contact: thewaihishow@gmail.com



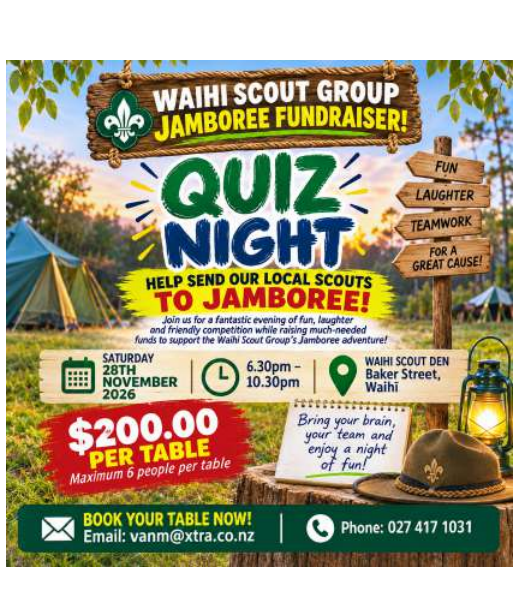
Armistice Day 2026
Commemoration of the 108th Anniversary
Wednesday 11 November 2026
NZ Tunnelling Company Descendants
You are invited to an Armistice Day Remembrance at the Tunnellers Memorial, Gilmour Reserve— 10.45 am.
This is a joint project for NZ Tunnelling Company Descendants & Waihi Heritage Vision
LEST WE FORGET

### WAIHI SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS – HELP SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Christmas is just around the corner, and **Waihi Shoebox Christmas** is once again helping bring a little joy to children in our community who might otherwise miss out on receiving gifts this festive season.
This wonderful local initiative relies on the generosity of our community, and there are plenty of ways you can help!
Donations of **new, unwrapped toys, games, books, stationery, sporting goods and other suitable gifts** for children are greatly appreciated. Donations of wrapping paper are also welcome, along with cash contributions that will go towards purchasing additional presents.
Families, businesses and community groups are encouraged to get involved – whether it's donating a single gift or joining together to make a bigger contribution. Every little bit makes a difference!
**Want to help?** Email **waihishoeboxchristmas@gmail.com** to arrange a donation or find out more.
You can also follow their Facebook page **@waihishoeboxchristmas** for updates.
❤️Let's come together to help make Christmas a little brighter for local children and families this year!



WAIHI SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS
Anonymous giving system
HOW TO HELP
WHAT TO DO NEXT
Every contribution makes a difference.
Thank you for helping bring a little Christmas joy to children in our community.
JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES @WAIHISHOEBOXCHRISTMAS
Merry Christmas



WAIHI SCOUT GROUP JAMBOREE FUNDRAISER!
QUIZ NIGHT
HELP SEND OUR LOCAL SCOUTS TO JAMBOREE!
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2026
6.30pm – 10.30pm
WAIHI SCOUT DEN Baker Street, Waihi
$200.00 PER TABLE
Maximum 6 people per table
Bring your brain, your team and enjoy a night of fun!
BOOK YOUR TABLE NOW! Email: vanm@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 027 417 1031
FUN
LAUGHTER
TEAMWORK
FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

### Two new basketballs are on their way to Waihī College!

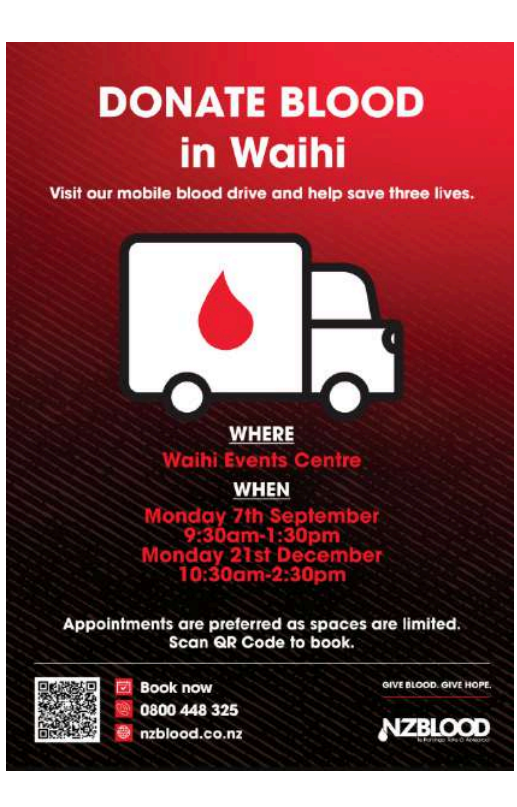
Thanks to our awesome Waihī College students and wider community for collecting Yummy Fruit stickers, we've earned TWO new basketballs for our kura!
A huge thank you to everyone who collected and contributed. Every little sticker helped, and it's great to see what we can achieve when our school community works together!

WAIHĪ COLLEGE
We have TWO NEW BASKETBALL'S
coming from collecting yummy stickers!!
Well done to our Waihi College kids and the community who contributed!

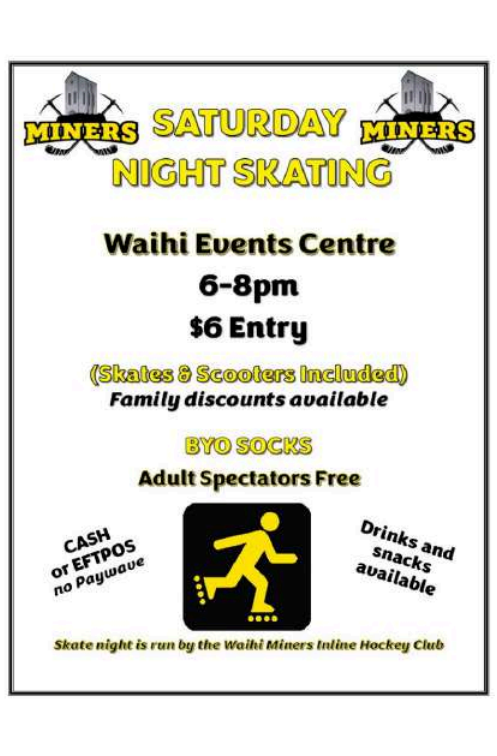
### TRAIL CHALLENGE WAIHI

This year the Trail Challenge is on 14th November and Jo is looking for marshals.

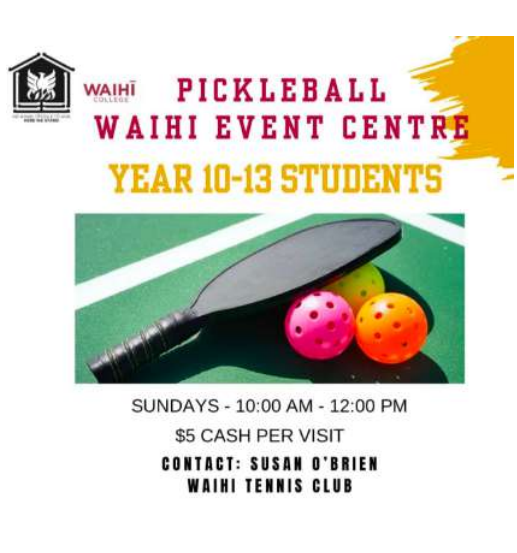
Please get in touch with her at **jo.heath@hauraki-dc.govt.nz**. The event itself has nearly sold out, with around 1,000 participants.



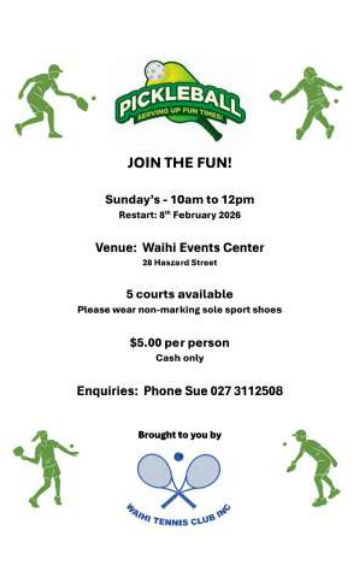
DONATE BLOOD in Waihi
Visit our mobile blood drive and help save three lives.
WHERE
Waihi Events Centre
WHEN
Monday 7th September 9:30am-1:30pm
Monday 21st December 10:30am-2:30pm
Appointments are preferred as spaces are limited. Scan QR Code to book.
Book now
0800 448 325
nzblood.co.nz
GIVE BLOOD. GIVE HOPE.
NZBLOOD



MINERS SATURDAY NIGHT SKATING MINERS
Waihi Events Centre
6-8pm
$6 Entry
(Skates & Scooters included)
Family discounts available
BYO SOCKS
Adult Spectators Free
CASH or EFTPOS no Paywave
Drinks and snacks available
Skate night is run by the Waihi Miners Inline Hockey Club



WAIHĪ PICKLEBALL
WAIHI EVENT CENTRE
YEAR 10-13 STUDENTS
SUNDAYS - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
$5 CASH PER VISIT
CONTACT: SUSAN O'BRIEN
WAIHI TENNIS CLUB



PICKLEBALL
JOIN THE FUN!
Sunday's - 10am to 12pm
Restart: 8th February 2026
Venue: Waihi Events Center
5 courts available
Please wear non-marking sole sport shoes
$5.00 per person
Cash only
Enquiries: Phone Sue 027 3112508
Brought to you by
WAIHI TENNIS CLUB INC

## PARENT CORNER

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

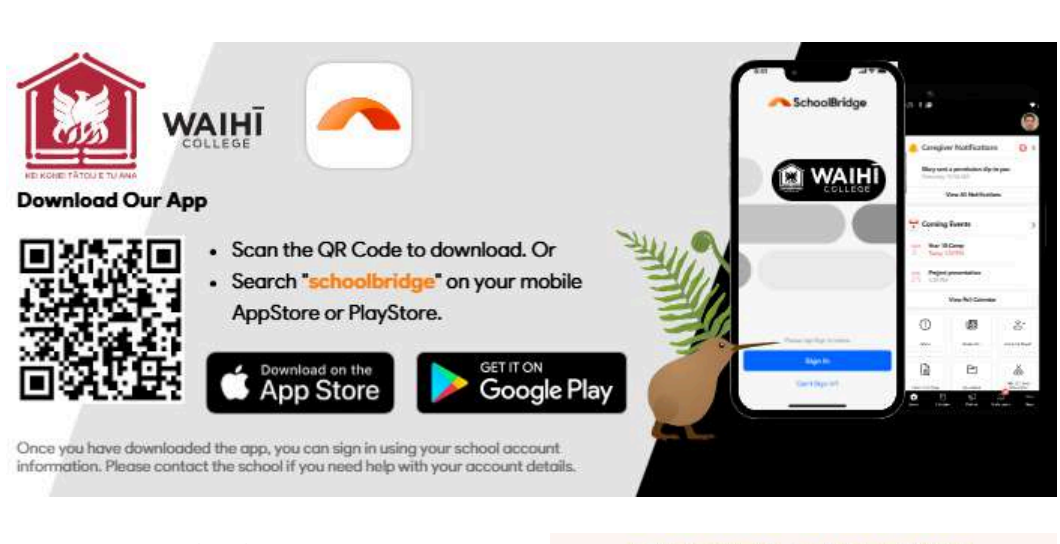
We're encouraging all students and caregivers to download the SchoolBridge app — your new first port of call for all things school-related.

- 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 smoother for everyone! Head to the Latest News section of our website for handy links.

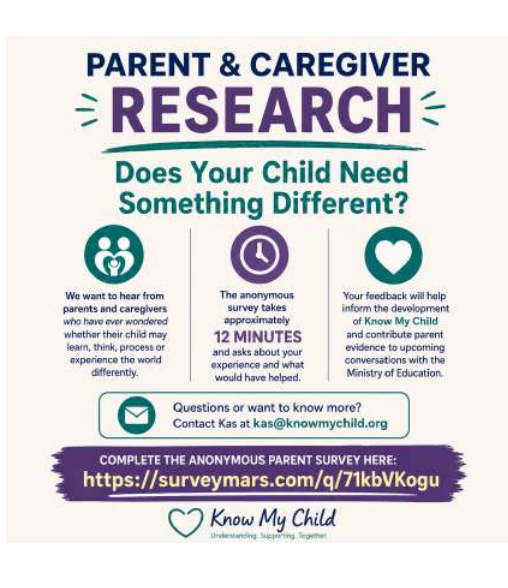


WAIHĪ COLLEGE
Download Our App
- Scan the QR Code to download. Or
- Search "schoolbridge" on your mobile AppStore or PlayStore.

Download on the App Store
GET IT ON Google Play
Once you have downloaded the app, you can sign in using your school account information. Please contact the school if you need help with your account details.

### Parents & Caregivers – We'd love your feedback!

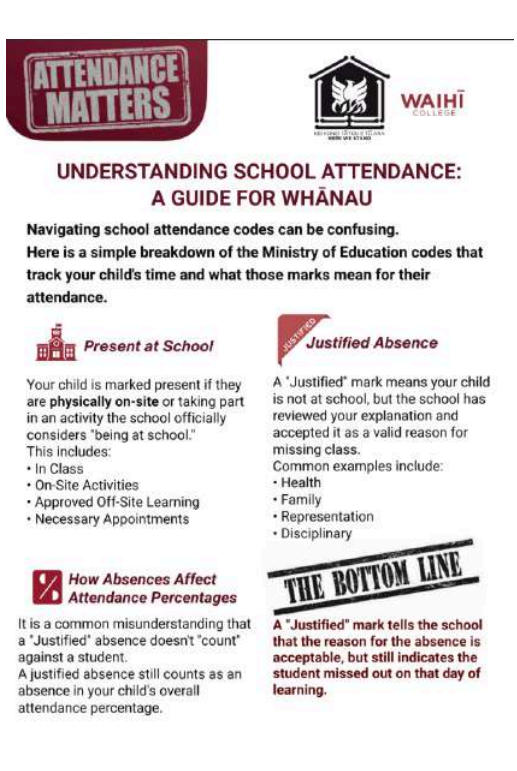
Know My Child is gathering feedback from parents and caregivers whose child may learn, think, process or experience the world a little differently — whether or not they have a diagnosis or formal assessment.



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/71kbVKogu
Know My Child

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/71kbVKogu
**Please feel free to share with other parents and caregivers who may be interested.**



ATTENDANCE MATTERS
WAIHĪ COLLEGE
UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: A GUIDE FOR WHĀNAU
Navigating school attendance codes can be confusing.
Here is a simple breakdown of the Ministry of Education codes that track your child's time and what those marks mean for their attendance.
Present at School
Your child is marked present if they are physically on-site or taking part in an activity the school officially considers "being at school." This includes:
- In Class
- On-Site Activities
- Approved Off-Site Learning
- Necessary Appointments

Justified Absence
A "Justified" mark means your child is not at school, but the school has reviewed your explanation and accepted it as a valid reason for missing class.
Common examples include:
- Health
- Family
- Representation
- Disciplinary

How Absences Affect Attendance Percentages
It is a common misunderstanding that a "Justified" absence doesn't "count" against a student.
A justified absence still counts as an absence in your child's overall attendance percentage.
THE BOTTOM LINE
A "Justified" mark tells the school that the reason for the absence is acceptable, but still indicates the student missed out on that day of learning.

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

For more information about why attendance matters, please check out the handy PDF, shared by Amanda Cook, and also found on our website in the Latest News section.

If you have any questions about attendance, please get in touch with us. You can email Amanda at amandac@waihicol.school.nz or contact Susan in the Student Centre at susant@waihicol.school.nz.

**Remember, an easy way to keep us informed about your student's attendance is via the School Bridge App (further details shown above).**
**Download it now and keep in touch with all things going on at Waihī College.**

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

Pinnacle Midlands Health Network

the SCHOOL Nurse

Ngā mihi, with kind regards
Margie (She/Her)
Margie Goldsworthy | SCHOOL NURSE WAIHI
**M:** 0272983787
**W:** www.pinnacle.co.nz

**This newsletter can also be found on our website: www.waihicol.school.nz**