WAIHI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 33 2026

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora koutou,

It's June – quite a lot! Our Year 11 students attend **#WAIHIWEEK** – challenging, memorable and relevant. Our Year 12 students head to Camp Tūwāwā.



Our Year 13 students travel to camp next week. Our Year 10 students head to camp next term. Camp is a time for connecting with our whānau, building resilience, challenging themselves and stress-free learning. Bring it on!

Nick Principal | Tumuaki Waihi College

Tēnā mā tou,
Nick Principal | Tumuaki Waihi College

DID YOU KNOW?

Waihi College has its own mountain bike track!

You might be surprised to learn that our College grounds have included a dedicated mountain bike track for many years. It's a great place for students to ride at lunchtime and after school.

Mountain biking is a fantastic way to develop your core fundamental movement patterns. Having students build confidence, fitness and practical riding skills.

It's another example of the learning that's taken place right here at your local school.

COMING UP

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



With so many sports fixtures, trips, events, assessments and activities happening throughout the year, it can be hard to keep track of what's coming up. That's why we've SchoolBridge to always have the most up-to-date information at your fingertips at Waihi College. We encourage all whānau to check the SchoolBridge calendar regularly and download the app to stay in the loop. Whether it's a sports game, a school trip or a parent-teacher interview, SchoolBridge is your one-stop shop for all the latest information. Don't miss a thing – stay informed and stay connected!

Student Spotlight - Rylee Estreich

Year 11 | Gateway Placement: Grimsby Build, Waihi

Rylee is a hardworking student who has been a delight to work as part of a team can get on any day in the workplace.

Year 11 student Rylee Estreich has been completing the Gateway placement with Grimsby Build in Waihi. Rylee has been working on a variety of tasks, including painting, tiling and building fences. Rylee has been a delight to work with and has been a valuable member of the team.

Grimsby Build have shown a great attitude and willingness to learn and is always on time and ready to work. Rylee has been a pleasure to have on the team and we look forward to seeing where she goes in the day to day ladder.

Rylee has been a delight to work with and has been a valuable members of the Grimsby build team, gaining experience and skills that will be beneficial to her confidence and future career.

Thanks for a great team working skills to be apart of the team and we look forward to seeing where you go in the day to day ladder.



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

Following the success of our first Kai & Kōrero evening with our Year 9 & 10 whānau, we're excited to bring you another one – and it's again – this time inviting our Year 7 & 8 whānau to join us for a relaxed and shared evening around kaimoana (seafood). Informal setting to share some fun activities and conversations. We'll also have open conversations about what our kids need support on young people. There's no pressure to perform – just a chance for conversations and opportunities to strengthen our school community.

- Thursday 25th November
- 5.30pm - 7.30pm This Hub, Waihi College

Please RSVP to Jessica Hall at jessica.hall@waihi.school.nz by 20th November so we can ensure we have enough kaimoana for everyone.



WAIHI COLLEGE JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING 2026

We're looking forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 9 and 10 students at our junior academic as we end the school year!

- **Monday 7th December – Service & Academic Awards**
  Years 7 & 8 | 5:30pm
  Years 9 & 10 | 6:30pm
- **Tuesday 8 December – Academic Awards**
  Years 9 & 10 | 5:30pm

Important: Tuesday 8 December is for the whole of whānau to come along to celebrate the success of our tamariki.

Parents & Caregivers, please mark your diaries for the prizegiving days.

Any questions, please contact Kat on jessica.hall@waihi.school.nz



Year 10 Camp

Bring your sunscreen and a willingness to try new things – Year 10 Camp is coming up in November!

Parents & Caregivers, please mark your diaries for the permission slips coming home soon.

Any questions, please contact Kat on jessica.hall@waihi.school.nz



Year 7 Trip to Sapphire Springs

Our Year 7 students are looking forward to a trip out of Sapphire Springs on Wednesday 10th December. The cost is **$10 per student**. If you would like your child to attend this trip, please see Jessica Hall if you are looking for some permit forms to fill out. Any questions please contact Jessica Hall on jessica.hall@waihi.school.nz

We're looking forward to a great day!



CONGRATULATIONS, JOHN BRILLANTES!

A huge congratulations to Keith O'Neill and John Brillantes on their recent Competitors Interest **"Title Battle" Fun Fair**

John is fantastic artwork showcases his creativity and imagination, bringing his ideas to life in a unique and memorable way. We're excited to see what he creates next!

Well done, John. We're incredibly proud of you!



CALLING ALL CREATIVE STUDENTS!

Do you have a passion for art? Would you like to paint one wall during a little extra time?

- **Who:** Students
- Fence paint approximately 2m x 1m
- Paint will be supplied
- The artist is thinking of something a bit like the Waihi Beach Surf Club wall, but open to creative ideas!

Please see Jessica Hall if you are interested.



SCHOOL WIDE

HOST FAMILIES WANTED FOR 2027!

Would you love to welcome an international student into your home? Waihi College is looking for caring host families for our students in 2027. Hosting is a rewarding experience that gives students a chance to learn New Zealand culture, practise English, and make lasting connections.

If you're interested or have questions, we'd love to hear from you and can be contacted at **registrar@waihicollege.school.nz**. You can also find more information on our website: **https://www.waihicollege.school.nz/international-students/** Please email us to let us know you're interested and we'll send you more information.

SENIOR TOPS HAVE ARRIVED!

Heading into Year 12 or 13 in 2027? The Senior Tops are now available at the Uniform Shop.

Pop in and grab yours now for an in-school and ready to start your senior year!



Back to School Stationery – 2027!

Our 2027 stationery packs are ready to order! Whether you're starting Year 9 or moving up to Year 13, we've got you covered with everything you need for a great start to the year.

Browse and order online at your convenience – no need to visit in person. Packs will be delivered to the school and ready for collection on the first day of term.

The interactive below are a snapshot of our school wide stationery packs. For the latest prices and any changes, please refer to the Booklist Page.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

LEAVING SCHOOL MAGAZINE LINK

Here's the Leaving to Learning Magazine for 2026 - https://issuu.com/waihicollege/docs/leaving_to_learning_2026

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Free Counselling Support Available

We are thrilled that free counselling support is now available through your school! Together Group people and whānau can access confidential support from a team of experienced counsellors who are here to help you navigate life's challenges.

Whether you're experiencing anxiety, stress, relationship issues, or simply need someone to talk to, we're here for you. Contact your local GP practice to find out more about how to access this service.

For more information, visit - https://www.together.org.nz/what's-happening/together-group-counselling-support/

WAIHI SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS – HELP SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Christmas is just around the corner, and **Waihi Shoebox Christmas** is once again helping to bring joy to children in our community who may not receive gifts this year.

This wonderful local initiative relies on the generosity of our community, and there are many ways you can get involved:

- **Donate a shoebox** – **Pre-packed gifts, toiletries, clothing, sporting goods and other suitable gifts** for children one gender, approximately 10 months of age and boys and girls aged 2 to 14 years. Shoeboxes can be dropped off at the Waihi Service Centre.
- **Donate money** – Financial contributions are encouraged to help cover shipping costs. Every dollar helps to make a bigger contribution. Every little bit counts!

Want to help? Email waihishoeboxchristmas@gmail.com for more information or to get involved.

You can also follow their Facebook page **@waihishoeboxchristmas** for updates. Be sure to register by their deadline to ensure your shoebox is packed and ready to go!



PARENT CORNER

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

We're encouraging all students and whānau to download the SchoolBridge app – your new best 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 from the App Store or Google Play Store or head to https://schoolbridge.nz/

STEP2: Log in using the email address your school has on record and you'll be prompted for a verification code. Request a Magic Code if you don't have a password.

It's quick, convenient, and we'll be adding even more features as we go. Jump on board and make sure you're receiving important reminders for everyone! Here's a quick video to help you get started.

Parents & Caregivers – We'd love your feedback!

Kia ora Tātou, gathering feedback from parents and caregivers whose child may be in a Special Education unit or class, which is Waihi Ararimu – where we're at, how we're engaging and our future plans.

Please complete the survey by Friday 12th June.

Ngā mihi nui, Kat Rowe | Kaiarahi Hāpai Ako

Parent and Caregiver Survey Link: https://forms.office.com/r/Ge1Ge1Ge1Ge

The anonymous survey takes around 10 minutes, and the more families we have open, the more valuable the findings will be for shaping what comes next.

Complete the survey here:

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

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

For more information about why attendance matters, please read the handy PDF, shared by Amanda Cook, and available on the Waihi College News section.

If you have any questions about attendance, please contact Jessica Hall. You can email Jessica at jessica.hall@waihi.school.nz or contact the school office.

Remember, an easy way to keep on informed about your student's attendance is via the School Bridge App. Another timely reminder about:

Setting Absences in SchoolBridge

WAIHI COLLEGE HOUSE SCHOOL WORK AND LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY THE WAIHI COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Waihi College Foundation
Supporting Waihi College students

CLICK TO DONATE TODAY
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https://www.waihicollege.school.nz/waihi-college-foundation/

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