



# Whangārei Girls' High School

1 December 2022

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## **Important Dates:**

**7th November - 2nd December 2022**

NCEA Exams

## **8th December 2022**

Junior Prizegiving & Last day of school for YR 9 & 10

## **7th - 9th February 2023**

Back to school for YR 9 students only - 8:45am

## **10th February 2023**

YR 9 and Back to school for YR 13 and all other new students - 8:45am

## **13th February 2023**

Back to school for YR10, 11 & 12, all year levels attend - 8:45am

1 Lupton Ave

P O Box 5056

Whangarei 0112

Phone: 09 430 4460

Email:

[office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz)

[www.wgws.school.nz](http://www.wgws.school.nz)

<https://www.facebook.com/WhangareiGirlsHigh/>

## **Word from the Principal**



Tēnā koutou katoa

This term has simply flown by. The senior students are in their last week of exams, Year 11 have finished for the year and juniors are into their last few days for 2022.

Huge congratulations to the junior volleyball team who came home with gold medals in division 3 from their North Island Championships last week. They won every game and thoroughly deserve their success. Thank you to their support crew of coach, manager and whānau.

The senior prize giving and Rā Whakanuia were held earlier this month. Thank you to all those of you who joined us in celebrating your students' success and we look forward to meeting many more of you at the junior prize giving next week.

We have some staff changes for next year. It is always hard saying goodbye to staff and we have some long serving staff leaving us at the end of the year. Our long serving Business and Finance Manager extraordinaire, Moira Christie, has retired. We are indebted to her for her tireless work in keeping our school financially secure and ensuring staff were well looked after with the challenges Novopay constantly presented. We thank her for the huge amount she contributed to the school and wish her well for her retirement.

We have welcomed Cherie Cook to the role of Business and Finance Manager. Cherie has come to us from Kristin School in Auckland and we are delighted to have her join our team.

Denise Potter is leaving us at the end of this year after a full career, consisting of many years in the Geography and Social Studies Departments, as well as an enormous contribution to the Outdoor Education camps over the years. We thank her for her fierce loyalty to the school and for the positive difference she has made for thousands of students over the years.

Wendy Rees has made the decision to retire after her year of refreshment leave. Wendy was Dean and Careers Advisor for many years, as well as a passionate teacher of Classical Studies, History and Social Studies. More recently she was the co-ordinator in Te Puna Matauranga (Student Learning Support). She was also staff rep on the Board of Trustees for many years. She too has had a positive impact on thousands of students who will remember the way she always went the extra mile for them. We thank her so much for the huge contribution she has made to our school and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Megan White has resigned as HOD Art to pursue other areas of interest. The

Art Department has flourished under her leadership into the dynamic, successful department it is today. We thank her so much for her passion, dedication and sheer hard work over many years.

Catherine McNamara is leaving us after many years of teaching in the English Department. She has inspired many students with their writing and we thank her for all her hard work and commitment to her students. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

Nicola Wright has resigned from HOD Social Studies and Classical Studies after seven years teaching at our kura. Her high expectations have been respected by her students, as has her passion for her teaching subjects. We thank her for her contribution to WGHS and wish her all the best for her new future career.

We were thrilled that Liz Sugrue delayed her plans to move South so that we could have another year of her outstanding teaching. She will be very much missed but we wish her all the very best in her venture south.

Lilliana Olsen is also leaving us at the end of this year to head overseas. We thank her for all she brought to the PE and Health Departments over the last two years and for the positive way she connected with her students. We will miss her but know that she will continue to gain valuable experience from teaching overseas.

Jo Neal is retiring from her position as Gateway Co-ordinator at the end of this year. Although she has only been with us a relatively short time, she brought a wealth of knowledge and experience which we have very much appreciated. We wish her all the best in a well earned retirement.

Aaron Haines has been teaching in the Maths and Science departments and is leaving us to take up new opportunities at Otamatea College. He is a well respected teacher with the ability to bring out the best in his students. We wish him all the very best for his future career.

Renfred Meese is leaving as our AV technician. He has been at WGHS for many years and performs magic for us. He will be very much missed but we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

Wendi Andrews has been with us for a number of years, most recently working in Te Puna Matauranga as a teacher aide. Her administrative support and the rapport she has with both students and staff has been much appreciated and we wish her all the best for the future.

Jade Hogan has also resigned from her position as teacher aide. We thank her for all the support she has given to students and staff during her time here and wish her all the best in her move south.

Our start dates for next year are on the website and also on the school Facebook page.

Policy reviews for:

- Health, Safety and Welfare
- Alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances
- Digital Technology and cybersafety

- School swimming pool

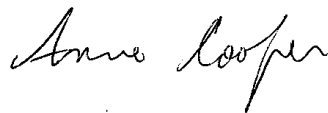
are still able to be reviewed. Just go into School Docs, user name: wghs, password: aspirations and click on the review section. From there just follow the guidelines to submit any feedback you may have.

To those students and whānau leaving us, especially the Year 13 students, all the best for your future. Please keep in touch from time to time – we love to hear how you are going and what you are doing.

Thank you for all your support in what has been another challenging year. Have a safe and wonderful festive break and sprinkle kindness wherever you can.

He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata

Goodwill towards others is a precious treasure.



Anne Cooper  
Principal

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### Ringa Toi Exhibition

Ringa Toi is a NZQA student exhibition which celebrates excellence in Māori art for Levels 1, 2 and 3. The selection process involves the students mahi toi being sent in digital form with a description of its meaning and what has inspired them. Ringa Toi 2022 contained more than 80 artworks from students around Aotearoa New Zealand and was on display at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington.

Five of our WGHS students' mahi whakairo (carvings) were selected for the exhibition. Students have worked on Ko (traditional digging sticks) this year to acknowledge the ancestral whenua our kura sits on. The pieces are named 'Ngā Ko o Tiongongo'

Koa Matete was awarded Toi Matarau Highly commended for her Ko titled 'Ngā mātua and Taniko Anaru was awarded Toi Matarau commended for her Ko titled 'Kauika'. Tanisha Kunitau with her Ko titled 'Kakau Ko', Te Haurerewa Brown with her Ko titled 'He Ko whakamahi maha' and Estelle Phimester with her Ko titled 'Mamari' featured in the prestigious exhibition also.

Anei te kōrero ā te kura "Whakamana ngā wāhine o āpōpō"

A heartfelt thanks to Poutama Hetaraka who was instrumental in the success of our students' mahi whakairo this year.



**Toi Māori Aotearoa**  
Māori Arts New Zealand



MUSEUM OF  
NEW ZEALAND  
TE PAPA  
TONGAREWA

## GUMBOOT FRIDAY

Many thanks to everyone who made our Gumboot Friday fundraising efforts a success. We raised \$690.80 on Friday 4th November with all our activities, and \$970.30 from the Mufti day. A total of \$1661.10 for "I am hope".

The \$690.80 was only made possible thanks to our amazing sponsors who donated prizes to support this worthy community provision.

We are very grateful and would like to give a big thank you to our sponsors Pak n Save, Soil and Sand, Burger Fuel, Essentially Skin, Laser Clinic, New World and Jennie Cross Massage Therapy. Without them this would not have been possible. Thanks also to Ms Olsen and her Year 11 class for all their hard work planning the ice block sales, hand prints, gumboot throwing, raffle, gumboot tip etc.

With Mike King coming to talk this term we hope that students here at school have increased awareness and know how to connect with a Gumboot Friday counsellor should they need it.



## INTERESTED IN BEING A WGHS HOMESTAY?



### BECOME A HOST FAMILY TO AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT!

This is a great opportunity to experience another culture in your own home and share our great kiwi lifestyle! An unbeatable learning experience for your kids!

- short term & group students
- long term students
- fortnightly payments of \$480

Please contact Toni Richardson for more information on +64 21 435 517 or email:  
[toni.richardson@wghs.school.nz](mailto:toni.richardson@wghs.school.nz)  
<https://www.wghs.school.nz/international/welcome/>





## School Calendar

1st December 2022  
NZQA Exams

2nd December 2022  
NZQA Exams

5th December 2022  
9SST Parihaka  
Year 9 & 10 Dance -  
Lunchtime

6th December 2022  
Pasifika Dance Workshop  
Year 10 Drama Performance

7th December 2022  
Junior Celebration

8th December 2022  
Junior Prizegiving  
NZSS Touch Nationals

## WGHS UNIFORM DONATIONS FOR PTA

Our PTA are after uniforms for their annual uniform sale on 19 January 2023.

Do you have any uniforms you wish to donate? All profits go back to the school. Shirts, skirts, trousers, jumpers, prefects' uniforms.

Please drop off at the school office.

Any queries please contact Fiona on Ph 027 376 6463

Many thanks from the PTA Committee

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## LOCKERS

Be in quick – limited lockers available

If you wish to reserve a locker for 2023 or keep your current locker, you will need to fill out an online order form at <http://www.stowawaylockers.co.nz/order-form/> as soon as possible.

If you no longer require your locker for 2023, please let us know by email [info@stowawaylockers.co.nz](mailto:info@stowawaylockers.co.nz). You will need to return your key at the end of the term, sellotaped to a piece of paper with your details on for your bond refund. Ensure the locker is left empty, as any remaining items will be disposed of at the end of the year. Keys will need to be received within one week of term 4 ending and can be posted to: Stowaway Lockers, 475 Crane Road, RD1, Kamo 0185. Refunds will be direct credited to your bank account in January 2023.

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## SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Huge congratulations to our Junior Volleyball team who competed at the North Island Secondary Schools Junior Volleyball champs last week. They played extremely well every game and placed 1st in division 3!!! We are extremely proud of them all- Sofia Choat, Anika Clyde, Blair Cooke, Brooke Croft, Paryse Croft, Millie Erceg, Abbie Franklin, Mika Lumbera, Luka Radovanovich and Florrie Whittacker-Cook. They were co-coached by a Year 13 student- Jovan Haunui-Tawhiao and Grant Harrison. Congratulations!



Check out our Facebook Page for photos and regular updates on news and events around the school  
<https://www.facebook.com/WhangareiGirlsHigh/>