



# Whangārei Girls' High School

12 May 2022

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## Important Dates:

19 May 2022

Subject Hui (on-line)

20 May 2022

Teacher Only Day

24 May 2022

Subject Hui (face to face)

1 Lupton Ave

P O Box 5056

Whangārei 0112

Phone: 09 430 4460

Email:

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

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

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

## Word from the Principal



Tēnā koutou katoa

It was so nice to be able to welcome whānau back to assemblies last week to join us in celebrating student successes. It feels like a long time since we have had options other than the virtual assemblies. Thank you for making the time to come and support your students – it was very much appreciated.

As you know, we have changed our structure this term so that we are operating in three kāhui, each made up of two Houses. This has given us the opportunity for more student leadership roles in the form of the Kāhui Councils which were announced last week. These councils will go from the start of Term 2 each year until the end of Term 1 the following year and will feed into Student Council, providing highly valued student voice as well as organising events for students in their kāhui.

Students from the three kāhui will now be able to apply to be a member of the Student Council and those applications will open shortly. Please encourage your students to take up opportunities to apply for leadership positions. Even going through the application process is good experience as this is what they will need to be able to do in the future.

We have been welcoming new groups of students and staff through a series of mihi whakatau and are very proud of the kōtiro who lead these with the guidance of their kaiako. We warmly welcome Monique Lane who has come from Australia to join the SWITCH team and Jessica Donovan-Maddox who will join our Guidance Team on Friday.

Winter sports are well underway and we all have our fingers crossed tightly that the winter tournaments take place this year, after being cancelled for the last two years due to COVID. Congratulations to everyone who has joined a school sports team and an enormous thank you to all those of you who are coaches and managers as we would not be able to offer the range and number of sports and teams without your help. A big thank you too, to all those who support and encourage your students to play sport.

Next Friday, 20th August, staff will be working on implementation of changes to curriculum, especially with an emphasis on Mātauranga Māori and local curriculum as well as changes to literacy and numeracy. NCEA changes are also coming up with standards being re-written. In addition to the 20th May, we also have days in August and November to keep working on these changes.

Feedback from the recent online meetings with whānau teachers was very positive so we have decided to offer that as an option for the upcoming subject teacher meetings too. You will have the choice of face to face or online or by phone and we hope that you will take up the opportunity for at least one of these to connect with your student's teachers to discuss her progress.

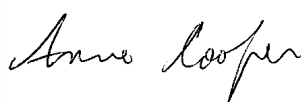
We are excited to be welcoming international students back next term. A big thank you to our international department staff, Amelia Morrison and Toni Richardson, who have maintained contact with agents and worked hard to be ready to welcome international students as soon as we are able. We have very much missed the positive dynamic they bring to our school and look forward to seeing them in the International Department again. We are also delighted to be welcoming Otani High School back for a short visit in July. This is a long standing relationship, interrupted by COVID for the last two years.

The day organised for Year 13 students this week will be very important in supporting them to be prepared for the rest of this year and next and it is important that they do not give in to temptation to use the day to work on their internals. The Year 13 Dean, Phil Mechen, has put in a great deal of time and effort to organise an impressive line up of speakers and workshops which will be of great benefit to the students. We want to see every Year 13 student there.

Although COVID numbers appear to be plateauing across the country, we still have current cases amongst our students and staff and we cannot afford to be complacent. We still encourage the wearing of masks indoors and require it in settings such as assemblies. Masks must be worn on school buses and public transport. We ask all parents and visitors to the school to wear a mask too. Good ventilation is key so please ensure your student has a regulation jersey or jacket, as they will not be sitting in a stuffy room. Windows and doors will be open with heating turned on as the weather becomes colder. Most importantly, please keep your student home if they are unwell. We all need to be considerate of each other and proactive in maintaining good hygiene and safety practices.

We are looking forward to a busy and productive term and to meeting many of you at the various events.

Ngā manaakitanga



Anne Cooper

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## Head Girls

Kia Ora!

We would firstly love to acknowledge, and thank you all for your determination and resilience through a 'bumpy' term 1! We are so proud of how you managed yourselves through individual isolations and days off. Hope you all enjoyed a much-needed break over the holidays and are settling well into term 2!!

This term we celebrate the first year that we as a country recognise Matariki as a public holiday. Matariki signals the Māori New Year and it is a time of renewal and celebration that begins with the rising of the Matariki star cluster. We also acknowledge that this term will be a busy one for a lot of you with various sports commitments, extracurricular activities, and in-school assignments. Your wellbeing should be your top priority so don't forget to rest and enjoy some 'me-time'!! Email us if you have any questions or concerns.

Here's to a great term 2!



## Te Manawa Tahī Community Hubs

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional wellbeing, or behaviour, TeManawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

This is a free service and each site will be identified by a Te Manawa Tahī flag. Drop into a hub or make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing [TT.Support@education.govt.nz](mailto:TT.Support@education.govt.nz).

You are also more than welcome to join your local Te Manawa Tahī Facebook group for the most up to date information regarding our hubs:

Whangārei: Te Manawa Tahī Whangārei

Bream Bay: Te Manawa Tahī Bream Bay

Northern Wairoa: Te Manawa Tahī Northern Wairoa

Twin Coast: Te Manawa Tahī Twin Coast

If you have any questions or comments, please phone 0800 524 842 or email [TT.Support@education.govt.nz](mailto:TT.Support@education.govt.nz).



## CAREERS

### YOUNG CARERS

WGHS has partnered with the Ministry of Education and Careerforce to look at ways we can support our young carers in the Senior School. Often our young people are not aware they are carers as this is an important part of everyday life. A young carer regularly helps to look after someone else who has a health condition, a disability or is elderly. We recognise that being a carer is a big job and can sometimes impact on school responsibilities. If you think this sounds like your student please get them to come and see Kylie in Careers or book an appointment on <https://kyliewghscareersandtradeacademy.youcanbook.me/>. We would like to know how we can support you.

### TRADES ACADEMY

Our Trades Academy Students have been really busy this week making up for lost time last term. Some of our PAD and Whakairo students have been at NorthTec learning how to weld. When I asked the students how it was, they replied "fiery" and many sparks flew as they learned how to join metal. Our Year 12 Primary Industry students started their fencing course, whilst learning the realities of working in the rain. They will be finishing this course next week. Finally our Year 13 Academy students were joined by our Butchery/Bakery students to develop their leadership and teamwork skills. We are excited to see them taking more leadership in their respective programmes.

Kylie Taffard  
HOD Careers

## SPORTS DEPARTMENT



Earlier this year Tonga was hit by a life-changing natural disaster that saw many families lose their homes & belongings.

The Blues Rugby are running a campaign called "Blues Best Foot Forward" in hopes of bringing some normality back to the people of Tonga. As a school we are getting behind this!

If you or anyone at home has any sports shoes/boots that aren't getting used and you would like to donate, we have a big bright blue bin outside our sports office (please ensure the laces are tied together).

For every bin we donate, we will receive 50 tickets for our school to attend the Blues game on the 14th of May. Let's make this happen!

Ashlee Dobbs  
HOD Sport



WGHS PROUDLY PRESENTS

## RAISING A CHAMPION

PRESENTED BY SHAUN MATTHEWS

A forum for parents to discuss & reflect on ways to challenge and support children to be successful in sport

**23, MAY. 2022 | FROM 6 PM**  
**WGHS THEATRE**

Aim: Increased understanding and awareness of the impact parents have on the experience of young people in sport and recreation.

We will talk about the social and psychological needs of rangatahi and the various systems and structures available to young people in sport and recreation.

Register your interest at:  
<https://forms.gle/uSSLxN86uL4sSaZP6>

## School Calendar

13 May 2022

Mufti Day (Te Ora Hou)

NSSSA Volleyball Mixed

PESM Volleyball

Whakairo Trades Academy

16 May 2022

10 SST Waitangi

Gp2 PESMYr 11Turbo

Touch

Northtech

Nursing Student

OED L2 Survival 1/2

17 May 2022

GP1 11PESM Touch

NSSSA Turbo Touch

18 May 2022

11 PESM WPSSA Winter

9 SWITCH Parihaka

OED L1 Tramp 1

WPSSA Tournament

19 May 2022

OED L1 Tramp 2

Pink Shirt Day

20 May 2022

NSSSA Orienteering

23 May 2022

Art History Trip Auckland

OED L2 Survival 1/2

Yr10 Orienteering

24 May 2022

Art History Trip Auckland

Gp3 PESM Yr11 Turbo

Touch



## Whangarei Girls High School PTA

### The PTA is a great way to find out what is happening at the school.

We are a group of parents with our prime function being a means of communication between the school and home, providing the opportunity to discuss issues with other parents and the Principal.

Meeting other parents from the school can help you feel more comfortable with how your daughter fits in and how she is progressing with the academic side of school life at a large secondary school.

The PTA meet once a month, has a guest speaker and the Principal always gives a report on recent and upcoming events, achievements and changes.

The only fundraising event is the catering for the school ball in August and running a second hand uniform sale in January. Most of the work we do for the school is serving refreshments at occasional school events. All our proceeds are donated back to the school eg the electronic sign on the building, donation to the breakfast club etc. We also present awards at the end of year prizegivings.

**Our next meeting is being held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 5.30 pm in the staff room. All are welcome to attend.**

*Any queries please contact Phoebe Curtis on [phoebe.c@xtra.co.nz](mailto:phoebe.c@xtra.co.nz) or 027 724 6734 for further information. We look forward to meeting you!*

## International

Add some diverse CULTURE to your whanau!

Looking for families to host our international students for 2022 and 2023.

You get:

- Amazing cultural experience - learn about countries from around the world
- Global Connection - share Maori, Pasifika and other NZ cultures with your international student
- Unbeatable learning experience for your family
- Fortnightly homestay payment of \$480.00

If you would like to learn more about hosting an international student through Whāngarei Girls' High School, please email Toni Richardson at [toni.richardson@wgghs.school.nz](mailto:toni.richardson@wgghs.school.nz) or mobile 021 435 517.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you have strengths in reading and writing with a passion for helping tomorrow's women succeed?

We are seeking skilled volunteers to assist our Year 11 – Year 13 students who have identified visual difficulties, hearing impairments or learning disabilities to assist as a reader/writer for assessments throughout the school year.

This is an amazing and rewarding opportunity to help our students achieve their full potential!

Please note that all staff and volunteers interacting directly with students in a secondary school education setting need to be police vetted.

For more information please contact:

Vinny Ridgway - [vinnyridgway@wgghs.school.nz](mailto:vinnyridgway@wgghs.school.nz)

Wendi Andrews - [wendiandrews@wgghs.school.nz](mailto:wendiandrews@wgghs.school.nz)



Check out our Facebook Page for photos and regular updates on news and events around the school

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