



Whangarei Girls' High School

24 March 2021

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Important Dates

- 31 March 2021**
Whānau Hui Subject Interviews
- 2 - 6 April 2021**
Easter Public Holiday
- 16 April 2021**
Last Day of Term One
- 3 May 2021**
First Day of Term Two

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Word from the Principal



Tēna koutou e te whānau

Thank you to those of you who were able to come to the whānau hui last week. We enjoyed being able to meet so many of the whānau of our new students and hope you also found it useful as you discussed the start of your student's journey at our school.

There are several more opportunities coming up shortly, including hui with your student's subject teachers, an NCEA Information hui and another hui to gain your feedback as we begin the review of our Year 11 programme.

Just a reminder to constantly check the parent portal to keep an eye on your student's progress as assessment results will show in there and there will also be another set of comments by the end of term at the latest.

We have several teams at tournament week this week and wish them all the best. A special thank you to the coaches and managers who have given so much of their time and expertise to the sports teams, including the winter sports codes which are all preparing for the start of their competitions.

A big thank you to the Careers Department who organised the highly successful Roadshow last week. It was good to see students from all year levels taking an interest, asking good questions and finding out more about areas which interest them.

Congratulations must also go to the Head Girl Team and their team of prefects. They have had an exceptionally busy start to the year and deserve huge accolades for all they have accomplished. I hope your student was able to attend the Clubs and Socs lunchtimes to find out more about the numerous committees, clubs, sports and cultural activities they may wish to participate in this year. There is definitely something for everyone and we strongly encourage every student to participate in something outside the classroom as this not only helps develop a stronger sense of belonging, but also helps your student to meet new people of all year levels, and builds on other important skills such as being able to work in a team, leadership and problem solving.

The Head Girl team and Prefects also organised a highly successful House Day with some novel changes to make the day more fun. Manaia emerged as the winning House after a closely fought competition.

They had a team in the Relay for Life and were impressive as they chewed up the laps and raised a good amount of money for this very worthy cause.

Earlier this month, we had another wellbeing hui for school wellbeing teams across the five Kāhui Ako, facilitated by Denise Quinlan from the NZ Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience and Chris and Greg Jansen from the Leadership Lab. The CEO and Chief Marketing Officer from HealthCare Plus also attended and were excited about the work they saw. Schools are completing their wellbeing surveys and this is one of the largest surveys undertaken. We will be able to analyse the results across all our Kāhui Ako, by individual Kāhui Ako and by individual schools and this information will be used in our future planning.

Just a couple of reminders:

- As Easter is not in the holidays this year that Easter Tuesday is a holiday for schools.
- There is a great deal of congestion around our school in the mornings and afternoons which is creating dangerous situations. Please do not park on the yellow lines or double park, while dropping off or picking up your student. It would be safer to make an agreed meeting place a bit further away.
- Please continue to closely monitor your student's use of social media. Some students are coming to school tired from being on social media until the early hours of the morning and some are still involved in posting and reading inappropriate comments.
- Students are not permitted to have their phones during class time and they will be confiscated if they do.
- As the weather cools down, it is time to ensure students have the correct jerseys and / or jackets. Non-regulation hoodies or any other part of the uniform are not permitted.

Ngā manaakitanga

Anne Cooper
Principal

School Calendar

March

Summer Tournament Week

- 25 12OED Sea Kayaking
- 11SCIFM Goat Island trip
- Nat Sec Waka Ama
- NISS Volleyball Champs
- NZSS Maadi Rowing Champs
- NZSS Volleyball Champs
- Service Academy First Aid

NZQA Information Evening

- 26 12OED Sea Kayaking
- Nat Sec Waka Ama
- NZSS Maadi Rowing Champs
- NZSS Volleyball Champs
- Service Academy First Aid

- 27 NZSS Maadi Rowing Champs
- NZSS Volleyball Champs
- NISS Track and Field
- UN Youth

- 28 NZSS Maadi Rowing Champs
- NISS Track and Field
- UN Youth

- 29 12ACP Fencing Assess
- Y11 & Y12 Mahi Toi trip

- 30 13OED Sea Kayak Assess

- 31 13OED Sea Kayak Assess
- 9 Drama
- NSSA Div 2 Snr Volleyball

Whānau Hui Subject Interviews

April

- 1 13OED Sea Kayak Assess
- 9 Drama

- 2 - 6 **Easter Weekend**
- Public Holiday

- 7 12 Drama
- 9 Switch Sailing
- 11HLTM Escape Room
- NSSSA Tennis singles

- 8 12 Drama
- 9 Switch Sailing
- 10DOE Prac tramp 1
- 11GEO Poor Knights trip
- Equestrian Combined

Head Girls

Kia ora everyone,

We truly have started 2021 off in a run! It has been a great beginning to the year and a great Term 1 so far. We have had both a successful swimming sports and a very successful House Day.

The Big Splash (swimming sports) took place on the 26th of February. It started off with an amazing synchronised swimming routine from our Year 13s and then continued with competitive races. We also had House points races which was when everybody would get in the pool and get to the other side anyway they wanted (walking, dolphin dives etc.) in order to gain House points. There was also the manu competition this year which was new and a huge success. All in all, it was a very fun day with Rutherford taking out the lead.

House Day, which was run by us head girls, was on the 12th of March and this year we decided to make it 'survivor' themed. Each whānau class had eight rotations of different activities throughout



the day, competing against other whānau classes from all the different houses. Then at the end of the day we had a 'tribal council' in which two 'tribes' were awarded 'immunity'. Manaia House won this year, which was very well deserved. Overall, term one has been a very exciting start to 2021 and we can't wait to see what the rest of the year has in store!

Best wishes from the Head Girl team; Aimee, Chloe, Kiahna and Lucy.

Careers

This year, Whangarei Girls' High School have a brand new Careers Department. Our team consists of:

- Kylie Taffard (HOD Careers) - kylie.taffard@wghs.school.nz
- Jo Neal (Gateway Coordinator) - jo.neal@wghs.school.nz
- Becky Steel (Careers Advisor) - becky.steel@wghs.school.nz

We had a massive week with the Northern Careers Roadshow coming to Girls' High on Wednesday with all Year 10 - 13 students coming through to ask good "career curiosity" questions of 34 visiting education providers, employers and organisations offering a huge range of opportunities. We hosted "Uni Talks" for senior students in the library, and this week we also had university presentations from Victoria University of Wellington and Otago University. Planning is underway to organize a big event next term in the vocational space as well.

We have a fantastic web-based platform called "Career Central" which we would encourage you to explore with your daughter: cc.school.nz. Each year, more modules are added in order for students to progressively build their careers profile and manage their careers plan.

We also have a new careers website for resources, news and events: <https://wghs.careerwise.school/>

kia pai to ra

Becky Steel
Careers Advisor



Volunteers needed for Reader/Writer Support

If you have a few spare hours in a week, enjoy helping others and love reading and writing, we would love to hear from you.

We need volunteers to either read questions and scripts to students so they can write their answers or to write the students' responses for them, for assessments.

This will be ongoing throughout the year, supporting the same students with their assessments.

Please contact office@wghs.school.nz or sonya.lockyer@wghs.school.nz

Ph: 430 4411 or 021 435 523

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

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