



Whangarei Girls' High School

13 April 2021

Contents:	Page
Principal's Article	1
Important Dates	1
Head Girls' Article	2
Parents Supporting Parents	2
Careers Department	2
Payments to School	2
Pink Shirt Day	2
School Calendar	2

Important Dates

- 16 April 2021**
Last Day of Term One
- 3 May 2021**
First Day of Term Two
- 7 May 2021**
Whole School Assembly
- 21 May 2021**
Pink Shirt Day
- 7 June 2021**
Queens Birthday Public Holiday

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Word from the Principal



Tēna koutou katoa

Ngā mihi to all of you who took advantage of the opportunity to come and discuss your student's progress at one of the hui over the last two weeks. We hope you found these constructive and helpful in being able to work on the next steps for your student in each of her subjects. By the end of this week, every student will have at least two comments for every subject in the parent portal. Please check these and assessment results will be added throughout the year as results come to hand.

Senior students are currently under pressure with assessments taking place in most subjects. Please talk with your students to ensure they are coping with the pressure of their busy lives and let us know if you have any concerns, so we can work together to put in place what is needed. We will be gaining student voice from Year 13 this week so we can be proactive in our planning.

At the end of this term, we will be farewelling a much loved Health and Physical Education teacher. Georgia Miller is leaving to pursue a related, but different career. We thank her for all the commitment and passion she has brought to her classes and wish her all the very best for her future.

Later this week, we will have the first school sports exchange that we have had for a number of years. We are excited to be hosting Mt Albert Grammar and know that the netball and basketball teams are looking forward to a pre-season challenge. You are most welcome to come and watch the games. Students will not be released from classes to go up to Whangarei Netball Centre to watch.

ANZAC Day falls during the holidays and our prefects and Citizenship Committee will represent WGHS at the Dawn Parade. The Citizenship Committee has also prepared a commemoration for our whole school assembly in the first week of next term.

The Kapa Haka Group have been rehearsing hard with their WBHS counterparts for the Regional Tai Tokerau Competitions to be held at the beginning of next term. The Tai Tokerau Festival will be held at the same time and we have a group who have been practising hard for that event too. Both groups will be

performing at McKay Stadium and we wish them all the best for these events.

Just a reminder that with the cooler weather rapidly approaching, now is the time to check that your student has all the correct uniform she requires. Hoodies are not part of our uniform and will be confiscated if they are worn. The blue school jersey and / or black jacket are the uniform requirements. Please contact your student's dean if there are any concerns around uniform.

Likewise, we have had a few instances where students have had their phones in class. Ideally, phones will be left at home but if students do need to have them at school, they can only be used at break times and must be turned off and in their bags during class time.

We seem to have an increasing number of students arriving late or not going to whanau class at the beginning of each day. These classes are important for pastoral and administration. Please check your student's attendance on the parent portal and if you can see that she is late or not there at all, please can you discuss this with her so that she can address this next term.

The Girls Working for Girls Day has so far raised over \$14,000 with money still coming in. Please can you ensure your student hands her money in if she hasn't already. Scholarships have already been given out this year and we need to ensure there are sufficient funds to meet the needs of future applications. Applications are online for students who participated in the Girls Working for Girls Day and can be applied to any aspect of their education, including extra curricular activities.

I also want to give you a heads up about the first Accord Day on 20th May. These days have been given to teachers to prepare for the changes being made to NCEA. Different parts of the country have different days and this is the date for all the secondary schools in Tai Tokerau.

Encourage your students to have some relaxation this break – it has been a long and busy term and next term will be just as busy.

Ngā manaakitanga

Anne Cooper
Principal

School Calendar

April

- 13** 10DOE Prac Tramp 2
10 Switch: Kakano
Yr 9 Dance
- 14** 10 Switch: Kakano
Yr 9 Dance
Trades Academy - H & S
10DOE Tramp 3
10/11 PRI Farm Trip
11 Sports Management
First Aid
Y10 & Y11 Music Show
- 15** 10 Switch: Kakano
Y9 Dance
Trades Academy - H & S
10DOE Tramp 3
11Sci Marine Walk
- 16** 10Switch: Kakano
Y9 Dance
Poppy Day
- Last Day of Term 1**
- 18** Snr A Netball
- 19 - 21**
Hockey Tournament
Senior A Netball

May

- 3** *First Day of Term Two*
- 5** 12ACP Agrichemical
Health Expo
- 6** Circus Performance
MMR Catch-up
- 7** 13TOU trip to BOI
Whole School Assembly

Head Girls

Kia Ora everyone,

Last month, as well as starting 'Student of the Month' back up, we have introduced a new initiative called 'Staff Member of the Month'.

This initiative has been designed by the Head Girls of 2021 in order to celebrate all forms of success within the school and wider community. Many staff members work tirelessly every day without receiving the recognition they deserve. Numerous students don't know the names or faces of many of our staff members who work behind the scenes in our school and keep it running like clockwork. A teacher or staff member can also receive 'Staff of the Month' for something they have done that is especially noteworthy and deserves recognition.

Any staff member can be nominated for this award, it does not have to be a teacher. The Staff of the Month is awarded monthly to a staff member who deserves recognition for their success or hard work, and is a way to showcase the endless talent and dedication within our school.

We have opened applications for students and staff to nominate a member of staff who will be recognised and awarded at the term one whole school assembly.

Blessings; Aimee, Chloe, Kiahna and Lucy



Parents Supporting Parents

Are you a parent struggling with a child with mental illness? Would you like to connect with other parents who are living with the same awful struggle?

Our aim is to provide a forum where you can let off steam, knowing that the person/people you are talking to understand on some level. Whether this is at a group meeting, or in another way that we can support you, we hope to be able to do that.

The next meeting for the Parents Supporting Parents group is 5:30pm on Thursday 6 May, at 8 Graham Street.

Join us on Facebook to connect and find out more information <https://www.facebook.com/groups/651665085170218/>

Careers Department - Events

There are several careers events coming up that are worth checking out. These include online and in-person presentations and free school holiday workshops:

<https://wghs.careerwise.school/events/>

Becky Steel

Careers Advisor

Payments to School

From May this year we will not be able to accept payments made by cheque as the banks are phasing these out.

Payment can still be made by internet into account 12 3099 0107679 00 or by cash and eftpos at the school Payments Office.

PINK SHIRT DAY: Friday 21 May 2021.

Pink Shirt Day (PSD) is an opportunity for staff and taura/students to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

We are participating in PSD this year, so encourage your students to get their pink shirts ready to wear alongside their usual school uniform! This can be any pink shirt or an official Pink Shirt can be purchased from Cotton On.

We hope to transform our kura into a sea of māwhero/pink as we stand together to spread aroha, celebrate diversity and end bullying! 7 in 10 teens in NZ have experienced at least one type of unwanted digital communication in the past year (Pacheco & Melhuish, 2018).

In NZ, 32% of students reported being bullied at least a few times a month, compared to 23% on average across OECD countries (OECD 2019). It is time to raise awareness, speak up and address this global issue.



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

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