



# Whangarei Girls' High School

31 July 2020

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## Important Dates

**31 July 2020**  
Y11 Ra Whakanuia

**5 August 2020**  
Open Night

**13 August 2020**  
Options Expo

**25 September 2020**  
Last day of Term 3

1 Lupton Ave  
P O Box 5056  
Whangarei 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

Tēna koutou katoa

I hope everyone enjoyed a much needed break with your family and that the students have been able to recharge their batteries and return refreshed and ready for the busy term ahead.

This term we welcome back Suzie Scourfield and Denise Potter – it is nice to have them back with us again.

We also welcome Whaea Kathy Caldwell who is coming in three days a week in the afternoons to be another key person in our student support team. We are thrilled to have her wisdom and big heart as part of our kura.

At the end of last term, Year 13 students had the opportunity to spend the lunch hour talking with their counterparts from last year about their experiences post high school. It has been a very different year for those students as lockdown came along very quickly. Nevertheless, it was a most useful session and we are most appreciative of the 2019 cohort giving so generously of their time. Thanks also to Marian Innes and Tracey Cooper for organising it.

Another end of term highlight was the Year 10 Drama. Considering that it is not the easiest subject to do online, the girls did brilliantly with their devised scripts and polished performances, all in a very compressed time period. We have senior productions to look forward to later this term - these already look like performances you cannot afford to miss.

A new initiative this term is the Salvation Army providing hot soup and bread rolls for lunches on Friday – we are very appreciative of this support and it is a welcomed initiative by many of our students.

Ra Whakanuia will be held this Friday to celebrate the success of Year 11 students from the first semester. These awards are more focused on the essential 21st Century skills which will give them the foundations for future success for NCEA and beyond

school. We are thrilled so many of you are able to come and share with us to celebrate your daughter's success.

Next week we will be holding a hui for Year 12 students covering topics around nuts and bolts of NCEA, future focus around careers and resources available for areas such as study techniques and time management.

You may remember that towards the end of last term, following consultation with students, staff and whānau, we decided to trial giving Year 13 students the option of coming to school on Wednesdays. We will be resurveying the same groups again next week to see whether or not we extend this initiative so keep an eye out for the survey early next week if you have a student in Year 13.

Very soon, students in Years 9 to 12 will be selecting their courses of study for next year. Please take the time to look at Schoolpoint with your daughter, come to the Options Expo on the 13th August, talk to staff and take an active interest in discussing your daughter's options with her. Remember to keep a broad base, allowing her to follow her passions, with specialisation starting in Year 12.

The PTA will be hosting a Careers Evening on 19th August at 5.30pm so this will be a great opportunity to come along and learn more about how your daughter can prepare for the future and ask those burning questions. We will have our Careers team there who will cover tertiary, trades based training, employment as well as general advice.

This week we had another hui with the wellbeing teams from the schools across the five Kāhui Ako in Whangarei, run by the team of outstanding facilitators we have been working with. Denise Quinlan from the NZ Institute of Resilience and Wellbeing, Gayle Wellington from Ngati Wai Iwi and Chris and Greg Jansen from the Leadership Lab gave us all a day of fabulous PLD with the outcome of the day being thirteen groups formed from staff across all the schools, on areas such as: dealing with trauma, students leading students, breathing, mindfulness, physical wellbeing,

diversity, cellular divide with staff, reducing workload, curating best practice online, staff wellbeing, courageous conversations, positive emotions and emotional banking, the invisible children, connecting through art, common wellbeing models, cultural narratives – turangawaewae and anxiety. The Across School Teachers will work with the facilitators of each of the groups as we work closely together to improve the hauora of our school communities.

As part of our own wellbeing initiative, we will be having a Teacher Only Day on 24th August where we are honoured to have Taipari Munro coming to share with us about the history of the whenua our school is on. It is important for the wellbeing of staff and students to understand where we come from so we have a strong sense of connection and belonging to build on. A separate information notice will be sent out about this.

Graduation Dinner is planned for the 11th December which is later than usual as NCEA examinations have been pushed back. The Head Girl team is working hard on the planning, along with the Year 13 student cohort. They are very conscious of wanting to keep the ticket prices as affordable as possible so that everyone is able to attend. They have received much appreciated support from Tim Bell from Bell Tech and from our PTA and if there is anyone who would like to sponsor a student (or two) to go to the Graduation Dinner, your support would be much appreciated. Please email: [office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz) or ring 430 4411 if you would like to sponsor one or more students. At this stage the ticket price is likely to be around \$55 which will include dinner. Year 13 students will be asked for a \$10 deposit for this special occasion very soon.

We are currently suffering from another spate of hurtful messages being sent across social media which then flow back into school and we have to pick it up and deal with it. Please talk with your daughter about what she is doing on social media, ask to see her Instagram and other social

media accounts and talk with her to ensure she understands the dangers of social media as well as the positives. It is also important to make sure she does not have her phone in her bedroom at night and to know how many hours a day are spent on social media. It is addictive and is often at the root of tiredness and not keeping up with workload.

Likewise, punctuality at the start of the day is also becoming an issue. Students are expected to be in class at 8.45am each day. Please check your daughter's attendance on the Parent Portal and if you can see a pattern of L or that she is not attending whānau or other classes, please have a discussion with her and contact her whānau teacher or dean if you have any concerns or would like to discuss it further. Important information is given out in whanau time, especially this term around options, NCEA and a variety of other topics. We make no apology for students missing out on this valuable information if they are not present for no good reason.

Congratulations to Paea Slade and Nikki Shields who qualified from the regional Sheilah Winn Shakespeare competition through to the national finals. They have learned they are two of 52 students to be invited to Dunedin in September where they will have the opportunity to be selected to go to the Globe Theatre (post Covid!) in London. Exciting news and well deserved success for these talented, hard working performers.

A big thank you for your constant support of us and your daughters – we simply would not be able to offer the vast array of opportunities we have if we didn't have the level of support you give us.

Ngā manaakitanga

**Anne Cooper**  
*Principal*

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## Head Girls

Kia Ora everyone,

WGHS celebrated a cultural week from the 15th to the 19th of June. The purpose of this special week was to recognise and celebrate the cultures of the students at our school. Within the week our Prefect Team organised activities for the student body; there was ki-o-rahi, kilikiti, volleyball, Gaelic football, poster making, a Kahoot, and a screening of the movie 'The Orator' which is a Samoan movie with English subtitles.

We ended the week with a mufti day and encouraged the students to come dressed to show pride in their culture. We raised \$1108 which will be donated to the 'I Have a Dream' Foundation. This foundation is focussed on empowering kids in NZ who are experiencing hardship. "This programme aims to show how long-term educational investment in a generation of local children will have a positive collective impact on the community as a whole."

It's always great to have feedback about school initiatives and activities, so if you participated in and enjoyed aspects of the week, please let us know.

Faafetai tele lava.

Sophie, Mathilda, Paea and Amelie.





Te Manawa Tahi is a learning support hub where you can come in and talk to education professionals about your child's learning needs. This is a free service.

### What are your concerns?

Are you worried about your tamariki at school/kura/ECE and the way they learn and/or behave? Do your tamariki have difficulty speaking, hearing or seeing? Any number of these concerns can affect a child's learning.



## Te Manawa Tahi Timetable



Date	Hub Location – Option 1	Hub Location – Option 2	Hub location – Option 3	Time
22/7/20	Otamatea High School, 120 Bickerstaffe Road, Maungaturoto 0581	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110	Wholey Health, 41 King Street, Hikurangi 0114	9:00am – 12:00pm
29/7/20	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutal Place, Ruakaka 0116	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Rd, Kamo, Whangarei	Back 2 Basics, Maungatapere	9:00am – 12:00pm
30/7/20	Parua Bay Community Centre, 1475 Whangarei Heads Road, Parua Bay 0192	Ruawai Primary School, 4376 State Highway 12, Ruawai 0530	Te Rito, William Jones Drive and Rata Place, Otangarei	9:00am – 12:00pm
05/8/20	Mangawhai Beach School, 34 Insley Street, Mangawhai 0505	Whangaruru School, 2916 Russell Road, Punaruku 0184	Te Horo School, 3239 Pipiwai Road, Whangarei 0176	9:00am – 12:00pm
06/8/20	Onerahi Community Hall, Onerahi, Whangarei	Matakohe Primary School, Matakohe 0593		9:00am – 12:00pm
12/8/20	Waipu Primary School, 6 Argyle Street, Waipu 0510	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Rd, Kamo, Whangarei	Tauraroa Area School, Omana Road, Maungakaramea 0178	9:00am – 12:00pm
13/8/20	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110	Dargaville Primary School, State Highway 12, Dargaville		9:00am – 12:00pm
19/8/20	Archie Bull Hall Kaiwaka, 11 Kaiwaka – Mangawhai Rd	Hukerenui School, 9 Crows Nest Road, Hukerenui 0182	Back 2 Basics, Maungatapere	9:00am – 12:00pm
20/8/20	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110	Aranga School, Aranga, Dargaville		9:00am – 12:00pm
26/8/20	One Tree Point School, 97 One Tree Point Road, One Tree Point 0118	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Rd, Kamo, Whangarei		9:00am – 12:00pm
27/8/20	Te Rito, William Jones Drive and Rata Place, Otangarei	Pouto Primary School, 11 Opuna Rd, Te Kopuru		9:00am – 12:00pm
02/9/20	Paparoa Primary School, 14 Franklin Rd, Paparoa	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110	Mangakahia Community Room, Mangakahia Road, Titoki 0172	9:00am – 12:00pm
03/9/20	Tikipunga High School, 194 Corks Road, Tikipunga, Whangarei 0112	Arapohue School, Arapohue 0370		9:00am – 12:00pm
09/9/20	Ruakaka School, 12 Sandford Rd, Ruakaka 0171	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Rd, Kamo, Whangarei	Back 2 Basics, Maungatapere	9:00am – 12:00pm
10/9/20	Ngunguru Sports Cub, Kopipi Crescent, Ngunguru 0173	Dargaville Intermediate School, 38 Charlotte St, Dargaville	Onerahi Community Hall, Onerahi, Whangarei	9:00am – 12:00pm
16/9/20	Maungaturoto Primary School, 8 Gorge Rd, Maungaturoto	Tikipunga Baptist Church, Kiripaka Rd & Heretaunga St, Tikipunga	Tikipunga Baptist Church, Kiripaka Rd & Heretaunga St, Tikipunga	9:00am – 12:00pm
17/9/20	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110			9:00am – 12:00pm
24/9/20	Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Avenue, Maunu, Whangarei 0110	Presbyterian Church - Dargaville, 78 Normanby Street, Dargaville 0310		9:00am – 12:00pm

Drop into the hub or contact us on 0800 5248 4256 or email [TT.Support@education.govt.nz](mailto:TT.Support@education.govt.nz)

## School Calendar

### July

- 31 Y10 OPC  
Y12 Hillary Outdoors  
**Y11 Ra Whakanuia**

### August

- 3 Y12 EC Placements  
Y11 Enterprise Trip
- 4 Y12 EC Placements  
13HOS Coffee Course
- 5 Y12 EC Placements  
11OED Orienteering  
MIG Welding Course  
ASS Netball Tournament  
**Open Night**
- 6 Y12 EC Placements  
13HOS Coffee Course  
MIG Welding Course  
Art History Trip  
10 Duke of Ed Tramp
- 7 10 Duke of Ed Tramp  
MIG Welding Course  
11TFT Trip to Hospice  
Senior Speech Comp  
Bookenz Quiz  
Mathex
- 10 Y12 EC Placements
- 11 Y12 EC Placements  
11OED Tramp
- 12 Y12 EC Placements  
Northland Readers Cup  
Clay Target Series #2
- 13 Y12 EC Placements  
NSSSA Badminton  
**Options Expo**
- 14 NSSSA Basketball Jnr

## Processes to follow when a student needs to leave school before the end of the day

**If a student feels sick** when she is at school she needs to ask her teacher for a note to go to the Student Support Centre; or, go directly to Student Support if it is in break time.

The Student Support Centre will contact caregivers to pick up students if necessary and ensure they are signed out of school correctly.

**If a student has an appointment** during school time she needs to take a note to the Deans' Office before school or get her whānau to email [absences@wghs.school.nz](mailto:absences@wghs.school.nz).

The student needs to collect her leave pass and sign out at the Deans' Office.

If you need to collect your daughter/whanāu member from school during the day please phone the attendance number 09 4304405 or email [absences@wghs.school.nz](mailto:absences@wghs.school.nz) to let the school know. Your daughter/whanāu member can be collected from the Deans' Office and will need to sign out at the Deans' Office.

You must be a registered caregiver or or contact on our records to be able to pick up a student up from school.

**Sonya Lockyer**  
Deputy Principal



## Student Volunteer Army July Achievements

The following Whangarei Girls' High School students have volunteered their time and received the following awards.

### Membership Pin (5 Hours)

Anya Miller  
Jazmyne Sutton

### Bronze (32 Hours)

Shyla Bradley  
Ayla Maunder  
Hannah Shaw

**Congratulations!**

## 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 5pm on Thursday August 6th, at Te Puna Ora (Student Support Centre at WGHS).

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

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