



# Whangarei Girls' High School

14 August 2020

Contents:	Page
Principal's Article	1
Important Dates	1
Course Selection	2
Careers Department	2
Parents Supporting Parents	2
WGHS Squash Team	2
School Bank Account Details	2
School Calendar	2

## Important Dates

**19 August 2020**  
Whanau Careers Evening

**24 August 2020**  
Teacher Only Day

**14 September 2020**  
Assessment Week Starts

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

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

## Word from the Principal



Tēna koutou katoa

Congratulations to all the award winners at Ra Whakanuia last week. It was good to see so many demonstrating mastery of the the 21st Century skills and special congratulations to the top scholars who were one of the top five students in at least four of their subjects:

- Maddi Allen
- Abigail Armstrong-Green
- Holly Askew
- Kate Bindon
- Jaymie Compton
- Stella Corkill
- Emma Cunningham
- Petra Currie
- Abbie Curtis-Spanhake In absentia
- Carlia Dodd
- Ema Epiha
- Francine Flores
- Jessie Gansell
- Violet Grant
- Rangimarie Harding
- Hannah Jansen
- Eve Jennings
- Chloe Laughton-Parker
- Jess Martin
- Tayla Matheson
- Elyse Mitchell
- Rosie Monckton
- Keisha Morris
- Jazmine Murray
- Suzi Saweirs
- Jess Sullivan
- Ave Tane
- Nyree Taylor
- Tahi Ora Tito
- Isla Tuato'o
- Holly van Blommestein
- Emma Wainwright
- Makayla Watson
- Jordyn Woodley

At the end of last week, we handed Amy Tipene over to Kamo High School where she has taken up her new role as Deputy Principal. She taught in the Te Reo and Social Sciences departments and also looked after the Kapa Haka Group this year in Kim Rogers' absence. Amy was also an Across Teacher for our Kāhui Ako, a member of our Curriculum Group and a mentor for students needing extra support to achieve NCEA. We thank Amy for the great contribution she has made to WGHS in the relatively short time she has been with us but we are thrilled for her and know that she will be a great asset to the Leadership team at Kamo High School.

We welcome ex student Koea Kaka to the Te Reo Department until the end of the year. We are very lucky to have someone of Koea's calibre and extend a very warm welcome to her.

With enrolments for 2021 now in full swing, planning for 2021 for all our current students is also underway. I would like to remind you about the Options Expo that ran on Thursday afternoon. Unfortunately, due to Alert Level 2 we had to modify our expo this year, but please take the time to discuss your daughter's choice of options with her, ensuring she is following her passions if she is in junior school and that she has backward mapped if she is needing to specialise more in senior school. Both Careers and teaching staff are very willing to answer any questions and help your daughter with her decisions. Many of the Year 13 students are busy looking at their options for next year, including scholarship applications and applications for courses and accommodation.

The Year 12 hui was held last week with positive feedback from students. We will be sending out an evaluation form to follow up on that. An academic mentoring programme will ensure each student is on track to achieve her goals.

NCEA reports will be sent out regularly from now so you can track your daughter's progress, although you can also do this through the parent portal. It is important to keep an eye on how many credits she

## School Calendar

### August

- 19 *Whanau Careers Evening*
- 20 12OED First Aid
- 21 12OED First Aid
- 22 NZSS Gymnastics
- 23 NZSS Gymnastics
- 24 Y13 EC Placements  
**Teacher Only Day**
- 25 Y13 EC Placements  
13OED Overnight  
NSSSA Jnr Netball  
**NCEA Evening**
- 26 Y13 EC Placements  
13OED Overnight
- 27 Y13 EC Placements  
12 Eco Trip  
**NCEA Evening**
- 28 NSSSA BOI Beast  
**Meet the Candidates**
- 29 BOI Beast  
NZSSA Clay Target #3
- 30 NZSS Blues Rugby
- 31 NZSS Blues Rugby  
**Tournament Week**

### Change to Bank Account Details

We have changed the School and Hostel Bank so the payment details have changed.

Our new bank is ASB, Whangarei.

School account number is:  
12-3099-0107679-00

Hostel account number is:  
12-3099-0107679-02

still has available as well as the number she has already achieved. Please contact your daughter's Dean or subject teacher if you have any questions.

A reminder about the Careers evening for parents next week on the 19th, starting at 5.30pm in the Library. Our Careers staff will be able to answer many of your questions. This will be followed up by NCEA information evenings the following week. I encourage you to come to both these events so as to keep up to date with the latest information and to have your questions answered. (Depending on Covid Alert Levels).

Keep an eye on your daughter's preparation for assessment week coming up soon. There are a wealth of resources on the Student Drive to help her with study techniques and time management. It is important that she puts in the time and effort for the practice external examinations as then both she and her teachers will be better informed as to where the focus needs to be in order for her to be well prepared for the end of year external examinations and also because if

something does not go to plan and a derived grade is needed in November / December the grades from these practice examinations will be used.

Candidates from all political parties standing in Whangarei have been invited to attend a lunchtime session with students in a couple of weeks. The girls have been busy preparing questions for them to answer and we encourage all students to take an interest and be well informed, particularly those who will be eligible to vote in the upcoming election.

It's a busy term which is already rushing by. Please continue to support your daughter – check how much time is being spent on social media and take an active interest in the platforms she is using and the content. I strongly encourage you to make sure your daughter has a good amount of sleep every night - without her phone in the bedroom.

Ngā mihi

**Anne Cooper**  
*Principal*

### Course Selection

Students are currently working through the process of selecting courses for 2021.

They will be talking with their teachers in class, can book an appointment to talk with someone from the careers team and view the courses online in Schoolpoint. This site will go live on Friday 14 August. Students will access it through the parent portal, as can you. The site remains open until Friday 28th August. Students will be guided to select their courses for the next year and under the heading "useful information" can find out more about the school's curriculum, requirements for each level, qualifications and career pathways.

### 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 struggle?

The next meeting for the Parents Supporting Parents group is 5pm on Thursday September 3rd, 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/>

### Careers Department

The start of Term 3 saw some great events take place in the Careers Department:

Tracey Cornell from Kia Ora Hauora (DHB) spoke to year 10 students about pathways into the Health sector. Tracey has a beautiful personal story of resilience as a Maori mother of four from Auckland which resonated beautifully with many students.

Regina Rapata from Tai Tokerau Trades came to talk to the same students about a pathway into the Trades. The feedback from students has been very positive. It is wonderful to see our students realise the potential opportunities available through studying a trade.

The Year 10 students attended the Careers Roadshow together with their peers in the senior school. They were well prepared with many questions and a positive attitude towards their future options. Among the 31 providers were the Police Force, several universities, the Defence Forces, the International Travel College, NorthTec, BCITO and many more.

**Congratulations** to our new National Champions: the WGHS Squash Team.

Amy Brown, Jordyn Chapman, Shea Ferguson, Ella Holwell, Olivia Rhodes and Chelsea Traill.

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