



Whangārei Girls' High School

10 February 2023

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Important Dates:
20th February 2023
Teacher Only Day

16th March 2023
PPTA Strike Day

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Word from the Principal



Tēnā koutou katoa

Nau mai hoki mai - welcome back to the start of another school year. We were excited to be starting in an environment free of red and orange COVID settings, only to find ourselves in a different kind of red and orange with severe weather warnings. It is very much looking as though we are likely to have another disrupted start next week. We are also managing industrial action by PPTA as their members negotiate for better pay and conditions. This term, the nature of the action is that PPTA members will not provide relief cover during the non-contact periods they are entitled to as part of their collective agreement. There is also a strike day on the 16th March – supervision can be provided for students needing to attend but there will be no regular classes that day.

We are delighted to welcome new staff and students to our kura as we start with a roll of over 1500 students, which includes nineteen students from Japan, Germany and France. It is wonderful to have international students back with us again as we share and learn from each other about our different cultures. We have a large cohort of Year 9 students from 37 different schools as well as a number of new students throughout the other year levels. We have taken the time this year to ensure all new students have a good induction into Whangārei Girls' High School, as we know how important the start is to ensure a good foundation for students to experience success in their Secondary education.

We are thrilled to welcome new staff:

Martin Bright	Property Manager
Karyn Cartwright	SWITCH programme
Charlene Cliff	SWITCH programme
Adrienne Chubb	Social Sciences
Hayley Corney	Foods
Lindsay Daysh	Science
Iain McKenzie	AV Technician
Andy Mount	Outdoor Education
Te Hirini Natana	Te Reo Māori
Kerry Pachal	Psychology
Evelyn Rippon	SWITCH
Jo Steele	ESOL
Hayley Taylor	Outdoor Education
Josie Thompson	Dance
Marcia Underwood	Guidance
Sally Waanders	Art
Patsy Yearbury	Careers – Gateway programme

We welcome Lizzie Bearne and Nicky Howes back from maternity leave on a part time basis and Tamara Phillips who is returning from maternity leave to take up a new role in the Careers Department with oversight of the Trades Academies.

We have had a busy start to the year with professional development for staff and intensive induction programmes for Year 9 students, new students from other year levels and Year 13 students. The Prefects have also had an introduction to their leadership roles with an overnight camp.

Unfortunately we had to postpone our first day of staff training due to the severe weather and this will now take place on **20 February which will be a Teacher Only Day**. A day has been added on to the end of the year, with 11 December being the last day for students.

As we focus on implementing our kaupapa this year, there will be a number of opportunities for you to share in activities, meet with staff and give feedback throughout the year.

We are starting with a strong focus on building strong relationships throughout our kura. The staff had two days working with the renowned Marg Thorsborne from Australia on restorative practices. We are aiming for a restorative culture throughout our school and you will be hearing a lot more about this as we need whanau, teachers and students to work together.

The Year 9 students have had a day at school being the only cohort on site as they found their way around and learnt about systems and life at high school. The last three days have seen them taking part in an exciting and intensive programme involving paddling waka at Tutukaka as they are introduced to mahitahi, working together and building relationships with their peers; learning about our kaupapa with an introduction to 'Tangata Whenua' and the history of the land of WGHS as well as the history of their kahui resulting in impressive tukutuku panels which the students have woven and a third day based at Ngunguru Marae with more work on our kaupapa, whakawhanaunga and connecting to the environment.

We have a senior student leadership team of four this year, rather than the previous Head and Deputy Head Girl roles. They work very much as a team and will now be known as Pou Arāhi. It is a pleasure to announce our Pou Arāhi for 2023:

- Kamaia Bainbridge-Frost
- Fhreyra George
- Cameron Matheson
- Rauamoā Tuhoro

We are equally delighted to congratulate and announce the Prefects for 2023:

- Mystica Amarasekara
- Grace Binney
- Anja Brown
- Jaymi Caulfield
- Kiahn Crewther
- Mia Diamond

- Bree Kennedy
- Wageesha Kuruppu
- Tui Lenden
- Hinewa Mahanga
- Bowyasri Mathivanan
- Ayla Maunder
- Leah McRae
- Sofie Parker
- Zoe Raven
- Amia Ringrose
- Ruby Shepherd
- Rebekah Smith
- Lydia Tegerobo
- Caitlin Thompson
- Waiorangi Thompson

We wish them all the best for the year ahead as they lead their respective committees and carry out their important leadership roles.

This year, we will be the new host school for the Teen Parent Unit, He Matariki – this takes us full circle as we had this role in the early 2000s and we are delighted to have the opportunity to work with this high achieving unit and support the important mahi they do. They are based in Raumanga and we are looking forward to working with their staff and students.

Congratulations to two of our students who have had exciting results during the holidays. Bella Earl has been selected for the NZ Cross Country team which will be competing in the World Championships in Australia very soon. Lydia Tegerobo has been selected for the national football team for the Solomon Islands and leaves next week to begin this exciting journey. We wish them both all the best in their respective competitions.

Congratulations too, to our scholarship winners and their teachers:

Holly Askew – Chemistry - teacher Emma Smith
 Jessie Gansell – Painting – teacher Martin White

We also congratulate Sophie Overeem whose photography work has been selected to tour the country as part of an exhibition of the top 75 students in NZ. Provisional results for NCEA show an increased pass rate for Māori at Level 2, well above the national median. However, Level 3 is slightly down for Māori on last year, although still above the national median. Overall, Level 2 results are above the national median, although down on last year. Level 3 is also down on last year, although still well above the national median. With derived grades and learning credits given as part of the COVID response last year, we need to dig much deeper in order to do a full comparison. Once we have final results we will do a detailed analysis and report on them to you.

As we receive more information about Cyclone Gabrielle, we will make a plan and text it to you as well as putting it on our website, Facebook page, the Schoolbridge app and emailing it to you. It is important that you let us know if your contact details have changed. Please be mindful that if there is significant flooding and damage and we remain open, that it is highly probable that your students will be supervised rather than taught. This is because we are very likely to have to collapse classes as a large number of both teachers and relieving

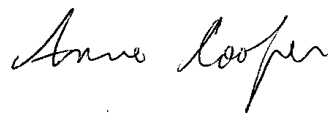
teachers live in vulnerable areas and the industrial action means that teachers will not teach a class where additional students have been placed. However, if we are able to remain open, we will be able to offer supervision.

A reminder that Monday is Day 3 on the timetable and all students are expected to come prepared for their regular classes. This includes bringing a device. Student timetables will be made available later today.

We look forward to a great year and to meeting as many of you as we can.

He aroha whakatō, he aroha ka puta mai
If kindness is sown, then kindness is what you shall receive.

Ngā mihi



Anne Cooper
Principal

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

NETBALL COACHES NEEDED FOR 2023

If you are interested in coaching a WGHS netball team this year, please contact our Sports Coordinator, Ashlee McLeod- ashlee.mcleod@wghs.school.nz.

Your student will not be required to pay their season netball fees if you coach. Any questions, please email Ashlee on ashlee.mcleod@wghs.school.nz

SPORTS TRIALS COMING UP

Hockey- 1st XI & 2nd XI (Yr 10-13 only)- 20th, 22nd Feb. 2nd XI & Development (All year levels)- 23rd, 27th Feb & 1st March.

Netball: Yr 10- 13- 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd February. Yr 9- 27th, 28th Feb & 1st March

Football: All year levels- 15th and 22nd March

LOCKERS

Lockers are available again this year, \$60 per year plus a refundable \$15 bond. If you would like a locker for 2023, you will need to fill in an online order form at <http://www.stowawaylockers.co.nz/order-form/> . GET IN QUICK as they are going fast!

School Calendar

13th February 2023
Year 10, 11 & 12 start
Trades Academy Northtec

14th February 2023
Trades Academy Northtec

15th February 2023
Trades Academy Northtec

16th February 2023
Trades Academy Northtec
NSSSA Surfing Comp
SWITCH Whānau Hui

17th February 2023
Trades Academy Northtec
School Assembly

20th February 2023
Teacher Only Day

21st February 2023
ID/Whānau Photos
NSSSA Leef Cup - Girls

22nd February 2023
13Technology - Hihiaua

23rd February 2023
Trades Academy
NSSA Equestrian Show

24th February 2023
Trades Academy
11OED Sea Kayak
Māori Studies Te Matatini
Trip



Hosted by Whangarei Driver Training Services

REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE

<https://forms.gle/iQnouvjZBvNMvppP7>

or email/text for more details

Payment accepted Direct Debit or Credit Card via



Email: WhangareiDTS@gmail.com

TEXT: 021 0233 0087  Whangarei Driver Training Services

Defensive Driving Course February 2023

CLASSROOM February 20th, 22nd, 27th & 1st March
530-730PM

ON ROAD PRACTICAL Saturday Mar 4th or Sunday 5th
8am-4pm (individual time to be advised)

Location: People Potential Campus 17 Keyte Street

The course is designed to develop the skills and attitudes of young drivers and provide a six-month reduction in the time spent on a Restricted licence. Along with a practical coaching / assessment session as part of the course, passing the Full licence test will be greatly enhanced

This course consists of 8 hours of theory (in four 2-hour evening sessions twice a week running from 5:30pm-7:30pm) plus a 1-hour practical drive. The "one-on-one" coaching / assessment practical drive is by appointment between 9am and 4.00pm on a Saturday. Your tutor is a full time Driver Trainer and an experienced NZTA approved Driving Instructor & "Street Talk" defensive driving course approved facilitator.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: - A minimum of a LEARNER licence must have been held for at least 4 months at the start of course. Must have own vehicle for practical drive with current WOF/Rego.

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