



# Whangārei Girls' High School

30 March 2022

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## Important Dates:

14 April 2022  
End of Term

15 April 2022  
Good Friday

25 April 2022  
ANZAC Day

2 May 2022  
Start of Term 2

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Whangarei 0112  
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Email:  
[office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz)

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

## Word from the Principal



Tēnā koutou katoa

As the term draws closer to the end, so too are the number of students and staff testing positive for COVID starting to show a decrease. We hope this proves to be a trend and not just a brief respite. It is important that we do not relax our protocols to keep ourselves and each other safe. Masks must still be worn inside. Your student can obtain a mask from any of her teachers if she needs one. We are still asking students to go outside at break times when they can take their masks off, being mindful of distancing. Classrooms continue to be well ventilated and students are encouraged to sanitise frequently.

Thank you for your support and co-operation during what has been a difficult start to the year. We will continue rostering home until Thursday and have everyone back on Friday for the 'Colour Run' to raise funds for the alternative version of Relay for Life for the Cancer Society. We will reassess the rostering home again on Thursday as by then we will have a better idea as to whether we can staff the classes.

Please continue to let us know if your student has tested positive and also if they are a household contact. They will then need to isolate for seven days before coming back to school. If they are a household contact and test positive while they are isolating, they will need to isolate for another seven days, from when they first show symptoms or from when they tested positive – whichever happens first.

The Colour Run is the first whole school event the student leadership team have been able to run this year and apart from supporting a very worthy cause, it will also provide some much needed fun. We ask you to encourage your student to support it by bringing a donation to a maximum of \$5.

Thank you to all those who participated in the recent whānui hui or who had a phone conversation with your student's whānau teacher. An evaluation has been sent to you to help us with our forward planning so we would very much appreciate you taking the time to give us your feedback. Keep your eye on the parent portal as this is where teachers will post comments on your student's progress as well as assessment results as they are completed.

With the new whānau structure this year, we are planning to introduce a new leadership group at the Kāhui level. Each kāhui will have a leadership group, representative of the whānau classes in that kāhui and will feed into the Student Council.

Next term, we have our Accord Day, one of the three Professional Development days provided by the Ministry of Education to plan for the curriculum changes and changes to NCEA which are coming up. We are piloting the new literacy and numeracy standards this year.

Remember to take a few minutes each day to practise gratitude. Be kind to yourself and others.

Kia pai to rā

Anne Cooper  
Principal

**NAU MAI HAERE MAI**  
**NCEA ME TE WHĀNAU WORKSHOP**  
 Join us for a workshop designed to help whānau understand NCEA.

WHANGAREI GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL  
 TUESDAY 10 MAY  
 5.30PM

**NCEA**  
*me te*  
**WHĀNAU**

What we will cover:

- Aspirations of your tamaiti
- NCEA Endorsements
- University Entrance
- Choosing the right subjects
- The importance of STEM
- Tips for supporting your tamaiti

**NZQA**  
 NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
 HAKA TĪHOI KĀTAIRANGA O AOTIAROA  
 QUALITY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD  
 KIA NOHO TAKĀTU KI TŌ AMŪA AO!

## Parent Portal

Are you checking your students parent portal for achievement results and comments. By the end of this term, every subject will have data regarding your student's progress.

Not sure how to access the portal? Please contact your student's whanau teacher or the office at [office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz)

## Google Classroom

Students are still getting used to referring to Google Classroom. It is important that students refer to the notes on Google Classroom while they are recuperating at home or in isolation in order that they are at least familiar with what has been going on in their absence. This makes it so much easier for the teacher to help the student on their return. It is impossible to reteach assessments to each student individually but if they are somewhat briefed on the content of learning, they are in a position to catch up. Please help your student with this if necessary. However, if your student is unwell they need to focus on their health and not stress about falling behind. They will be supported with their learning once they have returned to good health.

## Interviews with Subject Teachers

We will be holding these next term on the 19th and 24th May, so you and your student can discuss progress with specific subject teachers. These are likely to be online meetings again due to the Covid environment.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you have strengths in reading and writing with a passion for helping tomorrow's women succeed?

We are seeking skilled volunteers to assist our year 11 – year 13 students who have identified visual difficulties, hearing impairments or learning disabilities to assist as reader/writer for assessments throughout the school year.

This is an amazing and rewarding opportunity to help our students achieve their full potential!

Please note that all staff and volunteers interacting directly with students in a secondary school education setting need to be Police vetted.

For more information please contact:

Vinny Ridgway - [vinnyridgway@wghs.school.nz](mailto:vinnyridgway@wghs.school.nz)  
 Wendi Andrews - [wendiandrews@wghs.school.nz](mailto:wendiandrews@wghs.school.nz)



## Child Anxiety Research

Researchers at The University of Auckland would love to hear from parents of children currently struggling with anxiety who would be happy to share their experiences and ideas in a 15 minute anonymous survey. Your feedback will then be used by the researchers to help them develop a parenting course for supporting children with anxiety.

Click below to learn more and for the link to the survey:

[https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_ex2TdKDbZcVHdT8](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ex2TdKDbZcVHdT8)

## School Calendar:

30 March 2022

9SWITCH Parihaka Hikoi

30 March - 4 April 2022

Maadi Cup Rowing Champs

30 March - 8 April 2022

Sea Kayaking (Day Trips)

1 April 2022

WGHS Colour Run

3 April 2022

Teachers Fusion Concert North-land Ballet

5 April 2022

Year 9 Music Concert

6 April 2022

Year 10 Music Concert

8 April 2022

Future Trades Day

11 April - 13 April 2022

Dance Concerts

12 April 2022

Year 10 OED Orienteering 1/2

Year 11 Concert

12-13 April 2022

Tai Tokerau Festival (Virtual)



### Colour Run 2022

Our colour run acknowledges the origins of Holi and intends to fundraise for the Cancer Society while also celebrating life just as the Holi festival does, especially the lives of those with cancer. As well as having an obstacle course/run lane which students can run through with friends while being covered in bright colours, we also have a sausage sizzle, house-run activities, and allotted times for whānau classes to spend time together. We intend to use this event to educate, inspire, and bring the school together as a community whilst fundraising for an important cause.

### Process for when students are sick at school

We are having a few of our new students contact their parents directly when they feel unwell at school.

The correct process for your daughter in this situation is:

- Student should ask their 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.

Please make sure your daughter understands this process.

## International

Add some diverse CULTURE to your whanau! Looking for families of all types to host our international students for 2022 and 2023. You get:

- Amazing cultural experience - learn about countries from around the world
- Global Connection - share Maori, Pasifika and other NZ cultures with your international student
- Unbeatable learning experience for your family
- Fortnightly homestay payment of \$490.00

If you would like to learn more about hosting an international student through Whangarei Girls' High School please email Toni Richardson at [toni.richardson@wghs.school.nz](mailto:toni.richardson@wghs.school.nz) or mobile 021 435 517.



## Whangarei Girls' High School PTA

### The PTA is a great way to find out what is happening at the school.

We are a group of parents with our prime function being a means of communication between the school and home, providing the opportunity to discuss issues with other parents and the Principal.

Meeting other parents from the school can help you feel more comfortable with how your daughter fits in and how she is progressing with the academic side of school life at a large secondary school.

The PTA meet once a month, has a guest speaker and the Principal always gives a report on recent and upcoming events, achievements and changes.

The only fundraising event is the catering for the school ball in August and running a second hand uniform sale in January. Most of the work we do for the school is serving refreshments at occasional school events. All our proceeds are donated back to the school eg the electronic sign on the building, donation to the breakfast club etc. We also present awards at the end of year prizegivings.

### Our next meeting is being held on Wednesday 18 May at 5.30 pm

Please contact Phoebe Curtis on [phoebe.c@xtra.co.nz](mailto:phoebe.c@xtra.co.nz)

or 027 724 6734 for further information

We look forward to meeting you!

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

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