



# Whangarei Girls' High School

**August 2015**



*WGHS performing at Stage Challenge 2015*

**[www.wghs.school.nz](http://www.wghs.school.nz)**



## Dear Parents / Caregivers

Tena koutou katoa

This is the term where we start our planning for 2016 while at the same time working to ensure 2015 targets will be met as senior students prepare for their school examinations and at the same time are focusing on courses of study for next year making good, well informed decisions.

Thank you so much to those of you who attended our SPT interviews at the end of last term. There was a great deal of rich discussion, resulting in many students and their parents and whanau realising what the focus needs to be on for the remainder of this year so that they can achieve their goals. It is important that those conversations and the constructive feedback and advice contained in the report given to you at those meetings has not been forgotten over the holidays.

We have had some staff changes at the beginning of this term.

Rachael Drysdale is now on maternity leave and we wish her all the best with her new baby boy. We thank Linda Towers for coming into the Science Department to take classes until Rachael's replacement, Nick Major, starts at the end of August. Nick is coming from Pakuranga College in Auckland.

We thank Maree Houba for all her good work in the front office during her five years here and wish her well for the future. We are delighted to welcome Wendi Andrews who took up this position at the start of the term.

Sadly, as many of you know, George Xi is currently battling non-Hodgkinsons Lymphoma and will not be back this year as he focuses on his long course of treatment. Our best wishes are with him and he is appreciative of the support shown to him by staff and students. We are most grateful to Bronwyn Trewin for coming in at short notice so that the students' learning is not interrupted.

Stacey Cox left at the end of the second week to take up a position of responsibility at Hamilton Girls' High School. Her replacement is an ex-student, Lauren Clark, who will be starting with us in the English Department soon. In the meantime we thank our stalwart reliever, Lyn Ashby, for covering the classes so well during the interim.

Cara Wood left at the end of last week to take up a position in her home town of Dargaville and we welcome Deborah Fisher to the English Department. We are lucky to have someone of Deborah's calibre in the interim until a permanent appointment is able to take up the position.

We thank Stacey and Cara for all they contributed to the English Department during their time here. Cara will always be remembered for the outstanding success her class had in winning a national mural competition last year.

The whole school assembly was an excellent way to begin the term with so much student success to celebrate and so much inspiration from Brioso4 with their amazing performance of the Final movement of Quartet for Four Violins by Grazyna Bacewicz. It is easy to see why they are amongst the top twelve chamber groups in New Zealand. We were also inspired by Year 12 student, Mihi Shepherd, who shared her experience at the UNICEF Youth Congress in the holidays. She gave us all food for thought as many of us take our privileged lives for granted. Laura Dekker, the girl who set out at the age of 14 to sail solo around the world, leaving from Amsterdam, left us all incredulous as we listened to this inspiring young woman who showed us all the importance of not just clinging to our dreams but also putting in the hard work and necessary preparation to turn them into reality. We congratulate all the students who received awards at the assembly and especially the following students who received Elite Colours:

Rachael Machado, Samantha Skovlund, Uma Robinson Kelena Roughan, Sheena Wejendorp, Sarah Adam, Taylor Campbell, MacKenzie Johnson, Grace Elliot, Mia Gordon Maddy Gordon, Hayley McIntosh, Teina Rihari and Paige Lawgun.

School examinations are due to start at the end of next week and senior students should be well into a study programme by now. These are important for both students and staff to see where the strengths are where more work needs to be done before the national examinations next term. They are also used in the event of something happening such as illness or bereavement which prevents students from being able to sit those examinations.

The Open Evening was held for the 2016 Year 9 intake recently and the Enrolment Team began enrolling students in the contributing schools this week. Students have some exciting options to choose from in Year Nine as the new curriculum is introduced.

The issue of the “Plan-It” and the Options Evening held last Wednesday marks the beginning of the subject selection process for Year 9 – 12 students. Some students struggle with narrowing down the number of subjects they want to take, to the six they can take in senior school (5 in Year 13). It is important they seek advice from the Careers Department if they are unsure. Things have changed from when their parents and teachers left school and did their training or went to work and it is important that students obtain the right advice and up to date information so they can make well informed decisions for next year.

Year 13 students benefited from their “Big Day In” at the beginning of the term as they received timely information regarding preparing for next year as they finish their secondary education and prepare for the next big step in their lives.

We have two student groups in the school, Manakaitiaki and Honorary Big Sisters, who have implemented programmes for mentoring and tutoring younger students. At the end of last term, they received training as part of the Champions Project and an evening is planned very soon for a follow up session for these students and the students they are mentoring. Thanks to Doreen Bailey and her team for their organisation and facilitation to enable this training to take place.

Earlier this term, we began our professional development on developing cultural responsiveness and relational pedagogy with facilitators from the Kia Eke Panuku programme. At the same time we are working with staff from Team Solutions and Evaluation Associates to be more reflective in our teaching and learning, to be more student centred in our curriculum delivery and to differentiate to ensure student needs are being met. To enable us to gain traction on this, we will be finishing school at 1.15pm on 27 August so staff can have a meaningful block of time to allow us to focus on ways of implementing this.

The Digital Horizons Conference held at the end of July was a great success with 650 teachers attending from all around Northland. There was a great range of speakers and workshops and I am sure everyone went home with something new they had learnt to enhance teaching and learning. Thanks to Carolyn Alexander-Bennett, Kevin Dean and Alistair Gilbert for the time and effort they put in to make this such a successful event.

Year Ten students are now being asked to think about their CONTRIBUTE programme and to identify a need in their community which would enable them to put together a Business Plan and then implement it to address that need.

Our Squash team have returned from the national secondary school championship proudly sporting silver medals and we wholeheartedly congratulate them on their success.

We have been privileged to be treated to a spectacular array of Drama and Dance performances with more yet to come. I never cease to be amazed at the outstanding talents of our students and the standard just seems to be getting higher. Congratulations to all the students taking part in these and to their teachers for exacting such polished performances from their students and to you as parents for supporting your daughters through the challenges of rehearsals.

It is also that time of the year when we start the process of selecting our Head and Deputy Head Girls and the team of prefects. The application forms will be available from this week and already there is a great deal of interest among the Year Twelve students for these positions. We are so very fortunate to have such a high calibre of leadership ability amongst our senior students.



**Anne Cooper**  
**Principal**

## Head and Deputy Head Girls



The year is flying by so quickly, and Term Three is looking like it will be the busiest term yet. Our amazing team of prefects has been working hard all year, and their efforts are not going unnoticed by the school community. Our Sports Captains successfully ran a FIFA world cup inter-whanau competition, the House Captains have been continually organizing inter-whanau events like flag competitions, cupcake decorating and quizzes, and our Global Issues committee orchestrated another extremely successful 40 Hour Famine for Whangarei Girls' High School. Our three annual socials ran smoothly thanks to the combined Social Committee, with tickets being sold out for all three theme nights – Freaky Friday, Cowboys and Indians and Tradies.

The Student Council has been amazing as always. Project Connect is ticking along nicely, and we are incredibly happy with the continuous flow of donations being brought in by our students every fortnight – we can't thank you all enough. All year the Student Council has been pushing for improvement in regards to bathroom maintenance, and the persistence has paid off. We have had locks replaced, new soap and the introduction of a new trial hand drier – and this is just the beginning! It will be exciting to see what the Student Council does next.

We have been having regular meetings with the head prefects from other Whangarei high schools – Whangarei Boys' High, Pompallier Catholic College, Kamo High School, Bream Bay College, Excelere College and Huanui College. The aim of these meetings is to build stronger relationships with our surrounding schools, and figure out ways we

can help and contribute to our school communities and our students as a combined force. Our meetings are productive and it has been fun getting to know all the other head prefects of the Whangarei schools. At the moment, we are in the process of combining the money from each school's mufti days to aid the Nepal appeal.

Practice exams are just around the corner, so get studying!! Look after yourselves during this stressful period, and take advantage of all the facilities the school has to help you do your best.



Well done RHAM who decorated their Connect For box as a way of involving their whanau class and encouraging the girls to bring donations. This has inspired us to run a box decorating competition later in the term!

*Te Kowhai, Kerira, Eva and Katie*  
**Head & Deputy Head Girls**

**WGHS Old Girls' Association  
AGM Dinner  
19th Aug 2015**

**Mix & Mingle—5.30pm  
Dinner—6pm  
WGHS Hospitality Room**

**Tickets \$45 & available from the  
school office**



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## Former Students of Whangarei Girls' High School Graduating from Victoria University of Wellington

The following students have graduated from Victoria University between June 2014 and May 2015. We are proud to acknowledge and celebrate these students' wonderful success.

	Degree
Annor-Admei, Nicholina	PGCPM—Postgraduate Certificate in Public Management
Batten, Rebecca	BCOM—Bachelor of Commerce
Bonner, Sarah	LLB, MBA— Bachelor of Laws, Master of Business Administration
Bostan, Victoria	BA—Bachelor of Arts
Boyce-Bacon, Rachel	BCOM, MBA—Bachelor of Commerce, Master of Business Administration
Chalmers, Bridget	BSC—Bachelor of Design Innovation
Coutts, Gemma	BA, LLB—Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws
Cowan, Libya	GTDCPR—Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Primary)
Lyon, Natalie	BA, LLB—Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws
Retter, Maria	PGDNS— Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing Science
Saroz, Ayla	BA, LLBHON—Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws with Honours
Smith, Emma	LLBHON—Bachelor of Laws with Honours
Walmsley, Anischka	GDTCEC- Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education)
Webb, Skye	BDI—Bachelor of Design Innovation

### "DO – IT" DAY

**WGHS, Thursday Sept 10, 9am - 6pm**

Students, Staff, Parents, Whanau, Community, here is your chance to get involved in the Microsoft IT Academy – test your computer skills, sign up for ongoing learning on-line, get yourself a world recognised accreditation for computer skills (or just learn for yourself) – Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook and much more...

**FREE, FREE, FREE, FREE, LEARN, LEARN, LEARN, DO-IT, DO-IT, DO-IT**

Contact the main office to register  
[office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz)

Further info, Desley Dempster,  
[desley.dempster@wghs.school.nz](mailto:desley.dempster@wghs.school.nz)

### Payment Receipts

A number of parents and students have raised the issue of receipt printing and why we are having to print out individual receipts for each payment that the students make. In answer to this, we have decided to not issue receipts automatically, but make them available on request.

Please check the 'Parent Portal' to ensure that all receipts have been processed and contact the office if you have any queries or want a copy of a receipt to be printed.

### NZQA Fees—Deadline

A reminder that if you have not paid NCEA fees, the **final date to pay at school is Fri 21 August**. If you have a Community Services card your daughter can collect one from outside the Deans Room or the front office. This will reduce the fee to \$20.

Fees must be paid for the release of all results (not just external exams).

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## English Department Corner

It is hard to believe we are already heralding the start of Term 3, and what a term it is going to be! Regrettably, the department has lost two valued team members early in the term. Miss Stacey Cox joined us at the beginning of this year and has gained a promotion to Assistant Head of Faculty at Hamilton Girls' High School. We have enjoyed her company this year and we are sorry to be saying goodbye so soon. However, we wish her every success in her new school. Mrs Cara Wood joined the department as a Beginning Teacher at the start of 2013. She is an exceptional classroom teacher who has always put a huge effort into providing scintillating and challenging programmes for all of her students. Cara has taken up a teaching position in her hometown of Dargaville. Dargaville's gain is definitely our loss, and we know Cara will quickly make an impact on the learning of the students in her care. We are pleased to welcome Ms Deborah Fisher to take over Miss Cox's classes, and Mrs Lauren Clark who will take over Mrs Wood's classes after the senior examinations.

We are busy planning different levels of examination seminars for our senior students that we will be running throughout Weeks 3 and 4. These seminars will be an opportunity for students to gain further confidence with their essay writing skills, as they head into these important examinations. Please encourage your daughter to take up this opportunity. Practice makes perfect!

There have been some notable student successes recently. We are always so thrilled and proud when students who take up extra opportunities offered are rewarded for their efforts. Rachael Machado (Year 13) was recently announced the New Zealand winner of the Liam and Frankie Davison Essay contest. This essay called for students to write (in their choice of genre) on the broad topic of women's health. Rachael wrote a formal essay about sex trafficking and sex tourism and how it is prevalent in both developed and developing countries. She has won \$1000 for her winning piece. Six WGHS junior students have qualified for the national semi-finals of the New Zealand Spelling Bee. They all passed the threshold

score in the school test held in early June. They now get the opportunity to compete against the top Northland spellers at the semi-final to be held in our School Library on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. Congratulations to Georgia Aplin-Windley (Year 10), Alvian Cortez (Year 10), Tara Lane (Year 9), Olivia Murray (Year 9), Maia Prochazka (Year 10) and Huia Webby (Year 10). Congratulations, too, to Mihi Shepherd (Year 12) who was announced the runner-up at the Lions Young Speechmaker Competition held on 14 June. Mihi gave a wonderful prepared speech on the topic of apathy and was then challenged to perform an impromptu speech about life in ten years' time. Mihi was widely praised by the judges, and did herself and her school proud at this event.

The Northland-wide Debating Competition has continued through Term 2 and we will be participating in two further competition Sundays this term. Well done to our junior team of Pippa Saunders, Claudia Jamieson and Bethany Dawson for their efforts in the most recent rounds held in Kerikeri on Sunday 21 June. Although the team lost both of their debates, the girls came away with some valuable experience and tips to take them through to the next rounds.

*Margaret Northey*  
**HOD English**

### **School Early Finish** **Thu 27th Aug 15**

School will finish at 1.15pm on this day for staff professional development.

Further details will be put on our website and a letter emailed or sent home with students this week.

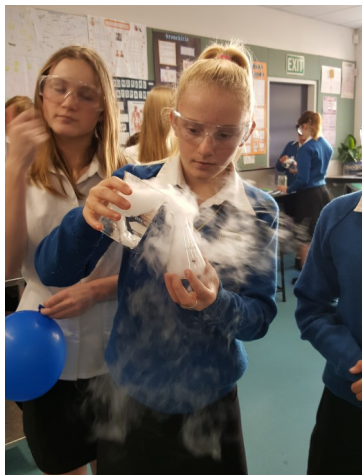
If you are not receiving these important notices via email, and would like to, please email [office@wghs.school.nz](mailto:office@wghs.school.nz) with your daughters name and the email address you would like it sent to.

## Science Corner



### Dry Ice Extravaganza

Year 9 students have recently enjoyed exploring changes of state using dry ice. Lots of different experiments were done. Above is a picture of Steph Bracey, pouring water vapour produced from adding dry ice to warm water into a conical flask.



### Rotary North Tech Science Programme

During the holidays I was privileged to attend the Rotary North Tec Science Programme. The programme is offered to Year 11 students and is a three day programme that allows you to extend yourself into aspects of science, whilst meeting like-minded people. Over the duration of the three days we were able to explore chemistry, molecular biology, freshwater ecology, aquatic chemistry, forensics and microbiology. Creating dry ice comets, causing gummy bears to make pitching screams, investigating a crime scene through fingerprint lifting, shoe casting, blood testing and chromatography, growing bacteria to look at under a microscope by gram staining and making ice cream and 'snap freezing' using liquid nitrogen are a few examples of experiments we conducted. Primarily these experiments are not offered to us in school or elsewhere and were truly an exceptional experience.

*Sarah Barnes*

### Brain Bee 2015

During the July holidays Josephine Schwartzfeger represented the school at the North Island Brain Bee competition. We congratulate her on getting to the second stage of the competition and look forward to hearing more about her experiences in the next newsletter.

## Comings and Goings

Term Three has seen some changes in the Science Department. We welcome Mrs Trewin who is filling in for Mr Xi who is on sick leave and Mrs Towers who is filling in for Mrs Drysdale who is away for the best possible reason, on maternity leave. Congratulations on the birth of your little son, Joel, arriving the night of your last day at school!!

### Science Fair

Nine girls have entered the Central Northland Science Fair. We wish them all the best. They have worked really hard to extend their scientific knowledge and skills outside of school. A big thanks also goes to Mrs Phillips who has supported them on this venture.

Check out their amazing exhibits which will be on display on Tuesday 25th—Thursday 27th August at the Exhibition Hall, Forum North.



### Helpful Revision websites

Getting ready for school exams. Check out these free revision website. Lots of students and teachers rave about it, especially the free part!!!

[www.nobraintoosmall.co.nz](http://www.nobraintoosmall.co.nz)

[www.studyit.org.nz](http://www.studyit.org.nz)

[www.pathwayz.co.nz](http://www.pathwayz.co.nz)

[www.BiologyAlive.com](http://www.BiologyAlive.com)

### Science Revision Books

Wanting to purchase a Science revision book? Your order and money needs to be paid to the front office by interval, Wednesday 9th September. Order forms can be obtained from Mrs Younger (Science technician) or your Science teacher.

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## A Word from the Hospitality Department...

WOW, where do I start and where has time gone. I don't even remember it being July and now we are almost halfway through August. At the end of last term, ten students took part in the Northland Salon Culinaire, which is an annual regional cooking competition, and is also the precursor to competing at National level. The students all entered a fruit flan which was judged by a panel of judges to the same strict marking criteria as used in culinary competitions worldwide. Six of the students were awarded a bronze medal for their outstanding efforts and four received a certificate of participation which accumulatively contributed to making WGHS the highest scoring school of the competition.

The new term brought with it some exciting challenges and, true to their word, the 13HOS class did another marvellous job catering for VIP's at the recent Colours assembly. I was absent that day but the girls did a fantastic job and just carried on regardless. It was ironic that some of the students even ran from the Hospitality rooms, where they were doing the function catering, to the stage to receive their colours in their chef's jacket. A most fitting tribute to their dedication.

A trip to the Food Show and the National Chefs' Competition was a tasty highlight for 35 Hospitality students on August 31st. The Food Show is New Zealand's largest and most successful culinary exhibition and, not only did the students have the chance to sample lots of delicious delicacies, they were also able to watch some of the amazing competition work undertaken by some of NZ's most talented chefs.

Another highlight of the current term was my bright idea to challenge my 13 HOS class to bake gingerbread horses to sell and raise funds for the Whangarei Riding for the Disabled. In a whimsical notion of madness I decided that we should bake more than just one or two batches and before we knew it, more and more students became involved and we were soon surrounded by little gingerbread ponies as far as the eye

could see....2350 at the last count and still counting! It costs approximately \$8 to make each batch, yet the RDA stand to get \$80 from the proceeds so every little edible horse created is incredibly precious. Ideally I would like to raise as much money as possible to make a little difference to the many members of our local disabled community who benefit from the RDA. I do, however, have to put a plea out for sponsors so we can keep buying ingredients to keep baking our gingerbread horses and the RDA can keep providing the wonderful service that they do. Please contact me on [nicki.knier@wghs.school.nz](mailto:nicki.knier@wghs.school.nz) if you are able to donate towards ingredients and remember that Gingerbread horses are available to order from your daughter for only \$2 each with all proceeds going directly to Whangarei RDA. All the money raised is already earmarked by the RDA to build a new roof over the mounting block, used to help the children get on their horses, so that the users all stay dry and sheltered.

As always, I am incredibly proud of my students and I feel privileged to be instrumental in their culinary adventures. Maybe rewarding times in the hospitality rooms whilst at school will encourage more students to consider cheffing as a career. It's a very challenging yet rewarding career and one that I would whole heartedly recommend. Well done girls for being so amazing. I really am proud of you!

*Nicki Knier*  
**Foods Teacher**





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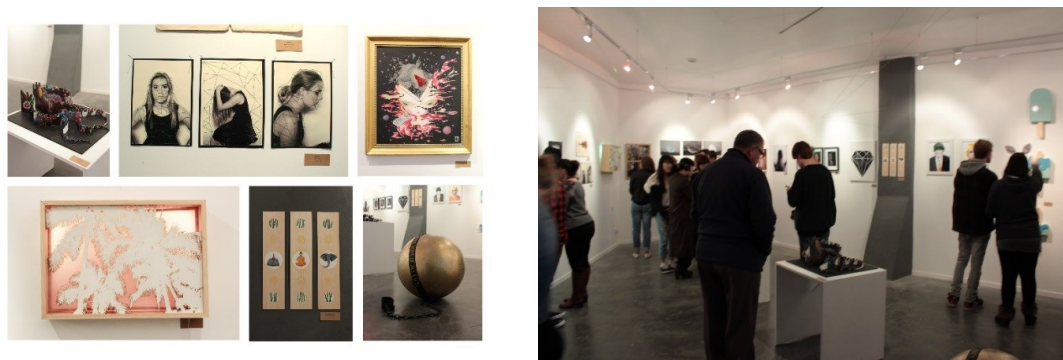
## Technology & Arts

### Art/Tech Exhibition

The Technology and Art departments held a very successful exhibition in the theatre foyer during the SPT Interviews. Work from Design and Visual Communications, Product Design, Textiles and Visual Arts, covering a range of both senior and junior student work was on display for parents to peruse after their whanau teacher meetings.

### Quarry Arts Exhibition

The Quarry Arts Exhibition opened in the last week of Term 2 and showcased work from our Year 13 Painting/Design/Photography students in a wide range of art disciplines. The student work was of an excellent standard and the public response was full of praise.



### Shutter Room Exhibition

Our Year 12 and 13 Photography students had the chance to enter photographic work into the Shutter Room Exhibition "Teens defining Photography". Students exhibited their work alongside other Northland Schools and the opportunity to have their work viewed in the public area was a great experience.

### Bernina Fashion Awards 2015

This year we have approximately 26 entries in the competition, including 5 from our teaching staff. We are excited to see the students' garments on stage. This year's focus has been on innovative use of textiles and manipulating materials. The show is on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August at Forum North.

### WGHS DESIGN Blog

Exemplars of student work is available for viewing on the following blog <http://wghsdesign.blogspot.co.nz>

### Newmarket Young Designers.

We had two students who entered this competition by submitting a folio of design and development resulting in a detailed final design inspired by specified designers. We are pleased that Briah Petersen was selected as a finalist and is now creating her Comme Des Garcon / Rei Kawakubo inspired garment.

### New equipment

The technology department has recently purchased NEHOC A3 THERMAL PRINTER this machine will enable us to create screens for printing onto fabric, canvas, paper or wood in minutes using the students' own drawings and designs. The thermal copier transfers designs onto a mesh in seconds, creating screens up to A3 size, using a thermal process - no chemicals/solvents, no hand cutting - fast, easy, low cost and mess free. We are so excited to be using this machine and can't wait to see the high quality and professional results from students at all levels.

We are also looking into purchasing a LASER CUTTER for WGHS. We believe this will be an essential tool, bringing the department into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It would provide students with access to industry based equipment and the ability to design and manufacture products which match the quality of products sold commercially. The cost of this new machine would be approximately \$20,000 and we are looking to attain funding from a variety of sources.

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**Continued...**

**Flox workshop**

The Year 12 Art History and painting students have been lucky enough to spend two days in a fabulous workshop run by New Zealand Artists, Michel Tuffery and Flox. Both artists shared their practice and materials which allowed the students to complete a wonderful set of artworks to take home and learnt a range of new skills and techniques to use to produce work for the remainder of the year.



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Michael Frayn's Whangarei Girls' High School presents:  
**NOISES OFF**  
Directed by William Walker

Adults \$14 Students and Beneficiaries \$8  
OPENING NIGHT DINNER and SHOW \$ 47.00

Wed Sept 9 - Sat Sept 12 @ 7.30pm  
Sunday Sept 13 SPECIAL MATINEE @ 1pm  
SPECIAL \$6 PREVIEW ON TUES 8 @ 7.30PM

**PH. 430 4460**  
DOOR SALES AVAILABLE

**'THE FUNNIEST FARCE EVER WRITTEN.'**  
NEW YORK POST

 Proudly supported by: 

The Drama Department has had a very busy start to the term with two Year 11 Productions on in Week 2.

Two very different plays, performed by many talented young women. Here are a couple of shots from...

*"Because the world needs Unicorn"*  
*"The Odyssey"*  
&  
*"Chook Chook"*



# NOISES OFF

by Michael Frayn

*'One of the funniest farces ever written!'* New York Post

It is 1974 when a troupe of actors take the naughty British bedroom farce, 'Nothing On' on a tour of provincial NZ. Unfortunately, there are as many hijinks and cross-loves happening between the cast as there are in the farce they are performing. The result is two farces occurring at the same time – the one on the stage and the one back stage!

With the use of a revolving set, Noises Off reveals both comedies to the real audience. Described by both the New York Post and The Daily Telegraph as, "The funniest farce ever written," Noises Off delivers an evening of gags, risqué humour and slapstick that will tickle the funny bones of anyone who buys a ticket to see it.

There are four casts to this year's Graduation Production. Each student has at least two performances and most have three. Director and Drama teacher Mr Walker says that this is the most demanding Graduation Production so far because, with two plays occurring simultaneously on stage, and no less than ten doors opening and closing, the precision of the comic timing is essential to the mechanics of the comedy and, therefore must be rehearsed over and over. 'I am very confident, however, that the marvellous students I am working with will pull off six great nights at the theatre,' he says.

Noises Off **opens on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9** and runs each night until SATURDAY 12 in the **Hall Theatre at 7.30pm**. It closes with a 1pm matinee on SUNDAY 13.

Tickets cost \$14 for Adults and \$8 for students and beneficiaries.

There is a SPECIAL \$6 PREVIEW on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

There is also an opportunity to buy a DINNER and SHOW ticket for just \$47.00 on WED 9 SEP.

**BOOKINGS can be made by ringing the office on 430 4460**

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## Lupton House Boarding Hostel

Well we are surviving the winter elements so far and the old Oak tree that stands proud and tall outside the front of Lupton House has finally stopped dropping leaves all over the ground and fortunately on our parked cars too.

Hostel life is ticking along very well and the girls go about their day with minimal fuss and direction. They keep very busy with School/Cultural/Sports/outside school and Gym activities and keep up with the training schedules that go with that. Hostel resident Amy Payton (Yr.11) was selected for the top WGHS Netball team. She is required to do early morning training sessions throughout the week and the match games are usually on Friday evenings. Other senior girls at Lupton coach, manage, referee and play in teams showing their dedication to their sport and assisting the school to oversee such a large number of teams.

Wednesday activities during Term 2 were very successful with our Year 9 & 10 girls participating in fortnightly in-hostel game challenges. Hostel resident Courtney Hammond (Yr.10) organised these activities which help promote self-confidence, leadership skills and more importantly were also a lot of fun. A group of Year 11 & 12 girls not involved in outside activities used their Wednesday activity time travelling to Northtec to be Hair & Beauty Models for the trainee students to complete their assessments i.e. hair ups, massage & body/facial electrical. We are very fortunate that the tutors transported the girls to and from using the Northtec Van.

On the 25 June the Lupton & Carruth hostels held their annual Mid-Winter Xmas Dinner. Carruth House hosted the junior girls and boys (Year 9 & 10's). Pat & Martina (Lupton supervisors) escorted the girls down to Carruth House. They provided a beautiful dinner, glazed ham, jacket potatoes, salads, bread rolls and dessert was meringue & fruit - our compliments to the cook. Carruth staff organised an awesome game after dinner with different challenges. This was a lot of fun and very competitive. The two Lupton teams took out first & second place. It was a very enjoyable evening.

## Lupton Head Girl Report

*from Adrienne Gardiner*

On the 25 June Lupton House hosted a dinner and the senior boys from Carruth House were invited. It was a fantastic night filled with fun games like scatagories and we enjoyed a delicious roast pork dinner and chocolate log for dessert. The mid-year Christmas theme created a beautifully set out dining hall that made it feel like Christmas had come early. I myself thoroughly enjoyed the night as it gave everyone an opportunity to mix and mingle, which made for a fun night and lots of laughter.

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## Careers

Year 10 students are currently looking at careers in their 'World of Work' Social Studies topic, where they identify key attributes about themselves and link these to job ideas using [www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz). Some of the careers staff have been talking to students in these classes and helping them to recognise that this is the first step in their career planning.

At this time of year our Year 13's are in the middle of making some big decisions for themselves in terms of their futures beyond school, at the end of this year. We are working with them to help them gain some clarity about their next steps, so that they can leave with a plan, regardless of what they are thinking of doing.

For students from Year 10 to Year 13 there are some key messages around careers. - I have put together some 'top tips' for students to take on board:

There are a variety of options for those students who are leaving school:

*If your daughter has no idea what she will be doing at the end of this year:*

Students are being invited to see the Career Counsellor this term if they have no idea what they are doing beyond school this year. Students can also come to the Careers Centre and make an appointment.



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*If your daughter needs support with training or course options:*

Ms Innes and Ms Rees are available (via the Deans' Office) to see students who want more specific careers support – for instance what kind of training they can do.

Course planning support is being offered right now – students who are thinking of going to university can put their names down with Ms Kerr at the Careers Centre. The tertiary providers will be coming in to help students with these decisions. All these details are in the daily notices for students.

Senior students can access the 'Break Out' site at school for information on what funding and scholarships are available to them.

*If your daughter is planning to enter work or work experience:*

For students who are deciding to go straight into work as a first option – CV and interview

information, and resources to support this, are provided at the careers centre.

Students can access a CV template on the 'N' drive.

Some students may decide to re-enter training at a later date, others will discover that career pathways can continue while they are working.

Until students find paid work, they can get volunteer work or help out in the community: work experience contributes to a person's employability and keeps skills (such as time management) current. It also helps to maintain a feeling of self worth during this time of transition.

If your daughter needs support with any of the above pathways she can arrange to see anyone from the careers team.

**Careers Team**

### Top tips for study...

	<b>Students (Yr 10 – 11)</b>	<b>Senior Students (Yr 12 - 13)</b>
<b>Know yourself</b>	Understand yourself in terms of your Skills, Interests and Values (what is important to <i>you</i> ).	Use your understanding of your Skills, Interests and Values when generating job ideas using the career activities on <a href="http://www.careers.govt.nz">www.careers.govt.nz</a>
<b>Be Curious</b>	The best career decisions are informed ones. Keep checking out ideas and <i>don't dismiss any ideas until you know and understand what is involved in each</i> . Keep subject options wide.	<i>Check out job descriptions and opportunities as a first step to planning</i> . The next step will be whether you study, train, go to uni or get paid or unpaid work.
<b>Set up a CV</b>	Get a CV set up (even if this is only for holiday work). Research says that the most likely people to find work are those who have sought part time work or work experience while studying at school.	Whether you decide to pursue ongoing training, or find work, a CV is the first step, for holiday, part time, or full time work. Some students attach a CV to their tertiary applications.

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## International Students'

### ***Pia Marincovich***

Hi! My name is Pia Marincovich, I'm 16 and I'm from Chile.

I arrived in New Zealand on the 11 of July 2014 and I'm going back home on the 4 of July 2015. My experience at Whangarei Girls High School was amazing. I think a letter is too short to fully show my appreciation and gratefulness. When I started school I was so nervous to meet new people and to start a new life here. then I met all the incredible people in all my different classes and just was so natural how I started to feel so good. I felt accepted as part of this big family at WGHS. Now I think I really don't want to leave the school, my teachers' my international friends or my kiwi friends, I definitely recommend WGHS because I hope that other girls can have the same wonderful experience as mine.

Goodbye everybody!

***Pia from Chile***



***Doreen Sliwka***

Every international student, which is going to go back to their country is asked to write one of these letters/articles. So am I. Well I'm really happy to have had the opportunity to come to New Zealand. These 6 months were the best of my life. All the students and teachers gave me a big warm welcome, it was great. Not just that, Jill gave me an awesome host family. I'm so pleased to call them my "family". For sure I

will miss them so badly. All these memories we made together are unforgettable.

Actually I can't say everything that I have done, learned and experienced here. But the best thing is that I have found so many new friends. What I know for sure I miss you so badly. Even boring subjects seemed so much fun with you. The teachers showed me it's not always boring to learn.

All the stuff that happened here, I'm not going to forget it. At the moment all the planning is going on to go back, but actually I don't want to. You all gave me so many reasons to stay and made my farewell even harder.

Thanks to so many people. All these big and especially little things made my stay so great. For all this I'm so incredibly happy.

THANKS

What I know for sure I will come back in one way or another to see you again.



***Doreen from Germany***

### ***Emma Andersen***

An awesome year!

When I first received an e-mail from my agency, telling me that I was going to a girls' school during my exchange year in New Zealand, I honestly wasn't too excited. I was pretty prejudiced coming from a co-ed school with no rules for clothing; it seemed like a girls' school where you have to wear uniform and so old school. All though I must admit I was quite excited to experience the school uniform without people judging you from what you're wearing. As I couldn't change the fact that I was going to a girls' school, I thought I might as well make the most out of it and start on Whangarei Girls' High School with a smile and

***Continued...***

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an open mind. This have never helped me as much, as on Girl's High. It only took me a few hours to fall in love with the school. I felt like everyone returned my smile, they introduced me to their circle of acquaintances and have always been so interested and friendly to me all the way through my year that is almost at its end. Not only the students from my classes, like my lovely Whanau, fiery dance class, adventurous OED students and so on. I don't know if it's just the kiwi style to be open, or if WGHS is particularly special, but it has definitely given me the best school experience I could ever imagine on my exchange! Not only the students, but also the staff, the teachers have made me feel welcome, and the many opportunities of subjects to choose have been amazing. There're so many things about this school that I'll miss, but the main thing is of cause the people that I've developed so close friendships with.

Starting on this school has really made me realize that you do get what you give – so always smile and have an open mind! Thank you for Whangarei Girl's High School for confirming that for me.

***Emma from Denmark***

## **Whangarei Girls' High School Ball**



The WGHS Ball was held last term and a great time had by all. Well done to Emma Barnes and Dayna Shelley for all their hard work in organising this years Ball.

Here's a collection of photos of the award winners...



**Ball Committee leaders,  
Emma Barnes & Dayna Shelley**



**King and Queen, Olivia Lobb &  
Angus McKinnon**



**Prince & Princess, Adriana  
Harkness & Flynn Hill**

## School Calendar

<b>Aug</b>	17	International Languages Week Police training
	18	Police training Spelling Bee Nats
	19	Option forms due in NSSSA teams Badminton Police training
	20	Practice exams Police training
	21	Practice exams International dress up NSSSA Netball snr Police training Yr 9 & Yr 10—police visits
	22	13DRA rehearsal NZSS Lacrosse YES trade fair
	23	3DRA rehearsal NZSS Lacrosse
	24	Practice exams ITC travel course Yr 9 & Yr 10 HED police visits
	25	Practice exams ITC travel course NSSSA Netball jnr Yr 9 & Yr 10 HED police visits
	26	Practice exams International students' Rotorua trip ITC travel course Yr 9 & Yr 10 HED police visits
	27	<b>PLD 1/2 day PD—early finish</b> Practice exams International students' Rotorua trip Yr 9 & Yr 10 HED police visits
	28	Practice exams AUT trip—TBC International students' Rotorua Trip Yr 9 & Yr 10 police visits
	29	NZSS jnr Basketball zone Yr 13 Drama rehearsal
	30	Chris Aruthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZ Indoor Bowls NZSS Basketball Zone 1&2 NZSS Tournament Week UNISS Yr 13 Drama rehearsal
	31	NZSS Tournament Week Chris Arthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZ Indoor Bowls NZSS Golf UNISS

<b>Aug</b>	31	Yr 13 Barista course 1
<b>Sep</b>	1	NZSS Tournament Week Chris Arthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZSS jnr Basketball zone 1 & 2 UNISS Yr 13 Barista course 1
	2	NZSS Tournament Week Chris Arthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZSS Basketball zone 1 UNISS Yr 13 Barista course 1
	3	NZSS Tournament Week Chris Arthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZSS Basketball zone 1 UNISS Yr 13 Barista course 1
	4	NZSS Tournament Week Chris Arthur Cup Marie Fry Fed Cup NZSS 1st XV Rugby NZSS Basketball zone 1 UNISS Yr 13 Barista course 2
	5	13DRA rehearsal NSSSA CTS #5 Whangarei NZSS 1st XV Rugby NZSS Basketball zone 1
	6	13DRA rehearsal NZSS 1st XV Rugby NZSS Cheerleading NZSS Swimming
	7	13DRA rehearsal Yr 13 Barista, course 2 Yr 10 OPC
	8	11OEE Weaving Camp 12BAP internal assessment Yr 13 Barista, course 2 Yr 10 OPC Yr 13 Drama production
	9	11OEE Weaving Camp BOI Int Speech comp (pm) NSSSA Indoor Bowls Yr 13 Barista, course 2 Yr 10 OPC Yr 13 Drama production
	10	11OEE Weaving Camp 13DRA Show Do IT Day! Yr 13 Barista, course 2 Yr 10 OPC
	11	13DRA Show Yr 13 Barista course 2 Yr 10 OPC