



Whangarei Girls' High School

September 2015



Tournament Week 2016

www.wghs.school.nz



Dear Parents / Caregivers

Tena koutou katoa

This term seems to have flown by in a whirl of cultural performances, sporting competitions, Science Fair and practice examinations.

The Year 13 Drama Show being performed this week is an absolute “must see.” The talented cast, superbly led by their drama teacher, Bill Walker, have mastered this slapstick comedy to perfection. You will be thoroughly entertained, all the while marvelling at their clever timing, impressive athleticism and the sheer enjoyment each of them has in carrying out their roles. Next week Bill Walker leaves us for six school weeks to act in a show himself which is being performed in Christchurch’s Court Theatre, opening in October. We all wish him all the best with this show and know that he will bring back rich experience for our students and staff in the Drama Department.

We also congratulate our Science Fair winners and thank staff member, Tamara Phillips, for her encouragement and support of the entrants. The girls were well rewarded by picking up some good awards, including a trip to Otago University.

The Lions Young Ambassador of the year final was held last week and were thrilled to gain first and second places. Kerira Tapene is now \$1000 richer and goes on to Auckland to compete in the next round of the competition. She narrowly beat her fellow senior leader, Eva Pearson, who was runner up. They had to submit a CV, be interviewed by the mayor, editor of the Northern Advocate and a member of the Lions’ Organisation and then give a speech on the topic of their choice. We congratulate Kerira and Eva on their success.

Last weekend was busy with the Tai Tokerau Regional Competition in Kaitia where Te Kapa Rau Aroha competed. Their singing was beautiful and they gave a spirited haka. They are to be congratulated on their hard work and the huge amount of time they have put in.

This year we have been focussing on improving cultural responsiveness and student centred teaching which go hand in hand, with the aim of improving student engagement and achievement. We have been working with outside facilitators from the Kia Eke Panuku programme and the Leadership PLD programme funded by the Ministry of Education. We have our last afternoon session next Wednesday afternoon when students will

finish classes at 1.15pm to allow a substantial block of time for the professional development.

Our building programme is still progressing frustratingly slowly but we are hopeful of having the three new classrooms for Health and Physical Education ready for the start of next year. The big two-storey block is still at least fourteen months away from completion.

Students have now completed their school practice examinations and staff have been working long hours marking them and writing senior reports which will be issued at the end of this term. The purpose of these reports is to give you an indication of what your daughter needs to work on between now and the end of the year so that she can achieve to the best of her ability. Please take the time to go over this report with your daughter, supporting her through the hectic last few weeks of the year when she will be juggling internal assessments and studying for external assessments. Help with study planning and time management is available from whanau teachers, deans or Shirley Ann Crosby, Careers Counsellor if your daughter would like it.

You will have seen the email regarding the Teen Mental Health Evening being held tonight. We often have queries from parents struggling to know to respond to their teenagers who seem down or depressed and this is a wonderful opportunity to come and find out more about how you can help them. It is open to the general public from all the schools and I encourage to come along and find out more about it.

As this is the last newsletter for this term, I wish you all a safe and happy holiday. It is important that your daughters take time to have a break and recharge their batteries as well as managing a study programme.

We have our whole school assembly the second week of next term and Senior Prizegiving is on 4 November.

Regards

Anne Cooper
Principal

Photos from Tournament Week 2016



Head and Deputy Head Girls



With the arrival of Spring this month comes warmer temperatures as we approach the end of Term 3, and oh what a term it has been!

Practice exams are over and hopefully you've all taken on board any extra feedback your teachers have given you as we move closer to NCEA exams in November. Keep studying hard! But at the same time do remember to give yourself a break now and then.

Everyone's contribution to Project Connect has been astounding, and it's overwhelming to see such a continuous flow of donations! We're particularly proud of everyone's effort to bring in donations for the Salvation Army at such short notice, after being told about their need of food on such short notice. The gratitude they showed towards our school was so heart-warming and it just goes to show how much of a positive impact our school can have on the community. We really can't thank you all enough. With our Connect For Box decorating competition underway, we hope that this will encourage even more girls to get involved and bring in donations! Remember that creativity is key! Our Student Council this year is doing an amazing job, and we are currently finalising what the work day money will be spent on. Watch this space!

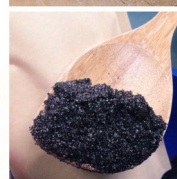
It's not long until the holidays now and no doubt some of you will be starting or finishing your final internals of the year so keep putting in the hard work and take advantage of all the facilities the school has to help you do your best. Don't forget

that House Day is during the first week of next term so you have all holidays to find your costumes and get your house spirit going!

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



\$4 LIP SCRUBS



\$10 BODY SCRUBS

**REACH US ON FACEBOOK:
SUGARSUGASCRUB**

SUGAR SUGA
BODY SCRUB | LIP SCRUB



Purchase Ballance Agri-Nutrients fertiliser from PGG Wrightson this spring to earn \$\$\$ for your local community.

PGG Wrightson is pleased to partner with Ballance Agri-Nutrients to donate \$1 per tonne of fertiliser purchased. Open to PGG Wrightson account holders only. Terms and conditions apply.

It's easy for local farming families to nominate WGHS

Go online to www.cashforcommunities.co.nz and see how you could start earning donations for the school. Ballance-Agri will donate \$1 per tonne of fertiliser purchased.

Uniform

We take pride in having our students looking good; wearing the uniform correctly.

We would remind you that the correct uniform consists of:

- Black school skirt with the school logo (no more than 5cm above the knee)
 - or black school trousers with the school logo
 - White shirt with the school logo
 - Blue school jersey and/or the school black jacket with the school logo
- Plain flat black shoes worn with white ankle socks or black or natural stockings or flat black sandals without socks.

Students may NOT take skirts or trousers in. Coloured tops under blouses are NOT acceptable.

If a student requires a belt, this must be plain black.

Extra jackets or hoodies are NOT acceptable.

Jewellery

An ID or medic-alert bracelet may be worn
A neck chain or bone carving that has special significance may be worn

Wristwatch, ring, ear studs or small sleepers may be worn. No other jewellery is permitted.

No visible piercing is permitted.

We ask you to assist us in keeping our standards high and ensuring that your daughter is correctly dressed.

School Early Finish

Wed 16th Sep

Students will finish classes at 1.15pm on Wednesday 16th Sep 2015 for whole staff professional development on student centred learning.

Classes will run for the first four periods, but there will be no classes after 1.15pm.

Buses will run at the scheduled times. Supervision will be available for those students who are unable to make alternative arrangements. Please notify staff in the front office if you wish to make arrangements for supervision of your daughter.

If you are not receiving these important notices via email, and would like to, please email office@wghs.school.nz with your daughter's name and the email address you would like it sent to.

Studylink

Students thinking about further study after they leave school have a lot of choices to make.

Sussed Online is a great way to get thinking about what it will cost to live and study.

Will it be broadband and baked beans, or dial up and dining out? Part-time job or parents helping?

Hear from students about their experiences and the choices that need to be made. You'll also find out more about StudyLink and what they do along the way.

We encourage students and parents to check it out at www.studylink.govt.nz.



Science Corner

Science Fair

Congratulations to all of our Science Fair participants. WGHS was well represented. In particular we congratulate:

Milly Barton-Smith, best Year 9-10 Research
Courtney Hammond highly commended Year 9-10 Research

Lauryn Smith, best Year 9-10 Investigation, Outstanding Experimental Technique, best Year 9-10 award, along with industry awards

Emma Barnes, best Year 11 - 13 Investigation, Outstanding Experimental Technique and best Year 11-13 presentation.

Major Science Fair Awards

Otago University Hands On Science Award

Winner: Yeast Feast, Lauryn Smith

Nominations for Powering Potential

Winner: The Clear Truth, Emma Barnes

Hands on Science at Otago is an opportunity for students going into Year 13 in 2016 to experience a range of Science during January. If you are interested in taking up this opportunity visit this website or ask your Science teacher for more information. <http://handsonscience.otago.ac.nz>

Brain Bee

An early start to a long day. Waking up at 6:30am to study, eat, school uniform on, study some more and walk out the door to the competition. I couldn't believe it. I was in the national finals, representing WGHS in a neurology competition – The Brain Bee. The day was cold but clear, nice winter weather. It was nerve racking seeing the competitors roll on in. The group sizes varied from each school. From the smallest of 4, to the largest, roughly around 10-14. I was the only single competitor from a school. We were all herded in the theatre and seated. A guest neurologist/neurosurgeon spoke to us. He spoke of his love and fascination of the brain, and how it makes every single human being on this planet different, and inspired each and every single being in the theatre. Before I knew it, the teachers and parents were sent to the back and the students spaced out with our pens and a plain piece of paper in front of us. Part A was starting. This part of the competition would decide the top 8 (out of the 182 of us), then the top 3 and finally, the North Island Brain Bee champion. The theatre fell silent as the questions were read out one by one. Clapping filled the theatre again, as teachers and parents cheered us all for completing the test. For the hours, days, weeks of study. Now for the fun. 182 turned into 91 as we were split up to go on the tours or team challenge. Visiting the labs and hearing about what the university students were achieving was truly astounding. The anatomy library was the second visit. The anatomy was a library of slides and cases of sections of the human anatomy. Just like books being sectioned into book categories, the library was sectioned into parts of the body. We were then whisked away back into the theatre to watch the finals. The top 8 were called out. In a few short minutes, turned into 3. All boys. After 15-20 minutes, 3 turned into 1. The boy who had won came from Auckland Grammar and he had only answered a few wrong. He really deserved his success. Yes, it was disappointing to not make the top 8, but just being there at the competition was already a big achievement. I would go again any day.

Josephine Schwartfeger

Media Studies Department: A Shout Out to the PTA

This month our Year 11 students are busy and into movie making mode with making an Instructional video. They have designed storyboards, written scripts and gone location scouting as preparation for the next phase of the production – filming and editing. This inaugural year group have been very fortunate to have some additional equipment given to the department through the financial assistance of the PTA who have allowed us to purchase a Go-Pro camera with assorted mounts, two wireless microphones and some specialist lighting gear. Thanks to the generosity of Sue Wordsworth and her fellow PTA team our students are ready to utter those classic words “Action” and “Cut” when making their ‘how to’ videos on things as diverse as making your own photo booth, how to longboard, or fix a flat tyre and make your own Les Misérables fort out of pillows! Thanks too, to Te Kowhai Robinson and Ashleigh Yates who gave a great presentation to the PTA about their media experiences and the creative production work students in the department are doing this year.

Wghr 87.8: We are all set to celebrate the first year anniversary of a truly great part of our school, our own student led and run radio station, in October. The PTA have also helped us out by providing funding for a wind blade style of flag that bears our logo and tagline “When Girls’ Hijack Radio” on it. This will be used on a daily basis with the flag put out with our sound system during lunchtimes and will make us particularly visible at our live events. The radio students have some great ideas for celebrating our first birthday and there will be more information in the October newsletter and daily notices.

Bridget O’Rourke
HOD Media Studies

International Students

Hey everyone!

My name is Amelie and I’m one of the German exchange students at this school. For the past year I have been living here in Whangarei and I must say the time went by sooooo unbelievably fast. In the last 12 months I have attended WGHS and to be honest, it couldn’t have been any better. To leave home and go and live on the other side of the world in this mazing country has been a great experience and I’m so glad that I took this opportunity.

Attending an All Girls High School and wearing school uniform was something totally new and a little bit strange for me at the beginning, but now I must say, that I had the best time of my life here. And I know most of you guys won’t agree with me, when I say that school is so much fun here, but having those amazing subjects like OutdoorEd, Food and Nutrition and Product and Design was truly special to me.

My time in New Zealand was, without doubt, the best year of my life, but it was also the hardest year of my life. Coming to a completely different country with a new culture, new language, new everything wasn’t always easy. Leaving my family and all my friends behind in Germany was really hard for me and I just want to say a big THANK YOU to all of you, who took me in in my first weeks and made my time here so wonderful. Y’all are the reason why I don’t want to leave NZ anymore. You guys are so amazing and I’m going to miss all the girls from Girls High so much.

Now I have to say thank you to my awesome host parents and my amazing host sister Izzy. THANK YOU so much for letting live in your home and giving me second family. I also want to say THANK YOU to Jill Brien, who made my stay here even possible.

Now I just have almost no time left here anymore and it is time to say good bye. New Zealand is like a second home to me now and I promise that I’ll come back to this amazing place in not time! I’m going to miss you all



Amelie

Random Acts of Kindness Day

On Tuesday the 1st of September a group of five students from WGHS travelled to Cairnfield House rest home. We had been approached by an organisation to participate in a "Random Acts of Kindness Day".

This involved learning hand massage from a tutor at the Evolution School of Beauty, then using our new skills to give the residents of Cairnfield House a wonderful soothing treat.

At the rest home we were joined by a group of students from Kamo High School who had also learnt some massage techniques and were participating in the day. We spent an hour massaging.

Huia, Sarah, Holly, Katie and Grace



Student Support Centre - Doctor in the School

Students now have access to free medical appointments with Dr Cheryl Bollen from Octane who comes into school every Wednesday morning from 9.00am – 11.00am.

Students are able to make appointments with Doctor Bollen through the Student Support Centre.

School Calendar


Sep	14	12OED OPC Great Barrier Police training
	15	12OED OPC Great Barrier Police training Yr 10 Contribute planning
	16	Early Finish 1.15pm 12OED OPC Great Barrier Beauty course NSSSA Badminton Open Police training Rotary Speech Comp—Zone
	17	12OED OPC Great Barrier Beauty course NSSSA Ki o Rahi Police training
	18	12OED OPC Great Barrier Beauty course Music lunchtime concert Police training
	19	12OED OPC Great Barrier
	23	Contribute Days Yr 10 13BIO/BAP zoo trip ASS Rogaine champs Hairdressing courses Rotary speech comp Rugby 7s Yr9 & 10 Yr 13 Barista—course 2
	24	Contribute Days Yr 10 12 & 13 Ent trip 13ENG01 Seminar Day Hairdressing courses Pop up Hospice store
	25	Term 3 ends Senior reports issued 13OED SUP event Contribute assembly Hairdressing courses
Oct	12	Term 4 begins Police training
	13	Barista—Level 3 Police training
	14	House Day 12OED (A) Abseil pp Police training
	15	House Day pp 12 OED (B) Abseil pp Police training
	16	Police training YES Regional Awards
	19	13HOS Sky City Barista Level 3

Oct	20	Barista—Level 3 Cultural Awards Evening
	21	Whole School Assembly 13OED Suba
	22	WGHS Sports Awards 13OED Suba
	23	13OED Suba NSSSA Touch Yr 9 & 10
	25	Adventure Racing
	26	Labour Day Adventure Racing
	27	Barista—Level 3 Yr 10 Camp—PD
	28	NSSSA AFL Jnr Service Assemblies
	29	ASB NSS Sports Awards Service Assemblies
	30	Music lunchtime concert Tuku Korero Jnr Speech
	31	NSSSA Hip Hop

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

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NEW YORK POST

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THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM PRESENTS

FREE ENTRY

Heartlanders



NEW ZEALANDERS OF THE GREAT WAR



An exhibition, travelling in containers, bringing the stories of our brave soldiers back home to the communities where their journey began.



Town Basin, Whangarei

Sun 18th Oct 2015, 9am to 5pm

Mon 19th Oct 2015, 10am to 6pm



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