

May
2018
Term 2 Week 14

Waiheke High School Newsletter



Kia ora,

Welcome to Waiheke High School's newsletter. Today is Pink Shirt Day and the school is filled with students wearing pink costumes to make the stand that "bullying is not okay". I think our PSSP group is going to find it a tough task to choose which Whanau class will win the pizza luncheon prize for the class wearing the most pink.

As previously mentioned, Waiheke High School will undergo some building refurbishment during the rest of this year and the addition of a new 10 classroom flexible learning environment will be underway by the end of 2018.

Last week we held an Open Evening to welcome prospective parents into our school. We invited Year 4 to 6 parents to come, look and hear about our school. This was an introductory evening so that we could get our senior student leaders to escort parents and students around specialist learning areas of the school. The school advertised in the Gulf News, on our school website and the community notice board and we notified both primary schools. We absolutely accept that some parents did not know that this was on, though we had advertised it across many avenues.

Waiheke High School has worked hard this year to have a current website and facebook page that features events and our calendar. Please go onto these sites and check our calendar.

Waiheke High School has so much to be proud of - a small school with a big heart. Today I signed a "get well" card that was signed by a huge number of students who were all genuinely concerned about an unwell good school mate. I stopped and read the messages of care, love and affection by these students towards this young boy. Whanaungatanga and manakitanga are strong features of culture at Waiheke High School.

Our students frequently talk about their aspirations - in life and in the world of work. Our pass results for 2017 are outstanding - a small school with big results:

NCEA Level 1 - 93%

Level 2 - 91%

Level 3 - 87%

University Entry - 68%

(Continued on page 2)

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 29th May, 2018, 7:00pm in the Waiheke High School board room

Term Dates

28 May -

1 June Senior Assessment Week

30 May Year 7/8 Parent Teacher Interviews

4 Jun QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY

8 Jun Year 7&8 Disco, School Hall

29 Jun

Matariki Celebration

6 Jul

END OF TERM 2

(Continued from page 1)

Over the next couple of months we will hold more open evenings for Year 7 and Year 8 students. Also there will be another information evening for Years 4 and Year 5 students and their parents.

It is with interest that I have watched the impact of an Auckland based magazine in 2017 and some media releases from a particular journalist over the last year. Whilst I am the first to appreciate open, honest, fair and respected reporting, the article in an Auckland based magazine in 2017 was incorrect around results. Again, other reporting that I have read recently does nothing to celebrate what a wonderful high school we have on this island with wonderful teachers, students and most of the community.

Our approach is of celebration of our school and the journey that we are on to have young people who will take their place in the world in a meaningful way.

Jude Young,
Principal

SAVE THE DATE:

CAREERS EVENING AT WAIHEKE HIGH SCHOOL

TUESDAY 3rd JULY

All students, parents and caregivers Years 10 - 13 invited

5:30pm: meet in the school foyer. 6:00pm-7:30pm: parents & students meet with tertiary and industry providers

**NEW FORMAT: WE HAVE INCLUDED A GREATER NUMBER OF PROVIDERS THIS YEAR;
THEY WILL ALL BE IN THE HALL - EXPO STYLE**

Staff Profiles

Pita Mahaki, HOD Māori

Growing up, I went to a rural primary school on horse back. The school was named after my great grandfather Tawera who gifted land to the Government because he did not want his grand children to miss out on their education, particularly during the winter period when the river flooded.

Despite this generous gesture my parents and older siblings were beaten by teachers for speaking their mother tongue. It almost worked.

Things have changed and teachers and students are now tasked and encouraged to use Maori words during lessons. As a whanau our only means of communication was Maori until I was 12 years old. It still is our preferred and natural way of speaking when we are together. So now I encourage you,

"Kia kaha tonu e hoa ma, korerotia to tatau reo rangatira".

nga mihi aroha naaku iti noa na

From the Science Department



Robotics Outreach Sessions

We were very fortunate to have Kelly Bickerton and our Robotics Club students run Robotics lessons with our Years 7 & 8 Science classes. The students got to have a go at programming a robot online and steering it through a virtual maze. The students then got to programme a real robot to navigate through a maze. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to get some hands-on experience with Robotics. Robotics Club meets afterschool on Thursdays. More information can be found at the office, or email waihekerobotics@gmail.com

Kiera Pennell

Sponsor a Piupiu



Waiheke High School Piringakau is seeking local support for our Waiheke youth to 'Sponsor a Piupiu' for the Kapa Haka team competing in the annual Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga Regional Competition in October.

When the Kapa Haka attended the Polyfest in March 2018, we were unable to wear our piupiu because we only had 6 piupiu and our group now exceeds 24.

In order for our youth of Waiheke to represent our community and stand proudly taking their place in Auckland Regional competitions, we need to be dressed appropriately and we need your support.

Sponsoring a Piupiu includes:

- *Cost \$440 + GST*
- *Sponsors invite to an exclusive full dress rehearsal concert showcasing the brand new selection of songs and choreography performance before the competition.*
- *Acknowledgement in the Gulf News with a photo of the student in the piupiu stating the sponsors name, an acknowledgement spread in the school newsletter and on the school website and social media sites.*

Please contact Whaea Te Ao Marama Hau for more details. haut@waihekehigh.school.nz 09 371900 ext 216



Waiheke High School
Piringakau Kapa Haka

Level 1 Health Problem Solving Trip



The Level 1 Health class travelled to Birkenhead last Friday to participate in problem solving and teamwork challenges including team building, archery and high ropes. The aim of the trip was to help the students explore the areas of problem solving, communication, interpersonal skills and relationships. It was a great day enjoyed by all.

Kiera Pennell

High School Football

Football Season has started at Waiheke High School

The 1st XI and 2nd XI seasons started this week. Both teams had tough matches with the 1st XI going down to a strong Waitakere side 3 - 0 and the 2nd XI also having their first loss against Epsom 3 - 0. Both teams are showing plenty of promise and we are looking forward to the rest of the season. Please come along and support home games. Draws and results will be published to the WHS Sport Facebook page each week.

Junior Football

We are lucky to have a professional football coach coming in to run junior football sessions during lunch times for students in Years 7 -10. Boys training will run on Mondays and girls trainings on Tuesdays. The aim is to improve skill and fitness. This is open to any players of all skills levels and experience. You don't need to be in a team to play. We encourage anyone to come along, join in and give it a go. Make sure you remember to bring your PE kit.

Kiera Pennell



Waiheke High Girls' 1st XI Soccer Team



Waiheke High Girls' 2nd XI Soccer Team



Photo: Junior boys football first football session on Monday.

English

Between thumb and forefinger, a future...

by Molly Davidson (Year Eleven)

They carry the weight of a revolution in the hands of something so light. Something so fragile. Humans, such lovely, fragile things. They are glass, swinging on a pendulum of twine - just a tether away from breaking.

Yet despite this, they choose to swing harder. Humans will soon learn that this only results in shattering. And that the beautiful glass they attempted to balance so carelessly, will become thousands of pretty shards, shards that will soon disintegrate to dust. And that dust will be swept into the wind as if it had never existed to begin with.

The sheer fragility of humanity was realised with infinite difficulty. But that didn't matter to the Others. To them, human life was insignificant - the end justifies the means totally and completely. Viewed through the lens of human morality, there was no possible justification for what the Others were going to do. A silly comparison: human morality and ethical belief. To the Others, humanity had been given enough time, and that time had been wasted. To the Others, this was an opportunity for humanity to serve a real purpose.

The purpose was cradled between thumb and forefinger, promising things that the human mind simply could not perceive. Oh, how brilliantly naive, these human minds...

Fondling the curvature of the minute object, the Other let it lie flat in its palm. The transparent sealant of gel allowed the intricate maze of wiring, more complicated than even a spider's web, to be visible. Understanding the complexity of each individual wire was far beyond the capabilities of human comprehension. They could not ever begin to understand that each of the thousands of wires invented to create the device had taken longer to develop than the entire trajectory of human evolution.

Time simply worked different in the realm of humanity. It probably mattered more, each day taking on greater significance, as the entire life span of an individual equated only about 50 Earth years - so short. Ironic, really, considering how poorly that valuable time had been used.

The device was precariously small, maybe the size of a pea. Circular, an almost sphere, yet flat on one end. This held great importance, as the device working depended on the magnetism of the smooth surface, holding major repercussions for the two life forms. Humans had no knowledge of this yet. Held to the light, the device emitted rays of technicolour kaleidoscope, wires no longer discernible. What a beautiful, ugly thing.

The Other squeezed its eyes shut tightly, creating white spots in the corners of its vision, its grip on the device subsequently increasing. It shifted tensely, sprawled across the chair in the corner of the room, hands curled into fists.

It could not bear to look at the pinholes of light woven into the infinite expanse, nor at the great sphere of blue and green. Although no environmental change was visible from this great distance, the Other was aware of what had been destroyed. It was becoming increasingly unsure that the actions of its life forms could ever be forgiven or forgotten. It was beginning to question what gave them the right to decide that their lives were of greater value than the lives of all others. How could one existence be justified, if it required the complete destruction of another? Could one not admit, that when reliant on a manipulated foreign life form to sustain a functioning society, that self-reflection of lifestyle choices may be necessary?

The Other sighed in exasperation. Too late now. Too late. And it was of course an Other, and this is what they had to do. This is what they should do. Hell, humans deserved what was coming, the devices already implanted into the some nine billion on board of the several ships. Mindless slaves, reaped of their lives and land without the opportunity to defend it. Not really humans at all... They wouldn't be treated as such. No, it was an Other, and this is what had to be done in order to survive.

Between thumb and forefinger, the future.

A future that would herald death to modern day human society, and birth to a new kind of slavery.

The Other let the device slip through its hands. Foolish to have thought of the insignificant nothings that used to be called humans...



Pink Shirt Day



The winner will be announced on Monday. There will be some other spot awards.

Thanks to everyone, the participation was great.

We raised \$128 for the Mental Health Foundation, so thanks to everyone who dropped a gold coin into the pink bucket.

Thanks for helping us to have a fun pink day, hopefully the anti-bullying message rang through.



From the Health Clinic

YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

In accordance with the National immunisation Schedule, the children in Year 7 are due for a booster dose of the Boostrix vaccination. This vaccine covers Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping cough. The reason we immunise is to protect our children against diseases. They can still get the disease when they have been immunised but this is a mild dose compared to what would happen if they were not immunised. Whooping cough still remains round in our community and immunising your child is the best protection.

We give this booster dose against these diseases because over time immunity wanes. If we do not give this vaccine they are more at risk of getting the diseases.

The students will be given an information sheet and consent form in early June, children can easily lose these so keep an eye out for them in the bottom of the school bags. We will send out a few reminders and please contact us if you require an extra form. Completed consent forms to be handed in to school office, date yet to be confirmed.

We cannot vaccinate your child if we do not have a consent form. We will confirm the date of the immunisation program closer to the time and you will be notified through the newsletter and email. Please contact the school nurse Maggie Lethwaite if you have any questions or queries regarding this vaccine, or you can visit www.immune.org.nz for more information.

Board of Trustees Election for Parent Representative (By-election)

2018



**SCHOOL
TRUSTEE
BY-ELECTION**

**Step forward
Piki ake**

We currently have a vacancy for 1 parent representative on the Board of Trustees at Waiheke High School.

The term of office for this elected representative will be from 26th June 2018 – June 2019.

Nominations are invited for this position.

Nomination forms and a Notice Covering letter can be obtained from the school office. These will also be posted to everyone on the voting roll on Monday, 21st May 2018.

You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself (make sure you sign both parts of the form)

Nominations close at noon on Tuesday, 5th June 2018, and should be accompanied by a signed candidate statement of no more than 400 words.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

A list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, will be available for inspection at the school.

Signed: Brenda Harrington, Returning Officer

**INFORMED
TRUSTEES**

**confident
futures**

**Make a difference.
Become a school trustee.**

Nominate yourself or someone you know today.

Being a school trustee is an important role that needs people with a range of skills and experiences, who will make a positive difference to our children's learning. Make a difference and nominate yourself or someone you know by filling out a nomination form available from your school.

Learn more at www.trustee-election.co.nz

**SCHOOL
TRUSTEE
ELECTIONS**

Make a difference
Ki te whakapiki

School Bus Start Time Change

On Monday 21 May the urban route bus timetable will be changing to reflect the Fullers Winter Ferry Timetable. The School Bus **090** that currently departs Matiatia Wharf at 07:50am will be changing to depart 5 minutes later at 07:55am. Please adjust expected pick-up times on this route to reflect this.

Bus Services Team, Auckland Transport

Waiheke High School Māori Performing Arts

Cultural Experience



Support Waiheke High School raise funds towards a set of traditional Māori pluplu (grass skirts).

Option 1: 5 – 10 minute opening ceremony, costume, karanga, karakia and waiata \$500 (2-4 ppl)

Option 2: 10 – 15 minute performance, full costume, waiata, action song, poi and haka \$950 (5-8 ppl)

Option 3: 15 – 20 minute performance, full costume, karanga, haka pohiri, mihi, waiata and action song \$1200 (8-12 ppl)

Prices exclude gst

Please contact Whaea Te Ao at Waiheke High School haut@waihekehigh.school.nz
or 09 371900 ext 262

Waiheke High School would like to thank the following businesses and individuals
for their ongoing support :

Fullers - Travel

Sealink - Travel

Waiheke Rotary Club - Science/Robotics

WISA - Breakfast Club

KB Distributors - Breakfast Club

Countdown Supermarket - Breakfast Club/
Matariki

Gulf Foods - Matariki

Village Butcher - Matariki

Contact us:

Principal:

Jude Young

Senior Management:

Tony Sears

Paul Knighton

Trudie Jamieson

11 Donald Bruce Road, Surfdale,
Waiheke Island.

Phone: 09 371-9000

Fax: 09 372-5474

E: enquiries@waihekehigh.school.nz

Web: www.waihekehigh.school.nz