

Newsletter

Issue 18 8 December
2016



Principal Preece's Final Piece



We have a new Principal. Well done to Alistair Luke who has secured the position after a rigorous weekend. We received 16 applications for the post and the BOT shortlisted 4 candidates to interview (after referee checks)! The candidates had to make a presentation to the BOT and then an hour long interview. They also made a presentation to staff. At the end of all this Alistair emerged as your new Principal. Having worked with Mr Luke for the last 8 years I have no qualms at endorsing his selection (**no contrary to popular opinion a Principal doesn't choose his successor**). He has all the personal and professional attributes to take our school to the next level. I am confident that he enjoys widespread support from our whole school community (BOT, staff, pupils and whanau). All of us wish him well.

There are another couple of appointments that I can share with you. We have appointed Mr John Boer to teach Chemistry/Math and Science. Currently he is teaching in Northland. Mr Dean Rainey has been appointed as the Lumley House dean.

Both of these positions start next year. We still have a few part-time hours to fill plus if our current roll growth continues we may be able to put extra staffing into years 1-8. We already have 15 new enrolments for February (aside from our new year 9s).

Our school modernisation programme continues with Rms 11, 1 and the CAL centre all due for completion before the year ends. The latter has been transformed from a run down canteen into a careers hub, where students and their parents can access everything they need for advice on future careers. Over the summer break all our rooms will have heat pumps installed and we have been assured that they will be ready for the start of next year. Our growing collection of Outdoor Ed equipment has been relocated to one of the large sheds and Rob Wynn will be teaching at that end of the school, so handy to beach, pool and storage.

We have 2 final prizegiving's scheduled. On Tuesday 13th we have our 7-10 acknowledgements in the **hall from 7-9pm**. This will celebrate the sporting,

cultural and academic achievements of these students. This is followed by our final year 1-6 assembly from **9.30am on Wednesday 14th**. These students will leave with their parents at the conclusion of this event at about 11am!

There are a significant number of staff leaving us and it's vital to acknowledge their contributions. So many thanks to Allan McKenzie, Chris Somerville, Renee Meiklejohn, Vicky Bradshaw and Diane Soffe both on behalf of you as parents and myself personally. As leader you are only as good as the staff you employ and we have been fortunate to have the quality of staff we have. All the best to those departing for the next challenges in their lives!

This is my final piece to our school. I feel honoured to have been Principal of our school. I'm very happy with 'where we are at' and delighted with your new Principal. Our school is currently thriving, my thanks to any member of our school community who has helped us along the way. Enjoy the break, many thanks!**Cheers RP**



Year 1—6

Tena koutou,

What an amazing year we have had. I have just finished reading students reports. It is fantastic to see how much growth they have had in themselves and their learning over the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and caregivers who have helped us in the classroom and class and sports trips and camps throughout the year. We really appreciate your time and input.

In preparation for the end of term students can come in mufti on Tuesday as they will be cleaning and clearing classrooms. This will ensure that their uniform is clean for prizegiving on Wednesday.

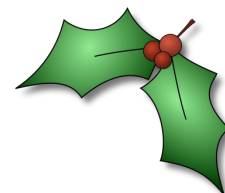
Prizegiving starts at 9.30 am and should take about an hour and a half. We look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate our students learning.

We would like to acknowledge Mrs Chris Somerville. Chris is a great teacher, who has a passion for teaching and working with children,

Sue Brookes

Assistant Principal

Yr 1-6



sadly she has decided that it is time to have a life style change. We would like to wish her well and look forward to her coming to visit us. Our students and families have been very lucky to have her as a teacher.

We have been working on class lists for next year, but as staffing for 2017 has not been finalized yet , we **may not be able** to let you know what room and who the teacher is until the 25th January. We would rather withhold lists until everything is confirmed, rather than tell you one thing and have to change it. We hope you understand.

Have a great summer. We look forward to seeing you all back at school next year. School starts for students on Thursday 2nd February.

Ka kite

Regards **Sue Brookes**



Assembly Awards

Room 9 Harekeke

Jack Lowe / Luka Wilson / Emily Archer
Antoon Taikato / Averie Robson

Room 4 Manuka

Micah Tai'i / Millie Wilkinson / Sabin Sheasby

Room 6 Pohutukawa

Max Mills Adeyne Taikato / Cotter Jensen

Rm 8B Kauri

Bridie Pugh / Amethyst Thompson-Davis

Yr 7/8 ITF

Brianna Fulton / Clodagh Mulvihill

Room 3 Kaponga

Eli Callaghan/ Koopa Pickett-Heemi / Te Paea Te Aho

Room 5 Kowhai

Daniel Lewis & Claudia Morrison

Room 7 Rimu

Room 20 Totara

Seb Alchin / Kayla Hersom

Yr 7/8 MJ

Cheyenne Clark-Smith / Ana Laing

News and Views from the Middle Ages - Year 7/8



Maryanne Judd HOD Yr 7/8

Final Newsletter of 2016

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make 2016 such a great year in the Middle School at Whangamata Area School. The end of the year has come around so quickly. As a celebration of our time together in 2016 and a farewell to our wonderful group of Year 8 students as they move into the senior area of the school... We have planned a "Beach and Movie day" for next Tuesday December 13th. Please return permission slips along with \$10 to Ms Stewart or Mrs Judd ASAP if your child is attending this fun excursion.

Prizegiving + School Reports

Year 7-10 Prizegiving will take place on Tuesday 13th December, at 7:00pm. It is an expectation that ALL students attend in clean, tidy uniform. Reports will be issued at the prizegiving.

Thames Valley Primary Schools Athletics

A fantastic group of students, including six year 7/8's went to Te Aroha to represent our WHOT cluster at Thames Valley athletics. All six of the 7/8's achieved a placing.

Placings:

Holly Taikato	= 3rd High Jump: 12yr old girls
Holly Taikato & Sienna Taikato	= 3rd equal Long Jump: 12yr old girls
Theresa Eng	= 3rd Shot put: 11yr old girls
Shore Harada	= 1st Long Jump: 12yr old boys
	= 1st 800m: 12yr old boys
Kloe Robinson	= 3rd 800m: 12yr old girls



7 of our 8 cluster relays placed 1st or 2nd. A special mention to Shore who attended Waikato Yr 7/8 Athletics and placed 3rd in the 800m.

Students to be applauded for effort, success and acting as superb role models

A big thank you to my teaching team and support staff who have consistently given more than 100% throughout the year making sure that they have provided the best possible learning environment for your children.

Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and wonderful summer holidays.

Santa Parade

The Lions Club is needing children of all ages to participate in this year's Whangamata Santa Parade. If your child is interested could they please be at the St John's Ambulance bay at 12.00 noon to be fitted for costumes. The Santa Parade starts at 3pm. Children will be handing out lollies during the parade.



Of Secondary Importance years 9—13



Alistair Luke
(Incoming Principal)

As the year draws to a close it is great to see so many students taking advantage of the opportunity to taste their 2017 programmes. This learning time has been meaningful and a number of students have started to make alternative choices regarding their options. We believe this two week trial will allow the start of 2017 to run much more smoothly.

I am writing this piece from the Hillary Outdoors Centre in the Tongariro National Park where our Senior Leadership Team for 2017 are undergoing a week of team building, personal and group challenges, and having conversations about their ambitions for leading a positive student culture in 2017. It has been a privilege to watch these young people face and accept challenges that stretch them well beyond their comfort zones. They are shaping into an excellent team and they have many positive ideas for 2017.

A reminder about our Year 7-10 Prizegiving which will be held in the Gym at 7pm next Tuesday (13/12/16). This is the last official school event for the year for these students and they will be issued with their reports at the conclusion of the prizegiving.

As this is the last newsletter for 2017, we wish all students, parents and their whanau a safe and happy festive season and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Thursday February 2nd 2017.

Nga Mihi

Library News



Jan Shanks—Library

Thank you to all our amazing families for your support with our recent Book Fair. Your generosity has enabled us to spend \$1,100.00 on new books for the library.



Year 10 Camp



Rebecca Whatley



The 4 day annual camp for Year 10s started on Tuesday the 22nd of November. Three van loads of students and Greg Laing's ute all headed off to the Blue Lake. We arrived at camp around mid-day and started to put up the tents and settle in before lunch. As soon as the stomachs were satisfied it was off down to the lake for biscuiting and wakeboarding, huge fun had by all. After a dinner of nachos and ice cream we headed into town to the indoor rock climbing.

The next morning it was up for a solid breakfast and then back down to the lake. Greg tried really hard to get Mrs Whatley and Sam Whatley off the biscuit but of course failed in his quest! Back to camp for lunch and then back into the vans to Wingspan. Here students were entertained by the native NZ falcon and learned about the great work that Wingspan are doing to increase numbers of native birds. Back to camp for more biscuiting and then it was a quick change and into town to catch a movie "The Arrival", Miss Tupper found this movie extremely profound, the rest of us just wondered what the heck we had just watched. Even after huge boxes of popcorn, drinks and ice-creams the students found plenty of room for a combo meal from McDonalds on the way home.

Up early the next morning and into town for an "Amazing Race" organized by the Rotorua Museum. The winning team was Annie, Tyla and Mia, well done to them! We all then headed back to camp for hotdogs and a change into river rafting gear. All back into the vans and we headed to raft the Kaituna River. Mr Wynn had brought his own kayak and showed us all his awesome skills in the river. All students and staff bravely rafted and not one raft tipped as it went down the 7m waterfall. Even Mrs Wynn got to have a go while Mrs Whatley and the students looked after Sophia.

A quiet time back at camp and then we all headed into the Polynesian Spa for a good relaxing soak (the departure was slightly delayed by Joseph, I'll let you ask him why).

Friday morning and time to pack up camp. After breakfast we said goodbye to the Top 10 Blue Lake Camp Ground and travelled to Skyline to ride the luge. Back into the vans and it was time to head home to Whangamata.

We had the most incredible weather and an awesome time. Thanks to the students for being great ambassadors for the school and to the team of helpers who made it all possible.



Office of The Mayor

29 November 2016

The Blue Team
Master House Chef Winners
C/- Whangamata Area School
PO Box 8
Whangamata 3643

Dear Teo, Callum, Lily and Brianna

Well done on all your efforts to win the annual Master House Chef competition at Whangamata Area School.

I am sure your culinary skills will stand you in good stead as you get older and it is great to see young people like yourselves enjoying and expressing your creativity through cooking.

Congratulations on your win.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sandra", written over a faint, larger blue ink signature.

Mayor Sandra Goudie
Thames-Coromandel District Council



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Wishing you all safe and happy holidays!

If you need help for your family during this time....

For all emergencies ring 111

Whangamata Medical Centre is open their usual hours, except for Christmas Day and Boxing day. 07 865 8032

The Whangamata Community Services Trust is available up until the 23rd December and then open again on the 9th of January 2017

Healthline is a health support/information service 24hrs a day- 7 days a week on 0800 611116

Youthline is available for children for support 8am – Midnight on 0800 376 633

You can also contact me your Public Health Nurse on 021 241 7800

See you back at school in 2017!

Tracey Hilt



I wish to acknowledge and thank the members of our school community who have taken the time to congratulate me on my appointment as principal this week. I am both excited and humbled by the opportunity to lead our Kura into the future and to continue to develop learning programmes that will challenge and stimulate our students, whilst also allowing them to achieve their aspirations for the future. I wish also to acknowledge the work and efforts of Ross Preece who has worked to lay a fantastic platform from which I can begin in this new role.

Nga Mihi
Alistair Luke



Janice Hope

Wearable Art Design Showcase

WINTER 2017—Keep all your Xmas wrappings etc for this show which will be held next year.

Sections:

Whanga Wear

Totally Recycle made item

Up Cycle remake an item from existing clothing

Out in Space

A themed design

Entries for all ages, items can be made at home and at school.

Whangamata Summer Festival

December 27 2016 — January 20 2017

A range of events and activities

For a programme please call in at Info Plus or get a copy from the school office.

TERM 4 CALENDAR		
9	5	Barista Skills training / Rms 3, 4, 5, 9 beach visit
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	Yr 9-10 assembly /
10	12	
	13	Yr 7-10 prizegiving 7pm/ yr 7-8 reports issued / yr 9-10 reports issued
	14	Junior prizegiving / LAST DAY TERM 4

This calendar was correct at time of printing. For confirmation on any of these entries please contact the teacher involved or the school office

Selfies with Santa



Bring your children to InfoPlus Centre for a selfie!

**SATURDAY
10 DECEMBER
2.00-3.00PM**

**SATURDAY
17 DECEMBER
10.00-11.00AM**

**InfoPlus, Port Rd
Whangamata**




*Another great initiative from
Enterprise Whangamata & InfoPlus Centre*

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Dear Santa, Hey Kids!!!!

Don't forget to write your letters to Santa Claus and make sure you drop them into
THE WHANGAMATA INFOPLUS CENTRE, PORT ROAD.

Saturday 3rd December, weekdays 9.30am - 5pm and weekends 9.30am - 3.30pm

Santa promises to send a letter back to every good girl and boy!
So be sure to include your mailing address!!!

