

Newsletter

Issue 7

25 May 2017



Alistair Luke

Principal



Winter has certainly arrived with a vengeance this week. Our newly installed heat pumps have been working overtime as the first cold snap of the winter has arrived.

One of the joys of the job is the ability to get around the school and see as many classes as possible in action. Just today I have been treated to a fantastic display of ecosystem dioramas from the students of room 5 and have just had a chicken taco hand delivered by the students of year 10 food technology. On Wednesday we were treated to yet another performance by our musicians during break time, and many of these musicians represented our school at the Smokefree Rock Quest at the weekend. The pride shown by these students in the work they are producing is fantastic to see.

Also this week we have our Drama students away at a Tiki Taane Mahuta performance, our year 11 literacy students are biking the Hauraki Rail Trail, an event they have organised themselves as part of their literacy learning, and four classes from across syndicates one and two heading to the estuary to support their learning about habitats.

Another joy of the job is being able to sight and sign the many KORU postcards that are sent home celebrating effort and work that goes the extra mile. It has been pleasing to note the number of postcards going home recently celebrating excellence grades for senior students in NCEA assessments. This is the time of year to really make opportunities count.

Last week we hosted a meeting of Principals from schools all around the Coromandel Peninsula who have combined to form a Community

of Learning or COL. As a group we are trying to identify and address challenges that are shared by all schools in our region, and create opportunities for our students that we may not be able to provide on our own. As it was our turn to host this group, we also had to provide lunch and I wish to thank Mrs Myers and the year 10 and 12 Food Technology students who catered this event. This is another example of real life contexts being applied to classroom learning. All our visitors were impressed with the meal laid on by our students.

We have a couple of changes looming on the staffing front. I mentioned in the last newsletter the imminent departure of Mr Rainey. He will be leaving us at Queens Birthday weekend and will be replaced by Mr Eugene Du Preez for the remainder of 2017. Mr Du Preez is a former student of our school and brings a wealth of musical knowledge and enthusiasm to the role. Mr Drakefield has resigned his position as HOD English. Mr Drakefield wishes to be closer to his family base and will be leaving at the end of term two. We have advertised for a replacement.

Finally a reminder that our school cross country has been rescheduled to the 6th of July. With the recent rains, there is intense pressure on the Titoki golf course while the Williamson Road course is repaired so the new date is the next available date for us to hold this event. It will be a great way to finish the term. Nga Mihi.

Contact
information: office@whangamata.school.nz

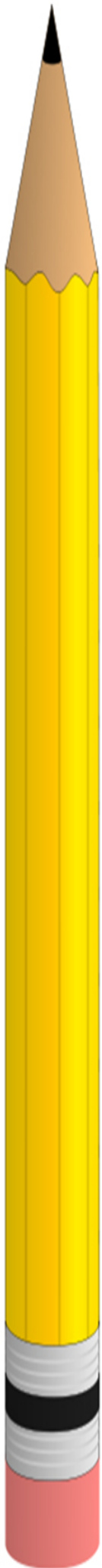
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Year 1—6

Tena Koutou,

The frosts this week were more than a gentle reminder that winter is on its way. Because of the warmer afternoons, the lost property box is rather full. Please check if your child has lost an item of clothing.

On Tuesday , at break 1, many of the students that take music lessons gave us a great concert.

It was good to see these students sharing their talent with us. Well done to everyone involved.

This week we have had a new **kid** at school. Mrs Spencer has a baby goat that has been in need of hand rearing. The children in Room 3 have been very caring surrogate mothers. Oreo has responded well to all the attention and is now feeding. It has been great to watch the students walking him around at break time and taking care of him.

We have classes heading off to the Estuary

for a study of the insect life this week. I hope that the weather will hold and the insect life will be plentiful.

Unfortunately, Mrs Facey has had to take a weeks leave to be with a sick relative. A notice was sent home to children in her class. Mrs Nordberg is relieving for her while she is away.

On Wednesday, at break 1, our fire alarm was set off. The students demonstrated that they know their emergency procedures and all moved to the field , where they were met by their teachers or a member of the leadership team. Well done.

Take care and keep warm.

Ka kite

Regards **Sue Brookes**

Sue Brookes

Deputy Principal

Yr 1-6



Assembly Awards

Room 1	Room 20 Ethan Jameson / Angus Hetherington-Lowe
Rm 8A Eden Smith /Carter Gibson-Brockwell	Rm 8B Shania Holmes / Seb Gleeson
Rm 9 Neco Amess / Ryder Metcalfe	Room 3 All the children who have earned their recent certificates for great home and school reading. 50 and 75 night awards.
Room 4 Mila Tamaka / Luka Wilson	Room 5 Holly Matheson / Leo Scott
Room 6 Millie Wilkinson / Dahlia McClain	Room 7 Joshua Hoskins / Makayla Williamson

Lost Property

Our lost property box is bursting at the seams. Could parent please check the lost property box outside the school office regularly if your child has lost an item of clothing or shoes. Also if parents could please check the name on your children's sweatshirts etc to make sure they have the right clothing.

This calendar was correct at time of print. For confirmation on any items please check with your child's teacher or the school office

Wk	TERM 2 CALENDAR	
4	22	Y 1-6 Assembly
	23	
	24	girl's rugby - Have a Go day / AUT at school / Drama trip
	25	11 Lit Rail Trail bike ride / Estuary visit
	26	11Lit Rail Trail bike ride / Yr 10 Outdoor Ed day/ BOP Polytech Open Day
5	29	
	30	First Aid course (Gateway & outdoor ed)
	31	First Aid course / Thames Valley Secondary Schools Cross Country
	1 June	
	2 Sat 3	Yr 11 Outdoor Education Tramp / full school assembly Yr 11 Overnight Tramp
6	5	QUEENS BIRTHDAY - School closed
	6	
	7	Year 5 -8 Junior Tough Guy/Gal
	8	
	9	
7	12	Year 7/8 Camp - (ALL WEEK - returning Friday 16 June)
	13	Victoria Uni here at WAS
	14	
	15	Stage Challenge
	16	Stage Challenge / Yr 9-13 Assembly
8	19	Yr 12 - 13 Heli Tramp / Yr 1 - 6 Assembly
	20	Yr 12 - 13 Heli Tramp
	21	Yr 12 - 13 Heli Tramp
	22	
	23 Sat 24	Whangamata Netball Club Ball
9	26	Yr 1 - 6 Matariki Week (ALL WEEK)
	27	Height Safety Course (Gateway)
	28	
	29	
	30	Yr 1-6 Reports issued / Yr 9 - 13 Assembly
10	3 July	Yr 1 - 6 Assembly
	4	Yr 1 - 6 Parent interviews
	5	Yr 1 - 6 Parent interviews
	6	SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
	7	FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

International



Students

Homestay Families needed!

At the end of this term we will be losing some of our international students as they head home to continue their schooling in their home country. It's always a pleasure to see how our students welcome their international peers.

We have new students arriving in July and more students have already applied to come to WAS next year.

We would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in becoming a host family.

All homestay families receive a weekly fee and continued support from the school.

Students choose to come to Whangamata Area School because of our family atmosphere, to take subjects not offered in their home country, and of course to experience our very special location!

Many students look forward to having a host family who is interested in the outdoors such as hiking, surfing, kayaking, skiing etc.

I'd love to hear from anyone who would like to become involved with our international students.

***If you would like to find out more contact the office or get in touch with
Margaret Birkett at***

international@whangamata.school.nz

We get wonderful feedback from our students and their families.

Thanks, Margaret....for
supporting Anna Maria in such a
wonderful way - she had the
most spectacular time of her
life!

***She is playing rugby now....thanks again for
supporting Johanna and giving her a wonderful
year in New Zealand.***

Hi Margaret, We are very proud of Constantin's
achievement as well. Really impressive. We have to
thank you and the school for forming both of our
sons to such great personalities. No words can say
how grateful we are.