



WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

Together □ Believe □ Achieve □ Ngātahi whakapono tutuki

Newsletter

10 February 2017

Term 1 Issue 1

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Welcome to 2017

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to the 2017 school year. A large amount of preparation has occurred to ensure all learners are able to achieve their educational goals. Ten days ago I could have told you that we were fully staffed for the new year, but since then, we have had and another 55 enrolments. This puts real pressure on our current staff and our timetabling team. However, thanks to the patient cooperation of teachers and learners, we will shortly be adding classes to reduce the strain in a number of areas and balance the load. Thank you for your understanding.

Learning and achievement are clearly important and our 2016 NCEA results once again, show that Whangaparaoa College performed as well or better than other decile 8-10 schools. This is due to the hard work and commitment by our teachers, the willingness of learners to engage and pursue academic success, and of course the huge support that you give as parents.

At Whangaparaoa, we welcome contact between home and school. For parents, the best first point of contact with the College, is your son or daughter's Academic Counsellor. I would expect you to hear from Academic Counsellors and teachers over the next few weeks. Please do not hesitate to contact them to discuss matters involving learning and other opportunities available here at the College. Another good way to get information, eg, Daily Notices, Calendar, Sports information; as well as informing us about an Absence, is our school App. This can be downloaded to your smart phone from a Play Store or similar.

The College is currently involved with some exciting property projects. After many years, we now have a wonderful new canteen/ café area called the Kura Kai Café. This is located centrally under the library area and we believe it will become a real hub here at Whangaparaoa College.

If you have visited recently, you will have seen a string of lampposts running from the front car park to the gymnasium. I am delighted to say, that we will soon have quality external lighting.

For many years, we have talked with the Minister of Education about the unfinished state of the internal gymnasium walls. In December, we finally had agreement from the Ministry and approval to get the job finished.

Another area I'm particularly excited about and think is very important, is the introduction of solar power. We have some funds available for capital projects that cannot be used to cover day-to-day running costs. The Board of Trustees will put some of this money into generating electricity using solar power. This is not only wise in the 21st century but will also save operational spending.

You will have heard that the Ministry of Education has introduced the opportunity for schools to form Communities of Learning. This initiative provides significant time and resources for schools in a local community, to work together to improve the achievement of their learners. Last year we formed a Community of Learning with Stanmore Bay School, Whangaparaoa School and Gulf Harbour School. Miss Lisa White, Deputy Principal of Whangaparaoa College, has been appointed as the Leader of our Community of Learning for 2017. Lisa will be working with all four schools, to discover the best way for us to use the time and resources available, for the benefit of the learners in our community. Lisa is currently on sabbatical for Term One, but is spending a significant amount of her sabbatical coordinating the setting up of our Community of Learning.

Auckland Transport have been very clear that we need to separate buses, cars and kids. To this end, we introduced new systems whereby at the front of the school, the only pick-up drop-off area, is in the top car park. At the back of the school, we do not have such an area and there is no pick-up or drop-off for learners allowed inside the school grounds. There are three or four exemptions for parents who are transporting children who have particular physical challenges. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this area.

I'm looking forward to a very positive 2017. Thank you for your commitment to your child's learning and their involvement in so many positive activities. Thanks also for your support of the College.

Nga mihi nui
James Thomas, Principal

Careers

Free Family Information Evening for Whangaparaoa College Learners on Exchange Programs, Scholarships and Discounts Available in 2017:

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand would like to invite our learners and families to a FREE Information Evening in Auckland, on **Wednesday 22 February, 2017 at 7.00 pm.**

The session is being held at the **Parnell Community Centre, Jubilee Building, 545 Parnell Road, Parnell, Auckland.**

International Department

Welcome to all our new International Learners and to all our returning International Learners. It is excellent to see you all here and we are looking forward to sharing new experiences with you. We love New Zealand and it is our privilege to share it with you. We want you to have the best experience you can while you are here, both educationally and as a tourist. Seeing all the new things that you can experience and having some wonderful adventures around the country. It is with great pleasure that we congratulate the following International Learners who have passed various subjects with Endorsement.

Weizhe Wang – passed with **Merit Endorsements** in Level 1 Mathematics and Level 1 Physics/Chemistry.

Xintian Feng – passed with **Merit Endorsements** in Level 1 Geography and Level 1 Mathematics.

Cindy Xu – passed with a **Merit Endorsement** in Level 2 Mathematics.

Merry Lee – passed with **Merit Endorsements** in Level 2 Mathematics and Level 2 Physics.

Yuyang Chen – passed with a **Merit Endorsement** in Level 2 Mathematics.

Shiming Tan – passed with **Merit Endorsements** in Level 2 Art and L2 Mathematics.

Thipsuda (Boom) Sangsriro – passed with **Merit Endorsements** in Level 3 History and Level 3 Mathematics.

Wanning Zhang – passed with a **Merit Endorsement** in Level 2 Mathematics and passed with an **Excellence Endorsement** in Level 3 Visual Art.

Nam Hung Ngu – passed with a **Excellence Endorsements** in Level 1 Geography, Level 1 Physics and Chemistry and an **Excellence Endorsement** for Level 2 Mathematics.

We are exceptionally proud of these learners and the effort that they obviously put into their learning last year to achieve such amazing results.

We look forward to seeing what can be achieved at the end of this year.

Conjoint Dux Award 2016

Just before Christmas, I became aware of an unfortunate error with some data used to calculate our top academic awards for 2016. This affected the Grade Point Average of the learner named Proxime Accessit at the Excellence Awards. I have met with, and apologised to, the two learners affected and their parents; and now I want to inform our school community. Taking into account the top GPA's, the fact that we have already awarded the Dux prize, and considering the thoughts of those affected – my decision is that for 2016 there will be a Conjoint Dux award, going to Harry Creevey and Bethany Skyrme. Early in the new school year, the appropriate opportunities will be made to acknowledge Harry's position. We are certainly having a close look into how this happened, and taking steps to ensure it does not happen again. My apologies for the unnecessary hurt and embarrassment this has caused.

James Thomas, Principal

Sport

Welcome to Sports for the new 2017 school year! We have a lot happening this year, especially in the first few weeks of Term 1:

Swimming Sports

Years 9-13, Thursday 16 February. All those that wish to participate **MUST** sign up at the Sports Office by Friday 10 February.

Years 7 & 8, Friday 17 February. This is **COMPULSORY** for all learners in years 7 & 8, there is a mix of competitive and non-competitive events. All non-competitive events are class events, so everyone will be involved. For all competitive events, learners will sign up by seeing their class teacher.

Years 7 & 8 "Meet the Teacher" evening - The Sports Department will be at this evening to give you information on sports offered at Whangaparaoa College and answer any questions you may have.

Athletics

Year 9-13, Friday 24 February. The format for Athletics day has changed this year. Learners must sign up for their event before Monday 20 February. On the day, all those signed up will meet at the Sports Office at ACG time (8.40 am) to receive the schedule of events for the day. All other learners will go to normal ACG time. Normal classes are run through the day for non-competitors and those signed up to compete will come out of their classes at their event time. They will complete their event and then return to class. PE gear or suitable sports gear must be worn.

Sunscreen, hat and water highly recommended.

Futsal

Futsal begins in Term 1 at Whangaparaoa College on Wednesday 15 February for Years 7 & 8. The games will be played between 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm on Wednesday evenings in the Gym, run by Northern Football. Years 9 and over, will play on Friday nights at AMI Netball Centre on Northcote Road. Registration forms are in the sports section of the school website.

Netball

Netball Trials are on Sunday 19 February. Please ensure that you have filled in the registration form on the school website.

Years 7-9: 8.30 am – 11.00 am

Years 11-13: 10.30 am – 1.00 pm

Sports Registration

Anyone wanting to sign up for sports this year, must fill in the online Sports EOTC form available under "Registration" on our school website, as well as the form for the specific sport.

Zone Days

We offer a range of Zone Days each term for Years 7 & 8. "Expression of Interest" forms are on the website to be filled out.

If you would like to volunteer to help out for any of these days as coach, manager or driver etc, please email suziwo@wgpcollege.school.nz

Additional information regarding sports will be posted on the Sports Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Whangaparaoa-College-Sport-601080449910112/>

Sports website <http://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/>

Or - Download the College Mobile App! <http://onelink.to/nmupf5>

Kura Kai Café



Before the start of term, we had a dawn blessing for our new Kura Kai Café which is now open for business and proving to be very popular.

The café is situated under the library area, where menus are displayed and these can also be viewed on our school website.

Upcoming Events

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|
| February | 10 | Level 1 SCIE Trip |
| | 15 | Level 2/3 2016 Academic Excellence Breakfast 7.45 am Years 7 & 8 Meet the Teacher 7.00 pm Sports Information Evening 7.00 pm |
| | 16 | Swimming Sports Years 9-13 Level 3 GEOG Trip |
| | 17 | Swimming Sports Years 7 & 8 Level 1 SCIE Trip |
| | 19-21 | Level 3 HIST Trip |
| | 21 | NCEA Information Evening 7.00 pm Level 1 GEOG Trip |
| | 22 | Level 1 HIST Trip |
| | 23 | ID and Class Photos |
| | 24 | Athletics Day Years 9-13 all day, Years 7 & 8 Period 5 |

For more information from our school calendar please see [Quick Links](#)

Carparks, Drop-off and Pick-up Zones

For the safety of our staff and learners, the gymnasium carpark is designated a staff-only carpark and Disabled drop-off/pick-up zone, Monday to Friday, 8.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Only permit holders will be able to use this carpark. Permits are issued by Ginny Catterall, ginnyca@wgpcollege.school.nz

We have a spacious carpark near the front of the school (indicated below) for all drop-off and pick-ups, as well as learner parking. Entry is off Stanmore Bay Rd. Thank you for your co-operation.



Community Notices

stowaway Lockers Lockers



The lockers in the J Block downstairs area have all been allocated. However, we are starting a waiting list and if there is enough interest from parents we will install another bank of lockers. There are also still lockers available in the ICT Suite.

Please go to our website www.stowawaylockers.co.nz , click on and complete the order form to either go on the waiting list or to get a locker in the ICT Suite.



Graphic Calculators for Sale

The College is selling Casio fx-9750GII Graphic Calculators. These are the NCEA approved calculators for Level 1-3 Assessments. A limited number are available from Learner Accounts now.

\$99.00(rrp: \$132.95)

Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

\$500

ASB lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. To be eligible for this donation your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the security property provided to ASB. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property. Only one donation will be given per customer. Donations will be made by ASB on behalf of the customer to the chosen school upon full draw down of the new home loan. This offer excludes loans for business purposes and bridging.

ASB Bank Limited 56380 16785 017

Whangaparaoa College Physio Clinic (established 2010)
for learners and staff

John Lanigan Dip Phty, Dip MT
Physiotherapist 30 years.

Neck or Back Pain
Sports Injuries / Sprains
Physio Rehabilitation after Plaster or Operations
Specialized in Teen Sports / Growth Injuries



Coast Physio Group

Conveniently at College to reduce time out of class

Discounted ACC Surcharge Only \$10 for School Clinic Treatments / Non ACC \$45
Parents / caregivers welcome to accompany their child

Where? NOW MOVED to the ex-Uniform Shop (near Admin top entrance)

When? Open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11am-2.20pm
After hours treatments can be arranged at Coast Physio, Whangaparaoa

To make an appointment or discuss your needs:

Phone / txt 021 1873 299 or Coast Physio 09 424 1309



Proud to Support WGPC Sports Teams