



**SPECIAL NEWSLETTER**  
**February 2016**

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The start of the year has been very smooth. The majority of students presented themselves well, in the correct school uniform on the first day. Thank you for your support in that regard.

Our Senior staff have been working very hard to ensure that students are appropriately placed in classes, and this work is continuing daily.

For the most part, students have moved up to the next year level with the same form teacher that they had last year. Staff changes have meant that some classes have a new form teacher. The relationship between a form teacher and student (and parents) is an important factor for student success at school, and as the year progresses, each form teacher should be mentoring their students, endeavouring to find out as much as possible about their goals and ambitions, and encouraging each student to work to achieve these goals. Many staff prefer to contact parents by email, which is an ideal way to keep abreast of happenings here. To this end, please ensure that we have your correct email address – please ring the Student Centre (349 0177) if you have changed it recently.

For new parents, there are generally one or two of these newsletters per term. I have taken to sending them via email, and they will also be available on the School's Website, with paper copies at the Main office. There is also a newsletter published in the River City Press (RCP) on the last Thursday of each month. If you do not receive the RCP you can obtain a copy of the newsletter from the front office or arrange for it to be posted out to you, by calling the Student Centre.

This year we have adopted a different structure around the management of each year level – we have assigned one senior staff member to assist the deans. The responsibilities are as follows:

Year Level	Senior Staff member	Deans
9	Mr Paul Turner      Deputy Principal	Mr James Sullenberger Mrs Rebecca Hardy
10	Mr Darren Torrie      Senior Dean	Mrs Stephanie Andrews Mr Hunter Wilson
11	Mr Chris Friedel      Deputy Principal	Mr Jason Shepherd
12	Mrs Jenny Langrish      Assistant Principal	Mr Jimmy Leonard
13	Ms Nola Todd      Assistant Principal	Mrs Natalie Campbell

Please do not hesitate to contact these staff members if you have any concerns.

### IMPORTANT DATES in TERM 1 for your CALENDAR

<b>Wednesday 17 February</b>	<b>Year 9 Parents Evening – 7.00 – 8.30pm School Hall</b> <i>This is a good opportunity for you to meet your son's/daughter's form teacher and have any questions answered.</i>
<b>Tuesday 23 &amp; Wednesday 24 February</b>	<b>School Photos</b>
<b>Wednesday 24 February</b>	<b>Level 1 NCEA Evening – 5.30 – 6.30pm School Hall</b> <i>This is an excellent opportunity for any parent to learn about NCEA ( the National Certificate of Educational Achievement) Anyone is welcome to attend.</i>
<b>Monday 29 February</b>	<b>Wanganui High School Swimming Champs – 1.30 – 3.00pm @ Splash</b>
<b>Tuesday 1 March</b>	<b>P5 Professional development for staff</b> <i>Students will be released at 1.50pm. They are expected to go straight home and not into town, or through other school grounds. The Library homework centre is open till 4.30pm and buses run to the normal time schedule.</i>
<b>Wednesday 2 March</b>	<b>Junior Athletics @ Cooks Gardens 9.00am start</b>
<b>Thursday 10 March</b>	<b>Wanganui High School Senior Athletics – 9.00am start at Cooks Gardens.</b>
<b>Friday 11 March</b>	<b>TEACHER ONLY DAY</b>
<b>Friday 18 March</b>	<b>Interim reports issued</b>
<b>Friday 25 March – Tuesday 29 March incl</b>	<b>EASTER BREAK</b>
<b>Monday 4 April</b>	<b>Summer Tournament week begins</b>
<b>Wednesday 13 April</b>	<b>P5 Professional development for staff</b> <i>Students will be released at 1.50pm. They are expected to go straight home and not into town, or through other school grounds. The Library homework centre is open till 4.30pm and buses run to the normal time schedule.</i>
<b>Thursday 14 April</b>	<b>Parent interviews</b> <i>Booking is done online. Instructions will be included with the Interim report. Two sessions: 4.00 to 6.00 then 7.00 to 9.00pm held in Seddon gym.</i>
<b>Friday 15 April</b>	<b>Last day of Term 1 (eleven weeks)</b>
<b>Monday 2 May</b>	<b>Start of Term 2.</b> <i>Week 1 of Term 2 – 'odd' week for student timetables.</i>

For Parents of Year 9 students, we really appreciate your response to our request for students to bring their own device. We have an excellent coverage for the year group. Thank you.

When you are attending functions at the School, parking will be at a premium, so allow time to walk from your vehicle to the assigned venue. Also we are concerned about some parents who insist on dropping students off by parking across the various gateways into the school and obstructing entry/exit. The staff carpark is also not available for this purpose.

I would like to take this opportunity to suggest that students could be dropped off near the walkway on London Street.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the School.

Elizabeth Spooner  
Associate Principal