



SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
February 2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A special welcome is extended to all families and students new to the school, and for returning families and students, welcome back!

I greatly enjoyed the welcome powhiri I received as the new Principal of Whanganui High School on Friday 27 January, and I trust that all new students also enjoyed their special welcome last Monday, 30 January.

At Whanganui High School, an effective three way relationship between form teacher, student and parents is an important factor in establishing student success at school. As the year progresses, each form teacher will 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 contact parents regularly by telephone or email. Please ensure that we have your correct contact details by phoning the Student Centre (349 0177).

One or two special newsletters will be sent by email per term. They will also be available on the School's website, with paper copies available at the Main Office and the Student Centre.

There is also a newsletter published in the River City Press on the last Thursday of each month. If you do not receive the River City Press, copies are available at the Main Office or a copy can be posted to you. Please phone the Student Centre to arrange this.

We have assigned a Senior Leadership staff member to assist the year level Deans.

Responsibilities are as follows:

Year Level	Senior Staff member	Deans	Email addresses
9	Ms Nola Todd Deputy Principal	Mrs Natalie Campbell Mr Hunter Wilson	todd.n@whs.ac.nz campbell.n@whs.ac.nz wilson.h@whs.ac.nz
10	Mr Paul Turner Deputy Principal	Mrs Rebecca Hardy Mrs Jemma de Smidt	turner.p@whs.ac.nz hardy.r@whs.ac.nz desmidt.j@whs.ac.nz
11	Mr Chris Friedel Deputy Principal	Mrs Felicity Butchart-Smyth	friedel.c@whs.ac.nz butchart-smyth.f@whs.ac.nz
12	Mrs Jenny Langrish Deputy Principal	Mr James Sullenberger	langrish.j@whs.ac.nz sullenberger.j@whs.ac.nz
13	Mrs Jenny Langrish Deputy Principal	Mr Jimmy Leonard	langrish.j@whs.ac.nz leonard.j@whs.ac.nz

Please do not hesitate to contact these staff members if you have any concerns regarding your son or daughter's education.

IMPORTANT TERM 1 DATES

Wednesday 15 February	Year 9 Parents Evening – 7.00 – 8.30pm School Hall <i>This is an important opportunity for you to meet your son's/daughter's form teacher and have any questions answered. We recommend that you prioritise this date and time</i>
Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 February	School Photos
Wednesday 22 February	Level 1 NCEA Evening – 5.30 – 6.30pm School Hall <i>This is an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers to learn about NCEA (the National Certificate of Educational Achievement) Any questions you have will be answered.</i>
Monday 27 February	Whanganui High School Swimming Champs – 1.00 – 3.00pm at Splash
Wednesday 1 March	Whanganui High School Junior Athletics at Cooks Gardens. 9.00am start
Wednesday 8 March	Whanganui High School Senior Athletics – 9.00am start at Cooks Gardens.
Friday 17 March	Interim reports issued to all year levels. <i>This report is posted to your home address.</i>
Monday 27 March	Summer Tournament week begins
Thursday 30 March	Parent/Teacher interviews <i>Booking is done online. Instructions will be included with the Interim report.</i> <i>Two sessions: 4.00pm to 6.00pm, then 7.00pm to 9.00pm in Seddon gym.</i>
Thursday 13 April	Last day of Term 1 (eleven weeks)
Monday 1 May	Start of Term 2. <i>Week 1 of Term 2 – 'odd' week for student timetables.</i>

More specific information will be sent to you closer to each event date.

For parents of Year 9 and Year 10 students, we appreciate your response to our request for students to bring their own digital device. We have excellent coverage for each year group - thank you.

Please avoid parking across the various gateways into the School when dropping off/picking up your son or daughter before or after school. This obstructs entry/exit into the School and is hindering access for our parents who have sons or daughters with special mobility requirements. Please also note that the staff carparks are not available for student or parental parking.

We recommend that students are dropped off and picked up near the walkway on London Street, to reduce congestion on Purnell Street.

If you have any concerns or questions about any matter regarding your son or daughter's education please contact the School as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Martin McAllen
Principal

Elizabeth Spooner
Associate Principal