



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

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Tēnā Koutou Katoa

As we complete our second week of Term 1, 2020 today, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Whanganui High School for all our students and family members. At the beginning of the school year we also welcomed three new teaching members of staff to our school: Eve Coltman (First year teacher – Physical Education and Science); Rajneeta Devi (Mathematics teacher); Sandy McAllen (Part-time English teacher).

The school has been very settled over the last two weeks, with a clearly defined focus on meaningful teaching and learning. By this stage of the term, all Form teachers should have made introductory telephone or email contact with the caregivers/parents of all Year 9 students and new students to the school within their Form classes. Over the next week or so the caregivers/parents of students at all other levels will be contacted by the relevant Form teacher. Please email me at principal@whs.ac.nz if this has not happened and I will follow this up for you.

Academic Results

We have had a series of pleasing results this year. In comparison to our 2018 results, significant highlights for 2019 included:

- An increase in overall results for NCEA Level 1 and NCEA Level 2;
- An increase in overall results for Male students in NCEA Level 1 and NCEA Level 2;
- An increase in overall results for Female students in NCEA Level 2 and NCEA Level 3;
- An increase in overall results for Māori students in NCEA Level 1, NCEA Level 2 and NCEA Level 3;
- 39.8% of our Year 11 students Achieved NCEA Level 1 with Merit or Excellence;
- 31.5% of our Year 12 students Achieved NCEA Level 2 with Merit or Excellence;
- 33.6% of our Year 13 students Achieved NCEA Level 3 with Merit or Excellence.

In last year's Cambridge Mathematics examination we had some excellent results: A* results were achieved by Troy Brennan, Blair Gowan and Jack Fawthorpe. A results were achieved by Ben Conley, Brianne Drefko, Kera Forrest, Georgia Forrester, Phoenix Grammaticogiannis, James Gray, Benjamin Hermann, Lennart Nowak, Will Southee, Tainn Simpson, Calum Sinclair (Year 10).

Congratulations also to the following students in the Scholarship examinations: Hunter Flanagan-Connors (Scholarship passes in English, Statistics, History); Leighana Hale (Scholarship passes in English and Classics); Ben Power (Scholarship pass in Statistics); Rhiannon Free (Scholarship pass in History).

School's Donations Scheme

The Whanganui High School Board of Trustees has opted into the new School Donations Scheme for 2020. This means that the school will receive additional funding of \$150 per regular student for agreeing to stop asking families for donations.

The \$150 will be used to cover curriculum delivery costs which have previously been charged to our students.

We think the new scheme will benefit everyone in our community, however, we want to make sure that we do not have to reduce the number of opportunities we offer.

Under the new scheme schools can still ask parents to contribute to overnight trips, as these are exempted from the Donations Scheme, for example, Outdoor Education trips.

Parents will still be charged for the "take-home" component of the technology programme – so that students can bring home the things they make.

We will require payment for activities that are voluntary, for example, Cambridge Maths, PE trips, Duke of Edinburgh, Adventure Racing etc.

Parents will be expected to pay for all sports (including affiliation fees and tournament costs) as participation is voluntary.

The Ministry of Education Fact Sheet which provides information on the School Donations Scheme is attached to this email.

2020 Whanganui High School Sports Fees

Whanganui High School is very proud of our sporting achievements at all levels and we would like to see all students participating in Sport.

As Sport is voluntary at Whanganui High School, we have a 'pay before you play' policy for Sport fees. So if your child plays sports, please ensure that the full fee sought, is paid at sign-up time. The school reserves the right to not allow students to play, when sports fees remain outstanding.

A permission slip will be required for each sport played, and your signature on the permission slip will confirm your acceptance of the applicable fee. All payments are to be sent to the school's Finance Office or Student Centre. Our school's bank account number is 123163-0095001-00.

We appreciate that sports fees can be expensive, and we encourage parents to pay regularly by automatic payment in such cases – provided that these arrangements are in place well in advance of the activity starting. Please make contact with the Bursar's Office staff (349 0178) to make these arrangements.

We greatly appreciate our parents and caregivers' support and we look forward to a great year at Whanganui High School.

Nga mihi nui

Martin McAllen
Principal
Whanganui High School