



14 May 2021

Special Newsletter – May 2021

Kia ora koutou

As we head into Week 3, Term 2, our year has continued to be very settled and productive, with a huge range of meaningful learning opportunities across the school. It is timely for our senior students to reflect on the fact that they are now slightly over one-third of the way through their normal programme of lessons before NCEA examinations begin; Terms 2 and 3 provide the foundation for success in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Accord Teacher Only Day – Thursday, 20 May

Please note that all secondary schools, wharekura and area schools in the Whanganui/Taranaki/Manawatu region are holding a Teacher Only Day on Thursday, 20 May. There will be two further Accord Teacher Only Days throughout New Zealand this year. In our region those days are Tuesday, 3 August and Tuesday, 30 November. The days are set aside to support the implementation of significant upcoming changes to NCEA, and wider strengthening of curriculum, progress and achievement practice.

The nationwide focus for Thursday's Accord Teacher Only Day is: Mana Ōrite mō te Mātauranga Māori; Strengthening Literacy & Numeracy and Te Reo Matatini me Te Pāngarau.

Staying Safe Online with Netsafe

Netsafe can be contacted at no cost on 0508NETSAFE (0508 638 723) or email help@netsafe.org.nz for excellent advice, information and support regarding: online bullying, abuse and harassment; tips and guides for staying safe online; online scams.

Please read the two page attachment at the end of this newsletter for more extremely helpful advice and information. Thank you.

Vaping and Smoking

I take a zero-tolerance stand on vaping or smoking at Whanganui High School and follow-through consequences always apply. On 11 November 2020, the existing prohibition on smoking at schools, kura, kōhanga reo and early childhood education facilities was extended to include vaping. I take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that no-one vapes or smokes in any part of our premises, whether inside or outside, at any time of the day.

If smoking or vaping is part of your home life – or extended family home life – please help us support your children – and all of our students at Whanganui High School – by reinforcing that smoking and vaping is not allowed at school or on any school-related activities. Thank you for your support.

Tours of Whanganui High School

From 21 June to 9 July, I will be holding one morning tour and one afternoon tour during normal class lessons on most days of the week for students and family members looking to be a part of our school from 2022 onwards. Prior to this I will take enrolment information and information about the tour dates out to contributing schools from Tuesday, 8 June. Please ring our Main Office on 349 0178 if you would like to book a tour for you and your daughter or son.

C Block and Permanent Tables

We have been extremely pleased to move our four Digital Technologies teachers into their newly re-modelled and up-to-the minute classrooms in C Block (next to the two Food Technology classrooms). Our next major Property priority will be re-modelling the Social Sciences area in F Block – this will begin when the senior students begin their NCEA examinations in November.

Over the term break 17 new permanent outside tables were bolted into very carefully chosen locations around the school. Over the next few weeks another 15 tables will also be bolted into position at the same time as our new archgola coverings go into position. This will dramatically improve our provision of appropriate outside seating for all of our students and also provide much better protection from rain and sun with the increased covered areas around the school.

Staff and Deliveries Only Signs

You may notice that we now have 'Staff and Deliveries Only' signs at the front of our five driveway entrances into Whanganui High School. This is due to the huge traffic congestion on Purnell Street before school and after school. Please encourage your children to walk to your car if you are picking them up after school on Purnell Street. I recommend that you collect your children from the Jubilee Stadium carpark area if it is possible to do so, to help reduce the congestion on Purnell Street. Students can walk under our covered walkway and cross the London Street crossing to the carpark.

I monitor the situation regarding some of the Freedom Campers who appear to be staying longer term in the carpark. Please contact me directly if you ever have any concerns and I will notify the City Council immediately.

Mamma Mia!

I had the privilege of watching a run-through performance by our very talented performers and teachers during the second week of the term break. The performance was absolutely stunning and highly enjoyable. Please buy a ticket and attend if you are able to do so – you will have a wonderful time!

Nga mihi nui
Martin McAllen
PRINCIPAL



Staying safe online with Netsafe



At Netsafe, we help people stay safe online by providing online safety education and support. Every day we give information and advice to people in New Zealand about online challenges like online bullying, abuse and scams.

What can we help with?

We offer information, advice and support for

- online bullying, abuse and harassment
- online scams
- online trading complaints
- revenge porn (leaked nudes)
- staying safe online



The Netsafe helpline

Whether you're dealing with online bullying, a request that looks suspicious, or you just want advice for using the internet safely, we can help.

Our free and confidential helpline is also set up to help with online bullying, abuse and harassment under the Harmful Digital Communications Act. We can let you know what you can do to stay safe, and if there's anything you can do to stop the abuse.



Netsafe.org.nz

Our website has information and advice about how to stay safe online. There's information for everyone, including young people, parents, businesses and educators.



Netsafe social media & e-newsletter

Follow @netsafenz to keep up to date with the latest online safety news, advice, information and tips. Subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter at netsafe.org.nz



Netsafe presentations

We can give presentations about how to stay safe online. To find out more about presentations visit netsafe.org.nz/our-work/presentations

About us

Netsafe is an independent, not for profit New Zealand organisation focused on online safety.

Netsafe has been chosen by the New Zealand government to help people with online bullying, harassment and abuse under the Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015.

For more information visit netsafe.org.nz/HDC

How can we help you?

You can call us free from anywhere in New Zealand on **0508 NETSAFE** (0508 638 723) or email help@netsafe.org.nz

For information and advice about how to stay safe online visit our website netsafe.org.nz

Online bullying

netsafe.org.nz/what-is-cyberbullying

Online bullying, abuse, and harassment law

netsafe.org.nz/HDC

Tips and guides for staying safe online

netsafe.org.nz/staying-safe-online

Online scams

netsafe.org.nz/advice/scams

Connect with us

To keep up with the latest advice

@netsafenz





Online bullying, abuse and harassment advice for families



Each case of online bullying is different and each child will respond differently to being bullied. There's no fool-proof way to tell if your child is being bullied online, but you can try asking them about it in a non-confrontational way.

Tips if your child is being bullied online

Stay calm: Your child needs to be able to talk to you and know that you'll be level headed, thoughtful and helpful in your response.

Evaluate the situation: It's important to know exactly what's going on before you can work out what to do next. Is it a few off-hand remarks, or is it something more serious?

Understand how your child is being affected:

Every child is different, and behaviour that deeply affects one child may be water off a duck's back to another. If your child is upset about a situation, let them know that you understand and it's OK to be upset.

Don't take away the technology: Taking away your child's laptop or phone can alienate them from one of their most important support networks – their peers.

Teach your child how to use the features available on most social networking sites: Teach them how to block, unfollow and unfriend people. You should also show them how to report content on each of the platforms they use.

If you need help or advice about online bullying or another online safety topic contact Netsafe.

Our helpline is open seven days a week from 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday, and 9am – 5pm on weekends and public holidays.



Call toll free from anywhere in NZ on
0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723)



Fill out an online report form netsafe.org.nz/report



Email us help@netsafe.org.nz

Did you know there's a law to help?

The Harmful Digital Communications Act (the Act) is a New Zealand law made to help minimise the harm caused by online bullying, abuse and harassment.

Netsafe runs a free and confidential service to help people being bullied, including letting them know what options are available to them under the Act.

You may be able to get help under the Act if

- 1 Someone is posting or sending messages about your child; and
- 2 The posts or messages make your child feel very upset; and
- 3 The posts or messages do any of these things
 - Encourage your child to hurt themselves
 - Share intimate images (leaked nudes and revenge porn)
 - Encourage other people to send harmful messages to your child
 - Contain content most people would think is very offensive
 - Share sensitive, private or confidential information about your child without their permission
 - Make a false allegation about your child
 - Puts your child down because of their colour, race, ethnic or national origins, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or disability.
 - Contain content that is indecent or obscene
 - Threaten to hurt your child or damage your property

Netsafe has been chosen by the New Zealand government to help people with online bullying, harassment and abuse under the Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015.

Find out more at netsafe.org.nz/HDC