



LEARNING • INTEGRITY • FELLOWSHIP • EXCELLENCE

WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

www.whanganuihigh.school.nz

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 28th March to Saturday 2 April
Maadi Cup - South Island

Friday 1st April
Interim Reports Issued

Thursday 14th April
End of Term 1

Monday 2nd May
Beginning of Term 2

Tēnā koutou katoa,

As I write my newsletter to you, Whanganui High School is continuing to cope well with the current Covid Omicron situation.

We have had a steady stream of students and staff testing positive for Covid or being household contacts of positive cases. This has led to fluctuating levels of attendance at school, however, with great collegiality and focused determination from our support and teaching staff, we have been able to keep our large school running as close to normal as possible.

Almost all planned school events have been able to be held so far this term – often with considerably complex technical modifications to ensure complete health and safety for students and staff during the Omicron spread.

The most significant upcoming change is the movement of our Student Achievement Conferences for students, whanau, and teachers from the end of this term to a new date to be confirmed later in Term 2.

I am always pleased to meet personally with whanau to discuss any aspect of your daughter or son's education at Whanganui High School.

Ngā mihi nui
Martin McAllen - Principal



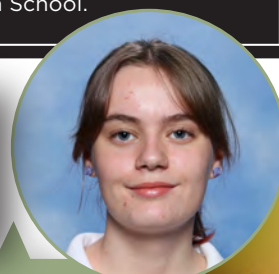
ATHLETICS DAY



Due to COVID-19 restrictions this year we were unable to have our whole school athletics day. Despite this, it was still a successful day. The competitive races reflected the wonderful work Coach Greg Fromont and Assistant Coach Elaine Baker have carried out with our athletes at Whanganui High School.

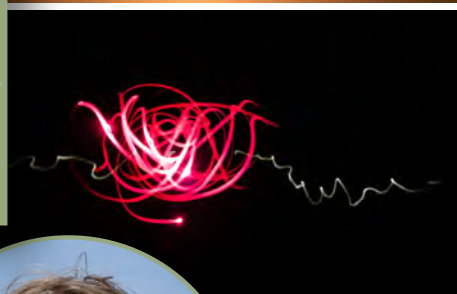
MAGGIE JONES

Maggie Jones (Year 13) was recently selected for the New Zealand Secondary Schools team. She produced a great effort in Christchurch, running up a grade against senior athletes and winning the woman's 100 metres hurdles with a personal best and the second fastest time run in New Zealand this year. This is a great lead into the National Championships in Hastings. Maggie has been a member of the WHS sports pathway programme since Year 9 and has reaped the rewards of a structured and focused approach to her development. Maggie has her sights set on a United States College scholarship after completing her Year 13 year.



HAZEL CHANT (YEAR 12) & THE CLICK HAPPY SCHOLARSHIP

Click Happy 101 was a 6-week course focusing on developing skills and creativity as a photographer. Regional and national voting took place at the end of each week. Hazel won the regional vote 3/5 times and the national vote once. Click Happy 201 is a year-long course with different photography activities across the year followed by an exhibition. Some of Hazel's favourite images are shown. The first one had the theme 'inspiration'; the second had the theme of a 'triptych' taking ideas from values; the third was 'light painting'.



CHASE MORPETH & DREW BRENNAN

Chase Morpeth (Year 12) and Drew Brennan (Year 11) competed in the NZ Banked Track Speed Skating National Championship. Drew won 4 Silver and 1 Bronze medal in the Junior Mens' division. Chase won 5 Gold medals in the Junior Mens' division and recorded new national record times.



BREAKFAST STOP

NO BREAKFAST? NO ENERGY TO LEARN? WE CAN FIX THAT!

Research shows that eating a healthy breakfast before school is linked to improved concentration, better test scores, increased energy, higher intake of vitamins and minerals, and even healthier body weight. Breakfast is especially important for younger students whose brains use up around half the body's energy.

'The Breakfast Stop' is going from strength to strength this year with the team of volunteer Peer Mentors and continued support from St John's Four Square, KidsCan and Kickstart. Hot food has now been added to the menu, and students can have beans on toast or eggs on toast, as well as the Weetbix and toast previously offered. The Breakfast Stop is open daily from 8-00 am until 8.30 am.



It was great to see our school swimmers, who also swim for the Whanganui Swimming Club, show the results of their hard work. House relays were the highlight of the day and our students showed wonderful school spirit.

Blake Candish broke the Junior Boys' 50m Freestyle record from 2007; Stefan Hannan broke the Junior Boys' 50m Backstroke record from 2012; Regan Hanna Y11 broke Ethan Bryers' Intermediate Boys' 50m Breaststroke record from 2020. Ethan Bryers also broke the Senior Boys' 50m Freestyle record from 2009, the Senior Boys' 100m Freestyle record from 2008 and the Senior Boys' 50m Breaststroke record from 2009.

SWIMMING SPORTS

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