



Kia ora koutou

We have just finished our first full week of school for 2023 after an extremely well-attended and enjoyable powhiri welcoming all new students, staff and whānau on Monday, and then timetabled classes for all students from Tuesday morning onwards.

I am also very pleased to welcome the following new staff members to our school:

Devon Harnett (Teacher-in-Charge of Drama)
Natasha McKee (International Director);
Jane Headon (English);
Jack Gilmore (English & Social Studies);
Ryan Holden (Physical Education & Health);
Amit Kumar (Mathematics);
Steve Costelloe (Science) – Steve is returning back to Whanganui High School

We have four Houses within Whanganui High School: Awa, Maunga, Moana and Whenua. Each House has 14 Form Teachers, two House Deans, and a member of the Senior Leadership Team leading each House.

Your first point of contact is usually your son or daughter's House Form Teacher and then the House Dean. I have asked each Form Teacher to make contact with the whānau of each student in his or her Form Class by Monday 13 February. Please contact me directly after that date if contact has not been made and I will follow up with the relevant Form Teachers.

Awa House: Associate Principal, Elizabeth Spooner – spooner.e@whs.ac.nz
Deans: Natalie Campbell – campbell.n@whs.ac.nz; and Mikaere Gardiner – gardiner.m@whs.ac.nz

Maunga House: Deputy Principal, Jenny Langrish – langrish.l@whs.ac.nz
Deans: Gabby McKenzie – mckenzie.g@whs.ac.nz; and Warren Marr – marr.w@whs.ac.nz

Moana House: Acting Deputy Principal, Jemma de Smidt – desmidt.j@whs.ac.nz
Deans: Lisa Burgess – burgess.l@whs.ac.nz; and Hunter Wilson – wilson.h@whs.ac.nz

Whenua House: Deputy Principal, Paul Turner – turner.p@whs.ac.nz
Deans: Rebecca Kennedy – kennedy.r@whs.ac.nz; and Lisa Martin – martin.l@whs.ac.nz

Contact Details

Please let the Student Centre (349 0177) or our Main Office (349 0178 or office@whs.ac.nz) know as soon as possible if you change your home address, email addresses, or mobile phone/home phone numbers.

Please also always check your junk/spam or promotion folders in case emails from school end up in those folders.

Newsletters coming from me are always also placed directly onto our main School Facebook page and onto our Website (under News and Events).

Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

Jo Anni, Hannah and Kelli-Ann are the public health nurses working in Whanganui High School. The Ministry of Health has provided funding to help identify and address the health needs of students. One way that your child's health needs are assessed is by the nurse completing a health check and this is offered to all Year 9 students. Parents/Caregivers of all Year 9 students will receive a letter in the mail shortly explaining this health review.

The nurses also run a nurse clinic every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9.00 am until 2.00 pm. Appointments can be booked at the Student Centre. All appointments are private and confidential.

Ngā mihi nui

Martin McAllen
PRINCIPAL