



4 April 2024

Kia ora koutou

As we head towards the end of Term 1, I would like to briefly go over a few important matters.

Student Achievement Conferences

Our Conferences run from 3.00 pm to 8.40 pm on Tuesday, 9 April and Wednesday, 10 April in the Te Mana and Te Wehi gymnasiums. We welcome all students and parents to discuss academic progress with subject teachers over both evenings. Bookings for the Conferences close at 5.00 pm on Monday, 8 April.

Please note that students will finish their school day at 2.00 pm on both Tuesday and Wednesday. Our buses will run at their normal scheduled times and our Library will continue to be open until the normal 4.30 pm closing time on both days.

Uniform & Personal Presentation

Generally, the overwhelming majority of our students meet our Uniform Set 1, Set 2 or Set 3 and Personal Presentation expectations perfectly well. With the imminent arrival of the winter months, this is a further reminder that non-uniform items worn at school are confiscated by staff members and need to be collected by students from the Deans' House after school on Friday afternoons. Non-uniform items must be kept at home.

Please note that our new Green Crew Neck Sweater is now in stock at Andersons Uniforms (184 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui; 06 348 9232) for a cost of just \$55.00 – this will be a useful alternative to our Green Woollen Jersey for a good number of students.

I am also pleased to let you know that Andersons Uniforms have been able to recently reduce the cost of the Tartan Skirt by a further \$10 for this year and into the 2025 school year.

Attendance at School

As we all know, regular attendance at school is extremely important for life-long learning, general well-being, the establishment of positive daily routines and habits, higher levels of educational achievement, better future job stability and, ultimately, more active and constructive participation in our community.

You may also be interested to know that if students miss one day of school every two weeks from the time they begin primary school until they turn 16 years of age, they will have missed one whole year of schooling and education by their 16th birthday.

We all have a shared responsibility together to build strong habits of regular school attendance and engagement in learning for all of our students.

If your son or daughter is going to be absent from school for any reason, please phone our Attendance Line (06 349 0177) or come into our Student Centre at the very earliest possible opportunity before the school day begins. Our friendly and helpful staff members will assist you with any relevant next steps.

School Nurses

JoAnni, Kelli-Ann, Anna and Chrystal are the Public Health Nurses supporting Whanganui High School this year. The Ministry of Health has provided funding to 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 will receive a letter in the mail explaining this service.

We also have a nurse clinic every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am until 2pm. Students can make an appointment with the Student Centre. All appointments are private and confidential.

Whanganui High School Board: Casual Vacancy for a Parent Representative

A casual vacancy has occurred on the School Board for an elected parent representative.

The Board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the Board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:

Presiding Member (Chair)
Whanganui High School Board
Purnell Street
Whanganui 4501

By Thursday, 2 May 2024.

All the very best over the next few days.

Ngā mihi nui

Martin McAllen
PRINCIPAL