



Principal's Newsletter 5 – Term 2 2026

24 June 2026

Kia ora koutou

We are heading quickly towards the end of this eleven week term on Friday 3 July and we have completed a number of significant school events over the last few weeks including: Whanganui Careers Expo; Chamber Music competition; Cultural Festival; Home Sports Exchanges with Hutt Valley High School and New Plymouth Girls' High School; House Quiz; Year 11 Business Studies Market Day; and House Week Activities. Our senior students are also looking forward to the School Ball this Saturday evening with the theme 'A night at the Oscars'.

Last week, over 20 students completed their Learner Licence Course over two days in the school library in a programme organised by our Vocational Studies Department (Warren Marr and Rachael Dunn). The course was run by Awa Driver Training (owned by Jodie and Ernie Te Waaka, recent former school parents). Jodie and Ernie delivered the programme and took the students through the road code, online activities, and strategies to help pass the assessments. The AA accreditors were also present in the library and when the students felt confident to carry out the course they could sit the actual test, have their photograph taken, and get their licence immediately. It was a great success and opens so many doors for our students in the paid employment workforce.

On Thursday 25 June, Paul Keene (Careers Advisor) is holding an important University Information Seminar Evening for parents of Year 13 students at 7.00 pm in the school library. Paul Keene has sent an email to all parents and to all Year 13 students (by school email and Google classroom). It is recommended that students attend with their parents.

Across our large school we have many toilets for students: the big separate 'D' Block and 'G' Block toilet areas for male and female students; the 'B' Block toilets for female students; the toilets in the Te Mana Gymnasium and the Te Wehi Gymnasium changing rooms for male and female students. We also have private unisex toilets available at all times in the Deans' House (two individual toilets) and the Library (one toilet). Students also have slightly more limited access to the unisex toilet in the Student Centre (access to this toilet is affected by how busy the Student Centre is with students and parents, and whether the School Nurses and Counsellors are busy with student appointments). Please contact me directly if your son or daughter ever has any difficulty accessing a toilet during the school day.

You may have read in both local newspapers that cases of scabies are on the rise across the wider Whanganui community. Scabies is a parasitic infestation that is easily spread through physical contact like hugging, holding hands and sharing personal items like bedding or clothing. A Public Health Nurse has asked me to share the attached information and relevant details with you [see attachment].

Just a quick reminder that our SchoolDocs policies are on our Whanganui High School website. Go to www.whanganuihigh.school.nz and click on 'Policies and Plans' at the top of the page then click on the blue 'SchoolDocs' and enter the user name and password shown, i.e:

User Name: whs

Password: life

The policies for review during Term 2 are:

- Swimming Off Site
- Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)
- EOTC Governance Rules and Responsibilities
- EOTC Risk Assessment and Management

Important school activities and events before the end of Term 2 on Friday 3 July include:

Thursday 25 June – University Information Seminar Evening

Saturday 27 June – Whanganui High School Ball

Monday 29 June – Showquest (Palmerston North)

Wednesday 1 July – Pasifika Fusion (Palmerston North)

Thursday 2 July – NCEA Progress Report

Friday 3 July – Junior Reports issued

Ngā mihi nui

Martin McAllen

Principal

Whanganui High School

Cases of **Scabies** are on the rise in our community.

Scabies is a parasitic infestation that is easily spread through physical contact like hugging, holding hands and sharing personal items like bedding or clothing.



Scabies causes a very itchy rash which is worse at bedtime or when you are warm.

For more information, please go to <https://healthify.nz/health-a-z/s/scabies>

For information on how to treat scabies, please go to [https://healthed.govt.nz/cdn/shop/files/3.1 NPHS0027 Scabies Environmental Management Infographic.pdf?v=1035788509268970326](https://healthed.govt.nz/cdn/shop/files/3.1_NPHS0027_Scabies_Environmental_Management_Infographic.pdf?v=1035788509268970326)



If you suspect you may have scabies, please contact your local Doctor or Healthline (0800 611 116) for advice and support.

Students can also see the school nurse for advice and support.