



Principal's Newsletter 2 – Term 1 2026

20 February 2026

Kia ora koutou

I trust that the year is progressing well for you and your family as we head towards the end of Week 4, Term 1.

New Zealand Scholarship Examination Results

The New Zealand Scholarship Examinations are the premier examinations within the New Zealand secondary school education system. Congratulations to the following students who gained Scholarship passes in the 2025 examinations:

Yoonsu Ann (Physics)
Lennox Brotherton (Calculus and Physics)
Saffron Crook (English)
Marque Gurung (Chemistry)
Lucas Hodgson (English)
Coral Poynter (Calculus)
Kit Williams (Art Design)

Congratulations also to the teachers who guided and supported the students in their examination preparation: Artika Narayan; Gail Glaister; Christopher Burrows; Vicki Kasner; Rekha Chand; Kaye Coombs.

NCEA Provisional Excellence and Merit Results

Congratulations to the following students who achieved **Level 3 with Excellence**:

Yoonsu Ann; Lennox Brotherton; Milly Broughton; Daziel Browne; Sam Buchanan; Saffron Crook; Marque Gurung; Jess Hardy; Bonnie Herrick; Lucas Hodgson; Coral Poynter; Connor Rooke; Sienna Taylor Moore.

Congratulations to 38 more students who achieved Level 3 NCEA with Merit.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved **Level 2 with Excellence**:

Ethan Clark; Eric Craig; Coco Guy; Lucy Hartley; Teri-Ellen Karipa; James McGregor; Monique Smith; Tyson Barclay; Ella Campbell; William Hird; Abigail McLeay; Liam Meijer; Lucas Munn; Hannah O'Hara; Elicia Thompson.

Congratulations to 34 more students who achieved Level 2 NCEA with Merit.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved **Level 1 with Excellence**:

Connor Brodie; Annabelle Brown; Carrie Bullmore; Grace Eastabrook; Ava Higgins; Caleb Loader; Sam Penwarden; Micah Taunton.

Congratulations to 43 more students who achieved Level 1 with Merit.

Contact from Form Teachers

All 61 Form Teachers will have made telephone or email contact with you by now to introduce themselves and check that everything is going well for your son or daughter at school. Please contact me directly if you have not had contact and I will ensure that the Year Level Deans follow-up with the relevant Form Teachers.

University Pathways for Year 12 and Year 13 students

We offer a wide variety of study pathways for our senior students at Whanganui High School – a combination of more academic pathways and a combination of more practical vocational pathways. If you are wanting your Year 12 or Year 13 son or daughter to be on a more academic pathway for potential further study at university, this would be the best time in the year to check and confirm that this is in place.

In the first instance, contact your son or daughter's Year 12 or Year 13 Form teacher. Then make contact with the Year 12 Dean (Rebecca Kennedy) or the Year 13 Dean (Natalie Harris) or the Academic Dean (Jemma de Smidt).

Athletics Championships Day (Cooks Gardens) – Thursday 26 February

This is a wonderful whole-school event full of competition and fun.

Clear information is provided to all students regarding the importance of wearing sunhats, bringing a water bottle, bringing lunch, and applying sunblock. Please remember that face-paint is not allowed at Cooks Gardens.

Once the students are inside Cooks Gardens they will not be allowed to leave Cooks Gardens until the end of the School Athletics Championships Day (the finishing time will be about 20 minutes before our normal school finishing time).

Please make sure that you do not make any external appointments for your son or daughter during the day. If there is a family emergency situation your son or daughter will need to meet with me (I will be close to the finish line or on the in-field area). I will then chat with your son or daughter and you will have to meet with us inside Cooks Gardens and then we can walk together to one of the staffed exit gates. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Staff Only Day – Friday 20 March

This is advance notice that we will be having one of our two Ministry of Education approved staff-only-days for curriculum purposes on Friday 20 March.

Our focus for the day will be on current and upcoming NCEA Curriculum changes and the Science of Learning.

Ngā mihi nui

Martin McAllen

Principal

Whanganui High School