



Principal's Newsletter 8 – Term 3 2026

9 September 2026

Kia ora koutou

Winter Tournament Week

Congratulations to all our students who were competing in various Winter Tournament Week sporting championships last week. Our teams were spread across the Whanganui and Manawatu regions, Taupo, Auckland, Tauranga, Rotorua, and Wellington.

Thank you very much to the ten staff members who travelled away with our teams as coaches or managers and to the parents who took valuable annual leave to also travel away with the teams as coaches, managers, and supporters. Your dedication and enthusiasm throughout the entire winter season is greatly appreciated.

Common Assessment Activities (CAA)

During Monday to Wednesday this week, over 400 of our students have been busy completing the September round of CAA assessments in Numeracy, Reading, and Writing. To pass any level of the current NCEA qualification it is essential that students must also pass their Literacy and Numeracy CAA assessments at some stage during their secondary school education. Well done on approaching these assessments with a focused and mature attitude at all times.

Whanganui High School Senior School Examinations

Our Whanganui High School Senior School Examinations and assessments begin tomorrow (Thursday 10 September) and finish on Friday 18 September.

These examinations are extremely important as meaningful practice and preparation for the NCEA and Scholarship examinations beginning in early November and for NZQA Derived Grades if unexpected circumstances prevent students from sitting their November external examinations.

Please note that all students who are entered to sit external examinations in November **must** attend their relevant WHS Senior School Examinations. I have requested all teachers to keep accurate attendance records for students expected to sit their senior subject examinations. Each Head of Faculty will then compile a list of **any non-attending students** across Years 11 to 13 and those students will sit their examinations during the last week of Term 3 under the supervision of Mrs de Smidt (Academic Dean) and me.

All the very best to all our senior students over the next few days.

Ngā mihi nui

Martin McAllen
Principal
Whanganui High School