

# Waiuku College Matters



## Principal's Perspective

Kia ora koutou,

I am now into my fifth year as principal of Waiuku College, and I find myself reflecting on the remarkable journey we have shared. One of the greatest privileges of this role has been experiencing the strong and genuine connection between our school and the wider Waiuku community. This partnership is not just supportive; it underpins everything we do. At the heart of our mahi is our vision: Empowering Learners towards their Future Success – Kia eke te taurira ki tōna kairangitanga. This vision is not just words on a page; it is reflected in the daily actions of our students, staff, and whānau, and in the life of our community.

Our work is guided by four core values, which reflect both our aspirations and identity as a school:

- Whanaungatanga – Relationships & Connection
- Whakaute – Respect and Appreciation
- Korowai Manaaki – Nurture & Care
- Manawanui – Perseverance & Determination

These values are visible in the wearing of our uniform and in our success across academics, culture, leadership, the arts, service, and sport. They are at the heart of what makes Waiuku College a special place of learning and growth.

I also want to acknowledge the amazing support of our Waiuku College Board members, many standing again in the current election. Their wise advice, steadfast encouragement, and excellent governance have been critical to the College's recent successes and advancements. The Board's commitment to our long-term vision provides a strong foundation on which we can continue to grow, adapt, and excel. Together, we have celebrated many successes across academic achievement, cultural growth, leadership, the arts, service, and sport. Each reflects not only our students' determination and talent, but also the encouragement and belief from families, whānau, community partners, and governance leadership. Looking ahead, I feel both grateful and excited. Grateful for the trust, warmth, and support I and Waiuku College have consistently experienced from our community; and excited by the opportunities before us as we continue to build on our strong foundations. Waiuku College is a school where our vision and values come alive, and where successes are celebrated collectively – and that is something truly special.

Mr. Stuart Kelly

## Term 3 Key Events

### Week Seven

Arts Week  
Tournament Week

### Week Eight

Disruption-Free Week  
Literacy and Numeracy Exams  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September: L3PHY Fisher & Pykel Trip

### Week Nine

Disruption-Free week  
Literacy and Numeracy Exams

### Week Ten

Te Wiki O Te Reo Maaori  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September: DOE Silver Tramp

### Week One / Term 4

Manawanui Week  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October: Sports Awards

### Week Two

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October: Po Whakanuia

### Week Three

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Senior Prizegiving

### Week Four

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October: Labour Day  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October: Folio Boards Show - Art

### Week Five

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> NCEA Exams Start for Level 2 & 3 Only  
Wednesday 3<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November: Year 10 Camp

### Week Six

NCEA Exams for ALL Year Levels

### Week 7

NCEA Exams for ALL Year Levels

### Week 8

Rarotonga Cultural Experience Trip  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November: Foundation Golf Day  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December DOE Gold Otago Rail Trip

# School Updates

## Ngaa mihi – Thank You for Attending Whaanau Conferences

A big thank you to all the whaanau who attended our recent Whaanau Conferences. Your time, encouragement, and support make a real difference in your child's learning journey. These conversations are such an important part of celebrating progress, setting goals, and helping students make positive choices for next year and beyond.

We value the partnership between home and school and know that together we can help our young people thrive both academically and personally.

## Whaanau Smiles – Free Dental Service Onsite

We are fortunate to have Whaanau Smiles Dental Service onsite, providing free dental care for our students. This is a great opportunity to ensure our young people are keeping up with their oral health in a convenient and supportive setting. We encourage whaanau to make use of this service while it is available. Good dental care supports overall wellbeing and helps our rangatahi stay focused and confident in their learning.

## September Literacy and Numeracy Exams

The second round of Literacy and Numeracy exams is coming up early next month. If students were absent for the May exams or didn't pass them, they have been re-entered for the September exams. Students in Year 10 and who weren't entered for the exams in May, have also been entered. Students who have been entered for the next round of exams have been emailed as have their parents/caregivers.

The exams are on the following days:

- Numeracy (Years 11 – 13) Tuesday 2nd September
- Literacy Reading (Years 10 – 13) – Wednesday 3rd September
- Literacy Writing (Years 10 – 13) – Thursday 4th September
- Numeracy (Years 10) – Tuesday 9th September

All four exams are in the morning and students should report to the hall at 8:45am

## Getting Ready for the Literacy and Numeracy Exams

The exams are completed online, and students must do a few things to get ready. Firstly, they must have an NZQA Learner login. Instructions on setting up an NZQA Learner login can be found here: [Create or activate account :: NZQA](#). Secondly, they must have Google Chrome downloaded on their laptop. The evening before the exam they should make sure their laptop is fully charged, and they should bring their charger with them to the exam.

## Practice Assessments

A good way to prepare for the exams is to do one or more past papers. This will help students familiarise themselves with the Assessment Master platform as well as the layout and style of the questions.

Once students have set up their NZQA login they can access past papers by logging into the NZQA website. From the menu on the left of the screen, they should select Find past digital exams. Under Select a subject they should choose Literacy Reading, Literacy Writing or Numeracy. Under Select a level they should choose Level 1. They should then follow the onscreen instructions. Please note that NZQA turn off access to the past papers during the day when students are sitting exams.

## Polly Text to Voice

Polly is the name of the text-to-speech feature built into Assessment Master. Polly will be available for the Writing and Numeracy exams, but not the Reading exam. All students have access to Polly but must have headphones if they want to use it.

## NCEA Checklist

Here is a list of things for students to check off before each exam:

1. Can I log into my NZQA account?
2. Do I have Google Chrome on my laptop? (If not, download it.)
3. Is my laptop fully charged?
4. Do I have my laptop charger in my bag?
5. Do I have a calculator for the Numeracy Exam? (You cannot use the calculator on your laptop or phone)
6. Do I have a pen or pencil to write notes or calculations? (We will provide you with refill.)
7. Do I have headphones that connect to my laptop? (Only needed if you intend to use Polly, the text to voice feature built into Assessment Master.)

For more information about the Literacy and Numeracy exams click on the links below:

- [Literacy - Learning | NCEA \(education.govt.nz\)](#)
- [Numeracy - Learning | NCEA \(education.govt.nz\)](#)

**We Need YOU!**

**Become a 2025 Homestay Today**

Invite the world into your home by hosting Waiuku College international high school students. We are seeking caring local families for our students arriving in July/August.

- Short / Long Term Options
- Homestay payment of \$310 per week per student
- Amazing variety of nationalities

**What do you need to provide to become a homestay?**

- Providing a safe and welcoming home
- Offer a room with a bed, bedside table, wardrobe or chest of drawers
- Supply all food and meals for the student
- Help students experience New Zealand and the local Waiuku Area
- To be a guide and a friend. Help them navigate English language and kiwi culture

For more information or how to apply, please email or call Monique Foulds - Waiuku College Homestay Coordinator.

**Waiuku College**

Monique Foulds - Homestay coordinator  
0212721959  
monique.foulds@waiuku.college-school.nz

# School Reminders



## Year 10 Camp (5th November-7th November)

Deposit of \$75 -19th September 2025  
Remaining payments- 13 October 2025.  
Permission slips must be completed.

Any issues or questions, please email Mr Hammersley at [ha@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:ha@waiuku-college.school.nz)

## Want to be involved in a sport?

All parents and caregivers have been emailed access to sports sign-up. If you didn't receive this or would like to contact our sports department, please email:

Brandon Roberts [brandon.roberts@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:brandon.roberts@waiuku-college.school.nz) or

Sally Roden [sally.roden@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:sally.roden@waiuku-college.school.nz)

## Is your child needing extra support with their mental health?

You can reach out to these places below if you are feeling that your student is needing support with their mental health:

1. Our school counsellors
2. Your local GP for a wellness check
3. Support from home 1737 (free text or call) and Youthline -234 (free text or call)
4. For mental health safety concerns, more serious signs of stress/anxiety-Whirinaki (Youth mental health) Duty Clinician can give advice on next steps- 09-265 4000

## School Uniforms



All our school uniform is available from The Warehouse in Pukekohe. If you cannot find your size on the racks, then please do ask at the information desk or order online. Information about our uniform can be found on our [website](#).

## Whaanau Leader Contact Details

Awaroa Whaanau: Nada Drummond  
[nada.drummond@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:nada.drummond@waiuku-college.school.nz)

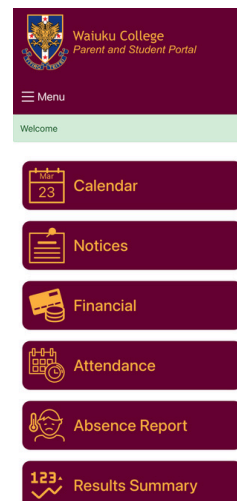
Kaiwaka Whaanau: Nicholas Mulligan  
[nicholas.mulligan@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:nicholas.mulligan@waiuku-college.school.nz)

Maanukanuka Whaanau: Cindy Otterson  
[cindy.otterson@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:cindy.otterson@waiuku-college.school.nz)

Rehua Whaanau: Patrick O'Donnell  
[patrick.odonnell@waiuku-college.school.nz](mailto:patrick.odonnell@waiuku-college.school.nz)

## How do I find out what is going on at Waiuku College?

One of the best ways to find out what is going on at the college is to access the daily notices through the KAMAR portal. This gives you access to all the notices and events that students can be involved in.



The parents/caregivers of newly enrolled students will receive their login details at the start of the new school year. If you have not received your details then please contact your child's Whaanau Teacher.

You can set-up a link on your phone that looks and feels like an app. You can find instructions here [Setting up a link to the KAMAR Portal on your phone](#)

You can find a link to the portal on the college website (Waiuku College) under School Information. You can find more information about the new portal here: [school.kiwi Help](#)

You can also keep up-to-date via our [Facebook page](#) or our [Instagram page](#).