



WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

Together □ Believe □ Achieve □ Ngātahi whakapono tutuki

Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 1 2021

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them

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Contact Us

Telephone: 09 424 9177

Fax: 09 428 4794

E-mail :

enquiries@wgpcollege.school.nz

From the Principal's Desk

This is what I shared at our recent ANZAC Assembly.

Tuhia ki te rangi

Tuhia ki te whenua

Tuhia ki te ngākau o ngā tāngata katoa

Ko te mea nui

Ko te aroha

Tihei Mauri Ora!

Write it on the sky

Write it in the land

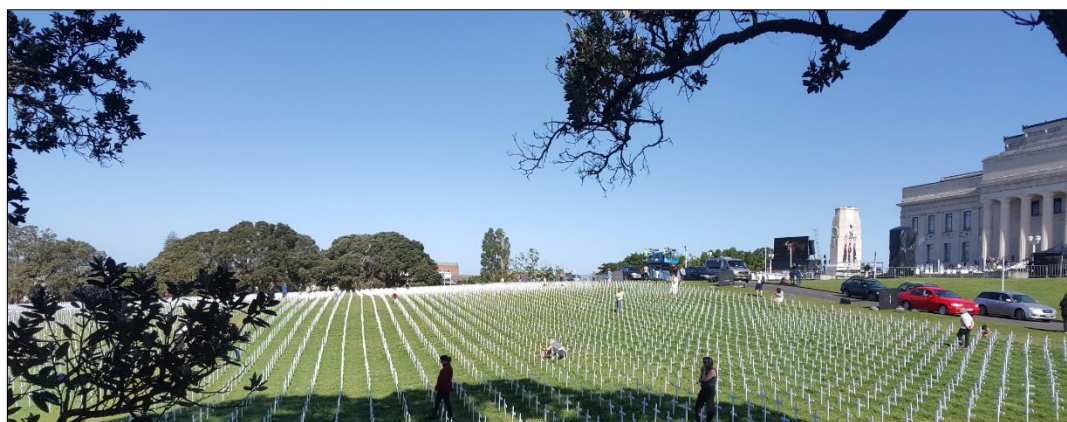
Write it in the hearts of all people

The most important thing

Is love

Let there be life!

Welcome to our ANZAC Assembly. We are honoured to have our special guests from the RSA. Thank you for joining us today.



On Sunday 11 November 2018, I went to the Auckland Domain with Mrs Thomas and our then 16 year old son; where we were met by a truly staggering sight – 18,277 white, named crosses. There was a cross for every New Zealander who died during the 1914-1918 conflict in Europe. We refer to that war – which ended 100 years previously – in a number of ways: The Great War, The War to End All Wars, but most commonly, The First World War.

Each cross remembers a real person.

Each person had hopes for a good life.

Each life was cut short.

On the day we visited the Domain, we found the crosses for the three of our children's great, great uncles who died in WW1 – one on Sally's side of the family and two on the Thomas side.

Street Address:

8 Stanmore Bay Road
Whangaparaoa
Auckland
New Zealand

Postal Address:

PO Box 775
Whangaparaoa
Auckland 0943
New Zealand

Rifleman John (Jack) Conyngham: Died in the Somme, France, on 10 September 1918 (just one month before the war ended). He was 22 years old and before leaving New Zealand, had started his career as a teacher up north at Whangaroa. Jack had a brother who also served in Europe. Trooper Alfred Edward Thomas died in 1915 from wounds received at Gallipoli. He was 26. He had worked in the agricultural sector in the Taranaki.

Lieutenant William Alfred Thomas died in 1917 in Rouen, France. He was 40 years old, married with six children. William had fought in the Boer War about 16 years earlier.



My great-uncles were two of five boys from the same family who went to that war.

- One being my grandfather, Frank, who was wounded but able to return and start a family. Unfortunately, he died in 1938 after struggling for two decades from WW1 injuries and sicknesses.
- My great-uncle Arthur came back from the war with shell shock, shrapnel wounds and dysentery. He actually lived to a good old age and I remember visiting him when I was a wee lad.
- The fifth of the brothers, Harold Tahana Thomas, returned from the war, started a family, went farming and lived a full life. Among other things, he wrote books and poetry, and was very involved with Rotary internationally.

Family members were allowed to take the crosses after a week or so. On the appointed day, I was at the Domain before dawn. Having found the crosses of Jack, Alfred and William. I was on my way back to my car and remember saying something like, "C'mon boys, let's get you home." Then I just stopped and cried. It was a very sobering experience.

18,277 New Zealand lives were lost in The War to End All Wars. And we did not learn, and we have not learnt. There has been a war of some kind, somewhere in the world, continuously since WW1. What will it take? That's where we all have a part to play. Hopefully, our lives show that hate, prejudice, and intolerance have no place in a civil society. We can make the world a better place.

And when there is hatred, prejudice and intolerance, we must be prepared to step up – as these three did – even if the cost is great.

This is why we remember.
Lest we forget.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Thomas'.

James Thomas, Principal

ANZAC Day 2021



On Sunday 25 April, the prefect team attended the ANZAC service at the RSA. It was a good opportunity to represent the school and remember those who have given their lives serving our country.

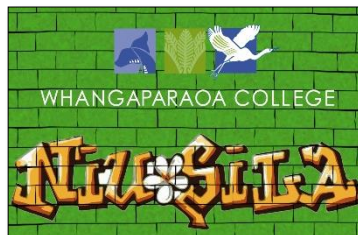
On Wednesday 5 May, we had our annual ANZAC assembly and five veterans attended. The New Zealand National Anthem was performed by the Big Band after Mr Thomas and veteran Dave Dryden both presented emotional and inspiring speeches about remembrance and justice.

After the assembly, the prefect team had the opportunity to have lunch and talk with the veterans. Many of them, having served in the navy, had many stories to tell about their travels around the world and we listened eagerly. It was an honour to meet and talk to the veterans.

Alex Lu and Nathan Travis

For more assembly pics, click [here](#)

Senior Production



Niu Sila was our Senior School Production for 2021 and we performed to audiences on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 May. It was awesome!

35 cast members and over 30 crew members had worked on this show since early in Term 1. It was wonderful to perform and let everyone see the hard work, talent and energy of this team!

We collaborated with the Hibiscus Tuakana Group so that our show was a mix of drama, dance and song.... a real celebration of culture! It was so great to have supportive and enthusiastic audience members who laughed along at the jokes, clapped and cheered for the performances and made all the hard work worth it – thank you WGP College community!

Ms. Shannon Enright, Head of Learning for The Arts

For more pics, click [here](#)



Year 12 and 13 Visual Arts

On Tuesday 4 May the Year 12 and 13 Visual Arts class visited the **Van Gogh Alive Experience**.

It was an amazing opportunity to be immersed in the world of Vincent van Gogh. His paintings were enlarged onto huge screens and every detail of his brush work was evident. The music that accompanied the show further enhanced the emotional messages communicated in the paintings. All of the learners greatly enjoyed the experience, with some revisiting the show twice during our time there and of course their conduct was impeccable - they were amazing role models for our school.

Camilla Copley and Kathie Boyd



STAR Courses

Thirty-three learners from Year 12 and 13 attended various STAR courses over the school holidays. Feedback from the learners has been positive saying "they enjoyed their course, learnt new skills" and mentioned that, "STAR courses were a fantastic opportunity to find out more about that particular industry".

STAR courses are also being offered to Year 12 and 13 learners over the July school holidays – **placements are limited**. There is no cost involved as the courses are Government funded.

All learners interested, have to apply for their chosen course by **Friday 18 June** and can find out more about the available courses on our website here:

<https://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/Learning/Careers/STAR+Courses/STAR+Courses+2021.html> to download an application form.

GATE News

Out of the 12 learners who applied, two of our learners were given the opportunity to be part of the Innovative Young Minds Programme for female learners.

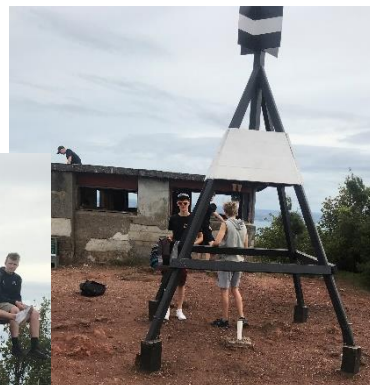
- **Kano Sugawara** from L1 got into an online programme
- **Jae-Won Ahn** from L2 got into the 6 day residential programme at Lower Hutt

The IYM Programme is open to young women because females are underrepresented in the STEMM sector and they want to change that. Their goal is to inspire a new generation of female innovators and industry leaders.

Bonita Menezes, GATE Coordinator

Rangitoto Trip

Our L1SCIE learners scaled Auckland's youngest volcano Rangitoto last week, investigating the Geology of the island. They were looking at comparing the rocks on Rangitoto with those that are found on White Island.



Sports



Well done **Siina Cooke** and **Zoe Pedersen**, for getting through to the Auckland Swimming Zone finals - Champion of Champions.

Zoe came 8th in 50m Butterfly, 9th in 50m Freestyle and Siina 14th in 50m Breaststroke. Congratulations, awesome achievement!

We had another fun Futsal Zone Day on Wednesday 14 April for these young boys. They did us proud, representing and developing throughout the tournament. Special mention to the comeback game against Birkdale, scoring 3 goals in the last 5 minutes to draw and another draw against Murrays Bay.



On Thursday 15 April we hosted our annual sports exchange with Huanui College from Whangarei. We had teams compete in netball, basketball, hockey and football.

Both netball teams took the win, along with basketball and Huanui got the wins in football and hockey.



For more Huanui pics, click [here](#)

With the start of our winter sports this term, we have recently had great results for some of our teams. Our Netball Premier team won all their grading games, Senior Hockey teams won 5-0 (Boys) and 7-0 (Girls) and the U15 Basketball team won by 20 points. Great to be playing sport again!

Polyfest



I loved all the different food and watching other schools perform. There was one group in Niuean dress that looked really pretty. I mostly watched the Tongan and Kapa Haka stages.
Arireti 13WNS



My favourite part was to get a moko.
Giovanna 13MRT

Free Hearing Tests Year 9

All parents/caregivers of Year 9 learners should have received an email about a free hearing test that is being offered at Whangaparaoa College this year. As it is part of a study, we need 50 learners to participate. This is a fabulous opportunity for Year 9 learners to have a free hearing test and education about protecting their hearing. Testing will occur at school from **Monday 30 August – Wednesday 1 September**. The testing is painless.

If you would like your child to receive a free hearing test, please complete the form included in the email and return it to nurse@wgpcollege.school.nz. Forms can also be dropped into reception or the school health clinic.

Upcoming Immunisations

Year 8 - HPV1 on 20 May 2021, HPV2 on 15 November 2021
Year 7 - Boostrix on 19 August 2021

As part of the national immunisation schedule, all Year 8 learners will be offered the opportunity to be immunised at school against the HPV virus. Information and a consent form have been sent home with your child. Learners have been shown an information video in class.

All Year 7 learners will be offered the opportunity to receive Boostrix (tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough). Year 7 learners have also been shown a video in class and consent forms have been sent home.

Please complete the form and return it to your child's Kaiārahi. It is important that the form is completed whether or not you give consent. If they have already received the immunisation, or you wish to take them to your family practice for the free immunisations, please complete Part B, the Non-Consent part of the form. This helps with the administration process of the programme. Copies of the form and information about the vaccinations can be found at www.health.govt.nz

Noel Leeming please click [here](#) select mynoelleeming on the top bar, setup BYOD membership, choose school.

May	13-14	L2OUED Pinnacles Camp, Thames
	16	EV Build Day, Auckland University, Newmarket
	17	L3OUED Puhoi Kayaking Trip
	18	L1 Art Trip, Brick Bay Sculpture Park
		North Harbour Secondary Schools Netball
	20	HPV1 – Year 8
		Year 12 Loves Me Not Programme
	21	Mufti – Pink Shirt Day
	25-28	Year 13 Camp – National Park
	Year 13 (not attending camp) – at school activities	

Term 2 Dates to Remember

June	7	Queen's Birthday Holiday
	25	Staff Only Day
July	29	LLC – School Finishes at 12.30 pm
	1	LLC – School Finishes at 1.30 pm
	9	Last Day of Term 2