



# WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

*Together □ Believe □ Achieve □ Ngātahi whakapono tutuki*



## Term 4 Tales 2018



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## From the Principal's Desk

Kia ora tatou

This is the last newsletter for 2018 and I thought I'd adapt the speech I gave at our recent Excellence Awards as my contribution to this newsletter.

Forty years ago this month, I finished my initial teacher training and was just starting my Christmas holiday, which included my 21st birthday. Then I moved down to the Manawatu to start my teaching adventure that has brought me to where I am today. Don't worry – I'm not going to reminisce.... well, not too much.

Over the last four decades we have experienced huge change:

- White boards not blackboards
- Printers not methylated spirits based Gestetners
- Digital social media not face-to-face social interaction
- Group work not individual desks in classrooms
- Google not Encyclopaedia Britannica
- Smart phones not one landline per household fixed to the wall in the hallway
- Health and safety concerns not "have fun and be careful – and we'll see you later"
- And much more

There is often discussion and disagreement about the virtue or vice of changes; but one thing hasn't changed. The recipe for success – then and now – is:

- o Hard work on the part of learners
- o On-going support on the part of whanau
- o Awesome teaching and support on the part of our staff

It is this sort of partnership, these sorts of positive relationships that are essential, and I'm proud they are very much part of the culture of our fine College.

This year's end of year speech would not be complete without reference to the very challenging time our whole community has had because of media and social media attention. One of the heartening things was the righteous indignation and the sense of outrage, of our learners. "How can people say that about us?"

- o Learners: thank you for being so real, for your commitment your school.
- o Staff: Your devotion to knowing and growing our learners, and support has been really appreciated.
- o Board of Trustees (who are very ably led by Heidi Parlane): Thank you for your insights, clarity, questions, hard work and support.
- o Whanau and those in our wider community: Thank you for your unsolicited positive feedback and your confidence in our endeavours.

Tough times allow us to reflect, allow us to ask ourselves uncomfortable questions, allow us to learn if we are open and willing to do so. My Dad used to say, "Tough times are character building". We have certainly reflected, examined, learnt and grown – and we will continue to do so.

We have set up a group that will meet once a term that will hear and represent the 'voice' of learners, teachers, parents, deans, counsellors and leadership. We have consolidated our documentation about bullying awareness and prevention, and will review our practices. To this end, we are engaging an 'external set of eyes' to make sure we are learning anything we need to learn and taking appropriate action.

After consultation and discussion, the Board has adopted a strategic view to ensure we Know and Grow our learners and staff to ensure that their Hauora (overall wellbeing) is enhanced so they are ready, connected and passionate.

Our property and infrastructure continues to be of the highest standard. This year, we have finished the gym linings and installed solar panels that reduce our power bill by \$1,200 a month. As we plan for our ever-growing roll, and the needs of all learners (with growing complexity), we intend to create a Learning Support Centre. Also, to help cater for young people in the Rodney community who currently spend up to two hours a day travelling to specialised units on the North Shore.... we are partnering with the Wairau Valley Special School to have a satellite unit here on our land.

As you know from the news, there is lots happening in the wider education sector. My hope is that through all the current reviews we keep the main thing as the main thing:

- o Learning so we are ready for the future
- o Having quality relationships, attitudes and competencies so we and others feel well connected and included
- o Engagement, passion, inspiration and lots of fun!

Education should not be a 'political football'. Through the Principal Executive groups in which I participate, we encourage those in government to please initiate a multi-party approach to education for the sake of our young ones and the future of New Zealand. There are huge challenges because of a shortage of quality teachers. Having said that, I am pleased to assure you we are fully staffed with a fine team for the start 2019. Teachers are the life blood of the sector and we need to look after them, encourage the 'best and the brightest' of our young people to join the ranks, and pay them enough! Whether you compare teacher salaries to those of our Australian cousins or to changes in the average income in New Zealand – it is clear an increase is required. I have pointed out to the last three Ministers of Education that a 3% reduction in the 'administration spend' of the Ministry would release the necessary funds. And I've offered to help prune the bureaucracy; but as yet I haven't had the call.

Looking ahead – let's all..... keep learning, keep contributing, keep respecting, keep relationships positive and keep laughing.

We are here to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our fine learners. When I signed your certificates – which took a few hours on the weekend – I reflected that this was nothing compared with the time and effort you contributed to ensure your success. Congratulations – it is honour to have had a small part of your journey.

He aroha whakato, He aroha puta mai  
Let's sow kindness; and kindness we will reap  
And Merry Christmas to you all.



**James Thomas**  
**Principal**

### **Some of the major Awards presented; and Senior Prefects for 2019 are as follows:**

#### **Principal's Awards for All Round Excellence**

Year 7	Jesse Lu
Year 8	Lauren Jackson
Year 9	Jessica Harrison
Year 10	Nathan Travis
Year 11	Kara Ripley
Year 12	Samantha Bright
Year 13	Connor Gentry

#### **Principal's Awards for Overall Academic Excellence**

Year 7	Ruby Douglas
Year 8	Ariana Hunt
Year 9	Alyssa Manilal
Year 10	Benjamin Mueggenburg
Year 11	Siena Thompson
Year 12	Jasmine Gibson

#### **The Grant Dabb Cup for:**

**Outstanding Contribution to Whangaparaoa College – Male**

Shay Reddy

#### **The Stephen Parker Cup for:**

**Outstanding Contribution to Whangaparaoa College – Female**

Jennifer Mowat

**Proxime Accessit** Mollie Plenzich

**Dux** Nam Hung Ngu

#### **Prefect Executive for 2019**

Chair of Learner Council	Jacob Batten
Deputy Head Boy	Nathan Schultz
Deputy Head Girl	Hazel Creevey
Head Boy	Seamus Kelly
Head Girl	Samantha Bright



# Pitch Perfect

## Super-duper Pitch Perfect Projects

Term 4 was a rip-roaring term for Year 9 English with project-based learning. Learners were asked to brainstorm 'wicked problems' that exist in our local community and create solutions. The problems and solutions were vast; ranging from drones to stop deforestation, reducing child poverty, supporting young peoples' wellbeing and more. There was a process to work through before the final pitches to the Year 9 cohort in the Auditorium. The best groups, voted by each class, presented their 'wicked problem', ideas and solution on Thursday 15 November, straight after the morning Korero.



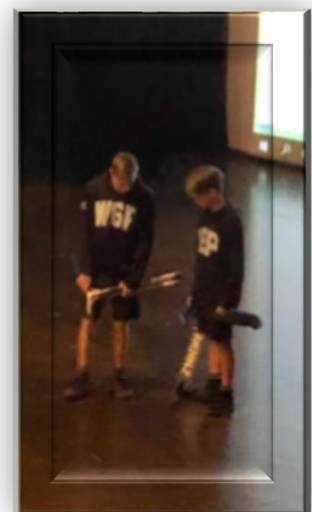
We had three 'expert' judges; Ms Sullivan, Miss Lowry, and Mr Moss, and all of the learners presented with passion. It was great to showcase the learning and the finished products.

First place went to **Ethan Johnston**, with his proposal to revamp the local Plaza.



Second place went to **Flynn Chambers and Lucas Poehls Ruperti**, who had created a whale's tail sculpture out of the rubbish found at school.

Third place went to **Theo Montes and Liam Pelling** who had designed a way to make unbreakable scooters.



The projects were a fun way to learn and the final "pitch-perfects", a cool way to celebrate the learning. Thanks to everyone who participated!



## Junior Performing Arts Showcase

On Monday 19 November, we held a fantastic Performing Arts Showcase with our junior learners, Year 7-10. There was a tremendous array of performances in dance, drama, choir, bands, films and even solos! Something for everyone.



For full pics – click [here](#)

## Year 8 English

I wake up in the morning  
I'm jumping in excitement  
I've never been to this skate park  
I cannot wait to try it

I chuck on my safety gear  
And clip on my helmet  
I grab my skateboard from the car  
So many obstacles I must count it

I look down the enormous pipe  
And step back in fear  
It's four times as big as me  
I'm not dropping down there

The wind is howling like a storm  
As I try to gain the courage  
To stomp my board down on the vert  
I could take a lot of damage

I step my tail on the bar  
And look down at the concrete  
I close my eyes and slam my board  
Down the vert pipe with my own feet

I zoom down the pipe  
And fly up like a hawk  
Boom when my board comes down  
I'm the next Tony Hawk

It's a burning hot day  
The floor's burning like fire  
I drop back down into the bowl  
I want to fly up higher

I've done my daily objective  
I am done for the day  
My board goes snap as I'm riding back  
From all the damage today

**The Skate Park**  
**By Aidan Wood, 8WILS**

## Sport

**Tabloids** were held on Wednesday 21 November for the Year 7 & 8's.

This was a fun afternoon for the learners, and we were delighted to have the international group visiting involved too!

We had 3-legged races, egg and spoon and tarp carrying races. For pictures please follow this link:

[https://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/Arts%20%20Culture/Sports/Gallery/Tabloids%20Day%20Year%207%20%208%202018?mv\\_pc=586](https://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/Arts%20%20Culture/Sports/Gallery/Tabloids%20Day%20Year%207%20%208%202018?mv_pc=586)

Well done to **7TURK and 8WILS** who won the day!

A massive congratulations to **Jade Hughes** for placing 5th in the world, after competing in the Surf Life Saving World Champs Youth Ski Race!

Such an amazing achievement.

### Junior Touch

Well done to the Junior Girls Touch Team, who have played in the North Harbour competition this term and placed 2nd.

Whangaparaoa College **Baseball** players competed in the NZSSSC Junior Championships, and won a Silver Medal. It was a real treat to have Kris Richards, from the Auckland Tuataras present the medals and trophy. For more pics, click [here](#)

We are currently seeking expressions of interest for coaches and managers for 2019. We will be needing a Rugby Coach for a boys' team here at WGP, and a coach for an Orewa/WGP composite girls' team.

If you would like to volunteer, please email [joedu@wgpcollege.school.nz](mailto:joedu@wgpcollege.school.nz)



**Jade Hughes**



**Baseball Team**



# Year 9 & 10 Community Service Activities

## Year 9 Community Service

On Monday 26 November, the learners of Year 9 participated in a Community Service.

Learners partook in a variety of activities which we had planned. Some of the activities included making Christmas cards for those who are ill at Starship Hospital, helping out at Stanmore Bay and Whangaparaoa Primary Schools, helping out at ABC Manly Play Centre, collecting old towels and food for the SPCA, and some learners taught Kapa Haka to our Year 7 learners. Love Soup was visited by a group, who helped out by cleaning and helping the staff, a group went down to a local waterway, and cleaned up the surrounding area, and a bake sale was also held, to raise funds for various causes and charities.

This activity really brought all the Year 9s together, and showed us how good it feels to give back to the community and how rewarding it is. Thank you to all the organizations and schools who received us, and to people who were kind enough to give us their time and help out. Also, thanks to the academic counsellors, youth workers and teachers who supported us, and helped us to come up with the ideas and carry them through.

**Jade Milne**  
**Year 9 Learner Representative**



For more pics, click [here](#)

## Year 10 Community Service

It was a rainy, cold, miserable Monday afternoon and yet, groups of Year 10's were venturing from the safety of their classrooms to other areas in the school, or to other areas in the community.

The Year 10's of Whangaparaoa College were doing some community service. Some groups went out of the school - to Whangaparaoa and Stanmore Bay Primary schools, to Love Soup Kitchen, to the Salvation Army op shop, the Library and to the parks and beaches of Whangaparaoa. Some groups stayed in the school and gave back community service to our 'school community', making cards, polishing trophies, picking up rubbish in the wetlands, or cleaning the art rooms. We chose our activities based on what we thought would be most helpful to the community and the school. We learnt the importance of being kind to others.

Personally, I will now remember to thank the teachers, after spending a lesson with Year 2's making EdiChristmas crafts. Even the smallest actions can have an impact on someone, and gratitude is best when it is freely given.

**Stella Beattie (with help)**  
**Year 10 Learner Representative**

## Enrolments 2019

**E N R O L for 2 0 1 9**



# WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE



### Extra **ENROLMENT** opportunity

Tuesday 22 January

Wednesday 23 January

} 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

**NZ Uniforms** will be on site at Whangaparaoa College in the auditorium foyer for two days.

Tuesday 15 January

10.00 am to 7.00 pm

Wednesday 16 January

9.00 am to 3.00 pm

### **CONTACT**

Tracey O'Neill, Enrolment Administrator

Tel: 09 424 9177 ext: 209

Email: [enrol@wgpcollege.school.nz](mailto:enrol@wgpcollege.school.nz)

[http://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/Enrolments/  
Application+Forms.html](http://www.wgpcollege.school.nz/Enrolments/Application+Forms.html)

# Year 10 Integrated Event

Hello families and learners!

Currently, some Heads of Learning and others, are meeting to create an opportunity for learners to travel away from the school, for an overnight trip that supports multiple subject areas, in a hands-on and engaging way. This will be a camp, or overnight stay on a Marae, for example. It will occur around mid-2019 for all Year 10 learners.

The trip will be supported by work across subjects in the classroom, to allow the Year 10s to see how what is done in school, relates to the real world in so many ways!

## Upcoming Events

<b>December</b>	10	Leavers Dinner
	12	<b>Last Day of Term 4, School Closes at 12.30 pm</b>
<b>2019</b>		
<b>January</b>	15-16	NZ Uniforms Pop-up Shop (see Community Notices)
	22-23	Enrolment Catch-ups, 9.00 am – 12.00 pm
	23	Year 9-13 Course Confirmation, 9.00 am - 12.00 pm
	30	<b>First Day of Term 1, ALL Learners</b> <b>Year 9-13 Finish at 11.00 am</b>
<b>February</b>	6	Waitangi Day Holiday
	8	Year 7&8 Beach Carnival
	12	Year 7&8 Meet the Teacher Evening, 6.30 & 7.00 pm
	18-20	Year 9-13 Athletics
	19	Level 2&3 Excellence Breakfast, 7.45 am
	20-22	Year 13 Home Activities (for those not on Camp)
	20-23	Year 13 Camp, Pipers Lodge
	21	Class Photos Year 7-11 and ID Photos Year 7-12

**For more information from our school calendar [click here](#).**

## ASB Supporting Whangaparaoa College

If you are a parent, staff member or a member of the school community and draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate \$500.00 to your chosen participating school.

Contact your local Whangaparaoa ASB Branch on 09 421 9810 for further information on great home loan rates and how you can help support Whangaparaoa College with a \$500.00 donation (see ad following).



# Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

# \$500

**ASB**  
ONE STEP AHEAD

Lending criteria and terms apply to home loans. Fees may apply. Eligibility criteria: documentation of the facility agreement must be done by 30 June 2019; mention of this promotion must take place during the home loan application process to ensure eligibility. Only applicable to loans which are secured by residential owner-occupied property with a minimum of 20% equity required; excludes lending through brokers; Limited to one donation per customer. Donation will be made to chosen school on complete draw down of the home loan. For full eligibility criteria, exclusions and further details see <https://www.asb.co.nz/promotions/supporting-success-in-your-school.html>

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## **Whangaparaoa College Physio Clinic** (established 2010) for Students & Staff

John Lanigan. Dip Phty, Dip MT.  
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Coast Physio Group

Conveniently at the College to reduce time out of class  
Discounted ACC Surcharge Only \$10 for School Clinic Treatments / Non ACC \$45  
Parents / caregivers welcome to accompany their child

### **Where?**

**NOW MOVED Downstairs in Administration block beside the Careers Advisor**

### **When?**

**Open every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00 am to 2.20 pm**

After hours treatments can be arranged at Coast Physio Whangaparaoa

To make an appointment or discuss your needs  
Phone / txt 021 187 3299 or Coast Physio 424 1309

**Proud To Support WGPC Sports Teams**

## Community Notices



### LAST EVER POP – UP STORE

NZ Uniforms will be on site at Whangaparaoa College in the auditorium foyer for two days for the last ever pop-up store.

**Tuesday 15 January – 10.00 am to 7.00 pm**

**Wednesday 16 January – 9.00 am to 3.00 pm**

For further information or online uniform purchases;

Ph: (09) 477 6300

Email: [albany@nzuniforms.com](mailto:albany@nzuniforms.com)

Website: [www.nzuniforms.com](http://www.nzuniforms.com)

### DO YOU HAVE ANY SCHOOL UNIFORM YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE??

If you have any uniform that is no longer required and you would like to donate it to the school, we would gratefully appreciate any that is in reasonable condition. Any donated uniform received, is passed on to families who require some support with school uniform, and any items we can give them are always greatly appreciated.

**Thank you.**



Casual workers needed

## Love kids?



APPLY TODAY!

Coast Sitters is your local and trusted babysitting and nannying service on the Hibiscus Coast. We are always looking to grow our awesome team of enthusiastic and caring in-home childminders. If you'd love a part-time job that fits in with YOU, connects you with amazing families, and helps build your CV in more ways than one, we'd love to hear from you!

#### MUST HAVE:

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- Buckets of enthusiasm
- Mobile device
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Phone: 021 222 4188

[www.coastsitters.co.nz](http://www.coastsitters.co.nz)

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## Sponsorship and Support

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FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP AND SUPPORT OF OUR COLLEGE LEARNERS.**



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**Diane de Jong**  
Personal Travel Manager  
ddi: +64 9 424 4250  
mob: +64 21 073 1544  
fax: +64 9 427 9707  
email: ddejong@hot.co.nz

**Orewa**  
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