

## Newsletter – Issue 2, February 23, 2012

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

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After consultation with our community, including parents and whanau, students and staff, our Board of Trustees (BoT) has ratified our Strategic Goals and Vision for 2012 and the next few years. Our Annual Plan, to be ratified by the BoT has, as its focus, our core business of teaching and learning. These goals are:

1. **Raising academic achievement for all students through differentiated learning;** with a focus on literacy and numeracy in Year 9/10; an increase of levels of achievement for NCEA for Years 11, 12, 13; ensuring our gifted and talented students are challenged and our programmes lift Maori and Pasifika achievement; continue lifting Merit and Excellence opportunities.
2. **Improving attendance** – Attending lessons continually has a direct link to learning and achievement. We will chase up, educate and inform parents regularly and follow up with consequences to ensure that attendance does not become a barrier to success.
3. **Enhancing teaching** – As teachers we are also learners; developing our techniques to enhance the teaching of the high end thinking and learning skills. We will consolidate our College Effective Teaching Profile and enhance consistency of teaching across our classes. We will ensure we are up to date with the new Level 2 Achievement Standards changes introduced this year.
4. **Enhancing community connections to improve achievement** – We will ensure that opportunities to meet parents are focussed on achievement particularly academic with information

that parents and students can learn from and use. Our parent teacher evenings, family school conferences, fono, and hui have this relationship as their focus. The development of "Moodle" across the College will help enhance this goal.

Complementing these goals is our Professional Development Programme, Te Kotahitanga, guiding us as teachers in the classroom and in our planning and also our weekly professional development programme focusing on enhancing our teaching.

Our motto is "Achievement for All" and with these strategic goals linked to our three pillars of the College, students, teachers and parents, I believe our graduates will continue the steady trend in achievement reflected in the last few year's results.

I look forward to meeting parents at the Year 9 BBQ on Wednesday and acknowledging the Level 1, Level 2 students at the Achievers' Assembly on 7 March. Again, this is a great opportunity to acknowledge, celebrate and build on relationships within the College.

**MARK P SHANAHAN**  
Principal

#### CONGRATULATIONS; SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

The following students gained NCEA Scholarships.

**Natasha Leulua:** Samoan  
**Delphi Archer:** Visual Art Painting.  
Congratulations to both students for the hard work they put into their schooling and to all their teachers who have assisted them over the years.

#### WELCOME

Inclusion Support Centre Staff  
Welcome to our new Occupational Therapist **Ms Vicky Jackson** and to Teacher Aides, **Mr Wayne Mills** and **Janesse Mendoza**. The ISC continues to go from strength to strength

with 30 students in 4 classrooms operating on the NZ curriculum.

Welcome also to **Mr Wen Zhen** who is a Teacher Aide in the ESOL Department.

### **NCEA ACHIEVEMENT EVENING; WEDNESDAY MARCH 7**

We are looking forward to our NCEA Achievement Evening in Week 6 of Term One when we recognise the achievement of all Year 12 and 13 students who gained their NCEA Level 1 or 2 Certificate with their year groups in 2011. Details will be posted out to you but successful students need to ensure that they have set aside other events so that they can attend. This is an evening for the whole family to come along and to celebrate NCEA success so do put a ring around this on your calendar.

### **YEAR 9; EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**

This term our Year 9 students will be involved in an exciting outdoor trip as part of their learning programme. Each Year 9 class will spend one day in the Waitakere Ranges during the weeks beginning February 27 and March 4. Students will be involved in team building activities, a bush walk and a swim in a waterhole.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees for 2012 will be held on Tuesday, 28 February commencing at 5.15 pm in the Board Room. You are very welcome to attend.

### **10 SHINE RANGITOTO TRIP**

55 members of 10A and 10S spent Friday 17 March discovering more about an Auckland icon – Rangitoto Island as part of their Term 1 topic 'Spaces, Shapes and Places'. Activities included a study of the volcanic rocks of the shore-line as well as the tramp through lava fields and bush to the summit, with a side trip to the lava caves. Students gathered impressions for creative writing and recorded geological and botanical data about the volcanic environment as well as doing some mathematical calculations. **Mr Gibbs's** Geography lesson from the summit gained

added drama from the live display of convection rain, thunder and lightning over the city, while we basked in sunshine on the island. Thanks to all the students for their lively participation and to **Whaea Campbell, Ms Sultan, Mr Drummond** and **Mr Gibbs** for their support.

### **SLEEPOVER AT KELLY TARLTON'S**

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 49 students from 9S and 9A spent a night sleeping under the sharks at Kelly Tarlton's. The trip was designed to act as a cross-curricular study to link the Term's theme of 'Origins'. Students were told the story of Scott's Hut; got up close to Phoebe the biggest stingray; had a behind the scenes tour to feed the fish; explored the darkened underwater world by torchlight and visited the penguins. This is just the start of a fantastic year for these Shine students that are part of the Enrichment Programme.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL SUCCESS**

Things are looking bright for the Environment Council this year. Having won the **Bronze EnviroSchool Award** last year, our group is taking it up a notch. We have divided into 4 sub-committees, namely: Waste and Recycling, Travelwise and Energy, Sustainability and Promotion. We have received support from quite a handful of organisations and are currently recruiting. We will also be having a waste and recycling campaign starting up this term and bringing out a new environment rewarding system called 'Greenie Card' soon. Our team has been working hard and we are ready to carry the success from last year into 2012.

### **TRAVELWISE**

Waitakere College is a TravelWise School, a programme run by Auckland Transport. This means we encourage students to make better travel and transport choices.

We aim to:

- Reduce car trips to and from school (saving you petrol)
- Encourage sustainable and active forms of transport – improving fitness by walking and cycling and by carpooling and catching the train or bus.

Walking is one of the cleanest and easiest forms of transport.

As a TravelWise school we would like to reduce traffic around the school, which in turn reduces the chances of pedestrian injury crashes. Every morning 245,172 children travel to Auckland schools – over half of these trips are by car. There are 48% fewer crashes involving pedestrians around TravelWise schools. You can help by dropping your child off further away from school to walk the rest of the way.

Please adhere to the 40kph zone along Rathgar Road before and after school.

### **Travelwisely and Safely**

## **CHANGES TO SCHOOL RECORDS**

To enable us to maintain correct, up to date information on your child's school records, please assist us by advising the School Office of any changes to:

- Home address.
- Home telephone number.
- Parents/Caregivers workplace.
- Parents/Caregivers work phone number.
- Emergency contact person.
- Emergency contact telephone number.
- Doctor's name or telephone number.
- Any legal matters affecting your child.

Please remember only those named on your child's enrolment card may have contact with your child at school. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **3.05 HIVE**

All students are invited to attend the 3.05 Hive in the Library each Tuesday afternoon until 4.45pm. Teachers are there to assist with English, Maths or Science homework and assignments.

## **FUNDRAISING – BUZZ THE PEOPLE**

Complete short, simple online surveys and help raise money for the College at the same time, by going to [www.buzzthepeople.co.nz](http://www.buzzthepeople.co.nz) and selecting Waitakere College to receive the money you 'earn' when you complete one of their surveys.

## **MY MONITOR**

Student ID cards can be purchased - \$13.00, either via the Monitor account, or via the envelope system at the Student Centre. If you have not received the information on how to set up your Monitor account and you wish to please email the Business Manager on [busman@waitakere-college.school.nz](mailto:busman@waitakere-college.school.nz). All 2011 cards are valid until early March.

## **SWIMMING SPORTS**

The School hosted its annual Swim Sports event at West Wave on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. There were some outstanding individual and team performances and the students who participated were a credit to the school, their families and themselves and the behaviour was exemplary on the day. I would like to thank the senior pupils who came down to the event to help time keep, score and organise the swimmers and a big thanks also to **Mrs Foreman, Mrs Percy, Mr Eyre, Mr Bradley, Miss Tai Tin, Mr Te Whata and Miss Itamua** for all contributing to a great day.  
*Mr Revill, Sports Coordinator*

**House Points** for the Swim Sports event.

1st Matauranga:	100 points.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Manawanui:	80 points.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aroha:	60 points.

Individual Winners

Senior Girls: **Nicole Buzas Stowers-Hull**  
Senior Boys: **Andrei Gumtal**  
Intermediate Girls: **Maddie Coates**  
Intermediate Boys: **Rish Hinwah**  
Junior Girls: **Monique Rees**  
Junior Boys: **Matt Horniman /Jordan Todd.**

## **SPORTS RESULTS TO 19/2/212**

**Tennis:** We have a **Senior Boys** team which is playing in the **A grade** competition, and a **Senior Girls** team which is playing in the social grade. Our boys who have been together since Year 9, are predominantly Year 13 now, so we also have a group of students who are training to make up a team for next year. The competition matches are played on Saturday mornings and all are at Waitakere College for the five weeks of this season. Three further matches are played at the end of Term 3. Each player plays both

singles and doubles matches, the winner of a match being the one who is first to win 6 games.

Training is held on Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 3.15 - 4.30pm, but the Thursday training is specifically for the team members. Our first match results are as follows:

Waitakere Senior Boys won against Mt Roskill Grammar, winning 6 of the nine matches played.

Congratulations to **Luka Zubcic, Jarron Gardiner**, and **Shaun Alcock** who won both their singles and doubles matches.

Waitakere Senior Girls lost against Avondale College, 2 - 7, but many of this team are first time tennis players, and they played with determination and increasing strength and accuracy. Congratulations to **Demei Tito** and **Fai Sonthong** who won their singles matches.

#### **Water Polo:**

Senior Boys v Glenfield  
Won 5-3.

Player of the game – Chris Moore, Year 10. Chris scored from a push shot that had been practiced in training. The team were three goals down at half time and rallied in the second half to win 5-3. Well done.

Girls v Liston  
Lost 9-3.

Player of the game – Mya Stearman Gregory, Year 9. Mya listened to the coach and did exactly what was asked of her. This was a spirited performance by our young team who were up against a Liston side that contained a number of Year 13 players.

#### **Touch Rugby:**

The touch rugby teams have got off to a fantastic start with success this past week for both the senior teams.

Senior Boys beat Green Bay with a resounding 5-1 win.

Girls were also convincing winners comprehensively defeating Avondale 5-0.

#### **Volleyball:**

Waitakere Senior Boys v Mount Roskill. Mount Roskill won 2 sets to 0.

Waitakere Senior Boys v Avondale. Waitakere won 2 sets to 0 with one set ending 32-30.

Waitakere Senior Girls v Green Bay. Green Bay won 2 sets to 0.

Waitakere Senior Girls v Kelston Girls. Kelston won 2 sets to 0.

Outstanding performances came from **Jay Talosaga** and **Steven Tafunai**.

Even though the girls lost both matches they pushed their opponents all the way and in the first tie against Green Bay both sets finished 26-24. A fantastic performance from the team, especially after only having one training session.

#### **Cricket:**

Waitakere Senior Boys lost in the Gillette Cup to Rutherford Boys .

Waitakere 89/5

Rutherford 90/3

Even with a depleted team the senior boys gave a good account of themselves and pushed Rutherford hard all the way.

#### **SUMMER SPORTS**

We are currently offering the following activities during Term One:

**Cricket:** Boys, Girls, Junior and Senior

**Kilikiti:** Senior Boys and Girls only

**Softball:** Senior girls only

**Tennis:** Boys and Girls, Junior and Senior

**Touch:** Boys and Girls, Senior only

**Volleyball:** Boys and Girls, Senior only

**Water Polo:** Boys and Girls, Junior and Senior

**Wrestling:** Boys Only

Fees for all sports are \$20 which covers all activities.



Please visit our website for information  
[www.a1drivingschool.co.nz](http://www.a1drivingschool.co.nz)

Special discount for Waitakere College students.

## Become Part of St John Youth

St John Youth programmes focus on teaching young people aged 6-18 first aid, health care, leadership and life skills – with fantastic opportunities to experience new things and have fun. Our Youth programmes near you have reopened for 2012 and we'd love you to join us.

- Henderson – Thursday at 6:30pm meeting at St John Hall (rear of Ambulance Station) Edmonton Rd, Te Atatu Sth.
- Massey – Wednesday at 6:30pm meeting at Massey Primary School, Cnr Don Buck Rd and Redhills Rd, Massey
- Avondale – Tuesdays at 6:30pm meeting at Ambulance Station, Wolverton Street, New Lynn.

For more info, check out

[www.stjohnyouth.org.nz](http://www.stjohnyouth.org.nz) or call us on 0800 STJOHN (785 646).

## JOIN A MARCHING TEAM

Under 12 & Kiwi Team from 5 Yrs. to 12 Yrs.  
Under 16 Team from 10 Yrs to 16 Yrs.

Join our Team. Contact Jennifer on: 021 186 9685; Jennifer on: 09 838 0330; Gail On: 027 5080 292; Janet on: 021 612227  
Alternatively E-mail: [royalguards@xtra.co.nz](mailto:royalguards@xtra.co.nz)

## RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

To opt to have the school newsletter emailed to you, go to the school website at [www.waitakere-college.school.nz](http://www.waitakere-college.school.nz), click on Contact Us on the menu bar, go to Newsletter Sign Up and follow the instructions. You will then be able to view the full newsletter in colour.

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## ATTENTION PARENTS

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 1 2012

Mon 27/2	Year 9 OETC events all week
Tues 28/2	Biology 301 trip
Wed 22/2	Science 301 trip
Thurs 1/3	Zone Swimming
Sun 4/3 – 5/3	Geography 301 trip
Wed 7/3	Biology and Science 201 trip
Wed 7/3	<b>Achiever's Assembly</b>
Thur 8/3	PED 101 trip
Fri 9/3	<b>Teacher Only Day</b>
Mon 12/3	Japanese Hannan High arrives
Mon 12/3	Fiafia Night
Tue 13/3	Zone Athletics
Fri 16/3	Quiz Night
Sat 31/3	School Musical, Grease Opens

