



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Daylight Savings has finished, days are wetter and cooler (as if that's just happening ☺) and winter sports trainings are well underway, so it must be the end of Term One.

With the wet weather has come a profusion of jackets, and the thorny issue of "correct uniform" comes to the fore once again. Our Board of Trustees has determined that our students wear a High School uniform; and it is a role of staff to enforce it. That sometimes puts us in conflict with parents; but for every complaint I get about us enforcing our uniform rules, I get two that say we aren't strict enough!

School is all about learning – both in and out of class. I make the point to our students that a dress code is part of many jobs, so learn now to wear the uniform with pride. Also, students ask me what uniform has to do with learning; I make the point that wearing a correct uniform is part of being at Wainuiomata High School, so wear it properly (and with pride) so you can focus on your learning rather than being in conflict with us.

Our Uniform Code is on our website: www.wainuiomatahigh.school.nz. In particular, please note:

- ✂ Plain black jacket/raincoat
- ✂ Students are permitted to wear one small ring, a single small earring (up to 1cm diameter) or stud in each ear, and a necklace or taonga. A facial piercing is permitted provided it is pinhead-sized, flush to the skin and discreet.
- ✂ Shoes – Please refer to our website (www.wainuiomatahigh.school.nz)

Many, many thanks to our parents for their efforts in making sure your child arrives at the High School in a correct and tidy uniform.

Finally, a wee note about parking outside the High School, prompted by the recent sighting of a Parking Warden. Please observe the "Parking Signs" (including times), and don't park on the median strip, particularly on the weekend when watching sports.

Martin Isberg, Principal

MĀORI WHĀNAU FOCUS EVENING

Special thanks to everyone who took the time to attend our Maori Whanau Focus Evening on Wednesday night. The turnout was great and the discussions were valid and valued. Special thanks to the students who took the time to speak about their experiences at the High School. We will be providing a debrief of the evening and information on how you can be a part of the Whanau Ropu in an upcoming Newsletter.

Charmaine Russell, Maori Achievement

GET TO KNOW OUR HEAD GIRL – SHILOH BABBINGTON

What do you like best about the High School?

The people. I'm pretty close with my teachers and they have helped me get to where I am today. They gave me the confidence to apply to be Head Girl. And my friends; they've helped me come out of my shell and be more independent. I love how the school spirit is high this year – we seem to have all connected as a family.

What are your goals as Head Girl this year?

Raising School Spirit is a goal that we as Head Students are trying to achieve; but for me personally I want to get to know as many students as possible, and form new relationships. I want to be a good role model and for more future students to “want to come” to the High School. It's about making connections with the other school students in the Valley and showing them how awesome our school is.



How have you been enjoying the role so far?

The role is completely different to what I thought it would be; I didn't know how much the Head Students do, because most of the work the Student Leaders do is “hidden”, behind the scenes. The workload and the leadership is a lot to handle, but I'm lucky to have already formed a great working friendship with my fellow Head Students prior to gaining my role as Head Girl. We work closely and well together and are good mates, which has made the transition to a leader in the school much easier.

How are your studies this year going?

I feel like I'm having to work really hard to balance the workload of Head Girl with my academic studies. I'm on track but I need to prioritise more. I think that will come with time and practice (the high level of responsibility is new to us). I'm confident that I will achieve my academic goals this year 😊.

What are your academic goals?

I definitely want to gain Endorsements in my subjects. I've achieved Merit before but I'm aiming for Excellence this year. I didn't realise how good it would feel to gain a Merit last year, but I'm really proud of my accomplishment. As a role model I want show other students that the hard work is worth the effort.

How do you spend your spare time (in and out of the High School)?

When I'm not doing Head Student duties during the day, I'm either studying for my internals or I'm involved with Stage Challenge at the moment. I don't really have much spare time during the school day, but when I'm home and relaxing I like to watch Netflix and dance. I'm always dancing 😊. Spending time with my friends is also important to me (and them).

What are your 2018 plans?

I get asked this question a lot and to be honest I'm still not sure exactly what I want to do yet, but I have a few ideas. I'm studying a broad range of subjects which is helping me keep my options open. I think it's OK to not know what you want to do, because we're still young and still learning. People make career changes all the time, and we definitely still have time to decide what we want to do. I want to do something I'm really passionate about, and that's why I haven't decided yet. My parents are very supportive and accepting of me doing something I really want to (not something I should do) and I'm grateful for that.

What advice would you give to students?

You can actually achieve more than you set out to. I've never thought of myself as a highly-academic student, so I did have to work hard to achieve that. Working hard, gaining confidence in myself and having the support of my teachers has made a difference for me. Honestly, I just want my fellow students to enjoy being here, now. Each year has been better and better and this year has been the best yet. Just enjoy it.

SPORTS UPDATE

Teams are close to being finalised for Winter Sports in Terms Two and Three, so if any students still want to register they need to please see me as soon as possible (in the Gym Offices). Please note that all sports fees must be paid by the end of Term One. At present we are short of two Junior Netball Coaches/Managers – please call 04-9383224 Ext 7028 or email me at peterc@wainuiomatahigh.school.nz if you are able to help. Thanks to all the staff and community coaches for volunteering their time and expertise.

Peter Cowan, Sports Coordinator

FUTSAL AT WAINUIOMATA HIGH SCHOOL



This year Wainuiomata High School have fielded four Futsal teams and have just completed Term One Competitions. The Girls' team have played in Wellington on Monday nights, and placed second in Division Two Girls' Futsal, we are very proud of their accomplishment.

We also had three Boys' teams playing in Lower Hutt on Friday nights. The Boys 1st Team was in Division One and they had a Penalty Goal decider in their last game as they were one of the top two teams and finished in third place. The other two Boys' Futsal teams had a great season, with their Final game against each other in their division.

We took a Girls and Boys Futsal Team to both Regionals and Nationals, gaining further experience in the game. Congratulations to all of our Futsal players for showing awesome school values and pride in our school. Also a special thank you to both of our teacher coaches, Dan Smith and Daiji Kataoka.



We will be holding our own school-based Futsal competition in Terms Two and Three, and we will be entering both a Junior Boys' and a Junior Girls' team in the Secondary Schools Futsal Competition in Term Four.

Jocelyn Reddy, Futsal Coordinator





Lower Hutt Women's Centre are running a "Self-Esteem for Teens" course for girls, aged 13-17 years. Beginning Thursday 11 May (from 4:00pm-6:00pm) the course runs for eight weeks and costs \$20 to enrol.

Do you want to:

- ✓ Learn more about yourself?
- ✓ Have fun?
- ✓ Be more confident?
- ✓ Develop an understanding and respect of yourself and other?
- ✓ Grow in self-respect?
- ✓ Grow in self-worth
- ✓ Grow in self-esteem
- ✓ Accept yourself as you are?

We're all different... who we are, what we like and don't like, our cultures and our backgrounds. There is no one else quite like you. Once you accept yourself there is there no reason to hold anything back. This is your world, honour it as your own and enjoy its' gifts.

- Facilitators:** Stephanie Brockman and Amber White
Dates: Eight weeks, beginning Thursday 11 May from 4:00pm-6:00pm
Address: Lower Hutt Women's Centre, 186 Knights Road, Lower Hutt
Enrolment: Please call (04-5692711), email (info@lhwc.org.nz) or drop in (Opening hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:00am-5:00pm and Fridays 9:00am-3:00pm).
Cost: \$20

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REMINDER

- So what would you do if there was an earthquake tomorrow?
- How long could you look after yourself if Wainuiomata was cut off?
- Are you prepared?
- Do you have a plan?
- How do you find out what is happening?
- How could you help?
- Where do you go for help?

**Wainuiomata Community Hall
 (Queen Street)
 Saturday 08 April 2017
 10:00am-12:00pm.**

Find out how you can get prepared and how you can help Wainuiomata after a disaster.

(Public meeting is followed by a Community BBQ.)