

## **PRINCIPAL UPDATE: JUNE 2017**

Kia ora koutou katoa

A big thank you goes out to all the whanau who supported our kapa haka roopu. They represented themselves, our whanau and Whangaroa College with pride. This year we had many junior students take to the stage and their contribution was tremendous. We also had students who took to the stage for their first time and once again, we were extremely proud of their contributions. As a community, we should all be proud of our students when they travel to represent us all. I would also like to thank whaea Nikita who arrived at the beginning of the year and took on the huge challenge of pulling together a bracket in time for the Tai Tokerau Festival. Once again, thank you to all the whanau who supported this kaupapa. Your support for the children and Whangaroa College is much appreciated.. Nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa.

Winter is about to make its presence felt as temperatures begin to drop. Winter is the time of year when students will put on more layers of clothing to keep warm. Authorized school uniform is available from DD Gold in Kerikeri on Hobson Street. There is a large range of uniform available to ensure your child is warm while they are at school. Our community continually tell us that students are not in correct school uniform. Therefore, I ask all parents to support Whangaroa College and ensure your child attends in the correct uniform. The College does its best to ensure all students are in the correct uniform and with the help of whanau, we can address this together.

It is important to keep up to date with the activities that are happening at the college. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to follow us on Facebook, as this is the platform that enables us to reach our largest audience. You should also download our school APP, which we use in emergencies such as school closures. Visit our website as this provides a range of useful information and important links to other platforms associated with education and Whangaroa College. Finally, remind your child to bring home the school newsletter which is handed out to every child during bus lines when they are published. These are our preferred modes of communication and have proven to be extremely effective when getting messages out to our whanau and wider community. In addition, you can always read my article in 'Whispers'.

As we head towards the 3rd term for the school year, our seniors begin to prepare for their end-of-year examinations. This is an important time to ensure they get the best nutrition available and the correct amount of rest and sleep. The college provides students with meaningful pathways and your support with rest and nutrition will ensure their successes are maximized. It is important we all work together so that our children can be successful and positive contributors to society.

Jack Anderson  
Principal

## **PRINCIPAL UPDATE: APRIL 2017**

Another term has passed us by and a lot has been achieved as we continue to celebrate success on many fronts. This year we saw the biggest group of students to date represent Whangaroa College at the regional Athletics Day with 24 students attending. Our podium placings were Ashlee Wilmott who came first in the senior girls' 400 m race and placed third in the senior girls' 200 m. Donald Morgan placed third in the senior boys' 400 m. Te Kauri Parkinson placed first in the junior boys' javelin.

A group of Year 11 students participated in the BP Challenge at Springbank School. The three schools participating this year were Springbank School, Kerikeri High School, and Whangaroa College. Students applied their entrepreneurial skills where they thought about a business idea and constructed a business plan and marketing strategy. Overall, there were nine teams with approximately six to seven students in each. Georgia Mills from Whangaroa College won the award for the Best CEO of the challenge. She was part of a team called 'Pure energy' who conceptualised a 'lite proof case' that used solar energy to charge mobile phones. We also had several other students who picked up awards at the BP challenge. These accomplishments prove that our students are able to compete and succeed with some of the best in the Mid Far North.

Our involvement in The Innovation Programme Northland has seen 33 Microsoft industry certifications awarded to 11 students in the first term of 2017. Our access to world-class digital technology provides our students with an advantage over others when they head off into an ever-increasing digital world. Our students have really embraced The Innovation Programme Northland and we envisage it extending into other areas of our curriculum.

Our kapa haka roopu are very excited to represent Whangaroa College at the Tai Tokerau Festival this year. They have been practicing hard and the support from our whanau has been outstanding. I always encourage and welcome whanau to come into our school and support when and wherever they can.

Behind all our student achievements sits a dedicated staff who have a passion to support our students to reach their goals. They work extremely hard and it is a pleasure to be part of an exceptionally positive and professional team.

We are very proud of all our students who continue to represent the school with pride at many events; please join with me in congratulating them.

Jack Anderson  
Principal

## **PRINCIPAL UPDATE: FEBRUARY 2017**

I trust the year has started well and you look forward to a prosperous and exciting time ahead.

This year we welcome many new students who have come from all over the country and we know their educational experiences will be rewarding and successful while studying at Whangaroa College. I thank those whanau for making Whangaroa College your school of choice and we welcome you to our learning community. We also welcome Nikita Williams who is the teacher of Te Reo Maori and Jinesh Joseph who has returned to our school as the Head of Department for Science. They both arrive with a genuine passion to work in our community and support the learning aspirations of our students. Please join with me in welcoming all our new whanau to Whangaroa College.

We began the year with two teacher only days. On the first day staff travelled to Waitangi and we thank whaea Mereana for her mahi on this kaupapa.

The second day focused on administrative tasks. This allowed teachers to gain begin analysing 2016 student achievement data and external examination results. The data identified areas where performance was good and also areas that need further strengthening. We also continued our work on the student graduate profile. Through a range of activities, we managed to place the feedback from our community, students, staff and BoT into themes that are beginning to shape our student graduate profile. This is a work in progress so do keep an eye on the school website and our Facebook page for further updates.

Following on from several hui held in 2016, we are introducing our Project Based Learning programme. At these hui many community members indicated they are happy and excited to support the college with our PBL programme. Students have chosen their areas of interest and we look forward to working with our community to bring our PBL to realisation.

As always, I invite you to become involved in the many activities Whangaroa College offer throughout the year; your participation is gratefully appreciated.

I look forward to catching up with you all throughout the year.

Nga mihi nui o te tau hou

Jack Anderson