

WAIMATE HIGH SCHOOL 2007

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Principal: Mrs Janette Packman **Deputy Principal:** Mr Russell Crossan
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Useful contacts:

BOT Chairperson:	Mr Ken Buckingham	Special needs Co-ordinator:	Mrs Geaney
NCEA / NZQA:	Mr Robertson	11 & 12	Mr Robertson
Year Co-ordinators:	13 Mrs McLachlan/Mr Bates	7 / 8	Mr Marquet
Pastoral managers:	9 / 10 Mrs Foster		
Guidance Counsellor:	Mr Bates	Careers Counsellor:	Mrs McLachlan / Mr Briggs
Sports Co-ordinator:	Mr Albrey	Arts Co-ordinator:	Mrs Meynell
Uniform Co-ordinator:	Janice Mehrrens	Bus Controller:	Mr Robertson
Group Teachers:	CAK Miss Atkinson	CQU Miss Queree	CCD Mr Caird
	GUH Miss Uhland	GTA Mr Taylor	GWT Mr Watts
	LAN Ms Anderson	LDN Miss Dollan	LON Miss O'Neill
	PMN Miss Morrison	PWR Mrs Warner	PYG Mr Young

4 May Newsletter:07:2:2

The Principal's word

Kia ora koutou

We are looking forward to the Education Review Office visiting our school in week 4, starting 14 May. It is three years since ERO reviewed our school and we are looking forward to the opportunity to demonstrate to them the great things that happen here.

As part of the review ERO would like to talk to as many parents and whanau as possible. The ERO team is interested in your views on how well the school establishes partnerships that involve parents and whanau in general school activities and in students' well-being and learning. The information gathered will contribute to a national evaluation report that looks at how schools engage with parents and whanau. You are invited to talk to a member of the review team – leave a message at the school office and a reviewer will call you. We are also planning a meeting session when parents could come along to talk to the reviewers. The scheduling of this will be in next week's newsletter. Or you could complete a parent survey that will be available at the school office or on ERO's website: www.ero.govt.nz

In assembly on Monday all Year 13 students were presented with a school badge. This is a tradition we have at Waimate High School at the beginning of term 2. I hope they will wear their badges with pride.

The collection of funds owed to school for trips, books and course fees continues to be a problem

for us. We do everything we can to keep these costs as low as possible. If your family find it difficult to budget for school items you might consider setting up an automatic payment to us to spread the costs over the whole year. Several families already do this and find it helpful. Once again, where there is particular hardship at any one time, please approach me for assistance. I do have discretionary funds that I can use in some circumstances.

Congratulations to Jane Smith and Isaac Beeke who recently participated in the South Island Interdependent Games. They competed in a variety of athletics and swimming competitions and both were presented with impressive participation medals. Well done!

Best wishes to the 45 Drama Club students who will be representing Waimate High School, in Drama at the Regent Theatre concert on Saturday night. These students have been working hard in rehearsals and we are proud of their efforts. I understand that ticket sales for the concert are going well so be in to book a seat.

Janette Packman
Principal

GAIN Programme

We would like to run the 'GAIN' programme, an interactive programme for parents and teenagers, during term 2 in Waimate. It is an interactive and informal 5 week programme which both parent and child attend, with two trained facilitators to work through issues to do with problem-solving, effective communication and decision-making as well as authority, dealing with pressure, and building family self-esteem. Here's a chance to work at improving your family relationships and have a fun time! Group size is 6-8 family groups (at least one parent and one child aged 11-18 must attend, but preferably whole family attends). This is NOT family counselling, but a pro-active way for families to develop skills.

A course will be running in Waimate, beginning 30 May provided we have three more families enrol – this is a programme for parents and teenagers together. Contrary to the pamphlet sent out, there is no cost. See Mr Bates for further details or to register.

Air Force Challenge and Army Week

In the July school holidays the AIR FORCE CHALLENGE and the NEW ZEALAND ARMY WEEK CHALLENGE will be taking place and year 12-13 students interested in applying for these tasters into the armed forces are encouraged to see Mr Bates for application forms. The Army week will be held at Burnham in Christchurch, and the Air Force Challenge at Ohakea near Palmerston North. Almost all expenses are covered, and these are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to experience 3-5 days in a military setting. There are fitness requirements for the Army week, so students should keep this in mind.

Parents of students please contact Mr Bates for more details - nominations need to be in very soon.

Peer Mediation - is a programme run in 1600 schools in New Zealand, which educates students, teachers and parents in dealing with conflict in healthy ways. At the end of the training, the school has 'peer mediators' who have a role in the school of helping settle minor disputes and resolving conflicts effectively. These are lofty hopes! During term 2 some students will be offered the opportunity to be involved with the Peer mediation training, and parents will be notified of an evening training as well. This is fully funded by the Ministry of Education, so there is no cost. Possible date - 18th June - keep an eye out.

Australian English Competition

Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet about the 2007 Australian English Competition. Any questions or concerns please contact Mr John McCartney.

Uniform Room will be open on Wednesdays at lunchtime 12.15 – 1.10 pm or by arrangement by phoning Janice Mehrtens 689-1089.

Netball started last weekend with the club annual grading day. This year Waimate High School has nine teams entered in the local competition.

Waimate High School 'A' team has had a great start to the season. They are competing in the Aoraki Sunday Night Competition in Timaru. So far they have won both of their games against Timaru Girls High School and St Pats Timaru.

Lucy Adams and Laura Thomas have both been selected to trial for the Otago under 19 team, after they were noticed in a pre-season game against a North Otago team. Lucy and Laura have also been selected to trial for South Canterbury under 17 and 19 teams. Well done to these girls and we wish them well.

A reminder to all netballers that subs were due in today, so get them in.

A & B- \$50, Yr 9-13- \$45, Yr 7&8- \$35

North Otago Driving School

A licensed driving instructor Ian Rowell is prepared to come to Waimate if there is enough demand for restricted or full license lessons.

Ph: 03 434 7588.

CALENDAR

Monday 7 May

STAR – Food

Dunedin Tertiary Info Day – Yr 12/13

Tuesday 8 May

STAR – Nursing

Wednesday 9 May

STAR – Fencing and Animal Handling

STAR – Hairdressing

Thursday 10 May

STAR – Hand Tools

Monday 14 May

Board Meeting 7 pm

STAR – Food

Thursday 17 May

STAR – Hand Tools and Early Childhood

Navy Bus visit

Tuesday 22 May

PTA AGM Library 7.30 pm

Monday 4 June Queens Birthday Holiday