

## WAIMATE HIGH SCHOOL 2009

Phone: 689 8920 Fax: 689 8925

www.waimate-high.school.nz Email gen@waimate-high.school.nz

Principal: Mrs Janette Packman Deputy Principal: Mr Russell Crossan  
Email principal@waimate-high.school.nz Deputy Principal: Mrs Pat Lyall



### Useful contacts:

**BOT Chairperson:** Mr J Begg  
**NCEA / NZQA:** Mr L Robertson  
**Year Co-ordinators:** 13 Mrs K McLachlan  
**Pastoral managers:** 9/10 Mrs T Foster  
**Guidance Counsellor:** Miss J Fisher  
**TIC Sports:** Mrs P Lyall  
**Uniform Co-ordinator:** Mrs J Mehrtens  
**Group Teachers:** **CAK** Miss A Atkinson  
**GOT** Mrs T Ottley  
**LBR** Mrs R Bell/Mrs J Rodokal  
**PTh** Mr J Thompson

**Special needs Co-ordinator:** Mrs S Geaney  
**11 & 12** Mr L Robertson  
**7/8** Mr M Marquet  
**Careers Counsellor:** Mrs K McLachlan

**Bus Controller:** Mr L Robertson  
**CQU** Mr T McEvoy **CCD** Mr B Caird  
**GDL** Mrs S Dhillon **GWT** Mr B Watts  
**LDN** Miss T Dollan **LKM** Mrs K Kilmartin  
**PWR** Mrs B Warner **PYG** Mr M Young

**Newsletter:09:4:6 20 Nov 09**

### The Principal's word

Kia ora koutou

Senior exams are underway and we have been most impressed with the positive attitude students have towards these exams. The exam supervisors have reported a marked improvement on students' preparedness and willingness to stay for the allocated time to ensure they have thoroughly checked over their papers. We believe this is also an outcome from the practice exams we held earlier in the year that were supervised under the same exam conditions.

Our Teacher Only Day on Monday was most useful. Thank you to parents and caregivers for making this possible. Staff spent the day pulling together and refining our implementation of the new curriculum and in particular, identifying what The Waimate Way looks like for students and for staff. Our vision for students is that they are encouraged to become confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners. Over the next few weeks I will tease out in more detail what we mean by this and how we will be developing the important values and key competencies in our young people.

A review of the school day has resulted in a decision to make some changes which we think will have positive effects on student concentration and learning.

The new bell times are:

Warning Bell 8.35  
Group Time 8.40 10 minutes  
Period 1 8.50 1 hour  
Period 2 9.50 1 hour  
Interval 10.50 30 minutes

Period 3 11.20 55 minutes  
Period 4 12.15 55 minutes  
Lunch 1 10 40 minutes  
Warning Bell 1.50  
DEAR 1.55 15 minutes  
Period 5 2.10 1 hour  
End of Day 3.10 pm

The main changes are that interval is now 30 minutes. This will give students more time to eat. We are finding that many students eat the bulk of their lunch at this time. As well, most of the food sold by the canteen is at this time. The lunch break is later and for a shorter time and this gives us one period after lunch. These changes will be trialled for the last 3 weeks of this term effective from 23 November.

I hope you have scheduled our Junior Prize giving on to your calendars. This celebration of the achievements of our junior students will take place at 1.30pm on Thursday 10 December.

Janette Packman  
Principal

### Missing Tracksuits

Over the last two years we have been able to purchase 30 track suits thanks to the generosity of NZ Dairies Ltd. At the moment there are 12 items missing which equates to \$900.00. We will not be replacing these track suit items next year. Please check at home to see if your student has returned these.

### Year 7 Trip to Christchurch

75 Year 7 students, 4 teachers and 2 very brave mums set off from school on Tuesday morning for a fun-filled night in Christchurch. Our first stop was the Ashburton Domain for lunch and then on to Orana Park where we were delighted to feed the giraffes and view beautiful

cheetah cubs, along with the usual mix of hippopotamus, monkeys and lions.



We then set off for the Antarctic Centre where we were very well looked after by the fantastic staff there. We had tea and then were treated to a snow storm ( wind chill factor -20), the penguins, various games, a video and then supper. After supper we were off to bed.



The morning saw some very tired children and equally tired teachers and mums, with all in agreement that the floor is not really the ideal place to spend the night! Breakfast was ready and then a turn on the Hagglund ride. This was hair raising for this teacher, but the children loved it!



Off to the Canterbury Museum to soak up some of our history, lunch in the beautiful Botanic Gardens and then on the bus home.

We had a very busy two days but filled with fun and good memories. Well done everyone and thanks to Mr Thompson for organising it for us.



### **WHS Under 16 Fundraiser Garden Ramble**

Saturday 22 November 1-5pm  
at Batchelors 8 Nelson Street  
Tickets \$10 Includes afternoon tea and floral demonstration by Viv Tumaru  
Contact Rosalie

### **Kindergarten Art and Christmas Display**

At the Waimate Art Society Rooms featuring John Street Kindergarten Children's art work

#### **Display Hours**

Wed 2 Dec-Fri 4 Dec 1pm-5pm  
Sat 5 – Sun 6 Dec 10am-4pm  
Wed 9 Dec-Fri 11 Dec 1pm–5pm  
Sat 12 Dec-Sun 13 Dec 10am-5pm  
Entry fee gold coin Donation

### **Mosaics**

If anyone has any tiles they no longer have a use for, old crockery and ice cream containers, we would appreciate them to use for the Mosaic Activity at the end of the year. Please drop into the office. Many thanks.

### **Calendar**

**Tues 1 Dec** Clearance Day for Seniors  
**Tues-Wed 8-9 Dec** Activities Day  
**Thurs 10 Dec** Junior Prize giving  
**Fri 11 Dec** End of Term 4  
Teacher only Day