



Faith City School Newsletter

Edition 5 - Term 2 - 25 June 2021

Dear Parents

It was great to celebrate Samoan Language week recently. As you will see in the newsletter, there were many activities undertaken by our classes that encouraged learning of the Samoan language and culture. On the Friday, we celebrated with a colourful shirt day. It was great to see everyone turn up so brightly - including some parents!



We were also privileged to have Mr Tafu come to our assembly and talk about Samoa and teach us language through song. Next term we will be studying the Pacific and so we will be learning much more about Pacific culture.

At the end of this term, we will hold another parent meeting for our Pasifika parents to build on our meeting from last year and to support our students ongoing learning. We will be in touch shortly to inform you of details for this fono.

In Week 10 of this term, we will be holding our mid-year Parent and Teacher Interviews. We have allocated 15 minutes per interview to allow us to go into more detail about the progress your child is making. We will also present you with various pieces of information to take away with you regarding their learning to date, and next steps for the rest of the year. As we will not be writing a formal report, it is important that you make an appointment with your teacher to ensure you get all the important information on your child's progress.

Senior students from Year 4 up are asked to attend the interview with their parents. For the younger ones there will be supervision available in the gym lounge. Remember that we finish earlier at 12.40pm-1pm. Please make arrangements to collect your child at that time.

We have just passed the longest night of the year! More sunlight is on the way, if not warm weather for a while yet. I am reminded of the scripture in Psalm 30:5 that says, 'Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning' - it is one of my favourite scriptures, as it lends to us the fact that there is hope and light at the end of what seems to be ongoing hardship and difficulty. God promises us light and joy and, despite the dark night, that he will never leave us nor forsake us. Therefore, just as the sun is sure to rise, so too there is certainty that joy will come again despite our circumstances. Our teachers here at FCS endeavour to share this hope and joy with their students daily and it is encouraging to see so many bright, joyful faces, who are positive everyday - this child-like faith is certainly an encouragement to us all here at Faith City.

God bless you everyone.

Marty Bullock

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Term 2:
Monday 3 May to
Friday 9 July

Term 3:
Monday 26 July to
Friday 1 October

20hr Famine:
24 & 25 June for
senior students only

Union Meeting:
1 July – school finishes
at 1pm

**Parent/Teacher
Interviews:**
6 & 7 July

Room One

Bunnies

Room 1 had an exciting time earlier in the term where each morning there seemed to be evidence of bunnies visiting our class overnight. This made for some excellent writing and also art.



Room Two

Matariki Celebration

A special thanks to Nadia Puaha for coming into Room 2 to teach us about Matariki. In Room 2 we have made stars that are in our window. These represent the cluster of stars for Matariki and a great reminder how awesome our God's creation is. Together with Room 1 and Nadia we will share fried bread and spreads. Thanks Nadia and Dave Puaha, it has been a great learning time for us all.



Fitness Activities

Over the last few weeks, Room 2 have been enjoying getting fit, using our muscles and co-ordination skills on the obstacle course in the gym.



Room Three

Pasifika Day – Wear a Bright Shirt



Room 3 was excited to be able to wear something colourful to celebrate Colourful Shirt Day and fully engaged with the Pasifika focus of the day.

Room Six

Weather Art

Room 6 used pastels to create their rain, puddles, rainbow and umbrella. Two different shades of blue dye were painted over the pastel to create the stormy weather.



Weather Art continued



Room Five

Pasifika Education

Room 5 has started their 2021 Pasifika journey this term by performing plays, singing songs, designing posters and learning new vocabulary to celebrate Samoan Language week.

We are also trialling some group based problem solving maths activities about the Pacific Islands (eg Fractions in Fiji, Place Value in Palau, Doubling and Halving in Niue)

Next term, we start a Pasifika Art unit, research some islands of choice in depth and link our learning with local Pasifika organisations/businesses. Lia Connor, a Pasifika Education Advisor, is also working with us to help develop our Pasifika Education. Here are some photos of a recent play called "The Village Beach".



Room Four

Pasifika Visual Art

Room 4 students have been focusing on Pasifika visual art this term. As a class we looked at customary and contemporary approaches to tapa decoration. The students then brainstormed ideas about images, symbols and patterns they could use to develop the imagery for their own tapa.

Some of the completed examples can be seen below.



Year 7 Technology & Year 8 Science



World Vision 20 Hour Famine Senior School

This Friday, 25 June, our Senior School participated in the 20-hour famine. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about giving and serving others less fortunate than themselves. Funds raised this year will help protect children in sub-Saharan Africa from the hunger pandemic.





REMEMBER our KickStart
Breakfast Club is open
Tuesday and Thursday mornings
from 8.20am and everyone is
welcome to come in for a bowl of
Weet-Bix & milk!

PTA Fundraising Update

A very big thank you to all our amazing school whanau who participated in our annual PTA pie fundraiser. Together we have raised \$1,582 to put towards finishing off our school sandpit extension.

We would like to acknowledge and say a BIG THANK YOU to the anonymous school family who donated 4 cubes of beautiful white sand for our sandpit. We will now have extra funds to buy some great equipment for the sandpit.

The PTA have also purchased some volleyball nets with the funds from our hot-cross bun fundraiser in March. Thank you for partnering with us to help provide exciting fun and educational experiences for our tamariki.

Also a BIG THANK YOU to the GRUMPY OLD MEN (Enterprises) who have donated a full goalie kit for our senior hockey team.



On Friday, 28 May we held a Mufti Day to take part in the Westpac Chopper Appeal.

We raised a whopping \$256

**Thank you to all the students who joined
& the generous support from parents & caregivers.**



Lost Property

We have a lot of items in our lost property. The majority of the shoes and clothing are in very good condition and we would love to see them returned to where they belong. If your child is missing any uniform, shoes, drink bottles etc please call into the office and have a check.

Also a few parents come and look through our lost property to find missing items and are unable to find them. Please could you check your child's uniform to make sure they haven't accidentally brought home someone else's clothing.

Unfortunately a lot of the lost property is unnamed, we recommend a website called Name It, you can find them at www.nameit.co.nz. They do iron on labels for clothing and also shoes labels.





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WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

www.whanganuihigh.school.nz

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 2 June
Inter school Moderation
Students will be released at 1.50pm

Monday 7 June
Queen's Birthday Holiday

Monday 21 June – Friday 9 July
School Tours running for 2022 Intake

LIFE AS A YEAR 9 STUDENT

New students and their whānau often ask "What is life like at Whanganui High School?". We interviewed eight of our Year 9 students to seek answers from their perspective.

The best aspect about Whanganui High School is the impressively wide variety of opportunities and events offered to students. Whanganui High School is based on the LIFE values of: Learning, Integrity, Fellowship and Excellence, which senior students and staff consistently present to new students throughout the year. The staff members have created a safe learning environment for students to recognise our potential. I encourage you to get involved in the endless amount of possibilities because it is all here at Whanganui High School.



CRISTIAN KIRIONA
Attended Year 8 at Faith City School

CIARA BARLOW
Attended Year 8 at Upokongaro School

A typical day is not the same as you would find at other schools. You have a packed day, full of exciting subjects with a different teacher every period. One of the best things is the students and teachers. A few of my favourite activities this year have been Kapa haka, Te Reo Māori, Art, Touch Rugby and Netball. These have allowed me to learn new things. One thing I found helpful when transitioning from my old school to Whanganui High School was how welcoming and friendly the school is. My advice to a new student coming into our school would be to take every opportunity the school offers you.

A typical day in Year 9 is exciting, knowing that every day we have a different schedule. There are a large variety of subjects and topics here at Whanganui High School. There are so many different opportunities on offer. Whanganui High School is a place where you can strive for greatness, and there are no barriers limiting what you can achieve. At first I was cautious about how big the school is, but everyone welcomed me and helped me to settle in.



RAMONE SARUP
Attended Year 8 at St Mary's School

SAFFRON CROOK
Attended Year 8 at St George's School

What I love the most about Whanganui High School is the amount of opportunities that are presented for you. I have been involved in a range of cultural activities including: the school production 'Mamma Mia!' as well as being in the school's choir. Alongside the cultural activities on offer, there are a wide variety of sport and service opportunities available. If you have any issues (big or small), the students and teachers are nice, friendly and always ready to help you.

A typical day at Whanganui High School is: that you begin the day in 'Form Class' which is similar to a home room. After Form Class there are five periods of subjects in the day. Students have compulsory subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education & Health, Languages and Digital Technology. There are also subjects that you choose from such as Art, Dance, Drama, Music, Design & Visual Communication, Food & Nutrition, Materials Technology and Textiles. There are four different Houses that students are assigned into with a competitive House spirit between them.



TAIKO EDWARDS-HARURU
Attended Year 8 at Whanganui Intermediate School

EMILY HUTCHINS
Attended Year 8 at St Mary's School

An average day at Whanganui High School is always exciting and different. I am really enjoying the sports that Whanganui High School has to offer. I am involved in Athletics, Badminton, Football, and Netball. All the teachers have been warm and welcoming. The senior students have set a great example for new students, and are very helpful in showing students where to go and what to do. I highly recommend coming to Whanganui High School because of the variety on offer, and because everyone has been so welcoming. It is made to feel like we are one big family.

Changing schools may seem daunting, but Whanganui High School has so much to offer and is a great choice for secondary school. I have had a great experience. The teachers have been welcoming and the classes have been challenging. The school has so many cultural and sporting activities on offer, and being a part of them has been incredible. We also have competitions between our school Houses in Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming, and even a Quiz Night. Those are a blast and fun to go to even if you aren't the best at it. All the subjects are great and my favourite part has been being with my friends, along with making new friends.



CORBIN EISEAMAN
Attended Year 8 at Whanganui Intermediate School

NEVAEH BLAKE
Attended Year 8 at Whanganui Intermediate School

The first few days were all about getting to know my teachers, making friends and learning about the school. The senior students were very welcoming and supportive. I was placed in a Whānau Form Class which made transitioning comfortable. There is a Whānau Form Class available in each House, which is a form class where Māori students can develop their identity and sense of community. I have taken up many opportunities, especially in sports where I participated in the Inter-House competitions which was fun. I believe that my time at school is the time to develop my skills and passions, take steps towards my future goals, and to grow and extend my learning.

ENROLMENTS

2022

See the school in normal daily action during our school tours which will be running from Monday 21 June until Friday 9 July. Session times will be advertised in early June, 2022. Enrolment application packs will be issued to contributing schools from 8th June onwards. Applications should ideally be received by the school no later than **4.00pm on Friday 9 July**.

Martin McAllan, Principal, Whanganui High School

General Enquiries: (06) 349-0178 Attendance: (06) 349-0177 International Enquiries: +64-6-349-1181