



Waihi News

23 April 2021

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Term 2 Calendar (separate attachment)



**‘Tangled Up’
Waihi Annual
Giving
Dinner & Auction
Saturday 8 May 2021
6.00pm until late**

To book a table, tickets or donate auction items please email Penny admin@waihi.school.nz.

Dear Parents

I hope that you have all managed to find space to enjoy some quality family time over the last couple of weeks either at home, or travelling further afield. Kendra and I have enjoyed having our four children home from their various schools and there has been plenty of laughter and the normal sibling ribbing going on. I feel a huge sense of gratitude that in these crazy times throughout the world we can indulge in the simple pleasures of travel and spending time together.

One event over the holiday period made me further reflect on my gratitude for something that I hadn't thought of in a long time. Like many I was touched and saddened by the news of Prince Phillip's death, and the scenes of his Covid-restricted funeral service. On a human level one cannot help but feel for the wider family who were unable to attend and pay their respects and say their goodbyes.

The Duke of Edinburgh won widespread affection for his service and devotion to the Queen and his charitable efforts. Our Prime Minister gave the following tribute:

“Prince Philip will be fondly remembered for the encouragement he gave to so many young New Zealanders through The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award. In over fifty years of The Award in New Zealand, thousands of young people have completed life-changing challenges through the programme.”

My gratitude came from thinking of Prince Philip and realise how he had indirectly influenced my life. I had the good fortune of meeting him twice, twenty years apart.

Like many thousands of young people, I became involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme, and in 1986 he presented me with my Gold Award at St. James Palace in London, much more exciting for my parents at the time than me! For those of you unfamiliar with the awards there are various elements to complete at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. They involve helping the community/environment; becoming fitter; developing new skills; planning, training for and completing an expedition; and, for Gold, working with a team on a residential activity.

Any young person can do these – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award isn't a competition or about being first. It is all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. Through the programmes young people have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem and build confidence. They gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive.

Headmaster's Thought for the Week

“The highest of distinctions is service to others.”

— King George VI



As the official website says:

“...many of our participants say, it’s life-changing. Achieving an Award will give you skills, confidence and an edge over others when you apply for college, university or a job. Beyond your academic achievements, universities want to see evidence of so called ‘soft skills’ that you have developed through extra-curricular activities, such as communication, commitment, leadership and teamwork. Your DofE Award is a fantastic way to demonstrate and evidence these skills in practice. You’ll also make a difference to other people’s lives and your community, be fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last you a lifetime.”

Twenty year later I was in the middle of my first Headship, Hunter Hall School a small Prep School in the Lake District in Northern England. I had a clear vision of what a good prep school education looked like and I didn’t realise it at the time but when I look at the statement above I could easily transfer the same philosophy to the way I developed as an educator and as a Headmaster. Replace ‘participants’ with ‘children’, award scheme with a place at a great Prep School and it fits.

I am hugely grateful to the opportunities the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme gave me, and to its place in helping me craft my vision for what a great primary school foundation looked like.

Irrespective of one’s personal opinions of the royal family what is not in doubt is the huge service Prince Philip gave during his lifetime. At his retirement, it was reported that he had performed 22,191 solo engagements, completed 637 overseas visits and given 5,493 speeches. I have huge respect for this service and for the dedication needed to do so.

To finish I will briefly share the circumstances of my second meeting with Prince Philip. This was most unexpected and what struck me was his graciousness, gratitude, humility and humour, all characteristics we wish our children to aspire to.

I received the oddest phone call one afternoon asking for permission for the Royal Helicopter to land on our school field! Needless to say there was much excitement as first the helicopter arrived and then a car carrying Prince Philip. He spent several minutes chatting to excited children and when one small child asked “where are you going?” he winked and said “I’m going to watch cricket, but don’t tell the Queen she thinks I’m going home!”

Thank you Sir for your service and the positive impact you have had on so many lives.

Kind regards

Allan Short
Headmaster



We are delighted to welcome a new day student, **Lucy Johnson**, to Waihi this term. Lucy is joining 5/6TR and I am sure that you will all help Lucy and her parents to quickly feel a part of the Waihi family.



Sport first weekend back

Please note on our sports newsletter (sent earlier today) arrangements for each sport. In particular we are arranging friendly matches for rugby and netball on the first weekend, Saturday 1st May. Football start their competition this day.

Boarding at Waihi

Welcome back to Pyne House for Term Two; the first for many as it was disrupted by Covid last year!

Sport plays a huge role in the lives of our children over the next two terms with more on offer during the Winter terms, and I welcome the introduction of Netball for the girls and boys. Please continue to support the children in a positive manner as participation and fun are cultures that always need to be present. It's great to hear the post-match analysis in Pyne House amongst the children; it makes for great camaraderie in community living.

Please make a note of the points below:

- Return to school time is 5pm on Tuesday 27th or 8.30am on Wednesday 28th
- EXEAT is the weekend of 5/6th June with a return of Monday 7th at 5pm, or Tuesday 8th at 8.30am (except for those on the North Island Sports Tour)
- You will receive a separate itinerary for weekend boarding trips, with the first weekend activities being Flip Out on Saturday and Ten Pin Bowling on Sunday.
- Sports draws are sent out weekly so please ensure you make a note of when Saturday sport starts as this will affect your weekend planning. Timing of games varies from week to week.
- Now that the children are getting a bit older and physically active, can you please ensure your child has roll-on deodorant- as it is important to ensure good habits and personal hygiene. Top-ups are available from Matron.
- School wide details will be available shortly about Open Day, which is Sunday 23rd May, but expect a few requests from me for your child to be available on that Sunday. We are making the day far more interactive and about family this year as we continue to develop Waihi

Enjoy your last weekend with families and I look forward to seeing you next week!

Ollie Clayton
Housemaster



South Canterbury Primary School Swimming Sports

On Wednesday 31 March 2021 Waihi had a team of 19 swimmers consisting of 15 boys and 4 girls that went to the South Canterbury Primary School Swimming Sports. Congratulations to all our swimmers for coming in in the top ten placings in their various events. Just a few of the results below:

25m Breaststroke

12yr Boys Ricco Peauafi-Symonds – 2nd

50m Freestyle

11yr Boys Scott McLachlan – 3rd

25m Backstroke

11yr Boys Scott McLachlan - 3rd

12yr Boys Phoenix Smith – 3rd

25m Freestyle

11yr Boys Scott McLachlan - 3rd

12yr Boys Toby McClean – 2nd

50 Breaststroke

12yr Boys Ricco Peauafi-Symonds 3rd

Relays

11 Yr Relay –3rd Harrison Horsley, Manaia Sheed, Max Elliotte, Scott McLachlan

12 Yr Relay – 4th Ricco Peauafi-Symonds, Hamish Peck, Sam Totty, Toby McClean

Our new Waihi swim caps were a hit, and we had lots of comments on how good the team looked.



A special thank you to Anna Orbell and Bianca Sheed for being our team managers, and to Rebecca Emmerson and Owen Short for helping with timekeeping – this was really appreciated!

Due to the regular swim training at school this was our biggest team, and it was wonderful to have someone the majority of race events on the day.

Clare Connolly
Aquatics Teacher









Waihi Country Kids @ Mackenzie A & P Show



The winners wereToby Connor, Alex Harrison & Gus Cameron



Followed by a close 2ndHarry Holmes, George Dale & Alex Peacock

Weeks Ahead ...

TERM TWO

Tuesday 28 April

*Teacher only day
Boarders return 5.00pm*

Wednesday 29 April

*Term Two commences
Buses operating
9.30am School ANZAC Day Service*

Wednesday 5 May

Medbury and Rangi Ruru sports fixture – away

Saturday 8 May

Annual Giving Dinner and Auction

Sunday 9 May

*Taieri Sevens
Mother's Day*

Monday 10 May

EPRO8 Challenge through to 3 June

Saturday 15 May

JAB Rugby starts

Tuesday 18 May

*Waihi Association meeting
Waihi Trust Board Meeting*

Wednesday 19 May

“Methven Gathering” 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Thursday 20 May

Elgregoe Magician

Friday 21 May

Chess Power Regionals at Waihi

Sunday 23 May

Waihi School OPEN DAY

Monday 24 May

Waihi Scholarship Examinations

South Canterbury Highland Pipe Band open day!

Sunday 23rd May, 1pm Onwards

South Canterbury Highland Pipe Band Hall 2 Turnbull Street, Timaru

If you or your child have an interest in pipe bands, come on in and see what we're all about. Doors open to the public at 1:00pm for anyone to have a go on whatever instrument they'd like. Talk and information at 2:00pm.

You can't make it? No problem! Just get in contact with Tiffany Gilchrist to come in another time.

tiff.g@hotmail.co.nz or 0279159851

