

December 2020

Kia ora whānau and caregivers

Nau mai, haere mai, a warm welcome to you and thank you for entrusting your tamariki/child to our care for the next few years. We are confident that your child's academic development and ora/wellbeing will thrive during their time at our kura. This letter contains information regarding the start of the 2021 school year.

Deans for 2021

Year 10 - Edward Meredith (edward.meredith@whs.school.nz)

Year 10 co-dean - Hannah Paton Smith (hannah.patonsmith@whs.school.nz)

Year 11 - Kelly Jean-Louis (kelly.jean-louis@whs.school.nz)

Year 12 - Ben Britton (ben.britton@whs.school.nz)

Year 13 - Iona Forsyth (iona.forsyth@whs.school.nz)

Beginning of term arrangements:

Students will get a copy of their personalised timetable on Tuesday 2 February.

Tuesday 2 February.

Please arrive at school for 8.45am for the pōwhiri/welcome for students and whānau/caregivers..

The pōwhiri will take place at our school marae, Taraika. At the end of the pōwhiri students will go with their rōpū/form teacher for the rest of the day and will begin their orientation programme.

Students will be dismissed at 1pm.

Whānau/caregivers are welcome to join the senior staff in the staffroom for morning tea. You should allow 60-90 minutes if you plan to attend the pōwhiri and morning tea.

Students should bring pens and an exercise book. The cafeteria will be open.

Wednesday 3 February

Students will be in school for an hour to attend rōpū (form class) and attend a year group assembly.

10:20am - Year 10 assembly followed by rōpū, dismissed at 11.10am

11.30am - Year 11 assembly followed by rōpū, dismissed at 12.20pm

12.20am - Year 12 and 13 assembly followed by rōpū, dismissed at 1.20pm.

Thursday 4 February

The full school timetable starts today.

Monday 8 February

Waitangi Day holiday (school closed).

Term Dates & calendar:

Full term dates for 2021 can be found on our website: <https://www.whs.school.nz/term-dates/>

For information about <https://www.whs.school.nz/whs-calendar/events> view the full calendar at: <https://www.whs.school.nz/whs-calendar/>

Teacher Only days (school closed):

In 2021 there are a number of Teacher Only days, some defined by NZQA, others by the Wellington Loop Schools. On these days the school is closed.

Teacher only days in 2021 will be:

Thursday 1 April

Tuesday 11 May

Friday 4 June

Tuesday 5 August

Wednesday 1 December

School Bus information: There are some school buses to Wellington High School, but we recommend that you look at Metlink website www.metlink.org.nz to find out the best route. Buses are under the jurisdiction of Metlink.

BYOD/Computers: You may have already purchased a BYOD/computer for your student. If not there are several ways you can buy a device. We strongly recommend a Chromebook for use at Year 10. More information can also be found on our school website under Whānau > Bring Your Own Device.

Whānau/caregivers who have indicated that they may require a loan device from the school for their student, and who I have not already contacted, should contact their year level Dean.

Promoting WHS values of Whānau and Excellence: To promote our school values of Whānau and Excellence we want to create more time for students to build relationships with their peers/teachers and to have more focus on learning. This means, students mobile phones and ear buds must be in the student's school bag during class time. There are noted exceptions for individual learners with assistive technology needs and some specific learning activities. Whānau are asked not to text or phone students during class time and in an emergency they should contact Student Services.

Communication: A lot of our communication is by email. Please let us know if yours changes. For full information on the ways we communicate with home, see this link on the school website See www.whs.school.nz Whānau > Communications with WHS. You can get specific information about your child from the parent portal on our website. The login details for this will be sent out early in Term 1, 2021.

Sports registration: From 2021 our Sports registration will be going online. Coordinator Liam Good will be sending an email to all family and whānau in early 2021 with the details.

Science & Mathematics (Year 10 students): Both Science and Mathematics use online platforms to support students' learning. In order to purchase a subscription to these platforms, we need to ask students for a voluntary contribution of \$18 for the year for Stile (Science) and \$20 for Education Perfect (Mathematics). See the Payments information below for details of how to pay.

Invoices: Wellington High School asks for a general donation towards the running costs of the school as well as donations to cover activities, materials and other aspects of the school programme. Invoices will be sent to you during the year. Student Services office staff are happy to discuss payment options with you. There may be other ways in which we can support you. Please discuss with your students' Dean.

Payments: Payments can be made in a number of ways. Internet banking (include the student's name and a reference e.g. 'Stile' or 'Donation' in the details) to account ASB bank 12-3141-0212924-00. You can also pay by credit card by phoning Terese on 385 8911 extension

872 between 9am-3pm in term-time. If paying in person at Student Services EFTPOS is available and cash payments (exact money preferred) are also accepted.

Miscellaneous:

Absences: Daily absences- reporting through the app, by email (absences@whs.school.nz) or by phoning the absences line

Requests for exceptional leave, (planned but not medical) must be made to the Principal. (admin@whs.school.nz)

Stationery: Visit the school website www.whs.school.nz to get a list of stationery requirements. See Whānau > Stationery list

Lockers: Lockers are available for \$10 for the year. Students will be assigned a locker and will be given a combination lock. Students will be given the opportunity to sign up for lockers in allocated time slots on Thursday 4 February and Friday 5 February during timetabled classes.

ID cards: ID photos are taken during the first week of school, and a standard ID will cost \$10. A Snapper loaded ID card is \$25. Students can use their ID card with the school photocopiers.

Student Services: Located in Main Block Level 5, Student Services take care of much of the administration of the school.

We look forward to working with you and your student.

Nga mihi nui

Wellington High School

Accompanying this letter:

WHS Music lessons 2021 information sheet/enrolment form