

WILLIAM COLENSO COLLEGE NEWSLETTER / PÁNUI

Term Four: 17th - 28th November 2025



Kia ora e te Whānau

Nau mai, haere mai — Welcome to Our New Students and Whānau

A very warm welcome to all our new students and their whānau joining William Colenso College. We hope you enjoy your time with us and quickly feel part of our WCC community. Our kura is a place where we value connection, respect, and learning together - *Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga and Hirangatanga guide all that we do.*

It is important that we keep our school community informed about matters that directly impact education and, in turn, our students and staff. With the ongoing changes in the education sector and the continued industrial action taking place across the country, we believe it is timely to share some context and information with our whānau.

We appreciate your understanding and support as schools navigate these evolving challenges. Our shared focus remains on providing the best possible learning environment for our ākonga - one grounded in care, opportunity, and high expectations.

Keeping Te Tiriti o Waitangi at the Heart of William Colenso College

At William Colenso College, our ongoing commitment to *Te Tiriti o Waltangi continues to shape the way we learn, lead, and connect as a community. Te Tiriti is not simply part of our history - it is a living partnership that guides our daily practice and reflects the values that define who we are as a kura.*

Through Whanaungatanga and Manaakitanga, we strive to build strong relationships where everyone feels respected, included, and valued. Te Tiriti reminds us of the importance of partnership - of walking alongside one another, acknowledging different worldviews, and ensuring Māori voice and perspective are woven through every part of our school life.

In our classrooms, Ako is at the centre - teaching and learning from each other, and honouring the unique knowledge and identity each ākonga brings. Hirangatanga inspires us to aim high, while Kotahitanga reminds us that we achieve more when we move forward together. Underpinning all of this is Whakapono - our belief in each other and in the shared vision of a school that lives out the principles of partnership, participation, and protection.

Our focus on Te Tiriti o Waitangi is about more than learning the past - it's about shaping the future. We want every student who leaves William Colenso College to understand their place in Aotearoa, to stand proudly in their own identity, and to carry with them a deep respect for the people and promises that make our country what it is today.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini – My strength is not that of one, but of many.

Navigating Change Together

We recognise that education across Aotearoa is going through a time of change and uncertainty. National discussions about curriculum, staffing, and funding can create a sense of instability - but at William Colenso College, our focus remains steady and clear.

Our commitment is, and always will be, to the learning and wellbeing of our ākonga. We continue to provide strong teaching, meaningful learning opportunities, and a supportive environment where students can thrive. Guided by our values of *Whanaungatanga*, *Manaakitanga* and *Hirangatanga*. We are proud to stand together as a community that cares deeply for its young people.

We thank our whānau for your continued trust and support. By working together, we can ensure our students remain engaged, connected, and confident — ready to succeed both in school and beyond.

School Camps: Tues 18/11 - Thurs 20/11: Year 9 EOTC camp

Mon 24/11 - Fri 28/11: Year 7 & 8 camps

A reminder that our school camp season has arrived. Camps are always a highlight for those involved - a real chance for students to build confidence, strengthen friendships, and experience learning beyond the classroom. Camps are an important part of our school programme, helping students develop teamwork, independence, and resilience while having plenty of fun in the outdoors.

Please ensure:

- Permission forms and medical information are completed and returned by the due date.
- * Students have the **correct gear and clothing** for their camp activities. A gear list has been sent home.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's **classroom teacher** or **camp leader**. We're looking forward to some amazing experiences and great memories ahead!

End of Year school Activity: Splash Planet

To celebrate the end of a busy and successful year, our Year 7–10 students will be heading to Splash Planet for our end-of-year school activity! This trip is a great way for students to relax, have fun with friends, and enjoy some well-earned time together before the holidays.

Details:

Date: Monday 8th December **Location:** Splash Planet, Hastings

Cost: \$30 per student (to cover entry and transport)

What to Bring: Togs, towel, sunscreen, hat, lunch/snacks for the day, drink bottle, and a positive attitude!

Permission slips need to be returned asap. Please ensure payment is made to the school office asap. If you have any questions please contact your child's form / class teacher or the school office. We're really looking forward to celebrating together at Splash Planet it is a fantastic way to finish the year on a high!

Calendar of Events:

- Tues 18th Nov Thurs 20th Nov: Year 9 EOTC camp
- Fri 20th Nov School Assembly (Year 7, 8, 9 & 10)
- Mon 24th Fri 28th Nov: Year 7 & 8 camps
- Fri 28th Nov P5 Form Time
- Wed 3rd Dec Sat 6th Dec: Leadership Camp
- Fri 5th Dec Junior Prize Giving 1pm (Year 7,8,9 & 10)
- Mon 8th Dec **Splash Planet** (Year 7, 8, 9 & 10)
- Tues 9 Dec World Famous 9am 11am (TERM 4 CONCLUDES at the end of World Famous)
- Wed 4th February 2026 Start Date for 2026. Powhiri @ 9am

Ngā mihi nui, Whaea Jocelyn

MISSED A NEWSLETTER? WANT TO KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S GOING ON?

Our newsletters can be viewed on our website: www.colenso.school.nz
Or email: keleigh.atkins@colenso.school.nz to register and
receive the newsletter electronically



ASPIRE, ACT, ACHIEVE WAWATATIA, MAHIA, EKEA



Jody Stent our International Student Homestay Coordinator is leaving her position at the end of this year and moving onto the next chapter in her life. Thank you Jody for all your mahi over the last 23 years with both our international and WCC students.

Laura, Jody and Louise celebrate gaining a

Farewell Jody

World Famous At WCC



Jody, Kana and Robin celebrate with Moeka from Japan who was Dux in 2020.



Jody and Laura in Raglan 2024 Spot the abseiling students in the background.

Jody is the loving arms of WCC's international department. As homestay co-ordinator she has found Kiwi parents for more than 800 international students and made sure everyone is looked after - the students, the homestay parents and also those far away - overseas whanau who have entrusted their rangatahi to our care. It's a huge job that requires a huge heart.

Jody is determined that every international student has the time of their life while here and her fun trips full of adventure and experiences set the benchmark for schools throughout Hawke's Bay. Her irrepressible sense of fun and creativity meant she didn't just repeat the same trips every year either, she was also searching for new and exciting ways for students to make a lifelong connection with Aotearoa.

Jody started with WCC as an artist in residence in 2002, then our arts coordinator, TV studio director, Homestay coordinator, International student Dean and a member of the art department teaching design, and most recently teaching art at the Teen Parent Unit. Jody's warmth and wisdom have made an enormous contribution to the lives of many students, colleagues and whanau of WCC. We love you heaps Jody.



Robin, Kathy, Julia's daughter, Julia's husband, Julia, Jody and Su-Yen



Everyone loves Jody. Haumauna Farm Zoo 2017.

Always up for fun!



Ocean Beach with the Brazilians



Sílvía Boeller, Valería Ramon/Lopez, Jody Stent, Robín & Kathy Stewart WILLIAM COLEMSO COLLEGE SCBOOL BALL / 29 June 2013

Kana and Jody at the Faraday Centre 2024

HOMESTAY PARENTS

We are seeking homestay parents for our international students in 2026. Open your home, change a life and experience a new culture.

Hosting an international student/s is a rewarding opportunity to welcome someone into your home and share your lifestyle, while learning about another culture.

Homestay families will receive a \$310 compensation each week. If you are interested or would like more information please contact our International Department: (06) 833 6752.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to Tina Hinemanu and Audrey Tayag for completing their Year 9 technology projects. They designed and built these themselves, with a little help from the teacher.

Well done. Mr Damon Thomas Hard Materials Technology Teacher



KEY DATES

Tues 18th Nov: International Student Camp to Mahia & Year 9 Camp Thurs 20th Nov: Year 9 Camp and International Student Camp return

Fri 21st Nov: Final day for new Year 7 & 9 enrolment uniform starter pack promotion

Mon 24th Nov: Year 7 & 8 Camps

Wed 26th Nov: International Students surfing at Waimarama Beach

Fri 28th Nov: Year 7 & 8 Camps return

Mon 1st Dec: International Student Bike and BBQ Tues 2nd Dec: Board of Trustees Meeting: 5.30pm

Wed 3rd Dec: Student Leadership Camp

Fri 5th Dec: Last day for school lunches, Year 7-10 Prizegiving: 1pm-3pm

Sat 6th Dec: Student Leadership Camp returns

Mon 8th Dec: Splash Planet trip for the day for all students

Tues 9th Dec: World Famous @ WCC assembly: 9am-11am, final day for students.

2026 Dates:

Mon 2nd Feb: Senior Course Confirmation: Year 11: 1-2pm & Year 12 & 13: 2-3pm in the

School Library, uniform is not required for Years 11 & 12.

Wed 4th Feb: All students start school: 8.40am, Powhiri at 9am

Fri 6th Feb: Waitangi Day - School Closed

ASPIRE, ACT, ACHIEVE WAWATATIA, MAHIA, EKEA