



WILLIAM COLENZO COLLEGE NEWSLETTER / PĀNUI

Term Three: 8th – 19th September 2025



Kia ora e te Whānau

A warm welcome to new students, whānau and staff... Term 3 is very quickly racing to an end. Time is short and students need to use their remaining time at school (especially in term 4) wisely.

As we come to the close of this very busy term as a parent, do you know how your child is tracking towards their NCEA or their NCEA target/s? Did you realise that next term, along with most students completing their programmes of internal assessment, Prelim or practice examinations take place with the emphasis beginning to move to performance in external assessment.

It's that time of the year when there are lots of decisions to be made and questions to ask about where to next? Students need to think about what they want to do in the future and what courses can help them reach their intended destinations. What courses do they want / need to take in Year 12 & 13?

Year 13 students, very soon to be leavers, while not thinking about school courses for next year are doing similar things when thinking about what they are moving on to next year – study, gap year, work, gaining scholarships, etc.

Staying up to date with changes: All parents want their children to leave school confident and ready for their future. That's what NCEA is meant to do, but right now, the government feels it is not doing that well enough. They are proposing to replace NCEA with new national qualifications that ensure young people have the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. They want to make it clearer, more consistent, and more useful for every child.

Their new proposal includes getting students in **Year 11** to take English and Mathematics and sit a Foundational Skills Award (test). At **Years 12, and 13** they want to replace NCEA with a National Certificate of Education (Advanced at Year 13), which will have grades from A to E, and include internal and external exams.

At WCC, we believe every student deserves the chance to succeed and to gain a qualification that is highly regarded both here in New Zealand and around the world.
We want to make sure that every student, regardless of background, has that chance.

WCC Enrolment Interviews: Tuesday 9th September - please call the front office to secure a time to enrol your student.

Nau Mai hoki mai ano ki Mahuru Maori. In line with maramataka Maori, this year Mahuru Maori started on Saturday 23rd August and ends on Monday 22nd September. It doesn't matter whether your reo skills stop at kia ora, or you can whaikorero on the marae with the best of them, Mahuru Maori is something we can all do. So jump on the waka e hoa ma, and give Mahuru Maori your best shot.

Our **Year 7 & 8** students are enjoying the opportunity to experience optimist yachting or sailing in an Optimist dinghy, this is a popular activity for young people to learn to sail. The Optimist is a small, single-handed sailing dinghy designed specifically for young students, typically those aged 8-15. It's known for its stability and ease of handling, making it ideal for beginners.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the success of **Te Vaka Maia**. A special thank you to Mr Antony Wilson who led this project this year. We appreciate all our community partners. From planning to participation, your dedication and generosity ensured our students had the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. Te Vaka Maia would not have been possible without all your support.



Looking ahead to Term 4.

Wed 8th Oct:	Subject Selection Evening: 4-5pm for Years 10-12 in 2026, Library
Fri 10th Oct:	Dance showcase @ WCC 6pm
Wed 15th Oct:	EIT awards @ EIT
Thurs 16th Oct:	WCC Sports Prizegiving WCC Hall: 6pm
Wed 22nd Oct:	Enrolment Interviews 2026 @ WCC (3:30pm - 5:45pm)
Fri 25th Oct:	Hawkes Bay Anniversary (No school)
Mon 27th Oct:	Labour Day (No school)
Thurs 30th Oct:	Senior Prize Giving WCC Hall: 6pm
Fri 31st Oct:	Last Day for Year 12 & 13 students
Fri 31st Oct:	Senior Leavers Dinner: 6pm RSA Napier
Tues 4th Nov:	NZQA exams begin
Fri 7th Nov:	Last day for Year 11 students

I would like to sincerely thank our students, parents and staff for your continued commitment to our school. Your dedication, support, and partnership help create a strong and vibrant school community where every learner can thrive. Together, we are building a place of pride, growth, and success.

Ngā mihi nui,
Whaea Jocelyn



ASPIRE, ACT, ACHIEVE
WAWATATIA, MAHIA, EKEA



STUDENT SUCCESS



Congratulations to Year 12 Ripeka-Ngatahi Kopu-Neera who won an award for the best drawing at the recent Year 12 Art Expo held at CAN (Creative Arts Napier).

Awesome effort by other students who also submitted artwork.



Four of our students - Keiisha Rima-Ngāmoto, Illusion Keefe, Manea Tamaiva Eria and Ripeka Kopu-Neera had work selected for Ringa Toi this week. This is the National Excellence in Māori Art student exhibition which is displayed at Te Papa.

The opening is Monday 15th September and the exhibition is on for 2 weeks, so if you happen to be in Wellington over that time, be sure to pop in to Cliff Whiting's Wharehau at Te Papa where their work will be on display alongside selected student work from around the country.



CONTACT DETAILS

If you have changed your address or contact details please contact the School Office to update by phone: (06) 831 0180 or email postmaster@colenso.school.nz. It is important the school has up-to-date contact information in the case of an emergency.

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



Starter Uniform Pack: Every NEW completed 2026 Year 7 & 9 enrolment receives a starter uniform pack: Hoodie or Crew Neck, Polo Shirt, either a skirt, shorts or trousers. Offer expires Friday 21st November 2025.

William Colenso College offers small class sizes, specialist teachers and minimal school fees.

Enrolment interviews can be arranged by calling the school office on 06 831 0180

USED LAWNMOWERS

Students can gain credits by rebuilding used lawnmowers in our construction classes. We could do with some more for 2026. If you have an old lawnmower, which doesn't run, and would like to donate, we can collect them. Please email damon.thomas@colenso.school.nz or text 021 022 389 86.

Many thanks



WCC BREAKFAST/LUNCH

Te Whānau Ora in the Student Support Centre building is open for breakfast every week day between 8.00-8.40am for all students.

A lunch is available at our interval break: 11am-11.30am for all students, these are provided by the School Lunch Collective who delivers healthy school lunches to participating schools under the Ministry of Education's Ka Ora, Ka Ako Healthy School Lunch Programme. Students are welcome to bring their own food also.

KEY DATES

Sun 7th & 9th Sept:	Outdoor Ed Level 2 Survival Trip
8th Sept:	Year 7 & 8 Optimist Yachting all week
Tues 9th Sept:	2026 Enrolment Interviews: 3.30pm-5.45pm
Sun 14th-16th Sept:	Outdoor Ed Level 3 Multi Day Tramp
Wed 17th Sept:	Matariki Ka Hui Ako Kapa Haka
Thurs 18th Sept:	Mixed Touch Tournament Year 5-8, Contributing Schools, WCC Fields:9am-2.45pm
Fri 19th Sept:	World Famous @ WCC Assembly: 2pm, Last Day of Term 3
Mon 6th Oct:	Term 4 Commences