



Te Aro School

360 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

[office@tearo.school.nz](mailto:office@tearo.school.nz)

## Te Aro School Newsletter – 23 May 2025

### *News from the Principal's Desk*

**Tena tatou katoa e te whanau. Talofa. Kia orana, Bula, Dobar dahn, Nabad, Hola, Ciao, Ni hao, Namaste, As-Salaam-Alaikum, Bonjour, Konnichiwa, Buon giorno, Cześć, Mingalarpar, Selamat datang, Walang anuman, Buon giorno, Guten Tag, Cześć, Salamu Aleykum, Hallo, Merhaba, Akkam, Selamat datang, Walang anuman, Mabuhay, Xin chào**

There is a lot of excitement amongst the Year 7 & 8 students as they get ready to go away to stay at Orongomai Marae next week. They have been working hard to learn their pepeha. This Māori introduction acknowledges a person's identity and connections to their whānau and important elements like mountains and rivers. It is a way to express your cultural heritage and establish connections with others.

*I think it's going to be awesome on the marae. I am looking forward to the food which I think will be good. I'm looking forward to playing in the park beside the marae and trampolining. I'm a bit disappointed that the pool is going to be closed. We were going to the park one night after dinner. – Jay*



**Orongomai Marae, Upper Hutt**

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*I'm hoping I won't be taking a shower each day! I am looking forward to having heaps of fun with my friends. Brewtown is going to be so much fun. – Matai*

*I'm looking forward to playing Spotlight or Murder in the dark after dinner. I'm looking forward to the food and having a break from water polo. – Lila*

*I'm excited to be away from school and to be able to hang out with my friends at the biggest sleepover I've been to. Everyone has been hyping it up. – Eli*

*I'm really looking forward to the formal welcome that we will receive when we arrive at the marae. I'm excited for us ice skating. I've never ice skated before. I'm disappointed about not being able to go to H2O because the pool is going to be closed while we are up in Upper Hutt. I wonder what we will do instead that evening. – Kala*

## Nau mai haere mai

Last week we welcomed Afsana and Zak to our staff team. Afsana will be working in Rūma Pohutukawa with Ray while Meena is on leave. Nau mai haere mai Afsana. Zak has returned to work on our support staff team. He will be working in Rūma Tawa with Serah.

A very warm welcome to Rua and her family who have just joined our school community. Rua has joined Meena, Afsana and Ray in Rūma Pohutukawa.

## A Reminder .... We have Maths professional learning

School will be closed on **Friday 30 May** as the staff team will be participating in a Ministry of Education Maths professional learning day. This day is after our Year 7 & 8s return from their noho marae. Please put this date in your diary and start planning cover for your child(ren) that day.

## New Student Maths materials

*I think the new textbooks that we are working from are quite good. If I go off task I can easily get focussed again as I can read what I need to do next. Some of the examples in the book are too easy but the worksheets we also completed have been a little harder than the questions in the textbook. I do however like how straight forward the Maths textbooks are as well as the practise books. – Tariq*

*I think the textbooks are much better than having questions written up on the whiteboard. The course books are for us to practise the new learning Ray has taught us. It's easy for Ray to set things for his two Maths groups that he works with. - Cash*

*I like the course and textbooks. I think it makes teaching Maths so much easier for Ray and the other teachers. I like the practise books. Sometimes we put a clearfile over a page in the course book and we write on it using a whiteboard marker. - Dezon*

## Garden to Table News

We are really lucky to have new volunteer gardeners working on our garden to Table programme on a Thursday morning. Joining us is Sue and Sammy. Sue is Claire, our beekeeper's Mum. Sammy is Claire's daughter. It's a family affair. Sue and Sammy are working alongside Fiona (another volunteer).



*We planted vegetable seedlings this week. We did lots of weeding last week so we were able to plant out bok choy, beetroot, and broccoli seedlings. We also planted pumpkin and broad bean seeds in seed trays. We wonder if it will be 2 or 4 weeks before we can plant out these seedlings. - Nguyen and Cheuk-Yin*

*We made omelettes with Levi on Thursday. We had to follow several steps in preparing the omelettes that included chopping and whisking. The best part was chopping vegetables and then watching Levi flip the omelette out of the pan and onto the plate. - Gracelyn*

*We were cooking omelettes. You can put anything into an omelette. We add spices, eggs, paprika, onions, green pepper and mushrooms into our omelettes. We got both positive and bad comments about our cooking. There were even some people who did not even try tasting our omelettes. - Drey*



### Working towards our Term 3 production

Over the past four weeks our Year 5 - 8 students have had the opportunity to dip their toes into the four production groups that the seniors can choose to be in for production. They have had the chance to rank the four possible options in order of their favourite to least favourite performing arts option. Their options included dance, drama, wearable arts and music.

*We're all in music with Mathew. It was our first choice. We're looking forward to bucket drumming. We're looking forward to creating music digitally too. We all like making beats and learning new things. - Lane, Minh and Louie*

*I'm in dance for my production option. It was my second choice but I moved it to my first choice as they needed more people opting for dance. I'm looking forward to the actual show as I like performing. - Sylvia*

*I'm in wearable art with Daisy, Izzy, Annie and Frida. I am going to actually work with Izzy as we are in the same group. We've begun planning our costume. I'm looking forward to sewing and finding all the materials we might need for our costume. - Lena*

*I'm in dance for my production group. It was my first choice. I'm looking forward to bringing Indian and Bollywood moves into our dance. - Kathrina*

*I'm in wearable arts. This was my first choice. I really liked the taster session we did with Tessa. I like how we'll make costumes out of all the different materials. It's great being able to be so creative. - Daisy*

### Cross Country

I am very grateful to Meena and our Year 7 students for organising our school cross country last Monday (12 May). It was great that we postponed our event from Friday 9 May, when the weather was wet and windy, to Monday which was such a good day to be out running.

*Organising cross country was a lot of fun. You need to be organised to do the planning beforehand and then on the day you need to be organised as you set up the event. On the actual day I cheered people on and then I opened up the finishing line at the end of each race. - Izzy*



*I made signs for cross country as part of organising event. Organising events can have its difficulties but it is also fun being in charge. On race day I was placed 5th in the Year 7 race. I didn't get stitch which was good but my knees hurt. - Eve*



*Cross country is all about running. You just have to keep going. You have to practise by running lots before cross country day. In my head I told myself to run fast. I did a good job running. My Mum said I did a good job running. Jack ran with my brother Manolo. That helped him. - Manoa*

*Cross country went really well. I did four laps of the field. As I ran I thought I know that this hurts a bit but I can keep running. During my second lap I got stitch. I held my side and kept running. It was satisfying taking over and running past different people. - Enzo*



*I was excited to go run in the sun. I felt - kaboom! - like a firework. The Year 2s ran first. Then it was the Year 3s' turn. Meena blew a whistle. People ran fast. When I ran I felt like a puff with a huff. I almost had a heart attack. I was sweating. I was tired. But I held it. - Khansa*

*Cross country was good. I was running close to Enzo and Noah. Good runners eat vegies. Good runners practise. Good runners usually drink lots of water before and after their races. - Oriol*

*Meena announced, "All the Year 2s to come up. Please everyone, do some stretches". Then everyone got in their positions. When Meena blew the whistle everyone ran off with me and Chibuikem in 2nd place and 1st place. Then I put full power on and then I took 1st place. With me in 1st place, I kept my place. My heart was pounding. I won the Year 2 race. I was exhausted. I got four sticks - that means I ran four laps. - Archer*





### Working and playing collaboratively

*This morning we had our ako takaro time outside in the lower playground down by the sandpit. We played with both sand and water. We made sandballs. We did problem solving. We took sand away from the water trail so the water flowed better. We got water from a supply in a bucket. We parted the water in different ways. Our shoes got quite sandy and our hands at times got frozen. Our pants got dirty too. We think we need to make sure we have a change of clothes on the days we do this playing. Everyone was working together. There were no fights and no arguing. It was a great morning! - Fyyfe, Tomasa and Vivian*



### Student Wellbeing

Our school has chosen to be part of a new Wellbeing focused initiative led by the Ministry of Education and Police across the Wellington area. As part of this initiative our school will be notified in a timely manner when one of our students is affected by a family harm incident. The Ministry of Education will manage and monitor alerts from Police. They will send a notification to the school with no other detail other than the student's name. As a result of these notifications the school is then aware that a child has experienced a family harm incident within the last 24 hours. We will then be better able to assist these students through more sensitive behaviour management, and the provision of additional support and care. This programme fits within our Child Protection policy requirements. The school will ensure information is kept private and safely stored. Please speak to Sue if you have any questions about this initiative.

### Working with Haoyu

Haoyu, our Mandarin language assistant, introduced the students in First Language Time with Cathie, to the game Jianzi, a traditional Chinese sport. It takes real skill to keep the weighted shuttlecock up in the air and not landing on the ground.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries that you have about the school or feedback which you would like to share with me.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,  
Sue



## *School Notices*



**Y-KIDS TEACHER ONLY DAY**

# Te Aro School

**When: Friday 30 May 2025**

**Time: 7.30am - 6pm | Price: \$60**

**Theme: Out of this World Science**

Centre Manager:  
Ayesha Zodgekar-Mclean  
P: 027 703 5705  
E: [tearo.asc@ycentral.nz](mailto:tearo.asc@ycentral.nz)

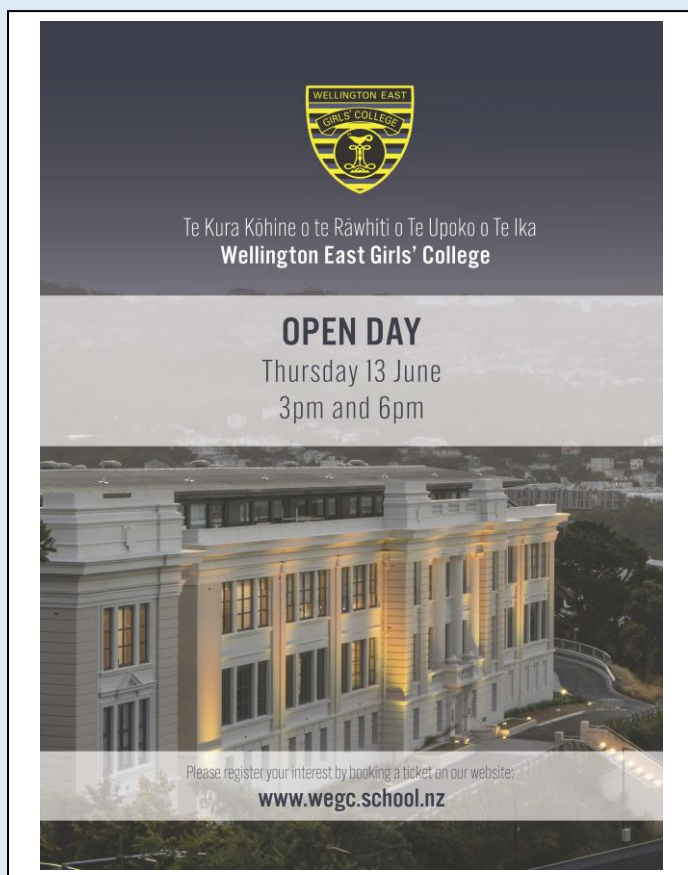


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## Year 8 Open Days/Evenings

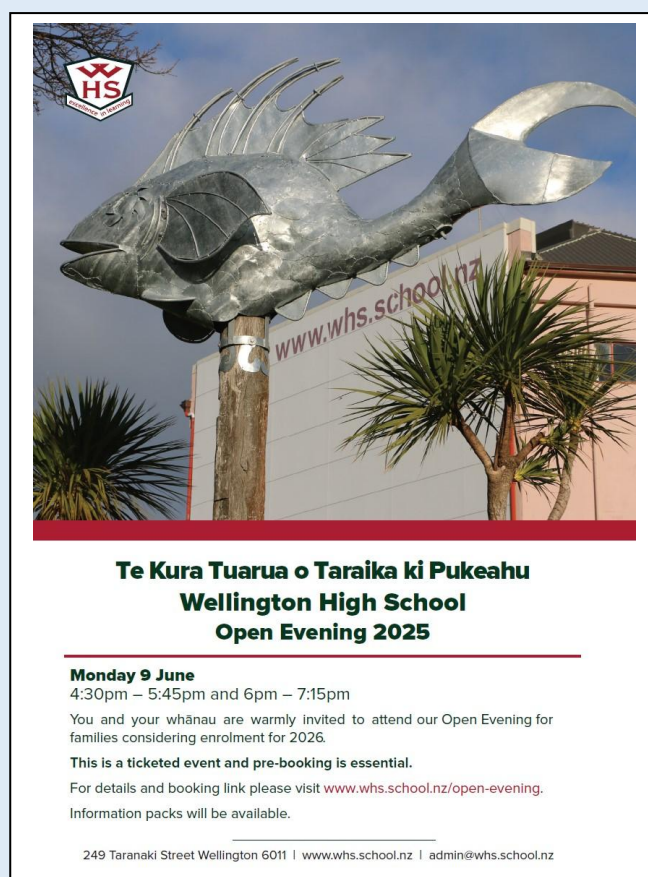


WELLINGTON EAST  
GIRLS' COLLEGE

Te Kura Kōhine o te Rawhiti o Te Upoko o Te Ika  
Wellington East Girls' College

**OPEN DAY**  
Thursday 13 June  
3pm and 6pm

Please register your interest by booking a ticket on our website:  
[www.wegc.school.nz](http://www.wegc.school.nz)



HS  
WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Te Kura Tuarua o Taraika ki Pukeahu  
Wellington High School  
Open Evening 2025

**Monday 9 June**  
4:30pm – 5:45pm and 6pm – 7:15pm  
You and your whānau are warmly invited to attend our Open Evening for families considering enrolment for 2026.  
**This is a ticketed event and pre-booking is essential.**  
For details and booking link please visit [www.whs.school.nz/open-evening](http://www.whs.school.nz/open-evening).  
Information packs will be available.

249 Taranaki Street Wellington 6011 | [www.whs.school.nz](http://www.whs.school.nz) | [admin@whs.school.nz](mailto:admin@whs.school.nz)

## 2025 Wellington College Open Mornings

We would love for you to join us at one of our Open Mornings:

**Monday 16 June 2025 at 9.00 am**

**Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 9.00 am**

This is an opportunity for new students and their families to tour Wellington College facilities and meet the Senior Leadership Team.

*Registration is not required. All students and their families are welcome to attend.*

## St Catherine's College Enrolments are open for 2025

Please contact us on [office@scc.school.nz](mailto:office@scc.school.nz) or phone 04 939 8988

Or to complete the enrolment form please [click here](#).

### Open Night

11th June 6.00pm - 7.30pm

To register for a tour go to

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/yavac>



## Cross Country

*By Clive McGill, Ruma Kauri*

Inside, my headache grows stronger.

Inside, I feel nervous.

Inside, my tummy feels queasy.

Outside, I hear people cheering me on.

Outside, the sun shines straight down on my face.

Outside, I see birds flutter overhead.

Outside, I feel the breeze as it combs through my hair.

Inside, I remember how close I got to winning last year.



## Cross Country

*By Noor Grewal-Sen, Ruma Kauri*

Inside, I felt myself come towards the finish line.

Inside, I feel that I had practised enough to win.

Inside, I felt nervous about running the laps.

Outside, I could hear the padding of feet and people cheering kids on.

Outside, the wind brushed past my body.

Outside, I could hear my dad cheering me on.

## School Photos

*By Lula Hyland-Dixon, Ruma Tarata*

It was the day of school photos. Everybody was very excited. All except for me. I had all these different worries. What if I blinked? What if I had to tie my shoes? What if I itched myself?

When we got our alone photos I was still worried. What if the white tent with lights blinded me? I felt sick. When we had our class photos I was even more worried. What if I pick my nose? What if I did not smile?

When we took our first photo, I think I blinked. When we took our second photo, I was perfect. The whole class was perfect! When I looked at my photo it was as beautiful as I imagined.

THE END





## Important Dates

### May

**Tues 27 May** – Manuka sleepover/Zealandia trip

**Tues 27 May – Thurs 29 May** – NOHO Y7&Y8

**Fri 30 May** – Teacher Only Day (*school closed for tuition*)

### June

**Mon 2 June** – King's Birthday (*school closed for tuition*)

**Fri 6 June** – Y8 Rongotai Visit

**Mon 9 June, 4.30pm or 6pm** – Wgtn High Open Evening, Y8

**Wed 11 June, 6pm** – St Catherine's Coll Open Night, Y8

**Thurs 12 June, 3pm or 6pm** – WEGC Open Day Y8

**Mon 16 June or Tues 17 June, 9am** – Wgtn College Open Morning Y8

**Tues 17 June** – Wgtn Girls College Open Day, Y8

**Wed 18 June** – School Matariki Celebration

**Fri 20 June** – Matariki (*school closed for tuition*)

**Mon 23 June** – Book Fair

**Tues 24 and Wed 25 June** – Parent Teacher Interviews

## Term Dates 2025

### **Term 2 2025**

Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June

*Teacher Only Day – Friday 30 May*

*King's Birthday – Monday 2 June*

*Matariki – Friday 20 June*

### **Term 3 2025**

Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

### **Term 4 2025**

Monday 6 October – Wed 17 December

*Labour Day – Monday 27 October*