



25 January 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: School Memo 2012

Happy New Year to you and your family. I trust you have had a great summer break and are well prepared for the year ahead.

Staffing

First and foremost I wish to inform you of some restructuring to school organisation that is best shared before the commencement of the term.

I received an email from Mrs Nicola Talbot last Thursday to inform me that she had accepted another position and will not be coming to Tuatapere. As you can appreciate this news sent us into a bit of a spin and has tipped our NCEA course delivery and timetable upside down. The last week has been spent on rehashing school organisation for the middle and upper school and finalising course options. I can reassure parents and students that we are well placed to commence the 2012 academic year.

Miss Anita Thomson-Hopwood has accepted a position with us. Anita has a huge passion for English and is most excited about teaching at Waiau Area School. Anita will deliver English in our middle and senior school. We extend a warm welcome to Anita.

If your child was assigned to class 9/10NT, please note that his/her home room teacher will now be Miss Anita Collett, i.e. 9/10AC.

Course Selection Day – Year 11-13 students

This Friday Mr Mustor will be meeting with students and parents to confirm course selection for this year. It is essential that you make contact with Mr Mustor, either via phone or face to face. The benefits of meeting at this stage is that we are able to review NCEA results and make valued decisions on courses your child is to take.

School Uniform

I can anticipate, with the 12 month roll over of a new school uniform, that we might be looking like a bag of licorice allsorts for quite some time. The Board of Trustees anticipates this and also respects the need to provide a lengthy transition period to allow for the financial implications placed on families.

The BOT are the governing body of our school and in consultation with the school community have implemented a new school uniform. It is the role of the school on a day to day basis to ensure that the uniform policy is adhered to. On behalf of the teaching staff I would like to request cooperation from families also. We would like to ask that parents do check what their child is wearing when leaving for school and to address this if it does not comply with school policy. Students coming to school with inappropriate attire just makes our job more difficult because it means that we have to take the liberty to follow this up. We thank you in advance for your efforts.

Although the board will release in the first newsletter a uniform policy I thought I would outline the following:

- Students attending Waiau Area School in 2012 are permitted to wear the coded uniform stated in 2011 or in 2012.
- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- All students must wear leather lace up school shoes – as shown in the recent Confirmation of Uniform Changes letter posted to parents mid-January. No slip on, lace up street shoes (skaties or canvas), ballet style shoes or slipper shoes will be acceptable.
- Only natural hair dyed hair colour is permitted.
- Stud earrings or sleepers are the only earrings permitted.
- Special exceptions will be made for students to wear a taonga if a note from home is received. These must however be removed in classes where health and safety stipulates the removal of jewellery.

School Name Change

A low-key naming ceremony is planned for our first day of school. This will take place on Tuesday 31 January at 9.00am outside the school office. I cordially invite all members of our school community to attend.

School Starts

Teacher Only Days are on Friday 27 January and Monday 30 January 2012. School will commence for all students on Tuesday 31 January 2012.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. We look forward to a great year.

Kind regards

Maryse Anderson-Kereti
Principal