Waikato Trades Academy – Welcome to 2017.

Welcome to April! The end of term one has come upon us so quickly; it only feels like last week we were meeting our new Level 2 students at induction. We trialled our inductions/programmes starting a week later this year and it went well, less changes after we had started than in the past. Unfortunately, we had a record number of changes prior to starting so we will be looking at our enrolment process this year to see how we can streamline the process for everyone involved. Our Student Advisors team are busy settling students into a tertiary environment, and already seeing some great successes.

We have had a few staff changes with Mieke, Elizabeth and Taua leaving us at the end of last year. We currently have Bianca doing a fabulous job covering your student transport needs, she is with us until the end of May then busy planning her next adventure to India. Justine started with us this week, replacing Elizabeth within our Student Advisor team and we are pleased to say we now have Leeana full time (she worked part time WTA and MPPT (Máori Pacifika Trades Training) last year, fitting all that around finishing her Masters. We are sad to farewell Celeste at the end of May, who has taken a job in her home town of Raglan, you’ll see her around the Raglan library. We had Debbie Bannister (a WTA Hairdressing tutor) helping us out earlier in the year, and now enjoying her babies full time. Johnny is back on board with a full bill of health after a sudden departure late last year. Erin is going strong with STAR and constantly working with Wintec faculty’s to grow the opportunities we provide. Then there is me! I am still here with some great term 2 projects on my list – I am always looking for ways to improve our processes, enrolments, events and life in general.

The WTA team hope you have had a productive start to the year and looking forward to a break over Easter/Anzac/school holidays.

Take care, Vick

