




# Hauraki Plains College

## Community Newsletter



### Community Newsletter

Our Community Newsletter combines news from Hauraki Plains College, The Haurakians (past pupils and teachers) and the Haurakian Charitable Trust. If you would like to sponsor our newsletter email:

 [amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz)

Oliver Marshall and Faith Ball  
(Social Leaders)



### Farewell Class of 2020

This year's Graduation dinner farewelled the class of 2020. Organised by social leaders, Faith Ball and Oliver Marshall, the event was the final happening on the calendar for our Year 13s.

Organisers Faith and Oliver found that organising a Graduation dinner for nearly 200 people has its own challenges: "I've learnt that you should never be afraid to ask for help, there are always going to be great people who are willing to lend a hand, sometimes all you have to do is ask. Organising grad was super stressful, and we definitely couldn't have done it without the help of so many people. Sometimes it's hard to let other people take charge, especially when you've got everything planned out in your head, but sometimes you just have to trust that someone else will be able to do it to a suitable standard," reflected Faith on the experience.

Oliver had a similar message of advice for next year's organisers: "The main thing I realised with organising an event so big was that you can't always make everybody happy and you need to accept that, and make decisions based on what you think is going to be best. My advice for next year's organisers would be to make sure they get a team of people to help, to share the load and not to overthink any decisions. Just go with the flow."

### Key Dates

- 27 January - Course Confirmations for Year 12's and 13's (9am - 4pm)
- 2 February - Year 9's and 13's only
- 3 February - Whole school back

Each student had their moment on stage, while River Guides acknowledged their contributions and achievements. Dean Toni Brewer, also acknowledged them as a group, "When I think back over the past few years, I can honestly say, and I'm sure your River Guides will agree, you have been a cruisey bunch. We all know Covid has had an impact on your final year but a flip side of it all, is that it will be one you will always remember. Who'd ever thought you would spend seven weeks learning from home in your final year of school!

With that being said, when at school there have been no real dramas or major issues which reflects your level of maturity and the respect you have for our school. When things needed doing, you would pitch in and get the job done. I do actually need to mention that you were one of the first groups to have the dances down pack in just two lessons which showed out there tonight. To the Year 13s, I wish each and every one of you all the best in your adventures to come. Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui. Be strong, be brave, be steadfast.

**More  
Than  
A School**



Hauraki Plains College

## Principal's Comment



Stories are an important part of the HPC culture. Stories teach us things and beats lecturing kids any day. Stories cut through culture, race, class, gender and generations; they help us connect our lives with others. They show us what we have in common and help us to understand who we are and where we stand in this world. When we listen to a story of someone else's life, it's as if you're living their story for those brief moments, and that experience allows us to see ourselves in the story and believe ours also will be one worth telling. Out of other peoples' stories, we build our own.

Stories pass on the wisdom from one generation to another; we learn about choices and consequences, that nothing great is easily won, that neither talent nor education will take the place of hard work and just hanging in; that if we want a good life, we are going to have to chase it down. We learn about making decisions today that will be good for tomorrow.

The recent Year 9 camp is essentially around passing on our story, the Hauraki story to students. The Oputere camp has its own story as a Year 10 tradition. Every student also has his or her own story and as each year passes, they write further chapters to their own story, of trials and triumphs, achievements and set backs. Of course, we all have chapters we would rather keep unpublished but it is the mistakes and failures that we often learn the most from.

Thank you to our student leavers in particular for contributing your story to HPC. We wish you all the best as you go on to a new chapter of your life. We also hope that you remember where you came from and will find your way back home from time to time.

Ngaire Harris  
(Principal)

*Congratulations to Denise Casey who recently graduated with a Master of Educational Leadership (Honours)*

## Board of Trustees Update



Another year, but like no other that most of us have ever had to experience, is now drawing to an end. Comments were circulated back in July that we should just put up our Xmas trees and skip the rest of 2020. If we had done that though, we would not have the opportunity to celebrate our students' accomplishments at the end of year prize-givings. It is important to

take time to reflect on these achievements, especially considering the challenges presented to us by the Covid pandemic.

I would like to acknowledge all the students who are leaving us at the end of this year. I wish those students all the best in their chosen career paths. I also wish to acknowledge all families that are in the position of this being their last child to be leaving Hauraki Plains College.

I would like to take the time to thank those who have contributed to our school this year.

Our head girl, Bailey Morrison, head boy, Jason Barker and their hard working leadership team. Thank you for your efforts for the school throughout the year.

Thank you to all our staff for the work and support given to our students for this year. You are the backbone of us being able to be "More than a School".

To the parents and volunteers who assist our students in various activities. Thank you for your work and continual commitment to our school and students. We as a school cannot do this on our own.

All the best to those staff who are leaving us: Mrs Kerry Strange retiring after more than 30 years at HPC; Mrs Tracey Vanhoovels who after six years at HPC is undertaking teacher training; Mr Ryan McIntyre who is heading to Morrinsville College where he was once Head Boy and Whaea Angela Reynolds to a Community Counselling position.

On behalf of the Board, we wish every one a safe and relaxing festive season.

Andrew Gordon  
(BOT Chair)

# Information for New Year 9's

## YOU'VE GOT THIS!

The information below tells you the different things you will be doing on the first two days at HPC. The first five are in the order they will happen on the first day. After that, you will be told on the day what the order of events will be.

On Tuesday 2 February, the first day is just for Year 9s and Year 13s. You just need your lunch, water bottle and a pen. Whole school on the Wednesday, 3 February.

## ARRIVE AT HPC

Make your way to the front of the school - the area beside the hall or the front courts. If wet, keep under the covered walkway. If arriving by school bus, you will be met by staff who will tell you where to go.

## POWHIRI BRIEFING

Before the powhiri, you will be given instructions about the powhiri including the waiata you will learn to support the speakers for you, the manuhiri.

## POWHIRI

This is your formal welcome to Hauraki Plains College and your joining the HPC community. During the powhiri, it is very important that you show respect for the event, the speakers and the College.

## ASSEMBLY TO MEET RIVER GUIDES

After the powhiri, you will go to your River room with your River Guide. Your Dean, Whaea Jenny Tawa, will make sure you know where to go.

## RIVER GROUP

There will be a few sessions with your River Guide and some Year 13's over the first couple of days. Your River Guides will go over such topics as your timetable, and a map to help you find your way around school. This is to make sure you know what to do, where to go and who to see if you need any help.

## MENTORING SESSIONS

In these, you will work with your river guide and the Year 13 students who will be your buddies. There will also be some fun activities to help you get to know your River buddies, learn about HPC and that sort of stuff.

## BUS MEETINGS

These meetings are to make sure we have you on the right bus if you come to school on a school bus. Your name will be taken down on arrival so we can have a bus roll to check you are on the right bus. You will be shown where to line up at the end of the day to get your name checked and taken to the correct bus.

## ASSEMBLIES: Levels, Whole school, Hapu

Over the first couple of days, there will be a range of different assemblies.

Levels: This is for the different year levels. For you = Year 9 .

Whole school: You will line up on the front courts, your River Guide will show you where to line up.

Hapu: The College is divided into four hapu (house). These meetings will be to introduce the student leaders and staff from each hapu. Participation in hapu activities will be encouraged.

## TIMETABLED CLASSES

At the end of Wednesday, there will be a couple of timetabled classes. This is where you will start your learning journey at HPC. You will have plenty of time to get ready for this and staff will make sure you have everything you need.

## BUS LINES OR LEAVE TO WALK HOME

At the end of the day, you either leave on foot, get picked up by your caregivers or go to your buslines to get your name checked off before the line is taken to the bus.

# Beginning of Year Arrangements

## 2020 COURSE CONFIRMATION:

Year 12s and 13s: Wednesday 27 January 9am to 4pm.  
Year 11 options are mostly sorted and do not need to come in to confirm subjects.

## UNIFORM

The Hauraki Plains College uniform is available to purchase from Argyle Schoolwear online. Go to [www.argyleonline.co.nz](http://www.argyleonline.co.nz) and select Hauraki Plains College under Shop ArgyleOnline.

Orders can be made at any time and there is a 24/7 customer service available via phone 0800 110 059 or the online Answer Bot (click the help button on the bottom right of the page). Argyle's live chat team are also available Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm.

To find the correct size, measure your child following the online [size guide](#). Compare the measurements with the corresponding size chart online. Check out the [FAQ page](#) to find out about ordering online, payment options, sizing, delivery and returns.

Please note: Hapu shirts, PE/sport shorts and two options of summer footwear will be available through NZ Uniforms (hyperlink to come). These are high quality black roman sandals or McKinlays safari sandals.

## STATIONERY

Stationery is available online through the ['Back to school'](#) programme

through Officemax. Year 9's can go straight to Officemax, Year 10's and 11's go to the Parent Portal (students will know their login) Go to Details, then Timetable (subjects wont be loaded until 20 December). Year 12s and 13s will need to purchase stationery after their course confirmation.

## PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR UNIFORM AND STATIONERY LISTED BELOW

Direct debit, account to account, credit card, 6 week payment plan and WINZ payment over the phone.

## SUBJECT & CAMP CONTRIBUTIONS

Automatic Payments will still be available at the college for subject and camp contributions, these need to be arranged with the office and a 10% deposit will be required. Those parents who already have automatic payments set up will still need to re-arrange these for 2021.

## BUS CONTACTS

Murphy Buses , Hauraki - 07 868 6265  
Dee's Private Hire, Paeroa - 07 862 6985  
Tairua Bus Co - 027 211 0983  
Vicky Bean, Hunua Area - [the\\_beans@xtra.co.nz](mailto:the_beans@xtra.co.nz)  
Sandra Curtis, Pukekohe/Bombay Area - [sandyandroger@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sandyandroger@xtra.co.nz)  
Ana Maxwell, Franklin Area - [ana.maxwell@me.com](mailto:ana.maxwell@me.com)

HPC Bus Co-ordinator Michelle Isbister - [michellei@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:michellei@haurakiplains.school.nz)

# Year 9 Junior Certificate Prizegiving 2020

**Jessie Davis: keeping it in the family.** Jessie Davis achieved the award as the top Year 9 student at the recent Year 9 prize giving.

Jessie's family has an extensive history with HPC and Ngatea District High School. Her father Karl Davis and mother Sarndra Davis (nee Goble) both attended HPC as did Karl's siblings Steve and Natalie. Grandfather Mike Davis and his eight siblings all attended Ngatea District High School and Grandmother Val Davis (nee Wilson) and her sister Helen also did.

On Sarndra's side, sisters Pamela and Kelsey also attended HPC as did Jessie's older siblings Jayden, Trent and Connor. A great family history with the Plains and HPC.

Jessie plays Netball and Hockey and is also keen on Dance, but her focus is on ensuring her work is at her best standard. " I love the variety of subjects at college and the depth of learning we do." Well done Jessie.

**Jessie Davis - Outstanding Academic Achievement in the Junior Certificate of Learning (Year 9 DUX)**

Shania van Vliet - Proxime Accessit

Emily Logan - All Round Excellence

Caleb Read - (JOINT) Effort & Attitude To Academic Work

Emma Glengarry - (JOINT) Effort & Attitude To Academic Work

Abigail Cammell - (JOINT) Good Citizenship

Logan Dodunski - (JOINT) Good Citizenship

Nithini Godawala Wahumpuragedara - Rangatiratanga Award

Tadhg Hodder - Manaakitanga Award

Sebastian Dowd - Kaitiakitanga Award



Dux - Jessie Davis



Proxime Accessit - Shania van Vliet



All Round Excellence - Emily Logan



Effort & Attitude To Academic Work - Caleb Read & Emma Glengarry



Good Citizenship - Logan Dodunski & Abigail Cammell



L-R:

Sebastian Dowd - Kaitiakitanga Award  
Nithini Godawala Wahumpuragedara - Rangatiratanga Award  
Tadhg Hodder - Manaakitanga Award

# Year 10 Junior Diploma Prizegiving 2020

## Jared wins Junior Dux

Jared Sewell, winner of the Rogers Family Cup is our Junior Dux and top Year 10 academic student. Jared studied NCEA Level 1 Science, Level 3 Calculus and Level 3 Digital Technologies with excellence grades. Outside the classroom, he belongs to a tramping club, plays piano, is a member of the Jazz Band and Stage band and gained his Duke of Edinburgh silver award this year. Congratulations Jared.

## Jared Sewell - Outstanding Academic Achievement in the Junior Diploma of Learning (DUX - Rogers Family Cup)

- Ella Pirie - Proxime Accessit (HAURAKI PLAINS COLLEGE SHIELD)
- Sophie Pepper - All Round Excellence (HUDSON FAMILY TROPHY)
- Jack Dibble - (JOINT) Effort & Attitude To Academic Work
- Amalea Mikhailiadis-White - (JOINT) Effort & Attitude To Academic Work
- Ethan Smolders - Good Citizenship
- Zyon Ford - Best Junior Public Speaker (Benner Cup)
- Soren Reid - Rangatiratanga Award
- Grace Cairns - Manaakitanga Award
- Tawio Emery - Kaitiakitanga Award



Dux - Jared Sewell



Proxime Accessit - Ella Pirie



All Round Excellence - Sophie Pepper



Effort & Attitude To Academic Work - Jack Dibble & Amalea Mikhailiadis-White



Good Citizenship - Ethan Smolders



L-R:

Tawio Emery - Kaitiakitanga Award  
Grace Cairns - Rangatiratanga Award  
Soren Reid - Manaakitanga Award

## Year 9 Heritage Camp

Titiro whakamuri, kokiri whakamua. The whakatauki encourages us to look back and reflect before we move ahead. Knowing our own stories is one of those steps.

**Nga Reo o Nga Tupuna: The Voices of Our Ancestors:**  
Our ancestors walk with us everyday, we are always reminded of their presence be it through a spiritual connection or physical presence. They speak to us to guide and protect us through our journey in life. It is up to us to acknowledge and respect what they have done to lay the future for us. It is our journey to add our voices so that we continue to speak through the generations. It doesn't matter who you are or where you are from we are all connected to a story. It is our stories that we need to keep alive to make meaning and bind us to this world.

The meaning of the name of our Year 9 Heritage 'Camp' is about remembering our past so that you can appreciate and understand today. The aim is to get to know our stories from all the cultures that have left their footprint on this whenua (land), so that we build a connection to our ancestors, to create a culture in our school that is based on values from the past to help us today.

I believe that if we learn more about our stories we will have more respect towards each other, bringing together and sharing our unique history and cultures. If our school is to determined to create an identity that is uniquely ours, then we need to know our own stories.

Matua Normie Anderson



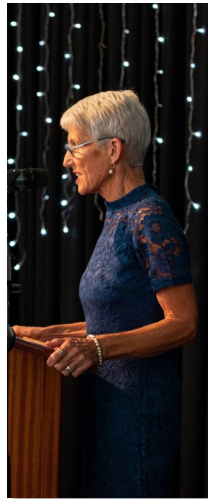
## Year 10 Oputere Camp

The last week of school was camp week for Year 10s. Camp organiser, Amanda Sayer (nee O'Brien) was herself one of the first students to undertake the Oputere experience in the early 1990's. "As a Year 10 myself, I loved the challenge of doing some new things like kayaking up the estuary and wind surfing as well as getting to know people in our year group better. So much nowadays is done for kids to entertain them; we really wanted a camping experience where students have to take responsibility for themselves including cooking and tenting."

Sailing, waka ama, biking, fishing, rafting, kayaking, surfcasting, beach surf safety, mountain biking were all part of this year's Oputere experience.



# Year 13 Graduation 2020





A recent visitor to HPC was Mr Norman Pratt, who was previously Deputy Principal and then Principal of HPC from 1988 to 2001.

As well as leading the school for 13 years, Mr Pratt coached rugby for 18 years. During his time as First XV Coach he was responsible for 13 straight victories in the Thames Valley competition, winning the Coulter Cup thirteen years in a row, which is still a provincial record.

On his retirement in 2001, Mr Pratt was awarded a framed First XV rugby jersey, acknowledging his achievements and honouring him with life membership of HPC Rugby. The framed jersey has been gifted back to the college as a lasting acknowledgement of an outstanding coach and contribution to HPC sports.



### Kindness is the New Cool

Following COVID lockdown, a popular Year 9 activity was the Kindness colouring activity which was finished over Terms 3 and 4. Individual sheets were combined together to form a quilt.



< One of a Kind Photography based in Thames spent the day with the HPC MotoX team who were gifted a photo shoot by the Wilson family, the outcome was stunning to finish off a fantastic year of MotoX at HPC.

## Hikutaia School

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# 4 x 4

## National Trials

FOOD STALLS ONSITE

**Saturday 23rd**  
**January 2021**  
Gates Open 8 am

**\$10 pp**  
**\$30 family**

SEE FACEBOOK EVENT - HIKUTAIA SCHOOL 4 X 4 EVENT

**FLOOKS FARM**  
8795 Paeroa-Kopu  
Road, PURIRI,  
THAMES.



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