

# HPC e-Bulletin

Friday 15 March 2024



Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week 7 of Term 1.

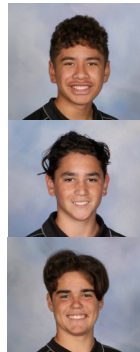
## Earth Hour

We, the Environmental Council, have organised for our school to participate in Earth Hour this year. This will be held on Friday the 22nd of March between 9am and 10am. **Earth Hour asks people to turn off any non-essential lights for one hour.** This is a worldwide event with the purpose of sparking global conversations on protecting nature and the planet, and to unite people in taking action on environmental issues, symbolising our broader commitment towards our environment. We would very much appreciate your enthusiasm and participation in this event. Ngā mihi, The Environmental Council - Sophy Liang, Hanne Vanhoovels, Saige Syme, Isobelle van Mil, Rachel Sinclair (left to right).



## Thank you from Christine West, Principal Mangatangi School

*"I just wanted to thank three of your students who were umpires today at the Hockey Big Day Out. They attended Mangatangi School before HPC, however there was absolutely no bias calls! They not only umpired but they also coached, supported and engaged with the game and the players. I think it definitely helped that they are former hockey players themselves. Thank you Charles Pompey, Finlay Jensen, and Adam Kelly"*



## Carry the Baton

The school's annual "Carry the Baton" event, involving Year 9's and 10's, took place at the Ngatea Domain on Wednesday 13th March. Participants had been diligently training hard in PE throughout Term one, showcasing their positive attitude and collaboration skills. The event was structured as a Duathlon, with teams of three completing the challenge - two runners and one biker. Despite the warming weather in the afternoon, the conditions were cooler and overcast in the morning - perfect for running and biking! Throughout the event, there were smiles, an abundance of encouragement exchanged among participants, fostering an atmosphere of camaraderie and enthusiasm. The focus was on completing the event to the best of their ability, showcasing teamwork and individual effort. The last discipline was a 10-station orienteering course which challenged both mental and physical skills of each team. A big thank-you to the PE staff, Year 12 PE students who helped run the event, and the supportive parents and caregivers on the sideline. A team effort by all which made 2024's event another success!

## Reports and Interview Evenings

Students received their progress reports on the 7th of March. We are holding a junior report evening if parents/students would like to come along and meet subject teachers to discuss their child's progress reports. This is happening on Thursday 21st March 3.30-7.30pm. Book here: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz> (code: fk2g4).

If these times/days are unsuitable, you are welcome to contact subject teachers directly to organise an alternative time to meet. We will also have more parent/teacher interviews in Term two.

Equestrian rider Camryn Young will be selling sausages near the hall, please bring cash to support her trip to the Global Amateur Tour in Argentina.

## Absence Manager

We changed our provider for our absence manager last week. Apologies if you have received multiple notifications. Parents can still go the same way to record an absence through the School App, by phoning us on 07 867 7029 or by emailing [studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz)

## Explanation of Absence Codes

There seems to be a lot of confusion about how student absences are reported to whānau/parents/caregivers. You can view absences in two formats: one through the Parent Portal and the other on the weekly P.A.R.O.T. parent email notifications.

As it has been explained to us by KAMAR, **the Parent Portal uses four codes: P, J, O and U.**

- "P" means the student is present
- "J" means it is a justified absence
- "O" means overseas
- "U" is an unjustified absence (for whatever reason, legitimate or not).

The U doesn't mean the absence is unexplained, it means it is an unjustified absence. It is a single indicator for a range of codes that indicate that the student is not at school.

The P, J, O and U codes can be generated by a range of KAMAR entries we make on our end.

The most common KAMAR entries that will generate a P in the Parent Portal:

- P = present
- L = late to class
- V = exams or study on site
- I = internal school appointment, e.g. seeing the Dean, DP, coach
- N = school-based activity, e.g. athletics, swimming
- R = temporarily removed from class, e.g. time-out
- S = sickbay
- Q = field trip/camp



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The most common KAMAR entries that will generate a J in the Parent Portal:

- D = medical appointment
- M = illness/sick
- H = attending a health camp
- Y = attending an activity centre
- U = stood down or suspended
- X = exam leave

The only KAMAR entry that will generate an O in the Parent Portal:  
O = overseas for less than 15 weeks; after that E will be recorded

The most common KAMAR entries that will create a U in the Parent Portal:

- T = no explanation or throw-away explanation, e.g. we had a test and I wasn't ready
- E = explained, but unjustified, e.g. had to stay home to milk
- G = holiday during term time
- ? = not in class

In the **P.A.R.O.T. weekly parent notification**, we can use one of two settings: either **limited codes**, which only show (as explained by P.A.R.O.T.) P (= present) or U (= absent) codes, **or unlimited codes**, which will show all the codes we have available on KAMAR, with exactly the same meanings.

If the P.A.R.O.T. weekly notifications are too overwhelming, whānau/families can opt out of receiving them by clicking the opt out link at the bottom of any notification.

**Transition to Winter Uniform:** From Monday 25th March (Week 10) until Friday, 10th May (Term 2 Week 2), we will have a transition period from summer to winter uniform. This will give families 6 weeks to get winter uniforms sorted out. During this time students may wear **either** summer or winter uniform, but **not a combination** of both, e.g. no scarf with sandals. By Monday, 13th May all students are expected to be in the correct winter uniform.

### Acceptable Winter School Shoes

Going into winter uniform it is appropriate for whānau/parents to know what our expectations are. The only acceptable winter school shoes, as indicated in our uniform requirements in the HPC prospectus, are black leather lace up school shoes with a heel of no more than 5 cm (as shown in the image). There are often a number of students wearing incorrect school shoes – they may be advertised in the shoe store as school shoes, but they are not acceptable under our policy. Please make sure your children are in the correct footwear.



### Advance Notice for Teacher Only Day

Teacher Only Day - last day of term Friday 12th of April. We will be joining with a number of local primary schools to learn more from a

PLD expert, Jase Williams. We are hoping Jase will be able to work with our Board and interested parents later this year.

### DO Days Double Blocks - calling our experts

We have Do Days coming up from 4th-11th April. This is a ½ a day in each of the students' 6 classes. The rationale for Do Day is to:

- Connect students to careers and pathways that relate to the subject
- Create learning experiences so students are taking action and doing something with their learning.

We are on the hunt for parents, ex-students and community members willing to come into school to work with students for a short block of time. Scientists, artists, entrepreneurs, tradespeople, writers, food producers, engineers, healthcare professionals, farmers, musicians, fashion designers, historians, I.T. professionals... you name it, we need you! It is a great opportunity to get our community experts involved and share their stories with our students.

If you, or someone you know, would love to be a part of this please contact Jonathan O'Neill [jonathano@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jonathano@haurakiplains.school.nz)

### The University of Waikato Study

The University of Waikato is looking for families of children and teenagers (age 5-17 years) who have had a concussion or mild TBI in the last ten days, to take part in a study to find out how long it takes them to recover.

We would like to talk to families up to 5 times over the 6 months after the injury. The interviews can be conducted by phone, on zoom, or in person at a time that suits you. Each participating family will be given a \$20 voucher for each assessment in appreciation of your time. To find out more, click [here](#), email [concussion@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:concussion@waikato.ac.nz), ring 0220159773 or [facebook.com/craniac.nz](https://www.facebook.com/craniac.nz).

### CAREERS CORNER

#### Gateway Health & Safety Courses

It's been a very busy week for the health & safety courses. Well done to all attending students! Next week a further cohort will be completing this important mahi so that they are ready to go out on work placements. There have been a lot of changes so, students, please check your emails carefully. If, for any reason, you are not able to attend both days, please let Mrs Scott or Mrs Lawlor know before the start of the course. The next course is Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th March.

#### University Visits

Here's what's happening in the rest of Term 1:

- 20th March 9am-10.15am NZDF (Run deep & beep test in the GYM)
- 21st March - University of Waikato 9-10.20am



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- 27th March - University of Otago (time TBC)

Please contact Mrs Lawlor: [pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz) if you want to be included for any of these visits.

### Driving Licence

The first course is happening on March 25th-27th. Participating students should have received an email about this. You will need to pay for a photo ID (\$5) from the Student Centre and have this ready **BEFORE** the start of the course.

### Franklin Careers Expo

Interested students, their parents and caregivers are invited to attend the Franklin Schools career expo.  
Where: Pukekohe Indian Association Hall 59 Ward Street, Pukekohe. When: Thursday 21st March 5.30 - 7.30 pm.

### Afternoon Tea with the Head Students at HPC

We warmly welcome anyone from our community to a meet and greet hosted by the Head Students. We would love to show you around our school on Thursday the 4th of April 1pm–2.30pm. Please meet at the main office.



Upcoming Dates				
Day/Wk	Week 8 - Week commencing 18th March		Week 9 - Week commencing 25th March	
All week	Summer Sport Tournament week			
Monday	18th	Pegasus Cup - Equestrian NISS MTB Champs Waikato SS Matchplay Golf Champs Maadi Cup Rowing Nationals	25th	130TE Survival Learner Driver Licence Course
Tuesday	19th	Pegasus Cup - Equestrian NISS MTB Champs Waikato SS Matchplay Golf Champs Health and Safety Course #2 Waka Ama SS Nationals Maadi Cup Rowing Nationals	26th	WBOPSS Athletics Learner Driver Licence Course 130TE Overnight Survival
Wednesday	20th	Health and Safety Course #2 130TE Bush Shelter NZDF Liaison Visit Waikato SS Matchplay Golf Champs Waka Ama SS Nationals Maadi Cup Rowing Nationals	27th	120TE Kayaking (MK/WD) Learner Licencing Test TVSS Rugby Sevens
Thursday	21st	11COM Market Day 12BIO Rocky Shore University of Waikato visit Junior Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30-7.30pm Waka Ama SS Nationals Maadi Cup Rowing Nationals	28th	Waiuku Exchange (away)
Friday	22nd	Waka Ama SS Nationals Maadi Cup Rowing Nationals	29th	Good Friday

