

# More Than A School



Hauraki Plains College

Community Newsletter  
Term 1 / 2024



## TERM 2 DATES

**Mon 29 April**  
Term 2 starts

**Thurs 2 May**  
One Autumns Night Concert 6pm

**Tues 14 May**  
Summer Team Photos  
Whānau Hui 6pm

**Tues 21 May**  
Showquest

**Mon 27 - Fri 31 May**  
Dental Clinic at HPC

**Weds 29 May**  
Vision & Hearing Screenings

**Mon 3 June**  
Kings Birthday (no school)

**Weds 12 June**  
Junior/Senior Term 2 reports issued

**Thurs 20 June**  
Senior Parent Teacher Interviews  
3.30pm-7.30pm

**Tues 25 - Weds 26 June**  
Mahurangi Exchange (home)

**Thurs 27 June**  
Junior Parent Teacher Interviews  
3.30pm-7.30pm

**Fri 28 June**  
Matariki Holiday (no school)

**Tues 2 July**  
Blood Drive

**Fri 5 July**  
End of Term 2

*Our Community Newsletter combines news from Hauraki Plains College, The Haurakians (past pupils and teachers) & the Haurakian Charitable Trust. If you would like to sponsor our newsletter email: [amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz)*

## TRISH SMITH 40YR SERVICE

On the 1st of March 1984, Trish Smith joined the staff at Hauraki Plains College. Recently we celebrated her 40 years of service!!!! Trish began as the staffroom 'tea-lady', as well as working in the stationery shop. The 40 years saw Trish undertake many different roles including Teacher Aide, ESOL support, International Student Coordinator and more recently the Arts Coordinator.

In her role with international students, Trish became the 'other mum' for both students and their homestay families and was on call 24/7 to help. Through this experience Trish learned that teenagers, no matter their culture, generally all experience the different challenges that come with being a teenager!

Supporting the Arts has been a huge passion for Trish. This includes Dance, Drama, Music and the Visual Arts. Trish believes that the Arts are an integral part of society that is often overlooked. She has made it her mission to open students' eyes to the opportunities provided by the Arts. Trish loves school musical productions, particularly light and sound technology - she continues to learn and pass on her knowledge to the students lucky to work alongside her.

Trish has served beyond the gates of Hauraki Plains College and into our community. She is known as the 'Arts Support' by those in local schools and in organisations that she works with. Trish has supported many events including concerts, school shows, weddings, and funerals.

Trish has several special memories across her 40 years that shine bright:

- The Magical Mystery Tours - these were trips to Northland, the Hawkes Bay, Taranaki and the Bay of Plenty for 60 students and 10 adults, with Pete from Murphys as the driver!
- Working in the old prefabs to the purpose built music suite in 2007/2008 and the launch of the HPC RECORDS label with their first CD release and concert of the album "Debut".
- The 2012 College Centenary Reunion - a special event on so many fronts, including working with a team of students on the technology for the event.
- Working as the liaison for the annual Hauraki District Council Sister City Exchange with the Jiading Area of Shanghai, China. Trish was able to participate herself and it was an experience she will never forget.
- Being the daughter of a returned servicemen, ANZAC day has always been memorable for Trish and she has regularly helped with light and sound for the school dawn services. Trish also helped source the resources used to build the ANZAC garden mural.

Trish has seen a lot of change in HPC across the 40 years. The school role has doubled, with new buildings, uniform changes and new staff. In 1992 Trish recalls the change from 2 Hapu (Aotea and Tainui) to 4 Hapu and the new designs introduced by Stacey Latham for Tikapa, Ohinemuri, Piako and Waihou still going strong!

We are very grateful to have had Trish working at Hauraki Plains College for an incredible 40 years.

Thank you, Trish!



Magical Mystery Tour ^



Jiading Shanghai Exchange ^



Jiading Shanghai Exchange ^



Trish cutting the cake at her 40yr celebration

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Welcome to 2024! It's been a pleasure experiencing a full year as tumuaki in 2023, and I'm feeling excited about the year ahead together. I purposely use the word 'together.' The power of the collective is very strong. Most of us will have heard the old saying, "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts," to describe synergy.

Education has picked up a term that connects to synergy - that of Collective Efficacy (CE). In the context of teachers and schools, it is the idea that the effort of all of us together will have a positive effect on students. CE is the collective belief of teachers in their ability to positively affect students. When teams of educators believe they have the ability to make a difference, exciting things can happen in a school.

We are spoiled for choice when looking at successful teams at HPC. I am proud of our widening senior leadership team who have picked up key portfolios across our school. Our Deans are working very hard to ensure the Hauraki Way is being upheld so all students can learn in their classes. The additional Deans have been positively received by the families and students they support. There are some new additions to our curriculum leader team, a group who are positive, innovative, with a sharp focus on learning, who lead their departments through uncertain times while we wait for our national office to communicate the new education priorities. Our five head students are doing a wonderful job being role models for our school while leading teams of students across their respective councils. I could go on!

CE extends beyond the staff at HPC. I maintain that the community's belief in our school impacts the success of our students. I offer huge thanks and appreciation to the businesses and individuals who have connected our students to work placements and Gateway, and those who have helped classes through Do Day - our new end-of-term special initiative to connect learning in subjects closer to careers and the 'real world. I especially thank the Hauraki Charitable Trust for their continual support of our school - we are very excited about the No.11 Orchard Road Project and the future positive impact for us at school. It was wonderful to host the Townshend Thomas Charitable Community Trust (TTCT) for a school tour led by our Year 13's this term, and to reconnect with ex-students who continue to be passionate about investing and supporting our school and community.

Finally, I acknowledge the hard mahi done by our Primary school teachers. Our wonderful Year 9's arrived prepared for College at the start of February (all 205 of them!), full of enthusiasm and a love of learning. It is a real privilege to continue their learning journey, one that you have already invested so much in.

Thank you for continuing to be part of the Hauraki Plains College team.

*Ngā mihi,*  
**Sharon Moller (PRINCIPAL)**

It's been a busy start to the school year. There has been plenty of action both inside the classroom and out. The roll is healthy at 900, and we have a large cohort of Year 9 students who have adjusted well to College life. We have a larger senior leadership team with four deputy principals championing key portfolios. We also have a few extra Deans at Year 9, 10 and 11 to increase the pastoral support for students. We are looking to recruit more teacher aides. A warm welcome to the new teachers at HPC this year.

Congratulations to our 2023 students for their NCEA achievements. It was great to see NCEA Level 2 being over 94%, as this is a baseline qualification that gets students into courses outside of school, and sets them up for more success with Level 3. We have record numbers of students doing Gateway and Work Experience this year, and some good connections with employers coming in to talk to classes at the end of term Do Days.

There has been plenty of success on the sports

fields in the summer codes with a few big events still to come. Great to see some winter codes have started their preparations already. As always if you feel there is a clash in your students' commitments please contact the school and let them know.

The school is currently looking into how best to further develop the Hayward Farm, to maximise the agricultural learning opportunities this farm presents.

A lot of maintenance and alterations have been done to some of our school houses. Also on the property front a lot of planning has gone into the schools long term building maintenance plan. Starting this year a lot of the roofs will be replaced.

Mrs Moller is sending out a survey to the parents at the end of each term and sharing key themes with the Board. Remember the school welcomes feedback and is more than happy to answer any questions either by a phone call or email.

**Carl van Hellemond (PRESIDING MEMBER)**

## BOT UPDATE



## HCT UPDATE



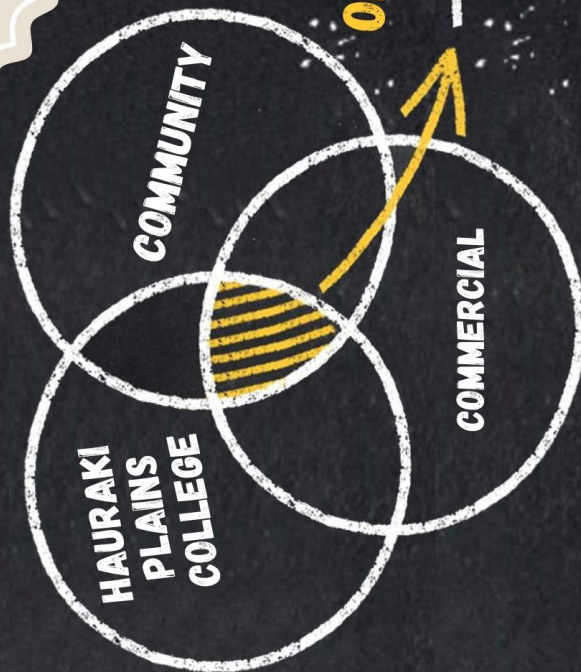
For more information about The Haurakian Charitable Trust, or if you would like to support the No.11 Project please email Ciaran Tully: [ellenbrook@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ellenbrook@xtra.co.nz)





THE  
HAURAKIAN  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

**VISION STATEMENT**  
To forge a dynamic space where all generations can connect, learn, and be inspired



**NO.11 ORCHARD RD PROJECT**



**PROJECT OUTCOMES**

- A space to connect school and community learning, pathways and careers
- A flexible, modern and innovative design that is at the forefront of technology
- To showcase our proud history and inspire a bright future



ARTISTS IMPRESSION

**THE HAURAKIAN CHARITABLE TRUST INC.**

**Our Purpose: "Celebrating the Past, Investing in the Future"**

The Haurakian Charitable Trust was established by a group of past pupils of Ngatea District High School and Hauraki Plains College in 2004 to provide additional resourcing and opportunities to enhance the educational, social and wellbeing outcomes for young people of Hauraki Plains College and the local community. In this way, the Haurakian Charitable Trust endeavours to support the college's quest to be More than a School, celebrating the past while investing in the future.

**Mission:**

- To provide for current and future generations.
- To support the development of educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for college and community.
- To promote educational and social wellbeing outcomes for all.

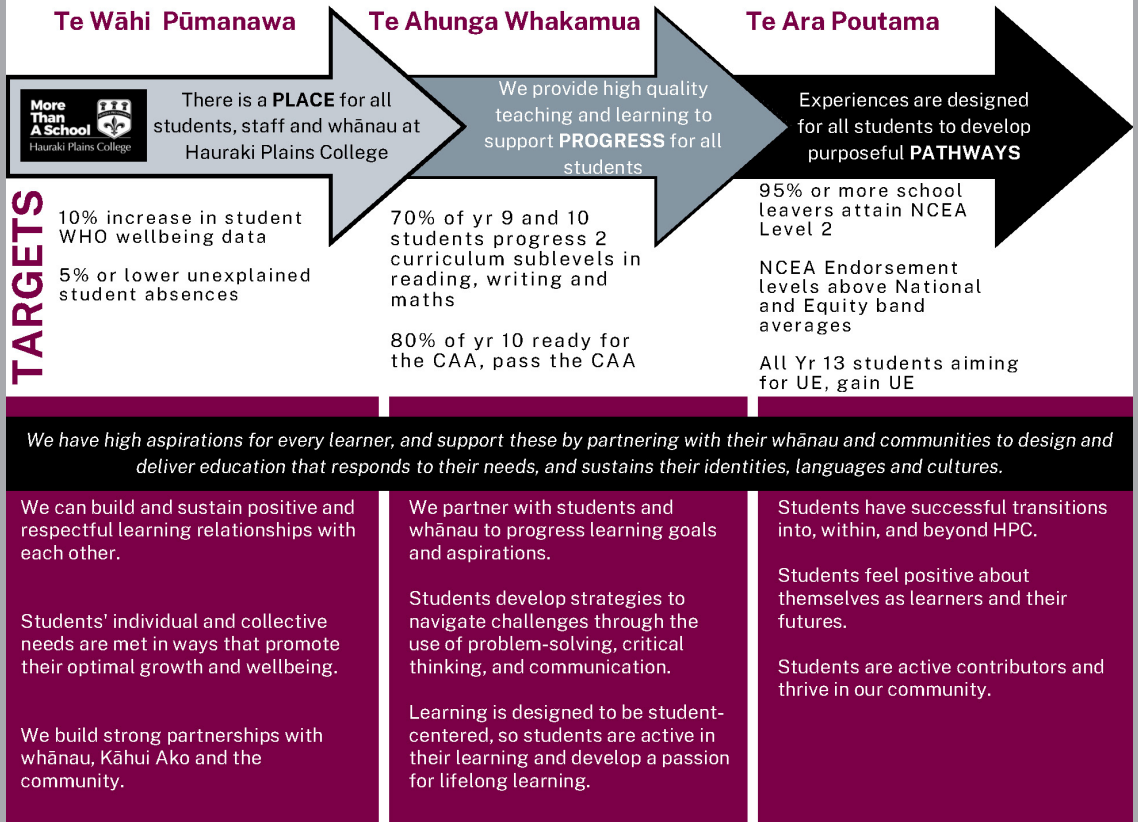
**The Current Trustees**

Our current members are Ciaran Tully, Neil Gray, Gill Leonard, Hayley Green, Matty Van Eyk, Lee Carter, Carl Van Hellemond, and Sharon Moller (representing the College).

Initiatives to meet purpose	Impact
<b>The Hayward Farm:</b> This is an 8.8 hectare small farm, a five minute walk from the College	Each year over 300 students have a real world experience in the Primary Industries and related rural trades and services - this is 40% of the HPC students
<b>The Laing Farm:</b> This is a 16 hectare dairy farm in Waitakaruru on the Hauraki Plains. The Parfitt Block was recently purchased, 58ha adjacent to the Liang Farm. The farm is now milking 500+ cows and is an established monitor farm for the P3 Trust.	Available as a sports pavilion and venue for community use. The Commercial kitchen is currently used by the Year 13 hospitality students. Groups such as St Johns and YSARS have regular bookings for training. Local primary schools use it for their prizegiving
<b>The Centennial Centre:</b> This was built after the 100 year celebrations in 2012 and is available as a Sports Pavilion and for community use	Students at HPC learn about the history of the school and visit the Dog Box. A legacy QR project is underway at HPC to showcase the Dog Box and other locations of significance
<b>The Dog Box:</b> The reconstruction of the school's original classroom was completed to make the Centenary celebrations in 2012	Students at HPC enjoy Dance and Drama at the Lodge. Training for competitions such as ShowQuest take place here, as well as practices for school events such as the Year 13 graduation dance
<b>The Lodge:</b> Previously the Masonic Lodge - the space is now a performing arts studio	Grants have supported - ICT resources, Landscaping, Seating Upgrades to Lodge, Kitchen, Financial scholarships for hardship
<b>Grants:</b> Each year the HTC grants \$20,000 to HPC for educational purposes beyond what the MOE would provide	A dynamic space where all generations can connect, learn, and be inspired
<b>No. 11 Orchard Road Project</b>	



# HPC Strategic Plan 2024-2025



# HPC Strategic Plan Overview

## Our Purpose

Our core purpose is to educate our rangatahi so they can take their place as contributing citizens of their communities, of Aotearoa New Zealand and of the world. Our mission is to be **more than a school** in providing extensive learning opportunities and experiences outside the classroom; in delivering excellent and equitable outcomes and in supporting the holistic wellbeing of all students. We endeavour to shape young people who are learning; ready, life ready, work ready, world ready.

## Our Guiding Principles

- 'Each for All' (Quisque Pro Omnibus) is our school motto. While we seek the holistic wellbeing of each individual, this is never more important than the collective identity and wellbeing.
- The Hauraki Way is how we do things around here and establishes the expectations and standards for our school. The Hauraki Way is upheld by our core values:
  - Rangatiratanga: We encourage our students to be their best selves and do their best work
  - Manaakitanga: We treat each other with respect and kindness, upholding the mana of others
  - Kaitiakitanga: We take our place as guardians of our heritage and future; in upholding the mana of HPC; in taking care of our environment and leaving a legacy for the future
- Excellence is our Tradition is our trademark stamp that reflects and permeates everything we do

## Our Place: Our Stories

Our school acknowledges a heritage grounded in two founding stories - that of Hako, the ancestor of the Tangata Whenua, who travelled up the Piako River on a whale and that of the European pioneers who transformed the Piako swampland into the Hauraki Plains.

We first began as Orchard School when in 1912, fifteen young pupils, met for three days each week in a borrowed Lands and Survey Hut. Two years later, the first classroom, nicknamed 'The Dog Box' was built. From 1918 further class rooms were built and a secondary department was established and Orchard School was renamed Ngatea District High School.

When Ngatea Primary was opened, the intention was to close down the school, but through the determination and resilience of local parents, Hauraki Plains College was officially established in 1963. From these humble beginnings, our students come from the wider Hauraki area.

- Today we have:
- 900 attending our kura
  - 60 Teachers
  - 30 Support Staff



## Our Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

We are committed to a collaborative responsibility with iwi, hapū, and whānau to help ensure that HPC supports and sustains Te Ao Māori. We acknowledge that under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Māori have rights as Tangata Whenua not afforded to others within Aotearoa New Zealand. We prioritise instruction being available in tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori and continue to achieve equitable outcomes for Māori students.



We also give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the following ways:

- Māori students achieve equivalent academic success as Non-Māori at NCEA Level 2
- Student leadership council called Te Māngai Paho o Tikarahi, who are the voice for rangatahi Māori
- Te Reo Māori department which offers Te Reo Māori at all year levels and Māori Cultural Studies from Year 11
- Te Whare Manaaki - a space for Māori students requiring additional pastoral support
- Increasing the number of Māori we have on staff
- School wide staff and student learning in Tikanga and Te Reo Māori through karakia, waiata, and haka pōwhiri
- Iwi representation on the HPC Board
- Ākonga are able to wear Taonga as part of their uniform

## Our Consultation Process

1. Students, staff and the community were invited to complete an online survey
2. We used school events to gather parent voice e.g. Year 11 NCEA Evening
3. Results were analysed by the Board
4. Key themes were included in the strategic and annual implementation plan drafts
5. Further feedback was sought via school newsletters and Board meetings
6. Documents finalised and published
7. We would like these documents to be 'live' and envisage we will make slight changes to the plan as our two year cycle progresses



# DEPUTY PRINCIPAL INTRODUCTIONS



## MRS LAURA DOWDING

My core portfolios this year include leading the Learning Support team, junior curriculum and literacy/numeracy. I also have a wonderful Year 12 River group, and look after the Year 12 cohort working with the Year 12 Dean Mrs Paton. I am lucky to be teaching a Year 10 Humanities class and look forward to my classes with them. Having worked for the

RTL service previously, I spent some time at HPC with students and teachers. It has been great getting to know more students and I am feeling very welcome.

The Learning Support Team has increased significantly this year alongside the needs of our school. The team is working tirelessly to ensure robust sustainable systems are in place to support the many learners that walk through our doors and are supported and included in all aspects of our learning environment.

Many of our students and families have had their initial IEP meetings where we were able to sit alongside our students and their important people, get to know one another and establish goals that are at the forefront for key stakeholders.

The learning support team continues to collate information to better know our students and reduce the barriers many students face when accessing the curriculum.

We encourage our families to please reach out to the team if you have any concerns or questions. If your child has specific learning needs, diagnosis or you feel your child may need extra support please touch base with us to ensure we have the most up to date information. **Laura Dowding (DP):** [laurad@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:laurad@haurakiplains.school.nz) or **Jacqui-May (SENCO)** [jacqui-maya@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jacqui-maya@haurakiplains.school.nz)



## MRS ALISSA PLACE

I have the pleasure of supporting the Year 10 co-hort and the English and Math departments. I also serve as a mentor for the English department. One of my main portfolios is pastoral care, specifically student wellbeing. This is a portfolio that is close to my heart and my goal is to make sure that students who attend Hauraki Plains College feel safe, valued and like they belong.

HPC has made wellbeing a top priority this year. Our goal is to increase student wellbeing by 10% according to our strategic plan. To understand where our students stand, we've been surveying students using the WHO's five questions about wellbeing. The results highlighted a need for more support for students facing challenges.

Fortunately, we've expanded our wellbeing team, which now includes a full-time social worker, guidance counsellor, school nurse, student centre staff, and monthly visits from a community doctor. Additionally, we're collaborating with outside agencies like Ngā Waitāpara a Rangatahi, who run the Kauri Tree program aimed at boosting confidence, self-expression, and self-awareness in our youth and Family Safety Services who are running a Year 12 Healthy Relationships course. We are also encouraging families to join our support network at school by joining Deans and staff in creating support plans for students who need further support.

Email: [alissap@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:alissap@haurakiplains.school.nz)



## MR JACO DREYER

I have been on the Senior Leadership Team since 2012. I am currently teaching a combined Year 12 and Year 13 Geography class. I also have the privilege of being the River Guide of a lovely group of Year 9 students. I work very closely in a supporting role with the two Year 9 Deans to assist them in managing any Year 9 issues, both positive and not-so-positive.

My main responsibilities are administrative in nature. My main role is Principal's Nominee, which means I am responsible for quality assurance, reporting, ensuring integrity and authenticity, key communications with NZQA on behalf of the school and candidates, external moderation, breaches and assessment policies and processes, and smooth running of external examinations and assessments. The most important thing currently on our radar is getting students in mainly Years 10 and 11, ready to sit and achieve the co-requisite assessments for Literacy (Reading and Writing) and Numeracy. Some of my other roles are coordinating EOTC applications, Health and Safety, reporting, attendance and Sports Prize Giving.

If there are any NZQA or NCEA questions, I can be emailed on [jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz). If I can't answer any of your concerns, I will be able to find someone who can.



## MR JONATHAN O'NEILL

This year I am championing the portfolios of senior curriculum, innovation, and careers/pathways. It has been exciting to develop the Learning Lab strand of our curriculum. We will also be talking to our community later this year about a staggered roll out of BYOD. I have also been supporting Year 11 teachers to create courses which combine subject areas - to make learning more real world, and to give students

access to more subjects through their 6 line timetable.

A 75-min block after lunch on Fridays has been allocated to 'Learning Labs'; high-interest elective classes run by teachers. These classes provide learning opportunities beyond the traditional curriculum. Students choose one elective per term, aligned to an area of personal interest. Some of these electives lead towards participation in various regional events such as: Rockquest, Showquest, Chess and the Tough Guy and Gal Challenge.

Other Learning Labs for Term one included: Rowing, Audio Engineering, Songwriting, Korean Language and Cooking, Artificial Intelligence tools, 3D Modelling and Printing, Latin American Language and Cooking, Costume Design, Pickling and Preserving using produce from the school farm, Learn the Road Code, Eeling (local history and hinaki construction), Self Defence, Rugby Skill Development, Kapa Haka, Volleyball, 3x3 Basketball, Papier Mache crafting, Leadership Development, Manicure Skills, Pedal Prix, and Movie Appreciation (see page 15 for some photos). New courses for Term two include offerings such as: Woodturning, Financial Literacy, Maths Olympiad Competitions, Debating and Crochet.

The end of Term one also saw the introduction of 'Do Days' where each class ran for double-periods over the course of a week, providing 150 minutes of uninterrupted learning time per class. Teachers have utilised this opportunity by designing a range of engaging activities normally not possible with single periods. It was great to see a number of experts from various fields coming into classrooms, sharing their experiences and running activities. Students were also able to consider the various career pathway opportunities that arose from the different experiences.

Email: [jonathano@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jonathano@haurakiplains.school.nz)



# 2024 NEW STAFF



**Mr Hardeep Singh**  
*IT Technician*



**Mrs Saileshni Chand**  
*English Teacher*



**Mr Rhys Clemson**  
*Technology Teacher*



**Mr Mark Houghton**  
*Music Teacher*



**Mrs Pippa Lawlor**  
*Careers Advisor*



**Mr Peter McGregor**  
*Curriculum Leader Maths*



**Ms Ingrid Norman**  
*Commerce Teacher*



**Mr Tezhar Paymani**  
*Yr11 Dean & Eng/Bus Teacher*



**Mrs Rachel Purcell**  
*English Teacher & SENCO Support*



**Mr Sanpreet Singh**  
*Math Teacher*



**Ms Amy Wang**  
*English Teacher*



**Matua Te Waiheruata Rawiri**  
*Te Reo Māori*



## KĀHUI AKO UPDATE



School and ECE visits are being organised and some primary school visits have started. Cluster year level meetings were held in week 5 at a range of schools within the Kāhui Ako. These involve the across school and within school teachers. A review of the 'Transition to College' process is being developed. Jase Williams has visited most schools and shared more of his trauma and learning strategies and this has been well received. Matariki celebration planning has started.

*Ann Leuthart - Kāhui Ako*



# GATEWAY UPDATE



We started Term one with a sizable list of senior students keen to gain work experience via the Gateway program.

Once students completed a module in our Health and Safety program their personal strengths, career interests and abilities were discussed, many students had contacts with employers so we could sign Employment Agreements within their local communities.

Farm work experience is popular (one student was fortunate to gain practical skills on Burton's farm in Kerepehi), reversing a trailer, water blasting and painting water tanks are useful skills to attain in our Primary Industries.

Year 12 student Jared Everett has enjoyed learning the intricate details of watch repair with the Thames Jewellers, the best jeweller on the Coromandel!

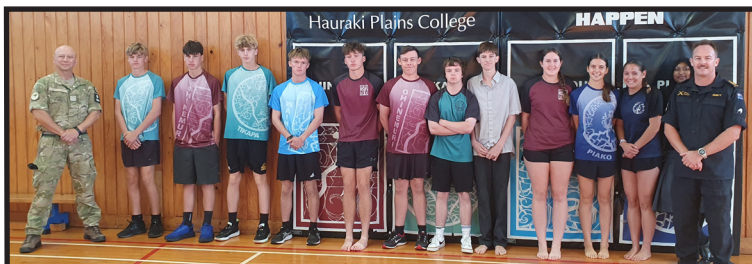
An HPC "first", six students with interests in veterinary work or

the equine industry have been attending the Annarehab program at Waitakaruru. Here Mrs B and Anna, her Vet Tech daughter, rehabilitate ex-racehorses with injuries/illness and transition them into therapy horses working with varied groups of all ages. Students also learn about feeding and pasture maintenance, while sometimes helping to harrow the arena on the quad bike.

We have a First Aid Course next term and at least another 15 students starting in local trades, students look forward to their placement days with some continuing over the school holidays, we look forward to sharing future updates and extend our gratitude to the numerous employers who allow our students to gain valuable insights with industry experience.

*Lauren Scott - Pathway/Gateway Coordinator*

*Photos: Jared Everett at Thames Jewellers (middle) and Chloe Aitchison at Annarehab (right)*



# CAREERS CORNER

It's been an exceptionally busy and productive start to the year. University liaison visits have proven popular with students looking to plan their degree pathways. Careers interviews have been happening for Years 11-13 as a priority, especially for those students going out on Gateway placements. This year we expect that 120 students will have some sort of Gateway experience in everything from Aviation to Veterinary. Health & Safety and First Aid courses have been booked and students allocated places depending on their needs and prior experiences. Drivers' Licence courses are also underway for learner and restricted testing. Other students looking at STAR transitions

are exploring taster courses in Hairdressing, Business and Creative Media. Our academically motivated students are studying Unistart papers as appropriate to their career pathways and personal goals. International Womens' Day has been used as a focus to encourage students to consider STEM careers and explore career possibilities.

*Pippa Lawlor - Careers Advisor*

*Photos: NZ Defence Force visit - many of them achieved the top level of fitness for the beep test (fit enough to be a navy diver!)*



# 2023 NCEA MERIT & EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS

**NCEA Level 1 with Merit:** Phoebe Anderson, Poppie Balm, Shandri Barnard, William Barry, Chloe Beals, Kiara Billings, Rory Cordes, Joshua Crampton, Alex Dibble, Megan Foster, Kayla Geaney, Emma Geck, Ruby Green, James Hill, Jayde Hood, Keelan Latham, Stevie Macleod, Georgia McTaggart, Taj Ofsoske, Isaac Smith, Emily Strawbridge, Natalia Taufu, Maia Taylor, Caitlin True, Nathan Turlington, Ella Tyrrell-Baxter, Keegan Wilgermein, Alexander Woods.

**NCEA Level 1 with Excellence:** Benjamin Beard, Olivia Cammell, Lily Carter, Alyssia Cochran, Natara Cochran, Alyssa Dovell-Durrant, Kyan Fieten, Rosaria Lee, Diego Marquez Bernal, Ellie Martin, Rhona McInnes, Maggie O'Neill, Jaskeerat Randhawa, Jackson Smith, Nea Stokman, Holly Timmins, Kaia Van Doorn, Danika Webster, Zoe Winter.

**NCEA Level 2 with Merit:** Faisal Arsilan, Tiare Ballantine, Melissa Barker, Abigail Cammell, Noah Fieten, Emma Glengarry, Xanthea Greaves, Makayla Holtham, Jordan Liversedge, Maggie Murdock, Campbell Petersen, Ant Plienankool, Christopher Reynolds-Shepherd, Saige Syme, Ashlee Thompson, Ethan Valois.

**NCEA Level 2 with Excellence:** Lola Anderson, Erin Aralar, Daniel Conroy, Jaymee Davies, Jessie Davis, Marleana Henry, Joel Hunt, Ivanca Judd, Sophy Liang, Emily Logan, Livvy Mitchell, Joshua Reid, Nikora Tawa, Matthew Tegg, Emily-Rose True.



# 2024 HEAD STUDENTS



**Jaymee Davies**

Kia ora, My name is Jaymee Davies. I am one of the five head students at HPC for 2024. My main portfolio consists of being the leader of the Service Council alongside Makayla Holtham. My interests lie in Crossfit, playing and coaching Netball in Counties Manukau, swimming, travelling and spending time with friends and family. I have a real passion for giving back to the community and have been privileged to front the Bikes for Youth charity in Counties Manukau associated with the NZ Police. Using donated second hand bikes, getting them fixed up by our bike mechanic and gifting them to kids coming from Domestic Violence situations or kids living in low socioeconomic areas. Looking into the future, I plan to study to become a Radiographer specialising in Sonography at Unitec in Auckland.

**Matthew Simpson**

Kia ora, my name is Matthew Simpson. I am one of five head students and I am co-leader of the Sports Council. I am very passionate about sport and have always been since I was just a little kid, which has been displayed through my involvement with sports such as Football to Athletics and even giving social Netball a crack. Although, what I have enjoyed most is Rowing. I started rowing in Year 9. As a novice, I quickly learnt that rowing was no easy task. It required a lot of sacrifice, discipline and simple hard work to succeed. Rowing has taught me to enjoy the daily challenge and aspire to improve by at least 1% each day. I would not have the level of focus and dedication I have today if it weren't for rowing. When I am not doing 10 training sessions a week, I love hanging out at the beach and going surfing. While we all love New Zealand beaches, I do hope to one day travel the world, surfing at as many beaches as I can. To help me reach these destinations, I want to become a Pilot seeing the world through a cockpit and experiencing all the cultures that the world has to offer.



**Daniel Sproul**

Kia ora ko Daniel Sproul toku ingoa, Nō Waitakaruru ahau, Ko Ngati Hameika raua ko Ngati Kahungunu raua ko Ngati Porou me Ngai te Rangi oku iwi. Hello my name is Daniel Sproul, I live in Waitakaruru and I am from Jamaica, Ngati Kahungunu, Ngati Porou and Ngai Te Rangi. I am 17 years old and I am one of the five head students for 2024. When I was younger I started off my schooling at Te Kohanga Reo o Wharekawa in Kaiaua and then attended Waitakaruru Primary School right through to Year 8. I grew up with a passion for Rugby, Fishing and Te Ao Māori. This year I am currently playing cricket for Kaihere Cricket Club and am currently playing rugby for the 1st XV and the odd game for Hauraki North. I have a strong passion for Kapa Haka this grew on me in Primary where I was grateful to lead Waitakaruru Primary School's first ever kapa haka group at the Hauraki Kapa Haka Festival. My goal this year as a Head Student is to promote Te Reo and Te Ao Māori throughout the school and to leave a legacy for the younger students. After school I am hoping to get an apprenticeship as an electrician or a carpenter or go to University to study Indigenous Studies.



**Nikora Tawa**

Kia ora, My name is Nikora Tawa. I am one of the five head students at HPC for 2024. My main portfolio consists of being the leader of the Academic Council alongside Jessie Davis. My interests lie in the gym, playing rugby, reading, surfing, and spending time with friends and family. I have a real passion for giving back to the community and have been privileged enough to be in both Tairua and Ngatea Volunteer Fire Brigades. This year I'm participating in the 2024 FireFighter Sky Tower Challenge, where I am raising money to help fund The NZ Blood Cancer Foundation. Every day eight children and adults in New Zealand are diagnosed with a blood cancer like leukaemia, lymphoma and melanoma. LBC is the national charity dedicated to supporting patients and their families, this support can last months or even years. LBC receives very little government funding, so please donate and help me support this great cause. Donation link here [www.firefighterschallenge.org.nz/nikora-tawa](http://www.firefighterschallenge.org.nz/nikora-tawa). Looking into the future, I plan to study at University where I am looking to go into the accounting or finance fields.



**Dana Lang**

Hello! I'm Dana Lang I am one of the five head students at HPC for 2024 and also Co-Leader (the other co-leader being Sarrah Bibi) of the Hapu Council. The Hapu Council has contributed in the recent activities of Swimming Sports, Athletics and soon to be organising a mufti day for Pink Shirt Day. I am proud to be working alongside my team. I have an ongoing love for Rugby, and have played for nearly 7 years now. I was named captain of the HPC Girls 1st XV of 2023 where our team received the award of Team of the Year. Receiving this award is one of my biggest accomplishments in my college years and shows my passion for the game. I am currently playing for Hauraki North Womens, Diamonds 2024 and also starting pre-season training for the HPC Girls XV team. I love seeing girls/womens rugby grow and being a part of it. I also love playing sports socially, like Netball and Touch with my friends in the Knobbys team. In the future I plan on making a professional career in Rugby. Playing for the Black Ferns 7's has been one of my biggest goals since I started playing rugby. Hopefully one day playing alongside Kennedy Simon (C) or Jorja Miller. Whilst building a career in Rugby, I want to experience University life studying something to do with sports, health and the body. Although I haven't quite pin-pointed exactly what that degree may be yet, I am very excited to see where I end up.







# ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Kia ora Ngatea! We're Sophy Liang (pictured top left) and Hanne Vanhoovels (top right), and we are really excited to be the leaders of Hauraki Plains College's new Environmental Council.

We want to be a pillar for all matters and issues regarding sustainability, while advocating for the planet/Papatūānuku and the school value of Kaitiakitanga - looking after our place.

This term in Week 9 we undertook a waste audit here at HPC to see how much and what types of rubbish the school produced outdoors in one day. With all hands on deck (most Enviro council members, Jo from Enviroschools, Lucci from the Seagull center and four other amazing seniors volunteering and helping out), all the sorting, weighing, cleaning up and bringing of non-landfill rubbish over to the Ngatea recycling centre took around two hours.

After crunching the numbers, we have found we made a total of 53.3 kgs of rubbish (which is equivalent to the weight of 110.6 blocks of butter) with over half (at 28.8kgs) saved from landfill! As for the weight of rubbish in each category:

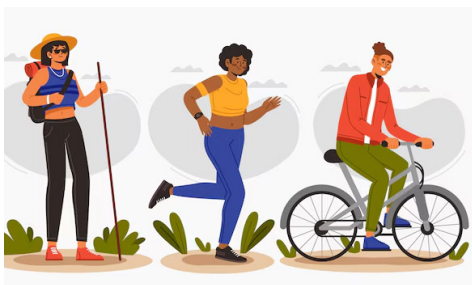
- Soft plastics = 6.4kg, and were mostly chips and pies' packets
- Recyclable paper = 12.4kg
- Recyclable plastics = 4.4kg
- Organic waste = 7.3kg
- Aluminium = 4.2kg
- Glass = 1.4kg
- Landfill = 19.2kg

Surprisingly, there were a lot of items that we thought would be recyclable but actually weren't, like paper plates, coffee cups, tea bags and serviettes due to either being too contaminated from food, plastic coatings, the presence of glue or a resin which makes it absorb liquid better. There were some rather strange things we found chucked into the bins as well, including two whole novels, a pair of old shoe insoles and part of a tyre. All in all, this audit was a pretty eye-opening adventure, and a top tip we can give is to not only abide by the age old mantra of 'reduce, reuse and recycle', but to also rethink/repurpose things you might consider as rubbish (if the novels are already damaged, why not tear the intact pages out to use as origami paper for some sweet decor?).



Hi, we are Xanthea Greaves (left) and Ashlee Thompson (right), your Hospitality Leaders. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who participated in Week nine's easter activities with a positive attitude. As you may know, each day of last week was accompanied by a fun activity. Monday was a short scavenger hunt for Year 9 Rivers, on Tuesday eggs were hidden on the bottom of chairs in classrooms, Wednesday there was a game in the Hub where students could guess the number of eggs in the jar (the winner being Meadow Hogan with a guess of 93, three off the real number of 96) and finally on Thursday, five eggs were delivered for each classroom so the teachers could reward their hardest working students.

# HOSPITALITY COUNCIL



Join us in Youthlines social action 'walk the talk'. Every day in May we will spend the first break of the day walking around the field for Youthline and mental health services in New Zealand.

### Our Feelings Forward initiative:

As a team, we've decided to support our peers as young people in New Zealand society. Everyday in May we will commit ourselves to 31 minutes of exercise in order to improve our mental health services. 31 minutes is the average time that the Youthline services spend on call with our young people. We want to raise funds to keep this service ongoing to ensure that our community does not suffer alone.

As a part of our plan with Youthline, we are going to engage our school and community to get involved. Walk, Bike, Dance, or get even more creative to complete 31 minutes of exercise everyday in May!

Donating to our team's participation in Walk The Talk will help us reach our goal of making mental health support stronger in New Zealand. The funding is a massive factor of keeping the support ongoing. Feel free to reach out and join our journey towards helping the Hauraki community and beyond. We understand that no one truly knows what's going on behind someone's mask, this is one of the reasons we are dedicated to providing our support to everyone.

[www.walkthetalk.nz/t/feelingsforward](http://www.walkthetalk.nz/t/feelingsforward)



→  
**LEARNING  
AREAS**



**MATHEMATICS**

Our budding mathematicians embark on the new NCEA Level 1 courses. In this Power of Equations class with Mr Chand, they experimented on the patterns behind the real-life physical phenomena of the conversion of gravitational potential energy in pendulums and other falling objects!



In Term one, we were determined to provide our junior students with the space and encouragement to read for pleasure through reading challenges and prizes across Year 9 and 10. The students did a fantastic job with this and should be proud of how they embraced them. We are looking forward to announcing the winners at the beginning of Term two. Our Year 11 courses have been met with much enthusiasm, including activities such as hiking Mount Te Aroha, analysing dystopian societies in film, studying history and genealogy, and advocating for social justice causes. Research and inquiry have been the focus of Year 12 classes where students had the opportunity to engage with sources relating to their passions. In Year 13, students are realising that films serve as mirrors and windows through which we can explore humanity.

We would also like to acknowledge our fantastic new teachers who have already built great relationships with their students. Thank you to Saileshni Chand, Tezhar Paymani, Amy Wang and Rachel Purcell, for all your mahi and aroha for our HPC students.

*Photo: Lara Clarke and Alena Tokoitoga making the most of visits to The Hub for our reading challenge.*



Humanities have gotten off to a strong start this year! Our Year 9's are busy working on their timelines of Aotearoa's history and our Year 10's are looking into disasters and how we need to be prepared for the next big one!

- Our 'Do Day's planning is underway with some great plans already set! Some of these include:
- A walking tour of Ngatea to discover its history
  - A trip to the Ngatea Fire Station to understand the Fire Brigades role in disaster response
  - Year 12 Classical Studies will be having an archaeologist speak to them about their role in archaeology in the Pacific and future pathways
  - Ex-student, Ceilidh Brown, will be leading a workshop with the Year 13 Sociology class about her work as a UNICEF Youth Ambassador and how to become active in our community

We are looking forward to another busy year in the Humanities Department!

*Top photo: 11 Foundation class learning some valuable skills with Whaea Tania  
Bottom photo: Lights off for earth hour in 11NZR*

**Te Reo Māori Programme**

In the words of Sir Doctor Timoti Kāretu (pictured right), a dedicated te reo Māori advocate and revivalist, "Te iti kei a koe, puāwaitia. Te nui kei a koe whāngaihia." The key message from this quote is to nurture whatever knowledge one possesses, whether little or abundant. This philosophy underpins all the reo Māori programmes at Hauraki Plains College, built on the foundational understanding that we treat the classroom as a familial 'whare' where respect and empowerment are prioritized in order to foster 'good learning.'

Year 9 and 10 students have been focusing on foundational language skills, such as pronunciation, grammar and basic sentence structure, and how to apply those in conversation. The junior students have then taken all their learning and demonstrated it in the form of a 1-2min visual-oral presentation about themselves and their whānau completely in te reo Māori.

In Year 12 and 13, the students have delved into higher-level learning at a more intense pace

*(continued onto next page)*



to prepare for assignments and exams in the coming school terms. Seniors have learnt to apply their knowledge practically, including translation, sentence construction, and engaging with te reo Māori media to progress all of their language comprehension skills: Listening, Reading, Viewing, Spoken, Written and Demonstrative.

Te Whare Toka Tū Moana (Māori Department), with Matua Normie Anderson at the head, are working together to lift the profile of Māori language and cultural learning subjects here at Hauraki Plains College, which has begun with a compulsory exam for all seniors te reo Māori students, to return a greater mana to the language within our school. This is being demonstrated through our 100% passing rate to date across all year levels.

The Science Department has had a roaring start to the year. Our new Year 9 cohort have been learning essential laboratory skills like lighting a bunsen burner, using scientific apparatus and investigating techniques to separate a variety of mixtures.

Term one highlights for other year levels include Ms Clelland's Year 10 class learning about forces, propelling balloon rockets across the classroom and constructing rubber band powered cars, to learn about friction and motion of objects.

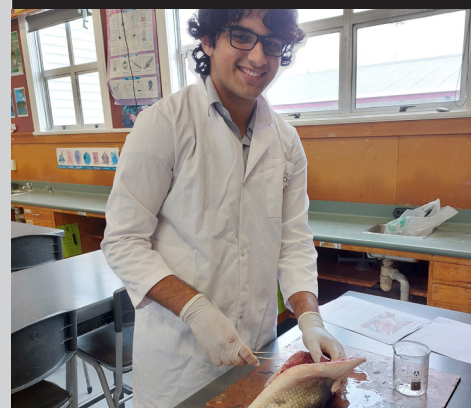
Ms Isbister's Year 12 Biology classes enjoyed returning to Pauanui as the destination of choice for the annual Rocky Shore field trip. Students enjoyed the perfect conditions as they collected data on the organisms that inhabit the rocky shore. They will use this data to determine the community pattern and explain how the organisms have adapted to their own specific environment.

Mr Angell's Year 13 Chemistry class has learned about batteries and how they are able to produce electricity. They learned how to electroplate through electrolysis, a process where energy is supplied to a solution that allows precious metals to coat other less precious metals. Year 12 Chemistry students have learned how chemical reactions can lead to movement of electrons and how they can recognize the indicators of those reactions.

Congratulations to Jaskeerat Randhawa for being one of just 25 students selected from throughout Aotearoa to attend the New Zealand international Biology Olympiad camp to be held in Auckland in April. The four strong New Zealand team to travel to the 35th Olympiad in Astana, Kazakhstan in July will be selected at this camp. Top photo shows Jaskeerat practising his dissection skills.

It has been great to see our students thinking scientifically and growing in confidence and knowledge across all their Science learning. We look forward to bringing them more opportunities to learn how they can apply their scientific knowledge across a variety of occupations.

## SCIENCE



## THE ARTS

The start of 2024 has brought a collaboration of talent from our students and new faces to The Arts department, as we welcomed Mr Mark Houghton and Miss Amy Wang and are lucky to have Miss Victoria Dickey and Mr Matt Duncum teaching The Arts this year!

**Drama** is available for Years 9 through to 13! Our enthusiastic Year 9s have devised mimed music videos and are exploring the language and choreographed stage fighting with Shakespeare. Year 10's have been looking at themes of migration and movement using the text 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. Students have created scenes based on the text, and their own interpretation around the journey of moving to a completely new place. Year 11 Performing Arts polished their acting and dancing skills ready for their first performance of 'Irish Annals of Aotearoa' that took place on the 4th April. Year 12 and 13's wowed their audiences by performing a modern take of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on the 9th April.

**Dance** can be picked in Years 10-13. Year 12 and 13's are choreographing solos, duos and small group dances to perform at the upcoming Mahurangi Exchange and DanceNZmade.

**Showquest** is on the 21st of May in Hamilton, and has a huge uptake of over 60 dancers and crew this year. Year 12 and 13 dance captains are busy choreographing a moving 10min performance around their chosen theme of 'The 5 Stages of Grief'. Tickets on sale soon!

**Music** has upwards of 150 students in itinerant music lessons playing Guitar, Bass, Drums, Vocals, Piano, Trumpet, Trombone and Saxophone. Groups in Guitar Ensemble, Jazz Band, Choir and student led bands. In Term two we will look to start a junior band programme. Students are writing songs and practising for RockQuest and our upcoming concert in Term two, One Autumn's Night. All are welcome to come and support us on Thursday 2nd of May.

**Visual Arts** - Our Year 10 art students are busy with "Pimp My Ride" where they need to design their own skateboard focusing on "Ko wai au?" "Who am I?" (pictured left). Our Year 9 art students are designing and printing posters to protest against contemporary issues. The Year 11 students are creating landscapes focusing on "Nga Taonga", our treasures.



# LEARNING AREAS



## HAUORA



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!

The Technology department is underway with a range of exciting courses this year, supported with new gear such as the laser cutter, water jet cutter, 3D printers, CAD software and virtual reality headsets and silversmithing taking place later this year. Exciting times ahead for this area of technology.

Food Technology students are "baking up a storm" learning a wide range of skills to produce food products to share some Manaakitanga with someone special.

Fabric Technology students are learning heaps of new skills and they are creating most amazing Trauma Teddies that are being beautifully sewn.

## TECHNOLOGY



## PRIMARY INDUSTRIES



A great start to 2024. All students are gaining a lot of practical experience both on Hayward Farm and in the horticulture block. This year the garden beds will be completely full, lots of vegetables and flowers to be produced. These students are going to be working with Mr Tate's Year 12 Business Studies class where they will grow produce for the food banks, after taking some home, of course.

The Year 13 Primary Industries class are growing sunflowers which they hope to sell commercially.

The Year 12 Horticulture class are designing a garden area for Hayward Farm.

The Year 11 Agriculture students are learning the basics of driving tractors and good skills for employment.

The Year 12 Agriculture students are learning about small machinery on the farm, animal handling and tractor skills.

The Year 13 Agriculture students are about to start their lessons on chainsaw application which will be a useful skill over their life time. Lots of other amazing experiences to be had over the year.



# BUSINESS STUDIES

This year two new staff members, Ingrid Norman and Tezhar Paynami are teaching our Year 11 Business Studies classes. Their focus has been to implement the changes to the NCEA curriculum. We continue running our now traditional food markets and 14 teams served delicious dishes from around the world.

The Year 12 Business Studies class has been working on community based activities that range from providing local food banks with the school's farm and horticulture output to providing digital technology classes to local elderly people.

Two teams of the Year 13 Business Studies class have developed products/services related to the agricultural sector and are participating in St Paul's Collegiate's Crocodile Pit. This is a Dragon's Den type activity that serves as a selection process for the Hamilton Fieldays Young Innovator Award. Our Year 13 students are also participating in the Young Enterprise program.

Our Year 12 Accounting class has been using local businesses as the context for teaching accounting systems using the Xero software.

We are planning for the 'Do Days'. We have invited local business people to share their experience and knowledge with our classes. This includes two ex Hauraki Plains College students who currently work for Fonterra in the marketing department and Deloitte's New Zealand in the consulting division.



# SPORT



## SWIMMING RESULTS



	CHAMPIONS	RUNNERS UP
<b>JUNIOR GIRLS</b>	Jasmine Welsh	Penny Timmins
<b>JUNIOR BOYS</b>	Finn Verner	Kyle Bell
<b>INTERMEDIATE GIRLS</b>	Taylor Batchelor	Paige Tevita-Williams
<b>INTERMEDIATE BOYS</b>	Blake Leach	Hunter Apiti
<b>SENIOR GIRLS</b>	Rhona McInnes	Zoe Winter
<b>SENIOR BOYS</b>	Innes Hill	Korban Iles

## ATHLETICS RESULTS



*Records Broken!*



### Junior Girls 800m

New record: Biahn Pallister - 2.41.19

Old record: Angela Bell - 2.41.70 (1978)

### Junior Girls 3000m

New record: Biahn Pallister - 11.37.40

Old record: Sophie Pullford - 11.45.14 (2011)

### Intermediate Girls 1500m

New record: Ashley Steffek - 5.23.00

Old record: Stella Clayton-Greene - 5.25.10 (2016)

TRACK	CHAMPIONS	RUNNERS UP
<b>JUNIOR GIRLS</b>	Biahn Pallister	Sienna Moore
<b>JUNIOR BOYS</b>	Kobe Leenen	Matthew Mead Max Meechan
<b>INTERMEDIATE GIRLS</b>	Ashley Steffek	Kaia Van Doorn
<b>INTERMEDIATE BOYS</b>	Luke Cryer Jesse Freeman	
<b>SENIOR GIRLS</b>	Zoe Winter	Jessie Davis
<b>SENIOR BOYS</b>	Zack Conroy	Thomas Brown

FIELD	CHAMPIONS	RUNNERS UP
<b>JUNIOR GIRLS</b>	Sienna Moore	Dakota Hubbard
<b>JUNIOR BOYS</b>	Lachland Grant	Franklin Marshall Max Joynes
<b>INTERMEDIATE GIRLS</b>	Lily Hammond Ashley Steffek	
<b>INTERMEDIATE BOYS</b>	Cayden de Graaf	Ty Winiata Kayde Veal
<b>SENIOR GIRLS</b>	Melissa Barker	Deana Jensen
<b>SENIOR BOYS</b>	Cruz Collins	Matthew Simpson



# SWIMMING AND ATHLETICS PHOTOS





# LEGACY PROJECT



As we embark on another year filled with opportunities for growth and connection, we're thrilled to share an exciting project in the making: our very own interactive Legacy Walk through the heart of our school. This endeavour aims to honour the individuals and places that have shaped our school's story, both past and present. Each corner of our school holds tales waiting to be unearthed, and we're eager to weave them into the fabric of our community.

Do you have insights into the historical facets of our school? We warmly invite you to join us on this journey by sharing your knowledge and memories. Your stories are our collective history, and we'd be honoured to preserve them for generations to come. If you're willing to lend your voice to our project and be interviewed by our enthusiastic student team, please reach out to Alissa at [alissap@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:alissap@haurakiplains.school.nz). Together, celebrate the vibrant spirit of Hauraki Plains College.



# LEARNING LABS BLOCK 4 ON FRIDAYS





# ONE AUTUMNS NIGHT 2024

**2ND MAY**

**FROM 6PM**

**HAURAKI PLAINS COLLEGE  
HALL**

**FOOD AND DRINKS ARE  
AVAILABLE**

**GOLD COIN DONATION**