

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday, January 30, 2026



Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week One of Term One!

I hope you have had a happy and restful break. We are excited to be back at school this week and ready to crack into 2026. It has been a fantastic week, welcoming our new staff on Tuesday, our Yr 9 and 13s on Thursday, and our Year 10-12s on Friday – a big week of welcomes! We look forward to having a full school on Monday, the 2nd of February with everyone back.

Welcome staff and students

Yesterday we welcomed 205 new Year 9 students and their families to our school. Thank you to Matua Ron from Kerepēhi for speaking on behalf of our manuhiri. Thank you to Year 12 student Gustav van Niekerk, Year 13 student Raukura Niupalau and Matua Frank who represented our kura. It was wonderful to see our local principals, grandparents, and community members supporting our incoming Year 9 students.



Year 11 NCEA Information Evening – Thursday, 12th February, 6:00–7:00 PM

This event is for Year 11 students, parents, and anyone wanting to upskill their knowledge of NCEA. Students from our Academic Council will be supporting this event and will be available to answer your questions from a student perspective.

All Year Levels: Meet the River Guide Evening – Tuesday, 3rd of March, 6:00–7:30 PM

River Guides are your students' champions – they are your child's biggest advocates, mentors, supporters, and cheerleaders here at HPC. Each morning, River Guides meet with their River groups to take the roll, check uniforms, read the notices, and check in with students. On Mondays, this time is extended to include assembly and learning activities. River Guides are your first point of contact if you need help or have questions. It is important to connect with your student's River Guide and get to know them – we warmly encourage ALL students and their families to attend this evening. All parents will hear from their student's River Guide via email next week. Please keep an eye out for this message.

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Online Learning

Well done to all students who handed in their online learning. Staff were really impressed with the effort, time and problem solving that students demonstrated. Thank you to our families for supporting your students during this time.

KINDO, Subject Fees, and Timetables

Just a reminder that "Kindo" is the only way to pay your child's fees, sign up for sports events/teams and find out information in regards to accounts. [Here](#) is the flyer with the QR code to sign in if you still have not done this.

By Wednesday, 5th February, we aim to have our timetable finalised. After this date, we will not be changing students into other classes unless parents arrange a meeting.

Subject fees based on the subjects your student has chosen, will be added onto your Kindo account. If you are not happy with their subject choices, please ensure any changes are made by Wednesday, 5th February. For support with subject changes, please contact the year-level Dean or Deputy Principal: [Staff Contact Emails](#).

Facebook Pages and Contact Details

Facebook continues to be a fast and effective way to reach many people. While we will always email important information, including e-bulletins, much of our day-to-day news is shared on Facebook. Please follow "Hauraki Plains College: What's happening at HPC" for updates.

Our Facebook Messenger and media@haurakiplains.school.nz email are monitored during school hours if you have news to share with us.

We also have a dedicated HPC Sports Facebook page: *HPC Sports*. For general queries, please contact the Student Centre: studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz.

Chromebook Success

Well done to our Year 9, 10 and 11 students who have started the year strong by bringing their Chromebooks to school. If students do not have their own device, they are welcome to borrow one each day from the Hub. They will need to check it out in the morning (like a book) and return it to Student Services in the afternoon. Please note: We only have enough Chromebooks in classrooms for our Yr 12 and 13 students.

Google Classroom

Every class at HPC has a Google Classroom where teachers post activities and work for students. Parents/caregivers of Year 9 students and other new students will receive an email in Week 3 inviting them to subscribe to summaries of activity from their child's Google Classroom subject sites. These summaries, sent daily or weekly (depending on preference), provide a snapshot of each week's learning focus and upcoming assignments.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Jonathan O'Neill: jonathano@haurakiplains.school.nz

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Frequently asked questions at this time of year!

- ***I haven't quite got the right uniform yet*** – Please don't panic. We can write a uniform pass for you until you get it sorted. Before river time, students need to bring a note from home to the front office and write their name on a clipboard. A uniform pass will be sent to students during the first block. We do not accept birks or crocs even with a pass.
- ***I am feeling unwell*** – go straight to the student services desk and check in, we can then contact home if necessary. Please do not contact home yourself without first checking in with us. Please note Panadol will only be given out in acute and emergency situations. You are welcome to bring your own panadol for us to hold at the student services on your behalf.
- ***I am missing some stationery items*** – Teachers will have extra gear to help get students started.
- ***I have financial hardship and can't pay for key things to get my student started*** – Please email principal@haurakiplains.school.nz or call the main office and ask to speak with Sharon.
- ***I don't know who to contact about things*** – You will be receiving a welcome email/phone call from your River guide within the next week. Here is a list of staff contacts from our website: <https://haurakiplains.school.nz/our-people/staff-contact-emails/> or alternatively our school App has everyone's staff contacts too.
- ***I have some bus questions, who do I talk to?*** – Michelle Isbister is our bus controller and she can be reached on michellei@haurakiplains.school.nz.

School App and Parent Portal

If you have not yet installed the school app on your phone, please follow these instructions:

1. On your phone or tablet, open the Play Store app (Android) or the App Store (Apple).
2. Search for 'school apps nz' and download the SchoolAppsNZ app.
3. Open the SchoolAppsNZ app and search for 'Hauraki Plains College' to connect to our school.

When we send out a message via the app, all users will instantly receive a pop-up 'push notification' on their device. Many parents enjoy the convenience of using the app to notify the school of their child's absence, as well as accessing the daily notices, school map, and staff contact details.

The 'Parent Portal' section of the app allows parents/guardians to access their child's attendance and academic results. Email studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz to request your caregiver login details if you did not receive them, or if you are having issues logging in.

Bus Bay

With the start of the year, we would like to remind parents that cars are prohibited to park in or drive through the bus bay between the times of 8am–8.45am and 3pm–3.25pm on a school day. It is a safety issue. We thank you for your cooperation.

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Homestays for HPC International students

The international roll at HPC is expanding. We are constantly on the look out for local homestay families to accommodate both short and long-term students. Students come from many different countries and all different age groups. It is usually preferable to have HPC siblings in the home, but not a requirement. Remuneration is \$350 a week. Please consider hosting! If willing or interested to find out more, please contact Mike Dwight (HPC International Director) at 027 3258 881 or international@haurakiplains.school.nz. Right now we are looking for a welcoming home for an outgoing and sporty Year 11/12 Chinese boy coming for two weeks from 7th February. If interested, the International Director can send you a student profile for more details.

Learning Support

Thank you to the many parents and teachers who have made the transition from Primary/Intermediate to College successful. The Learner Profiles have been a great addition to getting to know your children.

We look forward to previous teachers and learning support coordinators visiting our Hauraki Plains College over the coming weeks checking in with students and staff as we continue to strengthen our transition to College plan. "A number of studies conducted in New Zealand and internationally highlight that ill-prepared transitions can impact negatively on both student wellbeing and academic achievement. There is also evidence that the likelihood of students staying in school can be heavily dependent on the success of their transition into secondary school" (Education Hub, 2019).

If you have any queries or would like further information on how we can support your student please feel free to contact our SENCO Jacqui-May Allison-Dodds senco@haurakiplains.school.nz who will be happy to support and/or direct your enquiry to another member of the team.

Attendance Corner (see diagram above)

In 2026 we are aiming for 52%+ of our students attending school regularly (this means 90% of the time, or 9 days a fortnight). Each week we will share more information about attendance, as it will take a school and community effort to increase attendance.

Did you know?

- These reasons count as present: In class, work experience, gateway, medical appointment, board-approved offsite learning*
- These reasons count as absent (which negatively impacts attendance %): sick, at a funeral, car broke down and bus didn't come, holiday overseas, stayed home because it was athletics day, family emergency*

**These reasons/rules are set by the Ministry of Education*

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Upcoming Term 1 Dates

Day/ Week	Week 2: Commencing 2 Feb		Week 3: Commencing 9 Feb	
Mon	2		9	Barista Course
Tues	3		10	Aviation Experience
Wed	4		11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barista Course WINTER Courses starting
Thur	5		12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm year 11 NCEA Evening in Hall WINTER Courses starting
Fri	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waitangi Day - no school Head of the Harbour Regatta 	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WINTER Courses starting King of the Schools MX Champs

NGATEA OP SHOP BALL

SAT 28 FEB
NGATEA WAR
MEMORIAL HALL
DOORS OPEN 7PM

TWISTER CHAMPS!
DANCE OFF!
PHOTO BOOTH!

\$60 PER PERSON
FIRST DRINK FREE!
NIBBLES PROVIDED
EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT UNTIL 8 FEB

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DRESSED AND
KING & QUEEN**

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