

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday, February 20th, 2026



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

Getting to know our wonderful new students

It was great talking to Year 9 student Isaac Ratcliffe this week. Isaac brought an elephant tusk to show his Science teacher. This tusk belonged to his grandfather, Tony Ratcliffe, who wrote an autobiography called *The Elephant Man*.

Isaac's grandfather travelled around New Zealand with the circus and worked with a famous elephant called Dumbo. Dumbo would often grind his tusks, and this particular piece eventually came off.

ERO Visit

This week, we hosted Dick Edmundson and Paul Moulder from the ERO office. They were on-site both Tuesday and Wednesday. During their time:

- We held a mihi whakatau to welcome them
- They visited 10 classrooms alongside the Principal/Deputy Principal, to observe teaching and learning
- They met with a group of 10 students
- They met with 10 staff
- They met with the Board
- They reviewed lots of compliance and paperwork
- They met with the Senior Leadership team

It was a full-on two days, and we are looking forward to sharing their report with you (they have said the report could take 2-3 months to finalise). ERO visit schools every 3 years, and last published their HPC report in 2022.

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.

Dental Van

The Tooth Group will be onsite in Weeks 7 and 8 of [Term 2](#). To enrol your child, click [here](#). This information letter will also be emailed out to Year 9 parents at the start of next term also.

Student Lockers

Lockers are available for annual hire via the Kindo app for \$40. Once payment has been completed, keys can be collected from the Student Centre. A \$10 credit will be refunded to your Kindo account when the key is returned at the end of the year.

Change to Kaihere bus run

Please be advised that the Kaihere bus (all runs) will operate 15 minutes later than usual in the mornings, beginning Monday 16 February and continuing until further notice. Students are requested to be at their designated bus stop at least 10 minutes prior to the new scheduled arrival time. Afternoon bus services will continue to operate as normal.

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Upcoming Splash Days!

Our Splash Days are happening next week at the Ngatea Domain Pool.

Tuesday 24 Feb – Boys / Wednesday 25 Feb – Girls.

Participation is compulsory for all students and Splash Days are designed to include something for everyone. With a mix of competitive races and fun events, all students are expected to get involved, have a go and support their Hapu.

In addition to swimming races, Splash Days will also feature a range of fun events:

- Clothing Race (shirt and shorts required), Noodle Race and Walking Race
- **Girls are welcome to wear shorts over their togs for comfort during events.**

Every event a student takes part in earns their Hapu 1 point, so getting involved really counts. Whether racing, taking part in the fun events or cheering on others, everyone plays a part in supporting their Hapu.

Entries are online, visit the HPC Sports Facebook page or check your school email, where the entry link has been sent.

Upcoming Athletics Day!

Our whole-school Athletics Champs are coming up on **Monday, 2nd March**, and it's a day where everyone gets involved. With a wide range of track and field events on offer, there's something for all students to take part in.

Entries are now open and students are able to choose the events they'd like to compete in. Whether you're chasing a personal best or giving something new a go, every event counts; each event entered earns your Hapu 1 point. Get ready to represent your Hapu, support your mates and enjoy a positive vibes only event!

Student Environmental Council

With the leadership of Paul Porter and Selwin De Haast and the support of our school's Environmental Coordinator, the first meeting of the 2026 Student Environmental Council took place this Thursday, with full attendance of our members. Students are full of great ideas and motivation, and choose to focus on implementing pest control activities in the farm's wetland area, setting up and running a new waste minimisation and recycling pilot, and organising events at the school. It is going to be a great year!



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Learning Support

When to Contact the Learning Support Team? For most day-to-day questions, please use the following guide:

- Subject learning and classwork → Contact the classroom teacher, then the Curriculum Leader
- Behaviour or pastoral concerns → Contact your child's Dean
- Wellbeing concerns → Contact our Wellbeing team
- Learning needs, additional support, or barriers to learning → Contact the Learning Support Team

If you're unsure who to approach, our Learning Support Team is always happy to help point you in the right direction.

Learning Support Co-ordinators

Mrs Naomi Fisher & Mrs Jo Smith
lsc@haurakiplains.school.nz

SENCO

Mrs Jacqui-May Allison-Dodds
senco@haurakiplains.school.nz

Learn to Row

Tuesdays and Thursdays from after school till 5:30pm during Term 1. Meet at the rowing shed. Normal PE gear, water bottle, hat & sunscreen. Y9-Y10's or Yr11-12s. If you have the intention of rowing next season, please register at the Student Centre and collect a consent form.

WE NEED YOU!

We are on the look out for some amazing Restricted Ready Driving coaches to join our team to mentor and nurture learner drivers to gain their Restricted License. All it needs to be is 1 hour per week. If this sounds like you contact the school office or email amandas@haurakiplains.school.nz

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.

We have enjoyed meeting with many students and families over the past week to tailor student options. To ensure academic stability moving forward, any class transitions starting this Monday will now involve a consultation process between parents and our Curriculum Leaders or Senior Leadership team.

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 Thursday, 5th February. For support with subject changes, please contact the year-level Dean or Deputy Principal:
[Staff Contact Emails](#).

Nga mihi,
Sharon Moller
(PRINCIPAL)



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Attendance Corner

HPC Parent Attendance Focus Group: First Meeting for 2026: Friendly Afternoon Tea.

Why Join?

Raise Success: Help shape strategies to boost our overall school attendance and student achievement.

Share Your Voice: We want to hear your ideas, experiences, and suggestions for removing barriers to attendance.

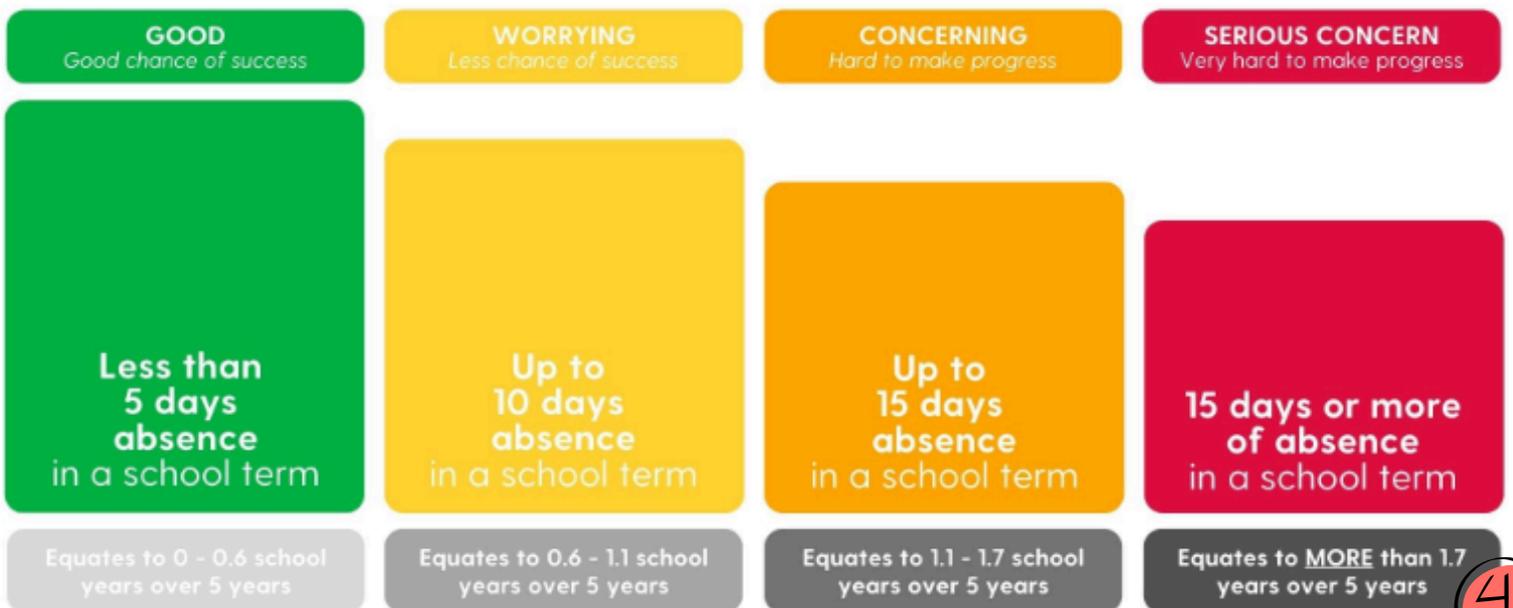
Collaborate: Work directly with school leaders and other parents to ensure our goals meet the real needs of the community.

- **Date & Time:** Thursday, February 26th at 5:00 PM
- **Location:** Meet at the front office of HPC
- **RSVP:** Please let us know you're coming by 24th February so we can arrange catering.

We offer flexible options, including both in-person and online sessions.

Did you know? Over 90% of our students have been attending 90% or more for the first 4 weeks. 78 students have already missed 5 or more days of school this term (yellow).

Current Term	Number of Students	Percentage (%)
Green	827	90.58%
Yellow	78	8.54%
Orange	5	0.55%
Red	3	0.33%



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Careers Corner

Careers and Gateway in Google classrooms

We have separate careers classrooms for different year groups.

- Junior careers - for Years 9-10 class code s4nr55yi
- Senior careers - for Years 11-12 class code caqlyrbo3
- Gateway - specifically for those enrolled in the Gateway programmes - class code ikqhw7xq
- Year 13 Careers and pathways - for ALL Year 13 students - class code c7i45vsv

All the information for university pathways, scholarships etc. is already in the Google classroom!

Please make sure that you are signed up so that you do not miss our competitions, events and notices. Seaweek starts on 28th February and International Women's Day is on March 8th!

University visits

The liaison visits are for students in Years 12-13 who want to find out more about tertiary education. This includes professional qualifications as well as degree level courses. Our next visit is from the University of Auckland, who will be coming into school on Monday 23rd February to speak with interested students. Sign-ups have now closed. Please email Mrs Lawlor directly if you would like to be included for Monday's event. All are welcome! pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz

Coming up

Date	Time	Event
Feb 23, 2026	Block 2 in the Hall	University of Auckland
Feb 16, 2026	Block 2 and 3 in the Centennial Centre	Year 11 Gateway students - Young Workers course
Mar 4, 2026	Block 2 in Careers Centre	AFS Intercultural Programme for overseas study
Mar 12, 2026	Block 1 in the HUBNF	University of Waikato

Student Volunteer Army

Membership is open to all. Please sign up using this link <https://volunteer.sva.org.nz/> and then email Mrs Lawlor pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz so that she can invite you to the Google classroom. There is an app that you can download to your phone. Join the HPC groups and log your hours. We will have a morning tea later in the term to award badges. There are already some wonderful local community projects asking for your help - including Ngatea Lions and the Love Grace appeal.

Pippa Lawlor
(Careers Advisor)

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Upcoming Term 1 Dates

Day/ Week	Week 5: Commencing 23rd Feb		Week 6: Commencing 2nd March	
Mon	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Flight attending course (Auckland) • University of Auckland liaison visit Block 2 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Flight attending course (Auckland) • HPC Athletics Champs
Tues	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Aviation Experience (Hamilton) • HPC Splash Day - BOYS 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Aviation Experience (Hamilton)
Wed	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • HeadzUp Student Leader Conference • HPC Splash Day - GIRLS • Waikato SS Show Jumping 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Block 2 - AFS presentation
Thur	26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • TVSS Touch @ Ngatea Domain • Waikato SS Futsal Champs • Vegetables Big Day Out
Fri	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • Moto-X Hawkes Bay Challenge 	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services Academy Induction Waiouru • NI Secondary School Rowing Regatta