

HPC e-Bulletin

Friday, 13 March, 2026



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

Good News Stories

Just in!

Congratulations to Yr12 student Faith Jones (*pictured top right*) who has been selected to attend the Astronomy Olympiad camp in Wellington during the next school holidays. The team representing NZ at the 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2026 in Hanoi, Vietnam, will be selected from participants of this camp. Good luck Faith!



Geothermal Adventures in Taupō!

Ms Clelland's Year 11 Earth and Space Science class recently traded the classroom for the volcanic landscape of Taupō! It was an action-packed trip focused on New Zealand's unique tectonic setting and sustainable energy.

The Highlights:

- **Expert Insights:** A huge thanks to Mark and Lucy from Earth Science NZ for teaching us how geothermal energy is traditionally used by Māori and how it's now harnessed for electricity.
- **Field Work:** We explored Craters of the Moon, viewing fumaroles and mud pools while learning about the specialized flora that thrives in the heat.
- **The "Golden Peg" Award:** At Taupō Top 10 Holiday Park, students put their teamwork to the test. Congrats to Zara, Neveah, Jett, and Daniel for winning the inaugural trophy for the best tent setup!



Student Takeaways:

- **Jackson:** "I really enjoyed looking at the geothermal plant... the complex machinery and engineering that went into it was amazing."
- **Dean:** "I learned that geothermal plants use steam and hot water to turn turbines, and the used water gets reinjected into aquifers."
- **Zara:** "I learned that the dirt looks red because it's high in iron oxide, and that NZ was the first country to re-inject CO2 into the ground!"
- **Daniel:** "I learned that there are so many different jobs that all play a role in a geothermal field."



The consensus? The students are already asking for a longer trip next time! A massive thank you to Matt King for accompanying the group and making this trip such a success.

NISS Rowing Champs

The Hauraki Plains College Rowing team had an outstanding North Island Secondary Schools Championships last weekend. We are extremely proud to say all of our rowers made finals. We would like to acknowledge the outstanding effort of all the rowers and give a huge thanks to our volunteer coaches, Richard Webster, Mel and Mark Dowty and Jeremy Cryer. Their contribution to the club's success under HPC's Director of Rowing Martin Simonelli is huge and we could not run the programme without them.



This year Hauraki placed as the 7th overall school with the small team of 25 rowers. They made 14 A finals, 6 B finals and 1 C final. Gaining 4 Bronze medals, 2 Silver and 2 Gold.



Good luck to those teams that made it to Maadi in Twizel.

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HAURAKI PLAINS COLLEGE

Night Market

Join Us for Our Open Evening & Student Night Market!

We are delighted to invite both in-zone and out-of-zone families considering enrolment for 2027 to explore our school on Tuesday 17th March, starting at 6:00 pm.

To make the evening even more special, our Year 11 Commerce students are hosting a Night Market from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on the front turf. Come along early to support our budding entrepreneurs and enjoy a variety of delicious sweet and savoury treats while you wander through the school grounds. The open evening event will start at 6pm in the hall. After a 20 min presentation in the hall, our Head Students and Senior Leadership team will show visitors around our school and answer questions. Nau mai, haere mai! Everyone is warmly welcome to attend.

Excellence Breakfasts in Term 2

We are committed to fostering a culture of high achievement and recognising the dedication our students pour into their NCEA mahi. This year, we are proud to announce the launch of a new tradition: The Excellence Breakfasts. Any student who earns Excellence credits in their NCEA Level 1, 2, or 3 internal assessments during Term 1 will receive an invitation to this special event, alongside their family.

- **Dates:** Year 12/13 Monday 4th May 9-10.15am, Yr 11 Monday 11th May 9-10.15am
- **The Experience:** A fully catered breakfast shared with peers and whānau.
- **Inspiration:** We are excited to host an inspiring guest speaker at each event to share insights on leadership, perseverance, and success beyond the classroom.

We encourage all our seniors to keep pushing for those Excellence grades over the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing many of you there to celebrate your success!

Carry the Baton

On Friday, 20th of March, all Year 9 and 10 students will be participating in the annual Carry the Baton Duathlon Challenge at the Ngatea Domain. Parents and caregivers are invited to attend and support their child on the day. Students have been training hard in PE classes, both individually and collaboratively in their teams. Each student is either a runner or a biker for their team, and requires the following:

- **Bikers:** Hapu gear, sports shoes; own bike and helmet, if they wish (school can provide)
- **Runners:** Hapu gear, sports shoes (optional)

Please bring a water bottle, sunscreen, required medication, and food for the day. Students will be expected to be at school in their full school uniform before and after the event. As this is an assessment, all students are expected to attend school on the day of the event. If students are unable to attend, parents/caregivers are required to contact their child's PE teacher. Extra information can be found on your child's Hauora/PE Google Classroom page.

- Year 10 students 9.15 am - 12 pm
- Year 9 students will meet in the school gym at 12.15 pm - 2.30 pm



More Than A School
Hauraki Plains College

HPC Open Days

Whānau are welcome to attend one of the following Information evenings for in-zone and out-of-zone 2027 enrolments.

6pm Hall

2026 Open Days:
#1: Tuesday 17th March
#2: Wednesday 13th May
#3: Thursday 13th August
#4: Tuesday 27th October

OOZ Ballot Closes: Wednesday 19th August 2026 (12pm)
OOZ Ballot Drawn: Wednesday 26th August 2026
(Families will be notified on or shortly after this date)



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WE ARE HIRING: Grounds Person!

Do you love the outdoors and take pride in a job well done? Hauraki Plains College is looking for a reliable Grounds Person to join our busy Property team in Ngatea!

- Location: Ngatea
- Hours: 20 hrs/week (Mon–Fri), Term Time only (40 weeks/year)
- The Job: Mowing, weeding, pruning, and keeping our campus "top-notch."
- The Fit: Must be physically fit and have a great attitude!

Why us? Competitive rates, equipment provided, on-the-job training, and a supportive team environment.

Interested? Email Scott at scottr@haurakiplains.school.nz to learn more or apply. Applicants must pass a police vet and have a valid NZ work visa.

Class and Catch up Photos

Class photos were unable to be taken this week due to illness. These will now be taken on Tuesday 17th March. All students need to be in the correct SUMMER school uniform. Long hair needs to be tied back and boys need to be clean shaven. Students will be asked to remove their jackets and jerseys for the photos – girls, remember your ties.

Summer to Winter Uniform Transition

As the weather begins to cool, we will be transitioning from summer to winter uniform. **From Monday 23 March (Week 9) through to Friday 1 May (Term 2, Week 2)**, students may wear either the summer or winter uniform while families organise winter items. During this transition period, students should wear one full uniform or the other, rather than mixing items from both (e.g. scarves should not be worn with sandals).

From Monday 4 May, all students are expected to be wearing the full winter uniform. Thank you for your support in helping students look smart and ready for the cooler months ahead.

Winter School Shoes

As we move into winter uniform, please ensure our students are wearing the correct school shoes. According to our uniform requirements in the HPC Prospectus, the approved winter footwear is black leather lace-up school shoes with a heel of no more than 5 cm (as shown in the image). Many shoes sold in stores as "school shoes" may not meet our uniform guidelines, so we encourage families to check carefully when purchasing. Thank you for helping us maintain a consistent and tidy school uniform by ensuring your child has the correct footwear.



Dental Van

The Tooth Group will be onsite in Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 2. They will prioritise Year 9's first. 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.

Learn to Row

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

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2026 Stepped Attendance Response Overview

The Colour-Coded Tier System

26

Highest Recorded:
26 Unjustified Days

The highest recorded absence level for a single student during the current term.

Orange / Red: 10 – 26 Days | Critical Intervention

High-Priority Intervention (Orange/Red)

Students with 10+ unjustified days are moved to Orange or Red response stages.

5

The Yellow Threshold:
5 Days

Yellow status typically triggers once a student reaches 5 to 9.5 unjustified days.

Yellow: 5 – 9.5 Days | Early Warning

Attendance Risk Framework
Attendance is tracked from Green (low risk) to Red (critical intervention required).

Green: 0 – 4.5 Days | Low / Monitor



1. Initial Contact



2. Letter Home



3. Meeting



4. Plan



5. Review



6. Critical Escalation

Stepped Response Actions

Intervention levels (1-6) are assigned based on the severity and date of last response.

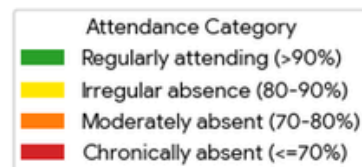
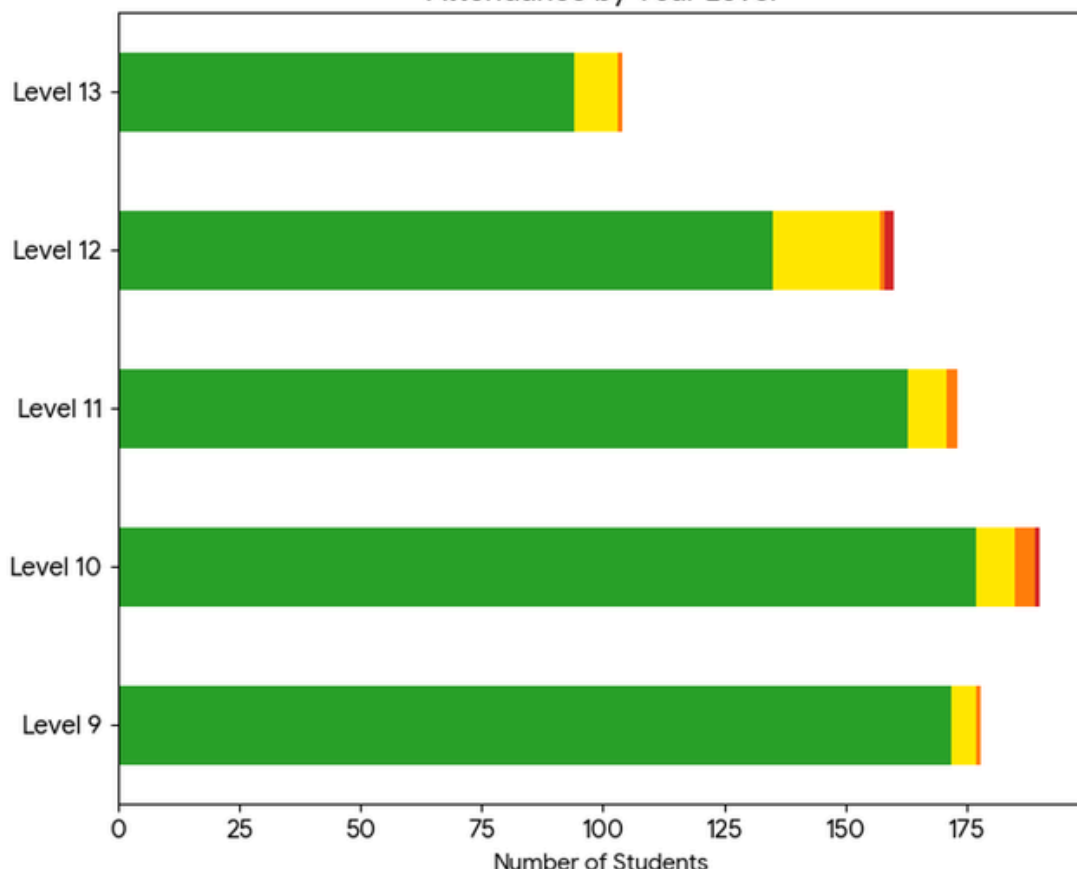


Multi-Year Level Impact

Attendance issues are monitored consistently across all cohorts from Year 9 to Year 13.

Attendance Corner

Attendance by Year Level

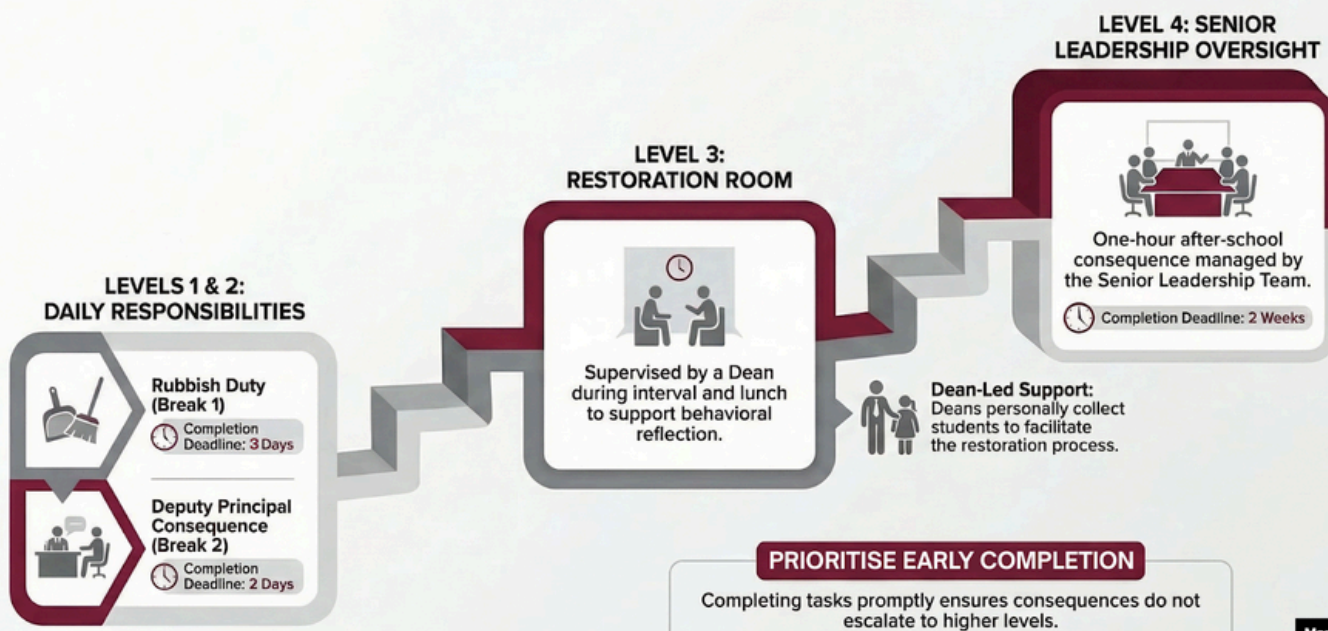


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Our Consequence Pathway: Supporting Accountability and Success

Consequence Pathway



Careers Corner

Gateway

Congratulations to all our students who are coming to the end of their Term 1 placements. In the last two weeks we will see aviation, flight attending, barista and hospitality students completing courses. It's been great to see the latest branding designs for our Hot Pour Company (see what we did there?!) who have been making hundreds of delicious coffees this term.

Next up: Digger construction training will be Wednesday-Friday. Set the alarm clocks for your pick-up times!
Health & Safety Week 9 (Thursday 26th and Friday 27th).
Students - keep checking your emails, as there have been some adjustments to the list.

All lists are on the board in the Careers Centre also.

New groups start going out in Term 2. Our equine programme with Annarehab has got off to a great start with students mucking in...and mucking out! But never mucking around!

University Visits

The liaison visits are for students in Years 11-13 who want to find out more about tertiary education. This includes professional qualifications as well as degree level courses. Worried you won't get UE? There is a "Plan B" - check out this link: Certificate of University Preparation (CUP) University of Waikato
<https://share.google/u8RQsShpWkhwOI2N>

Sign ups for liaison visits are via the Google classrooms. Email pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz



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Careers Corner T2 Dates

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 21st April	Block 1 (9:00-10:20)	PIHMS
Tuesday 21st April	Block 3 (12-12:45)	Lincoln University
Wednesday 22nd April	Block 1 (9.00-10:20)	Victoria University of Wellington
Thursday 30th April	Block 4 (1:50-3:00)	Otago University
Tuesday 5th May	Block 1 (9:00- 10:20)	Virtual meet - Careers centre
Thursday 14th May	Block 1 (9:00-10:20)	University of Waikato (Scholarships)

Upcoming Dates

Day/ Week	Week 8: Commencing 16th March		Week 9: Commencing 23rd March	
Mon	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12OTE Kayaking Practical 12BIO Rocky Shore Hosting Enviro Conference 	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flight Attending Maadi Cup Exploring Climate Change Adaptation W/shop
Tues	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Group Photos 12OTE Kayaking Practical 11DIT P-Tech Aviation Experience 5pm Commerce Groups Market at HPC 6pm Open Evening for in zone and out of zone Y8s 	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maadi Cup Learner Driver Licence Aviation Experience 12SFP/13PRI Te Ahikawariki (VICE) trip
Wed	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAIBOPSS Athletics Gateway Digger Training 	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maadi Cup Learner Driver Licence 12OTE Kayaking Practical
Thur	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TVSS Swimming SADD Workshop Gateway Digger Training 	26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maadi Cup Learner Driver Licence Health & Safety Course 13OTE Bush Survival
Fri	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry the Baton TVSS Tennis Gateway Digger Training 	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maadi Cup (also 28&29/3) Health & Safety Course 13OTE Bush Survival 13AUT Beach Hop NISS Track & Field (28&29/3) Korea/Japan Trip students depart 29/3