

# HPC e-Bulletin

Friday, 1 May, 2026



**Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week Two of Term Two!**

## **ANZAC Day Dawn Service**

A huge thank you to the community, staff, and students who attended the Dawn Service at HPC. We received this lovely letter from a lady who lives in South Australia who attended, and summed up our event:

*It was a privilege to attend the dawn service held at Ngatea this morning. I was impressed with the haka performed by students, showing respect, unity and honour. I was impressed with the diligence the students involved portrayed when mentioning the pledge that young men made to give their all to defend and protect their country while supporting their comrades during the First World War, honouring the ANZACs, recognizing the sacrifice that they made to serve their country and honour their mates.*

*The students made the soldier's pledge of commitment and leaving their families comparable to their ages of 18 years and at still at college and brought to the forefront the sad reminder that a lot of these young soldiers did not return home, or if they did, they were not the same young lads that had headed off to war, and were ultimately denied the life that they may have had.*

*Another student opened up about his family history and the prejudice that his grandfather had suffered from the British during WWI and how his grandfather was welcomed as a comrade by members of NZ Armed forces, and how they were proud to fight alongside him without any prejudice, as a proud NZ soldier. The finale of the dawn service was an impressive Last Post and Reveille.*

Later in the day, we had Malia Mason, Tristan Holt, and Rudy Tuhaka speak at the Ngatea Civic Anzac Service. We received the following message about Rudy's speech:

*"I would just like to congratulate Rudy Tuhaka on his fantastic speech he did in the Ngatea War Memorial Hall on ANZAC Day. In nearly 30 years in the military, I have never known someone to get "unanimous applause" in an ANZAC service. Well done Rudy." GM, Ngatea*

The Kerepehi Brass Band also sent Rudy a thank you letter.



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## Excellence Breakfast invites have been sent out for Yr 11s

Rather than waiting until the end of the year to celebrate academic excellence, we are excited to launch a new tradition - Excellence Breakfasts. Today, we sent out the invitations to 46 Year 11s who have earned excellence credits, and their families. RSVP's are needed by Wednesday, 6th of May, so we can organise catering. Our Year 11 Excellence Breakfast starts at 9am on Monday the 11th of May in the hall.

## One Autumn Night success

HPC hosted a showcase event for our music students on Wednesday night. Attendees came along to see and hear a variety of live performances. The evening featured a mix of different styles and groups, including our Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Band, as well as a group of amazing vocal performances.

## Supporting your child's learning with SMART for Years 9 and 10

We are pleased to introduce SMART (Student Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Tool), a new online way for us to track your child's progress in Reading, Writing, and Maths. SMART is not a high-stakes test (like an exam). It is more of a learning check-in, helping parents and teachers understand what each student knows, what they can do and what they need next.

## What to expect:

- The Results: We are currently two weeks into the first round of assessments. As this is a new tool being implemented across NZ schools, the results will take 6-7 weeks to be finalised, provided it is ready in time, you will see this information in your child's Term 2 report. Future results will be immediately available for both staff and parents.
- Looking Ahead: Beyond just measuring progress, these sessions are a great way for our students to get comfortable with formal assessment conditions. This practice helps build their confidence and prepares them well for the Year 10 and Year 11 exams they will encounter in the future.

## Year 9 Camp

Year 9 students have an exciting opportunity to attend camp at the end of the year in December at Ngāruawāhia Christian Youth Camp, where they will step outside the classroom to challenge themselves through a range of activities. Students will take part in exciting experiences, including outdoor adventure challenges, flying fox, hydroslide, mud slide, crate climbing, kayaking, while also relaxing around the campfire, and much more. All 15 activities, along with food and accommodation, are included in the camp experience. The cost of the camp is \$250 per student. We have charged Year 9 parents \$250 on Kindo today, and encourage you to set up payment plans. There will be no refunds or credits 4 weeks before the camp starts. Please contact the Year 9 Deans with any questions, or Student Services ([studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz)) for Kindo queries.



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## **Enviro Leadership Summit**

Three students represented HPC at this regional two-day event organised by Waikato Regional Council and Enviroschools, held at Ō-Tāwhao Marae within Te Awamutu College. Andrea McMeekan, Connor Friend and Lucas Clark took part in climate change education workshops, networking with student leaders from other schools across the Waikato, toured Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, and shared a presentation with the group about their sustainability projects at HPC.

## **Academic Tutorials: a message from the student-led Academic Council**

The Academic Council wants to provide as much support for our students as we can. Therefore, we would like to offer the opportunity for your child to attend after-school tutorials (we are also exploring a before-school option). If you feel that your child could use the support and help in a subject, then these tutorials could be an option for them. The tutorials will be run by student leaders and will focus on the core subjects e.g. Maths, Science, English, and Humanities. These tutorials will be free of charge and open to all interested. If this is something that you think your child would benefit from, please fill out the attached Google form or send an inquiry to either Ben Martin - [22165@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:22165@haurakiplains.school.nz) or Lucia Sues - [22093@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:22093@haurakiplains.school.nz). Alternatively if you want to contact a staff member, you can reach out to Year 13 Dean, Mr Paymani - [TezharP@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:TezharP@haurakiplains.school.nz) [Google Form Link](#)

## **Overdue Sports Fees**

We have thousands in unpaid sports fees and school fees. Once parents have had their child's sports fees sent to them via Kindo they will have 3 weeks to pay the fees in full OR have a payment plan in place through Kindo. After the 3 weeks, students will not be eligible to continue playing until the fees or a payment plan is in place. Fees for winter codes will be sent out soon.

Our Sports Department works hard to keep the costs down as best they can and expenses get shared out between the students participating - please be fair to your fellow teammates and pay your part.

If families need help setting up a payment plan or how to use Kindo please contact [studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:studentservices@haurakiplains.school.nz) or Kindo direct: [helpdesk@kindo.co.nz](mailto:helpdesk@kindo.co.nz)

## **Casual Teacher Aide Position**

We are looking for a part-time Teacher Aide for our students who is available to work on a casual basis. Hours will vary week to week with the possibility of more permanent hours. This position would suit someone who is able to predominantly work with our junior school supporting self management skills and their learning needs.

Our successful applicants will have the following skills and attributes.

- The ability to relate to and successfully engage with young people (hononga).
- A firm belief in a 'potential' focus - that all students have agency, strengths, and the capability to learn (mana motuhake).
- The ability to work collaboratively with teachers and other professionals, and to advocate for the student when necessary (whaiwhakaaro).

If this sounds like you or you would like to find out more information please email Laura Dowding ([laurad@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:laurad@haurakiplains.school.nz)) with your CV before the 15th May 3pm.

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## South Korea and Japan Trip 2028

Building on the success of our recent cultural exchange with schools in South Korea and Japan, we are excited to begin preparations for our next journey in April 2028. Students currently in Year 10 and 11 will be considered for this trip. An information evening will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 28 May in the school hall for families interested in their child participating in this exchange. We invite all interested families to attend this session to learn more about the itinerary, costs, and the application process.

## Photolife

Class and individual photos are now live and ready to view and order. Keycodes have been emailed out to parents. As this is a new system, remember to check your junk, spam, or promotions folders, in case the message was filtered. Please note if you ordered the Year 13 class photo, this is still being processed and will not be ready until June.

## Looking for a fun, active, and meaningful way for your child to spend the school holidays?

Hillary Holiday Camps are residential outdoor adventure camps for students aged 11–19, designed to build confidence, connection, and a whole lot of fun, in a supportive environment. Set in some of Aotearoa's most stunning natural locations, each camp offers a week of adventure, new friendships, and personal growth. Whether your child already loves the outdoors or is keen to try something new, everyone is welcome; all it takes is a positive attitude and a willingness to give things a go. Participants are supported 24/7 by experienced, NZOIA-qualified instructors, ensuring a safe and rewarding experience from start to finish.

Learn more: <https://www.hillaryoutdoors.co.nz/>

## Attendance Update: Term 1 Progress

A massive thank you to our students and whānau for your commitment to regular attendance and for keeping our communication channels up to date. Accurate data allows us to better support our learners and ensure every student has the best chance to succeed.

### Tracking Our 2026 Goal

Our strategic target for 2026 is a 10% increase in "regular attendance" (students attending school more than 90% of the time). We are aiming to move from 43.5% in 2025 to a 53% target by the end of this year.

### Term 1 Year-on-Year Comparison

Attendance Category	2025 (Term 1)	2026 (Term 1)	Trend
Green (Regular)	36.6% (350)	39.3% (374)	Increasing
Yellow (Concern)	22.8% (218)	25.0% (236)	Increasing
Orange (Moderate)	16.2% (155)	15.9% (151)	Decreasing
Red (Chronic)	24.5% (234)	19.8% (181)	Improving

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*Summary: While our overall snapshot for students above 90% sits at 61.7% (compared to 62.3% in 2025), we are seeing a positive shift as more students move out of the "Red" zone and into more consistent attendance.*

## A Fresh Start for Term 2

As we begin the new term, everyone starts again in the Green Zone. This is a chance for all students to reset, build new habits, and aim for 100% attendance from day one.

However, please note that while the termly "colour" resets, we continue to monitor cumulative yearly percentages. This allows us to identify and offer further support to students and whānau who may be struggling with long-term barriers to attendance.

## Strengths & Areas for Growth

Our greatest strength this term has been the significant reduction in chronic absence (Red zone). This shows that our collective focus is working. To reach our 53% goal, we are focusing on the following:

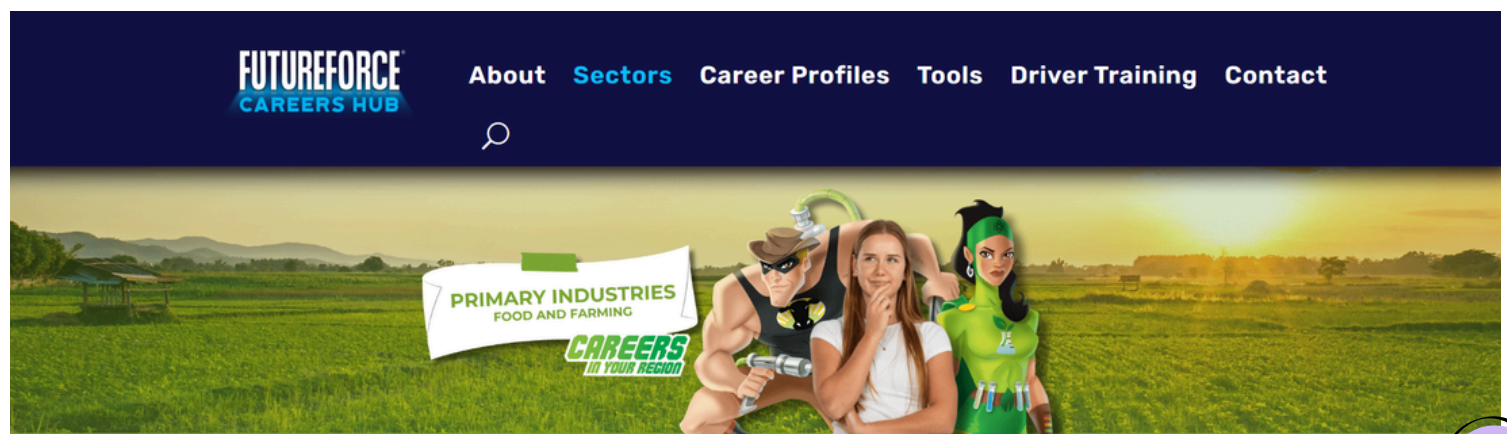
- For the School: Refining our support systems to intervene early when attendance dips and celebrating those who show consistent improvement.
- For Students: Making "every day count." Even missing one day, two half days or four blocks a fortnight can drop you out of the Green Zone.
- For Whānau: Maintaining strong morning routines and communicating with us early if there are issues. If your child is struggling to get to school, please reach out to their Dean or Mentor. We want to work with you to find solutions.

## **Careers Corner**

Introducing **FutureForce®**

Designed by young people, for young people (with the help of local experts!), FutureForce® Careers Hub has been carefully created to give the Waikato region's young people an edge as they make important decisions that shape their career. We've got you covered on tips and tricks, advice on planning for your future and real jobs across the Waikato. (There's even a jobs board where you can search for employment opportunities.)

<https://futureforce.nz/>



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IN YOUR REGION

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## Term 2 University liaison visits & Campus visits – sign up via Careers Google classrooms please

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 5th May	Block 1 (9:00- 10:20)	AUT Virtual meet – Careers centre
Wednesday 13th May	Part day (08:30- 1:30)	NZIS/NZMA Open Day – Auckland
Thursday 14th May	Block 1 (9:00-10:20)	University of Waikato (Scholarships) – HALL
Wednesday 20th May	Block 2 (10:20-11:35)	Massey University – HALL
Friday 22nd May	All day (8:45 – 2:45)	University of Waikato Open Day – Hamilton

## Upcoming Dates

	Week 3: Commencing 4th May		Week 4: Commencing 11th May	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>04</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11OTE MTB Skills (Line 1)</li> <li>• STAR course: electrical taster</li> <li>• Yr12 and 13 Excellence Breakfast</li> <li>• HPC Sports Coach &amp; Manager Evening</li> </ul>	<b>11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yr 11 Excellence Breakfast</li> <li>• Waikato Inter-Collegiate Golf Teams Day</li> </ul>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>05</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11OTE MTB Skills (Line 3)</li> <li>• World Vision Conference</li> </ul>	<b>12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11OTE MTB Skills (Line 3)</li> <li>• Photolife Summer Code Photos</li> <li>• Franklin SS Golf Champs</li> </ul>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>06</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chainsaw Course</li> <li>• 11DIT P-Tech</li> </ul>	<b>13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auckland Writers Festival</li> <li>• Duke of Edinburgh</li> <li>• TVSS Squash</li> <li>• 6pm Open Evening – all welcome</li> </ul>
<b>Thur</b>	<b>07</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chainsaw Course</li> </ul>	<b>14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duke of Edinburgh</li> <li>• Waikato Uni Scholarship liaison visit (9-10.20)</li> </ul>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>08</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clash of the Colleges Ag/Hort Competition</li> </ul>	<b>15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TVSS Golf Round 1</li> <li>• Duke of Edinburgh (also 16/5)</li> </ul>

# KIDS DANCE CLASSES

dance • vibe • help us fundraise!



\$10  
Per  
Class

EVERY DOLLAR  
HELPS US GET  
TO COMPS!

We're fundraising to compete-  
and YOU can help by coming to  
dance with us!

(Mrs Dodds-teacher at  
Mangatawhiri school &  
Mrs Houghton-principal at  
Turua school will be there so  
feel free to leave your kids  
with us for the hour and  
go treat yourself!)

Fun routines, Games + Good  
vibes, and all levels welcome

- every Sunday - 10:00am-11:00am
- Mangatawhiri hall
- primary aged kids
- first class Sunday 3rd May

(your dance instructors)

Stevie

Ava

PULL UP,  
DANCE HARD,  
SUPPORT  
LOCAL DANCERS!

Check out  
our Facebook for  
Further class  
schedules!

Pay online before Saturday 2nd  
or \$10 cash at the door!  
No bookings needed - see you there!

Facebook @ MiniMovers

LK Dodds-  
38-9010-0325301-01

