

HPC e-Bulletin



Thursday, 2 July, 2026



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

Matariki Success

Well done to all the student performers at the annual Matariki Showcase! There was a diverse range of music, arts, and cultural performances, including Hawaiian, Bollywood, and Cook Islands dances. The hospitality council supplied complimentary soup and treats – beautiful! Our students absolutely shone tonight; they were the stars of the show. Also a huge thank you to Mrs Allison-Dodds, Whaea Hani, Matua Frank, Mr Houghton, and Matua John for their hard mahi leading up to and during the event.

Here is the link to the video from the showcase.

Welcoming Our Korean Exchange Students in Term 3!

We are thrilled to announce that at the very start of Term 3 (Week 1), Hauraki Plains College will be hosting 30 visiting students from South Korea for an exciting 3-week cultural exchange.

The students will be immersed in both school life and our local community until the end of Week 3. During their stay, they will be paired up with HPC student buddies to experience life in a New Zealand high school. They will also be participating in a wide range of Kiwi experiences outside the classroom, including golf, lawn bowls, music lessons, and local trips around the region.

This is an incredible, unique opportunity for our school community to foster global connections and share our vibrant culture.

Friday 3 July: Learning from home day – school is closed

The service to celebrate Peter McGregor is happening on Friday, 3 July 2026 at 1 pm. School will be closed for the day, and there will not be scheduled classes. Buses will not be running on this day. Teachers will upload work to Google Classroom in advance for Friday's classes, and students can work on this from home. Please find the event details below for the information of students and families who wish to attend:

- Date: Friday 3rd July (last day of term)
- Location: Te Aroha Silver Fern Event Centre
- Time: 1 pm start (Peter's favourite music will be playing from 12.30 pm)
- Dress code: Wear green
- Afternoon tea to follow
- There will be a memory box at the service where you can share your favorite memory of Peter, an act of kindness he did, a funny story, or simply what you loved and respected about him. Peter's family has suggested writing this down before arriving.

Here is a link to the livestream, for those who wish to watch from home:

<https://www.seddonpark.co.nz/funerals?funeral=VXDEx>



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Junior Art Fees Update

Unfortunately, the Year 9 and 10 art fees were previously listed incorrectly due to higher-than-anticipated supply costs. These fees have now been corrected and updated on Kindo. Thank you for your understanding.

Year 9 and 10 Adolescent Change and Sex Ed Term three

Our Year 9 and 10 Students will begin a two-week Adolescent Change and Sex Education unit, in Term three, as part of the PE/Health Curriculum. An information letter outlining each unit has been emailed out to parents/caregivers of Year 9 and 10 students. If you would like your child to opt out of the unit, please email Curriculum Leader Physical Education, Nick Joynes nickj@haurakiplains.school.nz. Alternative learning will be provided for those who do not wish to participate.

Holiday Support Available with Whaea Karen

If you or your teenager need any support or advice over the upcoming holidays, our school Social Worker, Whaea Karen, is available. Parents and students can email her directly to arrange a phone consultation or a time to meet in person: karenh@haurakiplains.school.nz

Principal Sabbatical Term 3

Last year, I was fortunate to be awarded a term-long sabbatical for 2026, which I will be taking during Term 3. I will be doing research in the area of pathways. I am passionate about creating more opportunities for students within school so they can successfully navigate a pathway outside of school. I am proud of our recent Services Academy programme starting, our new Hospitality Academy, and the improvements made to our Farming Trades Academy. I am keen to build on these successes by visiting other schools across New Zealand to see their innovative programs in action. Two of our Deputy Principals will be sharing the Acting Principal role for Term 3.

- 13 July – 23 August 2026 Jonathan O'Neill
- 24 August – 4 October 2026 Alissa Place

We are incredibly lucky to have such a fantastic leadership team at HPC. I know you will all give Jonathan and Alissa your full support. I look forward to seeing you back in Term 4 and sharing my new learning.

Autopay with Kindo

You can now set up recurring payments directly in Kindo, making it easier to stay on top of school costs.

Autopay is a simple set-and-forget way to keep regular payments ticking along, so there's one less thing to remember during the school term.

When you access your Kindo app, click on your wallet at the top of the screen and follow the autopay directions. Need a hand getting set up? Email helpdesk@kindo.co.nz Call 0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636)

Our termly Community Newsletter is going digital!

Better for the environment, faster for you. We are excited to announce that the termly Community Newsletter has officially moved to a digital only format. This helps us reduce printing costs and keep our community updated in real-time.

Read it Online Right Now! You don't have to wait for the letterbox—the latest edition and all past issues are already available on our website: www.haurakiplains.school.nz

Nga mihi
Sharon Moller (PRINCIPAL)

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Careers Corner

Which star are you?

We use many techniques within career discussions to help each person to find their own path and alignment. Many students, for example, will already be familiar with [Tahatū Career Navigator](#). The theme for Matariki this year is Matariki Herenga Waka (The mooring place of many canoes) . The theme has strong connections to multiculturalism and the sharing of cultural practices.

In both Western and Eastern traditions people look to the stars for future inspiration through astrological interpretation but have you ever thought about how career pathways align with Matariki? Download [our guide](#) and find the right star to help guide you through your own career journey.

STEM Online student self-registration for 2026 is now open.

Students can now sign themselves up using their school email address. Students now have the option to register independently for additional STEM Online subjects that they may be interested in.

How students can register. Click [here](#) to register as a student.

- Students should use their school email address
- Within 2–3 working days, they will receive:
 - Moodle login details
 - Access to STEM Online
 - Course enrolment keys

Check out videos, costs, scholarships, and info at otago.ac.nz/hands-on-at-otago or email hands-on@otago.ac.nz if you have any questions.

Driving Success

Congratulations to all of our Learner drivers who recently passed their test. Thank you to our wonderfully patient driving instructor - Gavin Buchanan from Thames Driver Training- who worked so hard with our students to build their confidence and achieve success.

Gateway - Save the date we graduate

To celebrate the achievement of all students who have been involved in the Gateway programme in 2026, we will be holding our Gateway Graduation Breakfast event on Thursday 27th August during Blocks 1 and 2. A warm invitation is extended to all of our 2026 Gateway students and their families. During this event we will be presenting students with the certificates they have achieved over the past 6 months as well as providing refreshments for all attendees. There's still time to speak with Mrs Scott to find out what you have to do to gain your credits and graduate successfully. Remember to submit your completed assessments for marking. Mrs Scott's email: laurens@haurakiplains.school.nz



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2026 End of Year Dates

Last day for Seniors - Fri 6th Nov / Juniors - Thurs 10th Dec (online learning from home)

2027 Start Dates

Office reopens - Mon 25th Jan
 Year 9 & 13 only - Thurs 28th Jan
 Year 10-12 only - Fri 29th Jan
 Everyone back - Tues 2nd Feb
 Last day 2027 - Tues 14th Dec

Upcoming Dates

	Term 3 Week 1: Commencing 20th July		Week 2: Commencing 27th July	
Mon	20	Korean students arrive	27	Wintec Pre-trade visit
Tues	21		28	
Wed	22		29	11OTE Rock Climbing Trip 1 (Lines 1&4) - Model United Nations (WaiMUN)
Thur	23	12OTE Pinnacles Overnight 11ESS Waihi Gold Mine	30	11OTE Rock Climbing Trip 1 (Lines 1&2&4) 8am Pink Ribbon Staff and Yr 13 Breakfast - NZSS Swimming Champs
Fri	24	- TVSS Golf Round 2 12OTE Pinnacles Overnight - Mufti day - 40hr challenge - theme ORANGE - Otago Uni Course Planning (TBC)	31	- TVSS Golf Round 3 - NZSS Swimming Champs - Get2Go Challenge