

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 24 July 2026



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

Welcoming Our Korean Exchange Students in Term 3!

30 students from Inje, South Korea arrived on Monday for an exciting three-week cultural experience.

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 afternoon the Korean students taught an introductory Korean language lesson for the 28 HPC students selected for the 2028 trip to South Korea.

Senior Subject Selection and Pathways Evening

On Tuesday the 25th of August HPC will be hosting a senior subject selection and future pathways evening. Each subject area will have an interactive display/presentation to give you and your students a taste of what they can experience in those classes, as well as sessions explaining the ins-and-outs of NCEA. We will also have numerous outside providers present on-site to give insights into their industries and potential future pathways, providers such as, BCITO, Major Oaks, the NZ Police, as well as Massey, Auckland and Waikato Universities, with many more present. Doors open at 4pm; all students and whanau are welcome.

Outstanding Fees

We would like to gently remind families that some accounts currently show outstanding fees from previous years. We ask that these balances be cleared as soon as possible.

Important Information Regarding Sports Fees

- **Payment Requirement:** If your child participates in school sports, all sports fees must be paid in full before the end of the current season.
- **Future Participation:** Please be aware that unpaid sports fees may impact your child's eligibility for future sporting events and teams.
- **Tournament Week:** Students who have not paid their tournament fees in **full** before the tournament begins will not be eligible to participate.

Our school relies on sports fees being paid in full to cover operational costs and ensure we can continue offering the best possible opportunities for all of our sporting teams.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties or wish to set up a flexible payment plan, please contact our office directly so we can support you.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and for your continued support of our school community.

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)

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 24 July 2026



Winter Co-curricular Photos – Tues 11th August

Uniform requirements for each sports team will be communicated by HPC Sports. Long hair needs to be tied back and boys need to be clean shaven. Please note the importance of punctuality, arriving at your photo 10min before. (Schedule [here](#))

Success on the World Stage: 37th International Biology Olympiad – Michelle Isbister (pictured far right)

Recently, I had the privilege of traveling to Lithuania as one of two coaches representing New Zealand at the International Biology Olympiad (IBO). The NZ team was made up of four outstanding students: Nichole Luo (Macleans College), Ericsson Ye (Christ's College), Alex Brinkworth (Central Southland College), and Luan Peterle (King's High School), coached alongside Mr Aaron Hewson (University of Otago) and myself.

The selection process for the national team is rigorous, starting in August each year with entrance exams, an intensive online training program, and a 10-day practical camp. Having been involved in supporting the students throughout this entire journey, it was fantastic to see their hard work pay off on the global stage.

While the students sat four intense practical exams and two theory papers, the coaches were hard at work behind the scenes. As part of the official Jury alongside the leaders from all 78 countries, we participated in in-depth academic debates to review, refine, and translate exam materials, as well as moderate final marking. For me personally, collaborating with biology educators from around the globe and discussing high-level biology was an incredibly rewarding experience.

The New Zealand team delivered an outstanding performance, bringing home four medals:

- Nichole Luo – Silver Medal (53rd overall / Top 30% globally)
- Ericsson Ye – Silver Medal (75th overall / Top 30% globally)
- Alex Brinkworth – Bronze Medal
- Luan Peterle – Bronze Medal

Interested in Biology or representing NZ in the future? Year 9-12 students

Registration for the first step of the selection process for next year closes on 10 August. If you or your student would like to find out more, visit nzibo.org or come and have a chat with me at school!

Student Tutorials

Tutorials are going well with over 15 students utilising the service. The Academic Council will be running supportive tutorials next week – everyday 3.15pm in the Hub.

Pukekohe-HPC Bus

There is a seat available on the Pukekohe to HPC bus for the rest of the year. It would be \$2400 for the seat. Please contact Kirstin on kirstinb107@gmail.com (she is happy to negotiate). The bus route is as per below:

It leaves Pukekohe netball courts at 7.25am, Stops/departs Valley shops 7.30am, Stops/departs Bombay Waitomo gas station 7.40am to go directly to HPC. We then leave HPC AT 3.10pm, Stops/departs Bombay 4pm to arrive at valley at 4.10pm approx, Arrive at Pukekohe netball courts at 4.15pm approx.

Dancing with the Staff – 4th August at 6pm

\$5 entry going towards Year 13 Grad dinner.

Driving lessons available

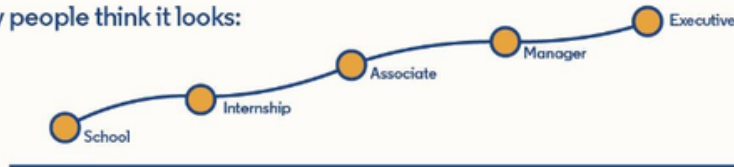
If there are any students wanting to take driving lessons' in Ngatea next Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th, Victoria a new instructor will be available. Please contact: Gavin Buchanan – Ph 027 268 6381 / 07 868 5581 (Thames Driver Training)

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The way people think it looks:



How it can also look:



University of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAHU WAKA

Hands-On at Otago Whai Wheako i Ōtākou

Experience a week of university life on our Dunedin campus.
For students in Year 12 or 13 in 2027.

Business | Health Sciences | Humanities | Sciences

17-22 January 2027

AskOtago 0800 80 80 98
Email hands-on@otago.ac.nz
Register online at otago.ac.nz/hands-on-at-otago
Applications open Monday 29 June 2026
Applications close Thursday 6 August 2026

Canon
PROUD PRINT TECHNOLOGY PARTNER

Careers Corner

University Course Planning Meetings

This term, our University liaisons will be in school to help you plan your degree course (pick what papers to take etc.) and to assist with your application questions. ALL meetings will take place in the Careers Centre.

Thursday 13th August

Massey University BLOCK 2

Victoria University of Wellington BLOCK 3

Thursday 20th August

University of Waikato BLOCKS 1-2

Remember - We have a dedicated Google Classroom for University entry in 2027, as well as the Year 13 Careers & Pathways, and the Senior Careers classrooms. There's something for everyone, no matter what your career ambitions and directions. Career pathways don't always run in a straight line.

Please check in with Mrs Lawlor whenever you need guidance. Mrs Lawlor's email pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz

Experience Uni Life: Hands-On at Otago 2027!

Want to know what university is actually like? If you'll be in **Year 12 or 13 in 2027**, you can spend a week living on campus at the University of Otago from **17-22 January 2027!**

- **What you'll do:** Stay in a residential college, meet awesome people from all over NZ, and dive into one of over 20 subjects across Business, Health Sciences, Humanities, or Sciences.
- **When to apply:** Applications open **Monday 29 June 2026**.
- **Top tip:** Spots fill up fast and competition is tough, so put some real effort into your application and tell them why you deserve a place!

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.

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

HPC e-Bulletin

Friday 24 July 2026



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

	Week 2: Commencing 27th July		Week 3: Commencing 3rd August	
Mon	27	Wintec Pre-trade visit	3	
Tues	28	- Being Bold trip - North Waikato SS Volleyball Champs	4	Dancing with the Staff 6pm
Wed	29	11OTE Rock Climbing Trip 1 (Lines 1&4) - Model United Nations (WaiMUN)	5	11DIT P-Tech
Thur	30	11OTE Rock Climbing Trip 1 (Lines 1&2&4) 8am Pink Ribbon Staff and Yr 13 Breakfast - NZSS Swimming Champs	6	
Fri	31	- TVSS Golf Round 3 - NZSS Swimming Champs - Waikato SS Get2Go Challenge	7	- TVSS Senior Badminton - Korean students depart