

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 11 Sept 2026



Kia ora koutou,

2027 Senior Subject Selection

Our Schoolpoint subject selection portal is live for current Year 10, 11 and 12 students. A link to Schoolpoint was posted on each year level Google Classroom on Monday. All students must select 6 subjects and 2 backup subjects. 2027 Year 11 students must take a Maths or Numeracy course, and an English or Literacy course.

Students will have until 17 September to select their subjects for 2027. Families are encouraged to take this time to explore all options carefully and seek support from [our Curriculum Leaders](#) should they have any questions.

2027 Senior (Years 11-13) subject selection booklets were provided to students. Students who were absent from school can collect a copy from the main office.

You can view digital versions of the booklets below:

[Year 11](#)

[Year 12](#)

[Year 13](#)

[Here](#) is a link to the NCEA Level 1 presentation that was provided at the Pathways event.

Teacher Only Day

18th September is a Teacher Only Day. Classes will not be running. Our teachers will be using this time to deepen their understanding of the new junior curriculum and plan for 2027.

Summer Uniform

Starting next week (week 8), students may wear either the winter or the summer uniform. Please ensure that our [uniform expectations](#) are being met.

Field trip to Donald's Farm

Our Trade Academy and senior Agriculture and Primary Industries students had an awesome experience going on a field trip to Donald's Farm in Auckland this Thursday. Donald's Farm is managed by NZ Young Farmers and specialises in dairy production, and students learned about the production systems and technologies used on the farm. Students took part in native tree planting and planted hundreds of trees in a short time to support Donald's Farm's efforts to improve waterway health and environmental targets. Students represented HPC incredibly well and made us all proud.

Photolife Team Photos

Team photos are now available to view / purchase. Parents have been emailed with their keycode. If you have not received the email, please contact the front office for assistance.

Year 10 Camps

These camps run from 30 November to 2 December. Families are able to select which camp their child will attend using an online form that was emailed out on 21 August. Although the Tairua watersports camp is now full, there is still space on the hiking camp, sports camp, and school-based activities camp. Please contact the Year 10 dean, Mr Ivan Geerlings, if you have any questions: ivang@aurakiplains.school.nz.

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NIWA Waikato Regional Science Fair Success

On Thursday, October 10th, Berkley Middle School hosted the prize-giving for this year's NIWA Waikato Science Fair, featuring top entries from primary and secondary schools across the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions. We are incredibly proud of our four students who were recognised for their scientific creativity and inquiry across three main learning strands:

- Physical World (3rd Place & McGowan Judges Choice Award): Troy de Graaf – “As seen on TV – Battle Bots” (an exploration of motion mechanics and centripetal force).
- Living World (2nd Place): Tiaana de Jong & Sophie Harwood – “The Placebo Effect” (investigating whether perceived medication can boost learning capacity).
- Material World (Highly Commended): Quinn Anderson – “Worth the Roll” (an investigation into the efficiency and overall value of kitchen paper rolls).

Congratulations to all four students for their outstanding efforts, impressive scientific thinking, and for representing our kura with high standards and pride!



Troy de Graaf



Tiaana de Jong



Sophie Harwood



Quinn Anderson

Congratulations

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Spring Rowing Camp

As the 26/27 Rowing Season comes closer, our annual Camp in Mangakino approaches.

The camp will be held in the last week of the term from Wednesday the 23rd of September to Saturday the 26th of September at 11 am. Please email or see Mrs Sayer in the Dean's office to register. This camp is for all existing rowers and any other students who want to give rowing a try and/or row for the 26/27 season. The cost of the camp will be \$300 to be paid before camp leaves, and there will be some transport available to and from the camp.

Please contact Amanda Sayer amandas@haurakiplains.school.nz if you are interested or have any questions.

Careers Corner

Can you make it if you can't fake it?

Why exams still matter in the age of AI.

Rocking up to your NCEA externals might feel like a hassle, but it is actually the ultimate power move for your future, no matter what your next step is. If you are uni-bound, these end-of-year papers are your ticket to University Entrance (UE), credits and Merit or Excellence endorsements that supercharge your Rank Score for scholarships and competitive courses.

If you are thinking about a trade, don't think you're off the hook—you will still face plenty of high-stakes practical exams to get your official licences and apprenticeships. Plus, with artificial intelligence making it way too easy to copy-paste coursework, both universities and employers are doubling down on traditional, in-person exams to prove what you actually know.

Skipping an exam does not just mean missing out on credits—it means putting a ceiling on your options right when you are ready to build momentum. Showing up and giving it your best shot builds the exact kind of real-world grit and quick thinking that a computer can't fake, opening up way more options when you leave school.

Need some help with revision ideas? [Check out the "Ways to Learn" guide.](#)

Day	Week 9 - Commencing 14th September	Week 10 - Commencing 21st September
Mon	14:	21: HPC Golf Champs - Maramarua
Tues	15: NCEA Practice Exams	22: 13BIO Zoo trip Franklin SS Golf Champs
Wed	16: NCEA Practice Exams Pinggu (Beijing) students arrive for 3 days	23 :Learner License Course TVSS Senior Volleyball Rowing Camp HPC Golf Champs - Hauraki
Thurs	17: NCEA Practice Exams Tauranga SS Shoot	24: Learner License Course Blood Drive Rowing Camp Year 13 sleepover
Fri	18: Teacher only day	25: Learner License Course Rowing Camp
Wknd	19: WSS Football 5-A-Side	