

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 4 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.

CAA Exams

Students who have yet to pass any of the Reading, Writing and Numeracy exams (Common Assessment Activities) will have another opportunity during our testing window: 8th, 9th, 10th September. Timetables have been issued during the week. Please contact Mr Jaco Dreyer (jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz) if your child will be absent on any of those days so that we can reschedule their exam to one of the other days in that week. It is not possible to schedule exams at any other time outside of this window.

A reminder to parents that students need to bring their own calculator to the numeracy exam, and headphones if they wish to make use of Polly (the text-to-speech tool) in the writing and numeracy exams.

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 Year 10 dean, Mr. Ivan Geerlings, if you have any questions: ivang@haurakiplains.school.nz.

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 4 Sept 2026



Sickness and Attendance – Ministry advice: *Knowing If Your Child Is Well Enough for School*

Regular school attendance is essential for your child's learning, social development, and overall wellbeing. However, knowing when to keep your child home versus when to send them to school can sometimes be tricky.

Ministry of Education and Health New Zealand guidance helps clarify when to keep your child home to recover and when it's okay to send them.

OK to Attend School (Mild Symptoms)

If your child has mild symptoms caused by non-infectious conditions or minor viral reactions—and they feel generally well enough to learn—they should attend school:

- Mild cough or runny nose (without a fever)
- Mild sore throat
- Mild headache
- Hay fever or allergies
- Non-infectious skin complaints

Keep at Home to Rest and Recover

Keep your child at home if they are too sick to learn or have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (high temperature of 38°C or above)
- Vomiting or diarrhoea (must stay home until 48 hours after symptoms stop)
- Severe sore throat or difficulty breathing/wheezing
- New rash, itches, or untreated skin infections (e.g., school sores/impetigo)
- Untreated head lice or scabies
- Positive COVID-19 test or advice from a doctor/public health service to isolate

Returning to School

- Send your child back as soon as they are no longer infectious and feel well enough to join in school activities.
- You generally do not need to provide a doctor's certificate for your child to return to school after an ordinary illness.
- If your child needs help easing back into full days after a longer illness, please reach out to us to arrange a transition plan.

For more details or specific health advice, contact Healthline at 0800 611 116 or consult your doctor.

Free webinar for Parents & Caregivers

Helping tweens & teens navigate the online world.

- Wednesday, 9th September
- 7:00 pm (Online)

Hosted by Netsafe, this free webinar will explore:

- Recognising cyberbullying and online harm
- Supporting young people to stay safe online
- Where to find help and trusted advice

This is a great opportunity to share with whānau and caregivers who want to build confidence in supporting their young people's online wellbeing. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 4 Sept 2026



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 11am. Please email or see Mrs Sayer in the Deans office to register. This camp is for all existing rowers and any other students who are wanting 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

Navigating the Future of Work: Why AI Means Evolution, Not Extinction

As technology advances, it is natural for students (and parents!) to feel uncertain about what the job market will look like. While AI is automating routine tasks, it is not taking away human potential—it is shifting where our value lies.

The most future-proof careers rely on three things AI cannot replicate:

- unpredictable physical environments
- deep emotional connection
- complex human accountability.

AI is simply a tool; workers who learn to pair their unique human strengths with technology will thrive.

Key Advice for Students: Focus on building transferable human skills—communication, critical thinking, adaptability, and emotional intelligence. When paired with basic digital literacy, these skills ensure you won't be replaced by technology; you'll lead it.



1. Communication & Emotional Intelligence (EQ)

Focuses on self-expression, active listening, collaboration, reading non-verbal cues, and narrative framing.

- **Dance (11DAN):** Develops team collaboration, non-verbal communication, empathy, and performance confidence.
- **Visual Arts (11ART):** Teaches visual storytelling, cultural identity expression, and creative communication through visual media.
- **Te Reo Māori / Māori Cultural Studies:** Sharpens cross-cultural understanding, interpersonal communication, and relational empathy.

2. Critical Thinking & Complex Problem-Solving

Focuses on evaluating evidence, questioning assumptions, system-level thinking, and logical reasoning.

- **Humanities (History / Geography / Social Studies):** Develops source analysis, perspective-taking, recognizing bias, and constructing evidence-based arguments.
- **Business Studies / Commerce:** Sharpens economic logic, understanding human decision-making, ethical trade, and business systems.
- **Science:** Fosters empirical reasoning, the scientific method, data interpretation, and objective problem-solving.

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 4 Sept 2026



3. Adaptability & Real-Time Decision Making

Focuses on resilience, iterative design, responding to changing feedback, and navigating dynamic environments.

- **Physical Education & Health:** Teaches real-time situational decision-making, interpersonal management, leadership, and personal resilience.
- **Technologies (Hard Materials, Design & Visual Communication, Hospitality/Food Technology):** Focuses on design thinking, prototyping, adaptive hands-on problem solving, and refining projects through user feedback.
- **Primary Industries / Agriculture & Horticulture:** Builds practical, real-world adaptability, environmental problem-solving, and managing variable real-world factors.

4. Digital Literacy & Technical Capabilities

Focuses on understanding digital infrastructure, logical sequencing, and leveraging technological tools effectively.

- **Digital Technologies (1IDTE):** Teaches computational thinking, data handling, programming logic, and digital system design to ensure students command digital tools rather than simply consume them.

For further ideas, check out these suggestions in our resource - [The A-Z of future-proof careers.](#)

	Week 8: Commencing 7th September		Week 9: Commencing 14th September	
Mon	7		14	
Tues	8	• CAA Exams • Y13 NCEA Drama Performance 6pm Lodge	15	• NCEA Practice Exams
Wed	9	• CAA Exams • Y12 NCEA Drama Performance 6.30pm Lodge	16	• NCEA Practice Exams • Pinggu (Beijing) students arrive for 3 days
Thur	10	• CAA Exams • Y13 NCEA Drama Performance 6pm Lodge	17	• NCEA Practice Exams • Tauranga SS Shoot
Fri	11		18	• Teacher only Day
Wknd			19	• WSS Football 5-a-side