

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 16 October 2026



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

Unplugged Concert

Last night's Unplugged Concert was a wonderful celebration of talent, featuring captivating vocal solos and acoustic ensemble performances from our students. Thank you to all the parents and families who came out to support our young musicians and make the evening so special. Photos from the night will be published to our FB page.

Student Board Representative

We farewell the wonderful Omar Arsilian, who has done a stellar job representing the student body on our board. Just this week the students voted for their new representative....A huge congratulations to Sadie McKay!! It was a close battle, with only 8 votes separating Sadie from Awa Hay. Well done to all students who were nominated and ran in this election.

- Sadie McKay 29.2% - 100 votes
- Awa Hay 26.8% - 92 votes
- Levi Frey 12.2% - 42 votes
- Tristan Holt 11.7% - 40 votes
- Willow Hammond 11.1% - 38 votes
- Adelle Johnson 6.1% - 21 votes
- Narita Veng 2.9% - 10 votes



Senior crunch time

The next 3 weeks are super important for senior students. They need to finish off any outstanding internal assessments, and be studying hard for their external exams. I shared our current progress as at 10/20/26.

Yr 11 Progress	No.	%
80+ credits (has Level 1)	54	27%
80+ credits BUT missing lit and/or num	7	4%
60 - 79 credits	74	38%
40 - 59 credits	32	16%
39 credits or less	30	15%
	197	100%

Yr 13 Progress	No.	%
60+ credits (has Level 3)	44	42%
40 - 59 credits	37	35%
20 - 39 credits	17	16%
19 and under credits	7	7%
	105	100%

Yr 12 Progress	No.	%
60+ credits (has Level 2)	99	69%
60+ credits BUT missing lit and/or num	3	2%
40 - 59 credits	27	19%
20 - 39 credits	6	4%
19 credits or less	8	6%
	143	100%

Ask your child

- Where are they sitting in these statistics?
- How many more credits do they need to pass?
- How will they get there?
- What help do they need from school?
- What help do they need from home?

Some senior students who have not yet gained their NCEA qualification will be required to attend school during the NCEA exam study leave period so that they can continue with further learning and assessment opportunities. Families of these students will be emailed in Week 4 with further information.

Teacher Only Day Friday 13th of November

For the last 3 years, we have joined with the Thames Valley Schools to have a day of professional learning. This is taking place at the end of week 5. Most seniors will have signed out already, and NCEA exams will have started. There are no exams taking place nationally on this day as it is Canterbury Anniversary Day. Our teaching staff will be heading to Morrinsville College to join another 500 teachers for a great day of learning - especially with all the upcoming changes.

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Back in the Saddle

It is great to be back at school after my sabbatical in Term 3. I am hugely appreciative to Deputy Principal Jonathan O'Neill, who was acting principal for 8 weeks, and Alissa Place for 2 weeks. I strongly believe that leadership is a team sport, and I am certainly very grateful to be part of this leadership team.

My 10 weeks involved 12 school visits from as far north as Taipa Area School, down to Feilding High School. My favourite school visit (if I am allowed to have favourites... they were all wonderful) was Bay of Islands College in Kawakawa. I was so impressed with their attendance initiatives, where students and whānau were benefiting hugely. The school itself looked incredible, and their programmes are having great success with students. When I walked into their foyer, it took my breath away - I have never seen such a beautiful school. You may have seen Feilding High School on Country Calendar? They use robotic milking and Halter technology, and host an annual sheep shearing competition in the school hall.

I travelled across to Perth to attend the Australian Council for Educational Leaders conference. While I took 40 pages of notes and learned a huge amount, the telling will be in the changes I make and the impact that has on teacher practice and student outcomes. I enjoyed meeting Aussie principals, and there were 20 Kiwis there too. I caught up with my old HPC friend Alisha Stephens, who is teaching Biology in Mandurah. She needed to do a pre-site visit ahead of a snorkelling trip, so we got our gear and headed to Blue Bay Beach. We were greeted by an alert on her shark app, and could see the Bronze Whaler 10m offshore... I did not hop in the water!

Cultural & Arts Prizegiving

Wed 21st October 6pm - Celebrating the talent, dedication and success across The Arts and Cultural areas. Invites have been emailed out to students and parents today.

Sports Prizegiving

Our Sports Prizegiving will be held on Thursday 29th October at 6.00pm in the HPC Hall. This evening is an opportunity to celebrate the sporting achievements and successes of our students throughout the year. Students receiving an award or recognition will be emailed a formal invitation next week.

Other upcoming prizegivings dates

- Senior Academic Prize Giving - 5.30pm Thur 5 November
- Junior Prize Giving - Tue 8 December - Year 9 at 9.30am and Year 10 at 12pm

Co-Curricular Activities due Wednesday 21st of October

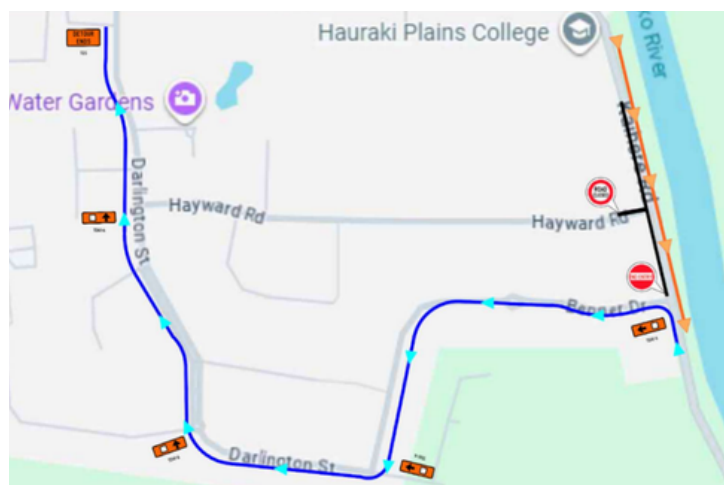
An email has been sent to all students to record all of their co-curricular activities for the year on a google form. There are no points or scores attached to these activities this year. We are celebrating what students have been involved in throughout the year and believe it is important to recognise this in formal reporting practices. Reports will not be reprinted if activities have not been included by the student.

Parking - Kaihere Road Roadworks

Just a heads up that road works will begin on Kaihere Road on Monday, 19 October for the remainder of the term. There will be some impacts to parents' access to the school, see map below. We ask parents to avoid Kaihere road during bus times. Some buses may be slightly delayed in the afternoons.

- Kaihere Road will remain accessible from SH2 via a one-way system.
- Northbound traffic travelling towards Ngātea will need to follow the signed detour via Benner Drive.
- Hayward Road will be closed at the Kaihere Road intersection.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



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More
Than
A School



Hauraki Plains College

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Youth Leadership Course

Well done to Yr 12 Ella Morgan, who attended a Youth Leadership course in Sydney over the break. Ella was awarded with the most outstanding leader accolade. Here is what Ella has to say about her experience:

I signed up for PCYC Blue Star Camp because I wanted to challenge myself, step outside my comfort zone, and experience something completely different. I saw it as an amazing opportunity to meet new people, learn more about leadership, and represent my school in Australia. I also wanted to take everything I learned back home and use it to become a better leader and encourage others around me.

Something I will treasure most about my time at PCYC is the people I met and the connections I made. Being surrounded by young people from different places, hearing their stories and learning from their experiences made the whole experience so special. I'll always remember the laughs, the challenges we faced together and how quickly a group of people who had never met became a team.

My toughest challenge was stepping outside my comfort zone and putting myself into situations where I didn't always know what to expect. Being away from home and meeting so many new people could have been overwhelming, but I reminded myself that I was there to grow. I pushed myself to get involved, speak up, meet new people, and give everything a go. By the end, I realised that some of the moments that challenged me the most were also the moments I learned the most from.

Annual Waste Audit

This week, Kate Whitton from Hauraki District Council came to support our Student Enviro Council leaders to conduct the third annual waste audit at HPC. A huge thank you to all students involved, to Kate, and to our amazing caretaker, Boris. Conducting a waste audit and analysing the results gives us a picture of what waste we send to landfill and where we should focus our recycling and waste minimisation efforts. We hope that once the results are in, we will see a noticeable improvement due to our recycling efforts. So far this year, we diverted over 4,500 litres of recycling from landfill.



THE
HAURAKIAN
CHARITABLE
TRUST

**HAURAKIAN CHARITABLE
TRUST AGM**

**5.30PM THUR 21ST OCT
CENTENNIAL CENTRE
ALL WELCOME**

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CAREERS CORNER

Community first

Congratulations to our Student Volunteer Army (SVA) members. We are so proud of you all, and your contributions have benefitted so many people in our school and wider community. Our HPC top volunteer for 2026 is Jorawer Thiara.

Special award pins, member pins and awards will be presented at a morning tea on Wednesday 28th October in the Careers centre, to which ALL HPC SVA members are warmly invited.

Students who want to sign up to be a part of the SVA in 2027 can start now - and sign up using this link: <https://volunteer.sva.org.nz/> Remember to email Mrs Lawlor pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz so that she can add you to the Google classroom and keep you updated.

Driver Licencing

We have completed all of our courses for 2026. If you want to know about courses for Learner Licencing in 2027 please email Mrs Lawlor pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz and register your interest.

NZTA have developed a car licence eligibility calculator so that students can find out where they are in New Zealand's graduated driver licensing system, and whether the changes on **25 January 2027** will affect when they can move to the next stage.

This calculator estimates:

- when you may be eligible to progress to the next licence stage
- how long you need to hold your current licence
- how factors like your age, time on licence, and any demerit points may affect your progression.

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences/apply-for-a-car-licence/car-licence-eligibility-calculator>

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/Driver-Licences/docs/Roadmap-to-your-car-licence-Jan-2027.pdf>

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/Driver-Licences/docs/25-EX-069-GDLS-DL-roadmap-to-your-car-licence-Maori.pdf>

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/Driver-Licences/docs/GDLS-infographic.pdf>

In case you missed it

The Unistart programme is open to any student who will be in Year 13 in 2027 and who will have achieved NCEA Level 2 with Merit or Excellence endorsement and met the UE Literacy requirements. More information below and on the website (links provided).

Why choose Unistart?

- **Get a head start on university** by completing one or two University of Waikato papers while still at school.
- **Earn credits towards your future degree**, with completed Unistart papers able to be credited towards a University of Waikato undergraduate qualification.
- **Receive a Waikato Unistart Scholarship automatically** when you apply and meet the eligibility criteria.
- **Study for free**, with the scholarship covering the full cost of up to two Unistart papers.
- **Create a back-up pathway to University Entrance**, as successfully passing a Unistart paper can help students gain University Entrance if they do not achieve UE through NCEA.

What next?

- Browse the [Website](#) and see which papers might suit you the best
- Ensure that you meet the eligibility and entry requirement ([Website](#))
- Apply ([Instructions on Website](#))
- Remember that you have to be nominated by your school for the [leadership academy](#), but you can self-select for the [climate change ambassador programme](#) by selecting the CLIMT101 paper

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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 4	Week 2: Commencing 19 Oct		Week 3: Commencing 26 Oct	
Mon	19	• ILOTE Overnight Camp • Head student speeches - assembly	26	• LABOUR DAY - no school
Tues	20	• ILOTE Overnight Camp	27	• 6pm Open Evening for new students
Wed	21	• 6pm Cultural and Arts Prize Giving All welcome!	28	
Thur	22	• HPC International Day event • Breast Cancer morning tea	29	• 6pm Sports Prizegiving
Fri	23	• TVSS Girls Golf	30	
Wknd	24	• Chess Nationals at HPC 8.30am-5pm in The Hub	31	• TVSS Rugby Sevens

BEATS BY BINGO



LUCKY OR UNLUCKY?



13TH NOVEMBER 2026 | 7PM - 10PM
NGATEA WAR MEMORIAL HALL



2028 HAURAKI PLAINS COLLEGE JAPAN AND
SOUTH KOREA FUNDRAISER

PRICE

\$35 PER PERSON



Book a table

6 \$210

8 \$280

10 \$350



CASH OR EFTPOS FOR GAMES & RAFFLES

FOOD AVAILABLE

PRE BOOK A PLATTER - \$40



≥ 1hr of DJ music from 9pm ≤



TO BOOK EMAIL CHERYL
csmith-graham@outlook.co.nz