

HPC e-Bulletin



Friday 23 October 2026



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

Breaking News!

Well done to our two teams competing in the Young Enterprise competition across Waikato and the King Country. Business of the Year - incredible!

BioPot

- Awards: Waikato Business of the Year | Best in Agricultural Sustainability
- Team: Omar Arsilian (CEO), Max Goodhand, Rehan Gampala, Diezel Sefton

SolAware

- Award: Excellence in Financial Management
- Team: Jenna Temple (CEO), Zoe Morgan, Lily Maisey, Zara Culley, Stevie Selby, Skylah Whitmore



Arts and Cultural Prize-giving

Thank you to everyone who came along to celebrate our Arts and Cultural prize winners. The audience enjoyed seeing performances from Drama, ShowQuest team, Kapa Haka, Jazz Band, Guitar Ensemble, and vocalists. [Here](#) is the link to the video recording of the event.

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 should have received their formal invitation by now. If you have any queries, please contact Cindy sport@haurakiplains.school.nz

Other upcoming prize-giving 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

Year 10 Camp Payments

Camp fees have been loaded in KINDO for all students attending the Tairua Watersports Camp, the Hiking Camp, and Sports Camp. **Fees must be paid by 13 November.**

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.

Week 4 Spirit Week dress-up for Year 13s:

Don't be alarmed if you see our Year 13s dressed a little differently in their last week.

- Monday = senior citizens
- Tuesday = gender uniform swap + anything but a bag
- Wednesday = meme day
- Thursday = first letter of your name
- Friday = little you with a photo

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Uniform Policy Update

Following a Board decision, we are pleased to announce an update to our school uniform expectations, effective from this term.

Students are now permitted to wear either the full summer uniform or the full winter uniform at any time throughout the school year. However, items from the two seasonal uniforms may not be mixed (for example, a winter scarf cannot be worn with summer sandals).

Additionally, we would like to remind families of a few key uniform standards (as stated in our General Information Guide):

- **Footwear:** Socks must not be worn with sandals. Sandals are to be worn with bare feet only.
- **Jewellery & Nail Polish:** Please ensure your child refrains from wearing jewellery (aside from permitted plain studs) and nail polish, as both fall outside our uniform guidelines.
- **Hair colour:** Student's hair must be of natural hair colouring. Bright, unnatural dyes or highlights are not permitted—natural is the key standard here.

We appreciate your support in helping your child ensure they arrive each day in full, correct uniform.

Parents of prize winners will receive additional reminders about meeting these expectations at our upcoming prize givings.

Presentation on changes to driver licensing

On Tuesday there will be a presentation in the hall at interval (11:35am) from two local driving instructors: [Victoria Cameron](#) and [Gavin Buchanan](#). They will be sharing information about the changes to driver licensing and providing information about the services they offer. Parents are welcome to attend.

Careers and Gateway will be looking to offer more of our successful driver licence training courses in 2027. There is a sign up form in the Senior Careers Google classroom where you can register your expression of interest. Here's the link: <https://forms.gle/nNhZmxUViJCvvY6q9>

Bring Your Own Device 2027

Next year, all students in every year level will need a laptop for their classes. School-owned Chromebooks will be removed from classrooms. We recommend families choose a Chromebook due to their comparatively lower pricing and durability. Students who don't bring their own laptop can borrow one from the HUB each morning and return each afternoon.

Parking - Kaihere Road Roadworks

Please be aware that a stretch of Kaihere Road (right by the school) will be closed for repairs until December. We have updated our bus schedules accordingly. However, the biggest impact on parents will likely be parking for our upcoming prize givings. You are encouraged to park near the town end of the school or on Haywards Road rather than Kaihere Road, as parking there will be very limited.

Strategic Plan Consultation

The Board and principal would really like to hear your ideas for our next 2-year strategic plan. Your ideas will help shape our direction and will determine what we focus on, measure, and report back to you on. Here is the [link](#) to a short Google Form. There is also a QR code here to the right if easier. This is the same code that is on the opening slides of our prize givings, so you will have opportunities to fill it in while you wait for these events to start. We are aiming for 500 responses - so far we are at 26.



Nga mihi,
SHARON MOLLER (PRINCIPAL)

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Careers Corner

School to Seas Experience

Tamzin Valois (Year 12) recently took part in this fantastic event.

During the first week of the holidays, I had the incredible opportunity to attend the School to Seas camp at the Devonport Navy Base. Spending four days hands-on within the Royal New Zealand Navy was an unforgettable experience. Throughout the camp, I connected with a group of like-minded individuals who all shared a similar passion for naval careers, whether that meant aiming to become a hydrographic surveyor, a diver, or pursuing other specialist paths, we were all driven by the same goals.

Coming into the program, everything felt completely new and a bit daunting, especially knowing how competitive the application process was. With over 120 applicants competing for a spot, I never thought a small-town girl from the plains like me would get accepted. But stepping out of my comfort zone proved to be worth every bit of time and effort put into my application.

The experience was truly eye-opening. From the adrenaline rush of touring the Auckland Harbour on a RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat) to tackling the intense flood simulator, every activity gave us a realistic insight into life and work in the Navy. Overall, this camp opened my eyes to exciting future possibilities and showed me that no matter where you come from, taking a chance on yourself can pay off.

Tamzin has also just completed Level 2 Construction & Infrastructure at Waikato Trades Academy, and is a real trail blazer! I encourage students to follow her lead – back yourself and open up pathways.

Applications are still open for any students interested in studying Level 3 Building and Construction at the Kopu campus in 2027 or for any of the Level 2 programmes.

You do need to sit alongside Mrs Lawlor to complete the process, so please email without delay to make an appointment to discuss what possibilities are right for you!

pippal@aurakiplains.school.nz

Not sure what to study? – University of Waikato has linked their course finder to our careers website Tahatū. **New Find a Career webpage** – the Find a Career webpage is now live in partnership with Tahatū! This is a great tool that links career ideas with the degrees offered at Waikato and I encourage you to check it out and see how it could help you with your future planning. https://www.waikato.ac.nz/study/career-finder/?mc_cid=700ba1a59a&page=1

A Unistart reminder for Year 12s – Before you head off on exam leave, please let me know if there are any more students interested in taking a Unistart paper next year. You can find the available papers and entry requirements [here](#).

A quick reminder of the key dates for interested students: Students will need to apply online, with successful applicants required to complete their Unistart paper application by **5 February 2027** and their enrolment by **26 February 2027**. So, the turnaround is a swift one!



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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 3: Commencing 26 Oct		Week 4: Commencing 2 Nov	
Mon	26	LABOUR DAY - no school	2	
Tues	27	6pm Open Evening for new students	3	
Wed	28	Prize giving practice Block 1 - 2	4	- Prize-giving practice Block 1 - 2 - Pinnock Cup (Hall) - TVSS Junior 3x3 Basketball
Thur	29	6pm Sports Prizegiving	5	Block 3 Services Academy Graduation
Fri	30		6	Last day for senior students (unless doing courses)
Wknd	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