# HPC e-Bulletin

More Than A School
Hauraki Plains College

**Friday 20 Nov 2026**


*Inspiring Future Healthcare Heroes*




*Fry bread for Staff*

**Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week Six of Term Four!**

**Inspiring Future Healthcare Heroes**
Our Science classrooms were buzzing this week as we welcomed Frankie and the team from Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Network (photos above). Students got to explore the world of rural healthcare through fun activities, sparking huge enthusiasm and plenty of inspiration for future careers. A massive thank you to Ms Clelland and the Science department for rolling out the welcome mat—the feedback from both our students and our visitors has been fantastic!

**Fry Bread for the Staff**
Our Te Kōhure / Homeroom class treated staff to fry bread for morning tea on Tuesday. One batch was made sugar-free, but just as delicious. Huge thanks to Whaea Q and Whaea Lisa for supporting our students.

**Level 2 English Re-Examination Opportunity**
As you are probably already aware, NZQA is providing an additional opportunity to sit Level 2 English this year. Because of problems with NZQA's digital examination platform on 12 November, some students were affected during the Level 2 English examination.

To make sure these students have an opportunity to show what they are capable of, NZQA will run an additional paper-based Level 2 English examination on the **morning of Friday 4 December 2026.**

Affected students and their parents have already been emailed to inform you of the expected processes and timeline. **Please read it carefully** and let Jaco Dreyer (Principal's Nominee) know on **jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz** by 1.00pm on Tuesday 24 November 2026.

**Year 11 English Exam**
A huge well done to all Yr 11 students (over 100) who sat the Level 1 English Exam on Tuesday. NZQA put a few new measures in place, including physical papers in case of an outage and text messages to principals every 15mins with updates. The exam went very smoothly and our Principals Nominee, Mr Dreyer, was very impressed by the conduct and focus of our Year 11s.

**Year 10 Options 2027**
On Monday morning, our current Year 9 students will be provided with information about Year 10 option selection for 2027. Students will take one option class per term. Due to new Ministry of Education requirements, from 2027 all Year 9 and 10 students must choose a minimum of two Technology classes and one Arts class. Option descriptions are available via the link below.

Please contact Laura Dowding
**laurad@haurakiplains.school.nz** if you have any questions.

2027 Year 10 options selection process
2027 Year 10 Option descriptions

**Heads up - Junior Prize-givings Tue 8 December - Year 9 at 9.30am, and Year 10 at 12pm**
All junior students will be called up to walk across the stage to collect either their Junior Certificate of Learning (Yr 9) or their Junior Diploma of Learning (Yr 10). There will also be students being acknowledged with special prizes. Parents and students will be notified via email on the 3rd of December if their student is getting an additional special prize.

**Uniform Reminder**
We are seeing an increase in Junior girls with no school ties - please check that your student is wearing the correct uniform before they leave home. All students will be expected to wear the correct uniform to be able to participate in our end-of-year prize givings; this means no school jumpers or jackets while they are in the hall. If you need to reorder lost items, please do so. We appreciate your support in upholding our uniform expectations.

**NCEA Exam Tutorials**
Although regular classes for senior students will finish for the year at the end of Week 4, our teachers will be offering NCEA exam tutorials during their usual timetabled periods. The exam tutorial schedule can be accessed here.

**CAA results and how to check**
This week both the Numeracy and Writing CAA exam results were published. Students can check their results by going to their Learner login page.

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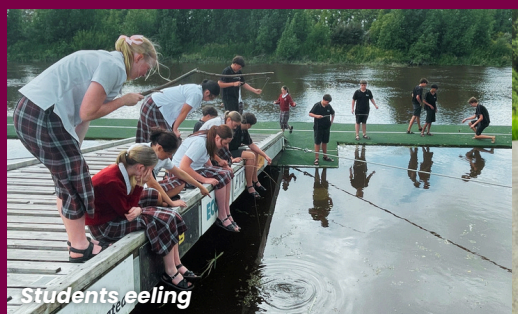
Students eeling


Students eeling


VR Programme

**Exciting week for Environmental Studies students**
This week our Year 10 Environmental Studies (EVS) students took part in an eeling activity as part of their learning about native species in Hauraki and the Piako river. For some students it was an opportunity to show off their fishing skills, and for others to see (and touch) eels for the first time, before we returned them to the river.

Our Year 9 and 10 EVS students also took part in a special virtual reality programme recently delivered by Enviroschools for secondary schools called 'Protecting Kauri Protects a Unique Ecosystem'. After learning about Kauri trees and forests in class earlier in the week, students had an immersive VR experience, travelling through a forest and learning how to scrub their shoes to remove fungal spores before hiking in areas where Kauri trees grow.

**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, and they hold their charge for long periods of time. Students not bringing their own laptop can borrow an older school Chromebook from the HUB each morning and return each afternoon. Please contact our I.T. technician Mr Hardeep Singh if you have any questions: **hardeeps@haurakiplains.school.nz**

**Year 10 Camps**
Year 10 camps will run from Monday, 30 November to Wednesday, 2 December. Camp fees have been loaded in KINDO for all students attending the Tairua Watersports Camp, the Hiking Camp, and Sports Camp. Families with unpaid fees will be contacted this week. Year 10 students who are not participating in one of those camps must attend the school-based camp. There will be a range of activities on offer that students can choose from. Some activities, such as cooking and arts and crafts, will have a small cost to cover resources.

***Students who have not signed up for any camp need to confirm by Monday whether they will attend school-based camp so we can plan activities accordingly.***

**Year 9 Camps**
Teachers will be running a range of different activities for Year 9 students on 30 November, 1 December, and 2 December. Students will have the opportunity to have a swim at the Ngatea Pool on each of those days. The cost per swim is $3 per person and students will need to pay this at the pool. Cash only. Students not wanting to swim will be involved in other sports activities at school.

**On the lookout for quality outdoor equipment**
Our Outdoor Education department is looking for pre-loved outdoor gear in good, usable condition to support our 150+ senior students. If you have quality items tucked away in the garage or wardrobe—such as tramping packs, tramping boots, sleeping mats, waterproof jackets, or head torches—we would love to give them a new lease of life. Your donations will directly help students develop practical skills, confidence, and a love for the outdoors.

If you have gear you'd like to donate, please contact Dean Wedlake at **deanw@haurakiplains.school.nz**

**Homestay / Board Needed for 2027 Senior Student**
One of our current male students, who will be entering Year 11 in 2027, is looking to board with a local family to help reduce daily travel costs. Ideally, they would love to stay in Ngatea with a family who has a son of a similar age. If you have a spare room, please get in touch with Sarah at: **sarah@wattnext.nz**

**Photography Competition for Students**
Stills is RQP's nationwide photography competition, open to all school students. This is an opportunity for young photographers to get creative, explore their perspectives and capture the world around them.

Any camera, any phone, all photos are welcome! Students don't need anything fancy to enter.

With $5,000+ in cash prizes up for grabs, there's plenty of reason to get involved. We'd love your help spreading the word and encouraging your students to take part.

**Entries close on 31 January 2027**
Find out more and enter at www.rqp.co.nz/stills

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## Careers Corner

**Junior Students – Ready to win some free stuff?**
Jump into the Advent Calendar of Christmas Careers on the Junior Careers Google Classroom! A fresh question drops every single day, and there are three ways to score prizes:

- Daily wins: Nail the question of the day
- Weekly streak: Get all 5 right in a week
- Grand prize: Top the leaderboard for the whole calendar

Keep an eye on the school notices each week for the answers and winners. Head to the Careers Centre on Tuesday at morning interval to grab your stash—anything left behind gets fed to the teachers!

**Applying for Gateway**
Make sure you lock in your spot by setting up your Tahatū profile—it's a must-do step to get enrolled. Follow the quick step-by-step guide in the link to get yours sorted. Not sure what direction you want to take, or got questions about how Gateway works? Drop in and have a chat with Mrs Scott—she's keen to help you get set up. **Laurens@haurakiplains.school.nz**

**From School Subjects to Dream Jobs: Try Path Finder / Tiro Whetū**
Not sure what you want to do after school? The Path Finder/Tiro Whetū tool breaks down the exact school subjects and training you need to land different jobs. Use it to double-check your 2027 subject choices so you know you're picking the right mix—and keeping your future options wide open! **https://tahatu.govt.nz/plan-your-future/path-finder**

**Questions? Problems? Undecided?**
Book 10-minute Careers Chat.

- Subject Selection: Make sure you've chosen the right subjects for NCEA.
- Future Pathways: Discover jobs that fit your interests.
- No Stress: Get a clear plan, step-by-step.

Email: Mrs Lawlor pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz

## UPCOMING DATES

| Term 4 | Week 7: Commencing 23 Nov | | Week 8: Commencing 30 Nov | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mon** | **23** | • NCEA Exams | **30** | • NCEA Exams<br>• Year 9 / 10 Camps |
| **Tues** | **24** | • NCEA Exams | **01** | • NCEA Exams<br>• Year 9 / 10 Camps |
| **Wed** | **25** | • NCEA Exams | **02** | • NCEA Exams<br>• Year 9 / 10 Camps |
| **Thur** | **26** | • NCEA Exams | **03** | • NCEA Exams<br>• Junior prizewinners notified |
| **Fri** | **27** | • NCEA Exams | **04** | • NCEA Exams |
| | | | **06** | • Year 13 Graduation Dinner |

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