



# PUKEKOHE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Issue Six | 26 June 2025

## From the Tumuaki

*Whiria te taangata, whiria te angituu*

Weave the people, create success

Teenaa koutou e ngaa whaanau,

Nau mai, haere mai ki te waa o Matariki – te tau hou Maaori. Manawatia a Matariki! Greetings everyone and welcome to the period of Matariki, the Maaori new year. Matariki brings a time of reflection and remembrance of those who have passed during the previous year, an opportunity to spend time with our loved ones in the present and the chance to think ahead and make plans for the upcoming year.



As we pass the half-way point in the school year significant planning continues as we look ahead to 2026 and beyond. Much consultation and work has gone into looking at our curriculum offerings and structures. The purpose of this work is to ensure that we are providing an engaging and relevant education that provides the necessary skills and knowledge base to ensure future success for every student regardless of their desired pathway. We are excited to be in a position to share details about proposed changes for 2026 in our next newsletter that will go out in the middle of term 3.

Term 3 also sees the triennial Board of Trustees elections taking place on 10 September. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of our existing Board for their service to the school and the sound governance that they continue to provide. Information about the upcoming Board elections, including how to register interest in standing for a Board position, is provided later in the 'Haapori/Community' section of the newsletter.

As always, I would like to acknowledge our students for the work that they are putting in across all areas of the school. Our end of term celebration assemblies have highlighted the efforts of many rangatahi in a number of different areas. Be it in their studies, participation in groups, teams and clubs or in attempting to live up to our school values, Pukekohe High School students are continuing to strive to get the most out of their education.

Finally, I would like to farewell a number of members of staff who are leaving us at this point in the year. To Ms Bodman, Ms Cossey, Ms Hooper, Mrs Grey and Mr Simmonds, thank you for your contributions to our kura and all the best for the next stage in your careers.

To all students, enjoy your term 2 holiday break and we look forward to seeing you back for the start of term 3.

Ngaa mihi nui  
Murray Saunders  
Tumuaki | Principal

# Uara | Living Our Values

## Staff Farewells

As we wrap up Term 2, we'd like to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate some treasured members of our Pukekohe High whānau who will be moving on to new adventures:



Joanne Hooper (Teacher Aide)



Carolyn Cossey (Learning Support Teacher)



Sandra Kinmond (Science Technician)



Amelia Bodman (Kaihautu Learning Support)



Morag Grey (Library Manager)



Dr Michael Simmonds (HOD Physics)

Please join us in wishing all these exceptional colleagues every success and happiness in their new endeavours. We will miss them greatly, but their contributions will continue to resonate throughout our kura for years to come. Ka nui te mihi!

## Mana Values

This term, we have celebrated our school value of Kotahitanga. We would like to acknowledge the following students who were nominated by a staff member for exemplifying Kotahitanga this term. It was a pleasure to recognise these students at our end of term celebration assemblies. Thank you for being such shining stars!

### YEAR 9

Rayyan Inam	Jesse Bignell	Raiatea Uri-Marshall	Reagan Lovell
Mare Sole	Jayden de Bruin	Jerry Xu	Joel Jenkins

### YEAR 10

Rodayna Mostafa	Cameron Fulford	Gracious Dumburashe	Otis Barry
Louis Vakalahi	Jonathan Vakalahi	Koia Northcott-Garrett	Jenaya de Thierry
Isaiah Edgecombe	Ankita Balvir Kumar	Adam Warren	Kyla Burger
Henry Chapman			



### YEAR 11

Rongonuiarangi McLean	Rylee-Grace Lovell	Elle Welch	Aeon Hughes
Brooke Drake	Kordell Herbert-Loza	Dallas Hewett	Jayden Bryce
Alanah Scotney			

### YEAR 12

Grace Montgomery	Marlee Judson-Healy	Korotangi Lalahi	Savannah Truter
Mikeila Stone	Andy Johnston	Tristan Jenkins	Lachlan Colbert
Nephi Tavai			

### YEAR 13

Margy Wright	Nav Kaur	Jacob Tito	Ashleigh Hermitte	Petra Psaros
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*Ako | Quality Teaching and Learning*

### Subject Selection Process



## YES Pitch Presentation Success for our PHS Entrepreneurs

On 22 May eleven Year 13 Business Studies business groups rose to the challenge in a Dragon's Den-style pitch event as part of Challenge Two in the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES). Each of our groups presented their business ideas to a panel of local business



experts, demonstrating confidence, professionalism and in-depth market knowledge. One standout moment was when a group made a sale during their pitch – such an exciting and validating experience! All teams received valuable feedback to refine their business strategies and prepare for their next steps. This event was a powerful learning moment, pushing students outside their comfort zones and helping them grow as young entrepreneurs

## Matariki Market Combines Culture and Commerce

On Thursday 19 June, seven of our Year 13 Business Studies teams took part in the Pukekohe High School Matariki Event where they sold their products as part of a mini-market. This event was a special chance to celebrate Matariki with the community while gaining hands-on experience in customer service and sales. The students set up stalls alongside food vendors and performers, enjoying the warm and festive atmosphere. They not only made strong sales but also built relationships with customers and received feedback to help grow their businesses. Events like this highlight the practical focus of the Business Studies curriculum at Year 13, helping students develop skills in communication, problem-solving (many groups need to make more stock ready for their next selling opportunities) and financial literacy.





## Culinary Activity for 3 Year 11 Catering Classes

This activity was designed to showcase the skills students have learned from their Unit Standard this Term 2: **Prepare, cook, and present meat in the hospitality industry.**

Each group of students planned their own recipe and they cooked while being evaluated by judges using certain criteria. It was an opportunity for them to apply their skills under pressure and in front of an audience—an essential experience in the hospitality field.



## What is Happening in Legal Studies at PHS?

Tuesday 17 June was a really unique day for legal studies students at PHS. The Year 12 and 13 students received a visit from a team of lawyers at Franklin Law, one of our local law firms. When I say a team, it was nearly a football team. Eight (yes eight!) local lawyers gave up most of their day to speak to the three individual law classes at PHS (two year 12s and a large year 13 class). The lawyers all expressed an interest in giving up their time to inspire the next generation of potential lawyers. The visit was inspired by their marketing manager Louise Willis.

Franklin Law has supported PHS in several ways in the past. Firstly, with their sponsorship of the Franklin Law Prize for top Yr13 Legal Studies student. Secondly, through their summer internship programme that many top Yr13 students have benefited from. This gives student work experience alongside a real law firm and mentoring to develop and inspire them for future careers in the law profession. The visit today took that relationship to the next level of community engagement.

Over 80 students spread across three law classes had the opportunity to hear from eight lawyers about the specific branch of law that they worked in and a little of their journey to become a lawyer. The team of eight consisted of practitioners in civil litigation, commercial law, criminal law, family law and personal client law involving trusts, asset and estate planning. The Franklin Law team consisted of a wide variety of experience from about-to-be qualified lawyers through to three of the partners making an appearance (Kelly Jones, Eddie Taia and Gagan Tangri).



Two of the team were actually ex-PHS alum (ex-students) and so it was great to see Aleisha Goldsmith nee Collet, (a rising football/hockey star), and Grace Wilcox (ex-Amokura) return to tell our students of their journey from PHS to the working world.

As well, we were able to hear from lawyer/stuntcar driver Petrea Parkhill, Acacia Dewes and Hannah Markham. As (relatively) new lawyers, they were able to inspire students considering embarking on a career in the law profession, which the students learnt could be vast.

An overwhelming message that came through was that passion for your career was more important than academic brilliance. Also that Waikato University was as good as Auckland University (location joke)!

Their law teacher Mr Hughes would like to thank Franklin Law and the individual members of their team for allowing their staff to come and speak. The 13LAW students spend a lot of their lessons grinding away on essays covering a variety of topics such as concepts of justice, elements of crime, legal negligence, human rights, processes for challenging government power, and finally controversial law processes. It was a pleasant change for them to see where this may lead in their futures.





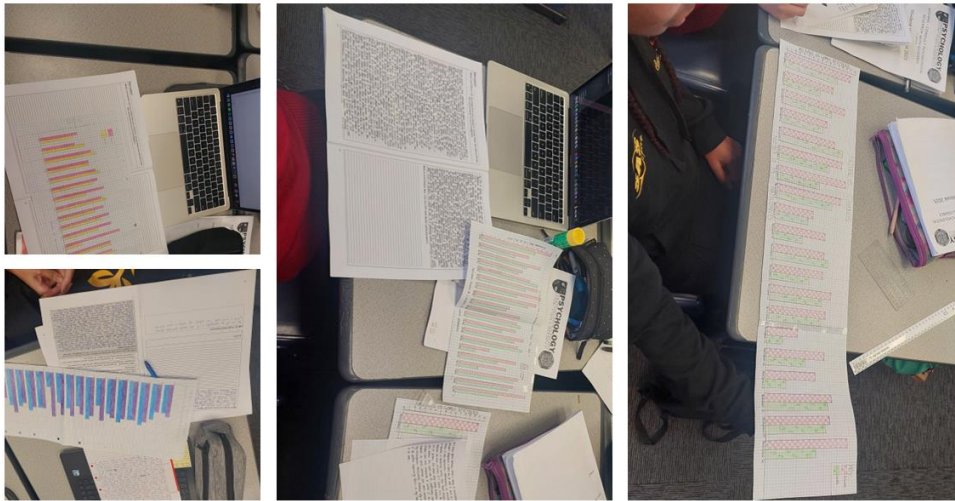
## L2 Psychology Research

Our amazing Level 2 Psychology students have been busy conducting real-world cognitive experiments as part of a 4-credit internal assessment. Each student collected data from 20 participants and is presenting their findings the old-school way — handwriting their assessments and hand-drawing graphs to represent their data clearly and creatively.

Most students have explored the classic Stroop Test, investigating how conflicting word and colour combinations affect reaction times. Others have tested whether we remember pictures or words better, while some have examined the impact of music on cognitive performance.

As part of our learning philosophy, all notes and assessments in Level 2 Psychology are completed by hand. This not only strengthens memory and understanding of complex psychological theories, but also reinforces the depth of learning required to excel in the subject.

We're incredibly proud of their effort, curiosity, and commitment to understanding the human mind!



## Holiday Reading

Reading doesn't stop when school's out — in fact, reading in the holidays is one of the best ways to keep your brain switched on. It's a great way to relax, explore new worlds, and escape into a good story.

Students who read for enjoyment have better results not only in English, but in **math and science** too.

### Top Tips for Holiday Reading at Home:

- ✓ Visit the local library together – let your child choose what excites them
- ✓ Make time for reading *every day*, even 10–15 minutes helps
- ✓ Read aloud — yes, even for older kids! It builds fluency and connection
- ✓ Create a cozy reading spot with cushions, snacks, and quiet time
- ✓ Model it: when children see you enjoying books, they'll follow!

### Top Picks from the Library!

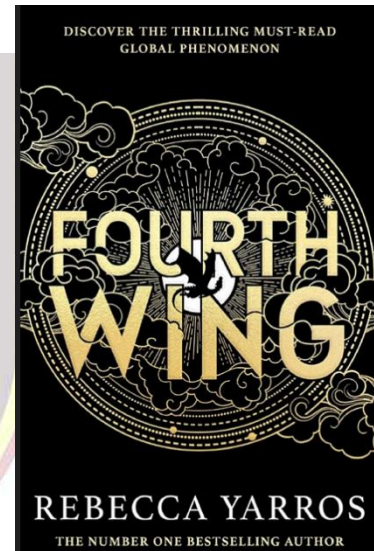
Wondering what everyone's reading, watching, or borrowing? Check out our **most popular resources** this term!

### 🔥 Top 5 Most Borrowed Books:

1. *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros
2. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
3. *One Punch Man 01* by One
4. *Super Simple Chemistry: The ultimate bite size study guide*
5. *Spy x Family* by Tatsuya Endo

### How to access:

- 👉 Visit the Online Library via [www.pukekohehigh.school.nz](http://www.pukekohehigh.school.nz)
- 👉 Log in using your Student ID for **both** username and password.
- 👉 Download the "ePlatform by Wheelers" app to read or listen offline.



## Dance Showcase

This week, the Pukekohe High School Hall was transformed into a celebration of talent, identity, and community as our senior dance students took the spotlight. The showcase featured performances that reflected our student's assessment work so far this year—bringing energy, creativity, and excellence in the arts to the stage.

A special highlight was the collaboration with our incredible Parkside students, whose performance embodied true kotahitanga and joy. Another standout moment came from our student-led competitive crew, who lit up the stage with a dynamic routine ahead of the upcoming *Blueprint Schools Street Dance Competition* these holidays. Under the inspiring leadership of Ariana Greig and Jayla Hurunui, this crew has trained with passion and discipline, demonstrating not only dance excellence but also the values of aarahitanga and puumautanga.

A heartfelt thank you to all staff who supported throughout the day, and to our students, whaanau, and wider community who showed up to be part of the audience. Your presence is what turns a performance into a true showcase—we're incredibly grateful for your support.

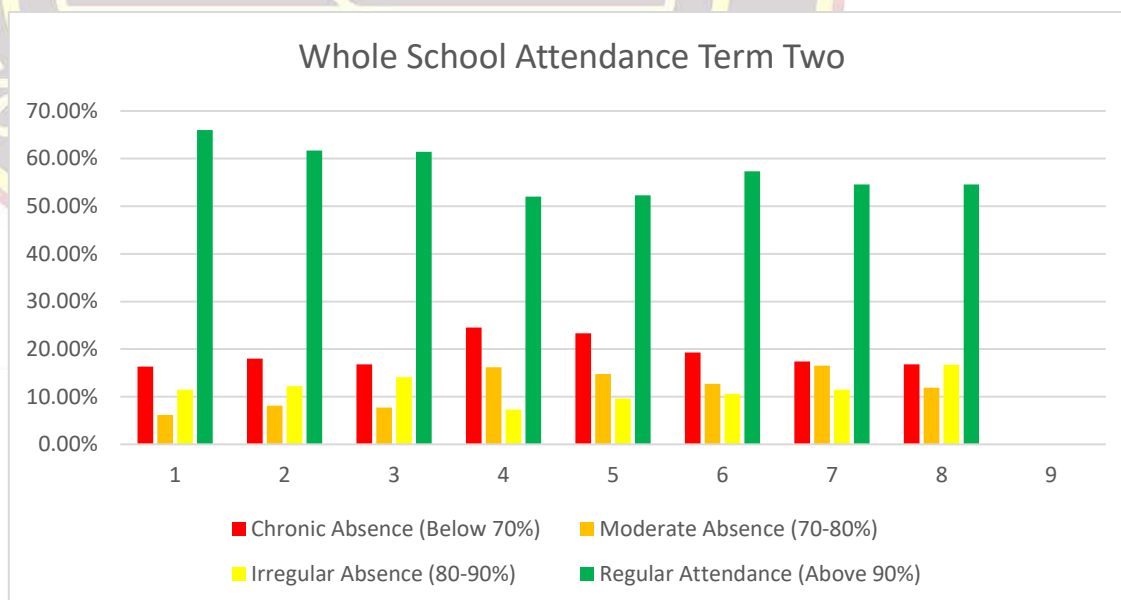
We look forward to welcoming you back for future performances later in the year!





# Te Pae Oorite | Equitable Opportunities and Outcomes

## Attendance



## Pasifika Homework Club

The Pasifika Homework Club is doing great! We consistently have over 30 students every Friday afternoon from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM. During these sessions, students get their assignments done efficiently and then enjoy a hot meal before heading home. We'll be continuing this initiative into Term 3, with a special focus on helping our senior students get ready for their end-of-year exams and providing extra support for anyone who needs it with their Common Assessment Activities (CAAs).

## Te Ara Hihiko: Mentoring for Success

We're excited to announce the launch of Te Ara Hihiko, a new mentoring group designed to empower our Māori and Pasifika Year 12 and 13 students. This initiative, supported by TUANZ, brings a panel of dedicated mentors from outside agencies who will provide valuable guidance and support.

This program is carefully designed to help our students actively build and grow important professional relationships. We want to connect students with the many different and exciting job sectors that TUANZ supports. This isn't just about meeting people; it's about making connections that will be helpful for their future careers and for moving the telecom and tech world forward.

## Senior Parent Teacher Interviews – Term 3, Week 1

Our Senior Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on **Thursday 17 July from 2:30pm to 7:00pm** in the School Hall, library and Massey Block.

These hui provide an important opportunity for kaiako, aakonga, and whaanau to discuss recent academic progress, share insights from Engagement Reports and recent assessments, and set goals for the rest of the year.

Each interview will be a 10-minute conversation between the subject teacher, student, and whaanau. **Bookings open on for whaanau on Tuesday 1 July via SchoolPoint.**

## NCEA literacy and numeracy common assessment activities

Those year 11, 12 and 13 aakonga who sat the literacy and numeracy exams earlier in the year were able to view their results for the Reading standard at 3pm on **25 June**. Results for the Writing, Numeracy, Te Reo Matatini and te Pāngarau standards will be released at 3pm on **14 July**.

When results are released, aakonga will be able to access them through the MyNZQA learner login.

As a school, we would like to congratulate all of our aakonga who have achieved their reading. If your aakonga was not successful we will continue to support them through targeted interventions each week before the next exam sessions in September.

Aakonga who did not achieve one or more of the Literacy or Numeracy standards will be able to download personalised feedback reports as usual.

## A taste of Matariki: Culinary Celebration by Year 13 Catering Students



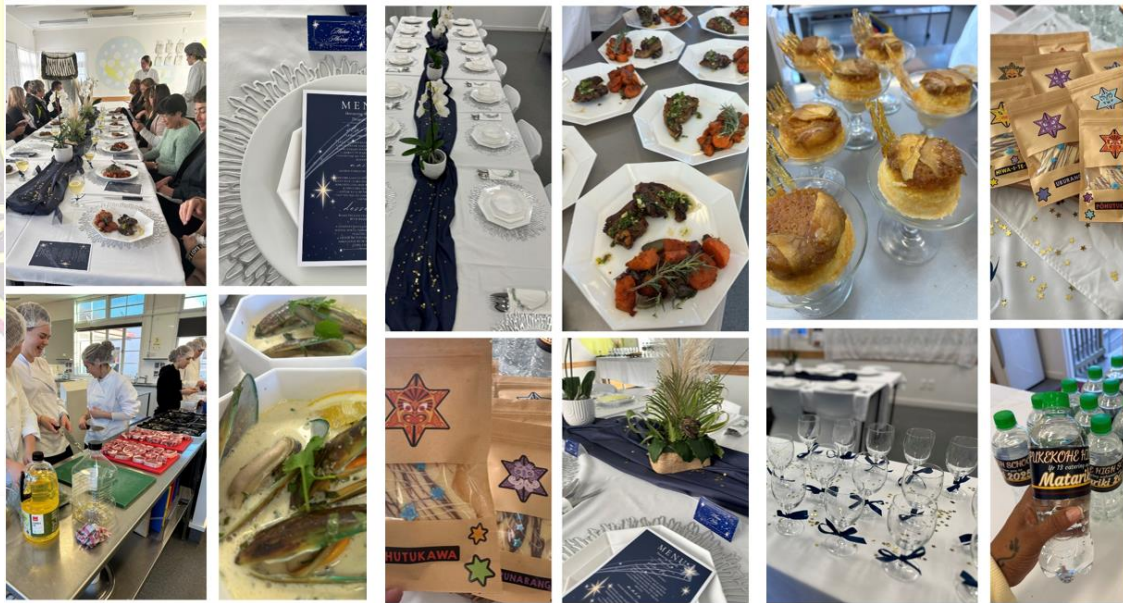
Guided by Yr13 catering teacher Ms. Randhir, each dish was thoughtfully created to reflect the essence of a specific Matariki star, forming an exquisite narrative thread throughout the meal.

The meals commenced with fresh mussels, elegantly bathed in a rich garlic cream sauce and served alongside warm, golden Māori fried bread, a tribute to Waita, the star embodying the ocean's abundant gifts. For the main course, guests indulged in tender smoked horopito lamb chops, artfully paired with roasted kumara and dusted with the aromatic nuances of smoked horopito, all elegantly finished with a vibrant watercress vinaigrette. This dish resonated with the spirit of Tupuanuku, the star that nourishes the sustenance derived from the earth.

The steamed pudding, infused with comforting winter spices, and paired with succulent, seasonal poached pears—a delightful homage to Tupuarangi, the star associated with the bounty of trees and sky.



This enchanting event not only celebrated the stars of Matariki but also showcased the passion and creativity of our students. A gathering of flavours and stories, it was a moment to cherish, reminding us of the beauty of connection—both to our culinary heritage and the cosmos that inspires us.



## Outward Bound Scholarship Recipients – June 2025

Three Year 13 students (Jemma Wright, Tess Rennell, Arona Poroa-Waenga) were awarded scholarships to attend the **Outward-Bound New Zealand Whakatipu Course**, in partnership with the **Auckland Business Chamber**.

The 8-day course included sailing, tramping, rock climbing, and high ropes — all designed to build resilience, teamwork, problem solving, leadership, and self-awareness. The scholarship also includes **six months of ongoing mentoring and support**, helping the students apply their learning and continue to grow in preparation for their futures.

### Student Reflections

**Highlights** included sailing, high ropes, sharing marshmallows around the campfire, and the overnight tramp.

**Lowlights** involved early morning wakeups, cold water challenges, and the frustration of team members not taking responsibility.

**Personal growth** was evident in the students' increased confidence, patience, adaptability, and willingness to connect with others. They learned to rely on themselves, support one another, step outside their comfort zones, and approach new challenges with a positive and open mindset. They also gained the confidence to speak up and engage more meaningfully with those around them.







Pukekohe High School has again been able to work with the Puuhoro Trust to teach and mentor Māori rangitahi. This Puuhoro program serves as a motivator to advance Māori involvement and success in the Sciences while attending PHS and beyond. Māori students who are taking STEMM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Maatāuranga) into the senior levels and beyond are welcomed into the program at year 11 and supported throughout their studies by the trust.

Puuhoro coordinated weekly sessions involve students working with tutors to assist with their science assessments and studies. There are also

Kaihautuu sessions to deepen the student's connections to their iwi, whānau and whakapapa. For the year 13 students, sessions to introduce tertiary study information to ease the transition to university are also delivered. These sessions help calm any anxiety surrounding leaving school and helps students feel confident and supported as they progress to entering university. Each term, the students attend a wānanga at the AUT South Campus to meet with rangitahi from across Auckland and learn from inspiring Māori to connect and grow as Māori in the academic worlds.

There will be an information assembly presented to the prospective Year 11 students for 2026 and a recruitment process to identify those that would most benefit from the program (places are capped at 15 each year group 11-13).

## Inspiring the Next Generation: GirlBoss Founder Visits PHS

Over 100 female students at Pukekohe High School had the opportunity to hear from **Alexia Hilbertidou**, the inspiring founder of **GirlBoss New Zealand**, during a recent school visit.

**GirlBoss NZ** is a social enterprise dedicated to empowering young women in leadership, entrepreneurship, science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Founded by Alexia at just 16 years old, GirlBoss now reaches thousands of students across the country, encouraging young women to break barriers and pursue bold futures.

Alexia shared her journey, insights, and advice on leadership and self-belief, leaving students motivated to take initiative and lead with confidence. Her message was clear: **you're never too young to make a difference.**





## Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi | Pukekohe High School Mural

A beautiful addition to the school's landscape was blessed on a rainy day in early June. The latest Pukekohe mural project, planned and executed by students Streme Clark, Oceana Taaka Te Kaute and Ashleigh Hermitte depicts insignia associated with our region as well as symbolism reflecting Aotearoa's bi-cultural heritage.

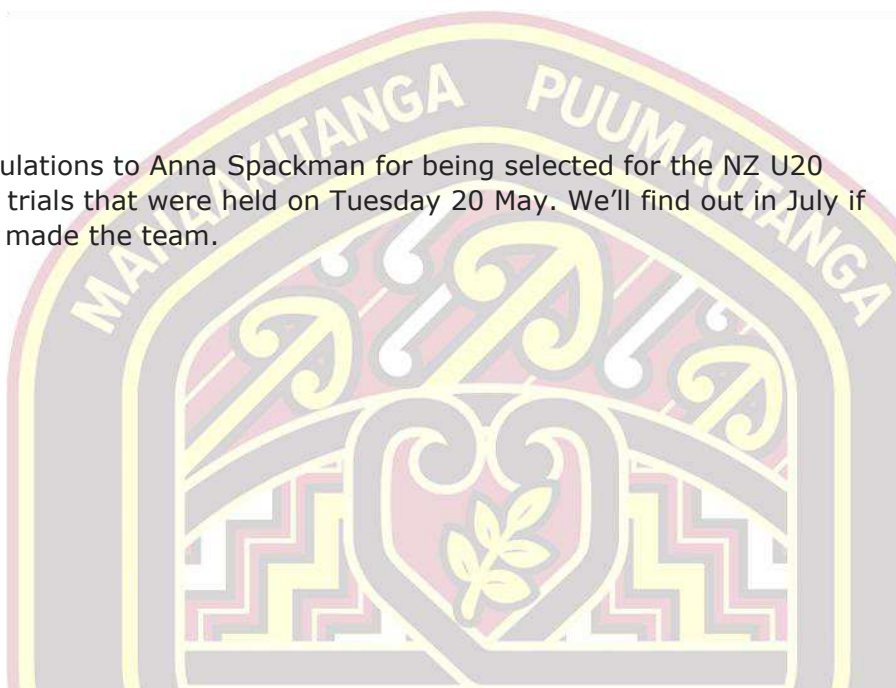
A huge mihi to these students, and the teachers who supported them, for the hard work and aroha that has created this amazing work of art.



## NZ U20 Football Trails/Game



Congratulations to Anna Spackman for being selected for the NZ U20 Football trials that were held on Tuesday 20 May. We'll find out in July if she has made the team.



## Making a Splash at Nationals

PHS was proudly represented at the 2025 Apollo Projects New Zealand Swimming Championships by Talia Chaney, Jess Cochran and Daniel Smith, competing for the Pukekohe Swimming Club. Their outstanding results are included below:



Daniel Smith dominated the Men's Multi-Class events, claiming 4 golds and 1 silver – breaking four NZ S19 records in the process!

- 1st 50m Breaststroke M/C - NZ S19 Record
- 1st 100m Breaststroke M/C
- 1st 200 IM M/C - NZ S19 Record
- 1st 100m Freestyle M/C - NZ S19 Record
- 2nd 50m Freestyle M/C - NZ S19 Record



Jess Cochran swam brilliantly in the Women's Open category, placing in the top 10 nationally and earning an age-group medal in the 100m Breaststroke.

- 8th NZ 50m Breaststroke (4th NZ 17-18 year old women)
- 8th NZ 100m Breaststroke (3rd NZ 17-18 year old women - age group medal)
- 15th NZ 200m Breaststroke (10th NZ 17-18 year old women)



Talia Chaney competed strongly in both the 100m Backstroke and 50m Freestyle in the Women's Open division.

Incredible effort from all three swimmers.

## Premier Sports Update

Please find on the following pages an update on the seasons to date for our premier sports teams - Basketball, Netball, Rugby, Lacross, Football and Hockey.





# PREMIER BASKETBALL MIDYEAR RECAP

## NOTABLE RESULTS

**PUKE HIGH BOYS PREMIER**  
vs SACRED HEART COLLEGE

92-58 WIN

**PUKE HIGH BOYS PREMIER**  
vs ST KENTIGERNS

95-64 WIN

**PUKE HIGH BOYS PREMIER**  
vs ST PAULS COLLEGIATE

100-44 WIN

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS PREMIER**  
vs HAURAKI PLAINS

38-7 WIN

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS PREMIER**  
vs WAUKU COLLEGE

73-34 WIN

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS PREMIER**  
vs TE KAUPHATA COLLEGE

66-19 WIN

## SEASON SUMMARY

The 2025 season is starting to heat up for our Premier boys basketball. The team has been tracking well in the local Franklin basketball competition but also in some friendly matches against some well known basketball schools such as Sacred Heart Auckland and St Kentigern College. The team is well into preparation for some vital games and tournaments to come in Term 3 which will set them up for another promising run to Nationals which is the teams goal each year.

### BOYS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** MALACHI TULAFONO, JAMIE REDDISH

**MANAGER:** LIZ KELSO, STACEY DAVIS

### CAPTAIN:

HARRY KELSO



## SEASON SUMMARY

Our Premier Girls basketball have a super promising year ahead of them and have already been projecting upwards with results in the local Franklin schools league. The team has been building some player depth in recent years across both juniors and seniors and we are now seeing the benefits of the years of development that has gone into Girls basketball through recent results and opportunities to now compete at a high level regionally with the hope of being able to qualify for the National tournament later this season.

### GIRLS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** COREY PERRY

**MANAGER:** STACEY DAVIS

### CAPTAIN:

ABBY WRIGHT, TESS DAVIS





# PREMIER NETBALL MIDYEAR RECAP

## NOTABLE RESULTS

MATCHWEEK 01  
**PREMIER NETBALL  
vs TUAKAU COLLEGE**

56-13 WIN

MATCHWEEK 02  
**PREMIER NETBALL  
vs ROSEHILL COLLEGE**

41-17 WIN

MATCHWEEK 05  
**PREMIER NETBALL  
vs HOWICK COLLEGE**

38-26 WIN

MATCHWEEK 06  
**PREMIER NETBALL 1  
vs PREMIER NETBALL 2**

39-26 WIN

Current in 1ST Place in the CM Premier A Section A Competition

Results record 5-wins, 0-draw, 0 -lost, 20 points

## SEASON SUMMARY

The 2025 season has begun impressively for our Premier Netball squad, with the team remaining unbeaten in the Counties Manukau Premier A Netball season. the team have had an outstanding win over last years National Champions, Howick College 38-26 in Round 5 of the competition which has given the team a great boost in confidence going in to Term 3 and UNISS which will take place during Winter Tournament Week.

## COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** JODY MCCORT

**MANAGER:** RENEE RATAHI

**CAPTAIN:** ABBY MCCORT





# 1<sup>ST</sup> XV RUGBY MIDYEAR RECAP

## NOTABLE RESULTS

MATCHWEEK 01  
**BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XV**  
vs ROSEHILL COLLEGE

29-3 WIN

MATCHWEEK 03  
**BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XV**  
vs WAIUKU COLLEGE

45-7 WIN

MATCHWEEK 04  
**BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XV**  
vs WESLEY COLLEGE DEV

25-0 WIN

Current in 3RD Place in the CM Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XV Rugby Competition

Results record 4-wins, 1-draw, 2 -lost, 23 points

## SEASON SUMMARY

The 2025 season for our 1<sup>st</sup> XV boys is a highly anticipated one off the back of a very successful 2024 season winning the CM Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XV competition. The team have had positive start to the campaign in the local competition led by fellow Year 12 captain, Jussi McKenzie who has shown great leadership with this team. The team have an important second half the season ahead with a Chiefs Top 4 playoff match on the horizon during the holiday break and then into the final round robins and hopefully semi finals and finals to follow which is the goal.

### BOYS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** CRAIG FLANAGAN, BEVAN CAMERON,  
AARON MORRISON & JOSH CHAMBELAIN

**MANAGER:** KATE MEGGET &  
CRAIG MEGGET

### CAPTAIN:

JUSSI MCKENZIE



MATCHWEEK 01  
**GIRLS XV**  
vs WESLEY COLLEGE

25-0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 02  
**GIRLS XV**  
vs MANUREWA HS

39-22 WIN

MATCHWEEK 05  
**GIRLS XV**  
vs ALFRISTON COLLEGE

65-10 WIN

Current in 3RD Place in the CM Girls XV Rugby Competition

Results record 4-wins, 0-draw, 1 -lost, 15 points

## SEASON SUMMARY

Our Girls XV Rugby have had one of the best starts to the season in recent history, firstly with making a positive jump to 15-a-side rugby after playing past seasons either in 10s or 12s. This showcases the great growth that our school has had in Girls rugby in recent years. To back that up, Our Girls have had a super positive start to the season on the field with some big wins over Wesley College, Manurewa HS and Alfriston College. These crucial wins certainly set the tone going forward for the rest of the season as the Girls aim towards playing finals footy in Term 3.

### GIRLS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** DAVID FAITALA  
**COACH:** ELLA KAYROUZ, JAZ WALKER  
**MANAGER:** NEA BRINK

### CAPTAIN:

KAYLA MOANA





# LACROSSE

## MIDYEAR RECAP

### NOTABLE RESULTS

MATCHWEEK 02

**PREMIER LACROSSE**  
**vs SELWYN COLLEGE**

14-5 LOSS

MATCHWEEK 05

**PREMIER LACROSSE**  
**vs AUCKLAND DIO**

13-11 WIN

MATCHWEEK 07

**PREMIER LACROSSE**  
**vs WESTLAKE GIRLS HS**

16-1 LOSS

Current in 4TH Place in the Auckland Division 1 Competition

Results record 1-wins, 0-draw, 3 -lost, **3 points**

### SEASON SUMMARY

The lacrosse girls started their season with a young and slightly less experienced team all eager to learn and grow as lacrosse players. The team coached by former student Jade Bennet who has a wealth of knowledge and experience to take the team and their performances to the next level. While the focus right now is development, we are excited about what the future will bring for the growth of lacrosse at Pukekohe High.

### COACHING STAFF:

**MANAGER:** TANYA JOHNSON

**COACH:** JADE BENNETT

**CAPTAIN:** AIRAH PADILLA





# 1ST XI FOOTBALL MIDYEAR RECAP

## PREMIER RESULTS

MATCHWEEK 01

**PUKE HIGH BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs ACG STRATHALLAN**

15:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 02

**PUKE HIGH BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs ROSEHILL COLLEGE**

7:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 06

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs SANCTA MARIA**

11:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 07

**PUKE HIGH BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs STRATHALLAN**

3:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 03

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs LYNFIELD COLLEGE**

4:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 07

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs RUTHERFORD COLLEGE**

1:0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 08

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs MARIST COLLEGE**

5:0 WIN

A1 PLAYOFF

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI  
vs ST CUTHBERTS**

2:0 WIN

**Current in 1st Place in the CM Boys Senior A Football Competition**

Results record 4-wins, 1-draw, 0 -lost, **13 points**

**Current in 7th Place in the Senior A girls**

Results record 3-wins, 1-draw, 4 -lost, **10 points**

## SEASON SUMMARY

The 2025 season has kicked off impressively, with the team remaining unbeaten in the Counties Manukau league. We started with a dominant 15-0 win over Strathallan, where Kian Tapper scored an outstanding seven goals.

This match set a strong tone for the season, while also showing areas to improve. Early on, we faced table topping Boys A1 side, Howick College, in the Auckland Knockout Cup and were narrowly beaten. Despite the loss, it was a valuable learning experience against a high performing and well coached team. We've continued to perform strongly in the regional league, recording four wins and one draw, and we're looking forward to finishing the season strong in Term 3.

### BOYS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** GORDON PAULSEN

### CAPTAIN:

REUBEN VISSER



## SEASON SUMMARY

Last year began with disappointment, losing the relegation match against the team who went on to win A1 unbeaten. The team returned this year with a greater resolve and earned promotion back into A1 by beating St Cuthberts 2-0 in the playoff game. The girls have enjoyed the challenge and worked very hard and have had some great performances, if not always the results we feel we deserve. We look not only safe in A1, but are still challenging for top three. The team can be incredibly proud of themselves in their first year back in one of the premier competitions.

### GIRLS COACHING STAFF:

**COACH:** PETRA BATTERS

**COACH:** CHRIS ROWE

**MANAGER:** CARA ROWE

### CAPTAIN:

GREER BATTERS





# 1ST XI HOCKEY MIDYEAR RECAP

## NOTABLE RESULTS

MATCHWEEK 01

**PUKE HIGH BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs HOWICK COLLEGE

2-1 WIN

MATCHWEEK 02

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs AUCKLAND GRAMMAR

7-0 WIN

MATCHWEEK 02

**PUKE HIGH BOYS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs BYE

7-0 WIN

Current in 1ST Place in the Auckland A/B Open Boys Top 7 Competition

Results record 2-wins, 0-draw, 0 -lost, 6 points

## SEASON SUMMARY

The 1st XI Boys Hockey team has had a strong start to their season despite narrowly missing out on qualification into the Auckland A1 Intercity competition. They are currently competing in the Boys Open A grade where they have displayed dominate performances. They look forward to what term 3 brings and building up towards the Mayhill cup during the New Zealand Secondary Schools Tournament week in term 3. With a good mix of junior players in the current squad the future is looking bright for our 1st XI team.

### BOYS COACHING STAFF:

COACH: NATHAN SOMA

MANAGER: KELLY FOSTER

### CAPTAINS:

BLAKE ANDERSON



MATCHWEEK 01

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs CARMEL COLLEGE

2-2 DRAW

MATCHWEEK 02

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs HOWICK COLLEGE

4-1 WIN

MATCHWEEK 03

**PUKE HIGH GIRLS 1<sup>ST</sup> XI**  
vs WESTLAKE GIRLS HS

THUR 26 JUNE

Current in 2ND Place in the Auckland A1 Intercity Competition

Results record 1-wins, 1-draw, 0 -lost, 4 points

## SEASON SUMMARY

Season to date has been going really well with the girls playing in the A1 intercity comp; results to date have been good with only 1 loss. The team has a great mix of junior and senior players and with this we have been able to rotate players through out the games. Our season will only get harder but I know the team will be up for the challenge and we would like to thank our supporters who have been great throughout the season.

### GIRLS COACHING STAFF:

COACH: SURESH WALLABH

MANAGER: JADE CHAMBERLAIN &  
HELENA HALLIDAY

### CAPTAINS:

YAZMIN MCFARLANE





# Haapori | Community Highlights

## Meet our Teachers | Dave Matthews



Born in the north of England, I've carried a lifelong passion for wildlife—especially birds—into everything I do. After completing a degree in ecology and environmental science and a master's in environmental education, I spent years working with UK bird-tracking organizations before founding and running several businesses, including a security firm. A dedicated sportsman, I played both league and rugby, and later coached Bombay Junior Rugby and school teams from the 1st XV through to girls' rugby.

Since arriving in New Zealand in 1999, I've held a variety of roles in South Auckland schools before serving as Deputy Principal at Huntly College. At Pukekohe High School, I've channelled my love of the outdoors into leading agriculture and horticulture education, doubling enrolments in these subjects and creating hands-on pathways for students into the primary industries. Under my leadership, students have planted over 5,000 native trees and around 26 embark annually on the PITO course, with several progressing to agribusiness degrees at Massey and Lincoln. Outside the classroom, I enjoy fishing and birding—currently tracking the local barn owl population—and remain committed to both pro-farming initiatives and environmental conservation.

## Matariki Event

A wonderful night of celebration was held at the Pukekohe Indian Association Hall on Thursday 19 June to celebrate the arrival of Matariki. Kaunihera Maaori students and staff organised the event which saw five local schools showcase their kapa haka prowess on stage. It was also great having Pasifika representation with a number of PHS students sharing their culture on stage.

Food trucks and Business Studies groups selling their products added to the occasion and provided whaanau with plenty to do between performances.

Ngaa mihi nunui ki ngaa Kaiwhakahaere me ngaa ope kapa kua eke ki te atamira.







## Board Elections

Every state and state-integrated school/kura in New Zealand is governed by a school board (formerly known as a board of trustees). The board has overall responsibility and accountability for the school/kura. School boards' legal responsibilities are determined by the Education and Training Act 2020.

Schools elect board members every three years and this year the school triennial election will take place in Term 3. Our election day is Wednesday 10 September 2025. Information will be distributed to all families with details about the nomination process. Nominations will close at 12pm on Wednesday 6 August 2025. Nominations and voting all takes place online. Watch out for emails from the returning officer ([returningofficer@myschoolelection.nz](mailto:returningofficer@myschoolelection.nz)) to check that your contact details are correct.



The Pukekohe High School Board is made up of 5 parent -elected representatives, a staff representative voted in by staff and a student representative voted in by students. As the school runs mid -term elections for continuity purposes, only 3 of the 5 parent- elected positions on the Board are up for re-election in September. The other 2 positions are up for re-election in March 2027.

If you are interested in becoming a board member please follow the two links below to give you more information about what a board member entails

[Community member guide to the role of the school boards](#)

<https://www.tewhakaroputanga.org.nz/advice-and-support/information-for-parents>

## Aldis Library Turns 50!

The PHS Alumni Association celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of the school's library – The Aldis Library – on 9 June. The event was a chance for alumni to reconnect and also to farewell Morag Gray, the school's librarian of nine years, who will be leaving at the end of the term. A highlight of the evening was guest speaker, Dita de Boni, who spoke of her recollections of school and also of her mother, former English teacher Judy de Boni.



## Laptop Drive

This term, our Year 11 Social Studies students have been hard at work on a meaningful and inspiring assessment project as part of their People and Society course. Students have explored the real-world issue of the 'digital divide' – the gap between those who have access to modern digital tools and those who do not.

Recognising that access to digital devices is no longer a luxury but a basic educational necessity, the group initiated a Device Donation Drive to help ensure every learner in our school community can thrive in a connected world. Their mission was simple but powerful: to gather unused or unwanted digital devices and make them available to students in need.

Thanks to the enthusiastic support of our wider community, this initiative has achieved extraordinary results. A significant number of refurbished and brand-new devices including laptops, tablets, and Chromebooks are being donated. These contributions represent not only the success of a school project, but a tangible step toward educational equity and social change.



The school is now working rapidly to develop a system for distribution and support, so these devices can be used by students who need them as soon as possible. This effort reflects our school values in action particularly manaakitanga (caring for others) and kotahitanga (unity).

We're incredibly proud of the initiative, passion, and leadership shown by these Year 11 students, and we thank everyone who contributed to the drive. A special thanks to Ms Anita Devi who has led this project. Your generosity is helping us empower every learner to participate fully in the digital world and succeed in their education.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Pukekohe High School Social Sciences  
Learning Area



### Expression of Interest – Office/Sleepout Built by PHS Students

Our talented Building students are currently constructing a high-spec 2.4m x 4.8m (11.5m<sup>2</sup>) office/sleepout, which will be available to the community upon completion in November 2025. We are now seeking expressions of interest from anyone keen to purchase this professionally built, purpose-designed structure.

Features include full insulation, double glazing, sliding doors, a window at each end, and a sleek mono-pitch roof. It also includes a caravan power connection and is built to a high standard — compliant with high wind zones, using H3.1 treated timber and stainless-steel nails. A fantastic opportunity to support student learning and gain a quality small building for your property!

We are hugely grateful to our generous sponsors – your support has been vital in making this build possible. MiTek, Pryda, Affordable Scaffolding Group, Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe, Paslode, Palliside, HiKOKI, Franklin Aluminium and Roofing Industries (Franklin) Ltd. Thank you for investing in our students' learning and future.

Enquiries can be directed to our Business Manager, Mr Denis Murphy [mb@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:mb@pukekohehigh.school.nz)





## PHS Open Evening Event

A big thank you to everyone who made our Open Evening on Wednesday 18 June such a success!

Prospective Year 9 students and their whanau were welcomed and toured around the school, touching base with all of our learning areas. Year 13 Business Studies groups had the chance to showcase their products and ideas.



Our Food Technology department along with Year 10, 11, and 12 students prepared and served hundreds of delicious chocolate chip cookies and fresh coffee to warmly welcome our incoming Year 9 students and their families.

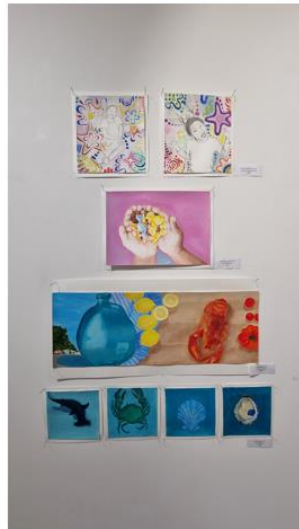


We look forward to hosting a second Open Evening later in term 3.



## Young Hearts | An Exhibition by Pukekohe High School Students

Young Hearts is a student-led exhibition showcasing the extraordinary work of Pukekohe High School art students. These pieces are created using a range of different media, such as painting, printmaking and photography to name a few. This exhibition reflects the beautiful passion of our young Kiwi artists and is worth coming to see in it's final days. You can still view this beautiful artwork until Monday 30 June. Below is an insight of what to expect.





## Pukekohe High School Leos

On Thursday, 19 June, 30 members of the Pukekohe High Leos visited Palm Village for a Matariki Yarn with a Youth event. The students connected with residents of the facility, swapping school stories, sharing youthful antics, and receiving valuable advice. It was a wonderful day of laughter, learning, and reconnecting with our community



## Mercer Rowing | Learn to row programme 2025



# MERCER ROWING LEARN TO ROW PROGRAM 2025



**OPEN TO YEAR 9 AND ABOVE**  
A 5 Week Program Starting  
10am Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Aimed at students from Year 9 and above  
Introducing them to competitive rowing

If you are wondering if rowing might be for you, come  
along and try out our fantastic sport.

Remainder of program dates are  
27<sup>th</sup> June, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 10<sup>th</sup> August, 24<sup>th</sup> August

To register interest and for more info... contact Bevan  
Cameron  
[bevan.cameron@heb.co.nz](mailto:bevan.cameron@heb.co.nz)





## Thank you

We kindly thank all the following sponsors for their continued support on behalf of the entire Pukekohe High School community. Through your generous support, our students have been able to gain invaluable resources, learn, thrive, and grow in an inviting environment.



We invite any other businesses interested in supporting the school to contact [publicity@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:publicity@pukekohehigh.school.nz) to discuss options here.



## Follow us

Please ensure your contact details are up to date, so you don't miss any communication from us. To update your details, please send an email to [update@pukekohehigh.school.nz](mailto:update@pukekohehigh.school.nz)

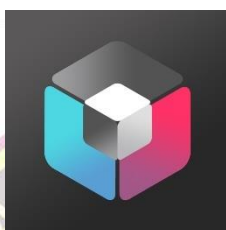
Below are the different ways to find out more about what is happening here Pukekohe High School. Each logo has a hyperlink to take you directly to those pages.



Website



Facebook



SchoolsApp



PHS Instagram



PHS Sports



PHS International



PHS Councils



## Important Dates

- **School Holidays 28 June – 13 July**
- **Senior School Ball Tuesday 1 July**

### Term 3

#### Week 1

- Monday 14 July | 8.45am start
- Thursday 17 July | Senior Parent Teacher Interviews & School finishes early at 1.40pm

#### Week 2

- Thursday 24 July | Level 1 Commerce Market Day
- Friday 25 July | PHS Got Talent Finals

#### Week 3

- Wednesday 30 July | Course Information Evening
- Thursday 31 July | Senior 2026 Course Selection Opens

#### Week 4

- Monday 4 August | Blood Drive
- Friday 8 August | Model United Nations Assembly

#### Week 5

- Monday 11 August | KBB Music Festival
- Friday 15 August | Sports Teams Photos

