

PANUI NEWSLETTER



HIGHLIGHTS THIS TERM...

- 24 March - Y7 & Y8 Marae Visit
- 26 March - Purple Mufti Day
- 31st March - NCEA Achievers Breakfast & Assembly
- 20 April - Teacher Only day (First day of term 2)

Attendance rate 83.3%

Community, Champions & Classroom Adventures

Kia ora koutou katoa. Welcome to the wrap up of the second to last week of term 1. You will see that another really busy week has flown by and now we just have to navigate 4 more full on days to get to the well deserved break. This weeks panui shows a range of different opportunities for our students to aspire to better things, to achieve goals and broaden their educational/vocational pathway options. There are some more educational changes on the horizon and you will see that the first day of term 2 is a Teacher only day. On this day we will be working to get abreast of these latest changes, working on the new curriculum directions and doing some professional development so that when these changes are implemented we are ready to go. So your childs first day of term 2 will be on the Tuesday 21st April at 9.30am. This is important as we are going to make a subtle, but important change to the start of our Tuesdays. We will start in class during their normal first lesson of that day. Assembly will be after lesson 1 at 1030. We are always looking at ways of improving attendance/systems and what we do and we think that this may help us in that regard. In the meantime this coming Tuesdays assembly will be in the normal 9.30am slot and will be celebrating the achievement successes of 2025 NCEA and some attendance giveaways! But you have to be there to win. On Tuesday we also celebrate our students who achieved NCEA Merit & Excellence endorsements with a breakfast and we look forward to hosting those 15 students! Until then have a great weekend and see you all Monday.

Papa o Te Aroha Marae Visit



Nei rā te aumihi, nei rā te kōmihi ki a Te Matapihi o te Rangi e tū nei, ki a Papa o Te Aroha e tū nei. Hei aha? Hei whakamarumaruru i a tātou, te ohu teina o te Kāreti o Putāruru. Nā mātou te maringinui.

On Tuesday 24th March, the Year 7 and 8 students of Putāruru College embarked on our annual marae visit to the outstanding Papa o Te Aroha Marae in Tokoroa. It was a day filled with culturally rich experiences, centred around a marae whose kaupapa is to serve and uplift its community.



We were privileged to spend time inside the whareniui, Te Matapihi o te Rangi, where we experienced the remarkable pouwhakairo that tell many powerful pūrākau throughout the whare. We were especially fortunate to hear from the esteemed Tiare Te Pana, who generously shared his deep knowledge and insights into the carvings.

Throughout the day, our ākonga participated in a range of activities including art, haka, and sports, allowing everyone to engage, learn, and connect. .



A heartfelt mihi goes out to all those who made the day so special. To Tiare and Tangiwai Te Pana, thank you for your manaakitanga and the sharing of your knowledge.

To Matua Tiniwaata, and to our senior students, your leadership and support ensured the day ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all



Y9 Waitawheta Camp

This week, our Year 9 students enjoyed an action-packed three-day camp at Waitawheta.

The students took part in a range of activities, including house competitions, quizzes, and adventurous outings at Windows Walk and Dickies Flat in Karangahake Gorge, the low ropes course at camp, and ANZAC Bay in Bowentown. Evenings were filled with team-building games and a movie night, ensuring plenty of fun and camaraderie for everyone.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to challenge themselves, build friendships, and create lasting memories



A Big Thank You to Our Community Helpers!

On Monday 16th March, 10 Fonterra Lichfield workers visited our kura to cook Venison Meatballs and Pasta for Kura Kai. It was wonderful to see two of our past students back at the college and have a kōrero about how the school has changed since they attended.

The venison was generously supplied by Stoney Creek, with Fonterra providing the remaining ingredients to make this meal possible. Being in the canteen for this cook-up also meant the team was there for the first school lunch service of the year. They eagerly helped serve students their meal and enjoyed meeting many of them

Looking ahead, we have a volunteer from Westpac Hamilton booked for next term, and hopefully Fonterra will visit again to help fill our freezers for families in our community who need a little TLC. We've also been fortunate to receive a container of roasts and pork chops donated by Hamish Putt. Ms Lynn Hawkes and her senior students will plan a meal around this meat to provide even more meals for families in need.

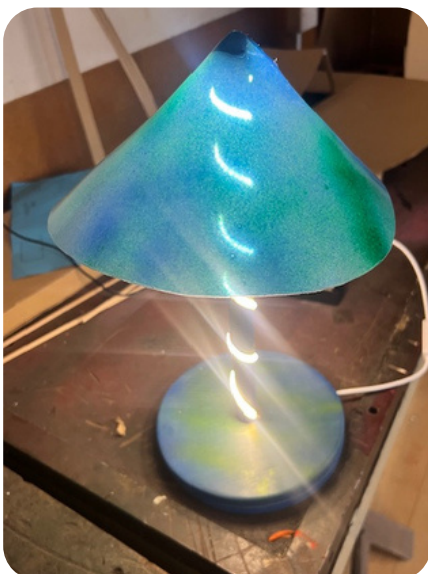
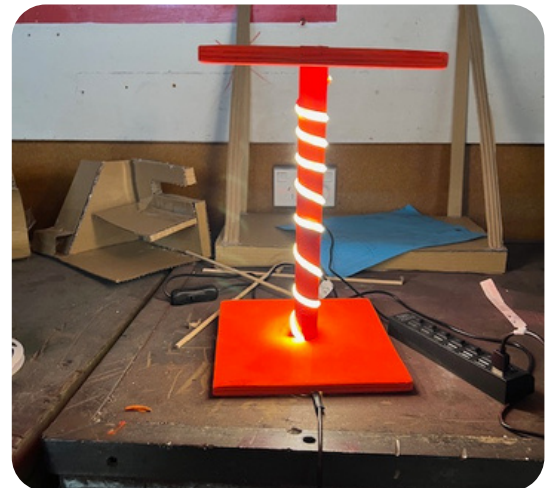
The kindness and generosity of these people and companies is hugely appreciated. Families are extremely grateful for these meals, which help take a little load off their daily lives. **YOU GUYS ROCK!**



Design and Innovation

Our Year 8 Design and Innovation students have recently completed an impressive lighting project, taking their ideas all the way from initial research through to prototype development and final production. Along the way, they explored how design can balance creativity with function, experimenting with materials, form, and light to bring their concepts to life.

The finished lamps showcase a fantastic range of original ideas, problem-solving, and craftsmanship. It has been exciting to see students take ownership of their designs and turn them into high-quality, functional products. We are incredibly proud of the innovation, resilience, and creativity shown throughout this project.



Friday power hour House competition

Last Friday featured Power Hour , an exciting opportunity for students to earn points for their houses!

For our Year 7–10 students, this is where the action began. Oraka kicked things off in the gym with Points On!; Pokaiwhenua headed to the shot put circle for Jumping for Joy!; Waihou started at the 100m mark with Just Pull It!; and Waimakariri began by the stage with Flipping Heck!

It was great to see plenty of energy, teamwork, and house spirit on display — every point counts! Whilst the day was really about school spirit...we did keep points!

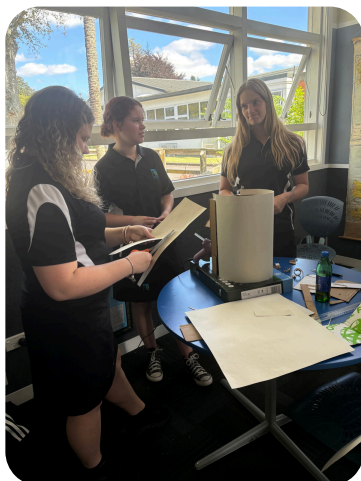
4th Waihou 3rd Oraka 2nd Poikaiwhenua 1st Waimakariri - well done everyone!



Waimakariri

From Rome to Athens: Student Creations

Our Year 12 and 13 students have been hard at work creating detailed scale models of the Pantheon in Rome and the Parthenon in Athens, showcasing their creativity and understanding of classical architecture



King Country & South Waikato Swimming Success

The Putaruru College swimming team delivered an outstanding performance at the King Country South Waikato Swimming Championships in Taumarunui on March 20th, 2026.

Our swimmers delivered an outstanding performance, securing 2nd place overall with a total of 1,043 points and claiming first-place finishes in both the Mixed 100 SC Meter Freestyle and Medley relays. Reuben Richards and Kiralee Crawford both claimed first place in their respective individual point rankings, while Natalia Vaughan and Charlie Richards followed closely in second and third for the girls. Strong contributions from Scarlett Heke and Rebecca Rogers helped solidify the team's standing against tough competition from throughout the region.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents who traveled to Taumarunui to cheer on our athletes; your energy on the sidelines makes all the difference. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the officials, timekeepers (including Cameron Vaughan who time kept from our College), and the host school whose hard work behind the scenes ensured the event ran smoothly for all our swimmers.



Kiralee Crawford

(Age 14)
1st Overall Female

1st

Reuben Richards

(Age 15)
1st Overall Male

1st

Natalia Vaughan

(Age 14)
2nd Overall Female

2nd

Charlie Richards

(Age 13)
3rd Overall Female

3rd

Scarlett Heke

(Age 13)
10th Overall Female

10th

Rebecca Rogers

(Age 13)
14th Overall Female

14th



Fundraising for Epilepsy NZ

Yesterday, students and teachers got behind the cause during our Purple Mufti Day in support of Epilepsy NZ, an important cause for our school whānau.

It was fantastic to see purple everywhere around the school, and together we raised \$445 for this worthy cause.



Thinking about Selling or Know Someone?



LITICIA DAVIES

liticia.davies@harcourts.co.nz

www.kdre.co.nz

*This must be a listing which is successfully listed and sold with Harcourts Putaruru to be eligible to receive the \$500.



WITH YOUR **help** LET'S SUPPORT
PUTARURU COLLEGE TOGETHER

Forevery property that is referred to me by mentioning Putaruru College and which results in a successful sale, we will make a donation of \$500 to the Putaruru College.

Senior Volleyball Team



Over the weekend, our Senior Boys Volleyball Team competed in their Division 3 tournament, currently placing 7th out of 12 teams. So far this season, the team has won 5 matches (including a final won by default) and lost 7 matches. Most games were held at Hamilton Boys', with the last two games and finals played at The Peak.

During the weekend, the team played two close matches, narrowly losing 1–2 against both Hamilton Boys and Te Aroha:

Vs Te Aroha: 13–15 in the third set

Vs Hamilton Boys: 12–15

The Senior Boys have shown excellent determination, teamwork, and school spirit throughout the season, representing our school with pride.

Learners Licence Achievement

Congratulations!



Cleo Holmes, Lancia Wehi, Kade Duckworth, Ephraim Chakas, Rylan Urbahn, Harrison Howden-Turnbull, Eli Reid, Maori Te Mihi and Crysla Lemon

Our Shooters Take Their First Shot at Competition

The Putaruru College Shooting Team travelled to Pukekohe on Thursday to compete in the first Auckland/Waikato Secondary Schools shoot of the year.

Despite a challenging weather forecast, the competition went ahead, with wet and windy conditions making for a tricky day on the range. Our team showed great resilience, shooting well and gaining valuable experience in difficult conditions. Hamilton Boys' High School claimed first place overall, with their top shooter achieving an outstanding score of 89 out of a possible 90.

Putaruru College's top overall shooter was Thomas Hayward, who scored 67 points, setting a strong benchmark for the team to build on in the next round.

Putaruru College High Scores:

Single Rise: Fergus Williams & Toby Farrell – 15/20

Point Score: Thomas Hayward – 50/60

Single Barrel: Fergus Williams & Toby Farrell – 7/10

It was fantastic to get our first competitive shoot of the season underway, and the team is already looking ahead to the next round in Thames at the end of April.



THE HONDA SHOP

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THSMOTO	Putaruru: 3 Rolfe Way (07) 883 3310
WWW.THSMOTO.CO.NZ	Hamilton: 10-14 Willoughby St (07) 838 9299
	Te Awamutu: 482 Ohaupo Rd (07) 871 7317
	Cambridge: Albert St (07) 823 5522
	Matamata: 2 Garland St (07) 888 4969

A big thank you to our sponsor, The Honda Shop, Putaruru, for supporting our practice shoot earlier in the week.



And the Winner is...

Congratulations to Stephanie John the winner of our firewood raffle.

A big thank you to all those who purchased tickets. We will be doing another firewood raffle soon.



We're Looking for a New Board Member!

PUTARURU COLLEGE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES CASUAL VACANCY PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative.
The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:

Debbie Meads Presiding member (chair)
Putaruru College Board of Trustees

chairperson.putaruru@gmail.com

by: 28th April 2026

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