

TERM 1 2026

# Hurunui College

WHAKAURU KI TĒ AKO, WEHE ATU KIA MANAAKITIA, ENTER TO LEARN, LEAVE TO SERVE



## Ngā Kōrero ā te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou parents and whānau,

As we reach the end of a short and busy first term, it's been nice to reflect on what a great experience it has been to be back at Hurunui College. After spending the last two years on secondment as a Leadership Advisor with the Ministry of Education, returning to our kura has been a great reminder of what an awesome place we have here. While it was a privilege to support other principals across the South Island, there is nothing quite like being back on the ground with our own staff, students and community. This was reinforced last weekend at the Hawarden Show when it was just great to reconnect with past students and the wider community.

The term has been fast paced. We started with our Mihi Whakatau to welcome our new families, and since then, the calendar hasn't really slowed down. It has been great to see our students getting stuck into everything on offer. From swimming sports and the school triathlon to the Exploring Camp and every other trip in between it's been hectic. Also, as I am writing this our secondary students are preparing to head away to CASAFest next week. It has been a jam packed term!

Coming back to the school, my main focus is on maintaining high expectations for everyone. We know that Every Day Matters, and we've introduced our new Attendance Management Plan and STAR system this term to make sure our students are here and ready to make the most of their learning. We are also looking forward to launching the Year 9 and 10 Graduation Programme, which is all about rewarding effort and positive involvement in school life.

Looking toward our Centenary (1927–2027) - One of the most exciting things on the horizon is our 100-year celebration in 2027. While it might seem a way off, planning

Key Dates Term 2 2026	
20 April	Term 2 begins
27 April	ANZAC Day observed School CLOSED
28 April	Teacher Only Day School CLOSED to students
06 May	School Photos
11 May	Cross Country (ppd 13 May)
1 June	King's Birthday School CLOSED
3 July	Term 2 ends



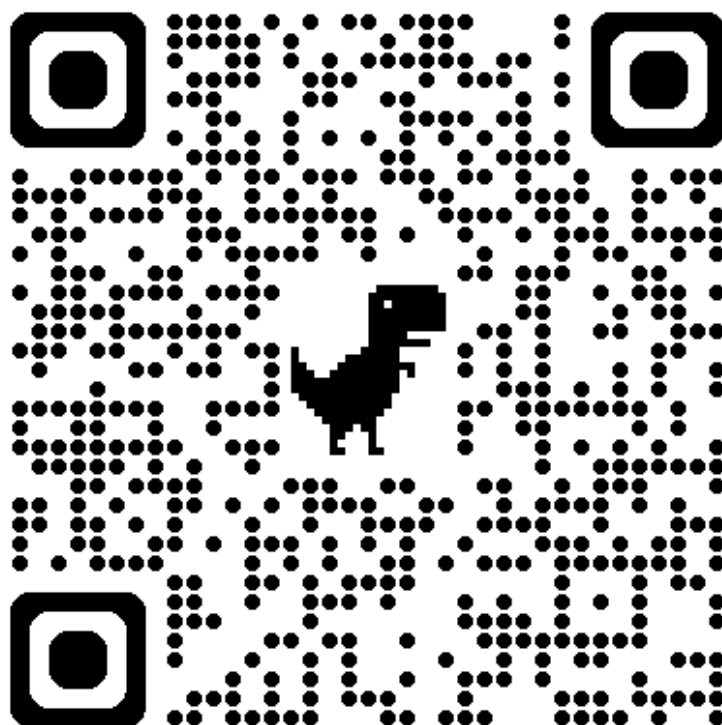
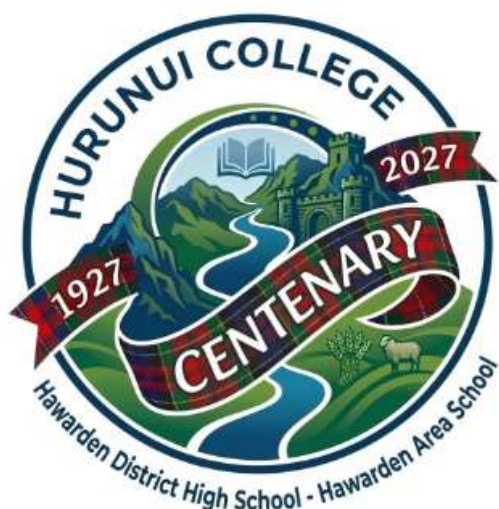
Inside This Issue:	
Ngā Kōrero ā te Tumuaki	1
Discovery	3
Exploring	6
Swimming Sports	12
Tabloids and Triathlon	14
Secondary	16
Events	17
Sport	18

is already underway to ensure this milestone is marked properly. Our initial steering committee has held its first meeting, and we are now looking for wider community support. We are calling for preregistrations now. Getting an idea of numbers early on is a huge help for our planning team. You can use the link or alternative preregister via the QR code. If you are an ex-pupil, past staff member, or part of a family with ties to the school, please lock in Labour Weekend 2027 - 22nd–23rd October 2027. [Pre-registration Form.](#)

I hope everyone has a relaxing and safe break over Easter and the following two weeks. We look forward to seeing all the students back and ready to go for Term 2 on Monday, April 20th. Please also remember that we have a scheduled Combined Canterbury Area Schools ToD on Tuesday the 28th of April.

Ngā mihi nui,

Stephen Beck  
Principal - Tumuaki



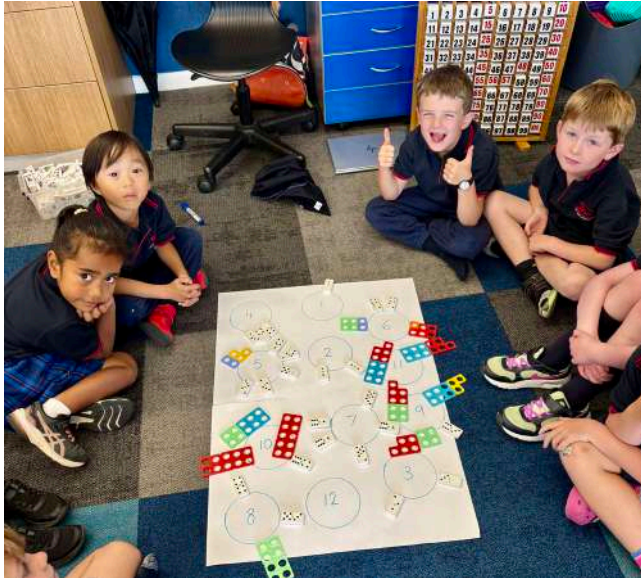
# Discovery | Motanau Beach



# Discovery | Waipuna-ā-rangi

What a whirlwind of a term it's been for Waipuna-ā-rangi! We've been lucky to spend a lot of time swimming and the improvement in skills and confidence in the pool has been huge. We had a fabulous day out at Motunau Beach exploring the rock pools, followed by a fun afternoon at Sandy Bay. The second half of the term was filled with plenty of hard work and excitement as we prepared for the Hawarden Show, where students entered a wide variety of exhibits across different categories. We are incredibly proud of all that the students have achieved and the positive energy they have brought to everything this term.

Kate Frame and Kate Boyd



## Our Favourite Moments of Term 1

I learned how to spell tricky words. Jock

My favourite thing was learning how to kick with a kickboard. I have learned how to practice handwriting. Riley

My favourite thing was probably being able to read chapter books. I have learned how to do breaststroke. Angus

My favourite thing is doing my new numbers. I have learned how to get sinkers from the bottom of the pool and touch the bottom. Lily

My favourite thing this term was having a pool party. I have learned how to swim butterfly. Mason

My favourite thing was doing maths. I have learned how to spell some words. Franklin

My favourite thing was the puppet show. I have learned how to play a new maths game. Juniper

The best thing this term was learning how to get the sinkers under water. I have learned how to make a ski jumper with straws. Sadie

The best thing we did this term was the pool party. I have learned how to do my letters in handwriting. Millie

Doing art was my favourite thing. I have learned how to do overarm swimming.  
Connie

My favourite thing was making the straw rockets. I have learned how to do my handwriting neater.  
Georgia

I liked colouring. I have learned how to write 'Mum and Dad'.  
Laite

My best thing was the pool party. The best thing I learned was the new maths games like Race to 100.  
Matthew

I have liked swimming. I have learned about letters.  
Josh

My favourite thing this term was swimming. I learned how to use a ruler.  
Blake B

My best thing this term was making puppets for the puppet show. I learned how to skip count to 24.  
Jim



# Exploring | RISE Time

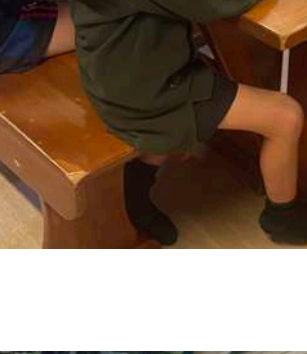


RISE Time in Exploring Learning Community has been busy this term. Many students have been creating lots of crafts including, dream catchers, stress balls, bead suncatchers, card making, clay making and creating their own board games!

Mrs G



# Exploring Camp | Y5-6



## My Camp Reflection

Before I went to camp I felt nervous because I didn't know whose group I was in. At camp I felt more confident because of the group I was in. My favourite activity on camp was go home stay home. Also the most challenging activity at camp was the orienteering because it was soaking wet and they were hard to find. I was very nervous about the river crossing but then I realised it wasn't too bad.

By Gavrie Velmonte

## Camp Writing

On camp my two favourite things were the big red fire extinguisher and roasting tasty marshmallows. I loved the big red fire extinguisher because it was teaching me how to put out fire and how to distract thieves. On the first day when we were leaving I was a bit nervous but very excited. The second day we did orienteering in the cold rain. It was cold but we were almost finished. My goal was to cross the river crossing. I even went under very cold water.

By Sarah Youngman



## My Camp Reflection.

Before camp I was scared. My favourite activities were Go Home Stay Home and roasting marshmallows. I felt nervous because it didn't feel like home. My nervous activity was orienteering because it was freezing outside. I was brave about having a good sleep on camp.

By James



## Arthur's Pass Fun

Before I went to camp I felt excited and nervous because I've never been away from home for 3 days. When we arrived at camp I was so energetic because we were going to do river crossing and make smores. When we had dinner time I was so unsure because I was about to eat food that I don't know. Something challenging at camp was the scavenger hunt because we had to find all the numbers in different places and it was wet and really cold.

By Zuey



# Exploring Camp | Y7-8

The Year 7 & 8's took on Arthur's Pass Camp this term and had a blast! Check out some of our reflections!

My favourite thing at camp was the hut building. I enjoyed making the hut then decorating it. Although the games we played while we were waiting for the others to finish were rewarding, that was my least favourite activity. I found it challenging to find the birds on the scavenger hunt and when we did orienteering we helped people so they helped us. On the sensory trail we would put blindfolds on and use a rope to guide us through the forest. We went swimming in the piercing cold dip and scream. It was so cold that when we came out of the water we felt like we were on fire. It was heaps of fun.



Ellie



We went to Arthur's Pass camp and I liked the walk up to Devil's Punchbowl then seeing the waterfall up close, it was beautiful. My favourite thing was orienteering. I got lots of scratches doing the sensory trail. My least favourite thing was the dip and scream because when I launched into the water it felt like I was going to get hypothermia because it was so cold. I found the scavenger hunt hard so I just kept walking and I finished it. We helped people and people helped us. At night we played spotlight, the second night I hid under a bush with lots of biddy bidds. Then we lay down and looked at the stars and saw a shooting star. There was a chorus of woahs and then it went silent again. After, we went back and went to bed.





My favourite activity to do at Arthur's Pass was when we got to do the freezing dip and scream. For those of you who don't know what dip and scream is. Dip and scream is a type of activity where you go into a swimming hole which has freezing cold water in it.

What I enjoyed was doing spotlight and hiding with a friend. This experience was awesome and something I will always remember about this camp. The other activity that was fun was doing the sensory trail. It was exciting but also scary because you can't see and all you have is the rope that guides you. The scary bit was when people would walk past you and intentionally snap sticks and or make noises to freak you out.

Something that surprised me was when we got there, not a single drop of rain landed but the other camp had mostly rain. We were so lucky to have such great weather!

King



I enjoyed looking up at the stars and seeing three shooting stars and even the big dipper. On the second night when we played spotlight, I was really bad at it but it was very fun. Something that surprised me was how hard the beds were (they were as hard as a brick) and how crazy my friends were, my classmate Lily was throwing beans around (real beans!). My favourite activity was the talent show! With our matching Tee shirts with a bow on them. I did this with Caitlin and Destiny, we got third! (our talent was a rap/skit).



# Swimming Sports

After an initial postponement, the Secondary Yr 9–13 Swimming Sports were held on 18th February in beautiful conditions. The day produced some very competitive racing, and all students should be proud of their efforts in the pool.



The Primary Swimming Sports also experienced a postponement but were well worth the wait. On a fine sunny day, students enjoyed both competitive and non-competitive events, with excellent participation throughout. Several records were broken:

- Sarah Youngman (Yr 5 Girls) – 25m Butterfly – 24.53
- Sophie Maxwell (Yr 3 Girls) – 25m Backstroke – 30.18
- Luke Smith (Yr 3 Boys) – 25m Freestyle – 22.46
- Ella Smith (Yr 6 Girls) – 25m Butterfly – 23.50
- Kelly Abbott (Yr 7 Girls) – 50m Freestyle – 35.79
- Aiden Dobbs (Yr 7 Boys) – 25m Butterfly – 26.22
- Billie Ramsay (Yr 8 Girls) – 50m Freestyle – 34.30
- Abby Youngman (Yr 8 Girls) – 25m Butterfly – 19.37
- Stanley Savage (Yr 8 Boys) – 50m Freestyle – 32.80



A huge thank you to Homestead Harvest for keeping everyone well fed and watered across both days.





# Tabloid Sports



Our Tabloid Sports Day held on Monday 9th February was a great afternoon of house competition across a range of activities. It was wonderful to see so many families turning out to support and encourage our students.



# Hurunui College Triathlon

After another false start, we were pleased to finally hold our Hurunui College Triathlon on 5th March. It was a gloriously sunny afternoon and all competitors did exceptionally well. Participation across all year levels was outstanding, with students competing in triathlon and duathlon formats (run/swim, run/bike, or bike/swim), as well as team events. It was great to see such strong teamwork and encouragement throughout the afternoon.



# Year 6-10 Social Studies

This year I have the privilege of teaching social studies from years 6-10. This term, Hiwa-i-te-rangi and Matariki have been studying basic geography such as continents, oceans, countries, and landforms of the world. Year 9 did the same but this extended towards natural disasters and an end of term assessment. Year 10 looked at the evolution of warfare from the Ancient Greeks & Romans, to the Crusades, then Napoleon, onto the Native Americans, and finally the World Wars. This was an enjoyable topic for the older cohort, who engaged well in the content and grew a great understanding of how warfare has changed over time.

William Harnett



## Secondary

### NCEA History

This term the Level 1 History class have been studying the RNZAF's involvement in the Pacific Theatre and NZ's involvement in the Vietnam War. This will culminate in an educational visit to the Air Force Museum in the first week of term 2 to help consolidate the learning. The topics and visit also connect to the first assessment to be completed mid-term 2. The Level 2/3 History class have been studying NZ's involvement in the Korean War and are using this information to complete their first assessment due early next term.

William Harnett



On March 3, the Year 12&13 Chemistry students and Dr Kelly took a trip to Ravensdown in Christchurch to learn about the production of sulphuric acid and superphosphate. The students will be assessed on the topic, so it was great to see industrial chemistry in action. Many thanks to Greg Costello for facilitating the trip for us.

Dr Tim Kelly



Our business studies students had the opportunity to pitch their aftersun balm to other business leaders. The one on one time they had gave them great insight into their next steps and what they need to do moving forward. They will be looking to demonstrate their product at the A&P show.

Phil Biddlecombe

The Hurunui College Team won the Top Team Challenge at the Amuri A&P Show. They showed great teamwork and had a lot of fun competing in this challenge put on by Sport Canterbury.

Jenny Jackson

# Sport

It has been a very busy and successful period across a wide range of sporting events, with excellent participation, strong performances, and fantastic support from our community.

Bronnie Gunn and Jenny Jackson



**Canterbury Secondary Athletics**  
Eva Kelly also represented Hurunui College at the Canterbury Secondary Athletics in the U15 Girls 800m, placing 21st in a strong field. Well done Eva on competing at this level!!

## HPSSA Swimming Zones - Hanmer Springs - 4th March

Hurunui College students were absolutely excellent at representing the school with immense pride and skill. From the first dive to the final relay, our swimmers displayed remarkable determination and consistently pushed for new personal bests. The team spirit was a clear highlight, as students cheered enthusiastically for one another and showed outstanding sportsmanship poolside.

Well done to Will Frame, James Habgood, Stanley Savage, Billie Ramsey, Abby Youngman, Hunter Toki, Kelly Abbott and Matt Holdaway who have qualified for the Canterbury Primary School Swimming Championships.

A huge thank you goes out to the parents who supported our talented team in making this event such a splashing success.

## HPSSA Duathlon – Hanmer Springs

We had 10 Year 5–8 students take part in the HPSSA Duathlon in Hanmer Springs, enjoying a fantastic day out in the forest.

Results:

Year 5 Boys: Will Frame 1st, James Habgood 9th

Year 5 Girls: Sydney Earl 5th, Zuey Lagrossa 6th

Year 6 Girls: Ella Smith 7th

Year 7 Girls: Kelly Abbott 7th

Year 8 Boys: Stanley Savage 1st, Darcy Kelly 6th

Year 8 Girls: Cassie Earl 3rd, Billie Ramsay 4th  
A fantastic day with outstanding individual performances and great participation from all students.

## CCHS Athletics – Ngā Puna Wai – 11th March

Eleven students represented Hurunui College at the CCHS Athletics Championships, competing strongly across a wide range of events.

(Results as listed below:)

U15 Girls: Eva Kelly (800m 3rd, 1500m 3rd), Anne Velmonte (100m 4th, Long Jump 11th)

U15 Boys: James Reynolds (100m 14th, Long Jump 6th)

U16 Girls: Lotti Beach (100m 4th, High Jump 4th), Macy Oberholzer (Discus 7th, Shot Put 4th), Shakaiya Cashell Gorrie (200m 2nd, 400m 2nd, 1500m 2nd, Long Jump 4th)

U16 Boys: Hunter McKinlay (100m 11th, 800m 2nd, Triple Jump 2nd)

U17 Girls: Natalie Preddy (100m 5th, 200m 2nd)

U17 Boys: Tanner Barton (Discus 1st, Shot Put 2nd), Jack Savage (400m 4th, 800m 3rd, 1500m 3rd)

U20 Boys: Jack Philp (Long Jump 9th, Discus 6th, Shot Put 5th)

A fantastic set of results with many excellent performances across track and field events.

## Canterbury Country High Schools (CCHS) Swimming-Dudley Park, Rangiora

Our Year 9–13 group of 17 students attended the Canterbury Country High Schools (CCHS) Swimming Competition at Dudley Pool on 24th February. The students represented the school extremely well and performed strongly across their events. Thank you also to the parents who supported on the day and helped make this event possible.

The results are:

Sinead Chisnall	-Backstroke-44.55 -2nd, Butterfly-44.47- 2nd
Jamie Oberholzer	-Freestyle-33.73-3rd, Breaststroke-43.41-4th.
Jack Philp	-Freestyle-38.56-9th, Breaststroke-48.55-5th, Backstroke-43.79-3rd.
Keygan Philp	-Freestyle-35.86-7th.
Samantha Jackson	-Freestyle-38.87-3rd, Breaststroke-51.70-2nd.
Skyla Rata-Smith	-Freestyle-42.58-4th,
Glen Fricker	-Freestyle-37.20-2nd, Backstroke-49.68-4th.
Jack Savage	-Freestyle-46.48-5th-, Breaststroke-47.80-3rd.
Macy Oberholzer	-Freestyle-37.70-6th, Breaststroke-51.42-4th, Backstroke-45.28-3rd.
Lotti Beach	-Freestyle-33.84-2nd, Breaststroke-43.30-1st, Backstroke-42.40-2nd, - Butterfly-40.37-2nd
Hunter McKinlay	- Freestyle-37.86-2nd, Breaststroke-51.20-2nd, Backstroke- 48.36-1st
Eva Kelly	-Freestyle- 50.04-9th , Breaststroke-1.00.03-5th ,Backstroke-55.80-6th
Katie Devine	-Freestyle-47.76-8th, Backstroke-58.12-7th.
Felix May	-Backstroke-50.60-2nd
Jasper Brown	-Freestyle-44.25-3rd, Backstroke-56.15-4th

## SISS Cross Country Motorcross

On Saturday 28 March, Glen Fricker represented Hurunui College at SISS x country at Lee stream, Otago. It was a fast race on a nice flowing track. After 1.5 hours of racing and roughly 100 km, Glen finished just off the podium in 4th place in his bike category (up to 200cc 2stroke) and 15 overall out of 91 competitors.

A great achievement and a result he can be proud of.

A big thank you to Hawarden gym and Hurunui college PTA for the support.



## Congratulations and Thank You!

Well done to all students who have represented Hurunui College across these events. Your effort, sportsmanship, and commitment have been outstanding, and we are very proud of your achievements. A huge THANKYOU to our parent/caregiver volunteers who have made these events possible by driving, marshalling, timing, wiping tears, hugging, cheering, encouraging, feeding and watering all our sportspeople that went to these events, Hurunui College couldn't have done it without you all.

Bronnie Gunn and Jenny Jackson

We share our sincere thanks to our supporters through Fern Energy - Fuel for schools:  
*A C Sidey, Hanley Farming Company Limited, Pyramid Valley Trading Limited, BM & KM Forrester,  
A M & E M Mulholland, Leach Farming Ltd, D & K Quigley Partnership, J & J Savage Partnership*  
If you use Fern Energy and would like to join the fuel for schools programme,  
please contact them directly 0800 99 99 89

# Our School News In Full Bloom



## With our Skool Loop app!

Download today to keep up to date with school information.

Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

## Simple free download

Scan the QR code or In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

