



NPGHS NEWSLETTER

6 June 2026

Tēnā koutou katoa

Thank you to all our parents and whānau who attended our recent whānau-teacher conversations, or parent-teacher interviews. It was a genuine pleasure to see so many of you on site, engaging in meaningful discussions about your daughter's learning and wellbeing. These conversations are a cornerstone of our partnership, and they reinforce something we value at Girls' High - education works best when school and home are connected as one team.

This year, we had 364 students with bookings, with an average of five conversations per student. Our core learning areas were especially busy, with English, Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences teachers in high demand. Our most in-demand teacher held 48 individual family conversations, representing a minimum of four hours of continuous discussion. What a powerful reflection of the commitment from both staff and whānau.

The commitment to interviews was encouraging from our youngest students, with 40% of Year 9 families attending. It is wonderful to see such strong engagement at the beginning of the secondary school journey. However, we also noted that participation drops significantly in our senior school, with only 12% of Year 13 families attending. While we understand that students are growing in independence at this stage, I want to strongly encourage all whānau to remain connected right through to the end of schooling. The transition to life beyond school is just as important as the start, and your involvement continues to matter.

Your daughter or young person needs to know that the important adults in her life are working together. When school and home are aligned, students feel supported, understood, and confident as they navigate both challenges and opportunities. This is particularly important as they make decisions about pathways, careers, and future study.

This message is reinforced by feedback from our recent survey of former students, asking about Career Education. Consistently, students identify both teachers and parents as their primary sources of guidance when making decisions about their futures. This highlights the importance of maintaining strong connections, open communication, and shared understanding throughout the entire schooling journey.

As I walked around during the conversations, I had the privilege of talking with many families and hearing many affirming and heartfelt exchanges. A Year 9 parent shared, "So pleased we chose Girls' High. My daughter's doing so well and her teachers are wonderful." A Year 10 parent commented, "Meeting the teachers is so nice, and they are such genuine people. I like that now I know who she is talking about at home." One particularly special moment was hearing a parent say to their senior student daughter as they left, "I'm so proud of you! Not just that you are doing well, but even more that teachers are noticing that you are a good person." These moments capture exactly why these conversations matter. Several parents that I spoke with also commented that teachers had shared some really useful information about how their daughter could improve, and they valued that the teachers knew so much about her learning and her next steps.

We appreciate that you take the time to come in, to listen, to ask questions, and to celebrate progress. These evenings are about more than academic results. They are about relationships, shared goals, and recognising the whole person.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. Let's continue to work together at every year level, to ensure each student feels known, supported, and confident about the future ahead.

Ngā mihi mahana
Jacqui Brown





School Production 2027

Every two years, our school bursts into life with the magic of a full-scale production, and next year is no exception! After the incredible success of Annie Junior in 2025, the countdown has already begun for the next big show, and auditions are just around the corner. The only question is... will you be part of it?

School productions are more than just performances. They're a long-standing tradition that brings together creativity, teamwork, and a whole lot of fun. Over the years, this tradition has evolved, growing bigger, bolder, and more collaborative. From joint productions with NPBHS to unforgettable NPGHS-only shows, each performance has left its mark on our school's story.

Take a quick look back at the last 5 productions:

- 2016 – Niu Sila (with NPBHS): a powerful and meaningful piece.
- 2018 – Bardilicious (NPGHS): a vibrant, student-created celebration of Shakespeare with a modern twist.
- 2021 – The Sound of Music (with NPBHS): a beloved classic brought to life.
- 2023 – Winnie the Pooh (NPGHS): a charming and nostalgic favourite.
- 2025 – Annie Junior (NPGHS): a show full of heart, talent, and unforgettable moments.

Each production has its own personality, but they all share one thing: the incredible energy and dedication of students, both on stage and behind the scenes. Whether it's acting, singing, dancing, lighting, set design, or costumes, there's a place for everyone to shine.

And now, it's your turn. Auditions for the next production are coming up soon, offering a chance to step into the spotlight, or help bring the show to life from backstage. It's a chance to try something new, build friendships, and create memories that will last long after the final curtain falls.

So, are you ready to be a little whimsical? To take a risk, have a laugh, and be part of something truly special?



Tū Manawa Funding at Scotlands Hostel

We are proud to continue making the most of Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa funding, providing our students with a wide range of sport and recreation opportunities.

Cimone Wright, Hostel Manager, was recently invited by Sport Taranaki to present on our programme, and her applications are already used as exemplars to help others who want to apply.

Over the past two years, funding has supported activities such as surfing, yoga, CrossFit, Pilates and aquafit, along with equipment including a trampoline, pickleball, and volleyball sets.

We have now applied for a third year of funding, which would continue these opportunities and introduce gym training and bouldering, as well as support transport for students.

We are grateful for the ongoing impact this funding has on student wellbeing, participation, and confidence.



Hillary Challenge

The NPGHS/NPBHS Adventure Racing team had an amazing time at the Hillary Challenge 6 hour North Island qualifier event in Rotorua, coming in first overall. The weather was beautiful this year, enhancing the amazing scenery and stunning views during the race.

Bethan Mullis, Portia Mason, Olivia Corrin, Natalie Corrin, Jesse Hofmans, Jack Widdicombe, Brody Matheson and Cole McNeil cleared the entire 45km course in 5hrs and 10mins.

An amazing effort, testament to the vast amount of training they have put in to get here. The team now head into the Hillary Challenge finals as the first place North Island Qualifier. They are now looking forward to more training before competing at Tongariro in October.

A massive thank you to everyone who made it possible for the team to get to where they are now!



Host Families Wanted

Would you like to open your home to a student from around the world? We are currently seeking welcoming homestay families to host international students.

Hosting is a wonderful way to learn about different cultures, share your own, and make lasting friendships. Many families find it a rewarding experience that brings new energy and perspective into their daily lives.

Families receive \$380 per week (7-day rate), which equates to approximately \$54.30 per night. You can choose what works best for you and host just during the holidays, or you might want to commit to a longer-term placement.

We can answer any questions you might have and help you through the process. Homestay families need to:

- Provide a safe and welcoming environment
- Offer the student their own bedroom
- Supply meals and include them in everyday family life
- Ensure all household members aged 18+ complete a police vetting process

If you're looking for a meaningful way to make a difference, and have a great experience along the way, homestay hosting could be for you.

Please contact Elizabeth Kinnell (Whaea Irihāpeti) on ekinnell@npghs.school.nz for more information.

Free Period Products

A reminder that our school is part of the Ministry of Education's nationwide Ikura initiative that provides free period products for students. This programme makes sure that no young person misses out on learning, sports, cultural activities, or feels uncomfortable at school because they don't have access to the products they need.

Products available: Schools receive a range of products, including liners, regular and super pads and tampons, which meet the needs of students of different ages, preferences, and cultural considerations. Each period pack is designed to support a full menstrual cycle, and girls are encouraged to take as much as they need for each cycle.

How students can access products: Students can take the products they need from beside student services, or by speaking with a staff member who can help. This includes taking home period products for overnight and for the school holidays.

Students are welcome to take as much as they need for each cycle – this is not just for times when they are 'caught short' at school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



Upcoming Events

Please check <https://npghs.bridge.school.nz/notices>, or the 'Coming Events' post on facebook, for even more information.

Every Monday in Term 2	Meet at the Stadium for a lunchtime sports activity every Monday. Meet on Wednesday for lunchtime badminton. Join Karaoke in the Music room every Friday lunchtime.
Sat 6 June	Smokefree Rockquest held at NPGHS from 6pm. Schools from around the region perform, including 6 bands and 6 soloists from NPGHS. Students were treated to a lunchtime concert on Thurs 4 June in preparation.
Mon 8- Fri 12 June	Activities held each day for Traditional Arts Week sharing the fun of English, Geography, Media Studies, History, Social Studies and the Model UN. Waka points are available.
Mon 8 June	TSSSA squash tournament.
Tues 9 June	University of Waikato visits.
Tues 9 June	Bake Sale supporting KidsCan .
Wed 10 June	e-asTTle assessment for Y9 and 10.
Wed 10 June	Students from schools around the city perform at the Chamber Music Contest . St Andrew's Church, Liardet St.
Fri 12 June	Year 13 Animal and Plant Science students to Fieldays in Hamilton .
Sun 14 June	L3 Drama class production . Two performances at 4pm and 6.30pm in the Drama Room.
Mon 15 June	Jubilate, our school choir, take part in The Big Sing Taranaki Regional Competition.
Thurs 18 June	Ronald Hugh Morrison Writers Workshop.
Fri 19 June	Pasifika Fiafia night at 6pm.
Fri 19 June	Next newsletter available . You can click here to see the current and previous newsletters.

2026 DATES

TERM 1

30 January - 2 April

TERM 2

20 April – 3 July

Mon 27 April Anzac Day (observed)

Mon 1 June King's Birthday

TERM 3

20 July - 25 September

Fri 21 Aug Curriculum Staff Only Day

TERM 4

12 October - 11 December

Mon 26 Oct Labour Day

Fri 20 Nov Curriculum Staff Only Day

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SCHOOLBRIDGE

'SchoolBridge' on app store