



NPGHS NEWSLETTER

31 July 2026

Tēnā koutou katoa

As students begin thinking about subject selections, career pathways, and future possibilities, conversations about success naturally become more frequent. It is easy, in a world driven by grades, qualifications, and achievements, to see success as something that can be neatly measured and compared. A strong report, an Excellence endorsement, a leadership badge, or a university acceptance are all important markers along the way.

While these achievements are certainly worth celebrating, they also invite us to pause and ask a bigger question: What does it actually mean to succeed?

At school, much of what we measure is visible. We record assessment results, recognise academic excellence, and acknowledge accomplishments in sport, culture, and leadership. These measures provide valuable information and help students track their progress. However, they tell only part of the story.

Some of the most important growth young people, and adults, experience is far more difficult to quantify.

Curiosity, for example, cannot be measured by a credit total. The student who asks thoughtful questions, and explores new ideas, is developing habits that will serve them throughout their life. In a similar way, resilience rarely appears on a formal report, yet the ability to overcome setbacks, learn from mistakes, and persevere through challenges is one of the strongest predictors of future success and wellbeing.

Character is equally significant. Kindness, integrity, empathy, and a genuine concern for others are qualities that strengthen our kura. These are attributes that may not earn NCEA credits, but they are among the most valuable outcomes of a young person's education.

Many cultures and philosophies emphasise that a successful life is one lived with purpose, connection, and wellbeing. Concepts such as hauora and ikigai remind us that achievement is about more than reaching a destination. It is about developing a sense of identity, contribution, and balance.

We all play an important role in shaping how young people understand success. Celebrating effort as well as outcomes, encouraging reflection on challenges and growth, and recognising the value of diverse interests and talents all help broaden the picture. Success looks different for every student, and there is no single pathway that guarantees a fulfilling future.

Our goal is to support students not only in achieving academically, but also in developing the confidence, agility, and self-awareness needed to thrive beyond school. If a student leaves NPGHS with a clear sense of who they are, an ability to think critically, and a commitment to making a positive difference for others, then they have achieved remarkable success!

Ngā mihi mahana
Jacqui Brown



Subject Selections

Approximately 70% of students in Year 9 to Year 12 have already completed their subject selections for 2027. Has your daughter or young person completed their requests too? Subject choices are due on Friday 7 August.

To check your child's selected subjects go to the SchoolBridge parent dashboard, just click on 'Course Selection', and click 'Courses for approval'. If they have not selected any courses then it will be empty. You can also access SchoolBridge via the school website: : <https://www.npghs.school.nz/curriculum/our-curriculum>

HODs are available in the Library again on Monday 3 August at Kāwai Huia time to answer any questions students may have regarding subjects. Kāwai Huia teachers are also able to support students in finding information if there is anything they are unsure of.



Who's Huia

Last night, the NPGHS Hall was alive with music, energy, and enthusiasm as students from New Plymouth Girls' High School and New Plymouth Boys' High School came together for the annual Who's Huia music showcase.

It was a fantastic evening and a true celebration of the remarkable talent that exists across both schools. From students taking their first steps onto the stage to accomplished performers demonstrating outstanding skill and confidence, the night highlighted the many ways music brings people together.

Perhaps the most special aspect of the evening was its inclusive spirit. There was a real sense of joy in seeing students learning, performing, supporting one another, and simply having fun through music. Whether performing for the first time or excelling at a high level, every musician contributed to an event that celebrated participation as much as achievement.

We also wish our talented students who are travelling to Wellington later this term for the MusicWorks Ensemble Festival Aotearoa (MEFA) all the very best. We know they will represent our school community with pride and distinction. Thanks to your generous support on the night approximately \$1,600 was raised to go towards the trip costs.

Thank you to everyone who performed, organised, and attended. It was a wonderful night, complete with enthusiastic audience sing-alongs, and a reminder of the power of music to connect, inspire, and bring a community together.





Whanganui High School - Sports Exchange

At the end of Term 2, our students enjoyed a fantastic exchange against Whanganui High School. It was a wonderful day of sport, teamwork, and school spirit, with all teams giving their best and making the most of the road trip experience.

A particular highlight was the performance of our junior rugby team. Traditionally, we have taken senior players to this fixture and often found the competition challenging, so it was especially pleasing to see our younger players step up and secure a convincing 58-17 victory. Their skill, enthusiasm, and determination were outstanding.

Results from the day were:

- A1 Netball: 37-20 to WHS
- Junior A1 Netball: 27-24 to WHS
- Hockey: 3-0 to WHS
- 2nds Football: 1-1 draw
- 1st Football: 3-2 to NPGHS
- Basketball: 68-21 to NPGHS
- Rugby: 58-17 to NPGHS

Congratulations to all the students who represented the school with pride, commitment, and sportsmanship. A special thank you to our Sports Department for organising the exchange and to the many parents, teachers and staff who support our teams, coach, manage, travel, and cheer from the sidelines. Opportunities like these are only possible because of your dedication and generosity of time. We greatly appreciate everything you do for our students and our sporting programme.



ManaQuest



Introducing Tikanga Co! As part of the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES), we're excited to develop ManaQuest, an educational board game that brings Māori culture, language, and values to life through interactive gameplay. Players earn mana by completing te reo Māori, tikanga, and cultural challenges while working together to protect the whenua and keep it healthy. Every decision players make can have a positive or negative impact on the environment, encouraging teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking. ManaQuest combines learning, strategy, and collaboration to create a fun, meaningful, and engaging experience that inspires players of all ages to connect with and appreciate Aotearoa's rich cultural heritage.

Check your details

Are your address and contact details up to date? Please check on SchoolBridge to make sure we have your current details so we can contact you as needed.

Step One: *Sign into your NPGHS SchoolBridge Caregiver Dashboard.*

Step Two: *Click the "KAMAR -Attendance, Timetable, Reports and Results" button.*

Step Three: *Click the "Details" dropdown and select the category to edit -Student details, Caregiver Details or Emergency Contacts.*

Step Four: *Click the "Edit Details" button. Update the details and save your changes.*

Note: Some data fields cannot be edited online. If you wish to update any of these non-editable data fields, please email enrolments@npghs.school.nz to make the change.



Open Day and Enrolments for 2027

Thank you to all our current students who supported staff in showing potential families what it is like to be at NPGHS during the Open Afternoon of Tuesday 28 July. It was a busy school as hundreds of people took the opportunity to look around. Visiting families gave wonderful feedback about the staff and what is on offer here, but even more impressive were their comments about the students who were here assisting. Thank you all for your support in classrooms, as performers, as speakers and as Y9 and Y12 tour guides.

We now have enrolment conversations with each student who will be joining us. Many of you will remember these, and it is our way of getting to know you and your daughter early. If you have a Year 8 who is coming to us next year, or know people who are wanting to come to NPGHS and share in what we offer, please fill in the enrolment form on our school website: <https://www.npghs.school.nz/enrolment/welcome>

Girl Got U

Prepared Confident Covered

Hi, we are GirlGotU, a Level 2 Enterprise group creating compact emergency kits designed for girls on the go.

Our stylish, portable kits fit easily into a handbag or school bag and contain everyday essentials such as tampons, tissues, lip balm, mascara, makeup remover, a mini hairbrush, hair ties, hair clips, an eyebrow spoolie, and a nail kit.

Whether it's messy hair, a broken nail, a makeup mishap, or an unexpected period, GirlGotU has you covered. Practical, organised, and convenient, our kits help you feel prepared for life's little emergencies.

@girlgotu.npghs (Instagram)

awesort 
your life, awesorted.

Ever feel disorganised? Overwhelmed with your workload?

Perhaps you've tried using planners in the past, but they were either too complicated, didn't accommodate your organisation style, plain boring, or all the above.

Well, Awesort has designed a planner that has full customisation, gamified elements, and is simple and easy to use!

Follow our Instagram page
@getawesort to see when we launch!

YES (Young Enterprise Scheme)

Student run businesses which would appreciate your support



Eco Shine

EST 2026

About Us!

Eco Shine is a Young Enterprise Scheme sole trader business from New Plymouth Girls' High School. Our products are reusable Eco-wipes made from organic cotton, and a VOC-free all-purpose cleaning spray in a recyclable bottle. The Eco-wipes and spray make cleaning safer for both people and the environment.

My business aim is to reduce the environmental impact caused by everyday cleaning products. Large amounts of waste are created from microfibre cloths, and many household cleaners contain harmful chemicals such as VOCs, which contribute to air pollution. The Eco-wipes replace microfibre cloths, reducing waste, while the spray eliminates harmful chemicals.



Reject It!

Download Our App!! Reject It! Is Launching Soon

We have developed a mobile app called Reject It!, designed to help people overcome their fear of rejection and build confidence.

The app provides users with fun daily challenges, such as starting a conversation with a stranger. After completing a challenge, users can record the outcome, write a reflection, and even upload photos as proof.

Reject It! also offers a community feature where users can share their experiences and encourage others. Users earn XP points and badges as they complete challenges, allowing them to track their progress and celebrate their personal growth.

By gamifying rejection, our app helps users view rejection as an opportunity to learn and grow rather than something to fear.

Follow Our Instagram & TikTok for more updates: [reject.it](https://www.instagram.com/reject.it)





Upcoming Events

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

Sun 2 Aug to Sat 8 Aug	Cook Island Māori/Rarotongan Language Week
Mon 3 Aug	Visiting student group from Otsuma, Japan
	NPGHS Board meeting
Tues 4 Aug	Science Fair – Robotics and Water rockets competitions Australian Mathematics Competition for those who have pre-registered
Wed 5 Aug	Science Fair -Y10 Quiz
Thurs 6 Aug	Photo day – Sports and Cultural Photos
	Sausage sizzle – supporting L2 Social Studies Social Action
Fri 7 Aug	Subject selection closes in schoolbridge for current Y9-12 students
	TSSSA Junior Volleyball
	Assembly – Honours and Scholars will be awarded
	Bake Sale – supporting L2 Social Studies Social Action
Mon 10 Aug	Y10 TOPEC Trip begins
Mon 10 to Fri 14 Aug	Maths and Science Week with activities throughout the week.
Wed 12 Aug	Maths Spectacular – regional Maths quiz night
Thurs 13 Aug	TSSSA Trail relays
Fri 14 Aug	65 Year 6 students attending the Taranaki LEAD conference
	More house points are on the line with the Waka Singing competition
Fri 14 August	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

2027 DATES

<https://www.npghs.school.nz/term-dates>

CONTACT US

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ENROLMENTS
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BOARDING
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FOLLOW US

WEBSITE
www.npghs.school.nz

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SCHOOLBRIDGE
'SchoolBridge' on app store