



NUA NEWS

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Kia ora koutou, Talofa lava, Greetings everyone

Welcome to the first end of term newsletter for 2024.

This term has been full of busyness and activity as we began another year of learning and college activities. It seems a long time ago that we welcomed our new staff and students with pōwhiri back at the beginning of the term. Initially the focus for the term was getting to know everyone, finalising timetables and establishing routines.

A number of new courses were introduced for 2024. These had a good uptake from students and have established themselves alongside the wide variety of learning programmes that are available to our students. After the first few weeks the large majority of students had their learning programmes confirmed and have been engaging with their learning opportunities.

One of the challenges we have been facing and continue to face is the lack of classroom space available. It is a good problem to have and reflects the increasing number of students at our college. We are in communication with the Ministry of Education about this.

I hope you enjoy reading this end of term newsletter. It contains just some of the amazing things our students have been up to over this term. I am very proud of them and what they achieve. Thank you to our mana whenua, iwi, parents and community who partner with us and support us. We so appreciate sharing the journey of growing successful young adults.

Ngā mihi koutou, Tofa soifua, Kind regards

Grant Congdon
Principal



Word from the Board

Tēnā koutou katoa

A very warm welcome to Horowhenua College to all our new students and their families. Our Year 9 cohort is our largest for a number of years, and we are delighted to be able to offer a wide range of subjects, options and activities for all our students. Our core business as a board and school is educational achievement, and so our focus is on what we can do well in the classroom and through our other three pillars (sport, arts and culture, service) to grow successful young adults. We are conscious of demands on space and are thankful the Ministry of Education will be providing four new classrooms in Term 2. Meanwhile, we continue to renovate other parts of the school and look forward to a refreshed T-Block.

Term 1 has been a busy one for the board. Following consultation in 2023 we developed a new strategic plan for 2024-25 (a copy of which is available on the school website). The strategic plan has three main priorities: pedagogy (excellent teaching), student behaviour, and whakawhanaungatanga -building student resilience.

We have three annual goals for 2024. The first of these is centred on providing professional development support for staff to be able to meet the diverse needs of students in their classrooms through culturally responsive and relational teaching and through designing lessons to ensure all students are extended in their learning. Our second annual goal involves ensuring staff provide an effective and consistent approach when managing and responding to student behaviour. Our final goal for 2024 is to establish a facility (Te Toka) within the college to help meet the needs of students who struggle to attend classes due to well-being issues.

We will monitor progress on these goals as we move through the academic year.

I am so grateful to all our board members for all their time and commitment. Thanks to Garry Good (Deputy Chair), Megan Bolton, Manuila Tausi, Alasdair Maclean, Bob Slade, Chris Fearon (Teacher Representative) and Irene Vehikite (Student Representative) and Mr Congdon (our principal/tumuaki). We appreciate the administrative support provided by Kate Searle, our wonderful Board Secretary.

I hope you enjoy the contents of the newsletter. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable school holidays.

Ngā manaakitanga

Juliana Mansvelt

Board Chair

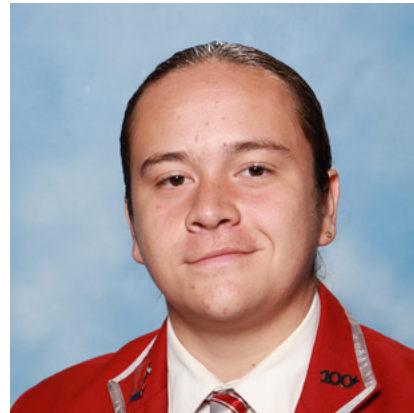


Student Leadership 2024

Introducing our prefects and their portfolios for 2024:



Irene Vehikite
Head Girl
Student Council



Rihara Norgrove-Rangihuna
Head Boy
Culture



Whatu Kiriona
Deputy Head Boy
Sport



Amber Rollinson
Deputy Head Girl
Arts



Arya Patel
Social Action



Grace Tabite
Culture



Jasmine Tran
Social



Student Leadership 2024



Johann Fuauli
International



Kalanee Rauhihi-Wicks
Arts



Luke Hayes-Brill
Media



Max Newman
Academic



Nic Wynne
Sport



Nikaia Hepi-Taratoa
Wellbeing



Sela Tosi
Wellbeing



Sharman Patel
Social Action



Steffani Miradores
International



Student Leadership 2024



Cate Parata
Sport



Heer Patel
Academic



Torina Ngaluafe
Social





Year 9 Pōwhiri

On Tuesday the 30th of January our brand new Year 9 students gathered outside the school waiting for the pōwhiri to commence that would make them officially a part of our whānau here at Horowhenua College.

The pōwhiri is significant for students starting a new school because they already feel like they belong as soon as the pōwhiri is finished. They hongī each and every person present and they get to see students and teachers role-modelling. For example our kaikōrero (speakers) on the paepae or our kaikaranga who are the first voices the new students hear.

It was evident right away that our new students coming in are going to do great things, from the way they carried themselves to the way they listened when people spoke. We look forward to seeing what can be accomplished together this year as a whānau and it will certainly be a great one.

Mauri Ora!

Rihara Norgrove-Rangihuna

Head Boy





Year 9 Pōwhiri





Year 9 Beach Walk

The Year 9's beach walk was a positive shared experience with the Year 9's, peer support leaders and staff. The walk started from Waitāreke Beach and finished at Hokio Beach.

Once we arrived at Hokio we enjoyed lunch and the weather was warm enough for the students to enjoy a swim once they got back to school. This was an awesome way for our Year 9's to converse and meet new people and learn about the history of the areas around their wider school community.

Torina Ngaluafe

Social Prefect





Tabloid Sports

On Friday 2nd February 2024, our new Year 9 students took part in their first house competition, the tabloid sports.

The Year 9 students had to dress up in their house colours to support their house and uplift their house spirits with chants. There were a few highlights of this day, one of them being the high level of participation from each student even if they were a little bit hesitant but the encouragement from peers, teachers and the peer support leaders made a huge difference.

Another highlight was verbal support. Even though the Year 9 students did not know each other, they all encouraged each other with kind words or doing the activity alongside each other which is really wholesome to see. Lastly the results of the Tabloid Sports were Hīnau in first place, Ngaio in second, Kōwhai in third and Rātā in fourth.

Jasmine Tran
Social Prefect

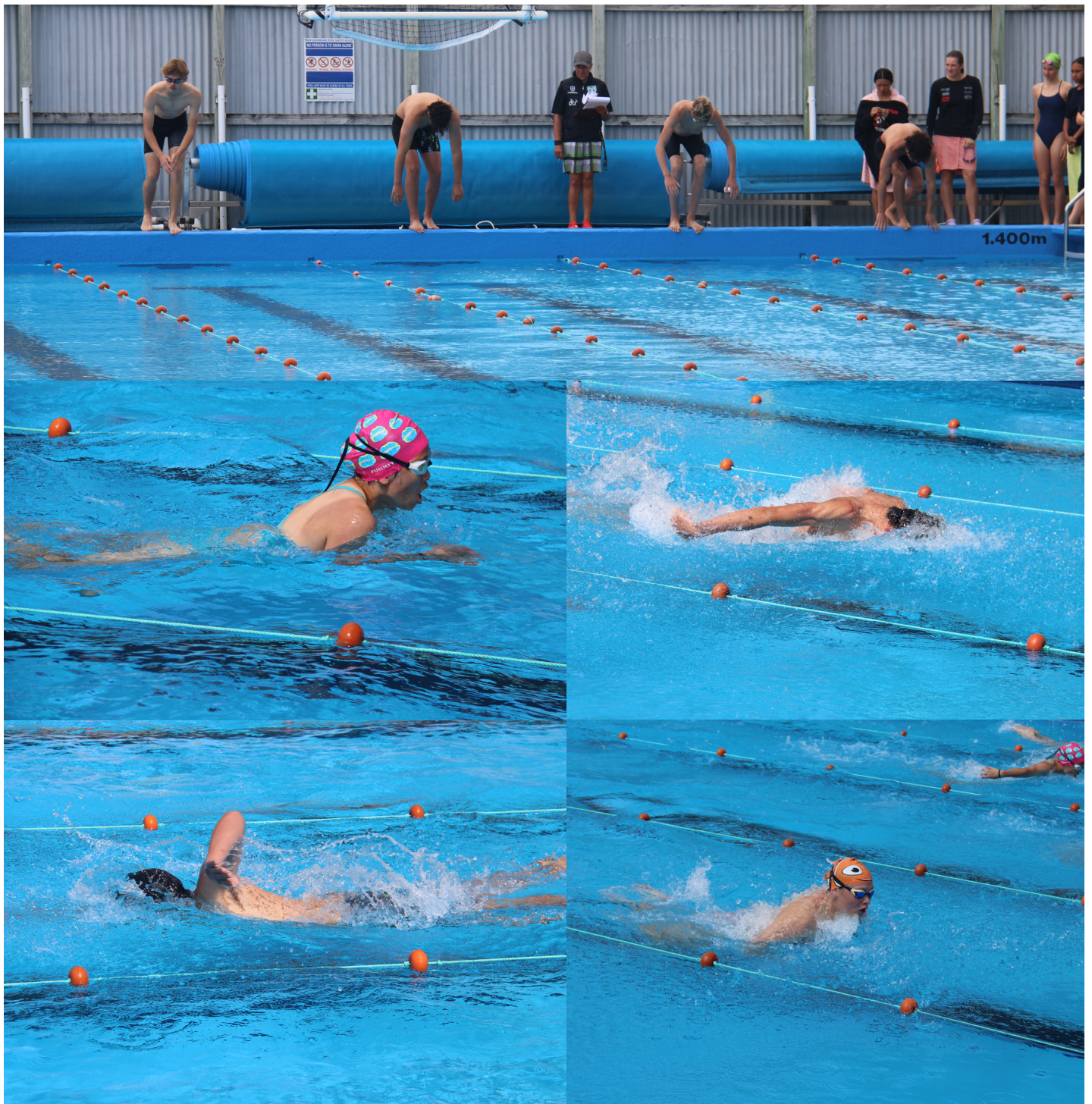




Swimming Sports

Swimming Sports was a great opportunity for our talented swimmers to compete and earn points for their house. This year it was competitive swimmers only, which meant everyone who competed put their full effort in and enjoyed racing against their peers. It was awesome to see everyone so passionate as they got to show off their skills in the water. The results ended up with Kōwhai on top, followed by Rātā in second place, Hīnau in third, and Ngaio fourth. Overall it was a great effort by everyone involved.

Cate Parata
Sport Prefect





Year 13 Camp

On Wednesday the 21st of February, our Year 13's went on a three day camp at Matau Marae.

The Year 13's and staff were welcomed on to the Marae with a beautiful Karanga and Pōwhiri.

They got to learn about Matau Marae and the interesting history behind it. Time at camp consisted of fun activities at the beach, tabloid games at the marae, karaoke night and delicious food served by our amazing Rangatahi Ora whānau. The Year 13s enjoyed their time, grew new bonds and built new relationships with one another. A lot of Year 13's wish that camp was extended longer, but all good times eventually come to an end. These bonds and memories are something that our Year 13's will never forget during their final moments here at Nua.

Sela Tosi

Wellbeing Prefect





Flag Assembly

The flag assembly held here at Horowhenua College is an amazing opportunity for students to proudly represent their cultures through clothing, music, and performance. This event is one where everyone is involved and a time to celebrate the many cultures that make up our college.

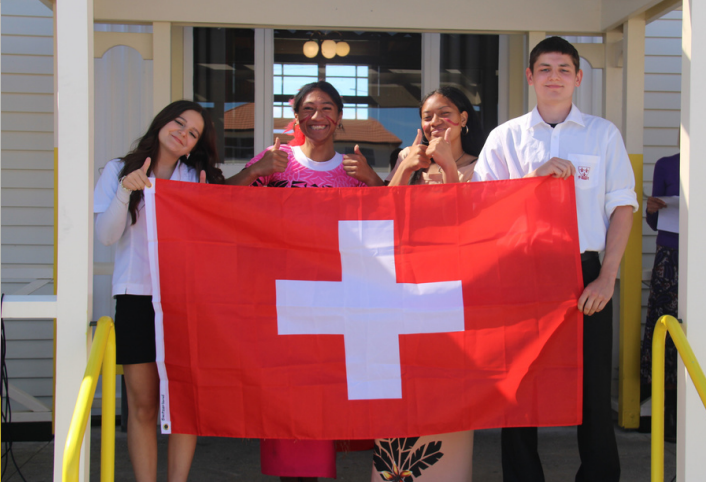
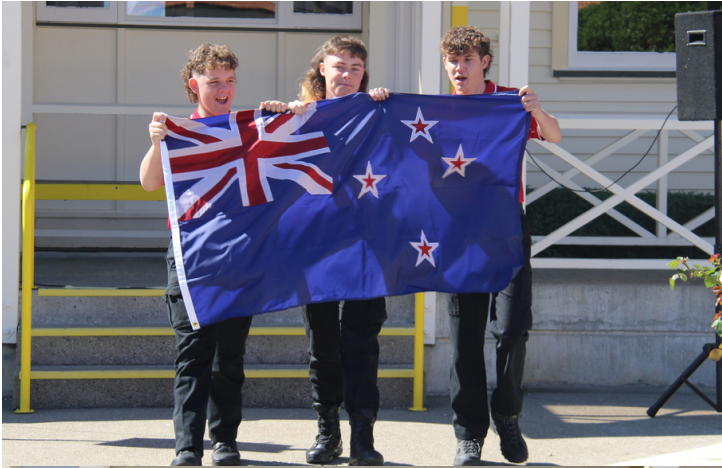
This year on the 6th of March, as our college continues to grow it was held in the quad where everyone played a part and witnessed the many communities living within the larger one. It was a day to remember. There was an atmosphere of passion and excitement along with support from many people from different backgrounds. To embrace this is one of our College's goals, and through the flag assembly we are able to connect and be one as a community regardless of where we come from.

Steffani Miradores
International Prefect



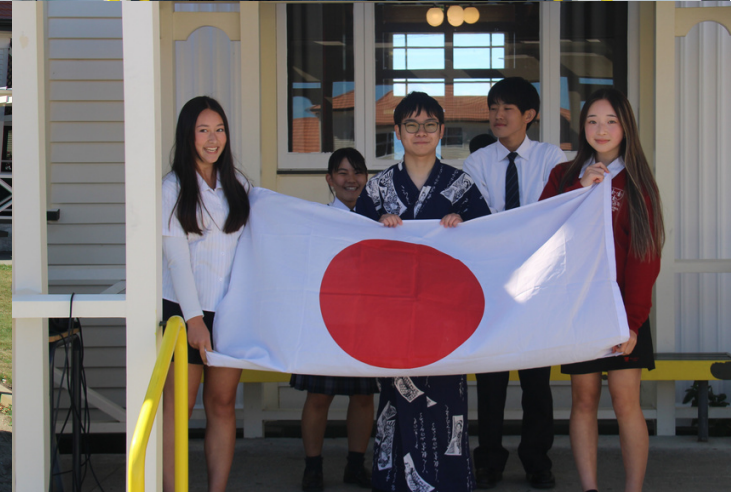
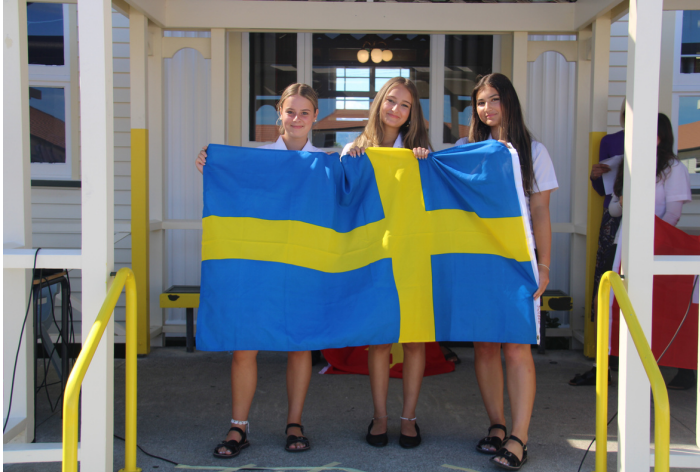


Flag Assembly





Flag Assembly





Athletics

Athletics was yet another successful sporting event at school. Students of all year groups had fun and participated in all different events such as running, throwing and jumping events. Lunch was also provided for all of the students as well as ongoing water fountains for everyone to keep hydrated throughout the events.

Athletics day engaged the students into representing their house colours as everyone was dressed up showing their passion for their house. Hīnau was victorious on the day until Kōwhai took the lead throughout the week with events such as high jump and the long distance running.

Athletics day ran throughout the entire day with it ending off on the relay races which were a huge success with everyone getting involved and cheering for their houses.

Nic Wynne

Sport Prefect





Athletics





Tug of War

Tug of war is one of the most exciting house events that everyone looks forward to watching and participating in. The energy was high, the crowd was electrified to hear and the participants were giving it all in pulling. It was an intense but energetic competition to be a part of especially at the beginning of the term.

It was a fun atmosphere and all houses gave it their 100 percent, and didn't leave anything behind in pulling the ropes. For the results, Hīnau took first place, Rātā and Ngaio 2nd equal and Kōwhai came in last at third place.

At the end it was Year 13's versus teachers. This was a good pull between the two teams as it thrilled the crowd. Overall, tug of war was a good house comp to start the year off with our Year 9's experiencing it with all year groups together in one waka.

Irene Vehikite

Head Girl





Tug of War





House Feud

The first-ever games of 'House Feud', a parody of the popular TV show 'Family Feud', kicked off in mid-week five with our very own host extraordinaire, Mr Stachurski!

In each match, two houses and five of their fiercest student players from each year level battled it out to see which house could guess the most popular responses as surveyed by forty teachers for each question on the board. A stand-out question, "Name a famous Chris?" saw Chris Hemsworth take the top spot, closely followed by our very own Matua Chris!

As the games progressed, the library became a room of excitement during breaks, as both students and staff gathered at the library to witness the epic competition, showing support for their houses by cheering on their fellow players. Despite fierce competition from all sides, one house emerged victorious and won Horowhenua College's first-ever 'House Feud' Rātā who earned five house points to add to their total.

Heer Patel & Max Newman

Academic Prefects





Biology

Year 13 Biology students completing their assignments out at the Manawatu Estuary.





Outdoor Education

In Level 2 Outdoor Education students have been focusing on how they can contribute as an individual to group goals. Weeks of work organising and preparing for outdoor trips and practicing kayaking skills in the wonderful Horowhenua College swimming pool culminated in a whitewater kayaking trip on the Ōtaki River.

Dan Riggs

TIC Outdoor Education



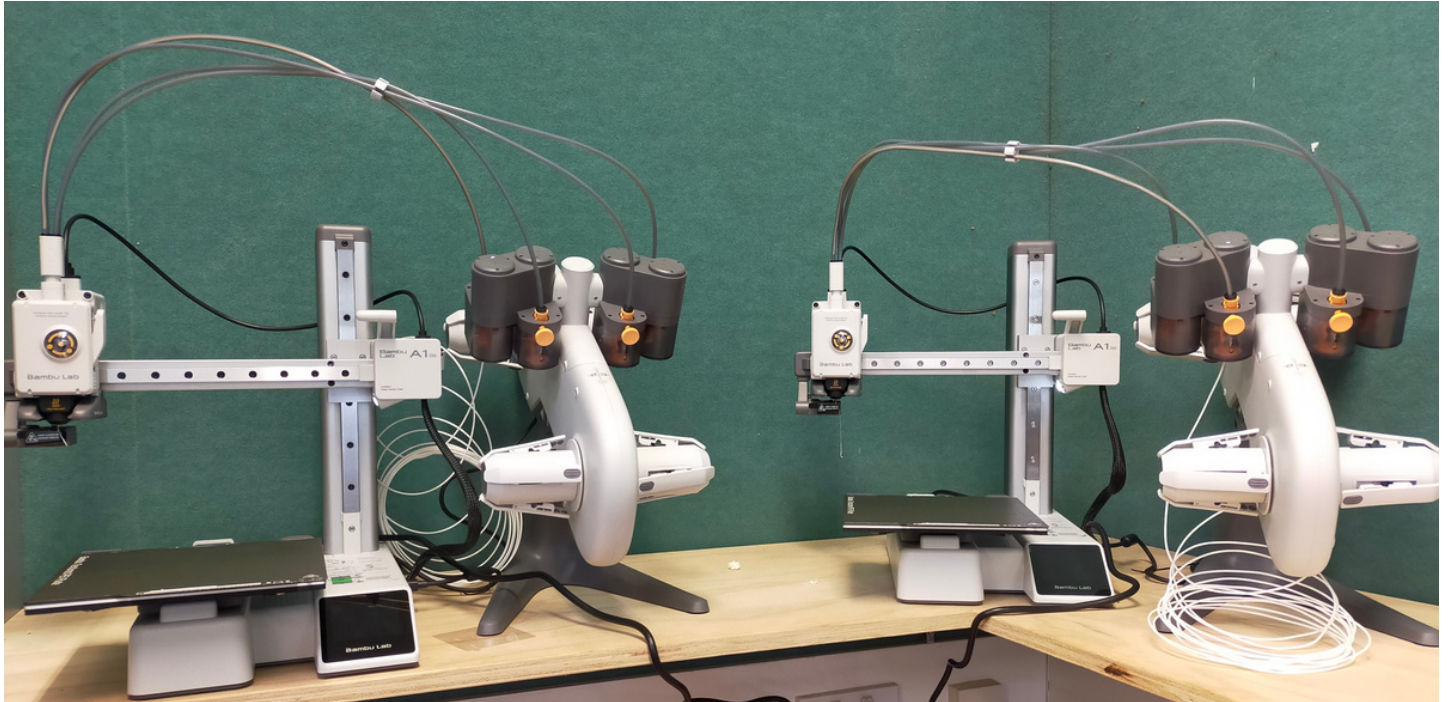


Digi Tech

Our brand new 3D printers have arrived and were assembled by our resident student 3d printer experts. Once they are connected the Year 10s will be able to print off their own creations.

Sean Nolan

TIC Digital Technology



Horticulture

Our Level 1 and 2 Horticulture classes had tractor & farm training at Lewis Farms. A great opportunity for our students!

Susie Prentice

TIC Horticulture





Waharoa

Waharoa Kai Masters

As part of our Manaaki Marae kaupapa our Waharoa class planned, prepared and cooked kai of their choice for a panel of judges. Scores were given for presentation, taste and teamwork, and the winning team declared as our Waharoa Kai Masters 2024.





Canoe Polo

Our ākongā combined with three other students to compete at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Championships at the Hokowhitu Lagoon in Palmerston North last weekend.

Penny Tulloch, Olivia Murray-Kirby, Morgan Swartboi, and Lexi Parata were from our kura. They competed hard and came 4th overall for their division.

Ka pai!

James Gilroy
TIC Canoe Polo





Inline Hockey

Year 9 Student Hope Cornford playing in the Wahine Kaha Inline Hockey Tournament.



Swimming

Year 10 student Rawiri Tristram-Brown winning a bronze medal with a 6 second personal best in the 400m freestyle at the Victoria Championships held in Melbourne, Australia.

Rawiri had a fantastic meet with 8 races and 5 personal bests.





Purple Poppy Day

On Saturday, the 24th of February, the Horowhenua College Services Academy marched to the Levin War Memorial to support, commemorate and close the ceremony for Purple Poppy Day.

Purple Poppy Day remembers and honours the animals that have served and still do serve in war and conflict.

The Academy closed off the service by performing the haka, a job done well by our students. These students gave up their Saturday to attend this event. Thank you team. Thank you also to Noa for attending.

Ka mau te wehi,

Ray Hunia

Director of Service Academy





STEMM

This term a group of our Year 11 students joined Waiopahu and Manawatū Colleges at Kawiu Marae to celebrate the launch of the Pūhoro STEMM Academy in our rohe.

The pōwhiri hosted by the Muaūpoko Tribal Authority was an opportunity to acknowledge the Pūhoro team as we embark on this kaupapa together to support ākonga to maintain a science pathway throughout school while embracing their Māoritanga.

Pūhoro will provide a programme of engagement that supports the curriculum and encourages commitment and excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics underpinned by Mātauranga Māori.

We look forward to the journey ahead. He waka eke noa!

Dylan Kiriona

HOF Languages





Baseball

This term Year 10 student Ronan Kjestrup represented the Southern Sea Dawgs under 14 team from Sydney at the Summer Sizzler Tournament in Australia where they placed second.

He also attended the Baseball NZ National Club Championship in the under 16 Division. His team the Central Makos placed third.





RYDA

Our Year 12 students spent the day learning how to be safe on the roads at the RYDA workshops. It was a great day and our students took a lot of knowledge onboard!





Golf

William Dunsmore played in the Levin Golf Club 36 hole Strokeplay Championship, played in conjunction with Horowhenua Open on Sunday 28th of January.

William finished 4th in the Horowheuna Open and won the Men's Senior Division for the LGC Strokeplay.



Swimming

We had seven students swim in the 2024 All Stars Zonal Secondary School Open Water Swimming Championships. Ollie Kennett, Jack Kennett, Hannah Alderton, Taylor Hing, Serena Su, Eloise Branagh and Arliyah Windley.

They all had fabulous results and Horowhenua College placed first overall.





Cycling

Year 12 student Minnie Collins competed in the Track National Cycling Championships in Cambridge during the first week of March. This event is New Zealand's premier track cycling event open to all of New Zealand. Minnie rode in the U17 age group for Bike Manawatu and rode in all endurance and sprint events over the 6 days.

This was a highly successful Nationals for Minnie who won 3 medals and was right up there with the best in New Zealand.





Waka Ama

This year we took 25 paddlers to the 2024 Secondary Schools Waka Ama Nationals at Tikitapu (Blue Lake), Rotorua. Our teams competed in double hulled W12 Mixed J16 and J19 250m races as well as the W6 Boys and Girls J16 and J19 500m and 250m races.

For our 15 first time paddlers, as well as our 2 new steerers, the nationals with over 130 schools and more than 2000 paddlers was an amazing experience. Finishing times in heats determined progressions so we were thrilled that most of our teams made it through to Te Takere (Plates) Semifinals with our J19 Mixed W12 and J19 Girls going through to Te Ihu (Champs) Semifinals.

Another exciting result was seeing our J16 Girls W6 and J19 Boys W6 qualify for the finals. With only 5 weeks preparation we are so proud of how well our teams performed and the times that they achieved in their races up against the many experienced paddlers from around the country. Ka rawe kē koutou, ki te hoe!

Dylan Kiriona
TIC Waka Ama





Waka Ama





Service Academy

In March our Horowhenua College Services Academy students attended the yearly induction course at Waiouru Military Base. They took part in a variety of exercises, from intellectual to physical. The assault course, cross-country course, and RFL (Required Fitness Level) test were a few of these physical tests.

The academy not only engaged in physical exercises but also received lessons from military corporals. They attended a lecture on recruitment and also classes on fire safety, teamwork, values and ethos.

On the Tuesday of their second week our students participated in the biggest test of all, the longest day. At 4.45 a.m the day started with a run up Waitangi Mountain. Throughout the day, students were assigned with leaderless tasks that required them to solve several mental puzzles utilising their academy's collective power and teamwork. The students completed the assault course one more time before returning to the barracks for a shower to round off the day.

From these physical activities our students brought back the confidence course award. Minnie Collins and Marama Reedy received awards for the fastest female and male time in the cross country.

Our students encountered challenges and were taken out of their comfort zones over the two weeks of the training, but overcame all these things by upholding strict standards and learning to embrace discipline. Overall the course was an eye opening experience where we met inspirational people and got insight on our future careers and endeavours. We will never forget this incredible experience.

Leni Smith & Riley Goodman
Service Academy Students





Service Academy





Dance

Year 11 student Anelisabeth Tua Faavale, past students Willow Thomsen, Hana Stewart and teacher Caitlin Sanson took to the stage at WS Battlegrounds NZ Dance competition in Hamilton over the weekend with their dance studio Anomaly from Palmerston North.

Performing in the Monster crew of 35 dancers, they came 1st and qualified for Worlds in Sydney Australia taking place in June 2024.



Dance NZ Made Auditions





College Contact Details

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We also use our facebook for messages and updates
<https://www.facebook.com/HorowhenuaCollege>



Term 2 Dates

April

29 April : Term 2 Begins

May

3 May: World Vision Youth Conference
13 May: Paid Union Meeting - 1.15pm Palmerston North
14 May: Heretaunga Exchange
18 May: Manawatu Secondary School Swimming
22 May: College Cross Country
23 May: Opening Night Sister Act
27 May: Manu Kōrero
29 May: Manawatu Cross Country

June

3 June: Kings Birthday
4 June: Teacher Only Day
21 June: 40 Hour Famine
24 June: Y10 Work Week -Hīnau and Rātā
28 June: Matariki

July

5 July: End of Term 2