

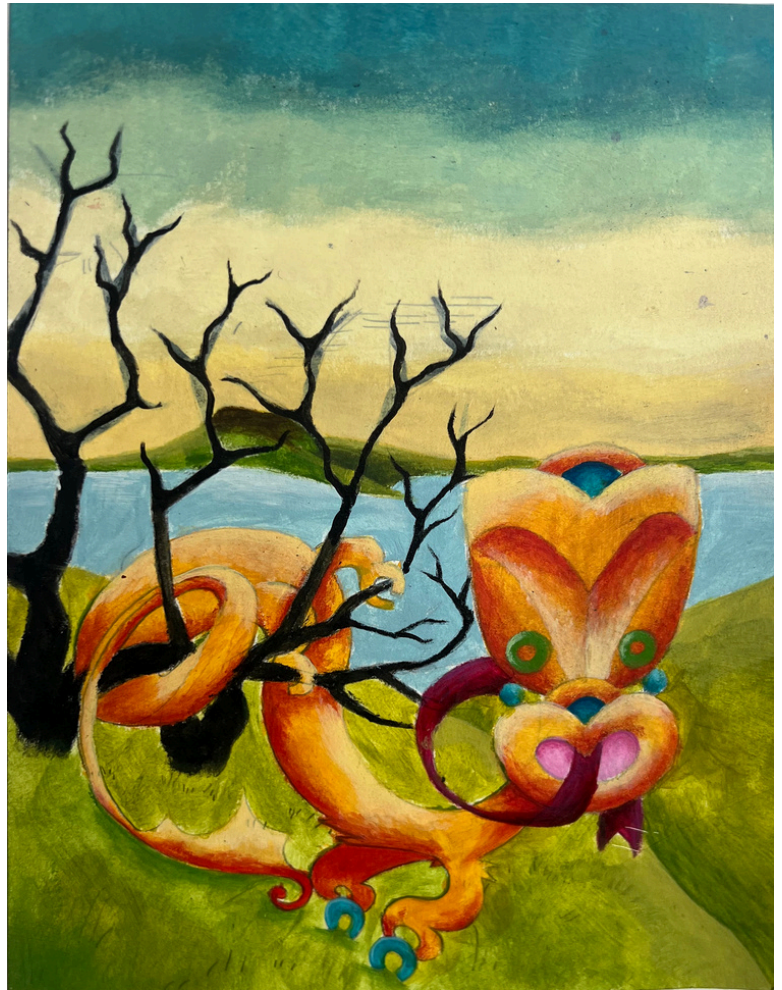
Principals Message

Talofa lava, warm Pacific greetings, and tēnā koutou katoa,

As we come to the end of Term 1, I want to acknowledge what has been a vibrant and inspiring start to the 2026 school year at Māngere College. Across this newsletter, you will see the many ways our ākonga have embraced opportunities, challenged themselves, and represented our kura with pride.

From the energy and cultural excellence displayed at Polyfest, including the debut of our first Chinese group, to the powerful learning experiences at the ASB Waterfront Theatre, our students have continued to deepen their understanding of identity, culture, and belonging. These moments reflect the strength of who we are as a diverse and inclusive school community.

Our commitment to future-focused learning has also been evident. Whether through the P-TECH Design Thinking workshop at Auckland Airport, industry engagement with guest speakers, or hands-on experiences in Food Technology and Catering, our students are building the skills, creativity, and confidence needed for life beyond the classroom. It has also been encouraging to see our senior students engaging in meaningful tertiary pathways and work experience opportunities, strengthening their connections to future careers.



ART BY LAWRENCE TUILEVA | YEAR 13



At the heart of all of this remains our focus on attendance, engagement, and achievement. When our students are present, involved, and striving for excellence, they set themselves up for success. I encourage all whānau to continue supporting this by ensuring students attend regularly and make the most of every learning opportunity.

I would also like to acknowledge the many staff, families, and community partners who contribute to these experiences. Your support enables our young people to thrive. Whether through cultural programmes, academic initiatives, or wellbeing opportunities, it truly takes a village to raise and empower our rangatahi.

As we head into the term break, I hope all members of our community take the time to rest, recharge, and spend time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another term of growth, connection, and success.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Geraint Tagaloa
Principal – Māngere College

GRIP Student Leaders Conference

On Thursday the 19th of March, the Māngere College student leaders made the most of their opportunity to be part of the SECONDARY GRIP Student Leadership Conference in Auckland, including a stage challenge and the Q&A at the end.

They enjoyed participating in practical and hands on activities and interacting with leaders from other schools. They received lots of information in a fun and entertaining way on topics such as:

- The Challenges at Our School
- The Challenges of a Student Leader
- What Makes a School Event Successful?
- Creating a Culture of Positive Friendships
- Getting a New Idea Off the Ground
- Tips for Leading Houses

We are excited to see how they will apply this knowledge in the coming terms and share it with the other leaders in our year 13 cohort.



Farewell to Mr Hardy

On the 6th of March, we farewelled our friend and colleague, Jon Hardy, who sadly for us, resigned at the end of 2025 as Deputy Principal of Māngere College for 5 years. Two days after Jon joined the school in 2020, MC went into Level 3 lockdown and in 2023, the whole of NZ, including Māngere College, experienced the effects of Cyclone Gabrielle. At the end of 2023, principal Tom Webb, announced his resignation. While Jon and the SLT team kept the school running smoothly as we waited in anticipation for the appointment of our new principal, none of us expected that we would then suffer the great loss of our beloved DP Mrs Mele Ah Sam who passed away in 2024. Jon was instrumental in helping staff and students to navigate this tragedy and a new 'normal' under the new SLT team. Then in 2025, Jon and his wife, Lee, suffered personal heartbreak when they both lost their mothers. Clearly Jon's tenure has been marked by challenges, so it was not surprising for Jon's close friends and colleagues to hear of his resignation.

They say that it takes a village to raise a child and here at MC we have been blessed to have Jon as part of our village, and therefore an integral part of the support structure that helped our students to thrive and develop as young adults. It was plain to see Jon's passion for teaching and the speed at which he developed rapport with our students. "Hardy", as he was commonly known by the seniors, was very much their go-to for advice, mentoring, timetable and subject information because he always had a friendly or stern word for them, as needed.

We thank Jon for his expertise and support particularly of the Social Science and Technology Departments, timetabling and our Refugee Students. We will miss his travel and sporting stories, his great sense of humour and wit and especially his friendship and collegial support. Finally, we honour him for his commitment and service to our MC whanau and hope that his new position gives him the opportunity to once again feel part of a village, and continue to make a difference. Ngā mihi maioha and fa'afetai lava



Tongans take a win at Polyfest

The Auckland Secondary Schools Māori & Pacific Islands Cultural Festival (18–21 March 2026 at Manukau Sports Bowl) was another MAFANA (heartfelt & warm) celebration of culture, identity, language and youth excellence. We are incredibly proud of the mighty 54-member Māngere College Tongan Group 2026 for their outstanding success. The group achieved 1st place in the Co-Ed School Ma'ulu'ulu (sitting dance) and 3rd place in Soke (standing & stick dance), showcasing discipline, pride, and cultural strength.

This year's "Kaveinga – 'Oku nofo'ia au 'e he 'Atakai, mo au 'iate ia! Ko e Taulama To'a 'o e To'utupu Pasifiki, ki he to'utangata kaha'u"

Kaupapa-Ko au ko te Taiao! Ko te Taiao ko au! He Toa Taiao Taiohi nō te Moana nui a Kiwa, āke, ake, ake!

Theme "The environment lives in me, as I live in it – a Pacific Youth Eco-Warrior for generations to come,"

Beautifully expressed through two Tongan cultural performance. A heartfelt mālō 'aupito to our dedicated Punake (Composer & Choreographer) Paane Alofi and family for their commitment, beginning practices daily at 3:30pm. Special thanks to our student leaders Sione Uhi, Sione Alofaki, Nanasi Hifo, and Mele Koloi, and to our Tongan teachers Ms Bloomfield, Mr Bloomfield, Ms McIntosh, Ms Potter, Miss Taukolo, and Miss Tatafu. Finally, mālō 'aupito to our parents and community for their unwavering support with Langitu'u.

Faka'apa'apa atu mo e lotu MC Tongan Group 2026



Samoan Pride at Polyfest

This year the Māngere College Samoan group, ranging from year 9 to year 13, performed on Friday the 20th of March; a very hot and sunny Friday afternoon. The weeks of long practices, including weekend rehearsals, meant that our students had to balance this with their school work, family life and personal time but it all came together in the end. The students' pride and passion for their Samoan heritage shone through their beaming smiles, booming voices, graceful actions, especially that of taupou, Victoria Lutua I3MMR, the animated movements of faaluma, Ramsey Tufa 9MMS, and entertaining actions of fuataimi, Fouvale Fogavini I3RSI.

We acknowledge the many people who supported the Samoan Group's preparation leading up to their performance; those who supervised their practices after school in the auditorium, including school caretaker Bobbie McMaster, who ensured that they could rehearse in the weekends, and tutors Nise Lam, Sapati Faaleaoga, Andrew Fepuleai, Monica Lemalu and Lei Ieremia. A special thanks to the Samoan Group Teachers in Charge: Fuatino Nu'usavili and Ray Sa'u, supported by Fala Anamani, without whose leadership, the group would probably have not entered this year.



Māngere College's First Chinese Group Shines at Polyfest

This year marked a special milestone for Māngere College as a group of 13 students took to the Polyfest Diversity Stage, proudly representing the school as its first-ever Chinese cultural group. Performing on Saturday, the students delivered a graceful and captivating Chinese fan dance, showcasing traditional techniques and embodying a sense of calm, elegance, and cultural pride.

The performance ran smoothly, and the group embraced the experience with enthusiasm, enjoying a memorable day together. What made this group particularly special was its diversity. Students of different genders, cultural backgrounds, and year levels came together, with many being new to Māngere College. Their unity and commitment highlighted the inclusive spirit of the school and the power of cultural expression. This debut performance signals a promising beginning, with hopes that the Chinese group will continue to grow and represent us on the Polyfest stage in years to come.

The success of the group was made possible through the support of many. A big thank you to Hannah, Min (our MLA), and Mandra for supporting the trip. Special appreciation goes to Pauline and Mandra for supervising practices, and to Rosalie for her ongoing care and encouragement despite being away due to injury.

Tai's organisation behind the scenes ensured everything ran seamlessly, while media support from Farhana and Kaiah helped capture and share the journey. A heartfelt thank you also goes to Roshni, whose guidance, experience, and passion for Polyfest were invaluable throughout the process. This achievement stands as a proud moment for Māngere College and a celebration of culture, collaboration, and new beginnings.



Indo-Viti Fusion Group Brings “Eco-Warrior” Message to Polyfest

Namaste and bula vinaka to all.

Our newly formed Indo-Viti Fusion Group proudly presented a powerful and meaningful performance under the theme “Eco-Warrior.” Through a vibrant blend of music, movement, and cultural storytelling, the group explored themes of unity, strength, heritage, and our shared responsibility to protect the natural world.

The performance opened with “Bharso Re Megha,” where rain becomes a symbol of hope, rebirth, and life itself, reminding us of our deep connection to nature and the essential role it plays in sustaining all living things. A tribute to the Earth’s beauty, resilience, and life-giving force.

The journey then moved into the Pacific with “Sulu Tavoi,” celebrating the strong relationship between Fijian culture and the land, sea, and vanua. This segment highlighted the longstanding traditions of environmental care and respect, echoing the values held by Indigenous communities around the world who have long understood the importance of protecting nature.

The mood intensified with “Nagada Sang Dhol,” where powerful rhythms and bold movements represent courage, unity, and the rising voices of those advocating for change. This piece reflected the spirit of active eco-warriors, individuals who stand strong in the fight for sustainability, climate action, and the preservation of our planet for future generations.

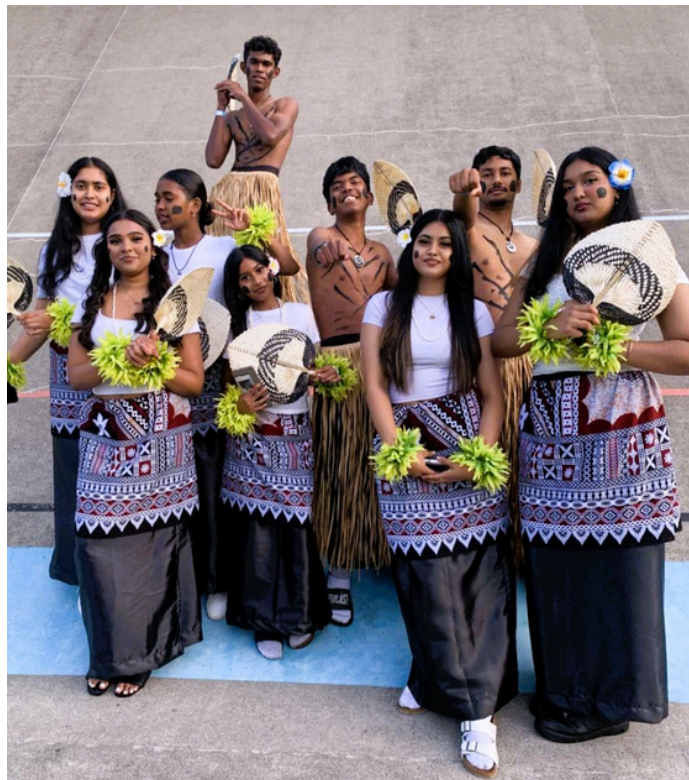
The performance concluded with “Toso Mai,” a celebration of unity and shared responsibility. It reinforced the message that caring for the Earth is not the responsibility of one culture alone, but a collective duty. By bringing together Indo and Viti cultures, the group demonstrated the strength and impact of unity in protecting our environment. Through this dynamic fusion of dance and storytelling, the Indo-Viti Fusion Group delivered a clear and compelling message:

Our home is the Earth.

We are responsible for its care.

And it is our generation that will protect it.

Dhanyavaad. Vinaka vakalevu. Thank you.



More Than Just Classes: Finding Your Place at Māngere College

When people think about school, they often think about classes, assignments, and exams. But some of the most meaningful parts of school life actually happen outside the classroom. Clubs and student leadership groups give students the chance to discover their interests, build confidence, and connect with others in the school community.

At Māngere College, many different clubs allow students to get involved and make a difference. Students who enjoy helping others and spending time in a calm learning environment can become student librarians. They help support the library by organising books and assisting other students, helping create a welcoming and warm space for learning.

For students who are passionate about sports and staying active, MC Active (Sports Council) plays an important role in encouraging participation in sports and promoting a healthy lifestyle across the school. The Student Council represents the voices of students and works with the school to share ideas and improve the overall student experience. It allows students to step forward as leaders and contribute to positive change.

Well-being is also a key focus at school. The Health Council helps raise awareness about physical and mental health, encouraging students to take care of themselves and support their peers.

Students who enjoy learning and motivating others academically can join the Academic Council, which promotes a culture where students aim high and celebrate academic success.

Creativity and storytelling come alive through the MC Media Club, where students can explore photography, video, and media while capturing moments from school events and activities.

Cultural pride is an important part of Māngere College as well. Polyfest Leaders help organise and guide cultural groups as they prepare to represent the school and celebrate the diverse cultures within our community.

Finally, Kainga (House) Leaders help strengthen school spirit by encouraging participation in house competitions and events, creating teamwork and a sense of belonging among students.

Joining a club may seem like a small step, but it can open the door to new friendships, new skills, and new opportunities. Whether your interests are in leadership, sports, academics, creativity, or culture, there is a place for you at Māngere College. Getting involved is a great way to make the most of your time at school and discover what you are truly passionate about.

By Alisha Sharma

An Update From the Library Desk

We have trained ten new student to be librarians, bringing the total to date of 53 student librarians. We still have about 20 in training. Our team work diligently every week during sectioning to keep the library as a user friendly, accommodating, clean and tidy environment for all our students. We had many activities and displays this term such as the English Hui, "MC NO to domestic violence campaign and we remember dearly our Mama Mele, whose display does not do justice for the many years she served our school.

Check out all the books purchased and donated to us this term by clicking on this link. Browse and pop in for a book or two for the holidays. Library Blog: <https://mangere.librarysoftware.co.nz/#>

Happy Holidays and Happy Easter
God Bless.
Happy Librarian



Students Experience Powerful Theatre at ASB Waterfront

Māngere College ākonga had the opportunity to engage in a rich cultural and educational experience earlier this year, attending Waiora Te Ūkaipō – The Homeland at the ASB Waterfront Theatre in Auckland. A group of 39 students and four kaiako travelled to the venue, arriving ahead of the 11:00am matinee to take part in this powerful live performance.

The production, presented as part of the Auckland Theatre Company's schools programme, explored themes of identity, belonging, and the enduring impact of colonisation on iwi Māori and whānau Māori. Through compelling storytelling, the performance challenged students to reflect deeply on Aotearoa's history and its relevance today. Following the two-hour performance, many students stayed on for an optional Q&A session led by Teaching Artists Nī Dekkers-Reihana and Sean Rivera. This provided ākonga with the chance to ask questions, share their thoughts, and further unpack the themes and creative elements of the production.

Humblest gratitude to ASB Waterfront theatre, Auckland Theatre Company (Sam Phillips) and Tawata Productions (Mīria George and Hone Kouka). AND A big thank you to: Ms Hopman, Ms Doughty, Ms Bhamjee and Mr Wilks.

Feedback from students: "Being able to watch this play has solidified my love for theatre in general. It also opened my eyes to a local setting, witnessing a play regarding Māori culture gave me a deeper sense of understanding" – Nina Yr. 13

"Thank you for allowing us to join you guys, it was my very first time attending the ASB theatre, and it was a very good first impression" – Teina Yr. 13

"I really liked the play; it helped me to understand the significance of staying connected to your culture and traditions no matter what" – Farizah Yr. 13

"I would like to say how wonderful their acting was, because it felt so real to the audience, like it was alive. I really want to thank ATC for paying for our transport to come and see the amazing play. I really hope it opened the eyes of people around to know what the Māori people went through when the Pākehā came to New Zealand" – Grace Vine Yr.11



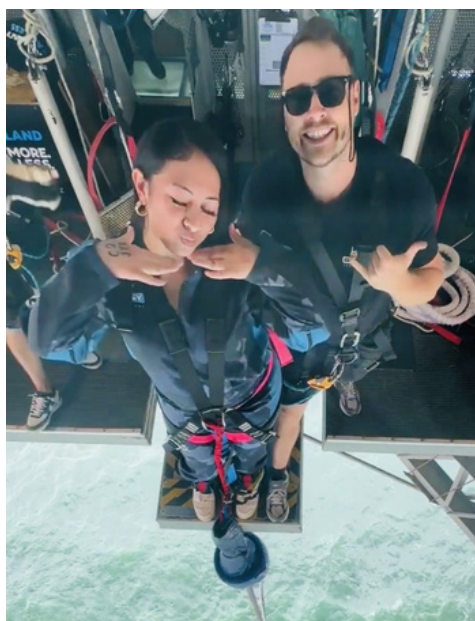
Careers Department Update

It's been a busy start of the year here at the careers department and it's only getting started. Over the past few weeks, students have been actively involved in a range of programmes, work experiences, and opportunities designed to support their future pathways. From hands-on learning through MCPA and Gateway placements to engaging presentations and unique experiences, students have had the chance to explore different career options, build confidence, and develop practical skills. We are proud of the way students have embraced these opportunities and look forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

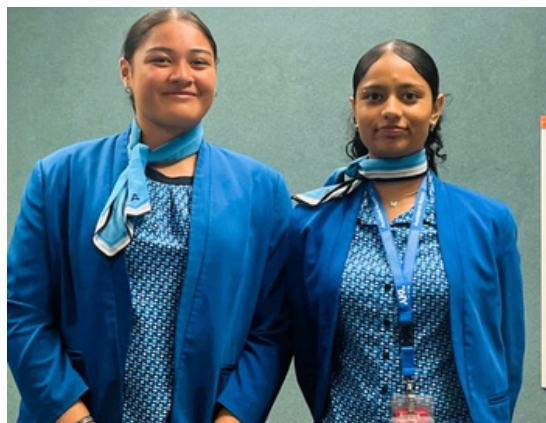


MCPA 2026 - This year, we have a total of 19 students participating in MCPA (Māngere College Pathways Academy), with 4 students in Automotive and 15 in Construction. MCPA provides students with the opportunity to gain industry-relevant skills through hands-on, practical learning in a real world environment. They have made a strong start to the year and have been thriving in their respective courses. It has been great to see their growing confidence, commitment, and engagement, and we look forward to seeing their continued progress and achievements throughout the year.

Airport 2 Weeks Gateway Work Experience / Woolworths Gateway - This term, two year 13 students completed a two-week Gateway work experience placement at the airport. During this time, they gained valuable hands-on experience in a real workplace environment while also working towards and achieving credits. In addition, a group of year 12 students have been participating in Gateway placements with Woolworths, where they are developing essential workplace skills. Gateway continues to provide meaningful opportunities for students to explore potential career pathways and gain practical experience. We look forward to seeing more students take part in Gateway work experience programmes in Term 2.



ITC Bungy Jump - Selected students had the opportunity to participate in the ITC Bungy Jump experience, a two-day programme that challenged students both mentally and physically. This experience was not only about the thrill, but also about building confidence, courage, and resilience. Students were encouraged to step outside their comfort zones, face their fears, and support one another throughout the activity. As part of the programme, students also worked towards earning credits, making this a valuable learning opportunity alongside an unforgettable experience. It was great to see students rise to the challenge and walk away with a strong sense of achievement.



University/Tertiary Overview Presentations - Throughout Term 1, we hosted a range of university and tertiary presentations in the Careers Department during Break 2, which many of our senior students attended. These sessions provided valuable information about study options, entry requirements, and career pathways after school. A big thank you to the universities and tertiary providers for taking the time to visit Māngere College and share their knowledge with our students.

Innovation, Creativity and Real-World Learning Across Technology and Hospitality

It has been an exciting and productive period for P-Tech students, with a range of hands-on learning experiences across Digital Technology, Food Technology, and Catering, alongside valuable industry engagement opportunities.

On 26 March 2026, Year 11 P-TECH students travelled to ARA at Auckland Airport to take part in a Design Thinking workshop. Students explored the concept of empathy, developing their ability to understand and consider the perspectives of end users. Building on this real-world learning, senior Digital Technology students were further inspired by a visit from guest speaker Mr Will Fleming from Campfire Studios on 27 March. Speaking to Level 2 and Level 3 classes, he shared insights into podcasting as a potential digital outcome for assessment.

Practical learning continued in the Food Technology space, where Year 10 students baked Easter surprise muffins during their cooking class. Working collaboratively, students followed recipes, practised measuring techniques, and demonstrated strong self-management in the kitchen. The results were both visually appealing and delicious, with students taking pride in their creations.

Meanwhile, Level 1 Catering students have been developing their skills in cocktail preparation and presentation as part of their assessment. Students experimented with colour, balance, and garnishing techniques to produce visually striking drinks. Their final products reflected both technical skill and artistic flair. Senior students are also benefiting from ongoing tertiary pathways. Year 12 and Year 13 Digital Technology students continue their involvement in the P-TECH Tertiary Pathways Programme at MIT Manukau, attending weekly sessions as they work towards completing the Level 4 Certificate in IT Essentials over two years.



SchoolBridge



The banner features the Māngere College logo on the left, which includes a crest with 'MC' and 'TEKIO HAKA' below it. To the right of the logo is the text 'Māngere College' in a large, dark blue font. Further right is a white rounded square containing an orange arch logo. Below the logo is the text 'Download Our App'. To the left of this text is a QR code. To the right of the QR code are two bullet points: 'Scan the QR Code to download. Or' and 'Search "schoolbridge" on your mobile AppStore or PlayStore.' Below these bullet points are two buttons: 'Download on the App Store' with the Apple logo and 'GET IT ON Google Play' with the Google Play logo. To the right of these buttons is a cartoon kiwi bird standing next to a green fern frond. To the right of the kiwi are two smartphones. The left smartphone displays the SchoolBridge app interface with the 'Māngere Coll' logo and a 'Sign In' button. The right smartphone displays a notification screen with a red bell icon and the text 'Caregiver Notifications'.

Download Our App

- Scan the QR Code to download. Or
- Search "schoolbridge" on your mobile AppStore or PlayStore.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Once you have downloaded the app, you can sign in using your school account information. Please contact the school if you need help with your account details.

Our School App provides a one-stop-shop for parents and caregivers to communicate directly with school. We strongly recommend you download the app as it is the only portal to report absences and receive direct messages on your mobile, specific to your children.

The app can be downloaded free on your mobile device or desktop.

Download it using the App Store or Google Play by clicking the following links:

[SchoolBridge on the App Store \(apple.com\)](#) or [Get it via Google Play \(Android\)](#).

Step 1: Download the App

Step 2: Once downloaded, you will be prompted to login. Click Login.

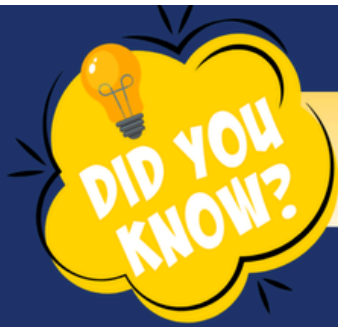
Step 3: Choose either Microsoft or Google login options and register with an existing account. NB: You MUST use the same email you have registered with the school.

Step 4: If you DO NOT have a Microsoft or Google account, register your email address under 'Or request a Magic Sign in code'. NB: You MUST use the same email you have registered with the school. If you have registered this way, you will receive an email link to continue your registration.

Step 5: Your App is downloaded.

On the App you can:

- Find all school contact details
- view daily notices and newsletters
- report a student absentee (with one click) and late arrivals
- request a leave of absence or an exit pass
- access KAMAR (our Student Management System)
- track your child's academic results and see relevant, NCEA progress
- receive notifications directly to your phone, relating to your child
- approve/decline trips, relating to your child – simply click on 'Permission Slips & Forms'
- add multiple children – simply click on 'Switch Siblings'
- gain up to date financial information regarding your child's subject and activity charges



We have an upgraded school gate



We've upgraded the pedestrian access at the school's back entrance (Caravelle Close) to make drop-offs and pick-ups safer and smoother for everyone.

This isn't a new entrance, just a better one! The area now features a fully concreted footpath, improved access, and more efficient parking flow to help ease congestion during busy times.

Let's work together to improve traffic flow and keep our tamariki safe.



Key Dates

2 April – Last Day of Term 1
3 April – Good Friday
6 April – Easter Monday
20 April – First Day of Term 2
23 April – NCEA ma le Pasifika
27 April – Anzac Day
1 June – Kings Birthday

Term Dates 2026

Term 1: 29 January 2026 – 2 April 2026
Term 2: 20 April 2026 – 3 July 2026
Term 3: 20 July 2026 – 25 September 2026
Term 4: 12 October 2025 – 11 December 2026



Uniform Drive

Donate your pre-loved uniforms and support the next generation of students. We need clean, good-quality blazers, shirts, skirts, trousers, and PE kits.

Drop-off at admin office | Mon–Fri | 9 am – 3 pm.
Let's give these uniforms a second life!

