

BOTANY CAMPUS

6 June 2025

DATES

Wednesday 11 June

CAREERS EXPO FOR
ALL YEAR 11 - 13
STUDENTS

Monday 23 June

PARENT TEACHER
CONFERENCES

Wednesday 25 June

MOCK ROCK DAY

Friday 27 June

TEACHER ONLY DAY

All Botany Campus students will be attending the annual Careers Expo at the Howick Recreation Centre. This event brings together a wide range of tertiary institutions, trade training providers, and employer liaison teams, all offering valuable insights and guidance on future career and study pathways.

Held during school hours, the expo is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore different industries, ask questions, and begin thinking about their next steps after school. Transport to and from the venue will be provided via school buses.

We are looking forward to connecting with you at our upcoming Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences on Monday, 23 June. These conferences are an important opportunity for students, parents, and teachers to come together to discuss learning progress, celebrate successes, and set goals for the remainder of the year.

We believe that open communication and partnership between home and school play a vital role in supporting each student's growth, both academically and personally. Your involvement and insights as parents are highly valued, and these conferences provide a dedicated time to collaborate and strengthen that connection.

Further information, including how to book appointment times with your child's teachers, will be sent out soon. We encourage all families and whānau to take part in this valuable event and look forward to seeing you there.

Outdoor Education and Adopt a park program



Our school is proud to be involved in the Auckland Council's Adopt-a-Park program, taking active steps to care for and enhance our local environment. As part of this initiative, students and staff participated in a tree-planting project at Cascade Creek, located just behind the school. This hands-on experience not only contributes to restoring native habitats and improving biodiversity in the area, but also strengthens our connection to the land and our commitment to sustainability. By working together to plant trees and care for the creek surroundings, we are making a lasting impact on our local ecosystem and fostering a sense of kaitiakitanga (guardianship) among our students.

As part of the Year 13 Outdoor Education programme, students recently took part in a bush camp experience that challenged their resilience and deepened their connection with the natural environment. This photo shows the students' tents nestled among the native bush, set up using low-impact camping techniques. Spending time off-grid, students practised essential survival skills such as fire lighting, shelter building, and minimal-impact living. The camp offered a valuable opportunity for personal growth, teamwork, and appreciation of Aotearoa's unique natural environments. The students also helped out with woolly nightshade eradication projects at Duder's reserve in Maraetai and learned about the local history of the Umupuia area.



Year 12 Outdoor Education

Our Year 12 Outdoor Education students recently took on the challenge of the high ropes course at Adrenaline Forest in the Bombay Hills. The experience pushed students out of their comfort zones as they navigated suspended bridges, zip lines, and climbing elements high in the treetops. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop confidence, resilience, and trust in one another, with many students achieving more than they thought possible. The day highlighted the importance of personal challenge and group dynamics, key themes of the Outdoor Education programme.



Geography – Year 11, 12 & 13: Geographic Research

Term 2 has been an action-packed time for our Geography students, with each year level embarking on an EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) trip to collect data for their research investigations.

Year 13 students travelled to Muriwai to explore coastal processes, aiming to determine which process is most dominant in shaping the coastline. Year 12 students investigated variations in land use across different locations, comparing Auckland's CBD with the suburb of Botany and the rural-urban fringe of Whitford. Meanwhile, our Year 11 students have been conducting research into the school's micro-climates, investigating how factors such as location, surface materials, and building structures influence local weather conditions.

The skills developed through these investigations—data collection, analysis, and presentation—are essential tools for any researcher, regardless of discipline. More importantly, they help students see Geography not just as a classroom subject, but as a powerful lens for understanding the complex and ever-changing relationship between people, places, and the environment.



Sport Council 3v3 Basketball and Cross Country

Recently, the Sports Council hosted an exciting internal 3x3 basketball competition that brought energy, teamwork, and friendly rivalry to the court. Seven competitive teams took part, each bringing their own style and intensity to the game. From the outset, the matches were fast-paced and tightly contested, with players showing impressive skill, sharp shooting, and strong defence.

The tournament culminated in a thrilling final between two standout teams. With supporters cheering courtside, both teams battled it out in a high-energy game. In the end, one team pulled ahead to claim a 19-14 victory, earning the title of tournament champions.

A huge congratulations to the winners, and a big thank-you to all the students who participated, supported, and helped run the event. The competition was a great celebration of school spirit and sporting talent – we're looking forward to the next one!



Our annual cross country event took place on Monday, 26 May, bringing together students for a fun and competitive inter-whānau challenge. Students had the choice to run either individually in the 4 km or 3 km races, or compete as part of a relay team to earn valuable points for their whānau.

In the relay events, congratulations to our winning teams:

Girls – Caitlyn Chong, Shanna Croft, and Jenna Smit

Boys – Anton Kotze, Timothy Suresh, and Matthew Koshelev

For the 4 km individual race:

Boys – 1st: Oliver Croft, 2nd: Luke Hunter, 3rd: Joshua Preiss

Girls – 1st: Alayna Finley, 2nd: Megan Whiteman, 3rd: Celia Rutkowski

In the 3 km individual race:

Boys – 1st: Daniel Mihaere, 2nd: Archie Neill, 3rd: Matthias Zeng

Girls – 1st: Lianna Delubio, 2nd: Esther Nickoley, 3rd: Jun Lau

A big congratulations to all students who took part and gave it their all.

Prefect Team: Building Connections with the Middle Years



As the prefect team, we had the privilege of leading an assembly with the Middle Years students at the Golflands Campus. We brought along our worship team to give the students a glimpse of what worship looks like at Botany Campus. Gaius, our Deputy Head Boy, also shared a word on the importance of self-respect and showing respect to others. This tied in with the Middle Years' Kotahitanga value of Manakitanga.

We wrapped up the session with a fun game of True or False, which brought lots of energy and laughter. This experience was a meaningful opportunity to build a bridge between the Botany Campus and the Middle Years, helping to create a sense of connection and unity.

As a team, we feel incredibly blessed to have had this chance to encourage and invest in the younger students. It aligns closely with our team's vision of building a strong foundation through school culture—and seeing the Middle Years so engaged, open, and willing to worship and care for one another was deeply encouraging.

We're excited for what's ahead and are already looking forward to our next opportunity to connect with the Middle Years later this term.



Kotahitanga Award

Every week we focus on what it means to exemplify one of our school learning behaviours. Teachers look for students displaying the selected behaviour throughout the week and nominate them for a prize draw held during our Friday assembly.

Weeks 4 and 5

We show Aroha , we are **Kind**

We show Manaakitanga , we are **Respectful**

The following students were recognised for displaying one of these values and were nominated for this award:

Nominees:

**Megan Whiteman, Devine Sagote, Hansika Anumolu,
Mezpah Siaosi Lutu, Kaia Tewake, Esther Nickoley**

WINNERS:

Taumasina Lutu

for

Showing grace and compassion

Tobyn Hodgson

for

Giving his best and working diligently and respectfully under the guidance of his teachers.

AWARDS CHOSEN:

CHOCOLATE BAR and STAFF MORNING TEA