

BOTANY CAMPUS

5 September 2025

DATES

Thursday 11-12
September

CO- REQUISITE
ASSESSMENT

Tuesday 16 September
DVC EXPO YEARS 11-13

Wednesday 17
September

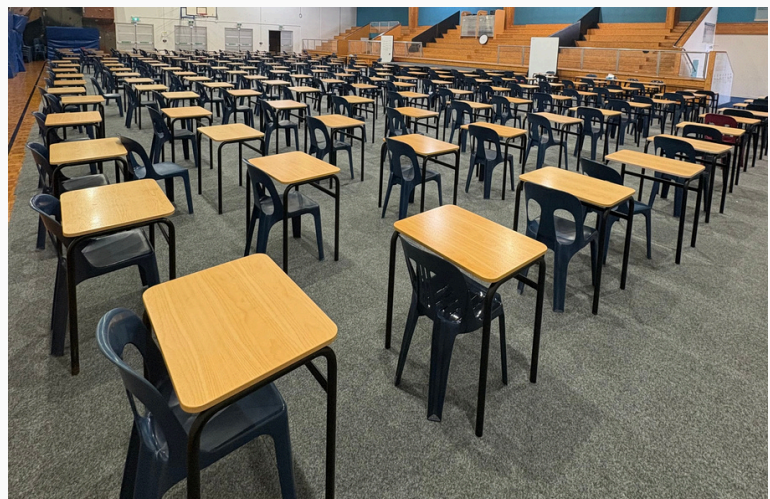
2026 WHĀNAU
PREFECT SPEECHES

Friday 19 September
LAST DAY OF TERM 3

Monday 6 October
TERM 4 BEGINS

It has been a busy but exciting few weeks for our students! They've been hard at work preparing for and participating in a range of key events:

- **Cultural Night:** Our annual Cultural Night was an absolute highlight, showcasing the incredible talent and diversity within our school. See more photos and details on page 3.
- **Tournament Week:** Our senior netball, football, and basketball teams competed with skill and determination during Tournament Week. A full write-up of their games and results will be featured in the next newsletter.
- **Practice Exams:** Our students are now over halfway through their NCEA practice exams. This is an important new experience for many of our Year 11 students, and it's a great opportunity for all our senior students to prepare for their final exams at the end of the year.



ANNOUNCING OUR NEW INTERACT BOARD

Last Week, we had the opportunity to introduce the new Interact Board for 2025/2026.

Interact, which is short for International Action, is a global service organization sponsored by Rotary International. Its mission is to foster leadership, fellowship, and community service while working to advance goodwill and peace.

This year's changeover ceremony was led by Ms. Bini from the Somerville Rotary Club and was particularly special as we welcomed a larger team of 14 students to lead the club. Dr. Han introduced the new board members, which include two students in the new role of Marketing Director and three new Vice Presidents to support our 2025/2026 Interact President, Joseph Carter. We look forward to seeing the great work this new board will do in serving both our school and the wider community.



CULTURAL NIGHT

Our school recently celebrated our annual Cultural Week, a vibrant event that showcased the incredible diversity of our community.

The week began with a special worship service where students and staff sang 'Amazing Grace' in different languages. Throughout the week, our school grounds were transformed by food stalls offering delicious traditional dishes from around the world, including mango lassi, samosas, panikekes, dumplings, and rice cakes. Students also enjoyed a fun Cultural Quiz held in the gym.

The week's highlight was undoubtedly our annual Cultural Night. Students proudly wore traditional attire on Friday's Dress-Up Day, leading up to a fantastic evening of performances, music, and dance. We were thrilled to have cultural groups from the Golflands Campus join us on stage this year, making the event even more special. The audience was captivated by performances from our Asian, Kapa Haka, Latin, Indian, African, and Samoan groups.

It was a truly memorable week that deepened our appreciation for each other's unique backgrounds and traditions.



KBB MUSIC FESTIVAL SUCCESS!

On Sunday, August 11, our talented students took part in the annual KBB Music Festival, a celebration of musical talent across Auckland. We are incredibly proud to announce that our combined orchestra, which featured musicians from three campuses and was made up mostly of junior students, received a Highly Commended Award. This is a wonderful achievement, especially considering the challenges of bringing together players from different campuses to perform as one. Our students did a fantastic job, presenting themselves with confidence and excellence on stage.

The festival was also a great source of inspiration for our young musicians. Watching so many outstanding ensembles from other schools has motivated them to continue developing their skills and striving for excellence in their musical journey.



BOTANY CAMPUS SPORT

On August 15, our Elim B1 table tennis team proudly represented our school at the Auckland Table Tennis Team Championships.

Joshua Hutchinson, Elyas Eyou, Levi Eyou, and Kayson Lee faced strong competition, but showcased exceptional skill and determination throughout the tournament. With consistent focus and great sportsmanship, they worked together to secure first place, bringing home the gold!

This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work and dedication. What a wonderful way to finish the season on a high note. We are incredibly proud of you all!



BOTANY CAMPUS SPORT

Congratulations to Ailidh McKinnon and Arabella Blowfield, who had an outstanding season playing for the Botany Downs Girls Rugby Union Team! The team competed in the 10-a-side Auckland Schools Competition in the A pool and achieved a remarkable second-place finish.

Starting the season with no expectations of making it to the finals, the team showed incredible teamwork and perseverance. They advanced to the semifinals, where they faced and defeated St. Kentigern's, earning their spot in the final against St. Mary's College.

In a well-matched and intense final at the University Fields, the Botany girls fought hard, but ultimately finished second. Despite the loss, they remained humble and proud of their incredible achievement.

Both Ailidh and Arabella greatly enjoyed playing with the Botany Downs Team and are already looking forward to next season.



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.

Week 7

We show **Māia**, we are **Courageous**

The following students were recognised for displaying this value and were nominated for this award:

Nominees:

**Sophie Dick, Ashley Parker, Sarah Verissimo, Alaya Finley,
Harry Stevenson, Sienna Hadfield**

WINNER:

Ethan Cope for “showing great courage and intuition to use the equipment in Room 9 for DVC.”

AWARDS CHOSEN:

Chocolate