

## School Newsletter Week 1, Term 3, 2026.

Glenfield College <admin@gc.ac.nz>  
Reply-To: Glenfield College <admin@gc.ac.nz>  
To: d.keenleyside@gc.ac.nz

24 July 2026 at 15:47

[View this email in your browser](#)

24th July 2026

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## Message from the Principal

Welcome to the New Term!

Dear Whānau and School Community,

A very warm welcome back to all of our students after what I hope was a restful and rejuvenating term break! We are excited to see our campus full of energy once again. A special welcome goes out to our large group of new International students who are joining us from various places across the world - we are delighted to have you as part of our College whānau.

The strength of our College lies in the incredible support and engagement we share with our students, whānau, and the wider community. Across the school, our students have been diving into a rich variety

of cultural, sporting, leadership, and community activities. These experiences are far more than just extra-curricular events - they are vital in helping our young people build a genuine sense of belonging, pride, and connection to our College.

This term, we have a busy and exciting lineup of events ahead, and we look forward to connecting with our students, families, and wider community:

- Kaipātiki Sounds: Celebrating the incredible musical talent across our Kaipātiki secondary schools.
- Cluster Primary Schools Leadership Day: We are excited to host our local primary school leaders on campus very soon for a day dedicated to building leadership skills.
- Open Evening for 2027 Year 9 Students & Whānau: A warm welcome to prospective students and their families to tour our grounds, meet our staff, and experience life at the College.
- Enrolment Evenings: Following our Open Evening, these sessions will provide the opportunity to complete enrolments and discuss pathways for the 2027 school year.

I encourage you to view the calendar for full details of this term's events.

### **Celebrating Outstanding Attendance**

Attendance remains a crucial focus for the College, as it connects directly to student achievement and the future. I am thrilled to share that our provisional Term 2 data shows a significant and encouraging improvement across the board.

Our community's hard work is paying off. When compared to previous years, the long-term positive trends are fantastic:

- Regular Attendance (90%+ present): Has risen to 70% in Term 2, 2026 (up from 57% in 2025 and 53% in 2024).
- Punctuality: 96% of our students are regularly arriving on time.
- Overall Time Present: Increased to an impressive 90% (up from 87% last year).
- Declining Absences: Chronic absence has dropped significantly to 6% (down from 14% in 2024), and unjustified absences have halved to just 3%.

While we celebrate this massive success, we are committed to sustaining it. We thank parents/caregivers for their support with this.

As we begin another exciting term, I encourage every student to make the most of the opportunities ahead. Set yourself high expectations, embrace new challenges, and strive to do your very best in the classroom. Equally, I encourage you to get involved in the many sporting, cultural and co-curricular activities on offer, as these experiences enrich school life, build lasting friendships and create wonderful memories. I wish you all a successful, rewarding and enjoyable term, and I look forward to celebrating your achievements throughout the weeks ahead.





Rakesh Govind

Principal

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## New Staff Member Welcomed



Kia ora,

My name is Jonafe, and I'm excited to be joining the Glenfield College team for Term 3. I'll be teaching Year 9 Physical Education and Years 12–13 Sports Studies.

Originally from the Philippines, I spent nearly 20 years teaching in Dubai, UAE, before making the move to Aotearoa New Zealand.

I'm passionate about creating a positive and supportive learning environment, building strong connections with students, and encouraging everyone to enjoy being active while reaching their full potential.

I'm looking forward to getting to know the Glenfield College community and meeting students, staff, and whānau throughout the term.

Ngā mihi,

Jonafe

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## International Students Update





## New Arrivals

On Monday, we welcomed 19 new international students to Glenfield College. They were welcomed into Puāwananga by Matua Christian, who explained the significance of the pōwhiri as a process of lifting tapu and connecting students to our place. This meaningful welcome helped students begin their journey at Glenfield College with a sense of belonging and connection.

We hope all of our new students have enjoyed their first week at our kura, and we look forward to seeing them thrive as part of our school community.





## International Orientation

Our new students have joined us from Germany, Austria, Malaysia, China, and Japan. Following the pōwhiri, students spent the day participating in an orientation programme led by our Cultural Prefects, House Prefects, Year 13 international student Akari, and Ms Kilroy.

Throughout the day, they learnt about our school culture and values, discovered the many support networks available to them, made new connections, and met their buddies.



## Teisei Group Pōwhiri

On Tuesday, we welcomed our group from Teisei High School in Japan. This annual visit is one that our students look forward to, and we always have so many volunteers to be buddies for this two-week group programme.

Matua Christian and Te Reo Māori students welcomed the group with a traditional cultural welcome, followed by games on the marae ātea.

This group starts each day with ESOL/English language classes and then enjoys the hospitality of following their buddies on a shadow timetable. We hope you have a great two weeks.

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## Wairau & Glenfield Intermediate Presentations



Yesterday and today, a group of our Year 9 students visited Wairau Intermediate and Glenfield Intermediate to represent Glenfield College and deliver a presentation on what college life is like to Year 8 students.

Confidently sharing their experiences of college life, our students spoke about the opportunities available at Glenfield College, including academics, sport, the arts, and the many ways students can get involved in our school community. They also answered questions and offered valuable insights to help Year 8 students feel excited and prepared for their transition to secondary school.

We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 9 ambassadors represented Glenfield College with confidence, enthusiasm, and pride. Thank you for being such outstanding role models - we look forward to welcoming many of the Year 8 students to our school in the future.

## Science Wānanga: Physics



On Sunday, 28th June, Glenfield College was delighted to host a Science Wānanga, offering our Year 11 science students a unique opportunity to deepen their learning and prepare for their upcoming 5-credit physics assessment. Held within a supportive Māori learning environment, the day began with an engaging icebreaker game and a shared morning tea, setting a warm and collaborative tone for the intensive study session ahead.

Students gathered inside our wharehau, Puāwananga, where Whaea Anezka shared rich insights into



the history of Māori waka and the traditional practice of waka portage (dragging waka over land). Seamlessly blending cultural history with scientific inquiry, students then conducted two practical investigations into the physics behind waka portage. Under the guidance of Mrs Gregory and Head of Department, Mr. Boasman, the students collected data, created graphs, performed physics calculations, and wrote detailed conclusions.

To keep energy levels high, the day was broken up by a pizza lunch and afternoon tea shared in Kimiora, our wharekai. By the end of the wānanga, students had completed a full practice assessment, leaving them feeling more confident and prepared for their upcoming internal. This rewarding day beautifully connected local Māori histories with practical physics, giving Glenfield College students a meaningful, contextual, and memorable experience.



TUESDAY  
28 JULY



6-8PM



STARTING IN THE  
KAIPATIKI THEATRE



[www.gc.ac.nz](http://www.gc.ac.nz)



# Tech & Art Superstars



Neleesha Jayawardana - Year 11 student



Liya Bikina - Year 11 student



Tino Senzere - Year 11 student

## Important Dates to Note

27-31 July - Vanuatu Bislama Language Week

28 July - Open Evening - 6pm - Kapatiki Theatre



28 & 29 July - Ruku  
29 July - Drama Company Trip  
30 July - Kahui Ako - Student Leaders Day  
3-7 August - Cook Islands Māori Language Week  
3-7 August - Services Academy - Advanced Leaders Course  
5 August - Year 9 Enrolment Evening - 3.30pm to 6.30pm  
5-7 August - Level 3 PE & SpSt PE Camp  
7 August - Filipino Language Celebration  
12 August - Drama Company Trip  
12 August - Shave for a Cure  
14 August - Level 3 Geography Trip  
14-16 August - Wananga: Haka ki te ao  
15 August - Adventure Club Trip  
17-21 August - Tonga Language Week  
18 August - Sports and teams photos  
19 August - Music Showcase

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## School Communications

Please ensure we have up-to-date contact details. You can do this by updating them on the [Parent Portal](#), or by sending us an email [admin@gc.ac.nz](mailto:admin@gc.ac.nz).

Please keep up to date with College events via our online calendar below. This will be updated as information comes to hand.

If you have any questions about our College communication, please feel free to contact me at [admin@gc.ac.nz](mailto:admin@gc.ac.nz).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view  
the school calendar

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## Sports Report

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to Term 3! It's shaping up to be a big term of sport at Glenfield College, with plenty already underway and plenty more to look forward to.

### Basketball

The basketball season is heating up with semi-finals on the horizon! Our U15A Boys and Junior Girls A teams both have their semi-finals this week - we wish them all the best and encourage the whole school

community to get behind them. There are more finals coming in the weeks ahead, so watch out for further updates. Go GC!

### **Volleyball**

Harbour Raiders Volleyball Club are running a junior development programme here at Glenfield College on Thursdays, and it's not too late to get involved! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their skills in a fun and supportive environment. Sign-ups are open through the Kindo shop - jump on and grab a spot.

### **Badminton**

Badminton is back for Term 3! Our competitive junior league kicks off next week (entries are now closed), but we also have a school social league running on Fridays throughout the term - and that's still open to enter. Students can sign up through the Kindo shop or head to the sports office to register. Whether you're a seasoned player or just keen to give it a go, come along and get involved!

Ngā mihi,

Katie Adamson

Director of Sport

To follow @glenfieldcollegesport click below



To see the latest sports fixtures click below



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## **School Docs Reviews**

Term 3 policies under review:

- **School Community Engagement Policy (Board)**
- **Inclusive School Culture (Board)**
- Enrolment
- **Student Attendance (Board)**
- Student Uniform/Student Dress Expectations
- **Concerns and Complaints (Board)**

To review, log on to the SchoolDocs website using:

<https://gc.schooldocs.co.nz/Logon.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

Login: gc

Password: Kaipatiki



# KINDO

Kindo is getting a fresh new look from early August, designed to make paying and completing forms simpler.

Keep an eye out for the update, and check your email for what's new.

Learn more <https://bit.ly/4pAel6D>

## ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN



ATTENDANCE per term  
**90% to 99%**

1 to 4 days absent

### PARENTS NEED TO

Contact the school if your child is going to be late or absent.

### THE SCHOOL WILL

If we do not hear from you, your child will be marked as Truant (u)

If your child is late i.e. after the first period has started, that will be recorded (L)

ATTENDANCE per term  
**80% to 89%**

5-9 days absent

### PARENTS NEED TO

Seek support from the Form Class Teacher or Dean if you are struggling to get your child to school.

Engage with the Dean to implement strategies to improve attendance.

### THE SCHOOL MAY

Organise meetings to work out the reason for the absences and create a plan to improve attendance.

ATTENDANCE per term  
**less than 80%**

10+ days absent

### PARENTS NEED TO

Engage in an improvement plan with the Dean and attendance services.

Participate in regular meetings with school and/or attendance services.

### THE SCHOOL MAY

Send escalation letter to parents and seek help from attendance services to try remove any barriers, if possible.

Engage in a multi-agency response.

Implement and monitor improvement plan.

## ATTENDANCE CODES

**P**  
present

**J**  
justified

**L**  
late

**U**  
unjustified

**X**  
exam leave

Attendance can be viewed at any time on the Parent Portal.

## DID YOU KNOW?

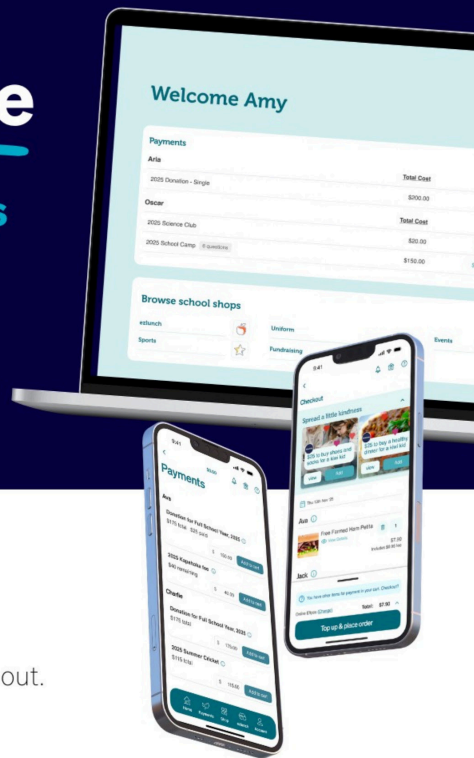
| attendance at | is equal to            | which is          | and over 5 years that is... |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 90%           | 1 day away a fortnight | 4 weeks per year  | 2 terms                     |
| 80%           | 1 day away a week      | 8 weeks per year  | 1 year                      |
| 60%           | 2 days away a week     | 16 weeks per year | 2 years                     |
| 40%           | 3 days away a week     | 24 weeks per year | 3 year                      |

A full calendar year has 365 days, but **the school year only has 190 days.** That leaves 175 days for appointments, shopping, family time & holidays.

# Making School Payments Simple

## One Account. All Your Schools

Whether you're new to Kindo or already using it, managing school payments is easy.



### New to Kindo?

- Scan the QR code to create your account
- Enter your details and add your student (s)
- Browse the school shop, purchase and check out.

### Already have a Kindo account?

- Log in to your Kindo account
- Navigate to 'My Details'
- Select your student and add membership
- Select new organisation from the dropdown list
- Browse the school menu, add items to your cart, and check out.



### Have questions?

Our friendly team is here for you.

0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636)

hello@mykindo.co.nz





# BYOD @ GC

## Minimum Recommended Specifications for GC

The essential requirements are that it should:

- Be able to connect to wireless networks and use the Google Chrome browser.
- Have a processing capacity that enables the creation and manipulation of text and data.
- Have a minimum screen size of 10 inches (13-14 inches is preferable).
- Have a battery life of at least 5 hours (please note that some laptops fall well short of this. We do not provide charging facilities at school).
- Lightweight, portable and durable.
- Have anti-virus software – this is essential to protect the device's data and prevent the spread of malware.
- Have a protective case.



For more information, see the school website - [GC BYOD](#)

Chromebooks and Laptops can be found at various stores, some will have special offers from time to time:

PBTech - [Link to PBTech](#) Use code **BYODGC** for a discount

Noel Leeming - [Link to Noel Leeming](#)  
- [Which Device Guide](#)  
- [Advice videos](#)



Click here to be taken to our website and more information: <https://www.gc.ac.nz/parents/bring-your-own-device-byod/>



# Safety @ GC

## Reminder of a few road safety rules at Glenfield College

Please note:

When picking up or dropping off at the end or beginning of the day:

- The carpark is a 10 km/h zone
- The school gates will be **closed** at the following times
  - 2.30pm - 3.30pm
- Please arrange for pick up and drop off to be made further along Kaipātiki Road or in one of the surrounding streets.
- When the gates are open, it is a **left turn only** onto Kaipātiki Road. If you want to go towards Glenfield Mall, then please use the roundabout as it is a safer option.



The safety of our students, your children, is our main focus. We thank you for helping ensure that they are all safe arriving and leaving the school grounds.

**Please drive carefully.**



## LEARNING HUB 课后补习



### WHAT 内容

- 完成作业
- 找老师提问
- 向同学请教

### WHEN 时间

- 周二和周四
- 放学后直到 4:30 结束

### WHERE 地点

- 图书馆

## do you need help with...



understanding  
on your own



homework  
with others



assessments  
with teachers

## Learning Hub

School Library | Tues & Thur | 3.15pm - 4.30pm

## Community Notices



**TERM THREE 2026:**  
**Tue 21 Jul to Thu 17 Sep**

# **Creative Drama Classes**

**TheatreWorks, Recreation Drive, BIRKENHEAD**



**DRAMA 1**

**Tuesdays**

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

**7-9 yrs**

**DRAMA 2**

**Wednesdays**

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

**10-13 yrs**

**DRAMA 3**

**Thursdays**

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

**14-18 yrs**

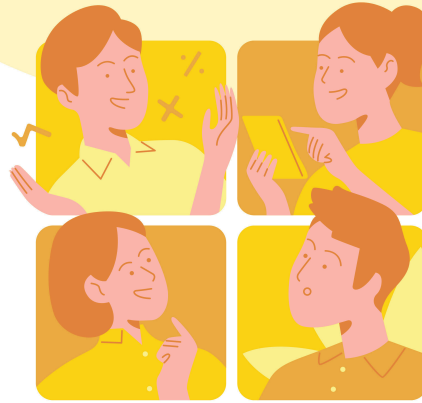
**\$ 115.00 for nine weeks**

Exploring Shakespeare's *King John*,  
including fun scene work through improvisation.

**Contact Robyn: (021) 588-762**  
**info@thespianage.co.nz**



# Raising Adolescents



6-Week **FREE** Psychoeducation Group

**We Cover:**

Common adolescent challenges alongside practical caregiver strategies.

**Thursdays**

9 - 11 AM  
Starts 06/08/26

**Highbury House**

110 Hinemoa Street,  
Birkenhead

**Contact:** [lauren.glass@emergeaoteaoroa.org.nz](mailto:lauren.glass@emergeaoteaoroa.org.nz)





# SEPTEMBER VOYAGE

5 DAY SAILING JOURNEY

28 September – 2 October 2026

5-Day Sailing Adventure – Are you up for the challenge?

Explore Auckland's Hauraki Gulf on this epic journey

Ages 14–18

\$1,575 incl GST – all gear, food & accommodation included!

**Sail and Explore in the School Holidays**

Live aboard the legendary Steinlager 2

Learn to sail, helm, and work as a crew

Counts for Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze, Silver & Gold



**NEW ZEALAND  
SAILING TRUST**



Limited spots – Don't Miss Out!

