

Newsletter

SECONDARY

Secondary News

Tēnā koutou katoa, nau mai, haere mai.

Term 3 is in full swing with some big events on the horizon. AIMS tournament (Year 7/8 students) preparations are well under way with students and coaches. It is great to have this opportunity back in Tauranga moana. Our senior sports teams are heading away to the annual winter sports tournament competing on a national scale. These are great opportunities for students to excel in their talents and reflect who they are as ambassadors of you and Bethlehem College. So much can be learnt on the sports field. I would especially like to thank all those willing parents who have assisted with these various teams.

For the Year 11 – 13 students the Practice Examinations immediately follow Winter sports tournaments. I encourage you to check in on study habits and well-being, so every student arrives prepared and ready to tackle the examination papers.

The Bible teaches us about the importance of perseverance - "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." "As for you, do not grow weary in doing good." I am sure there are times when your whanau need the encouragement to persevere and continue, to sacrifice for a season. This is perhaps one of those seasons where we show our agape aroha and highlight the quality of perseverance.

Ngā mihi
Steve Te Whaiti
Head of Secondary



Faith - Foodbank

Each year the junior and senior secondary students at Bethlehem College collect items of food (canned and packaged), to donate to the Tauranga Foodbank. For a good part of the year classes become a collection point and then in the 3rd term all the donated items are brought together for the Foodbank volunteers to load in their vans and stock their shelves. This is one way we can show generosity to our community. The current year has seen particularly high demand for the Foodbank's services and we are happy to help in this way. This has also been a hard year for some of our own families and so we do not put pressure on anyone to contribute. The donations do form one of the House competitions, but this is very secondary to the main purpose which is to give with a generous heart.



TERM 3 | 2022
ISSUE 6

KEY DATES

Accord Day/Staff Only Day
Thursday, 25th August

Year 7-13 Daffodil Day
Friday, 26th August

Year 7- 9 Cultural day
Friday, 26th August

Year 9-13 Winter Tournament
Sunday, 28th August – 4 September

Year 7-8 AIMS Games
Saturday 3rd - 9th September

**Year Y10MAA, Year 11-Y13
Practice Exams**
Thursday, 8th – 15th September

QUICK LINKS

[BC CALENDAR](#)

[STUDENT DAILY NOTICES](#)

[SPORTS NOTICES](#)

[COVID CASE NOTIFICATIONS](#)

Please report all positive Covid cases
via our BC Website



[@BCJSec](#)

[@BethlehemCollege](#)

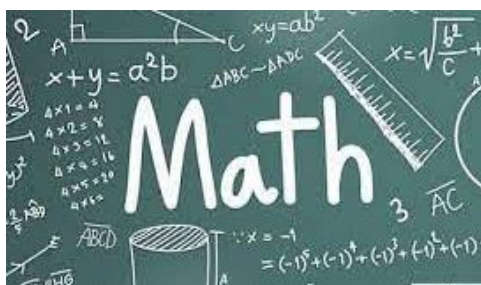
Get2Go

Eight students from Year 9 and 10 competed in the Get2Go Challenge on Thursday, 4th August in Rotorua. The Get2Go is an entry level action-packed day of adventure activities. Earning points at each 60-minute challenge in a relay format, the team started the day paddling kayaks on a foggy Lake Okareka before heading to the mountain bike venue at the infamous Whakarewarewa Forest. The orienteering navigation on unfamiliar terrain and indoor rock-climbing challenge also required good teamwork, strategizing and communication. The students had a fun day, with great attitudes and sportsmanship. Well done!



Australian Mathematics Competition

In Week 2, 87 Secondary students and 65 Primary students challenged themselves in the Australian Mathematics Competition. The Secondary students competed online, in a series of 30 questions of increasing difficulty. The Australian Math Competition has been running since the 1970's and gives students a chance to test their problem-solving skills against students from seven different countries around the Pacific. The results will be available in Term 4.



Canvas Careers Expo

All our Year 11 students went the Canvas Careers Expo on Friday 12 August. They had a great time exploring their future career pathway options. This was particularly valuable given students are in the midst of subject selection for 2023. Students made the most of the opportunities available by talking with reps on the stands, collecting brochures and knowledge to inform themselves, getting involved with interactive displays – a few even got a haircut from the student barbers!



Alpha Course

BC Alpha has started well with 13 students signing up and more expected to join next week. Students watched a video with 20 minutes discussion time afterward. First afternoons Alpha included Pizza and snacks and good conversation around the table tackling some biggish questions. Alpha will run for ten weeks concluding in term four.



Christian Studies Service Trip

On the 3rd - 7th August 35 students from year 11-13 Christian Studies classes travelled to Hawkes Bay to be involved in service activities. The students participated and completed many tasks including helping in classrooms at a local primary school, laminating books, cleaning, clearing storage spaces, painting, washing cars, gardening and running lessons with the students.

We also visited eight properties and helped vulnerable people in their homes, including widows, those who had lost loved ones and those who have recently received Cancer treatment. We got to experience the value of serving others in everyday tasks and that by doing so you can make a difference in another person's world for the better.



General Notices

1. Lost property

We have 3 new lockable Lost Property Bins on campus for easy access. They are located outside R Block just past the Secondary Office entrance and outside the PE offices of the Event Centre. The boxes will be open for access by parents and students during school hours and locked outside of school hours and weekends. Please encourage your children to check the boxes regularly for any items they may have lost during the term. Junior Secondary student leaders and Secondary office staff will continue to oversee Lost Property but will no longer distribute directly back to students. **We encourage parents and caregivers to clearly name each article of uniform and clothing your child may bring to school.** Unclaimed, unnamed, lost property items will be cleared out at the end of each term and processed for donation to charity.



2. Trophies

We need all Sports Trophies to be returned to the Sports office by Tuesday, 9th August. All Academic and Cultural trophies need to be returned to the SLT office by Friday, 26th August.

3. Student BOT Nominations

The Student Trustee Elections Nominations will open on Monday, 22nd August. Last day for nominations is Friday, 2nd September at 4:00pm. Students may also nominate themselves.

4. Arotahi Magazine

The Arotahi Magazine is a yearbook produced by the Visual Arts department and distributed at the end of each year. This year, one magazine will be delivered to the eldest child of each family at BC and Chapman and a pdf version of the magazine will also be available to download for free. For those families wishing to order additional copies of the Magazine, these can be purchased for \$20 per copy (on charged to school account) through filling out the form [here](#) by Monday 31st October.

5. Grandparents Morning Tea Friday, 30th September

Bethlehem College would like to cordially invite our grandparents to join us for a morning to celebrate and honour your treasured role in the life of our students at BC. You are most welcome to attend any part of the morning programme. Please RSVP [here](#).

6. Improvements to our disciplinary process

We have been in dialogue with the Ombudsman about our disciplinary process after he was asked to investigate complaints about five decisions dating from 2020. His recommendations, and our own internal review, identified some necessary improvements. Four of the complaints involved exclusions or expulsions and we acknowledge these are significant issues for affected students and their whānau. The Ombudsman indicated that process flaws meant our decisions were unreasonable and that suspension hearings need to consider a full range of factors, not just whether “gross misconduct” was involved. We need to balance affected students’ wellbeing as well as other students’ wellbeing when making such decisions. We have apologised to the families concerned and we’re committed to ensuring our disciplinary process is best-practice. We welcome the Ombudsman’s oversight and note that the Ombudsman is always available to any parents with complaints about the Board’s actions or decisions. We also welcome any parents with concerns raising them directly with us at any time.

7. Education Research

Dr. James Arkwright, Bethlehem Tertiary Institute, is undertaking research exploring students and families experience of education during COVID-19, where students identify with having a disability and/or long-term illness or eligible for Learning Support. Please click [here](#) for more information or contact James Arkwright at j.arkwright@bti.ac.nz.

8. Defensive Driving Course

Starting Monday 29 August, at 5 pm in BC library. See FB - Drive Safe Driving School or contact Sue 0212153548.