



HEAD OF SCHOOL LETTER | END OF TERM 1 2024

Dear wonderful BC Chapman waka whānau,

In the past couple of weeks, I have noticed the significance of having a sense of **'belonging'**. Recently, I read an interesting blog written by a friend of mine who drew comparison between **'belonging and fitting in'**. So, what actually is the difference between these, or is it simply a matter of semantics? The Bible is clear about being 'in the world, but not part of it'. Therefore, we are not **designed** to 'belong' to this world, its culture, or 'to simply fit in'. 'Belonging' is being yourself, 'fitting' in is making changes & usually compromising who you are, & the beliefs & values you have, in some way.

This photo of three special friends running into our kura before school, grabbed my attention. Three unique individuals, made in the image of God, gifted, talented, & connected within their respective whānau/family & our kura/school community. They are connected & have distinct significance & contributions to make. If they simply fit in with each other then, that implies some required adjustment for acceptance & validation is necessary. **How often do we feel the pressure to 'fit in' & to be & do what those around us do rather than to stand up & remain true to who we are & what we believe?** In this current global cultural climate driven by social media, **we are constantly being shaped & deluded into seeking to 'fit in' when we were created to 'stand out'**. By contrast **having a true sense of 'belonging' means knowing who you belong to, who you are & the unique significance & purpose you have.** Having a sense of belonging grounded in the **TRUTH of Scripture** is counter-cultural and enables us to resist those fitting in pressures.

In our whānau/family, we have a context designed by God in which we can be nurtured, intentionally taught, guided, & grow. **We are designed for relationship, with God first through His son Jesus, & with each other. This is where a true sense of belonging & secure identity is found.** At our Year 7 & 8 Camp at Finlay Park over the past week, 32 rangatahi/young people, lived and repeatedly mirrored 'belonging'. Through knowing complete freedom to be themselves, harmony, peace, cooperation, laughter, fun & a genuine heart to include & to serve others followed. The natural consequences of having a sense of 'belonging' were a **JOY** for us as adults to be part of. **Let's continue in our whānau/kura partnership, guided by the Word of God, to invest in our rangatahi by reminding and encouraging them of who and where their true 'belonging' is found.** It is a challenging journey but our rangatahi are worth fighting for!

Me te aroha tonu
With love always

Romans 6 v 23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rōma 6 v 23

Ko ngā utu hoki o te hara he mate; ko tā te Atua ia I hōmai ai he ora tonu, i roto i a Karaiti Īhu, i tō tātou Ariki.

Psalms 1 v 5

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

Ngā Waiata 1 v 5

Āe rā, e kore e tū te hunga kino i te whakawākanga, me te hunga hara i te whakaminenga o te hunga tika.

KAHUI AKO INTER-KURA ATHLETICS AT PORRITT STADIUM

With 35 of our enthusiastic athletes, we headed to Porritt Stadium in Hamilton early on Wednesday 27th March. The weather forecast was not exactly positive and upon arriving and erecting our gazebo, it was evident that the river of water flowing from the canopy down the slopes and through school bags was going to be an issue. An executive decision to move to the covered Grandstand (for which ALL kura teams were duly grateful), allowed us to stay semi dry most of the time, apart from the occasional deluge, while doing the rotational field events.

Regardless of the variables and at times distinctly unpleasant weather conditions, (ever tried high jumping with slippery ground and a saturated mat...), ***not one word of complaint was uttered by any of our rangatahi or our whānau. The word 'resilience' repeatedly came to mind, for it was on display throughout the day.*** Our athletic superstars entered the events with sheer determination and loyalty to our kura and the individual and team performances showed the caliber of their character. Whether charging down the 100metre straight, maintaining the tenacity needed for an 800 metre race, being a member of the age relay team, jumping high or long jump, or throwing shotput, **they gave their ALL. To come 2nd to Hamilton Christian kura**, (which is around 10 plus times our size), is no mean feat, and a testimony to our rangatahi faithfully using and developing their athletic talents. **A FANTASTIC day!**



CENTRAL BOP SWIMMING SPORTS

Three of our swimmers qualified, and attended the Central BoP Swimming Sports, on Wednesday 3rd April. Felix & Falcon Chu and Aaren Zhang supervised and managed by Levi Chu, competed in a range of different events. With first, second, third or fourth placings they did exceptionally well.

We honour their whānau who have invested in these boys through swimming lessons, their coaches and each of them for the dedication and discipline that swimming competitively requires on a weekly basis.

We are so proud of you Felix, Falcon, and Aaren! Well done! We look forward to sending more of our tamariki to compete in swimming events in 2025.



TOUCH RUGBY

The final Tournament games for the close of the Touch Rugby Term 1 season were played. Our **BC Chapman 'Untouchables'** took out the 'Silver medal', in second place to Mokoia Intermediate, the Gold medal winners. **Congratulations Mokoia and congratulations to our rangatahi on such an excellent result.** Awesome!

We'd also like to pay tribute to the **BC Chapman Touchdowns**, our team predominantly made up of Year 5 & 6 boys, with a few from Year 7. They competed in the Year 7 & 8 Boys competition which is highly competitive. This was recognized by the Touch Rugby Association who awarded them a special treat at the end of the season, for their integrity and tenacity in competing at the 'intermediate' level. The team won several games as the season progressed and will indeed be a force to be reckoned with in Term 4 and in years to come.

With the 'Touch' season over, we are deeply grateful to our committed coaches Matua Rio and Matua Caleb and to our manager Whaea Jesse, for their expertise and dedication to developing the skills of our tamariki and to facilitating their participation in the competition.

ABSENCES: Please phone the School Office 07 346 1492 before 8.30am so we are aware of the reason for any absences and can inform your child's teacher. Just leave a message on the answerphone if the phone is not attended.

NETBALL

In the 'Future Ferns' Primary competition there has been a sense of delight and accomplishment felt by players, whānau and our talented coaches Whaea Stacy and Whaea Nicole. This **has indeed been a highly successful season.** The growth in confidence, skills, strategy, understanding and love for the game, all speak volumes. Having whānau who have knowledge and passion for the game of Netball has allowed our tamariki to develop their skills.

For the first time in our BC Chapman history, driven by one of our Year 8 rangatahi, Anja Kreber-Smolc, we will be entering an Intermediate Netball team into the Winter Rotorua Netball competition. Whaea Stacy and Matua Rio will be coaching these students, and we are looking forward to seeing how their confidence and skills grow over the coming weeks. **Kimiora Insley** has also been a wonderful support to us in the registration and skill development of our team.

BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL/SOCCER, RUGBY, + HOCKEY

A significant number of our tamariki are playing for various Football or Rugby Clubs and/or Basketball or Hockey combined kura teams over the coming Winter sports season. As a smaller kura we cannot unfortunately offer the range of BC Chapman based teams across multiple sports. We are pleased that there are mixed kura team options and clubs to enable full sporting participation and that as whānau you have taken such opportunities. Please send through photos of your tamariki as we can then display these, and celebrate their participation and accomplishments.

FINLAY PARK YEAR 7 & 8 CAMP

A very special 'thank you' to Whaea Lisa for her outstanding organization of the Year 7 & 8 Camp at Finlay Park last week. This is a yearly highlight for the rangatahi and whānau involved and certainly adds to the experience of community in action. Outdoor education can be underestimated in the teaching and learning it surfaces and requires. For the first time some experienced learning how to start a fire, minus the matches or lighter, how to deal with water or bush-based activities they'd never participated in, and others which demanded not only teamwork but problem-solving and strategy to successfully complete and compete. That Chariot race was a challenge!





Whaea Stacy was Chef extraordinaire, and we ate like Kings and Queens! **Matua Juan, Dave, Wayne, and Jon** complemented by **Whaea Kirsty and Whaea Sylvia** were up for whatever was happening while **Whaea Lisa** kept a watchful eye that all was going to plan in each of the scheduled activities through her presence and encouragement. It's quite something to be able to say, while there were exhausted rangatahi by the end of the Camp, the abundance of love, support and encouragement for each other and not a word of complaint.

The rendition of **'The Three Little Pigs'** took on an entirely new interpretation as **Matua Dave** applied his extraordinary story telling skills. **Whaea Sylvia** dressed in red was cast as 'mother', **Whaea Kirsty** as the BIG BAD WOLF and **Matua Juan, Jon, and Wayne** as **Inky, Pinky, Ponky** - the three notorious little pigs! This photo says it all.



With our rangatahi presenting creative ballet performances which included boxing gloves, mind-boggling magic card tricks, and dramas, our Camp concert was a **HIT** with the audience!

Our photos capture some fantastic Outdoor Education activities. You will see how much fun and community building that occurred through the unique experiences Camp provided. No doubt, if you are one of our Year 7 & 8 whānau, your son/daughter will have been sharing what they learned. We are blessed indeed within Aotearoa to be able to access Camps, many of which were established by Christians, with a vision for and desire to see, rangatahi/young people know and follow Jesus!





FAREWELL BRYAN AND DIANE WALFORD

On Monday we had a special morning tea to say goodbye to **Bryan and Diane Walford** who are retiring to Tauranga. They have both been pillars in our BC Chapman community. We are so grateful for their faithful service to us and to the Kingdom of God. **Dr Bryan** has assisted in Wood Tech Rotations for many years and has been **Andy Morton's** 'right-hand man' in building projects around the school. **Diane** has volunteered her time to help with Reading Recovery and has invested many hours into our tamariki, encouraging and championing for them. **Thank you Bryan and Diane!!** May God grant you peace in your twilight years as you begin a new season of ministry in His service in Tauranga.



PLAYGROUND PROGRESS

If you have glanced across at our Senior playground you will have observed the consistent progress being made. This is thanks to **Mr Andy Morton, Mr Ian Barker, Mr Bryan Walford and Mr Guido Bachmann**, who have been beavering away on plaiting ropes, painting, installing the bars, and completing the platforms. There are still several pieces to arrive to complete the project. We are looking forward to being able to celebrate together when it is finished and will duly make this a special BC Chapman event!



UNIFORM TERM 2 & 3

We will change into full Winter Uniform at the beginning of Term 2. Please ensure that you have all the necessary items including those 'polishable' winter shoes to avoid a last-minute rush to purchase these at the end of the holidays. Items are available through our Uniform Shop and our amazing Mrs Trish Copeland who voluntarily oversees it. Needless to say, everything requires **naming** including those elusive socks as they inevitably turn up in the strangest places. Being named ensures they find their way back to the rightful owner.

**The Uniform Shop will be open on Staff Only Day
Monday 29th April from 10am to 2pm**



CORNERSTONE CHARITABLE TRUST - MARA KAI/GARDENING FOR FOOD (FEEDING ROTORUA)

Our Ruma rua/Room 2 tamariki are enjoying gardening with **Matua Dave, Whaea Lorin and Whaea Wendy** as they plant, water, and harvest the vegetables for the wider Rotorua community. With the 'worm farm' to fertilize the soil, the regular sunshine and rain, and the loving tending of the plants, the gardens are producing in abundance. As we move into Winter and a change of planting, there are plans afoot to introduce a 'greenhouse'. The inter-generational connections being made, the sharing of knowledge and the joy of being able

to give away what is grown, are vital life understandings. Remember that this is transferable to your own garden at home so don't hesitate to support your son/daughter from Ruma Rua to maintain a vegetable garden at home and then spoil your whānau and the neighbourhood with the produce.

WAKA TAUTOKO/PTA

Our 'Waka Tautoko/PTA' is an integral part of our BC Chapman community. It is through this group of volunteers that we organize 'surprise fun connections' as well as catering for significant kura events and of course our bi-annual '**Spring Fair**' which is happening in November this year. Belonging does **NOT** require large pockets of time. The more members we have the more creative ideas, skills, and ability to accomplish many things including blessing others and fund-raising. **We will be directly approaching and inviting you to join our twice a term meeting**, which is always full of laughter and food as we enthusiastically plan activities together. **PLEASE join in!**



IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 12th April-Last day of Term 1

Thursday 25th April- ANZAC Day holiday

Monday 29th April-Kaimahi//Staff Only Day-Professional Development

Monday 29th April-Uniform Shop open 10am-2pm

Tuesday 30th April - Beginning of Term 2

Thursday 25th April- ANZAC Day holiday

TERM TWO

Friday 17th May – School photos

Thursday 30th May – Cross Country (postponement Friday 7th June)

Friday 31st May – MOE Accord Day (NO SCHOOL)

Monday 3rd June – King's Birthday (NO SCHOOL)

Friday 28th June – Matariki – Stat Day (NO SCHOOL)

Friday 5th July – Last Day Term 2



Please join us for our Holiday Program for children in years 1-6

When: April 22-26 (not the 25th for Anzac Day)
9:00am- 3:00pm

Where: Fenton Park Bible Church (42 Hilda Street)

How Much: There is a suggested donation of \$40

To register or for more information contact Kara@fpbc.org.nz

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