

Secondary Newsletter

Tēnā koutou whānau, parents and caregivers,

As we begin this new term, I want to acknowledge the energy and purpose our students and staff have brought into these opening weeks. It has been heartening to see our school community in action—learning, growing, and encouraging one another.

In our first Secondary assembly, we celebrated academic excellence, recognising students who applied themselves diligently last term. Their achievement is a credit not only to their perseverance, but also to the teachers and whānau who continue to support them. It was a timely reminder of the verse: **‘Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men’** (Colossians 3:23).

We also honoured ANZAC Day with a thoughtful and respectful commemoration, and our Cross Country event was full of energy and encouragement. The return of the Solomon Islands Outreach Team marked another highlight—students shared stories of challenge, growth, and faith in action.

As the weather cools, thank you for supporting our uniform expectations. We want all students to feel part of something greater than themselves—something ordered, purposeful, and united.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. We’re looking forward to what God has in store for us all this term.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Christopher Niles
Head of Secondary



FAITH

The idea of the ‘God of the Gaps’ is that gaps in scientific understanding can be indications of the existence of God. Is this just using belief in God to cover ignorance? Christian faith does not decrease as scientific knowledge increases. Science helps us to understand how things work but does not give us an explanation for the ‘why’ of all human existence. As Professor John Lennox says, we don’t have to pit science against belief. Science tells us about the world we live in but does not give us an explanation for life itself. The Bible fills these gaps through scripture like *‘Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it’* (Psalm 139:14), and *‘When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you set in place, what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them’* (Psalm 8:3-4).

TERM 2 | 2025
ISSUE 1

KEY DATES

BC Business Networking
12 May 4 pm (BC Staffroom)

Year 10 Market Day
16 May Lunch (Quad)

House Debates
19-22 May

Photolife: Cultural & Leadership
19-20 May

Chapel Open: Prayer & Worship
Mondays 8 – 9 am

QUICK LINKS

[ENROLLED FAMILIES](#)

[SCHOOLBRIDGE](#) | [BC CALENDAR](#)

[STUDENT DAILY NOTICES](#)

CONNECT WITH BC



First Day Term 2

We welcomed all students and parents into Term 2 with a warm and friendly atmosphere, highlighted by the coffee truck on-site.



OUTREACH

SOLOMON ISLANDS

A group of 18 arrived back from the Solomon Islands on Saturday 26th April after spending 2 weeks serving in Honiara. The main base was Florence Young School, near the center of Honiara where we have been visiting for the past 3 years, and many students know us well.

The main service and mission activities were teaching hygiene, literacy and numeracy, teacher professional learning and outreach. We were able to provide resources – First Aid kits, laptops, medical supplies, school textbooks and sports equipment. Though we have a heart to serve and learn, we always come away with such an enriched perspective, living out the phrase “blessed to be a blessing”. Connecting with a local Youth group, visiting the World Vision and YWAM bases were great learning experiences.

World Vision in NZ this year are focusing their efforts on the Solomon Islands and understanding what is happening ground level was inspiring for the team. All in all, the learning was rich, God fingerprints were everywhere and relationships with Florence Young School were strengthened.



40 HOUR CHALLENGE

This year World Vision is focusing its efforts on agriculture, young children and food supplies for the Solomon Islands. A team from BC visited and served in Honiara in the Solomon Islands over the past school holidays and as part of this visited the World Vision base to catch up on the preparation for the 13-15 June 40 Hour Challenge. To find out more and to join the BC team click [here](#).



ANZAC DAY

With ANZAC Day falling in the April school holidays this year, we held our ANZAC assembly on the first Friday of Term 2. Students had the opportunity to support the work of the RSA by giving a donation in exchange for a poppy, which many students wore to the assembly. Continuing a cherished tradition, we were delighted to welcome guests from the RSA - Mr Morton Anderson, the current president of the Tauranga RSA, and Mrs Heather Waldron, an ex-president.

During the assembly, students were reminded through a short video clip of the involvement of New Zealanders in the First World War, with 18,500 losing their lives in the ultimate sacrifice and a further 40,000 casualties. A group of students from drama and Kapa Haka performed a moving drama further demonstrating the realities of war and in particular the involvement of the Māori Battalion in Gallipoli, culminating in a particularly passionate, powerful and respectful Haka. Animoso, conducted by BC student Enoch Tie, performed 'God be in my head', composed by John Rutter. This prayer asks God to be present in all parts of a person's life, from their thoughts and understanding, their actions and words, what is in their heart and ultimately for God to be present when it comes time to depart this earth.

It is common practice to play the Last Post at remembrance ceremonies and we were fortunate to be able to call on the accomplished talent of Y10 student, Arthur Thompson, to play the Last Post and Reveille while our Head Students lowered and then raised the New Zealand flag. The minute silence following the lowering of the flag gave us the opportunity to remember those who gave their lives in service of their countries. Three times the words of Jesus from John 15:13 were shared with the assembly - 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.' Firstly, from a Bible reading by Leila Stewart, then in speeches made by our Head Students, Ezra Vukona and Grace Winiata, and finally by our Principal, Larne Edmeades in his closing speech.

The assembly was extremely honouring of our fallen ANZAC's and those who still serve in our armed forces. Lest We Forget.



SUBJECTS

ART & DESIGN

Seventy Year 11 Art and Design students recently embarked on a creative and culturally enriching trip to the Tauranga CBD, where they explored a vibrant collection of Māori artworks by a range of influential artists.

The city's public spaces became an open-air classroom, offering students a unique opportunity to engage with both traditional and contemporary Māori visual storytelling. From large-scale murals to intricate carvings and modern installations, the artworks reflected deep connections to whakapapa (genealogy), whenua (land), and Māori identity. Students were encouraged to observe, sketch, and reflect on the artistic techniques and cultural narratives present in each piece.

This hands-on experience provided invaluable inspiration for their own art practice and deepened their appreciation for perspectives in Aotearoa's art scene. The trip sparked meaningful conversations and creative ideas that will continue to shape their learning throughout the year.



SPORTS

CROSS COUNTRY

This week we hosted our annual Cross Country event, bringing students together for a day of friendly competition and athleticism. It was a fantastic display of perseverance and sportsmanship as participants tackled the course, cheered on by supportive peers and teachers. Congratulations to all our runners for giving their best and a special mention to staff who participated with great enthusiasm, encouraging our students along the way.



RUGBY

Another season of Rugby is underway alongside Ōtumoetai College under the Barbarians banner.

Last weekend the three boys' teams commenced their respective seasons, delivering mixed results. What a privilege it is to have Rugby alive at Bethlehem College, bringing the community together and fueling the spirit of teamwork. We're looking forward to the exciting matches ahead.

U14s | Won 43 – 21 vs John Paul College
U16s | Lost 12 – 17 vs Mount Maunganui College
1st XV | Lost 7 – 65 vs Whakatane High School

FOOTBALL

After a busy pre-season we are finally underway in our Football leagues. This past weekend saw our 17 Football teams take part in their first round of games for the season. We are blessed to have the opportunity to showcase our talents and enjoy making memories with our coaches, parents and teammates. We wish all our teams the best of luck for the 2025 season and may God provide us strength and happiness on the sports field.

Top Team Results

Bethlehem College First XI Boys | Won 3-1 vs Tauranga Boys College

Bethlehem College First XI Girls | Won 5-0 vs Lakes FC U19 Girl

ACTIVITIES

EPRO 8

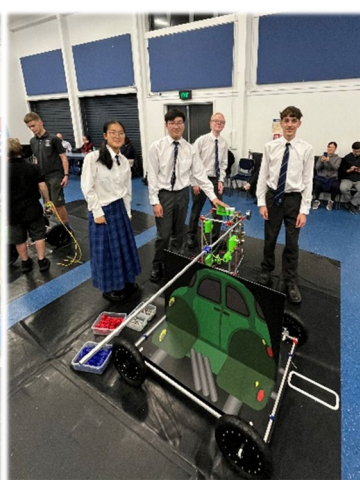
The EPro8 Challenge is the inter-school science and engineering competition. Every year over 35,000 students from throughout New Zealand take part. Students participate in a series of events, firstly within their school and then inter-school. These events are designed to promote science, engineering and problem solving.

On Thursday 8th of May, two senior teams of four students competed in the Year 11-13 Epro8 competition at Tauranga Girls College against six other local Colleges. Out of the twelve teams present, Bethlehem College came 1st and 2nd overall.

The students now travel to Hamilton later in the term to participate in the second round of the competition against the top schools in the Bay of Plenty Region. Well done to all the students for representing Bethlehem College so well.



EPro8 Challenge
Engineer Problem Solve Innovate





**BETHLEHEM
COLLEGE**

EXCELLENCE
through CHRIST

JUNIOR SECONDARY YEARS 7 – 9 Uniform Guidelines



BOYS' SUMMER UNIFORM

Shirt: BC pale blue polo shirt with blue stripe on collar. Can be worn untucked. Any undershirts, if worn, must be plain white, with no identifying marks on them.

Shorts: juni or royal blue drill.

BC Jersey, Jacket or Soft Shell Jacket: may be worn with the summer uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Hair: collar length hair must be fully tied back. Hair must be off the face. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. No facial hair.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a facon on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: black sandals with heel strap and strap over the foot OR formal black leather lace-up, polishable school shoes with black ankle socks. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing.

Sunhat: BC sunhat or cap to be worn when outdoors, Terms 1 and 4.



GIRLS' SUMMER UNIFORM

Shirt: BC white polo shirt with blue stripe on collar. Can be worn untucked. Any undershirts, if worn, must be plain white, with no identifying marks on them.

Skirt: knee length is the required length.

Trousers: clerical grey.

Belt: plain black.

BC Jersey, Jacket or Soft Shell Jacket: may be worn with the summer uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Hair: shoulder length hair must be fully tied back. Hair must be off the face. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. No decorative hair ties, clips or pins – elastic bands only.

Makeup: no make-up or nail polish to be worn.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a facon on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: black sandals with heel strap and strap over the foot OR formal black leather lace-up, polishable school shoes with BC white ankle socks with blue stripe. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing.

Sunhat: BC sunhat or cap to be worn when outdoors, Terms 1 and 4.



BOYS' WINTER UNIFORM

Shirt: pale blue, long sleeved, cotton, button up shirt, must be tucked in at all times. Any undershirts, if worn, must be plain white with no identifying marks on them.

Shorts: grey serge.

BC Jersey, Jacket, Soft Shell Jacket: may be worn with the winter uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies are to be worn at school.

Scarf: optional.

Hair: collar length hair must be fully tied back. Hair must be off the face. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. No decorative hair ties, clips or pins – elastic bands only.

Makeup: no make-up or nail polish to be worn.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a facon on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: formal black, leather, lace-up, polishable school shoes. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing. BC grey knee-high socks with royal blue stripe.

GIRLS' WINTER UNIFORM

Blouses: must be tucked in.

Skirt: knee length is the required length.

Trousers: clerical grey.

Belt: plain black.

BC Jersey, Jacket, Soft Shell Jacket: may be worn with the winter uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies are to be worn at school.

Scarf: optional.

Hair: shoulder length hair must be fully tied back. Hair must be off the face. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. No decorative hair ties, clips or pins – elastic bands only.

Makeup: no make-up or nail polish to be worn.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a facon on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: formal black, leather, lace-up, polishable school shoes. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing. Navy opaque or cotton tights NOT see through or BC white ankle sock with blue stripe. No knee highs or over knees, or long socks.



BOYS' FOOTWEAR (Guide only)



GIRLS' FOOTWEAR (Guide only)





**BETHLEHEM
COLLEGE**

EXCELLENCE
through CHRIST

SENIOR SECONDARY

YEARS 10 - 13

Uniform Guidelines



BOYS' SUMMER UNIFORM

Shirts: short sleeved white BC logo shirt which may be worn untucked. Any undershirts, if worn, must be plain white, with no identifying marks on them.

Shorts: formal navy drill.

BC Pastilla Lavaleva: to be worn with sandals.

BC Jersey, Soft Shell Jacket or Blazer: may be worn with the summer uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Badges: students may not wear any badges, patches or insignia, apart from BC badges.

Hair: must be clean, tidy off the face, out of the eyes at all times, otherwise it must be tied up. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. Clean Shaven.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a taonga on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: black sandals with heel strap and strap over the foot, OR formal black leather lace-up, polishable school shoes with black, or white ankle socks. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing.



GIRLS' SUMMER UNIFORM

Blouse: new white BC blouse to be worn untucked.

Skirts: these are to be mid-calf in length.

Trousers: clerical grey.

BC Jersey, Soft Shell Jacket or Blazer: may be worn with the summer uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Badges: students may not wear any badges, patches or insignia, apart from BC badges.

Hair: must be clean, tidy off the face, out of the eyes at all times, otherwise it must be tied up. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles.

Makeup: no heavy face makeup. No eye makeup or lipstick. No nail polish.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a taonga on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: black sandals with heel strap and strap over the foot OR formal black leather lace-up, polishable school shoes with black, or white ankle socks. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing.



BOYS' WINTER UNIFORM

Shirts: long sleeved white merino dress shirt must be tucked in at all times. Any undershirts, if worn, must be plain white with no identifying marks on them.

BC Tie

Trousers: clerical grey.

Belt: plain black.

BC Pastilla Lavaleva: to be worn with sandals.

BC Jersey, Soft Shell Jacket or Blazer: may be worn with the winter uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Scarf: optional.

Badges: students may not wear any badges, patches or insignia, apart from BC badges.

Hair: must be clean, tidy off the face, out of the eyes at all times, otherwise it must be tied up. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles. Clean Shaven.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a taonga on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: formal black, leather, lace-up, polishable school shoes. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing. Black, or white ankle socks only.

GIRLS' WINTER UNIFORM

Blouses: with BC crest on pocket. Can be worn untucked.

Skirts: mid-calf is the required length.

Trousers: clerical grey.

Belt: plain black.

BC Jersey, Soft Shell Jacket or Blazer: may be worn with the winter uniform. No BC sport or cultural jackets, hoodies or non-BC outerwear are to be worn at school.

Scarf: optional.

Badges: students may not wear any badges, patches or insignia, apart from BC badges.

Hair: must be clean, tidy off the face, out of the eyes at all times, otherwise it must be tied up. Natural hair colours only. No extreme styles.

Makeup: no heavy face makeup. No eye makeup or lipstick. No nail polish.

Jewellery: students may wear:

- a small cross or a taonga on a chain.
- one round 3mm stud in each ear. Earrings must be gold, silver, blue or white.
- a watch.

No facial or tongue piercings.

Footwear: formal black, leather, lace-up, polishable school shoes. No sports, boots/fashion or canvas styles will be accepted. No visible branding or writing. Navy or black opaque (NOT see through) tights OR navy or black knee-highs, OR black or white ankle socks only.



BOYS' FOOTWEAR (Guide only)



GIRLS' FOOTWEAR (Guide only)



GENERAL NOTICES

CHAPEL PRAYER

Please join us on a Monday during term anytime from 8 – 9 am for a time of prayer and worship. This is open to families, staff and students.

VACANCY

The Christian Education Trust has an opening for a [Finance Team Assistant](#). Applications close Fri 16th May. Call Brigid McGillivray 07 579 1894 for more info.

CAREER PATHWAYS

There are lots of opportunities coming up for students in Term 2. Check out the online Careers Hub for more information. Click on the 'Posts' tab at the top to sign up for workshops, trips and more. <https://beth.careerwise.school/>

VOLUNTEER PARENT HELPERS NEEDED

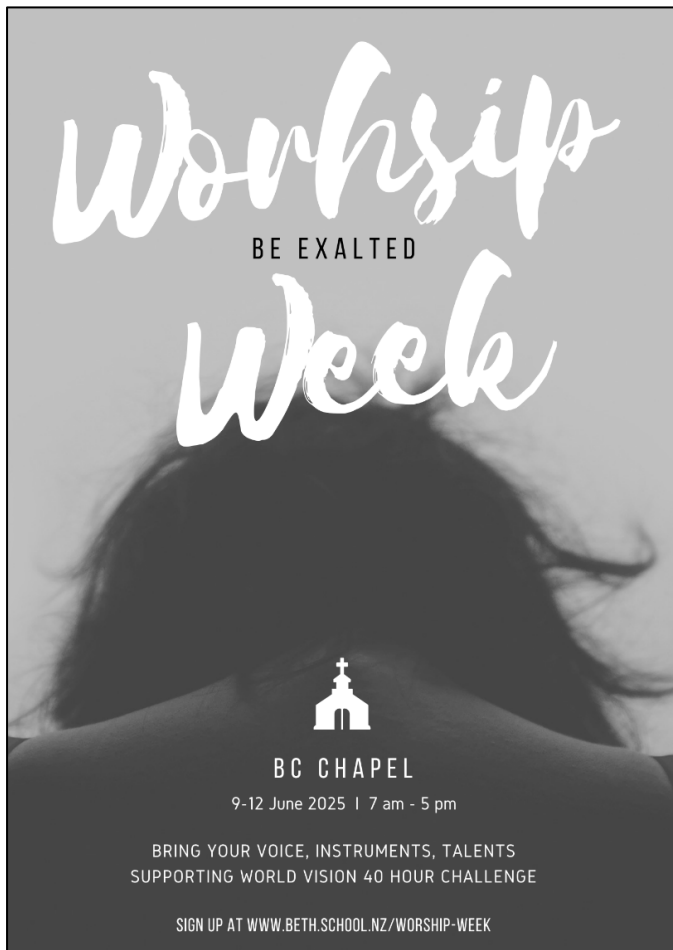
If you have a few hours to spare once or twice a month and would like to assist, please get in touch – we'd love to have your support! We are needing help with washing clothing items, folding and returning them. If you are interested in volunteering, please email us at office@beth.school.nz and we will be in touch with further details.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA


Enjoy [Right Now Media](#) as part of the BC community, including parenting resources, personal devotions and professional development content for parents, safe Biblical kids content (no ads), and support for parents to disciple their kids with confidence

COASTAL CLEAN-UP PROJECT

Join Our Backyard Trust (OBt) at the Tauranga Sport Fishing Club from 11 am – 3 pm next Friday 16th and Saturday 17th May from 9 am – 3 pm to clean up the Tauranga coastline. More info and sign up [here](#).



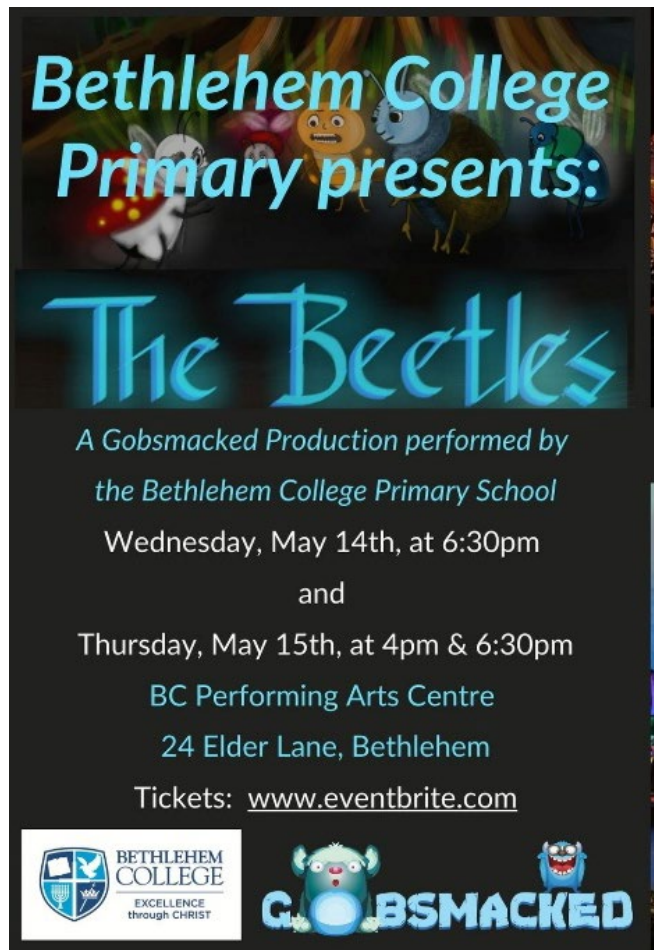
Workshop
BE EXALTED
Week



BC CHAPEL
9-12 June 2025 | 7 am - 5 pm

BRING YOUR VOICE, INSTRUMENTS, TALENTS
SUPPORTING WORLD VISION 40 HOUR CHALLENGE

SIGN UP AT WWW.BETH.SCHOOL.NZ/WORSHIP-WEEK



Bethlehem College
Primary presents:
The Beetles

A Gobsnacked Production performed by
the Bethlehem College Primary School

Wednesday, May 14th, at 6:30pm
and
Thursday, May 15th, at 4pm & 6:30pm

BC Performing Arts Centre
24 Elder Lane, Bethlehem

Tickets: www.eventbrite.com

