

Secondary Newsletter

TERM 2 | 2025
ISSUE 2

Tēnā koutou whānau, parents and caregivers,

It has been an enriching and eventful time in Secondary. From inspiring guest visits to student-led initiatives, the past few weeks have showcased the vibrant learning culture we are so blessed to foster in our school community.

A recent highlight was hosting Dr Johnson Witehira, a leading figure in Māori Visual Arts, who offered our students insights into bicultural design and artistic expression.

Our Year 10 students are currently preparing for their Common Assessment Activities (CAAs), and we want to wish them all the very best. To our students: plan wisely, remove distractions, and give yourselves the best chance to fully focus. *'Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans' (Proverbs 16:3).*

Market Day was another fantastic event—full of creativity, initiative, and teamwork. We continue to be encouraged by the ways our students bring their learning to life. Tertiary Awareness Day also offered valuable insights for seniors exploring life beyond school.

Finally, a word of thanks to our Music Department for their tireless work behind the scenes and on stage. Their commitment brings life, beauty, and joy to our community.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the life of our school.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Christopher Niles
Head of Secondary



FAITH

Timing is everything. Whether it's sport or photography, the right time makes a difference. True wisdom is not only knowing the right action, but also the right time.

The Old Testament says that there is a right time to speak and a right time to keep silent. There is a right time to confront and a right time to keep our opinions to ourselves. A time for frantic activity and quietness and stillness. In Jesus' life there were times when he was available to everyone and times when he went away by himself. There were times when he spoke out publicly and times when he was anonymous.

Seek Jesus and discover the wisdom of timing.

KEY DATES

CAA Testing

27 & 29 May 8:30am

Student Supertag

26–30 May

Kings Birthday – No School

2 June

Mufti Day - Celebrities

6 June

Chapel Open: Prayer & Worship

Mondays 8 – 9 am

QUICK LINKS

[ENROLLED FAMILIES](#)

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

[STUDENT DAILY NOTICES](#)

CONNECT WITH BC



Aotearoa Academy Choir Scholarship

Congratulations to Chloe Broxholme who made the Aotearoa Academy Choir – the only singer from Tauranga! She travels to Wellington during all three school holiday breaks to rehearse and perform. To find out more and support youth singers click [here](#).



Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Information

Y10 NCEA COMMON ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES (CAA)

All Year 10 students will sit the NCEA Literacy and Numeracy CAAs in Week 5 of Term 2.

- **Reading CAA** – 8.45 am Tue 27 May (line up at 8:30am in the Quad)
- **Numeracy CAA** – 8.45 am Thu 29 May (line up at 8:30am in the quad)
Special Assessment Conditions (SAC) students report to Q110 at 8:30am

Students must bring:

- Charged laptop or iPad with keyboard
- Pens/pencils/rubber in a clear plastic bag
- Ruler & calculator (Numeracy only)
- A book to read when finished

Preparation:

- Completed Practice assessments in class and at home
- Know NZQA login (NSN) and password
- Practice logging into [NZQA](https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/)

FAQs

- Room allocations will be posted in the Quad and shared via notices in Week 4
- Please avoid appointments or music lessons on these dates
- If absent due to illness, students can sit the CAA in Term 3

Please contact Mrs Miriam McFarlane pn@beth.school.nz with any questions.

Test Taking Tips

1. Read all directions carefully.
2. Read all questions carefully.
3. Be sure you know what is being asked.
4. Look at all choices before you answer.
5. Eliminate answers you know are wrong.
6. Paraphrase the questions.
7. Think carefully.
8. Check your work.

Do your best!

SUBJECTS

ARTS & DESIGN - MĀORI VISUAL ARTS

Bethlehem College recently had the honour of hosting Dr. Johnson Witehira, a leading international figure in Māori Visual Arts. With a Doctorate in this unique field, Dr. Witehira spoke to 60 of our senior Art and Design students, sharing his creative journey and deep cultural insights. His visit was both inspiring and thought-provoking, especially as students are currently exploring the theme of *tūrangawaewae* – a concept that connects people to their place of belonging.

Students also had the invaluable opportunity to speak with Dr. Witehira one-on-one, receiving feedback and encouragement on their individual art projects. As a token of appreciation, we presented him with a print by Obidiah, a talented Year 11 student. Dr. Witehira was blown away by the calibre of Obidiah's work, praising the depth and skill shown.

His visit was a powerful reminder of the importance of culture, identity, and storytelling through art.



GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO WAITOMO CAVES

As part of their sustainable tourism studies, our Year 11 Geography students visited the Waitomo Caves, exploring both the Ruakuri and Glowworm Caves.

They learned about the local history, cultural significance, and environmental management of these unique natural sites. The trip provided a rich opportunity to explore how tourism can be managed responsibly in a delicate natural environment.

Beyond deepening their understanding of natural landscapes and sustainability, the experience reminded us that creation is not just a natural wonder—it is a divine gift.

By protecting and preserving it, we honour the Creator's craftsmanship and embrace our role as kaitiaki of creation.



ACTIVITIES



Year 10 Market Day was a fun and exciting event where students got the chance to be creative and try their hand at running a business. Each group set up their own stall, selling a variety of products and treats. It was a great way to bring everyone together and gave students a real taste of teamwork, marketing, and money management.



SMALL MOTORS COURSE

This week Year 12 students from the Practical Agriculture and Horticulture class took part in a hands-on Small Motors Course delivered by outside provider PCTI at BC. Students learned how to fault find and problem solve common issues in small engines like lawn mowers and brush cutters. They also gained valuable skills in changing spark plugs and oil filters, as well as maintaining and sharpening tools. A fantastic opportunity to develop practical knowledge and life skills that will serve them well beyond the classroom. Thank you Pacific Coast Technical Institute!



TERTIARY AWARENESS DAY 2025

On Friday 9th May, student liaisons from 26 major Universities and Tertiary Education providers presented their course offerings to the Year 12 and 13 secondary students. Their visit was part of the week-long Tertiary Awareness Week, in which these representatives visited secondary schools around the Tauranga/Bay of Plenty area.

The in-depth and insightful presentations offered valuable information - and in some cases, practical demonstrations - on what students can expect if choosing to study at one of these places in future. Afterwards, a Careers Expo in the Primary Hall afforded students the opportunity to talk further with the representatives. Having all the providers in one area allowed them to see what other exciting options might be available to them once they leave school.

Feedback from the student liaisons was very positive – students were engaged and interested and really seemed to soak up all the information on offer. The weather wasn't so great, but the day itself was. Thank you to all the fantastic providers!



SPORTS

FOOTBALL AND RUGBY

Our 1st Girls Football are still unbeaten in the season with 3 consecutive wins. Our 1st Football boys had their first loss of the season against Aquinas College. Our 1st Rugby (merged with Otumoetai College) are playing under the name Barbarians in grading phase.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Bethlehem Results				
Senior Boys	Intermediate Boys	Year 8 Boys	Year 7 Boys	Junior Boys
1 Corban Holmes 11:10	1 Patrick Brodie-Smith 11.04	1=Austin Redding 11.53.90	1 Ryder Chandler 12.23	1 Tre O'Sullivan 11.09
2 Jack Tomlinson 11:35	2 Flynn Holmes 11.34	1= Sam Milham 11.51.19	2 Matias Harvey 12.38	2 Logan Pinkerton 11.23
3 Josh Mathfield 12:09	3 Levi Timms 12.23	1=Noah Eades 11.56.14	3 Jake Balmer 12.46	3 Ethan Rowan 11.37
Senior Girls	Intermediate Girls	Year 8 Girls	Year 7 Girls	Junior Girls
1 Eleanor Pugh 12:19	1 Sienna Brewton 14.04	1 Eva Brewerton 13.10	1 Indie Brewerton 12.51.19	1 Taliah Bayly 13.30
2 Nachalah Smith 14:20	2 Chloe Mathfield 14.27	2 Kate Balmer 14.30	2 Stella Reid 13.15.90	2 Tianna Macdonald 13.44
3 Sophie Neustroski 15:08	3 Sienna Lee 14.30	3 Chloe Pinkerton 15.05	3 Poppy Leong 13.51.30	3 Ingrid Stripling 14.24
BOP Waikato Athletics results				
6 Brodie-Smith Patrick 15.35	Junior Boys 4000m		4 Eleanor Pugh 15.22	Senior Girls 4000m

MUSIC

The Music Department is in full swing. Term 2 is competition time for several of our groups/bands. Students have been hard at work, rehearsing and having extra workshops with experts in the field.

RISING STARS CONCERTO MUSIC COMPETITION

Congratulations to Esha Xu, Jasper Zhang, Heejae Choi, Elisha Tie and David Jiang, as they were selected as finalists for the 2025 Rising Stars Concerto Competition. They will be competing in the finals on the 27th July, playing their selected Concertos with the Bay of Plenty Symphonia. We wish them all the best as they prepare for their performances!

Also, congratulations to Enoch Tie for winning the Competition section of the Rising Stars competition. Enoch composed an orchestral piece, that will be performed by the Bay of Plenty Symphonia at the finals. Congratulations Enoch!



ROCKQUEST

Our RockQuest bands were privileged to have Joel Shadbolt (LAB frontman) work with them last Friday, focusing on performance technique and fine-tuning their original songs in preparation for the RockQuest regionals this Sunday. All are welcome to come and support them as they compete at Baycourt. Our bands are in the afternoon session which starts at 2:30pm. You can find a list of the bands playing and purchase tickets [here](#).



CHOIRS

Animoso performed at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, as part of their Easter Praise concert. This was a community event, featuring local bands such as the Tauranga City Brass and solo performers. Their performance was well received and appreciated.

INTERNATIONAL

ROTORUA TRIP

Our international students had their exciting annual Rotorua Luge trip last Saturday with a clear starry night to race each other down the track. It was a perfect blend of fun, friendship and outdoor excitement.



"MOTHER'S DAY"

We celebrated our international mums with a special "Mother's Day" afternoon tea to honour them and inform them about our excellent English programmes across BC schools.



BC BUSINESSES

A group of 20+ BC parents and alumni enjoyed afternoon tea at BC's quarterly networking event last Monday.

Join us on the 3rd Monday of each term in the staffroom for a casual time of supporting one another in business.

More info [here](#).



GENERAL NOTICES

WORSHIP WEEK

Join us for the third annual Worship Week at the BC Chapel **9-12 June** from 7 am to 5 pm daily. Be our guest or sign up [here](#) to perform with instruments, singing, reading, dancing, drama, art and more. Worship Week is in support of the World Vision [40 Hour Challenge](#) – get involved by joining the [BC Team](#).

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.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

A reminder to please use caution when driving into and out of the BC campus each day.

- Elder Lane: Please do not park along the entrance side of Elder Lane or in the no parking zones on the opposite side.
- Drop Off/Pick Up Zone: Please do not park in this zone – this area needs to be kept clear to ensure traffic flow.
- Crossing: Please only use designated crossings, namely the Chapel cross walk and pathway, to avoid near misses.

UPCOMING WHANAU EVENING

Join us from 7-9 pm on Tue 3rd June in the PAC foyer to hear 'The Chat' from speaker Christy Herselman. Please register [here](#). The heart of **THE CHAT** is to empower parents to confidently tackle big topics with their kids in a natural, open manner which creates a safe space for on-going conversations. **The Chat 101** is a talk designed to equip parents and caregivers of children aged 2-13 years, with tools for how, why and when to talk to your kids about sex. Topics include Understanding the sexual landscape, Reasons we don't talk about sex, overcoming obstacles, Having a game plan, and an Age guide.

NZQA EXAM CENTRE MANAGER POSITION

Bethlehem College is seeking expressions of interest for the position of [NZQA Exam Centre Manager](#) (ECM) for the upcoming external examination period. This is a fixed-term role for someone with strong organisational skills, attention to detail, and a calm, professional manner. The ECM is responsible for overseeing the smooth and secure running of all NZQA examinations at our school. Key responsibilities include managing exam materials, coordinating and training exam supervisors, ensuring compliance with NZQA regulations, and maintaining a supportive environment for students during exams. The successful candidate will be reliable and confident in using digital tools. Full training and support will be provided. This role typically runs from late October to late November, with some preparation required in Term 3. If you are interested, please email your expression of interest to Miriam McFarlane (NZQA Principal's Nominee) pn@beth.school.nz by Monday 2 June 12pm.



IS YOUR CHILD KEEN TO LEARN CHESS,
IMPROVE THEIR GAME, RECEIVE COACHING AND
TIPS FOR TOURNAMENTS,
AND HAVE REGULAR CHESS GAMES WITH OTHER
JUNIOR (5-17YR OLD) PLAYERS.

Bishops of Plenty
Junior Chess Club
3.45-4.45pm
Thursdays during term
Bethlehem Community Church Foyer
183 Moffat Road, Bethlehem
\$5 per session

For more information
email: bishopsplenty@gmail.com
call: call Gemma on 021 949692



**SMOKEFREE
ROCKQUEST**

Smokefreerockquest/Smokefree
Tangata Beats BOP Heats >
25 May 2025



Sat 24 May **YOU! FEST!** Tauranga Waterfront
1-4pm

find clues
do good!
have fun!

**THE GREAT
VOLUNTEER
SCAVENGER HUNT**

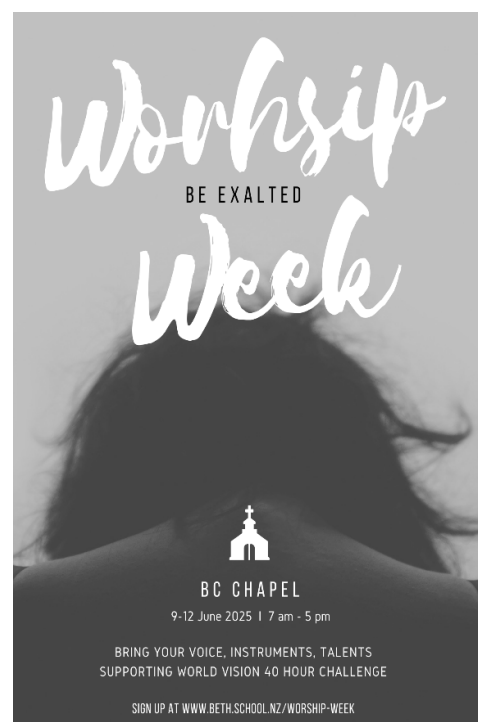
grab some mates
and enter a team of
up to 5 people
register your team here

Volunteering
SERVICES

open to all youth
14-24yrs

FREE ENTRY

a YouthFest activity hosted by Youth Voices Action
and run by Volunteering Services



Worship
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