

Secondary Newsletter

TERM 2 | 2025
ISSUE 3

Tēnā koutou whānau, parents and caregivers,

This past week, I had the privilege of speaking to our students at two different assemblies, and I wanted to share some reflections on the themes that emerged from those conversations.

Speaking to our Secondary about excellence, I was reminded that true excellence isn't about being the best or achieving the highest grades—it's about reflecting God's character in everything we do. Like the moon reflecting the sun's light, we are called to reflect God's excellence in our daily lives, even with our imperfections and "craters." As one renowned chef puts it: "Perfection is lots of little things done well." It shows up in how we speak to one another, present ourselves, complete our work, and care for our school environment. These seemingly small acts matter because they reflect who we are and 'whose' we are.

And then, to our Junior Secondary students, about gratefulness. As we continue through this term, let's remain grateful for the many gifts we receive—from God, teachers who support your intellectual, social, and spiritual development, student leaders who help create a positive culture, family and friends. We truly care about the holistic growth of students, and this commitment shows daily as we facilitate learning, provide instruction, and conduct meaningful assessments.

I want to particularly acknowledge our Year 10 students who recently completed their first Common Assessment Activities (CAAs). Whether you left feeling confident or with areas to improve, what matters most is that you do your best in all that you put your head, heart, and hand to. This is part of your growth journey, and we're proud of you!

Excellence and love aren't just ideals we talk about—they're the foundation of who we are as a school community. When we live them out in small, everyday moments, we create something beautiful that reflects the heart of Christ and builds up everyone around us.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Christopher Niles
Head of Secondary



FAITH

In the middle of an intense discussion with someone asking for clarity on who he should consider as his neighbour Jesus tells a story. You know the one, a man on a lonely road who is attacked and left for dead.

On their way to a temple celebration a priest and a Levite avoid the unclean man because they would not have been able to perform their duties if they touched him. Who will help the man? The rescuer is a Samaritan, a sworn enemy of Jews, like the nation of Israel and the people of Gaza today. The last person anyone listening would have chosen. So, 'who is my neighbour?' Everyone, even and perhaps most especially, your sworn enemy. See Matthew 5:43-47.

KEY DATES

Worship Week

9-12 Jun 7am – 5pm BC Chapel

40 Hour Challenge Week

9 -13 Jun

Chapel Open: Prayer & Worship

Mondays 8 – 9 am

Parent Teacher Conferences

12 Jun @ 3:40 – 8 pm (Y9-13)

16 Jun @ 1 – 6 pm (Y9-13)

25 Jun @ 8:30am – 7:30pm (Y7/8)*

*NO SCHOOL Y7/8 on 25 Jun

Haka Competition

19 Jun

Matariki Holiday – NO SCHOOL

20 Jun

QUICK LINKS

[ENROLLED FAMILIES](#)

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

[STUDENT DAILY NOTICES](#)

CONNECT WITH BC



2nd 11 Football Girls enjoying a fruit ice cream following a game in Whakatane.

MUSIC

SMOKEFREE ROCKQUEST BOP HEATS

Well done BC students who recently competed in Rockquest's BOP heat: Ella Mafi, Ferrofluid, 816, Go Getter, Skraps and Standard. Congratulations to Go Getter who advance to the regional finals being held on Friday 13 June at Totara Street. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).



CHAMBER MUSIC BOP

Congratulations to our two Chamber Music groups for their performances at the recent Bay of Plenty District Chamber Music Rounds. Our Sextet won the KBB Music award and a Highly commended, and our Quartet (Elisha Tie, Jasper Zhang, Cyrus Kang and Heejae Choi) won the competition! They are off to the Northern Regional Finals next Sat 14 June.

CHAPEL CONCERT

It was a packed Chapel on Wednesday lunchtime as family members, students and staff escaped the rain and were entertained by Sound Collective and Animoso, who sang their Big Sing repertoire. All the best to our two choirs as they prepare for the Big Sing competition in a couple of weeks!





BETHLEHEM
COLLEGE

EXCELLENCE
through CHRIST

SUBJECTS

HOSPITALITY

Year 11

The hospitality students recently prepared meals for the Live for More Foundation. Live for More is dedicated to empowering *rangatahi* (young people) to overcome challenges from their past and to embrace positive, fulfilling lives. Through their innovative surf therapy programs, Live for More transforms lives—one wave at a time.

Instilling a spirit of service in our students is a fundamental aspect of Hospitality as a subject, and we commend them for generously contributing their time and skills in support of others.



Year 7 & 8

The rotation students recently engaged enthusiastically in learning new baking skills and beautiful piping techniques to artfully decorate the cupcakes they had baked. They experimented with colour, texture and patterns to give each cupcake a unique and professional finish.

Well done on building your confidence in the kitchen!

PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

Our Year 12 student photographers have been capturing stunning moments, showcasing their creativity and eye for detail. Alongside their photography, the Year 10 students have been exploring printmaking techniques to bring their images to life in unique and tactile ways. This exciting skill is allowing the students to experiment with different textures and styles, resulting in beautiful artwork that reflects their individual perspectives. We're proud to see such talent and enthusiasm flourishing in our art program!





BETHLEHEM COLLEGE

EXCELLENCE through CHRIST

MISSIONS

YEAR 10 RUATORIA

Next week 18x Year 10 students will be serving in Ruatoria. The theme of the week is HOPE. Students pictured fundraising with the sale of donuts and sausages.

*Kia mau ki te tumanako, te whakapono me te aroha.
Hold fast to hope faith and love.*



Andrews, Kerehama



Basham, Abi



Bayly, Taliah



Black, Joel



Cameron, Victor



Davis, Elliot



O'Reilly, Ilah



Packer, Monica



Pendergast, Bonnie



Moffatt, Ruby



Mullan, Sienna



Neighbour, Brianna



Pratt, Kirra



Schulz, Charlotte



Smart, Jasmine



Haumaha, Houmairawhiti



Lum, Millen



Minnee, Naomi

INTERNATIONAL

SECONDARY STUDENTS VOLUNTEERING

Some of our secondary international students have generously given their time to support our newest international primary learners in a fun and engaging way. Through interactive games and playful activities, the older students helped create a relaxed and welcoming environment that made learning English fun and accessible. Thank you to our senior students, for not only supporting language development, but also in helping to build confidence and connection among our youngest learners.



Our Vision: To be a Christian learning community of excellence where lives are transformed.



BETHLEHEM COLLEGE

EXCELLENCE through CHRIST

SPORTS

SPORTS COACHING COURSE

This year Gateway offered BC students the opportunity to complete an L3 Sports Coaching course, facilitated by The Learning Place, here at the school.

Held across 2 days at the BC Rugby Clubrooms, 15x Y12 & 13 students with a keen interest in furthering their Sports Coaching knowledge participated in activities and lessons which covered school sports injury prevention, risk and hazard assessment, planning coaching sessions, and demonstrating their coaching session plans.

It was a real privilege to offer this course to our students who already coach teams, and/or are looking to pursue a career pathway in High Performance Sport and Sports Coaching.

Key takeaways from the course were increased knowledge of coaching teams, awareness of their role as a coach and how they communicate with their team, understanding how to prevent injuries during coaching sessions, and leadership skills.



NETBALL

Angel-Rose Tomich had the incredible opportunity of having a private one-on-one netball training session last week with **Silver Ferns** player **Erena Mikaere**.

It was an amazing experience where Angel-Rose gained valuable insights, honed her skills through targeted netball drills, and deepened her understanding of game strategy and outlook.

A huge thank you to Erena for her mentorship and inspiration!






RAISE SOME DOUGH

DOMINO'S BETHLEHEM WILL BE DONATING \$1 FROM EACH PIZZA SOLD TO BC ROWING
ONE EVERY THURSDAY OF JUNE FROM 4:00pm -9:00pm

BC ROWING

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
\$1 FROM EACH PIZZA SOLD WOULD BE DONATED TO BC ROWING	EVERY THURSDAY OF JUNE FROM 4PM TO 9PM	ONLY AT DOMINO'S BETHLEHEM

WWW.DOMINOS.CO.NZ

CAREERS

UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO OPEN DAY

A group of Year 13 students had the opportunity to attend the University of Waikato Open Day in Hamilton. Students were able to explore possible study options, attend mini lectures, discuss queries with faculty staff, see a full university campus in action, and take tours of student accommodation.

We were proud to see our students taking steps to embody our Careers Department ethos:

Whaia te pae tawhiti kia tata, Whakamaua te pae tata kia tina!
Explore beyond the distant horizon and draw it near, take hold of your potential so it becomes your reality!



BECA & PRIORITY ONE CAREERS DAY

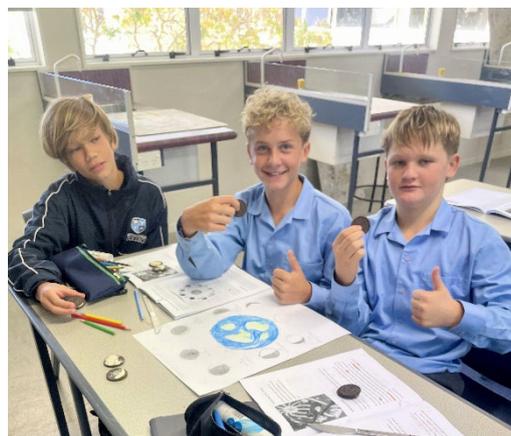
Beca and Priority One collaborated to host students from secondary schools in the Bay of Plenty for an informative, first-hand experience exploring the local opportunities available in engineering, architecture, planning, design and digital technologies. Students visited Beca worksites around Tauranga City Centre – seeing projects happening right now and learning about the range of different professional skills required to progress such projects. They also heard explanations from young professionals employed at Beca regarding how they got into their role, what they enjoy about it and why it's a great career. Students were inspired and informed about potential future pathways. Thank you Beca and Priority One!



CAREERS – LAW

Senior Counsel Miss Emily Flores, along with Junior Counsel Mr Paul Steyn and Solicitor Miss Briar Schofield, dedicated months of hard work preparing to represent their client in the case of *Manaia v A Energy Ltd and Ors*. Their rigorous advocacy for the inclusion of tikanga in negligence law was commendable and they now eagerly await the decision of the Moot Supreme Court.

Congratulations to all the mooters for their dedication and countless hours of preparation. Year 12 and 13 students who are serious about pursuing a career in law should watch out for more information next year about the 2026 University of Waikato Mooting Competition. This competition offers an excellent opportunity to practice legal research, draft submissions, learn court etiquette and develop key advocacy skills.



Mrs Roser's Y8 class making a poster of moon phases using Oreos.

Y10-12 SUBJECTS & NCEA

Y10-12 SUBJECT SELECTION 2026

This week during Year Level Assemblies, our deans introduced the Senior Subject Selection process for 2026. They highlighted key dates, where to find information, and how students can begin preparing for these important decisions. Please note the following dates in your calendar.

Subject Selection will officially open on **Tue 15 July** and close **Fri 25 July**.

Beginning **Mon 16 June**, 2026 course information will be made available.

Wed 16 July at lunchtime Y10-12 students are invited to attend a Subject Information Session. This is a valuable opportunity to meet with the Heads of Departments and Teachers in Charge to discuss course pathways, subject content and specific entry requirements. Location to be advised.

We strongly encourage students to begin conversations at home about potential subject choices and future pathways. These discussions are an important part of the decision-making process and help ensure alignment with students' interests, strengths, and career aspirations.

Students are also encouraged to explore the [Bethlehem College Careers Hub](#). This platform offers a wealth of resources, including career and pathway information, tertiary guidance, and tools to help students make well-informed subject choices. Students are also welcome to make an appointment with our Careers Department or speak directly with their Dean.



Y10-12 NCEA PARENT/STUDENT INFO EVENING – Wed 16 July

Bethlehem College warmly invites all Year 10-12 students, along with their parents/caregivers, to attend our annual NCEA Information Evening on **Wed 16 July at 5.30 pm in the PAC**.

This important event will provide families with a better understanding of the NCEA qualification and how it is implemented at our College. It will provide the latest updates on NCEA assessment processes, directly informed by NZQA guidelines. This evening is also designed to support students as they begin making subject selections for 2026.

The evening will be led by:

Mr Chris Niles, Head of Secondary
Mrs Emma Talbot, Assistant Head of Secondary
Mrs Miriam McFarlen, NZQA Principal's Nominee
Mrs Anna Exelby, Head of Careers Department

Following the session, staff will be available in the foyer to answer any questions you or your child may have.

For additional information, students are encouraged to read the NCEA Guide for Students here: [NCEA Guide for Students](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!



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](#).

WINTER WARM-UP CONCERT

Join us at the BC Performing Arts Centre for a special music showcase on Mon 16 June at 7 pm. Sit back and enjoy being entertained by the BC Music Department's choirs, orchestras, bands and more. Gold coin donation.

PARENTING IN AN ONLINE WORLD WITH ROB COPE

Monday 11 August: 2 sessions 3.30 and 6.30 pm. As part of the Bethlehem College community, it is strongly recommended that at least one parent from each family (preferably both) of Y0-13 students attend to help us navigate this issue together as a community. This is a 2 hour presentation for adults only. Tickets are \$11.43 each and registration [here](#).

VOTE BC FOR LOCAL LEGENDS

BC submitted an application to Tauranga Crossing's [Local Legends](#) for the project 'Let's Paint Te Wairoa Marae!' and has been selected as a finalist! Please show your school spirit by casting your vote [here](#) daily between 1st – 31st June and sharing with friends and family. (You can also vote at the info desk at Tauranga Crossing, which counts for 2 votes.) The most community votes wins!

SPORTS CANCELLATIONS

Sports Office is notified by 1pm on the day of any team cancellations. These cancellations are published on the Heja app and posted on the Sports Office foyer noticeboard or front door. The BC Sports Office is unable to get notes to individual players in their class, so players need to be aware and check the sports office noticeboard. *Parents, please set up backup plans, in advance, with your child so they know what to do, should their sports practice or games be cancelled.*

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

Starts Mon 16 June 5pm at BC library. More info on FB - Drive Safe Driving School or Sue 0212153548.

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. <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/bethstudents>

HOMESTAY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Are you a young family that lives near the beach? We are looking for a homestay for a 15-year-old German male student who is coming from Term 3 2025 until Term 2 2026, including the summer holidays. This student plays hockey, loves to ski and skateboard, and wants to develop his surfing skills while in NZ. 2025 homestay payments are \$350 per week plus extra for the summer holidays. If you are interested please email homestay@beth.school.nz

