

TERM 4 2025 – NEWSLETTER #15

Tena koutou Parents/Caregivers,

A very warm welcome to the final term for 2025. It has been such a delight to see the children returning and getting straight into the business of learning and enjoying being together. It has been great to also meet new students and whanau, our hope and prayer is you feel welcome and enjoy journeying with us.



ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly this week was hosted by C1 & C2. A great time was had gathering together to share in these classes learning and to celebrate our Principal awards.



TERM 4 KEY DATES

Y5&Y6 SPEECH & CHESS COMP

Fri 31st Oct – BC Chapman

YO-Y4 ATHLETICS

Mon 3rd Nov – BC – 9.20am – 12.30pm

Y4-Y6 HALF DAY – TEACHER PD

Fri 7th Nov – School finishes 12.30pm for Y4-6

Y5&Y6 NC ATHLETICS

Tues 11th Nov – BC – 9am – 2.30pm

Y3&Y4 FUNKY FUN DAY

Thurs 13th Nov – Mercury Arena

Y5&Y6 WBOP ORIENTEERING

Thurs 13th Nov – Details TBC

YO-Y1 FUN DAY

Wed 3rd Dec – BC – Details TBC

Y2 FUN DAY

Wed 3rd Dec – BC – Details TBC

Y6 FUN DAY

Wed 3rd Dec – BC – Details TBC

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

Facebook: [@bethlehemcollege](#)
Instagram: [@bethlehemcollege_nz](#)
Website: [Enrolled Families](#)

This week we have had our Te Aka team from B Block leading us. It was another time of great sharing and celebrating.



WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

Mr Edmeades shared with us last week about the importance of keeping our light shining for Jesus. Asking for Jesus's forgiveness when we sin helps ensure our sin doesn't make us dim. Thank you, Mr Edmeades, for the great reminder to ask Jesus to help us shine His light every day!

This week our worship assembly was attended by Y0-4 as the Y5-6 were at their athletics day. Mrs Rachael McKoy created a storm using body percussion as a means of sharing the story of how Jesus calmed the storm. She reminded us that when we face challenges we can trust in Jesus just as Peter did in the storm, thank you Mrs McKoy.



TE AKA & TE KARI DISCOVERY



PRIMARY SPORT



Y5 & Y6 ATHLETICS

We enjoyed an excellent morning where the children demonstrated some wonderful skill, perseverance and encouragement of one another. A huge thanks to our Sports dept and High school student helpers, teachers, and of course all those who came along to cheer the children on. The North cluster event for Y5&6 athletics will be held at BC on Tuesday 11th November.



LEAVERS DAY END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Next Thursday 30th we have this special annual event where we farewell the senior students as they walk down "The Way" to meet their family at the chapel at the end of the day.

The whole school line "The Way" as the students walk from the events centre to the chapel.



At the end of the walk our primary children will go to their buses, and for those who are normally collected from the Chapel, they may be collected from the field side of the road as the chapel area will be very busy.

Please be prepared for the additional traffic and possible parking limitations that are likely that afternoon.

2026

Just a reminder if you have any changes in your circumstances for 2026 to please let us know. The process of putting together classes for 2026 is underway. Much prayer and careful thought is undertaken as teachers consider class placements.

If you have any questions, suggestions and or comments please email them directly to me karen.whenuaroa@beth.school.nz and not to the class teacher.



Our current staffing plans for classes in 2026

Te Kari Year 1	Mrs Becky Pulman (Phase Lead) A1	Mrs Sabina Sneddon A2	Mrs Karien Kennedy A3	Mrs Lorraine Ransley A4
Te Aka Year 2	Mrs Kelly Sanders (Phase Lead) B1	Mrs Pip Gilchrist B2	Mrs Sue Martin Mrs Jo Ball (F) B3	
Te Aka Year 3	Mrs Cristy Drake C1	Mrs Jane Phelps D1	Mrs Leonie Manson D2	
Te Awa Year 4	Mrs Kerrie Bernard C2	Mrs Maureen Giles C3	Mrs Stef Hendra Mrs Ruth Sutcliffe C4	
Te Awa Year 5	Mrs Michelle Booth (Phase Lead) D3	Mrs Amanda Aandewiel D4	Mrs Corine Marsden E1	
Te Maunga Year 6	Mrs Rachael McKoy E2	Mr Glen McCullough E3	Mr Joel Devcich (Phase Lead) E4	



SCIENTISTS AT WORK

Our Primary wide inquiry focus this term is God is Creator. As scientists the big idea is to grow in wonder and gratitude for God's living creation, recognising His power, creativity, and care.



E2 - The Human Body

Name the parts of the eye, explain how parts of the eye function and the connection to the brain and make a 3d model of the eye.

The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made them both. Proverbs 20:12





CIVVIES DAY

Thank you for your generous donations towards Samaritans purse – Christmas Shoe box.



LIBRARY NEWS

The library team completed the annual stocktake and is now on the hunt for missing books. We are offering a...

BOOK AMNESTY

Looking for any of our books:

- school library
- resource room
- primary readers

➔ **NOT
CURRENTLY
ON LOAN**



Thank You

Please drop them off in the basket inside the main office front door area or return them to the library



HAPPY PARENTING

Challenges are a part of life we all navigate and coaching our children through these can bring out a myriad of emotions, positively and negatively. The latest nurture magazine has an interesting article which may be helpful if you're looking for insights.

Our calendar is filled with many wonderful events to look forward to as we near the end of the year. One of the highlights for me is always the class celebrations, where we take time to affirm and celebrate each child's growth in Godly character. Your child's teacher will share details about their class celebration soon.

We also look forward to our **BCP End-of-Year Celebration**, a special opportunity to give thanks for the year that has been. We warmly invite whānau to join us in the **Events Centre on Thursday, December 11 at 1:30 p.m.**

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and prayers as we continue this journey together. Have a wonderful weekend.
Ngā mihi,
Karen.



How parents can help with their children's challenges: Avoidance is not the answer

DANNY GAMBLE

8 nurture September 2025

There is no doubt students will face, or have already faced, a range of challenges over the course of the school year. This isn't a bad thing, as it's these challenges that allow growth and development of resilience and can build self-esteem. It is also a wonderful opportunity to overcome challenges in a safe, supportive, and Christ-filled community, in readiness for future challenges in their community that may not always be so supportive.

Over the year students will be embarking on some or all of the following:

- School camps
- Excursions
- Cross country
- Academic tests
- Swimming
- Athletics
- School production

For some students, these events will be the highlight of their year. For others, there will be worry, stress, and a strong desire to try and get out of participating. As a parent, it can be tempting to remove them, or give them a day off and not take part. My strong encouragement is to resist this temptation, but to help them through the thing causing them to worry. Isaiah 41:10 speaks to this:

So do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

This reminder from the Bible anchors our approach as parents and educators; we are not alone in facing challenges, and neither are our children. Just as God promises to strengthen and uphold us, we too can model that same steady presence to our kids when anxiety or fear takes hold.

The importance of parents in helping their children face challenges is further described by childhood anxiety expert Karen Young below:

Our job is not to protect our children from the distress of anxiety or the distress of any big feelings, our job is to give them the experiences they need to help them recognise that they can handle the distress of anxiety. (Sparrow, 2024)

She explains that the key to ensuring they can handle the distress is making sure your child doesn't feel alone in those challenging moments.

We do that through validation; by saying "my darling I know how hard this is, I know this is awful and I know you would rather be doing anything else than this right now ... but I also know you can handle this". (Sparrow, 2024)

"Just to be clear, we're not saying they'll handle it well. What we're saying is they'll handle the distress or the discomfort of anxiety" (Sparrow, 2024).

Parents need to act as anchors

Ms Young says in the most acute moments of anxiety, parents should endeavour to act as "anchors" to their children.

Kids will look to their adults for signs of safety. They are essentially asking, "Do you think I'm OK? Are you OK that I'm not OK? Can you handle me not being OK?"

Even if the situation does in fact rattle you, that's something to be processed later with your support network, not in front of your child.

"On the outside, our job right now is to anchor our child and just be that solid, safe, steady presence" (Sparrow, 2024).

As Christian parents and educators, we are called to reflect God's perfect love—one that "drives out fear" (1 John 4:18)—through our calm, reassuring presence. When we embody that love, we don't erase the fear, but we help children see that it doesn't need to rule them.

If Karen Young could give parents of anxious teens and adults a mantra to live by, it would be:

I believe you that this is hard ... and I believe in you. We're going to get to the other end of this and we are going to be fine. Avoidance is not the answer. The single worst thing for anxiety is avoidance (Sparrow, 2024).

"The more we avoid or support our kids' avoidance, the more the brain will go, 'OK, this feeling, I've got to avoid this feeling'. Instead of avoidance, she advises supporting your children to try the things that make them anxious, in small doses. And if you have supported avoidance previously, don't panic, Young reassures parents that "you have

Just as God promises to strengthen and uphold us, we too can model that same steady presence to our kids when anxiety or fear takes hold.

not broken your kids, it is never too late; we can shift things".

Parenting in 2025 can be challenging. In our CEN schools we value and continue to see the benefits in the partnership between parents, the school, and other supports. Please chat with your child's teacher, wellbeing staff, or take advantage of the numerous resources, some of which are listed below. Working with your school to help your child through these challenges will achieve the best outcome for your child.

Helpful Resources:

Sparrow, B., & Dent, M. (Host). (2013-present). [Audio podcast]. *Parental As Anything*. ABC Listen. <https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/parental-as-anything-with-maggie-dent> (Where part of the information in this article has come from.)

<https://www.heylgimund.com/> (Resources for parents, set up by Karen Young, referenced above.)

If you are into podcasts, <https://www.guidinggrowingminds.com/popcultureparenting> is an amazing podcast connecting most major parenting challenges and concepts to popular movies with leading paediatrician Dr Billy Garvey (and author of *10 Things I Wish You Knew About Your Child's Mental Health*).

Danley is the deputy head of primary/wellbeing coordinator at Mount Evelyn Christian School. Prior to teaching, he worked in mental health as an Occupational Therapist with young people and adults. Together with his wife Hannah, he has written a whole-of-school wellbeing program specifically for Christian schools titled, "Thrive - Kingdom Wellbeing for Kids" that will launch in time for the 2026 school year.



9 nurture September 2025



NOTICES

Chapel Carols: You are warmly invited to join us on Friday 28th November as we celebrate Christmas across the campus and community at the BC chapel. If you'd like to perform, sign up at <https://forms.office.com/r/ALELtDZM3x>.

Leavers Day: Please join us as we celebrate our seniors as they walk 'The Way' one last time on Thu 30th October from 2.15 pm.

Let's paint Wairoa Marae: You are warmly welcome to join the community as we paint Wairoa Marae on 13,14 and 15 November. Thanks to a generous 'Local Legends' grant from Tauranga Crossing, planning has been underway to prepare and prep for this community project.

Areas of focus: wharenuī (front and tekoteko panels), entrance (waharoa), storage shelter and fence, and wharepaku (toilet block)

Crews: painting, garden, cleaning (fence and kitchen), water blast, and hospitality.

All materials will be provided. Experience at rolling and painting preferred, but not required. Please ensure you that you arrive in appropriate gear including closed footwear, a hat, garden gloves and a drink bottle. To sign up, please register [here](#).

Any cancellation or postponement dates will be given 2 days prior. If you do have any queries, please email steve.tewhaiti@beth.school.nz

Thank you for helping to beautify one of our great city entrances!



Chapel Open: Mondays 8-9 am: Family Worship



Play with Purpose
A Winning Mindset with Kayne Hammington

Te Ao Mārama - Tauranga Library
Sunday, 26 October
2-2.45pm - Ages 8-10 | 3-4pm - Ages 11-14

Join us for an inspiring and action-packed session with former Super Rugby player Kayne Hammington. Attendees will learn to unleash the power of sport, not just for fitness, but for building confidence, resilience, teamwork, and a growth mindset.

Sharing real-life stories and exercises, Kayne will help young athletes explore:

- Why they love to play sport and how that connects to their purpose
- How to stay calm and focused under pressure
- Why mistakes are part of learning and how to manage them in the moment
- How to stay motivated to give their best effort, no matter the outcome

Spaces are limited – book now and give your child the tools to thrive on and off the field!

*Suitable for young athletes of all codes

Kayne Hammington spent 6 years in Super Rugby with the Highlanders, and later played professional rugby in Japan. He is now on a mission to combine his lived experience and formal psychology study to give kids the mental skills to thrive in sport, helping them find their purpose and potential while learning to manage both setbacks and victories.

For more information and to book:

  

 

library.tauranga.govt.nz

