

BETHLEHEM  
COLLEGE  
CHAPMAN



## HEAD OF SCHOOL LETTER MARCH 2026

### Kia ora wonderful BC Chapman whānau,

On Saturday morning, while cooking in the kitchen, I noticed the eight-year-old son of our next door neighbours, as he played on the front lawn with his latest model paper plane creation. He took the greatest delight in launching the plane and watching how far it would travel. Each time he picked it back up he slightly modified his arm position, the wing angles, or sharpened the folds to increase flight length. He realized that what was most effective was how streamlined his aircraft was and that with the breeze behind it, success was guaranteed. As time passed, his refined craft flew just that bit further than before.



*"An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge".*

*"Ka whiwhi te ngakau o te tangata matau ki te matauranga; a ko te taringa o te hunga whakaaro nui, e rapu ana i te matauranga."*

*Proverbs 18 v 15*

What struck me was how his paper plane naturally generated learning about flight principles.

A piece of paper folded held his interest for well over an hour as he learned what he needed to do to make the plane fly further. Paper planes never cease to be a source of fun! The beauty of being made in the image of God as humans is our creativity and the wonder, the curiosity and the joy that learning engenders.

The other day a Year 4 girl came to show me her research on the digestive system. She had collected a whole array of fascinating facts that show how fearfully and wonderfully we are made. The intricacies and complexity of our human body, was fueling her interest in learning and at the same time growing her sense of wonder and awe of God. Beautiful!

## WHĀNAU/KURA HUI

**Meetings with your son/daughter's kaiako/teacher have been scheduled on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.** Over the past 6 weeks our teachers have been observing and undertaking various learning tasks and assessments. The information they gather informs their planning as it allows them to identify next teaching concepts and learning steps. This then enables them to target individual learning needs. **We are incredibly blessed to have 100% whānau attendance which reflects your commitment to a genuine partnership.** Our tamariki flourish when they belong to a loving village that supports their holistic growth. **Special thanks to each whānau for making the time to meet with our teachers.** We pray these conversations will be genuinely encouraging and give clear direction as to learning foci.

Me te aroha tonu  
With love always *Hazel*



# SPORTS UPDATE

## NETBALL FUTURE FERNS

Our Future Ferns Netball Teams have begun their season and practices with **Whaea Nicole and Whaea Stacy**. Mondays after school, the games are held down at the Rotorua Netball Courts. It is remarkable how quickly this Sporting code has gathered momentum here at BC Chapman. A blend of learning the skills and playing games is nicely balanced and as the season progresses team enthusiasm certainly doesn't diminish. **Players of Day** over the past two weeks have been **Ivania Masina, Amelie Uys, Liana Magill** from Whaea Nicole's team & **Jadon Magill & Findlay Read** from Whaea Stacy's team.



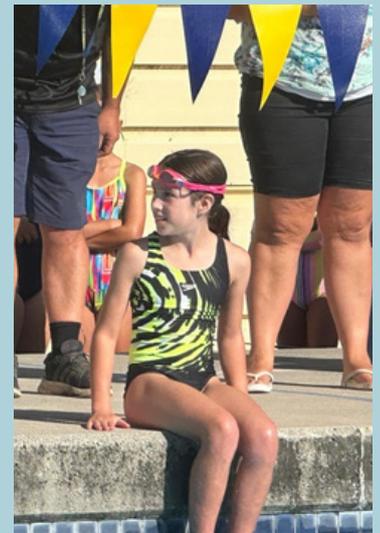
## TENNIS



**Elyse Chan, Katie Lotter, and Ryan Liao** played in a recent weekend Waikato/Bay of Plenty Tennis Tournament in Hamilton. Ryan won his singles matches Katie won her doubles matches. We are thrilled to see these three young tennis players developing their skills.

## INTER-SCHOOL RURAL SWIMMING SPORTS

**Felix Chu and Talia Read** participated in the Inter-School Rural Swimming Sports at Kaharoa. **Felix won the 50metre Freestyle, Breast-stroke, and Backstroke and came third in the Open Medley event. Talia had her first ever** Swimming competitive event and came third in her freestyle and second in her backstroke heat. Both Felix and Talia are planning to return in 2027, and **we hope to encourage others to join in the fun!**



# BC TOUCH DOWNS

Our **BC Touch Downs** a mixed girls and boys team **coached by Matua Neil** and **managed by Whaea Jesse** are right back into the swing of Touch. It's encouraging to watch the growth in player confidence, skills and in their teamwork and encouragement of each other. **Elaina Parent and George Conradie** scored their first tries for the season and there were smiles all round!

# BC UNTOUCHABLES

The **BC Untouchables** practise during Monday lunchtimes with **Matua Lama and Matua Maika**. The level of competition is high, and coaching is focused on strategy, skills, anticipation and personal responsibility within team play. All great learning and character building in the process.



# BC MUSIC CONCERT AT KESWICK CAMP

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, Whaea Lucelle and Miss Geustyn's tamariki travelled by bus to Keswick Camp at Holdens Bay for a concert. **Mrs Kelly Hayward** who teaches music at Bethlehem College invited them to be the audience for their rangatahi/young people who had spent three days at their annual Music Camp.



From **orchestral, to jazz, pop and rock** our tamariki were treated to a smorgasbord of musical genre. They learned about the different instruments that were being played. It is always a special joy to have some of our past BC Chapman rangatahi at the Camp and to celebrate the ongoing development of their talents.



# FUN 4 U DAY

Two days in a row, our Junior Kura were able to participate in the Fun 4 U day held at Kawaha Point Kura especially tailored to their age group. **Liz Savage from Sport BoP** and **Kimiora Insley from Healthy and Active** do such a fantastic job of organizing various events to support the holistic health and love of sport.



Development of character qualities such as **patience, perseverance, and resilience** happen through engaging with set activities which offer team building opportunities.



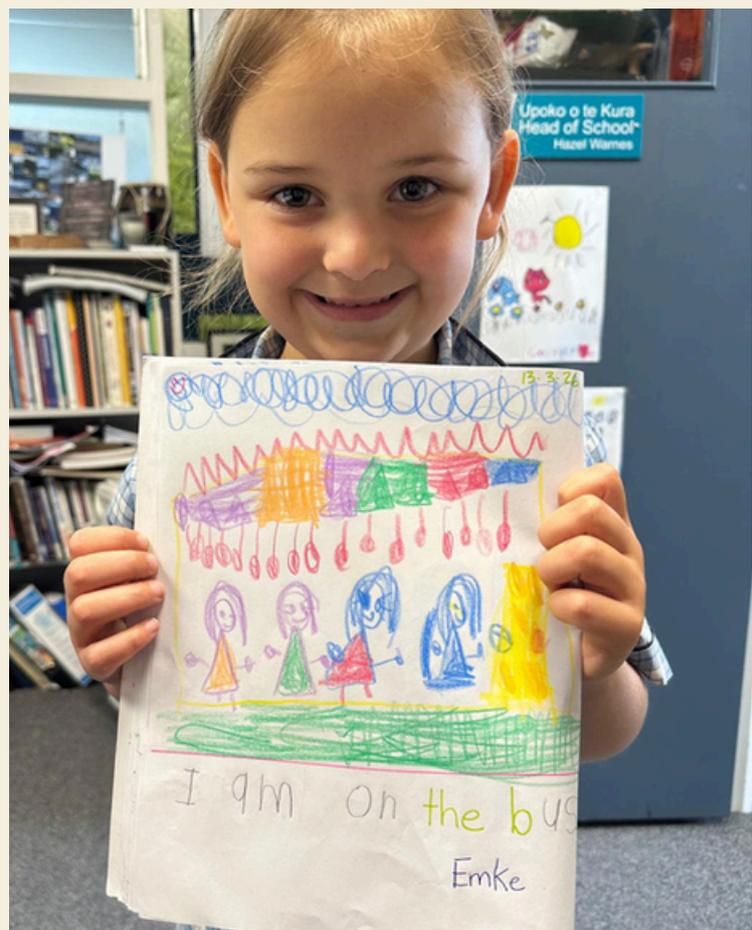
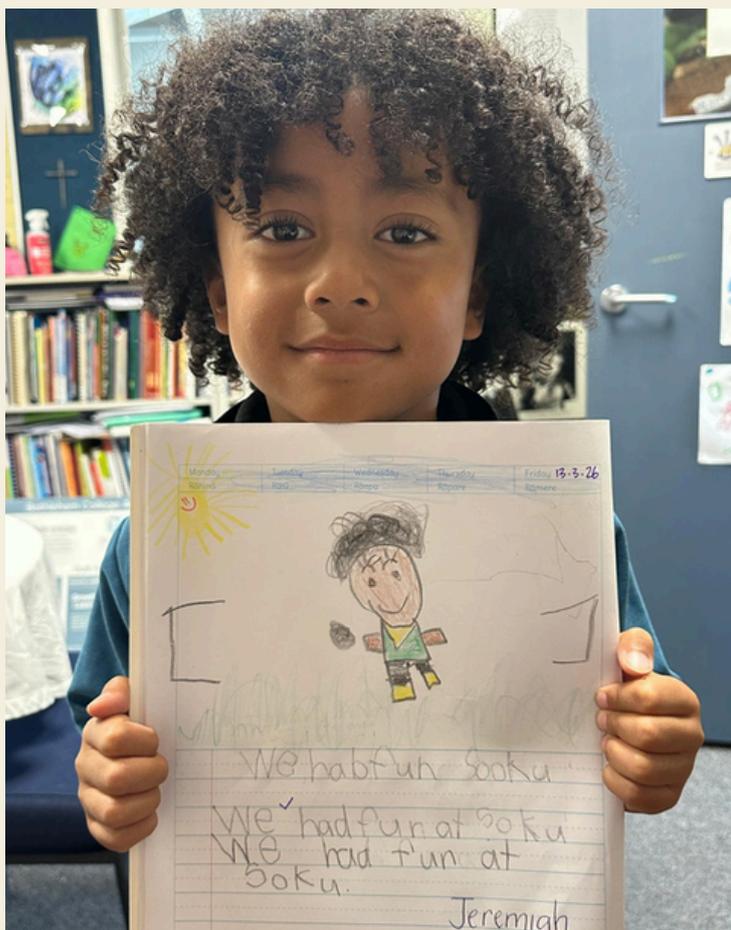
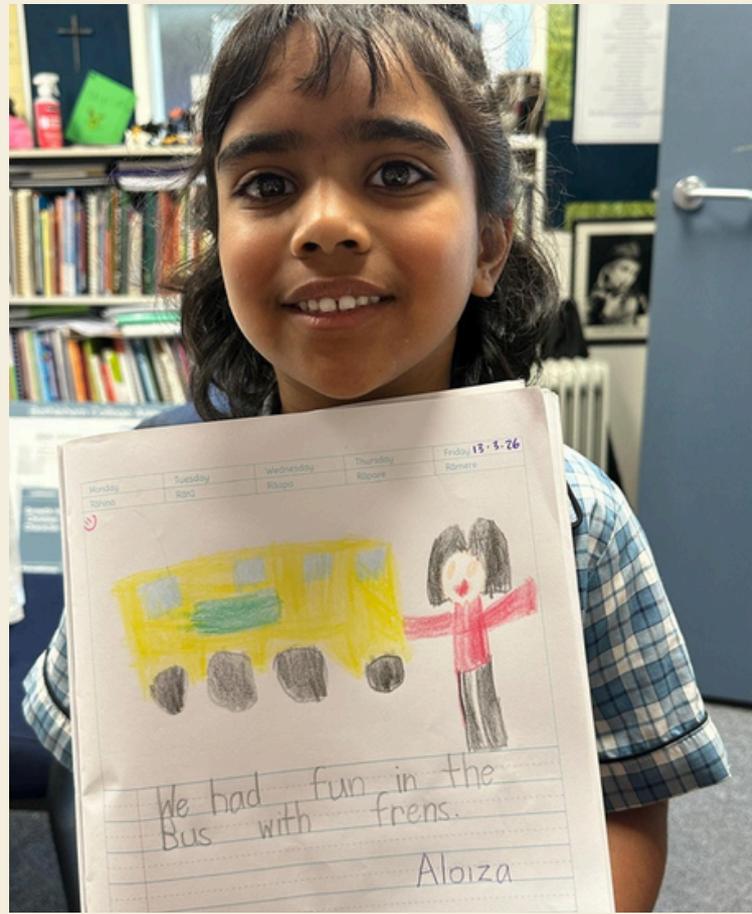
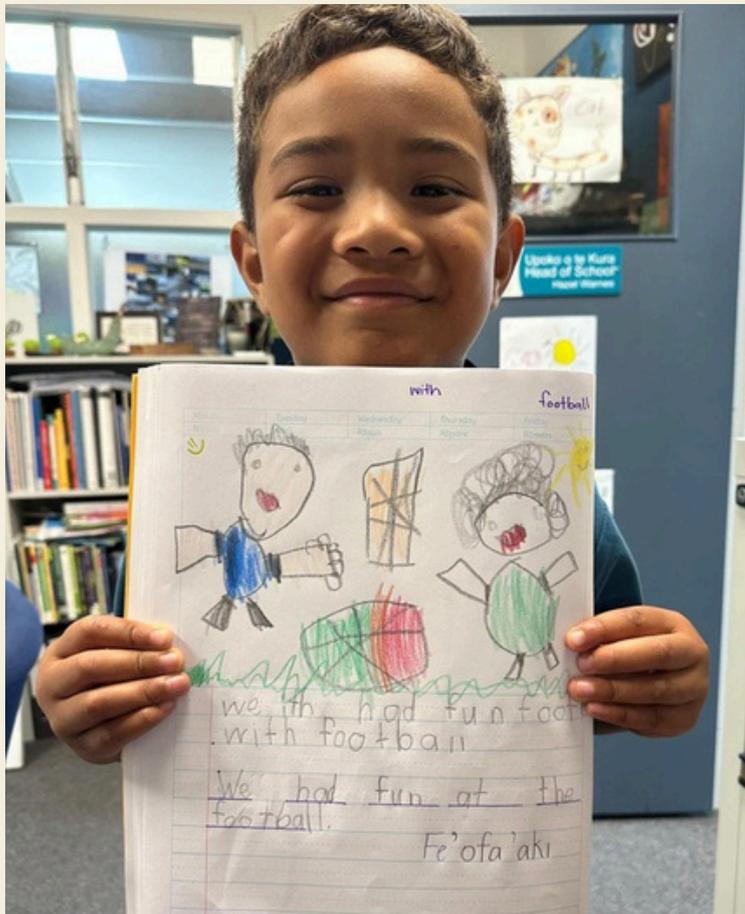






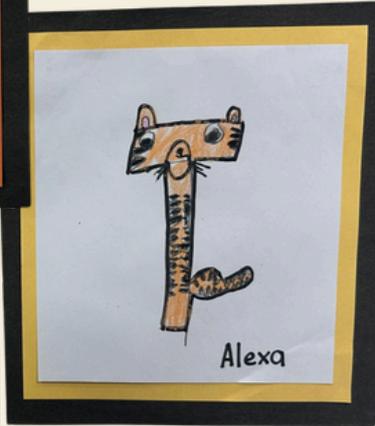
# WRITER'S CORNER

With the **FUN 4 U Day** came the inspiration for some New Entrant Year 1 writing.  
Enjoy reading these stories!

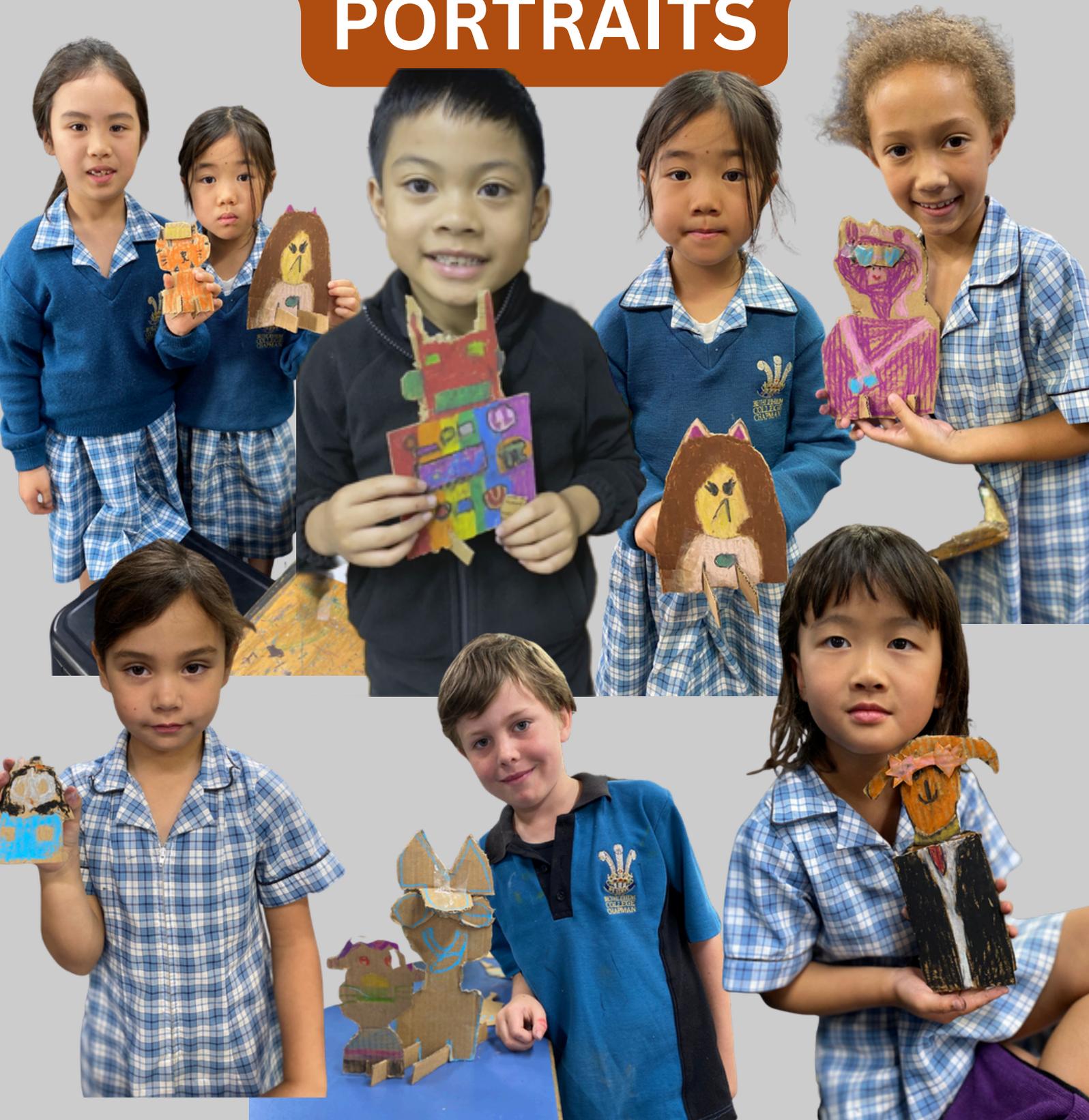


# ART EXHIBITION

Not only did the tiger motivate writing, he also generated some cute **Tiger Art!** Conveniently, tiger does begin with 'T,' so the artwork created a whole set of original Tiger 'T's'. The letter 'T' has never looked more impressive!



# CARDBOARD SELF PORTRAITS



We LOVE cardboard in the art room - we are blessed with plenty of it from all the construction happening around the building - we've been making stand-up self portraits and a batch of cardboard pizzas that look almost good enough to eat!

# CODING

Our **New Entrant/Year 1** and later our Year 5 & 6 tamariki worked with **Tiana from the Ministry of Inspiration** to explore coding at their respective age levels. Tiana is returning and bringing the robots with her, so there will be photos taken in that lesson.

## SUNNY FRIDAYS

It's been lovely to see whānau connecting after school on Fridays while their tamariki spend a little extra time playing together. If you can join for an extra 15 or 20 minutes, it is a **great way to build relationships across our kura community.**

## WHĀNAU PRAYER

We are grateful to you as parents who come to pray for our kura community. This is key to fulfilling our purpose as a Christian School and to equipping our young people to know, love and follow Jesus.

Every **Tuesday morning at 8am during Term time**, parents & caregivers gather **in the Art Room** to **pray for BC Chapman.**

We place great importance on prayer so *please come & join us, even if you can only make it for 10 minutes or so.*

### Up and Coming Dates

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March Prayer Group in Art Room 8am-8.30am

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March-Kaiako/Whānau Hui**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March- Kaiako/Whānau Hui

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March Prayer Group in Art Room 8am-8.30am**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March Inter-Christian Schools Waikato/BoP Athletics Porritt Stadium

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March Easter Service 6pm Living Well Church Auditorium**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March-Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April -Year 7 & 8 Camp at Finlay Park

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Last day of Term 1**

Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April Start of Term 2**

# WINTER SPORTS CLUB OPTIONS:

## **Hockey:**

ROTORUA Hockey Association  
<https://www.sporty.co.nz/rotoruahockey/junior-hockey>

Smallbone Park - Devon Street - Rotorua

Club Manager: Neil Watson

[clubmanager@rotoruahockey.co.nz](mailto:clubmanager@rotoruahockey.co.nz)

## **Football:**

Lakes FC <https://www.lakesfc.com/>

WAIARIKI FC <https://www.rotoruaunited.co.nz/>

Ngongotaha AFC <https://ngongotahafootball.co.nz/>

## **Rugby:**

Whakarewarewa Rugby Club Kahukura

Rugby & Sports Club Marist St Michael's

Rugby and Sports Club

**WE WANT YOU! CALLING ALL CURRENT, NEW OR RETURNING PLAYERS.**



**REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2026 JUNIOR RUGBY SEASON  
ARE NOW OPEN.**

## **TO REGISTER**

**Using Rugby Explorer, Log in or create a new account**

1. Click on 'Register to a club'
2. Select your players profile - (which should be connected to your parent profile)
3. Search "Marist St Michael's Rugby And Sports Club"
4. Select Role - "Player"
5. Registration type - "Junior contact or junior non contact"
6. Duration - "Season"

Please do NOT pay via Rugby Explorer, tick the box at checkout that says you'll arrange payment with the club direct. Please let us know if you have any questions.



**PLEASE REGISTER FOR  
OUR 2026 RUGBY  
SEASON  
USING RUGBY EXPLORER**

**2026 FEES (SAME AS LAST YEAR)**

**U6 & U7 - \$25**

**U8, U9, U10, U11, U12 & U13 - \$40**

**IF TWO OR MORE PLAYERS IN A FAMILY \$35 PP**

**BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:**

**ST MICHAEL'S JAB**

**12-3155-0255095-000**

**PLEASE USE CHILD'S NAME AND TEAM AS REFERENCE**

## 2026 TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS (as at 7 April 2025)

		TERM START	TERM FINISH	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
TERM 1	9 wks*	Monday 2 February Y1-Y13 at school	Thursday 2 April (92 half-days)	Friday 3 April to Sunday 19 April
TERM 2	11 wks	Tuesday 21 April 20 April Staff Only Day	Friday 3 July (104 half-days)	Saturday 4 July to Sunday 19 July
TERM 3	10 wks	Tuesday 21 July 20 July Staff Only Day	Friday 25 September (98 half-days)	Saturday 26 September to Sunday 11 October
TERM 4	9 wks	Tuesday 13 October 12 October Staff Only Day	Friday 11 December (86 half-days)	Saturday 12 December

\*NB: Wk 0 prior to start of term, Y12-Y13 course confirmation Wednesday 28 January, and Y13 students at camp Wednesday 28 January – Friday 30 January

These term dates comply with Ministry of Education requirements - open for instruction 380 (half) days in 2026. Please refer to the website calendar for any other important dates that will have an impact on the school term for students.

Start of Year - Commencement Dates for Students	
Wednesday 28 January	Y12 & Y13 Course confirmation Y13 depart for camp No other year groups at school
Thursday 29 January	Y13 at Camp No other year groups at school
Friday 30 January	Y13 return from camp No other year groups at school
Monday 2 February	All Primary and Secondary Students Y1-Y13 at school
2026 Statutory Holidays	
Monday 26 January	Auckland Anniversary Day
Friday 6 February	Waitangi Day
Friday 3 April	Good Friday (start of holidays)
Monday 6 April	Easter Monday (during holidays)
Tuesday 7 April	Easter Tuesday (during holidays)
Saturday 25 April / Monday 27 April	ANZAC Day / ANZAC Day Public holiday observed
Monday 1 June	King's Birthday
Friday 10 July	Matariki (during holidays)
Monday 26 October	Labour Day



**OPEN HOME FOUNDATION**  
TE WHARE KALIPAPA AWHINA



**CONSIDER FOSTERING**

**Do you want to make a real difference in the life of a child?**

**We are looking for Christian people who are willing to open up their heart and home to care for a young person.**

**A weekend, a week or longer**

**To find out more, please contact - Foster Parent Recruiter: Venetia.Ryan@ohf.org.nz or 027 263 4549**

**A Christian Community Response [www.ohf.org.nz](http://www.ohf.org.nz)**

**'ECB Cleaning & Gardening Services**

Contact Elise: 0220706538



References Available Competitive Rates





**W.ILD CONTRACTING SERVICES – WAYNE GOODCHILD.**

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# BCC WHANAU BUSINESSES

Please get in touch if you'd like your business included

**BIRTHDAY PARTY ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS AGED 3 TO 10 YEARS OLD**



Ana and Matilda - The Twister Sisters - will bring fun to your birthday party with balloon twisting and games.

Call Sarah on 022 350 2579

**LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED!**

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## JUNIPER

49A LAKE ROAD, OHINEMUTU, ROTORUA

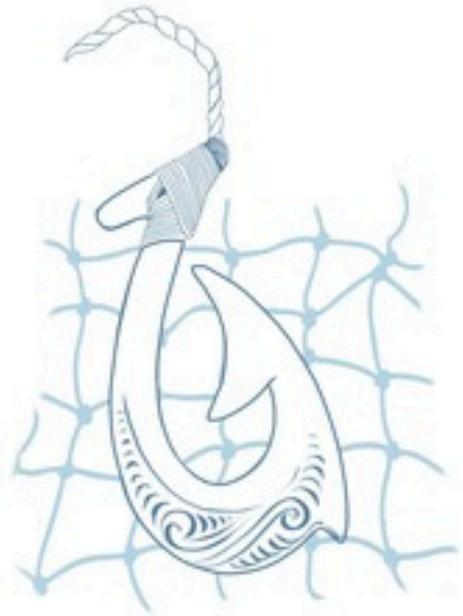


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