



BC PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



TERM 1 2026 – NEWSLETTER #3

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Opportunities for whanau to partner with us in school are important occasions and Year 2 experienced this with their 'Tent Day' last week. Thank you to the parents who supplied tents, came along to assist in the process of putting up tents and generally enjoyed hanging out with our Year 2 cohort. The children had a wonderful day, and the excitement was evident for all to see! My thanks to Mrs Kelly Sanders, Mrs Pip Gilchrist and Mrs Sue Martin for their efforts in making this day happen. I hear Year 2 children would like 'tent day' everyday!



Last week kapa haka started. We are grateful to God for the provision of a tutor, Matua Ben Wetini. Matua Ben and his family moved to Tauranga last year with his family and he has older children in BC Secondary. He has experience in tutoring kapa haka, and I am confident our group will benefit from his input, as they work towards preparing for Te Rā Rēhia festival in term 4.

This week we have had our Year 3 and 6 cohorts visit Wairoa marae, where they have experienced a powhiri. Wairoa Marae has a special connection with Bethlehem College, and it is a privilege to have them welcome us with open arms. Again, my thanks to the parents who made themselves available to join us.

TERM 1 KEY DATES

Y5&Y6 NC SWIMMING COMP
Tues 17th Mar

Y5 ELMS TRIP
Thurs 19th Mar – 8.45am – 2.45am

CIVVIES DAY
Fri 20th Mar – Charity - The Ark Quest
Theme - Twins

Y6 CAMP
Mon 23rd Mar – 25th Mar – Totara Springs

Y5&Y6 WBOP SWIMMING CHAMPS
Wed 1 Apr – Baywave

EASTER SERVICE
Thurs 2 Apr – EC – 9.30am – 10.30am

LAST DAY TERM 1
Thurs 2 Apr

FIRST DAY TERM 2
Tues 21st Apr

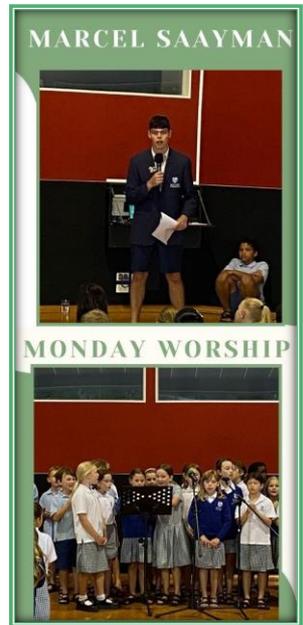
Our Vision
To be a Christian learning
community of excellence where
lives are transformed.

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



WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

This week we had the head boy of Bethlehem College for 2026, Marcel Saayman speaking with the primary. It is always a pleasure having the head students visit primary students. It helps bring connection across the college and it is a role that many students can relate to or even aspire to in many ways. He used Ephesians 4:32, *“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*, to remind us of the importance of 3 words, kindness, compassion and forgiveness. It is great having children from each year group be part of our worship crew each week.



ASSEMBLY

D3 and D4 hosted our assembly today with the support of Mrs Booth and Mrs Aandewiel. D3 shared their Pepeha's with confidence and D4 role played the parable of the Lost Sheep. It is always a pleasure to have students share in our assemblies.



LIBRARY NEWS - BCP READ-A-THON

We are looking forward to our Primary Readathon, which kicks off in **Week 7 of Term 1** and runs through to the start of **Book Week in Week 8 of Term 2**.

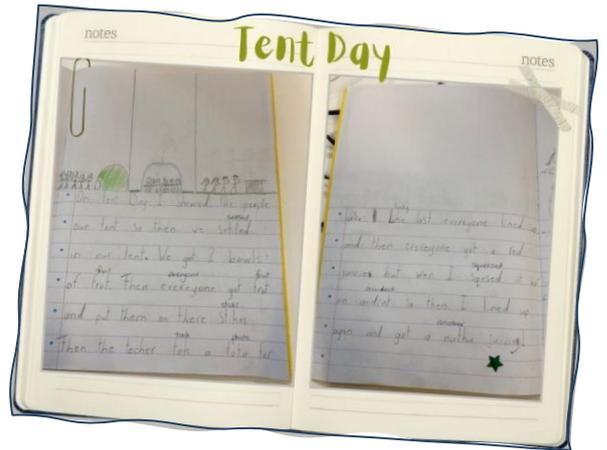
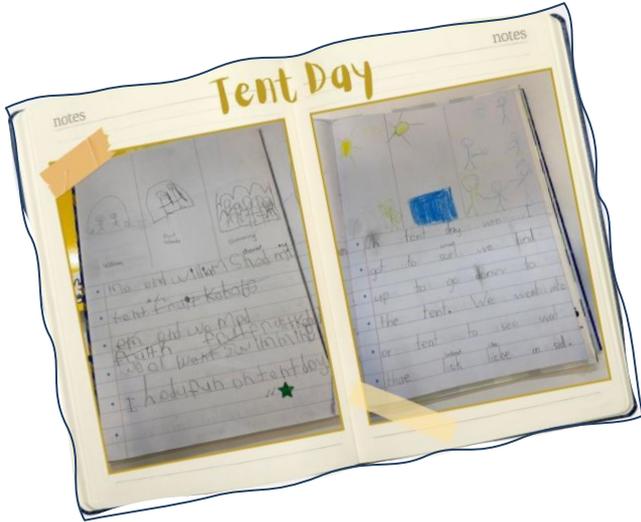
For those new to the Readathon, it is a fun challenge designed to encourage our Year 0–6 students to explore a wide variety of reading materials. Students will receive a sheet during their class library time featuring a range of different types of texts. As they read each one, they simply tick it off.

Completed sheets can be returned to the library by the start of Book Week to enter our prize draw. We will have two prizes for each Phase (Phase 1 and Phase 2), which will be randomly drawn from all the sheets handed in. We hope this encourages our children to dive into some wonderful new books and texts over the coming months!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL...

Y2 TENT DAY



Y3 Marae Trip



Y3 MARAE TRIP

D2 PMI, Plus, minus and interesting reflection

Rumi: Plus: I liked the lady singing us on, I gave them a thank you letter.

Interesting: The pou (in the wharenuī) They sang a song that we were supposed to sing (Te Aroha)

Milana: Plus: I likes playing the game (tahi, rua, toru, wha)

Interesting: 2 main people were away so the person that wrote a book read it to us.

Sam: Plus: Yummy food, Very kind.

Interesting: I thought that there would be different food (like rewana), they spoke in Māori and there were colourful pou.

Y6 MARAE TRIP

On Wednesday 11th March the whole Year Six clambered onto a bus. Everyone started singing The Wheels on the Bus, but eventually we arrived at the marae.

First of all, we walked in slowly with our heads bowed and a lady sang waiata, then she explained that when we first walk in, we have sacred legs. Then they sang another waiata and we sung Te Aroha. Next, we went to the Wharekai and they served us. It was really good. We had a sausage roll, watermelon, a cookie, and some chips. Last we went back to the wharenuī and she read about how Mauao got moved and the carvings on the wall. It was quite interesting.

Finally, we had to go. I wish we stayed longer but we had to leave. They waved us off. I really hope we get to go back another time.

By Jake Leishman





PRIMARY SPORT

Over the past weekend some of our primary and intermediate students participated in the Swimming New Zealand National Junior Festival at the Hawke's Bay Regional Aquatic Centre.

Congratulations to:

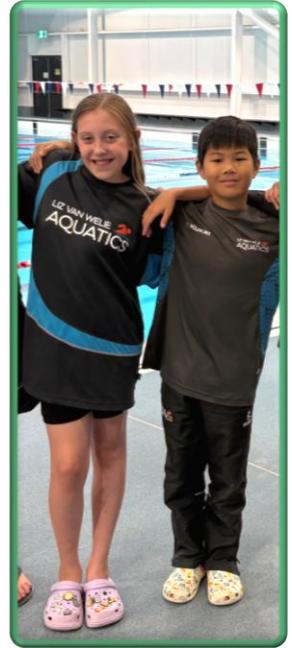
Ella Baker - 7 Personal Best times, 1st 10y & under 100m breaststroke, 3rd 10y & under 200m backstroke, 3rd 10y & under 50m freestyle, 3rd 10y & under 100m Individual Medley.

Yanni Wu - 2 Personal Best times, 3rd 12y & under 100m free kick relay.

Sport Notices:

Winter Sports Trials are coming to an end; team announcements will be released over Week 7 & 8.

North Cluster Swimming Champs are next week Tuesday (17th), for those who qualified.



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEADERS (PALS)

We are excited to introduce our enthusiastic team of Physical Activity Leaders for 2026: Sohee, Sophie An, Saira, Evie, Anrich, Cole, Eden Wratten, Luandre, Luke, Jack, Nikitah, and Piper. These amazing students volunteer their time to run fun lunchtime activities on the courts, helping to keep our school active, connected, and happy.

Recently, our PALs attended an inspiring workshop with Sandy from Sport BOP, where they learned new strategies for leading games, and ensuring every student feels included. They are buzzing with ideas and are already putting their new skills into action.

We are incredibly proud of their leadership, and commitment to our school community!



REMINDERS...

CIVVIES DAY - Friday 20th March - *Charity* - Ark Quest Trust in Kenya. *Theme* – Twins
The Ark Quest Trust supports the work of Ark Quest Education Centre in rural Kenya, a private Christian school established by Calvin Ominde in his home village of Mahanga.



UNIFORM - A reminder that Winter Uniform is worn in Term 2. We encourage families to purchase winter uniforms well before the end of term due to the uniform shop being closed over Easter. <https://www.beth.school.nz/uniforms>

School Holiday Uniform Shop Hours are as follows:

Closed: Good Friday 3rd April to 10th April.

Open: Monday 13th - Monday 20th By appointment only → [Book Appointment](#)

LOST PROPERTY- We still have a large amount of unnamed clothing and shoes in the office, please feel free to call in and have a look.



HAPPY PARENTING

With winter sports on offer and Term 2 extracurricular activities beginning to be advertised, I am aware that for parents it can be easy to feel the pressure to sign our children up for everything. While we want our students to be well-rounded, we must pause and ask: *Are these choices truly the best for our family's spiritual health?*

As you navigate the extracurricular landscape, I encourage you to remain intentional. Consider how a schedule affects your family time and your child's spiritual growth, ensuring we are stewarding our time and resources in a way that reflects our values.

Our goal is to help students grow in confidence and skill without sacrificing what matters most. As 1 Corinthians 10:31 reminds us:

"So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Let's use these opportunities not just for achievement, but as a way to teach our children how to shine for Christ in every arena. By making prayerful decisions, we can create a schedule that blesses our families and points our children toward Him every step of the way.

As we partner together in your child's journey, let us remain steadfast in our mission to lead them toward the heart of Christ in all they do.

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo



NOTICES

Open Day: New parents to Secondary and prospective BC families are invited to join us for an afternoon touring the campus, talking about the extensive opportunities for students, viewing classrooms, and answering any questions you may have. To reserve a space, please register [here](#).

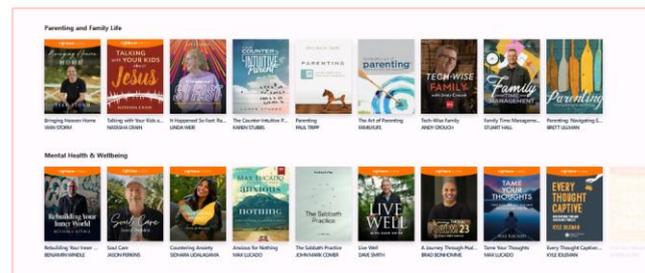


BC Businesses: Need a referral for a business? Have a business you'd like to list? Want to connect with other businesses? Check out our BC Business page [here](#).

Enrolment: Applications for students entering Year 7 and 9 in 2027 (not currently attending BC) close on 30 June. Online application [here](#).

RightNow Media: As part of the BC community, you have membership to RightNow Media. Whether you're looking for encouragement in marriage, practical parenting wisdom, spiritual growth resources, or safe Biblical content for your children, this library is here for you. Our hope is that this resource strengthens your faith, encourages your family, and supports you as you lead your home. Sign up for free today:

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



BC Business Networking: Faith in Business: Monday night we had the great pleasure of hearing from BC Founder Graham Preston on 'Faith in Business'. Graham shared that faith comes from hearing what God says through his Word and acting on it. The Word is living, active and agitating. What are your values as a business? To be righteous takes courage and robustness, but the fruit is worth it! When you need to make decisions - pray. Having faith in business separates you from other businesses and makes you stand out. Jesus said that he was about his father's business. Don't think of work as a grind. It's about building a living community - the way you feed it makes it grow. Let trust be the hallmark of your business and truth remain. Use just measures, praise and correct (in a nice way), with your speech and deeds measured with kindness. God help me to be all that you want me to be.



Join us for Part II of 'Faith in Business' on 11 May at 4.30 pm in the BC Staffroom.



DR CRAIG HARRISON PRESENTS...

UNDER PRESSURE

NEW ZEALAND TOUR

A talk for youth athletes, parents, & coaches

"Powerful, insightful & thought-provoking!"

"Craig is a wonderful speaker and provided extensive knowledge to the group."

"Incredibly valuable!"

TAURANGA | 17 MARCH

Tickets at eventfinda.co.nz



AUTUMN HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ADD LUNCH FOR JUST \$23

JUNIORS: 5-9 YEARS

6 APRIL EASTER MONDAY No programme today	7 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!	8 APRIL BAKING BONANZA We'll measure, mix & bake some delicious treats together!	9 APRIL AUTUMN CRAFTS A day of printmaking and painting to bring out our creative side!	10 APRIL OFFSITE HAMILTON ZOO Today we're off to the Zoo! We expect to be back by 4pm.
13 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!	14 APRIL OFFSITE BIG KANU ROTORUA Jump in one of our Big Kanu's & explore Lake Rotorua while we make our way to the hot pools!	15 APRIL 3D GAMES Exciting interactive games, obstacle courses & team challenges!	16 APRIL NATURE CRAFT DAY Let's turn the outdoors into beautiful works of art!	17 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!

SENIORS: 9-13 YEARS

6 APRIL EASTER MONDAY No programme today	7 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!	8 APRIL OFFSITE BUSH ADVENTURE Learn some basic bushcraft skills & navigation while we enjoy one of our local bushwalks.	9 APRIL RAFT BUILDING Work in teams to complete challenges & race your rafts on the river!	10 APRIL PADDLE & POPCORN Start the day with a paddle up the Waioa, then finish the day enjoying a movie!
13 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!	14 APRIL RESIN CREATIONS Bring your creativity today as we make our own resin masterpiece!	15 APRIL OFFSITE ROCK-HOP Our most thrilling adventure day - Join us as we go for a 'Rock-Hop' & create some awesome memories!	16 APRIL OFFSITE SAPPHIRE SPLASH We're off to Sapphire Springs for a relaxing swim & bush walk!	17 APRIL PARK DAY Everything the park has to offer, from kayaking & rock climbing to archery and hydroslide!

DAILY FEE:
PARK DAY \$55
ONSITE \$60
OFFSITE \$65*

BUS TIMETABLE: \$8 EACH WAY

OTUMOETAH

8:00AM-8:10AM PICK UP: BURETA WOOLWORTHS CARPARK

5:15PM-5:25PM DROP OFF: BURETA WOOLWORTHS CARPARK

TAURANGA CENTRAL

8:15AM-8:25AM PICK UP: ARUNDLE ST, TGA PRIMARY

5:00PM-5:10PM DROP OFF: ARUNDLE ST, TGA PRIMARY



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07 576 4233

BOOK ONLINE: WAIMARINOTRUST.CO.NZ

*SOME ADVENTURES MAY HAVE AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE. SEE ENROLLMENT FOR INFO

"HAVE A GO DAY"
SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 1:30PM
BOWLS MOUNT MAUNGANUI
FUN, FRIENDLY BOWLS GAMES
FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
BRING YOUR FAMILIES
SPREAD THE WORD!

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 2026 | 2.00 - 3.00PM |
MOUNT MAUNGANUI MAIN BEACH

Gather your family and friends for a fun filled afternoon.
Spot prizes. Bring a gold coin donation for the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service.
Up to 6 years old 2.00 - 2.30pm
Over 6 years old 2.30 - 3.00pm
Book online at Eventbrite.com (Free event)

