



# BC PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



## TERM 2 2026 – NEWSLETTER #6

Kia ora koutou BCP whānau,

I was reminded during the week that long before a child enters a classroom, God entrusts them to a family. Parents carry the primary responsibility and privilege of forming their children in faith, character, and understanding of the world. At Bethlehem College Primary (BCP), we exist to reflect, support, and strengthen the Christian formation already taking place in the home. As staff, we are privileged to partner with families in this journey.



### TERM 2 KEY DATES

#### YO-Y6 CROSS COUNTRY

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> May – BC (PPD Mon 25 May)  
Y0-Y3 – 9.30-10.30 Y4-6 – 11-12.30

#### EPRO8 COMPETITION

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun – Details tbc

#### BOOK WEEK

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> -Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Jun – BC

#### Y5&Y6 WBOP CROSS COUNTRY

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Jun – Waipuna park

#### Y4-Y6 SHOWCASE

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Jun – Details TBC

#### CIVVIES DAY

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Jun – Details TBC

#### Y5&Y6 BOP CROSS COUNTRY

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Jun – Opotiki

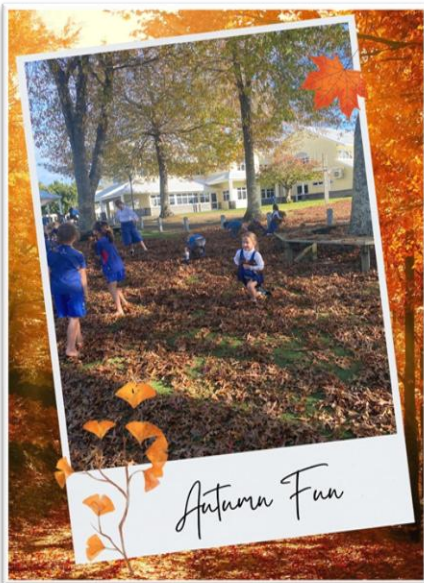
#### PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES – NO SCHOOL

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Jul

#### Our Vision

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

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



Over the past week, we have seen the beautiful colours of autumn emerge around us — a reminder of the changing seasons and the beauty of God's creation. Just as seasons change, you may also be aware that the New Zealand Curriculum has undergone significant changes over the past 18 months, particularly with the introduction of the refreshed English and Mathematics curriculum documents. Unsurprisingly, these curriculum changes have also led the Ministry of Education to introduce changes to the way student achievement is reported.

One of the most significant changes is the shift away from curriculum “levels,” which previously measured achievement expectations across two years of schooling. The former reporting descriptors — “below,” “proficient,” and “above” — have now been replaced with five new descriptors for each individual year level: “emerging,” “developing,” “consolidating,” “proficient,” and “exceeding.”



Another important difference is that the new reporting descriptors reflect a student's progress over time against the full curriculum content expected within a school year, rather than simply indicating achievement at the time the report is written.

Currently, reporting at Bethlehem College Primary takes place through Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences in Terms 1 and 2, alongside formal written reports in Terms 2 and 4. The conference structure will remain unchanged. However, the layout and content of the written reports have been updated to align with the achievement expectations of the refreshed curriculum.



With any significant change, we believe it is important to communicate clearly what these changes are, how they may impact your child as a learner, and how parents can best understand the new reporting process.

To support this transition, BCP will provide a variety of opportunities for parents to engage in learning about the new curriculum between Weeks 7 and 9 (2 June – 19 June 2026).

In addition to written information, we intend to provide:

- Video content explaining the changes
- Opportunities to register for parent meetings with the Primary Leadership Team

We encourage you to consider the best way for you to gain understanding about the new reporting system. If you would like to attend an in-person meeting, please complete the online form: [Primary Reporting Changes Meetings – Fill in form](#) indicating your preferred meeting option. While it is our intention to meet the needs of all families within our community, we ask for your understanding that, in order for meetings to be feasible, a minimum attendance of ten people will be required.

While change often requires new learning and adjustment, we believe these developments will, over time, provide greater accuracy and a deeper understanding of your child's learning journey. It is BCP's intention to assist our community in navigating these changes to the best of our ability.

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo West



## WORSHIP ASSEMBLIES

Last week, our Head Girl, Maeve Pacey shared a thoughtful devotion based on Psalm 23 and the image of the Good Shepherd. She reminded students that God is always seeking us, ready to lead, guide, and care for us through every circumstance. Maeve encouraged students that when we feel worried or burdened, or when we feel lost, we can surrender those concerns to God. She shared the phrase, "Let go, let God," as a simple but powerful reminder to trust Him.



At this week's worship assembly, Mrs Michelle Booth introduced us to a new song, *Alleluia*, which carries a powerful message of faith and trust:

*"I've got a God who is for me  
And He's known for making a way  
He fought the battle, so I wouldn't have to  
All glory belongs to His name"*



We were also encouraged by Anrich Koekemoer, the first student service leader for the year to share a devotion. Anrich spoke confidently and sincerely as he shared his personal testimony. Growing up in a family of believers led him to ask questions about faith from a young age, and in Year 2 he made the decision to invite Jesus into his life and become a Christian. He encouraged students to speak with their parents or teachers if they wanted to know more about beginning their own faith journey. Anrich has been a wonderful example of courage and faith in the way he has openly shared his story with others.

## ASSEMBLY

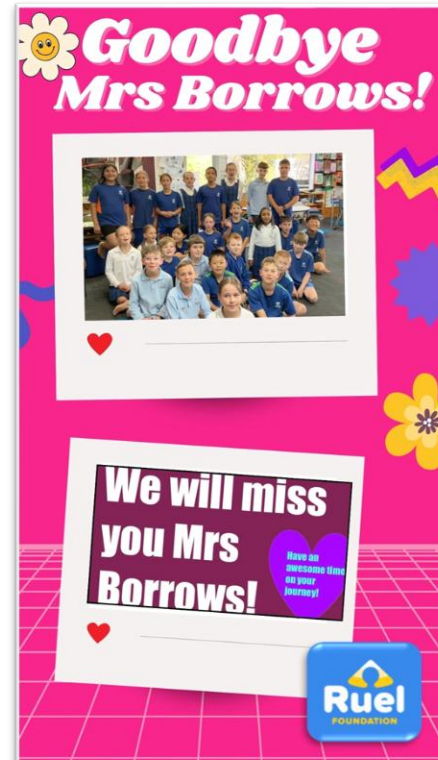


The Lord bless you and keep you  
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His face toward you  
And give you peace

May His favor be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
And their children, and their children  
May His presence go before you  
And behind you, and beside you  
All around you, and within you  
He is with you, he is with you!

God Bless You

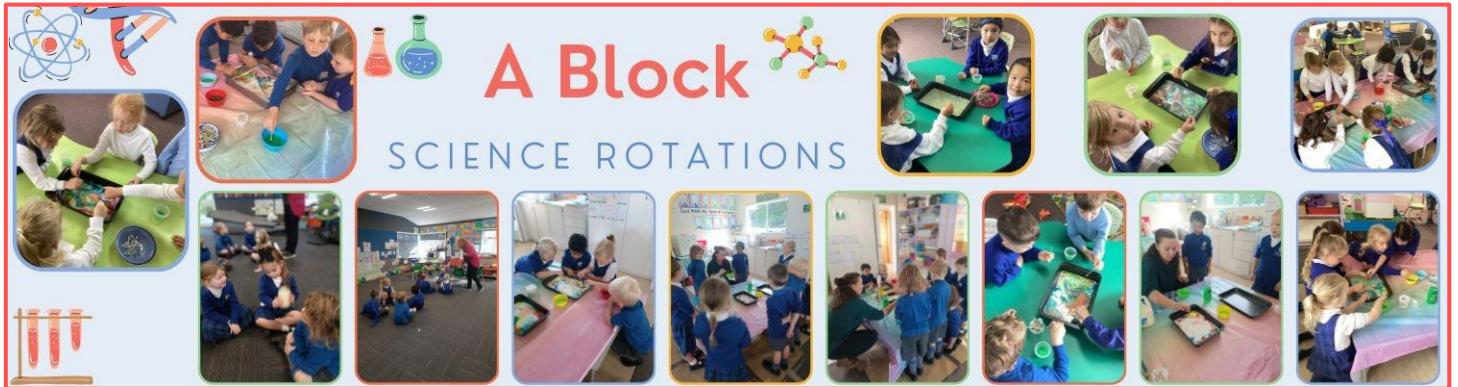
Today marked the final music assembly for Mrs Borrows before she heads away to the Philippines to assist the Ruel Foundation. It was a special time where we enjoyed Mrs Amy Borrows leading favourite songs. It was lovely to have Lilah and Eden from E3 share a video they had made to encourage Mrs Borrows, along with the school singing *The Blessing* over her.



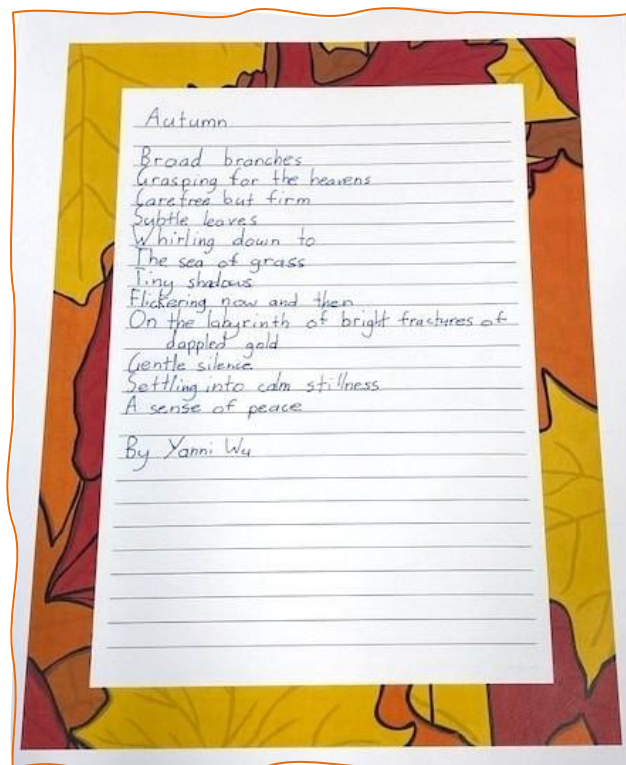
## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL....

### A BLOCK SCIENCE ROTATION

The Year 0/1 children had a science rotation day where they had a chance to try different experiments that demonstrated the different states of matter; liquid, solid and gas. They learnt how a bubble is formed when gas(air) is trapped inside a thin stretchy layer of soapy liquid, make cream into butter, watch mentos and coke explode and watch what happens when dishwashing liquid mix. A fun day out with lots of smiles and laughs.



### AUTUMN POEM BY YANNI WU E2



## EPRO8 COMPETITION

Budding engineers have been enjoying EPro8 on Tuesday lunchtimes for some time now and on Thursday we had our BCP internal competition with 5 teams competing for 2 spots in the inter-school championship. The challenges were lots of fun and required teams to problem solve and work collaboratively. All of the teams did well.

At the end of day, the winners were The Flaming Marshmallows - David Nonweiler, Austin Allis, Nathan Barraclough, Baasha Zhu. The runner ups were the BC Engineers – Austen Ussher, Anrich Koekemoer, Benjamin Seaward and Alex Charrier Concha. Congratulations to each of them. They will now move to the next round of the competition.



0:00:00		
1	The flaming marshmallows	135
2	BC engineers	125
3	the stars	95
4	Smarties	95

0:00:00		
5	Eggs	80

## TAURANGA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' MUSIC FESTIVAL

We had a number of schools visit BCP today for the first Tauranga Primary Schools Music Festival to be held at Baycourt later in the year. It was lovely to be able to host so many and Mrs McKoy and Mrs Pooley did a wonderful job of leading.



## FRIENDLY REMINDERS

### Parking Reminder – Elder Lane & Surrounding Streets

To help keep everyone safe around Bethlehem College and Bethlehem Tertiary Institute, we'd like to remind our community to park responsibly in Elder Lane and surrounding streets, particularly during peak pick-up and drop-off times.

We've received a number of safety concerns related to parking behaviour in this area. Please remember to:

- **Follow all parking signage and road markings**
- **Keep footpaths, driveways, and intersections clear**
- **Avoid parking on grass berms or yellow lines**
- **Never double park or block visibility for pedestrians and cyclists**



Where possible, consider arranging pick-ups a short walk away from the main entrances to help reduce congestion.

Tauranga City Council Parking Enforcement will be monitoring the area. Our preference is always to encourage safe, considerate behaviour so tickets can be avoided.

Thank you for helping keep our students, staff, and neighbours safe.

## PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY

The BCP Cross Country event will be held on Monday 18th May, weather permitting. We invite parents and grandparents to join us at the following times:

Years 0 - 3    9.30am - 10:30am  
 Years 4 - 6    11:00 - 12:30pm



The postponement date is Monday 25th May.

Phase 1 (Estimated Times)			Phase 2 (Estimated Times)		
9.30 - Move to field			11.00 - Move to field		
9.35 - Welcome (Jo West)			11.10 - Welcome (Jo West)		
Event	Warm up	Start of Race	Event	Warm up	Start of Race
Preschool	9.40	9.42	Year 4 Boys	11.15	11.17
Year 0/1 Boys	9.45	9.47	Year 4 Girls	11.20	11.22
Year 0/1 Girls	9.50	9.52	Year 5 Boys	11.25	11.27
Year 2 Boys	9.55	9.57	Year 5 Girls	11.30	11.32
Year 2 Girls	10.00	10.02	Year 6 Boys	11.40	11.42
Year 3 Boys	10.05	10.07	Year 6 Girls	11.50	11.52
Year 3 Girls	10.10	10.12	Finish 12.15 (Approximately)		
Finish 10.20 (Approximately)					



“ IF, AS A FAMILY, YOU DO WATCH OR LISTEN TO NEWS REPORTS TOGETHER, ADD YOUR OWN COMMENTARY.

## HAPPY PARENTING

In today's world, children are often exposed to upsetting news stories, whether through television, radio, or conversations around them. As parents and caregivers, it is important to provide both shelter and perspective by limiting unnecessary exposure to distressing media, offering age-appropriate explanations, and helping children process what they hear with reassurance and honesty. While we cannot protect children from every difficult reality, we can guide them to focus on hope, compassion, and the many acts of kindness and courage that exist in the world. As Christians, we are reminded that God is our refuge and strength in troubled times, and that His peace can guard our hearts and minds. Most importantly, children need to feel safe, deeply loved, and supported by the caring adults God has placed around them.

This article may provide you with further ideas to consider.  
<https://parentingplace.nz/resources/helping-kids-make-sense-of-the-news>

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo West



“ WHAT DO WE LET THEM SEE / HEAR / READ AND HOW DO WE HELP THEM PROCESS WHAT THEY'VE HEARD?

“ TELL THEM ALL ABOUT HEROIC ACTS OF BRAVERY AND RESCUE, GENEROUS ACTS OF PHILANTHROPY AND THE GREAT POWER OF SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS.



# NOTICES

- **Rob Cope:** Join us Wed 20 May from 4.30-6 pm to learn specific tools/techniques to empower our kids to make good decisions online. At least one parent from each family is requested to attend one of the four 2026 events. Tickets are \$5 at [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz).
- **Worship Week:** Join us for the fourth annual [Worship Week](#) at the BC Chapel **15-19 June** from 8 am to 4 pm daily. Be our guest or sign up [here](#) to perform with instruments, singing, reading, dancing, drama, art and more. Visit World Vision to find out more about the [40 Hour Challenge](#) and sign up for the BC Team .
- **PTA Meeting:** Join us at our next PTA meeting on Thursday 25 June at 7 pm in the staffroom.
- **Enrolment:** Applications for students entering Year 7 and 9 in 2027 (not currently attending BC) close on 30 June. Online application [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](#).
- **RightNow Media:** As part of the BC community, you have a 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>.
- **New maintenance shed:** After three years of being housed in a portable building, the faithful maintenance team is back under one roof! Located just opposite the Primary field, down from the bus bay, the shiny black maintenance shed is a welcome addition to the campus. Thank you to everyone involved in the build and the excellent construction by Letts. We are so grateful for the heart behind our beautiful park-like campus and wish our maintenance team the very best in their new location.
- **Henry Williams:** Tickets \$10 [here](#)

