



## HEAD OF SCHOOL LETTER WEEK 4 TERM 2

Kia ora wonderful BC Chapman waka whānau,

Last Sunday Mother's Day was celebrated. Our tamariki were busily creating little gifts & cards earlier in the week with Whaea Becs and their classroom kaiako/teachers. I was struck that one of Jesus' final requests before he was crucified, was that the disciple John would take care of his mother. Being a mother is a tremendous privilege, a gift! Journeying through our child's life means passing many stages, reaching milestones, celebrating successes as well as picking up the pieces when there are disappointments or failures to face.

The vulnerability of little newborn babies who are dependent. The wonder in the eyes of a 2 or 3 year old, when everything is a fresh discovery and is examined

with interest & unending patience. Suddenly pre-school years come to an end & school is the next potentially 13-year chapter. I loved Toy Story and Toy Story 2 however I have always hated Toy Story 3 because Andy went off to university and left his parents, Woody & Buzz behind. It really impacted me even though our sons were still at home.

The days & years slip by rapidly & it is important to ensure that we live wisely, & as my dad used to say, with no regrets. Whānau experiences day to day create a childhood, build security & identity. Special achievements are celebrated & memories are made. We trawl through photos & videos which trigger our memories. Wisdom is grown through listening to the guidance of those who love & nurture us & our security & identity are strengthened. We pray that as a kura community, we can add to the positive childhood life learning experiences your son/daughter has. 'Mothers' and 'grandmothers', we are truly grateful for each one of you.

Me te aroha tonu  
With love always

Hazel



# CELEBRATING NZ SIGN LANGUAGE WEEK

Last week during our Friday assembly, we joined Aotearoa in celebrating New Zealand Sign Language Week, a special time to recognise and value NZSL as one of our official languages.

It was wonderful to see our tamariki engaging with Sign Language in such a meaningful and joyful way. A special highlight was Miss G's class, who confidently presented "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" in sign language during our assembly as well as 'One Way Jesus'. Both songs were sung with lots of enthusiasm by our entire kura. A beautiful moment of worship, inclusion, and expression



— reminding us that God's love can be shared and understood in many different ways. A huge 'Well Done' to Miss G's class, for their effort and courage in sharing this special item with our school community. We might sneak in a repeat presentation, you just never know!



## SUPPORT STAFF WEEK

This week, 11–15 May, is National Support Staff Week. We celebrate the incredible people who serve our kura so faithfully through both the seen and unseen moments of each day. From caring for our tamariki, supporting teachers, welcoming whānau, keeping our spaces clean and safe, and helping everything run smoothly behind the scenes — your labour of love is a true blessing.

Your kindness, patience, dedication, and servant hearts reflect God's love in action every day. We honour and appreciate each one of you, for without your hard work and commitment, our school community would not be the same. We celebrate and appreciate you this week and always.



Our Year 7 & 8 rangatahi, have spent the past 11 weeks learning how to cook several different meals from around the world. Italian, French, New Zealand, Indian & Mexican dishes have all been part of their learning. Food is very much part of different cultural backgrounds. Recently, we have had a couple of weeks learning about genuine Indian cuisine with Mrs Ojal Patel, one of wonderful BC Chapman parents. We have learned to make roti and dahl. She has patiently educated us in the art of cooking these dishes & taught us about the history, preferred ingredients & taste differences between Northern and Southern India. Particular pans, rolling pins & of course those little tips that experienced cooks know, have been shared. These meals are packaged, labelled & placed in our large kura freezer for dispensing across our Rotorua community to whānau, who we are aware will be blessed by a few pre-prepared meals.

# FOOD & NUTRITION



# MINI MARATHON



Twenty five of our enthusiastic runners made their way to the Mini Marathon event and we are proud of every single one of them and their accomplishment. This event involved running 40 kms over 5 weeks and then completing the final 2 kms of the official Rotorua Marathon track. Whaea Jas led the organisation & Mr Troy Buriss represented us as a Marshal. Thanks to Athletics New Zealand, the event ran without a hitch with marshals dotted along the distance ensuring that no runner went awry.

Our team were well supported by our wonderful parents! Meeting **Whaea Astrid** at the Finish Line & then they were taken back by **Mr Neil Oliver** to **Whaea Jas** at our designated meeting place. Each runner received a Gold Medal to top off their achievement. Three of our tamariki, Talia Read, Matthew Oliver and Ebenezer Barnett won a spot prize which was an additional celebration. This marathon run builds character, resilience, confidence, community & such a sense of achievement. We hope that more of our tamariki will be inspired & keen to register in 2027.





# CROSS COUNTRY

We are well into training for Cross Country which is now **just 1 week away**. Scheduled for **Friday the 22nd of May** at the Waipa side of the Whakarewarewa Forest. House points will be gained and trophies won. Time is going by rapidly. Please encourage your son/daughter to keep up their fitness especially over the next couple of weekends so that when the event comes round, they are well prepared for the distance. Beanies are recommended & **if you are a parent marshal then thermals are advised because in the forest it is cold!** There will be the usual chocolate & BBQ sausage reward on completion of the race so it will be worth the effort!

## BETHLEHEM COLLEGE CHAPMAN CROSS COUNTRY 2026

*Run Strong. Cheer Loud. One Community.*

**LOCATION**  
Waipa Car Park

**DATE**  
Friday  
22nd May 2026

**TIME**  
12:20pm –  
3:30pm approx.

**POSTPONEMENT**  
N/A

*Kia ora wonderful BC Chapman parents,*  
We are excited for our annual Cross Country event – the culmination of all the hard work in Fitness and PE sessions. This is also our first major Sporting House Competition, where valuable points will be earned! We would love your support to make this a special community event.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP!

**COURSE MARSHALS**  
(Approx. 20 needed)

**TRANSPORT**  
To and from the venue

**SPECTATORS**  
Come along and cheer our tamariki on!

**BBQ SUPPORT**  
Help with the sausage sizzle

**PHOTOS**  
(send to Whaea Irma)

### EVENT SCHEDULE

	RACE 1 1:10pm – Year 0–3 (Rooms 2, 3 & 4)
	RACE 2 1:30pm – Year 4–6 (Rooms 1 & 6)
	RACE 3 1:50pm – Year 7–8 (Room 5)
	PRIZE GIVING 2:30pm – 3:00pm

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Bring a full drink bottle
- Warm clothing essential (it can be VERY cold at Waipa!)
- Marshals: please bring beanies and thermals
- Students must remain until the event concludes and are dismissed by Mrs Warnes
- Supporting others is part of our BC Chapman community spirit!

### SAUSAGES AVAILABLE AFTER THE RACES!

**\$3 EACH (CASH ONLY)**

### TRANSPORT REMINDERS

- Students must travel to and from with the same driver
- Drivers transporting other children must present a driver's licence and complete a Designated Driver Form prior to the event
- Children needing a car seat must bring it to school

*Praying for great weather, safety, and a wonderful community day where our tamariki give their very best!*

# HEALTH & SAFETY

The Church car park is a wonderful space that helps make the dropping off and collection of our tamariki easier and more convenient for whānau. **To keep this area safe for everyone, especially during the busy afternoon pick-up times, we do ask all parents and caregivers to remain vigilant and patient.**

Our staff are on duty each afternoon, working hard to ensure tamariki are safely matched with their parents and guided carefully to vehicles. **Please support our staff and help keep our tamariki safe by:**

- Drive slowly through the car park
- Watch carefully for children between vehicles
- Follow staff directions
- Use designated pick-up areas
- Park behind the front row of vehicles and collect you child from the duty staff.
- If possible, please avoid driving through the lane between the church building and the front row of parked cars. This helps keep our younger tamariki safe as they are collected from staff and walked back to the car by their parent or caregiver.

Thank you for helping us keep our tamariki safe.



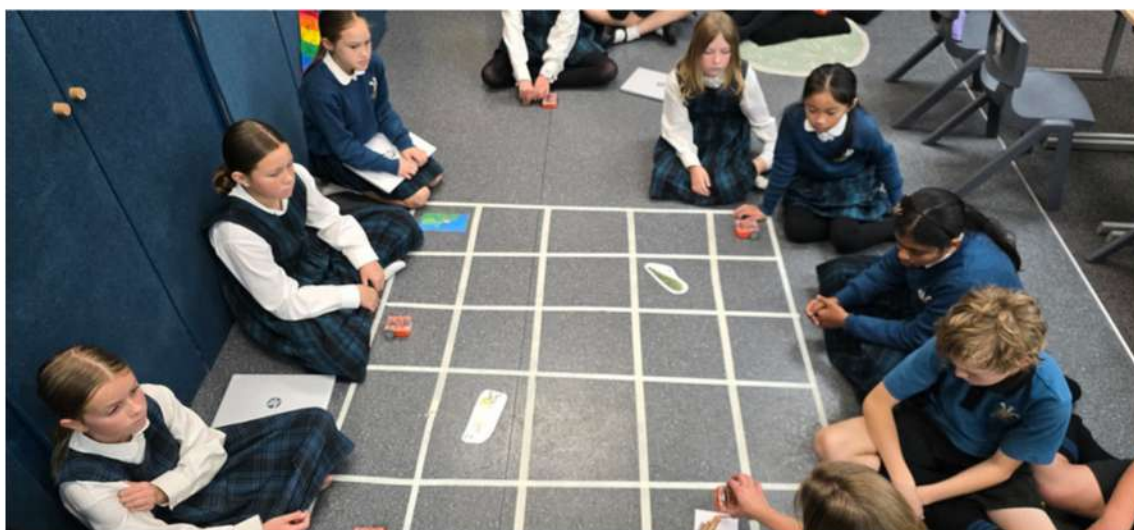
## “WAKA TAUTOKO” PTA MEETING

Our next ‘waka tautoko’ meeting will be held on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7-8 pm** in our BC Chapman staffroom. If you would like to join us, you are most welcome! The more people involved, the more creative the ideas, the more people we have to make things happen. Our meetings are characterised by deepening connections, lots of laughter, delicious food, fun, creativity & action! **Come along & join us on the Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May!**

## Join the PTA!



## ROBOTICS



We were privileged to welcome representatives from **Ministry of Inspiration** for an engaging robotics and coding session with Whaea Surette’s class in **Room 5**. Using **Edison robots**, students worked through coding challenges that required careful measuring, entering angles, and adjusting movements to account for factors such as wheel friction. What looked easy quickly proved quite challenging, with even 180-degree turns needing refinement and perseverance. One of the **highlights** was seeing the *joy on students’ faces as they successfully programmed their Edisons to travel to different places on the lino grid*. Students were also introduced to the beginner division of RoboCup Junior and learned about the competition rules and expectations.



# CELEBRATING MOTHERS

Our Year 7 & 8 class had so much joy preparing special Mother's Day treats for the incredible mothers and mother figures in their lives. Last Sunday, we honoured and celebrated all the amazing mums, nanas, grandmothers, aunties, and caregivers here at BCC who pour so much love into our tamariki each and every day.

Thank you for your beautiful hearts, your endless sacrifices, your gentle patience, and the unwavering love and faith you show so selflessly. The care and encouragement you give leave a lasting imprint on young hearts and help shape a future generation filled with kindness, strength, and light.

We are so grateful for all that you do. Happy Mother's Day to the wonderful women who nurture, inspire, and uplift our BCC whānau every day. 🌸





Room 6 under the guidance of Mrs Ella Jeffcote discovered that ***baking is the ultimate expression of love*** as many hands mixed, measured, iced, and sprinkled special treats for their mums this Mother's Day. Every sweet creation was made with excitement, care, and hearts full of love. The smiles, laughter, and delicious aromas filling the staffroom reminded us all that the sweetest ingredient of all is love.



# WRITER'S CORNER

This week's Writing comes from Ruma Tahī

I went to the lake with my mum.  
I heard the birds flapping.  
I saw the shiny sun.  
Jeremiah Muliaga

I went to the forest with my mum  
after school. I saw birds tweeting.  
I touched pinecones.  
I climbed up a tree.  
Nathan Weber



I went to the Zoo with my Uncle Maika.  
I saw cheetahs. I smelled the lions.  
I fed the cubs.  
Fe-'ofa-'aki 'Alofi

I went to the forest with my  
family on Tuesday. I saw a lion.  
I heard roosters. The lion  
roared funny.  
Aloiza Bipin



I went to the swings with mum. I  
heard the swings squeak.  
I saw big trees.  
Alexa Shields

I went to the forest with my dad  
on Sunday. I saw birds teetering  
loudly. I touched all the trees.  
Micah Potgieter



# ART EXHIBITION

This week's artists come from Ruma Tahī, where tamariki used their creativity to bring the Writer's Corner stories and descriptions above to life through colour, imagination, and detail in their artwork.



# Reporting an absence.



Please phone the **School Office on 07 346 1492 before 8:30am** so we are aware of the reason for any absences and can inform your child's teacher. If the phone is unattended, please leave a message on the answerphone.

You can also report your student's absence digitally through SchoolBridge (via the BC website sign-in or app), or by emailing:

✉ office.chapman@beth.school.nz

✉ irma.vanniekerk@beth.school.nz

## HEALTH REMINDER

The **New Zealand Ministry of Education and Health New Zealand guidelines** advise that children should stay home if they are unwell. This is especially important with gastro symptoms currently increasing in the community.

If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea, they must remain at home for **at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped before returning to school**. Keeping sick tamariki at home helps prevent illness spreading through our classrooms and protects the wellbeing of students and staff.

Thank you for your support, care, and consideration for our school community, whānau.

## UP & COMING DATES

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May BC Chapman Cross Country**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May "Waka Tautoko" PTA Meeting**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June Kings Birthday weekend holiday**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June Inter-Kura Cross Country at Kaharoa Kura**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June BC Chapman Speech Finals 6pm**



# BC CHAPMAN SCHOOL SPEECH COMPETITION

All whānau are warmly invited to attend our annual BC Chapman School Speech Competition evening.

**CONFIDENCE!** **COURAGE!** **SERVICE!**

The evening will begin with **PRIMARY SCHOOL SPEECHES**, followed by **SENIOR SCHOOL SPEECHES**. We look forward to celebrating the **courage**, **confidence**, and **hard work** of all our students as they take the stage and share their voices with our community.

**THURSDAY 25 JUNE 6:00pm**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE AND SUPPORTING OUR SPEAKERS.**

## BESORAH Creative Arts Group

### BEHIND THE SCENES CREW NEEDED!

Join the Creative Team Bringing Besorah to Life!

We're looking for helpers with willing hands and creative hearts. *There's a place for everyone!*

- COSTUME TEAM**  
Help alter, fit, and refresh our costumes so they shine on stage.
- MAKE-UP TEAM**  
Assist with sourcing, planning, and creating creative character looks.
- PROPS TEAM**  
Get hands-on painting, building, and creating:  
• Pole stand • Stylised toys • Map • Ground tarp • Backdrop
- SOUND SUPPORT**  
Help record voiceovers and manage sound for the performance.

Keen to help? We'd love to have you!

TEXT WHISA LUCELLE - 027 568 7639 (within the next week)

FIRST MEET-UP Saturday 16th May | 1:00pm

AT SCHOOL Come along to be shown what's needed and choose how you'd like to help.

Many hands create magic

Together we can create something truly special for our tamariki

**OPEN HOME FOUNDATION**  
TE WHARE KAIHĀKOA AHOHUA

## Foster Families Urgently Needed

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

We are looking for caring Christian people who are willing to open up their heart and home to care for a child or young person. A weekend, a week, or sometimes longer.

Find out more about this exciting ministry **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

For an application pack or further details, please contact: our Foster Parent Recruiter, Venetia Ryan  
027 263 4549 or Venetia.Ryan@ohf.org.nz

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

# BCC Whānau BUSINESSES

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

*W.ild*

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

From stacking your firewood or water-blasting the deck to creating beautiful wood turned gifts or restoring that antique tool you got from your grandpa, W.ild can help you out. Ph 027 332 2961

[www.facebook.com/Wild-Contracting-Services](http://www.facebook.com/Wild-Contracting-Services)



**CANTON RESTAURANT AND TAKEAWAYS**

**WESTEND SHOPPING CENTRE, MALFROY RD.  
PH 07-347 8359**



DAVE & STACEY LONGBOTTOM. House wiring, electrical installations, and maintenance.

[www.longbottomelectrical.co.nz](http://www.longbottomelectrical.co.nz)

**Kara Niles**

**Residential Sales**

☎ 021 0259 7042  
✉ [kara.niles@eves.co.nz](mailto:kara.niles@eves.co.nz)  
🌐 [karaniles.eves.co.nz](http://karaniles.eves.co.nz)

EVES Realty Ltd, Licensed under the REAA 2008



EVES Rotorua, 1172 Haupapa Street Rotorua, 3010



**JUNIPER**  
49A LAKE ROAD, OHINEMUTU, ROTORUA



**INDOOR PLANTS, ART + BEAUTIFUL THINGS**

f @juniper.store

10-5 TUES-FRI  
10-2 SAT

[hello@juniperstore.co.nz](mailto:hello@juniperstore.co.nz)