



BC PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 2026 – NEWSLETTER #7



Kia ora koutou BCP whānau,

Our Cross-Country event last week was a wonderful example of “community in action.” It was incredibly encouraging to see so many parents and grandparents out supporting and cheering on the children throughout the morning. Along with parents, it brought much joy to witness BCP students cheering on the courageous and cute children from BC Kindergarten, in the first race of the day. Later in this newsletter, we will share the results and celebrate the top eight boys and girls from Years 4–6 who have been selected to compete in the North Cluster event at Whakamarama School on 2nd June. We wish all competitors the very best as they represent both themselves and BCP with enthusiasm, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

TERM 2 KEY DATES

Y4-6 NC CROSS COUNTRY
Tues 2 Jun – Whakamarama School

EPRO8 COMPETITION
Wed 3rd Jun – Whakatane

Y6 BASKETBALL WORLD CUP
Thurs 4th Jun – Mercury Arena

BOOK WEEK
Tues 9th -Fri 12th Jun – BC
Fri 12th Jun – Book Character Dress Up

Y5&Y6 WBOP CROSS COUNTRY
Tues 16th Jun – Waipuna park

Y4-Y6 SHOWCASE
Fri 26th Jun – PAC – 11am-12.30pm

CIVVIES DAY
Fri 26th Jun – Details TBC

Y5&Y6 BOP CROSS COUNTRY
Tues 30th Jun – Opotiki

**PARENT TEACHER
CONFERENCES – NO SCHOOL**
Thurs 2nd Jul

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

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



Our theme for this year is “a community of faith, with love, purpose, and gratitude.” When we are intentional about gathering together, there is great purpose in our community, and we can be thankful for the opportunity to grow alongside one another with a shared desire: to know Jesus more deeply and to become more like Him. Christian education is a special privilege, and we are grateful to partner with families in nurturing children in both faith and learning.



One of the ways we can serve others as a community is through our annual School Foodbank Appeal. Between now and Friday 6th June, I encourage families to consider contributing a canned or non-perishable food item to support this initiative. Donations can be brought to the Primary Office over the coming week before they are collected on Friday 6th June. Students from across Bethlehem College are participating this year, and it is our hope that, together, our contributions will be a significant blessing to families in need.

Another way to serve others beyond our school community is the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge, 19-21 June. This year for the first time, Year 4 - 6 students will have the opportunity to consider with their families if the challenge is something they might like to participate in. Student Service Leaders have been active in promoting ideas to older students of challenges they might consider. E.g. no screens or no furniture for 40 hours. Participants are encouraged to seek sponsorship for the event. Information will be available for Year 4 - 6 students next week.



As a community, you will also be aware that I have invited families to attend one of four information sessions outlining the upcoming changes to the New Zealand Curriculum and our reporting processes. Thank you to the many parents who have already signed up via the link provided. For those still intending to do so, I encourage you to register for a session that best suits you.



[Primary Reporting Changes Meetings – Fill in form](#)

The session dates are:

- Friday 5th June – 9:45am – 10.15am (following the Primary Assembly in the Hall)
- Tuesday 9th June – 2:30pm - 3pm (Venue tbc)
- Wednesday 10th June – 8:45am - 9.15am (Venue tbc)
- Wednesday 17th June – 5:30pm – 6pm (Venue tbc)

Thank you for the many ways you continue to contribute to the life of our school community. Whether it is supporting events, serving others, attending school gatherings, or encouraging your children in their learning and faith, each contribution helps strengthen the sense of belonging we value so deeply at BCP. May we continue to work together with love, purpose, and gratitude as we seek to honour God in all that we do.

As we approach the long weekend for King’s Birthday, my hope is that you will be able to enjoy some quality family time.



Ngā mihi nui,

Jo West

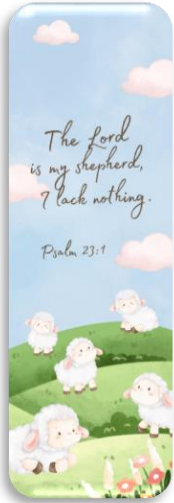


WORSHIP ASSEMBLIES

At last week's worship assembly, our College Principal, Mr Edmeades, shared a message about God's undeserved love for us. Reflecting on Psalm 23, he explained how the psalm moves from a peaceful meadow, through a dark valley, and finally into God's house. Through this structure, he reminded us that life is not always easy or filled with comfort. Yet, even in difficult seasons, we can walk with grateful hearts, recognising that all things are gifts from God.

Esther Brown, one of our student service leaders, courageously shared a devotion this week on the good gifts God gives. Esther used personal experiences to illustrate the power of prayer in her life. She talked about her dog Missy, a special gift when she was 10 years old - one which came after an extraordinary search. She shared the scripture from James 1:17.

"Every good gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows".



ASSEMBLY

In last week's assembly, our B Block students beautifully shared their recent learning. Many of them spoke with incredible courage and confidence. A true highlight was their rendition of Psalm 23; singing loud, proud, and entirely from memory, they brought immense joy to everyone in attendance. There is something deeply moving about hearing such young children confidently recite scripture.



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

CROSS COUNTRY

A beautiful autumn day was the setting for our cross country. We congratulate all students on their efforts and celebrate with those who were in the top placings, along with Y4-Y6 representation in the North Cluster event if they were in the 'top 8'.

Place	Y0/1 Boys	Y0/1 Girls	Y2 Boys	Y2 Girls	Y3 Boys	Y3 Girls
1st	Navy Lewis	Amelie Rose Chandler	Benji Germann	Molly Zimmerman	Elias Pace	Makenzie van der Put
2nd	Asher Comer	Sophia Davies	Elijah Rall	Maddie Fruish	Wilbur Knoll	Gabriella Comely
3rd	Nathaniel Dixon	Alyssa Veldman	Harrison Watt	Yuna Lee	Hunter Urquhart	Esther Schulz

Place	Y4 Boys	Y4 Girls	Y5 Boys	Y5 Girls	Y6 Boys	Y6 Girls
1st	Micah Shakes	Hazel Zimmerman	Samuel Hardman	Grace Kenney	Christiaan Bekker	Zoe Hodson
2nd	Ethan Comer	Maia Venter	Lucas Pulman	Ellie-Louise Murray	Ryan Taylor	Heidi Comer
3rd	Broden Booyse	Maia Samuel	Bradie Litiu	Ava Healy	Luke Buchanan	Piper Urquhart
4th	Kayden Sutcliffe	Scarlett Lietze	Baasha Zhu	Charlotte van Leeuwen	Anrich Koekemoer	Tabitha Dos Santos
5th	Caleb Dos Santos	Elisha Lopez	Reiken Myburgh	Billie King	Jacob Cook	Ella Clarkin
6th	Wianru Koekemoer	Fleur Davison	Matthew van Tonder	Annalyn Maggs	Yejun Cho	Harper Lewis
7th	Scott Jefferys	Coralee Withy	Peter Schulz	Coco Xu	Reed Exelby	Kaylee van Heerden
8th	Jed Beckett	Amelia du Plessis	Daniel Wang	Sophie Hennessey	Carter Redding	Julianna Withy



PRIMARY SPORT

KIWI TAG

A massive congratulations to every student who took part in last term's Kiwitag League. You represented the school with pride, and we are blessed to have you as part of our Kiwitag community. Thank you to all the coaches and managers for the dedication and work that you put into the season – without you our teams would not be able to compete. And to all the families, thank you for your enthusiastic support.

Y3&Y4 BASKETBALL WORLD CUP



The Pacers had an incredible day competing in the Tauranga Year 3/4 World Cup basketball tournament against some of the top primary school teams in the region. The team finished an impressive 6th overall, but more importantly represented our school with outstanding character, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the entire day.

The players showed respect, teamwork and encouragement all day long, and were extremely well behaved both on and off the court. The Pacers proudly represented Samoa for the tournament and fully embraced the spirit of the day, even taking home the prize for Best Dressed Team!



SPORTS
RECAP

KIWITAG

Year 1/2
 Winners: BC Rogue
 5th: BC Omega
 6th: BC Hedgehogs

Year 3/4
 Winners: BC Blaze
 9th: BC Sonics
 14th: BC Storm
 18th: BC Forces

Year 5/6
 3rd: BC Unleashed
 11th: BC Tornados
 15th: BC Rivals



The BC Mavericks represented Japan and were the youngest in the tournament. They played with courage and determination and won a game against taller and older players, well done Mavericks we are super proud of you!



SPORTS TEAMS



We have a number of students involved in extracurricular sporting activities. It is super encouraging to see young people actively involved in 'team' sports. Thank you to all the volunteer coaches who give up time to train teams during the week and then encourage, cheer and guide on sidelines for games. Seeing students involved in football, hockey, netball, rugby and basketball is so exciting!

LIBRARY NEWS

BookWeek 8-12 June

BATTLE OF THE BOOK



We are counting down to book week in Week 8 and planning a week of fun in the library.

Classes are reading and voting on their favourite picture book in the Battle of the Book competition, with the final battle in assembly on Friday 12th June.

Students are encouraged to keep reading at home and tick off their read-a-thon, then drop their sheet off at the library next week (Week 7).

Note that Friday 12th June is Book Character Dress Up Day.

Any parent who would like to read to the children in the playground one interval during book week, please contact the librarian megan.zingel@beth.school.nz

Name: _____
Class (Phase 1): _____

Read as many books as you can before BOOK WEEK begins. Hand in to the library in Term 2 Week 7 to be in the draw.

1 Has more than 100 pages	2 Is set in another country	3 Has a sea creature	4 Is set in the past	5 Has a pony on the front cover
6 A story from the Bible	7 Is a true story	8 Rhymes	9 Has a one word title	10 Makes you laugh
11 Is set in space	12 Has a famous person	13 Is about food	14 Is about friendship	15 Is about a sport
16 Is about dinosaurs	17 Is about cooking	18 Is set in the wild	19 Teaches you about science	20 Is about pets
21 National Geographic	22 Teaches you about God	23 Is a magazine	24 Is a Fairy Tale	25 Is a chapter book
26 Is full of facts	27 Is a graphic novel	28 Is a mystery	29 Is from the new book shelf	30 Is by your favourite author
31 Has been shared by your friend	32 Has a famous event	33 Has been made into a movie	34 Has a mainly red cover	

READ a-thon

Read all 25 books (no double up!) before BOOK WEEK begins in Term 2 Week 8. Hand this in when it is completed to the library during Week 7 to be in the draw.

1 A biography	2 An adventure story	3 Main character is an animal	4 Teaches you about God	5 One word title
6 Is part of a series	7 Is recommended by a teacher	8 Is set in another country	9 Is a picture book	10 Makes you laugh
11 YOU CHOOSE story	12 Has been made into a movie	13 Based on a Bible story	14 Is set in a school	15 Is a magazine
16 The hero is a girl like you	17 Is set in winter	18 Has a rodent in the story	19 Recommended by a librarian	20 A book YOU would recommend
21 Recommended by a friend	22 Has a fantasy creature in it	23 Has a number in the title	24 Is about families	25 Has a mainly yellow front cover

Name: _____ Class (Phase 2): _____



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.

Annual School Foodbank Appeal

Please bring any cans or non-perishable items to the primary office between Tuesday 2nd June and Friday 5th June. The final collection day for any donations will be Friday 5th June.



HAPPY PARENTING

Within our classrooms at BCP there are expectations of students for their conduct as learners. Staff often establish these boundaries and expectations with their students and through the process there is a focus on being respectful towards others, while also being motivated about learning. Jenny Hale, one of the senior parent coaches from *The Parenting Place* shares this article about being fair, but firm in our parenting style. I encourage you to take a look and reflect on how it aligns with your own practices.

<https://parentingplace.nz/resources/firm-but-fair>



WHEN A CHILD DISCOVERS THAT THE BOUNDARY IS NOT ONLY REAL, BUT ALSO FIXED AND FIRM, THE SEARCH FOR CLARITY IS OVER AND THEY CAN GET BACK INTO THE JOB OF BEING A KID.

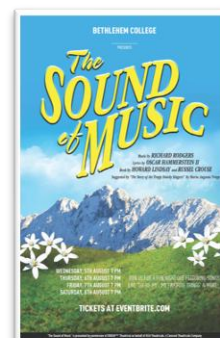
Ngā mihi nui,

Jo West



NOTICES

- **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](#).
- **BC Alumni:** Calling all past students, friends, parents and staff of Bethlehem College (Primary, Secondary & Chapman)! We would love to connect with you. Join our BC Connect group today to reconnect with BC friends here: www.beth.school.nz/about/alumni.
- **The Sound of Music:** Join us for an entertaining night out for the whole family! The Bethlehem College Drama and Music Departments are proud to present 'The Sound of Music' on Wed 5th, Thu 6th, Fri 7th and Sat 8th of August 2026 at 7 pm at the BC Performing Arts Centre. Set in Austria, this timeless story follows Maria, whose vibrant faith and love for music transform the grieving von Trapp household. As she brings harmony and laughter back to the family, she teaches seven children—and their stoic father—the power of unconditional love and grace. Featuring iconic songs like 'My Favourite Things', '16 Going On 17', 'Do-Re-Me', and 'So Long Farewell'. Buy tickets now at [Eventbrite](#).
- **Drop Off/Pick Up Speed Changes:** In an effort to improve road safety near schools, Tauranga City Council (TCC) will be reducing speed limits outside school gates to 30km/h between 7.55-8.30 am and 3.15-3.35 pm. Updated signage will be initiated by July 2026. In addition, TCC is proposing a **permanent 30km/h speed limit for Elder Lane**, the road alongside Bethlehem College. Many students walk, bike, or get dropped off along this road. Feedback is open until **Friday, 26 June** here: <https://letstalk.tauranga.govt.nz/projects/safer-speeds>
- **Arotahi Yearbook:** The Arotahi is a yearbook designed this year by BC mum Amanda of [Creative Crane](#), printed by BC dad Pete of [Kale Print](#) and distributed at the end of each year. One free yearbook is given to each family - either to the departing senior OR the eldest child, as well as a pdf version of the magazine available to download for free. For those families wishing to order additional copies of the Arotahi, these can be purchased for \$20 per copy [here](#) through 25 September. We also welcome business advertising (info [here](#)) booked by 28 August.



NOTICE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH

We are seeing a significant increase in cases of **scabies** in our community. We ask schools and families to be aware of the signs and symptoms so cases can be identified and treated early.

What is scabies?

Scabies is a common, contagious skin condition caused by tiny mites. It spreads easily through close contact with others and is not related to cleanliness.

Symptoms to watch for:

- Intense itching, especially at night
- A rash (small red bumps, blisters, or thin lines on the skin)
- Common areas affected include between the fingers, wrists, elbows, armpits, waist, and groin
In young children, the rash may also appear on the face, scalp, palms, and soles.

What to do if you suspect scabies:

- See your GP, pharmacy, or healthcare provider for assessment and treatment
- Treatment usually involves a cream or lotion
- **It is very important that everyone in the household (whānau) is treated at the same time – even if they do not have symptoms – to stop the infection spreading back and forth**
- Wash bedding, clothing, and towels used recently in hot wash or bagged up for 3 days

Treatment available:

From **2 June**, participating local pharmacies are funded under the **Minor Ailments Service**. If a child is assessed and scabies is confirmed, **treatment for the whole whānau can be provided for a small charge** through these pharmacies. (community services card charged less)

School attendance:

Children can return to school once treatment has been started. We appreciate your support in helping reduce the spread of scabies in our community. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your healthcare provider or local pharmacy.

Further information:

<https://www.healthnz.govt.nz/health-topics/conditions-treatments/skin/scabies>

