BETHLEHEM COLLEGE CHAPMAN



"For He's the awe-inspiring God, great and glorious in power! We've never seen anything like him!".

"Mea atu ki te Atua, Ano te wehi o au mahi! Ma te nui o tou kaha e ngohengohe ai ou hoariri ki a koe."

Psalm 66 v 3

HEAD OF SCHOOL LETTER WEEK 4 TERM 4

Kia ora wonderful BC Chapman waka whānau,

On the Saturday of the long-weekend holiday, we were at Cooks Beach in the Coromandel. We went for an early-morning walk. In my case, I needed the exercise, while our younger son was out fishing. There were people scattered along the beach, some walking their dogs, others wandering along the shoreline, and some watching their children create all kinds of sand sculptures. Everyone was clearly enjoying the break from their usual daily routines. As we walked, we talked about all kinds of things until a movement in the water stopped us in our tracks. We stared out to sea, no more than 25 metres away, as the water broke again and a dolphin arched its way out before re-entering with a spectacular splash. Within seconds, we were treated to a full display of dolphin magic as they performed their antics with poise and grace.

We paused, fully entranced by what was happening right before our eyes. I looked along the beach, and everyone was gazing in the same direction, mesmerised by the dolphins' display. The walking, digging and aimless wandering had ceased. We didn't need YouTube, Instagram or endless reels to scroll through. This scene was unfolding in real time, and we were experiencing it first hand. The dolphins, oblivious to their audience, frolicked in this perfect part of creation, revelling in all it had to offer. The performance was filled with twists and turns, with the dolphins reaching great heights before re-entering the water with barely a splash. Like synchronised swimmers, they jumped in perfect formation, in tandem and trios, flipping with beauty and finesse. With our attention riveted, we happily spent over 40 minutes being entertained. We were in no rush to leave. Time literally stood still.

Dolphins are among God's most stunning creatures, causing us all to pause in awe and admiration. Such creatures point us to God, the Creator and Sustainer of all life, inspiring us to stand in awe of Him and marvel at His power! Little did we know that our son had abandoned fishing to follow the dolphins and capture their dramatic displays of gymnastic brilliance on video. Even with all that AI can do and everything we can access through it, nothing can compete with being immersed in a real-life experience, where we connect with our Creator. When we pause to take in God's handiwork, our awe and wonder of Him lead us to worship. In a nation like ours, with all its geographical wonders, it would be a shame to miss what God, in His great love and wisdom, has created for us to enjoy.
Psalm 66:3: "For He's the awe-inspiring God, great and glorious in power! We've never seen anything like Him!"

Me te aroha tonu
With love always
Hazel





MIDLANDS NZACS SPEECH & CHESS COMPETITION

On Friday, we had the privilege of hosting **the annual Midlands Chess and Speech Competition**, in which competitors from **12 different Christian kura across the Waikato and Bay of Plenty took par**t. With 48 chess players and 50 speakers, we recognise just how much this event has grown in size.

What was even more exciting was the diversity of cultural heritages represented, with participants bringing connections from around the world. Our Christian kura are richly blessed to have God draw His people together, united by our love for Him. We would like to **give special commendation to our Year 4–8 tamariki**, who formed the audiences for our Speech finalists. They were both deeply attentive and wonderfully supportive of each speaker. **Our MCs were Arlo, Jabbie, Latu, Olivia, Felix and Shyra-Beth, all of whom did a magnificent job!**

The quality of both the chess playing and the speeches was exciting to see. Afterwards, a parent from one of the Waikato schools spoke to me, saying that he could hardly believe the subjects these young people were engaging with and choosing to speak about. He was impressed by the measured way in which they argued from different perspectives and persuasively presented their points of view. He was particularly struck by the depth of their thinking and humbly acknowledged that many adults rarely give such issues or topics serious consideration from a Biblical perspective. Yet, these young people were able to articulate their well-thought-out positions with conviction.











Special thanks to **Mr Mark Breetvelt**, who served as **Grand Master and co-ordinated the Chess Tournament.** He was beaten by the South City Chess team, who out-skilled him with their strategic moves!







Thank you also to **Whaea Irma**, who did a tremendous job behind the scenes preparing for the Chess and Speech Competition. This involved collecting the names of competitors, their chosen speech topics and the number of adults coming to support them. All this preparation beforehand helps ensure that the day runs smoothly.



Thank you to **Mrs Tanja Lotter, Whaea Stacy, Te Ana, Whaea Sylvia, Whaea Jesse and Miss Wynne**, who managed the hospitality, overseeing the delicious morning tea and lunch provided for our guests.









Speech Cup Winners

- **Primary Speech Cup:** Isaiah Sherwood
  Whakatane SDA
  Topic: Snapped! Trapped!
- **Year 7–8 Speech Cup:** Nathan Abraham
  South City Hamilton
  Topic: Fear
- **Year 9–10 Speech Cup:** Mankunwar Singh
  Bethlehem College Tauranga
  Topic: We've settled for being seen instead of known



Chess Cup Winners

- **Primary Chess Cup:** Daniel Koshy - *South City Hamilton*
- **Year 7–8 Chess Cup:** John Austin - *HCS*
- **Year 9–10 Chess Cup:** Alex Belamy - *HCS*









We are already looking forward to hosting this event again in Term 4, 2027, when we will no doubt see even more of our young people's God-given gifts and talents showcased. It is a wonderful opportunity to be reminded that we are part of a much bigger network of Christian schools within Aotearoa and beyond.

SPRING FAIR UPDATE





The Wednesday working bees have started and we see the talents of our BC Chapman whānau coming out of the woodwork. Who would have thought that **Mr Michael Bell, Mr Neil Oliver and Mr Francois Conraderie** had such artistic design flair. These screen-printed bags, can only be sighted and purchased on **Friday 13th November** at our Spring Fair. As the saying goes. 'He or she who hesitates is lost, so if you have your eye on one of the many gifts being created, you will need to front up on the day ready to make a beeline for that stall before items are sold.











Amidst the laughter, conversation and food, creative juices were also flowing! This fair promises to solve your Friday night takeaway dilemma, answer your Christmas shopping challenges and entertain your son or daughter for a couple of hours. There's fun guaranteed for everyone! **Our Besorah Performing Arts team and our Pasifika group** will both be performing that evening.



We have one **last working bee next Wednesday, 11 November, and then, on Friday, it's ALL HANDS ON DECK** to get the Spring Fair environment fully set up and ready for the 4.30 pm arrival of our immediate and wider Rotorua community. Please continue to spread the word about this event among your whānau, friends, neighbours, and work and sporting circles. **This is an event and a community connection point worth attending!**





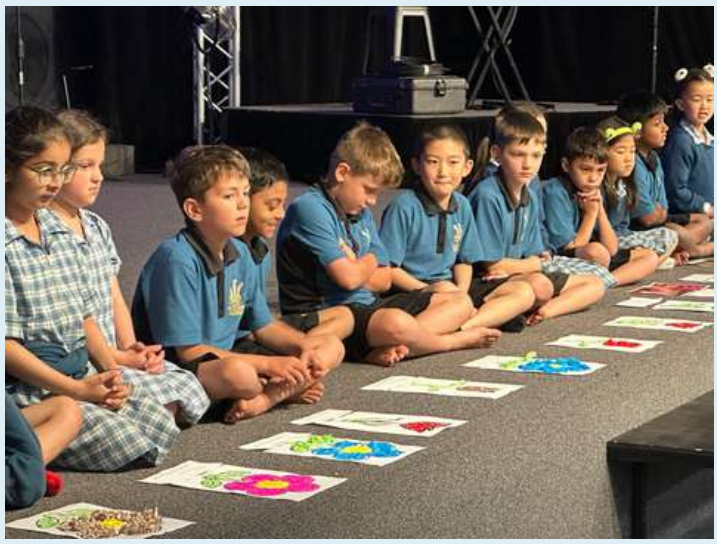




Assembly with Miss G and Ruma toru

Miss G and our wonderful Year 3 tamariki took our recent assembly, commanding the stage and wowing us with their learning about **flowers**. **Benjamin Cook** took on the **role of MC** with confidence and flair, naturally showcasing his communication talents and engaging personality.





From explaining the parts of a flower and outlining what is needed to grow them successfully, to sharing more scientific facts about photosynthesis, there was plenty for us as their audience to learn. Well done, Ruma Toru! You certainly helped our learning blossom and reminded us of the wonder in God's creation.

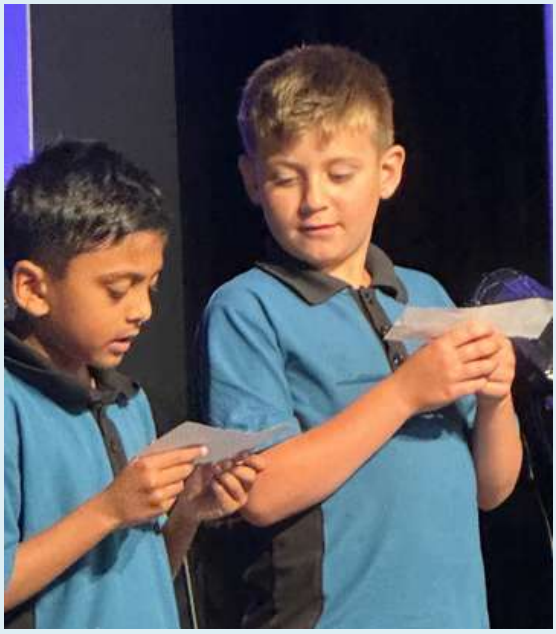
Over the next few pages, enjoy exploring the variety of flower art and studies created by our tamariki across the school. Vibrant colours and imaginative designs provide a kaleidoscope of spring beauty!





God gave us flowers as little reminders of His beauty, His creativity, and the joy He scatters throughout His creation.

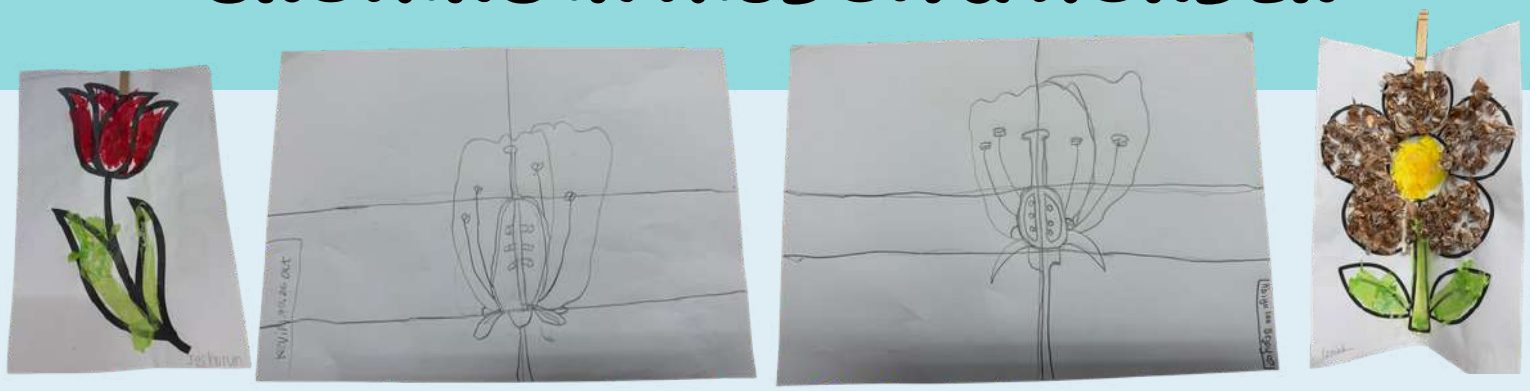








GROWING IN WISDOM & WONDER

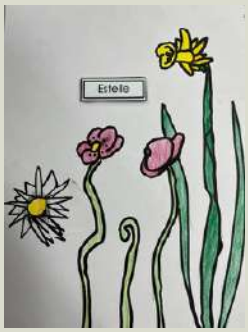


🌸 Miss G's **Rūma Toru/Room 3 tamariki** has been busy exploring the fascinating anatomy of flowers! They have been learning the scientific names for the different parts of a flower, including the petals, sepals, stem, stamen and carpel.

They carefully drew and labelled each part, discovering where it is found and the important role it plays in helping a flower grow, reproduce and produce seeds.



Ka pai, you are becoming fantastic little flower detectives! 🌼













Springtime in Bloom!



Rūma Rua/Room 2 has been busy sketching daffodils, poppies and daisies, capturing their vibrant colours and beautiful details. There is plenty of spring flower learning happening in Whaea Lucelle's class! Our tamariki are also taking immaculate care of the planter boxes just outside the school office window, helping to keep our kura looking bright, colourful and welcoming, while observing the growth process of a plant. It is wonderful to see their creativity and care for God's beautiful creation blossoming together!



















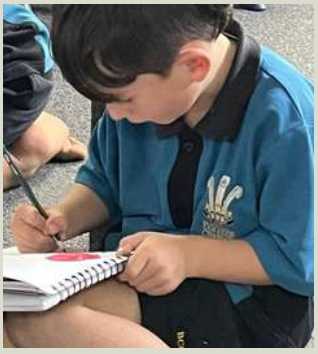


















PLANTS, PETALS & POLLINATION



Whaea Surette's Room 5 tamariki has been discovering the wonders of God's amazing creation through our Plants, Petals & Pollination science unit! 🌸🐝

From taking a closer look at plant parts to germinating our own bean seeds, our tamariki have been busy exploring how plants grow and discovering the important role pollinators play in helping plants flourish.

With plenty of hands-on activities, curious questions and exciting discoveries, we have been learning to appreciate the incredible detail and wonder God has woven into the world around us. What a joy it is to see our tamariki's curiosity grow as they explore, investigate and learn together!









🎶 Raising Their Voices, Sharing Their Gifts! 🎶



Over Labour Weekend, more than 200 singers and groups came together for **Sing Aotearoa**, celebrating the joy and power of music! Our very own **Shyra-Beth and Talia Read** were part of this amazing experience, **performing at Sir Howard Morrison Centre and Kuirau Park.**

A special highlight was joining a mass choir to sing a waiata composed by a local composer — a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the music and talent of our community.

What a special experience to treasure, sharing your voices and being part of something so inspiring!



Room 1 tamariki are having fun in the sun as they create a little home for a beetle!



Our Year 7 and 8 boys **Kaleb, Christo, Latu & Felix** proudly parade their traditional **Chinese rice hats,** historically known as **dǒulì.**



Rotations
Food and Nutrition

Our Year 7 and 8 chefs cooked butter chicken this week, but it didn't stop there! With Mrs Ojal Patel assisting us, we had the incredible privilege of learning how to make traditional roti as well.

Our rangatahi rose to the challenge, listening carefully and following Mrs Patel's guidance to create their own roti, with or without garlic butter. The freshly made roti were then enjoyed with their butter chicken!

They also packaged five meals for the freezer, ready to be shared with our wider Rotorua community.









Sports Update



House Football Tournament

Our **House Football Tournament trophies** are undoubtedly unique, but with an extra layer of gold paint, they look world-beating! Well, perhaps they aren't quite world-beating, but they are definitely renowned.
They are now engraved and safely showcased in the homes of this year's 2026 winners.
As our BC Chapman roll numbers grow year by year, we are seriously considering making another set of three trophies for the Year 4–6 part of our kura. So, in 2027, let's see what we decide!

Trophy Winners

Senior: Year 5-8
Golden Glove: Coen Otter
Golden Ball: Flo Mutton
Golden Boot: Olivia Perrett

Primary: Year 0-4
Golden Glove: Krusha Patel
Golden Ball: Foster Conraderie
Golden Boot: Daisy Russell





CBOP Primary & Intermediate Tennis Champs

🎾 Our BCC Chapman tennis players, **Ryan Liao, Elyse and Joselyn Chan, Katie Lotter and Caleb Kieck**, enjoyed a fun-filled day competing at last Friday's CBOP Tennis Championship!

It was a great opportunity for our tamariki to showcase their skills, enjoy some friendly competition. . Congratulations Ryan, Elyse, Joselyn and Katie qualifying for the Waikato/BOP Championships later in November.

We are proud of you all! A big thank you to the parent supporters who encouraged our players and helped make the day a success. Ka pai, team! 🎾











NETBALL









Term 4 **Future Ferns games** started this week, with sessions held on Mondays after school at the Rotorua Netball Courts.

Our Future Ferns players are enthusiastically developing their netball skills through this programme, which focuses on fostering a love of netball, building game skills and encouraging teamwork.

You can see from the photos that they are committed to another great Term 4 season, supported by their **coaches, Whaea Nicole and Whaea Stacy**, and their wonderful whānau cheer crew!







As **Matua Neil, coach of our Year 5 & 6 Touch Downs**, remarked on Friday, **"We are incredibly blessed and amazed by the sporting talent of our BC Chapman tamariki!"**

Their coordination, developing skills, application of strategy and commitment to teamwork are truly wonderful to watch. It is a joy to see them grow in confidence, learn to work together and put their skills into practice on the field.

Time and time again, we are reminded that while we may be a small kura, God has not overlooked the gifts and talents He has placed within our tamariki and rangatahi! He creates opportunities for these gifts to flourish through dedicated coaches, sporting opportunities, a willingness to learn, and the commitment to practise, persevere and keep growing.

And behind every young sportsperson is a team of supporters who deserve a mention too! A huge thank you to our amazing whānau who faithfully transport their children to and from games, rearrange busy schedules and cheer enthusiastically from the sidelines. Your support makes such a difference!

At BC Chapman, we celebrate not only the talent we see on the field, but also the character being developed along the way — teamwork, perseverance, humility and encouragement.

We may be small in numbers, but with God-given gifts, willing hearts and a community that gets behind our tamariki, there is no shortage of reasons to celebrate!

BC TOUCHDOWNS

Year 5 & 6 Mixed

Tuesday 27th October:

Game 1 ~ Won 2-1

Game 2 ~ Won 6-1

Players of the Day: Lydia-Rose Muliaga

Tuesday 3rd November:

Game 1 ~ Loss 2-1

Game 2 ~ Draw 2-2

BC UNTOUCHABLES

Year 7 & 8 Boys

Tuesday 27th October:

Game 1 ~ Lost 2-1

Game 2 ~ Won

Tuesday 3rd November:

Game 1 ~ Won

Game 2 ~ Won



George Conradie
Player of the Day for rhe BC Toucdowns

BC PACERS

Year 1 & 2 Mixed

Wednesday 28th October:

Game 1 ~ Loss 0-3

Game 2 ~ Won 2-1

Players of the Day:

Wednesday 4th November:

Game 1 ~ Loss 3-5

Game 2 ~ Draw 3-3



Aki 'Alofi & Ebenezer Barnett
Players of the Day for the BC Pacers



KEEP IT UP!



Great Job!

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

Team sport reminds us that when we work together, encourage one another and celebrate each other's strengths, wonderful things can happen! At BC Chapman, we love seeing our tamariki grow not only in skill and confidence but also in teamwork, perseverance and sportsmanship. It's about more than winning a game; it's about learning to support one another, playing with heart and discovering just how much we can achieve together.

Art Exhibition



EGG CARTON CREATIONS!

Various classes has been getting creative, turning simple egg carton cuttings into wonderful animal creations! With lots of imagination and crafty little hands at work, their favourite animals are coming to life, including pigs, bunnies, crocodiles and mice.
It is fantastic to see our tamariki using recycled materials to explore their creativity and bring their ideas to life. Ka pai on your amazing creations! 🎨🐰🐭



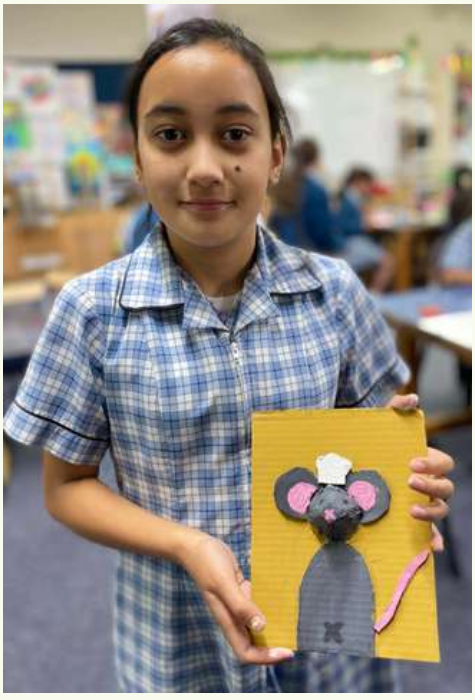



















From colourful creatures to fascinating designs, each creation reflects the creativity, curiosity and unique talents God has gifted our young artists.




UP & COMING DATES

Wednesday 11th November Spring Fair 'waka tautoko' working Bee

Friday 13th November Spring Fair 4.30pm-7.30pm

Thursday 26th November Whole School Ohinemutu Visit with Kaumātua Rukingi

Thursday 3rd December Volunteers Morning Tea 10am

Thursday 3rd December Year 8 Graduation Dinner 6pm

Monday 7th December Athletics Day at Bethlehem College in Tauranga

Thursday 10th December Reports Issued

Thursday 10th December End of Year Celebration Living Well Church Auditorium 6pm

2027 TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS (as at 3 April 2026)

		TERM START	TERM FINISH	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
TERM 1	10 wks*	**Tuesday 2 February** Y1-Y13 at school	**Friday 9 April** (96* half-days)	Saturday 10 April to Monday 26 April
TERM 2	10 wks	**Tuesday 27 April** Y1-Y13 at school	**Thursday 1 July** (94 half-days)	Friday 2 July to Monday 19 July
TERM 3	10 wks	**Tuesday 20 July** Y1-Y13 at school *(19 July CET Staff Only Day)*	**Friday 24 September** (98 half-days)	Saturday 25 September to Monday 11 October
TERM 4	10 wks	**Tuesday 12 October** Y1-Y13 at school *(11 Oct CET Staff Only Day)*	**Wednesday 15 December** (92 half-days)	Thursday 16 December

***NB: Wk 0 prior to start of term, Y12-Y13 course confirmation Tue 26 Jan and Y13 students at camp Tue 26 to Thu 28 January.**

These term dates comply with Ministry of Education requirements - open for instruction 380 (half) days in 2027.
Please refer to the website calendar for any other important dates that will have an impact on the school term for students.

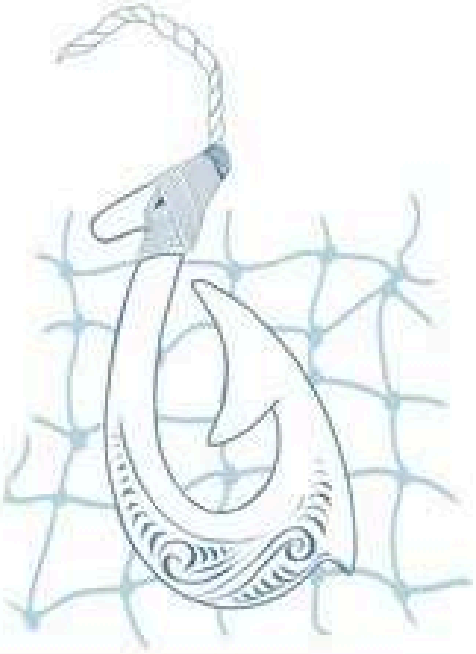


2027 Statutory Holidays	
Monday 1 February	Auckland Anniversary Day
Monday 8 February	Waitangi Day Holiday Observed
Friday 26 March	Good Friday
Monday 29 March	Easter Monday
Tuesday 30 March	Easter Tuesday
Monday 26 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday Observed
Monday 7 June	King's Birthday
Friday 25 June	Matariki
Monday 25 October	Labour Day

SUMMER UNIFORM







IHU

JESUS CHRIST

KARAITI

