BETHLEHEM COLLEGE
EXCELLENCE through CHRIST

BC PRIMARY
NEWSLETTER

BC LEARNER PRIMARY

TERM 4 2026 – NEWSLETTER #17



As we enter the final three weeks of the school year, we find ourselves in what many might describe as 'the silly season'. With end-of-year celebrations, end of year shows, break-ups and Christmas events to organise, it is not surprising that both children and adults can feel just a little weary.

My encouragement to you all is to finish well. Hebrews 12:1-2, says *…Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith…* As a Christian community, our goal is to finish this year with perseverance, purpose and faith, continuing to give our best in all that we do.

This week, our kapa haka students have had the opportunity to perform, unfortunately not at the Te Rā Rēhia Festival, as expected, due to the poor weather on Wednesday, but for our school and community today. We are incredibly grateful for the commitment and dedication of Matua Ben Wetini, who has faithfully encouraged, taught and led our 60-strong kapa haka group throughout the year in preparation for our performance.



TERM 4 KEY DATES

Y5 EOY FUN DAY
Mon 23rd Nov – BC

Y0-4 ATHLETICS DAY
Mon 30th Nov – BC – 9.20 – 12.30pm

Y0-1 EOY FUN DAY
Wed 2nd Dec – BC

Y6 GRADUATION
Thurs 3rd Dec – PAC:11.30am–12.30pm

Y6 SOCIAL
Thurs 3rd Dec – Primary Hall: 6pm

Y2,3,4,6 EOY FUN DAYS
Mon 7th Dec – BC

CELEBRATION SERVICE
Thurs 10th Dec – 1.45pm-2.30pm

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
Fri – 11th Dec – School finishes 12pm

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

Facebook: @bethlehemcollege
Instagram: @bethlehemcollege_nz
Website: Enrolled Families









Despite the disappointment of not performing at Te Rā Rēhia our students have worked hard, demonstrating unity, commitment and strength of character. Their 15-minute programme of waiata and haka has required every participant to bring their very best, and we are so proud of the way they have represented BCP.

A particularly special part of our programme is *Kia Tau*, a waiata unique to BCP. This beautiful waiata is a prayer to God,

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all
Forever and ever
Amen





We were also privileged recently to welcome Dr Ted Boyce to BCP. Dr Boyce has dedicated many years to serving Christian education as Executive Principal of the Pacific Hills group of schools in Sydney, Australia, and has developed a special relationship with our school and its leaders over the years. He is a man of deep faith whose life and leadership have had a significant influence, reminding us of the importance of sharing the Gospel and living out our faith. During his visit, Dr Boyce spent time with our Year 6 students, who had the opportunity to ask him questions and pray for him. One of his key messages was the importance of loving people. What a wonderful reminder that, at the heart of our Christian calling, is a genuine love for others.

As we look towards the final weeks of the year, may we continue to encourage one another, celebrate the good things and, above all, finish well together.

Ngā mihi nui,
Jo









WORSHIP AND ASSEMBLY

Mr Edmeades shared at our worship assembly last week and thanked the students for the love they showed Y13 students on 'The Way'. He reminded all of us how '*the way'* reminds us of the verse in John 14:6 *"I am the way, the truth and the life.."* Knowing and loving Jesus personally and passionately is the way to knowing the Father. Mr Edmeades reminded us that we will know life at its very best if we know Jesus.





This week we heard from Mr Lewis, who works in Year 6 classes. Mr Lewis has represented New Zealand in basketball several times, most recently at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. He talked about the privilege it is to represent NZ, but more importantly he talked about the privilege it is to share his faith in Jesus with others, including team mates and fellow competitors.

commonwealth games GLASGOW 2026

CONGRATULATIONS!

Neil Lin's LEGO stop-motion film, The Time Elevator, which he created after being inspired by the LEGO Animation Competition at school, has gone on to achieve something quite special!

The film was selected as a finalist at the Misty Flicks Film Festival and won Best Youth Film. Neil had the wonderful experience of seeing his film on the big screen and going up on stage to receive his award. Congratulations Neil!













PRIMARY SPORT

Bethlehem College Kiwitag – Term 4
There are still a few places available in our Year 1–2 age groups for students who would like to get involved this term. If your child is interested in joining, or you would like further information, please contact Patric Murphy at patric.murphy@beth.school.nz. We would love to see a few more students getting involved!

NORTH CLUSTER ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the following BCP athletes (highlighted) that will go on to represent BCP at the WBOP Primary Champs!

2026 Primary North Cluster Athletics Representatives to WBOP Primary Champs Ver 1 - 18/11/26

Year 5 Girls

	60m	100m	800m *	Discus	Soft Shot	Long Jump	High Jump
1st	Cynthia Liang Waihi	Cynthia Liang Waihi	Lilly Doole Katikati	Mackenzie Tulloch Waihi	Alexis Bowman Ōmok Pt	Ellah Royackers Katikati	Alilia Faukafa BC
2nd	Luella Dickson Omok No 1	Erana Graham Ōmok Pt	Jenica Sealie Waihi	Cynthia Liang Waihi	Onyx Cottrell Katikati	Mackenzie Tulloch Waihi	Gursaira Kaur BC
3rd	Erana Graham Ōmok Pt	Luella Dickson Omok No 1		Lucina Tapuaiga Omok No1	Tiare Toomalatai Te Puna	Maria Eades BC	Erana Graham Ōmok Pt

Year 5 Boys

	60m	100m	800m *	Discus	Soft Shot	Long Jump	High Jump
1st	Braxton Hewlett Waihi	Braxton Hewlett Waihi	Braxton Hewlett Waihi	Te Ahikaa Murray Katikati	Lexus McGrath Katikati	Braxton Hewlett Waihi	Lucas Pulman BC
2nd	Austin Fisher Ōmok Pt	Austin Fisher Ōmok Pt	Max Burton Omok No1	Lucas Pulman BC	Rhythm McAlister Waihi	Braxton Darvill Waimata	Kobe Nilsson Waihi
3rd	Bradie Liliu BC	Grayson Wright Omok No1		Finn Connoley Omok No1	Reiken Myburgh BC	Max Burton Omok No1	Levi Vlamming Waihi

Year 6 Girls

	60m	100m	800m *	Discus	Soft Shot	Long Jump	High Jump
1st	Piper Urquhart BC	Maeli Poole Pahoia	Heidi Comer BC	Kaia Tierney Waihi	Helani Brown Te Puna	Maeli Poole Pahoia	Helani Brown Te Puna
2nd	Maeli Poole Pahoia	Piper Urquhart BC	Mārika Whatarau Waihi	Thea Carlyle Omok No1	Emma du Plooy BC	Piper Urquhart BC	Nina Burton-Brown Omok No1
3rd	Mehar Gill Katikati	Mehar Gill katikati		Bailey Roberts Ōmok Pt	Maeli Poole Pahoia	Sophie An BC	Mila-Jae Fleming Katikati

Year 6 Boys

	60m	100m	800m *	Discus	Soft Shot	Long Jump	High Jump
1st	Christiaan Bekker BC	Christiaan Bekker BC	Christiaan Bekker BC	Jakob Middleton Ōmok Pt	Isaac Smith Waimata	Anrich Koekemoer BC	Jake Weller Pahoia
2nd	Anrich Koekemoer BC	Anrich Koekemoer BC	Bowen Hollingsworth Ōmok Pt	Tom Bradford Omok No1	Unaiki Borell Te Puna	Christiaan Bekker BC	Zach Malaga Katikati
3rd	Anveer Singh Pahoia	Liam Martin Ōmok Pt		Anrich Koekemoer BC	Zach Malaga katikati	Jakob Middleton Ōmok Pt	Aaron Theron BC

* WBOP entries: Top 3 for each event per year group & gender, except 800m which is top 2.

North Cluster Relay Teams for WBOP

4 x 100m Year 5	4 x 100m Year 6	4 x 100m Championship
Erana Graham Ōmok Pt	Piper Urquhart BC	Cynthia Liang Waihi
Luella Dickson Omok No 1	Mehar Gill Katikati	Braxton Hewlett Waihi
Austin Fisher Ōmok Pt	Anrich Koekemoer BC	Maeli Poole Pahoia
Grayson Wright Omok No1	Liam Martin Ōmok Pt	Christiaan Bekker BC













WBOP ORIENTEERING

The Western Bay of Plenty Year 5 and 6 Orienteering Event was held on Thursday 19 November. We had 35 BC students in 13 teams of 2-3 athletes competing in the 45 minute rogaine event at McLaren Falls Park. Our orienteers received their maps 10 minutes before the start time and planned their route around part of the park to navigate to as many of the 30 controls (orange and white flags) as they could in the 45 minute time frame. Congratulations to all the orienteers on their event today. There were podium finishes for:



Year 5 Boys (12 teams):
2nd Matteus Klopper, Peter Schulz and Andy Zheng
3rd Alex Charrier Concha, Judah Stone, Benjamin Seaward

Year 5 Girls (17 teams):
1st Gursaira Kaur, Penelope Ramage, Lisa Jang
3rd Kenzi Walker, Ava Healy

Year 6 Girls (29 teams):
1st Heidi Comer, Elina Kim, Emily Mockett
3rd Julianna Withy, Eden Wratten

Thank you to the parent drivers and supporters.



Term 1 Summer Sports Registration is now OPEN! Head to our Sports page to find out more information here or sign up for your chosen sport here.









LIBRARY NEWS

Year 1 Summer Reading Club

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Every summer the school library runs a **Summer Reading Club** to encourage students to keep on reading during the holidays.

Students who are in **Year 1** can take up to **10 library books.** Students will be provided with a list of books they have chosen, as well as a carry bag.

If you would like your child to participate, please sign the permission slip below and return it to the library as soon as possible. **Books can be selected before school, during morning tea and lunch, and after school on Dec 7th, 8th and 9th**. The library is open from 7.30am - 4.00pm. **Please make a plan to help your child get these books home or feel free to come to the library to help select the books.**

The conditions for borrowing books over the summer holidays are:

- the student is returning to Bethlehem College in 2027
- the student has no outstanding books when coming to choose Summer Reading books
- parents/caregivers agree to pay for any lost or damaged books
- books will be returned by 5th February 2027

Any questions, please contact **Megan Zingel** (Head Librarian) megan.zingel@beth.school.nz.

STUDENT Name/Surname ..... **Year 1/Class**.....

- I give permission for my son/daughter to take out a maximum of 10 library books
- I undertake to ensure that all books will by returned to school by 5 February 2027.

Parent/caregiver signature .....

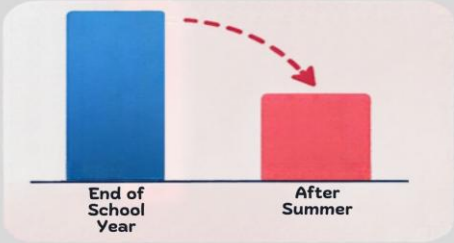
I undertake to take good care of my library books and will return all books to the school library by **5 February 2027.**

Student signature .....

Year 1 Number of library books issued
(Librarians to write number here)

The Summer Slide Is Real

The long summer holiday can have a significant impact on children's reading achievement, with many students losing some of the gains they worked hard to make during the school year.



A Little Reading Goes a Long Way

Just 15–20 minutes of reading each day can help maintain reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, ensuring children return to school ready to continue progressing rather than spending valuable learning time catching up.

Sign up for the Summer Reading Club and borrow up to 30 books for the summer holidays.















A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY!

BREWARRINA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Do you have children's books appropriate for 7 - 9 year olds that you are looking to rehome? Brewarrina Christian School in outback Australia, the school that Mr Steve Te Whaiti is the principal of, is in need of books for students. BC has a missions team heading to Brewarrina next week and they would love to be able to take books with them. If you have spare books that you are prepared to give away, please send them to school by Tuesday 24th November.

HAPPY PARENTING FROM THE SENCO

Unlock Your Child's Curiosity: The 30-Day Sensory Play Challenge - this is great for ALL children!

Ready to turn everyday moments into exciting brain-building adventures? Try our **30-Day Sensory Challenge**, designed to help children explore, regulate, and connect with the world around them through hands-on play!

Over the next month, you and your child could tackle one simple, screen-free activity each day—engaging touch, sight, sound, smell, taste, balance, and movement. From squishy homemade textures and backyard walks to calming heavy-work games, these quick activities require minimal prep and use everyday household items.

Why take the challenge?

- **Boosts Brain Development:** Builds neural connections that support language, motor skills, and problem-solving.
- **Supports Emotional Regulation:** Helps energetic kids burn off steam and gives overwhelmed kids soothing tools to calm down.
- **Encourages Curiosity:** Builds confidence as children safely explore new textures, sounds, and movements at their own pace.

No fancy supplies or hours of planning required - just 10 to 15 minutes a day of playful discovery. Let's get messy, get moving, and see the world through your child's senses!











NOTICES

- **Yearbooks:** A complimentary copy of the treasured Arotahi yearbook will be distributed first at the Leavers Dinner on the 27th and then to the eldest (without a leaver) in December.
- **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 and join us in 2027 on 2nd Monday of month during term.
- **Chapel Carols:** An invitation to the BC Community to celebrate the gift of Jesus by signing up to sing, read, play, act and more in the spirit of Christmas! Join us Friday, 27 November and enjoy a decorated chapel and a Christmas bikkie care of our cooking classes. Sign up for a 30-minute+ set here.
- **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.
- **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.












STEMwana
DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?
Call For Build Teams
NZ Chain Reaction Attempt with Joseph Herscher x SWT
19th January 2027
Participants design and build creative, Rube Goldberg-style chain reactions.
Register team by 15 Dec:
stemwana.nz/joseph


WAIMARINO EDUCATION TRUST
SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
2026: 14TH – 23RD DEC
2027: 4TH – 29TH JAN
8AM TO 6PM
DAILY FEE:
ONSITE $60
OFFSITE $65*
ADD LUNCH FOR JUST $23
Our Holiday Programme is packed with fun, excitement and unforgettable experiences! From action-packed days at Waimarino Adventure Park to exciting off-site adventures exploring the amazing attractions our region has to offer, there's always something to look forward to. It's more than just holiday care — it's a chance for your child to try new things, discover new interests, build confidence, make great friends and create memories that last long after the holidays are over!
WE OFFER A MORNING & EVENING BUS SERVICE! TURN OVER FOR BUS SCHEDULE
BOOK ONLINE: WAIMARINOTRUST.CO.NZ
OSCAR@WAIMARINOTRUST.CO.NZ
07 576 4233
FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK! @WAIMARINOEDUCATIONTRUST
*SOME ADVENTURES MAY HAVE AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE, SEE ENROLMY FOR INFO


ACTIVE LEARNER


SERVANT HEARTED


COURAGEOUS THINKER


TEAM PLAYER