

SHC Heartbeat

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart

Issue 2
February 2025



From the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa	Namaste
Talofa lava	Welkom
Fakaalofa lahi atu	Herzlich Willkommen
Kia orana	Witamy
Mālō e lelei	Nǐ hǎo
	Mālō ni

Mana Tangata

A Heart for the People

- ♥ I treat others the way I would like to be treated
- ♥ I actively listen to my teachers and peers
- ♥ I take responsibility for my actions
- ♥ I encourage others

Nau mai, haere mai, e te whānau

We have had a busy few weeks as the school year officially gets underway, and it is wonderful to reflect on the positive energy that has defined this time. It was a privilege to see so many students giving their best at our Athletics Day last Tuesday. The leadership displayed by our Year 13 students was exceptional, and the House spirit was truly inspiring. The event was a wonderful celebration of participation and athletic excellence, with students encouraging one another to do their best.

This week, our Year 13 students were away on retreat, an important part of our college calendar. This time of reflection allows them to pause, contemplate, and focus on the year ahead. It is an opportunity for our students to reflect on what it means to be a leader and to deepen their understanding of faith in our lives. It serves as a reminder that we are not alone in our journey.

Attendance has also been a key focus for us all, and it is pleasing to see an increase in student engagement. Many students are prioritising their education by ensuring they arrive at school on time and ready to learn, which is a crucial step towards academic success.

Looking ahead, we have our **Kōrero ā Whānau** next week. I encourage all parents and caregivers to take the time to meet with your child and their Ako teacher. This partnership is vital in understanding your child's needs and supporting them in achieving their goals. These meetings foster a collaborative approach that ensures each student thrives.

This year, as a Catholic community, we are embracing the **Year of Hope – Tuumanako**, with a particular focus on the **Contemplative Heart**. Central to our journey is the Catholic social teaching principle of **Human Dignity**, which calls us to recognise and honour the inherent worth of every person. The formation of a community of hope begins with seeing the dignity in ourselves and others, and using that understanding as a foundation for personal growth. Striving to become the best versions of ourselves, we respond to our call with passion, courage, and conviction, rooted in the belief that each individual is created in the image and likeness of God. By upholding human dignity, we create a community that supports and nurtures hope, fostering a culture of respect and care for all.

As we emphasise the importance of **whānau** – our relationships and connections – we recognise the responsibilities we share to nurture a thriving community. Whanaungatanga is about more than just knowing each other's names; it is about building strong, meaningful connections that make a real difference. **He oranga ngākahu, he pikinga waiora** – when the heart is well, everything is well.

Our Gospel focus for the year is **The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)**. Mary, chosen to be the woman through whom the Messiah would come into the world, listened, discerned, and said “yes” to participating in God's plan. Her response reminds us that with faith and hope, anything is possible. This calls us to be people of hope, saying yes and bringing hope and love to others.

In the words of **Euphrasie Barbier**, founder of the Mission Sisters: *‘Where charity and union of hearts reign in community, the Lord is there. Guard this precious treasure well.’*

Once again, welcome to **The Year of Hope, Contemplation, and Whanaungatanga**. Together, we will continue to build a community of hope, care, and connection.

Ngā mihi nui
Katrina Kerr-Bell, Principal

Kōrero ā Whānau Tuesday 25 February

A reminder that student 3-way conferences with Kaiārahi, students, and whānau take place next week on Tuesday 25 February from 11.30am until 7.30pm. Students work from home on this day.

All students are expected to make a booking with their Kaiārahi. Each student will have a discussion sheet for discussion at home and for you to bring to the conference.

If you haven't yet booked, please do so through the school Portal.

Any problems, contact your student's Kaiārahi or Ngaira Sewell on sewelln@sacredheartcollege.school.nz

There will be NCEA presentations in the PAC at 1.00pm and 5.00pm. Please come to find out how NCEA works and how you can help your student work to their potential.

Parental Permission for Student Use of Google Apps

Further to our email on 13 February requesting parental permission for students to use Google Apps here is the information again.

As part of Google's push for greater protection for students, Google requires Sacred Heart College to get parental permission to use the following Google apps. All apps are ones that we use (or might use) for educational purposes in the classroom:

- Blogger
- Chrome Web Store

- Google Arts and Culture
- Google Earth
- Google Maps
- Google Photos
- Google Play (students can only access a list of allowed apps)
- Google Translate
- Managed Google Play
- YouTube

We require permission for all students. Please give consent by completing the form using the link below.

[Link to Google Apps Permission Form](#)

New Staff

Bandana Reshmi

Kia Ora and Bula everyone,

I'm Bandana Reshmi, and I'm excited to share that I've recently made the big move to beautiful New Zealand. With 13 years' experience teaching Science, I'm passionate about creating an inclusive and engaging learning environment. I feel very lucky to be a part of the Sacred Heart College community, where I get to work with incredible students, staff, and whānau.

In my free time, I love spending quality moments with my whānau and am always excited to learn more about New Zealand's culture and people. I'm looking forward to the wonderful journey ahead and can't wait to continue building meaningful connections with everyone here.

Kurt Richards

Kia ora, my name is Kurt, and I am one of the new additions to the team at Sacred Heart College this year.

I lived most of my life in Palmerston North before making the move to Te Whanganui-a-Tara to study teaching. This is the final year of my journey with Te Herenga Waka, VUW, and I'm excited to be taking that step with you all at SHC.

My specialty is in English, but I have a deep love for sports, music, movies, and my ever-growing whānau. 2025 is an exciting year for me here at SHC and I look forward to teaching and learning alongside you all.



He mihi nui me te aroha ki a **Prezley Easthope** rāua ko **Hinetai Porter-Samuels**.

Prezley and Hinetai are off this week to compete at Matatini in Taranaki as part of Ngā Taonga Mai Tawhiti roopu. We are so proud of you both and wish you the best of luck. Kia kaha.



Mademarie De Jager

Hello, I am Mademarie De Jager. My family and I arrived from South Africa on 20 January 2025.

I have been teaching Mathematics for 15 years. I am passionate about fostering a positive and engaging learning environment where every student feels valued, challenged, and supported.

My goal is to help students grow academically, socially, and emotionally, while also encouraging a love for learning that will last a lifetime.

I am very excited about being a part of the Sacred Heart College community.



New Zealand Scholarship

Congratulations to **Viktoriya Lyubich** (Year 13 2024) who received a Scholarship in History, and of course our teacher behind the scenes, Anna Peszynski. We had two Year 12 students who were only 1 mark behind and another only 2 marks behind.



Our Sacred Heart community is extremely proud of all our students, and the dedication and effort they put into their studies. Well done!

Relay for Life – Saturday 5 April - Sunday 6 April

Sacred Heart College is entering a school team in the 2025 Relay for Life (SHC Lions). Our aim as a school is to raise \$15 000.



An email has been sent to all parents. If your student wishes to take part, permission slips attached to the email need to be approved by a caregiver. Hard copies can also be obtained from the school office.

The early bird price of \$15 is payable online to Relay for Life and expires on 28 February.

[Link to Relay for Life website](#)

What's On

Check the school calendar at www.sacredheartcollege.school.nz

Week 5A

Theme: Mana Tangata

25 Feb Kōrero ā Whānau Meetings (Students Working from Home)

26 Feb Māori Achieve (lunchtime) Atawhai
Homework Club (3.30-4.30pm) Library
Te Huatai Katorika Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) PAC
Whānau Hui (6.00-7.00pm) Atawhai
School Board Meeting (7.00-8.30pm) Library

27 Feb Big Sister (3.30-4.30pm)
Poly Club Practice (4.30-6.00pm)

1 Mar Talanoa Pacific Learners (9.30am-3.00pm) Library

2 Mar Dragon Boating Fun Day (8.00am-4.00pm) Ara Moana

Week 6B

Theme: Mana Tangata

3-4 Mar Junior Dance Ticket Sales (lunchtimes) Lawson Foyer

4 Mar Peer Support (2.35-3.20pm)
Poly Club Practice (2.45-4.00pm)

5 Mar Ash Wednesday
Māori Achieve (lunchtime) Atawhai
Te Huatai Katorika Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) PAC

6 Mar Big Sister (3.30-4.30pm)
Poly Club Practice (4.30-6.00pm)

6-7 Mar Year 9 Camp

7 Mar Junior Dance (7.00-10.00pm) St Pat's Silverstream

Looking ahead:

15-16 Mar DOE Gold Practice Tramp (Kaitoke Regional Park)

23-30 Mar Summer Tournament Week

26 Mar School Board Meeting (7.00-8.30pm) Library

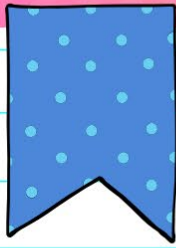
Athletics Day

House points

Lisieux	607
Avila	587
Siena	523
Lourdes	475
Aubert	457
Barbier	408

Athletics Day



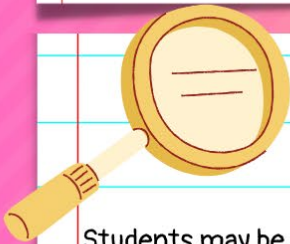
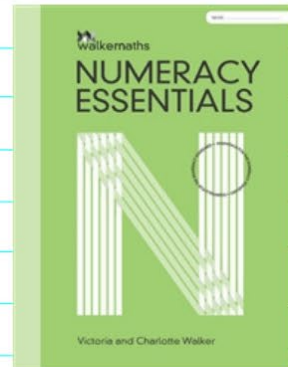


Numeracy Preparation

01

Work on your level 4 skills

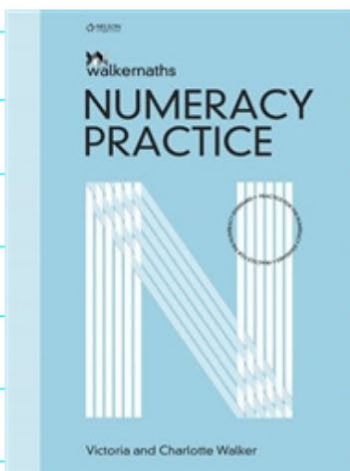
The Maths covered in the Numeracy CAA is mainly curriculum level 4 (some early level 5). The Walker Numeracy Essentials workbook is a useful resource.



Identify and work on your gaps

02

Students may be set assignments on Education Perfect focusing on Numeracy skills. From this, one skill will be identified and a lesson set to work on at home. This will support students to develop their skills. Please support your students to complete this mahi.



03

Exam Readiness

Do exam paper practice. There are past exams available via NZQA and you can purchase a Walker Maths workbook if you would like more. If you would like copies of the resources for home use, they are available to purchase through Office Max or Cengage.

Additional Information for Whānau -
<https://ncea.education.govt.nz/supporting-akonga-and-whanau>