

SHC Heartbeat

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart

Issue 6
May 2025



From the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa
Talofa lava
Fakaalofa lahi atu
Kia orana
Mālō e lelei

Namaste
Welkom
Herzlich Willkommen
Witamy
Nǐ hǎo Mālō ni

Enrolment for 2026

Enrolments are now open
to Year 9s in 2026

Apply to Enrol Online Now

[SHC Application to Enrol](#)

Nau mai, haere mai, e te whānau,

In our Catholic tradition, we look to those who have walked before us with wisdom and faith. This term holiday had a number of significant events: Easter, ANZAC Day, and the passing of Pope Francis. We reflect on the life and legacy of Pope Francis, a humble servant, a courageous teacher, and a tireless advocate for the poor, the Earth, and the forgotten.

Pope Francis reminded the world that faith is not just words, it is action. That leadership is not about power it is about service. And that the Church is most alive when it walks with the wounded, speaks for the voiceless, and lives with joy, justice, and love. He showed us that simplicity is strength, that humility is holiness, and that every act of kindness has the power to shape the world.

Micah 6:8 says, "This is what the Lord asks of you: only this – to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God." This verse captures so much of what Pope Francis lived and taught: Justice with compassion. Love without condition. Humility grounded in faith.

As we start this term, it is good for us to look ahead and ensure our students are well prepared, that they have enough sleep, and that they are making the most of the opportunities offered to them. The CAAs are coming up in Week 4 for our Year 10, 11, and some Year 12 students. Encourage your students to make the most of the tutorials on offer at school, such as Big Sister on Thursday from 3:30-4:30, Homework Club on Wednesday from 3:30-4:30, and lunchtime tutorials on Wednesday and Thursday.

May this be our mission: To lead with love. To teach with mercy. To disrupt with hope. To bring light where there is darkness. And in the spirit of Euphrasie, may we be filled with zeal.

Ngā mihi nui

Katrina Kerr-Bell, Principal

Attendance

We have been focusing on Attendance and as part of our focus we have had the "Seen More" lunch challenge. Last term's winners were:

9JO 95.7%
10RL 93.40%
11RH 92.5%
12SL 93.8%
13 KK 89.5%



The Ako class at each year level with the highest overall attendance were treated to a pizza lunch. Here is 9JO enjoying their lunch.

Attendance Reporting

We are trialling a new attendance report system. You will receive a weekly summary report. Feedback is always welcome.

No Phones Policy

We would like to remind you to have a discussion at home about our 'No Phones Policy'. We are aware that some students have been able to outfox our teachers and been using their phones undetected in class. We believe that purchasing 60 lockboxes for classrooms is not a good investment when we all need to be learning the skill of self-management.

Please avoid texting your student during the school day, as this provides a temptation for them to respond. If you need to contact your student, please contact the school office, or ask your student to inform their teacher that they are expecting a message and can have their phone out.

Kōrero ā Whānau

Thank you to all of you who were able to attend interviews for our Year 9 & 10 students on Tuesday. We appreciate this partnership and encourage you to make contact if you have any questions or concerns.

NetSafe

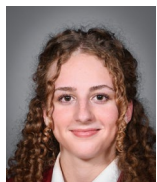
As parents and caregivers, it's crucial to stay informed about the online activities of our children. Netsafe is a fantastic resource that offers valuable tips and guidance for navigating the digital world. You can explore their website at <https://netsafe.org.nz/>

We are aware that young people might use their own data to bypass filtering systems, which can expose them to unsafe websites. Recently, we've heard rumours that students have been using the website Omegle. This platform can be particularly risky as it allows users to chat with strangers.

Please take a moment to talk to your student about making good decisions online and understanding the importance of knowing who they are interacting with. Open communication and awareness are key to ensuring their safety.

For more tips and information, check out Netsafe's resources.

Sophie Mayo – Head of Academics



Kia Ora, my name is Sophie Mayo, and I am honoured to be your Head of Academics for 2025. I am dedicated to ensuring that every student at Sacred Heart receives the upmost support to flourish in their studies. I moved to New Zealand from London in 2013 and, like many others, have faced my share of academic challenges. With the support of my family and kura I learned the value of perseverance and discovered the opportunities that can come when you keep pushing forward. My journey has taken me from Auckland to London through different science forums, where I've had the privilege of learning from students and teachers from around the world. This year, I hope to give back by helping ensure that no student feels lost or overwhelmed, and that every student has the chance to reach their full potential. Education should empower, not intimidate, and I'm excited for the year ahead.

Vienna Serpa – Head of Performing Arts



Hola, my name is Vienna Serpa, and I am so, so excited to be Head of Performing Arts for 2025. My role this year is to help support, grow and promote our amazing Performing Arts Department. I am often told that I'm suited to this role as I have a very dramatic personality and am heard before I am seen. I've been involved in Performing Arts at Sacred Heart since Year 9 when I started playing the saxophone. Since then, I've taken Drama and Music, been involved in several bands and picked up drums as a second instrument. I also debate, play Water Polo for the school, and serve on our Mission and Special Character Councils. When I'm not at school you'll find me at the pool working as a lifeguard, swimming, chatting, or out and about with my friends, family and dog Stu.

Voices of Aroha

In partnership with Voice of Aroha, the Ministry of Education's Community Partnerships Team invited our school to participate in the 2025 Academic Awards Night for students from diverse ethnic backgrounds in Wellington secondary schools. This was an opportunity to celebrate Wellington's growing ethnic diversity and acknowledge the academic successes of our ethnic students and their families.

The Community Partnerships Team via Learning Community Hubs have strengthened connections between ethnic students, families and communities with teachers, schools and local agencies to support attendance and achievement. We would like to acknowledge and celebrate our combined efforts.

Congratulations to **Tahina Andriatovoaritsoa** and **Aarna Dahiya** who were the Sacred Heart Voices of Aroha recipients in recognition of their academic achievement and commitment to our school community.



What's On

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

Week 3A

Theme: Mana Tipuna

Rotuman Language Week

Support Staff Week

- 13 May O'Shea Rehearsal (p2) PAC
Poly Club Practice (2.45-4.00pm)
O'Shea Drama Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) C6
- 14 May Māori Achieve (lunchtime) Atawhai
ShowQuest Rehearsal (lunchtime) PAC
Homework Club (3.30-4.30pm) Library
O'Shea Drama Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) C6
Te Hua Tai Katorika Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) SBC
Whānau Hui (6.00-7.00pm) Atawhai
- 15-17 May O'Shea Shield Whanganui
- 15 May Big Sister (3.30-4.30pm)
Poly Club Practice (4.30-6.00pm)
- 16 May Non-Uniform – Pink Shirt Day
Kapa Haka Rehearsals (lunchtime) PAC
ShowQuest Rehearsal (3.30-5.00pm) PAC
- 17-18 May Te Hua Tai Katorika Noho Marae (Ōrongomai Marae)
- 17-19 May DOE Silver Expedition (Queen Charlotte Sound)

Looking Ahead:

Week 4B

- 21 May CAAs Round 1 (Yr 10 working from home if not sitting exams)
School Board Meeting (7.00-8.30pm) Library
- 22 May CAAs Round 1 (Yr 11 working from home if not sitting exams)
- 23 May CAAs Round 1 (Yr 11 working from home)

Week 5A

- 28 May Catholic Schools Day
- 30 May-1 Jun Mission Cup/Te Toa

Cancer Society Relay for Life

On 5-6 April, nearly 400 students and teachers from SHC participated in Relay for Life, a remarkable fundraising event for the Cancer Society. This team-based, overnight event saw participants running or walking around a track to raise both awareness and money to fight against cancer. This year's Wellington event took place at Sky Stadium, offering a variety of activities, ceremonies, and entertainment, including a silent disco and a candlelight ceremony. It was an inspiring event, witnessing everyone's participation towards this meaningful cause. SHC successfully raised over \$34,000, surpassing our initial fundraising goal by more than double! The 2nd highest fundraisers in Wellington. **Arnika Lahood, Head of Wellbeing**



Easter Liturgy

A joyful Easter celebration was held on the first Tuesday of term. Students from our Special Character Council and Mission Council created flowers to cover the cross as a symbol of the hope of new life that comes from the resurrection.



Te Awakairangi Parish

Thank you to the team who created a poster reflecting the Year of Jubilee for the churches in Te Awakairangi Parish.

Anuva Singh, Eden Roewen, Ella Laban-Walsh and Pippa Hookham, led by our Tuakana Jess Devery. Fr Raja and the Parish are grateful for the hard work you put into making this poster eye catching and informative. The posters are on display in all the churches in the parish.



New Webpace for Parents and Whānau Current Mostly Relevant to Year 0-8

A new webpace is available that provides practical videos, activities, and resources to support learning. It is easy to understand, empowering whānau to take a more active role in their child's education.

The webpace includes 'parent-friendly' versions of both the New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga of Aotearoa, so they'll know exactly what their child is learning, why it's important, and when they'll be learning it.

You can explore the new webpace and view the available resources here: [Parent Portal – Ministry of Education](#)

Catholic Social Services

Housing Forum Workshop 9:30am-12:30pm Saturday 17 May 2025, St Bernadette's Naenae

The Archdiocesan Ecology Justice and Peace Commission invites everyone interested in tackling issues of homelessness to join us, as we bring together creative ideas and collaborate with organisations working in this space, to make a difference informed and inspired by Catholic Social Teaching. For more information contact Deirdre Meskill, Community Facilitator, Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz

Aroha Afternoons in Te Awa Kairangi Tuesday 20 May 2025, 12:30pm-1:30pm Teen floor, War Memorial Library, 2 Queens Drive

Come and share lunchtime with people from diverse backgrounds. There will be conversation, stories, fun and kai. Everyone is welcome. A contribution of finger food for shared kai is appreciated. For more information contact Deirdre Meskill, Community Facilitator, Catholic Social Services d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz

Aroha Afternoons bring people in communities together, building connections across the spaces between us

Sport

Outside School Achievements

Basketball: Congratulations to **Athena Papalii** and **Nevayah Marino** who were part of the Ball Never Lies U13 team who were runners up at the JSC tournament over the April school holidays.



Floorball: Congratulations to **Jayde Ashton** for being selected into the Floorball New Zealand Under 19 training squad. A great achievement.



Hockey: Well done to **Zoey Kumar, Abby Martin-Richardson** and **Olivia McIntyre** for your selection to the Wellington Under 18 Gold team to compete in Nationals in July.

Netball: Well done to students selected to represent Netball Hutt Valley:

Under 16 Gold team: **Jada Tetevano, Kayla Little, Rylee-Callayan Roper, Yasmin Holsted-Russo**

Under 16 Green team: **Briarly Kassey, Luse Duff-Touhuni**

Under 16 White team: **Carly Tapa, Jordyn Gardiner and Tamara Wilson**

Rugby League

NZRL National Youth 9s (19-20 April) The following students have been selected for the Orcas U16 team and U18 teams:

Orcas U16 – 2nd Place: **Rangitiare Graham** (Co-captain), **Maia Mapakaitolo** (Co-captain), **Taliah Mapakaitolo, Talia Timoteo, Blaire Apu'ula**

Orcas U18 - **Aamai Roberts**, (past students Riana Le'afa-Paki, Fanua Rimoni)

Aotearoa NZ Māori Rugby League Nationals (25-27 April) The following students competed in the Ngā Hau e Whā o Wainuiomata Marae (NHEW) U14, U15 & U17 teams:

NHEW U14: **Leah-Ray Roil, Milan Leo-Patea, Prisaiis Hunt**

NHEW U15: **Talia Timoteo, Ella-Jireh Fonoti, Eva Roil**

NHEW U17 – 1st Place & Best Haka: **Aamai Roberts, Mārie Winitana-Patelesio, Maia Mapakaitolo, Taliah Mapakaitolo, Rangitiare Graham**

Congratulations to **Leah-Ray Roil, Maia Mapakaitolo** and **Taliah Mapakaitolo** for their selection as part of the Tournament Team.



Swimming:

Congratulations to **Madeleine Wilson** who competed at the National Age Group Swimming Championships in Hawke's Bay over the holidays. Madeleine medalled in all her age group events, winning Gold in the 50m freestyle, 50m butterfly and 200m freestyle events, and Silver in the 100m freestyle and 4x50m freestyle relay.

