

SHC Heartbeat

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart

Issue 17
November 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

Mana Whenua

A Heart for the Land

- ♥ I care for God's world
- ♥ I leave classrooms clean and tidy
- ♥ I help keep the school litter free
- ♥ I respect all school property

Nau mai, haere mai, e te whānau,

This Sunday's Gospel, taken from **John 2:13–22**, recounts Jesus driving the money changers out of the Temple, declaring, "Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" It is a powerful reminder of the importance of honouring sacred spaces and maintaining integrity in our actions. As we approach the end of the school year and the Christmas break, this message resonates with our shared commitment to uphold the values and standards of our school community.

Attendance Matters

Attendance continues to be both a **national priority** and a **school priority**. We ask families to please respect the school calendar and avoid booking holidays during term time. In Term 2, **5%** of our students travelled overseas, and in Term 3, this rose to **6%**. These absences have a significant impact on learning and progress. Every day at school counts.

Uniform and Presentation Standards

We appreciate your support in maintaining our school's expectations around uniform and personal presentation. A reminder that **facial piercings are not permitted**, this includes **nose and eyebrow piercings**. Students may wear a **maximum of two earrings per ear**. If students arrive at school with additional piercings, they will be asked to remove them. Sandals are part of our summer uniform; they are to be brown and have a back strap. These standards help reinforce a sense of pride and belonging, and we thank you for your continued support.

ERO and NZQA Updates

We had anticipated a visit from the **Education Review Office (ERO)** last week, but this has been postponed due to a bereavement within the ERO team. We now expect their visit to take place in **Term 1, 2026**.

Meanwhile, **NZQA exams** began last Tuesday with **Level 2 Statistics**. It has been encouraging to see our senior students engaging with tutorials and making the most of the support offered by staff. We wish all our students the very best for the remainder of their exams.

Welcoming our 2026 Year 9s

Today, we were delighted to welcome our incoming **2026 Year 9 students** for transition day. It is a successful event, designed to ease nerves and help students feel confident about starting college.

Upcoming Events

As we prepare for the final few weeks of the term, we look forward to several exciting events, including **Year 9 marae visits** and the **Year 10 camp**.

Let us continue to work together to support our young people in finishing the year well, grounded in respect, responsibility, and readiness for the future.

Ngā manaakitaka

Katrina Kerr-Bell, Principal

9SC - Season of Creation Competition

Last term we learnt about how we can be kaitiaki of creation, which means looking after and preserving the Earth because it is a gift given



to us by God. We discussed how we, as kaitiaki, can protect the environment by doing small actions such as donating clothes so they can be used again, reducing waste by using reusable containers, and thinking about how every small choice we make can create a bigger impact on the world around us. To put our learning into action and deepen our understanding of being kaitiaki, our class entered the St Columbans Mission Society 2025 Season of Creation competition. We are proud to say that two students from our class were selected as winners: **Lexi Brickell** for the art category and **Jazarrah Tala** for the poetry category. Overall, it was a meaningful experience that has encouraged us to care for the land that God has gifted us.

Jazarrah Tala

Sport

College Sports Wellington Sports Person of the Year Awards 2025

Congratulations **Maya McLay** (Water Polo Player of the Year) and **Madeleine Wilson** (Swimmer of the Year) for winning the awards at the CSW SPOTY Awards earlier this month. **Sueanna William Ah Ken** was a finalist in the Volleyball code category.

Sacred Heart also received the pennants for Volleyball and Girls Ki-O-Rahi for winning the premier College Sport competitions.



CSW Junior Volleyball Tournament

The school had a great tournament with our Cubs Year 10 team making it to the Division 1 semi-finals finishing 4th.

Our Tigers Year 9 team won Division 2 in a close final against Onslow College.

Congratulations to **Jahzel Ben-Tupuola** (10EG) for being named in the tournament team (best in their position) for the tournament. We are so proud of both our young volleyball teams.

What's On

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

Week 6B

Theme: Mana Whenua

NCEA Exams

14 Nov No NCEA Exams due to Canterbury Anniversary
CSW Touch Junior Tournament (Fraser Park)
Year 8 Transition Day (9.30am-2.00pm)
Junior Choir Performance (12.30-2.20pm) Enliven

Week 7B

Theme: Mana Whenua

NCEA Exams

Year 9 Mathematics Exams

18-21 Nov Volleyball LNISS Junior Satellite (Te Rauparaha)
21 Nov Softball CSW Junior Champs (Fraser Park)
Jazz Combo Performance (5.40-8.30pm) Wellington
Regional Business Excellence Awards

Looking ahead:

25 Nov Yr 10 Tournament Day
26-27 Nov Yr 9 Marae & DOE Days
1-3 Dec Yr 10 Camp
4 Dec Junior Prize Giving (11.30am) Last day

Start of Year 2026

Week 1	Time	Year Level
Mon 26 Jan	8.00am	Office Opens
	9.00am-3.00pm	Student Leadership Planning Day
Tues 27 Jan	Staff Only Day	
	8.00-10.00am	Uniform Shop Open
Wed 28 Jan	Staff Only Day	
Thur 29 Jan	8.00-10.00am	Uniform Shop
	8.45am-3.20pm	Year 9 Orientation Day starting with Powhiri
	8.45am-3.20pm	Year 12 Peer Supporters
	9.00am-12.00pm	Course Confirmation (Senior)
	10.00-11.30am	International Student Orientation
Fri 30 Jan	8.45am-2.45pm	Year 9 Special Character Day
	8.45am-2.45pm	Year 12 Peer Supporters
	2.00-2.45pm	Year 9 Liturgy
	2.45pm	Year 9 Whānau BBQ
Week 2	Time	Year Level
Mon 2 Feb	8.00-9.00am	Uniform Shop Open
	8.45am-3.20pm	Whole School

See our school website for [2026 Term Dates](#)

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

WORLD DAY of THE POOR

DILEXI TE on POVERTY

To mark World Day of the Poor,
join with the Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission
to reflect on Pope Leo's new text on poverty, Dilexi Te, and
issues of Poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand in the light of
Catholic Social Teaching.

6:30pm-8pm

18 November 2025

ONLINE EVENT

Register to attend online at <https://surl.ms/LGb>

