

# SHC Heartbeat

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart



Issue 2  
February 2026



## From the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa	Namaste
Tālofa lava	Welkom
Fakaalofa lahi atu	Herzlich Willkommen
Kia orana	Witamy
Mālō e lelei	Nĩ 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, and a very warm welcome to the 2026 school year.

This week we celebrated the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday, Pope Leo has written a challenge for us on abstinence. "I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace."

Ngā manaakitanga  
**Katrina Kerr-Bell**  
Principal

## Kōrero ā Whānau

A huge thank you to everyone who was able to make it to our Kōrero ā Whānau. We appreciate that having a working-from-home day so early in the year can feel disruptive, and we want to acknowledge the concerns some of you have shared.

These early Ako meetings play an important role in building strong relationships between whānau and Ako teachers. They give us the time and space for meaningful conversations and help set a positive foundation for the year ahead.

When we have strong school whānau partnerships, it becomes easier to connect about small issues, so they stay small. If you have a question or concern, please reach out. When we know each other well, we are far less likely to be misunderstood or to miscommunicate.

As always, we ask that communication with staff assumes positive intent. Our teachers are working hard to do their very best for your daughter. Positive communication and kind words bring out the best in all of us.

## ERO

This week we had a visit from the Education Review Office. It was good to have them with us and have an external review of how we are going and areas for growth.

## Monday's Weather

Thank you so much for your support on Monday when we closed due to the weather. We have had you all in our prayers and hope that you have not been badly affected. We had some minor damage but feel blessed to see the calm weather return.

## Year 9 and 13 Retreats

It was wonderful to see our students all away overnight. I am sure they will be tired and I hope they have had a fantastic time. It is a mammoth task arranging this and I am grateful to our staff who are willing to stay overnight.

## Attendance

Our school-wide attendance goal is 90%. To the right is a look at our Term 1 attendance from last year (2025). We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring your students are at school and ready for learning each day.

We know that, at times, attendance can be challenging for a range of reasons. If you are finding it difficult to get your student to school, or if you would like some support, **please get in touch with us**. We are here to help and to work alongside you to ensure the best outcomes for your young person.

### Term 1 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

■ Regular Attendance

# 68%

Compared to 59% in Term 1, 2024

■ Irregular Absence 19%  
Compared to 24% in Term 1, 2024

■ Moderate Absence 9%  
Compared to 9% in Term 1, 2024

■ Chronic Absence 4%  
Compared to 8% in Term 1, 2024

What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

1. ■ (M) Illness / Medical Absence 60%
2. ■ (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 14%
3. ■ (J) Explained and Approved 12%
4. ■ (?) Unknown (Temporary) 6%
5. ■ (G) Holiday 4%

## House Dean Profiles

### Aubert – Erica Tuese

Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, and Warm Pacific Greetings.

My name is Erica Eila Tuese and I am the House Dean for Aubert House at Sacred Heart College, 2026. I also teach English and Pacific Performing Arts and look after the Junior Poly Group this year.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead and getting amongst bringing the House spirit back to our kura. It's going to be awesome. Go Green, Go Aubert, Go Sacred Heart College!

Fa'afetai tele lava, Mālō 'aupito and God bless.



### Avila – Levaea Lia-Ramese

Talofa lava,

My name is Levaea Lia-Ramese, and I am privileged to be the House Dean for Avila House this year. Alongside this role, I am a teacher of Physical Education and Health, Pacific Performing Arts, and the Pacific Support Teacher for the Senior Poly Club.

I am passionate about supporting our students to grow in confidence, wellbeing, culture and achievement, both inside and outside the classroom. I look forward to working closely with our Avila students, staff, and whānau to create a positive and encouraging environment where every student feels valued and supported. I am excited for the year ahead and the many opportunities it will bring for our Avila community at Sacred Heart College.



### Lourdes – Tim Baxter

Kia ora my name is Tim Baxter and I am the Lourdes House Dean. Our values in Lourdes are Hope, Faith, Humility and Perseverance and those values come from our patron saint, St Bernadette of Lourdes.

This year I am looking forward to being a House Dean and to bringing a greater sense of pride to our house system. Our senior student leaders of Lourdes are a wonderful group with Addison as our captain and Isabella and Tiana as our leaders. We are looking forward to Athletics Day and other house events to help establish Lourdes as the house that students are proud to be part of.



## What's On

Check the school calendar at [www.sacredheartcollege.school.nz](http://www.sacredheartcollege.school.nz)

### Week 5A Mana Tangata

(See attached Sport Trials and Preseasons Schedule)

#### Performing Arts Workshops

- 23 Feb Year 9 Sport Academy (9.00am-1.00pm)
- 24 Feb Homework Club (3.30-4.30pm) Library
- 24 Feb Poly Group Rehearsal (3.30-5.00pm) PAC & Foyer
- 25 Feb Touch CSW Senior Tournament (all day) Hutt Park
- 25 Feb Māori Achieve (lunchtime) Atawhai
- 25 Feb Yr 9 Peer Support (2.35-3.20pm)
- 25 Feb Te Huatai Katorika Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) PAC
- 25 Feb School Board Meeting (7.00-8.30pm) Library
- 26 Feb Big Sister (3.30-4.30pm) Library
- 26 Feb Junior Poly Group Rehearsal (3.30-4.30pm) PAC
- 26 Feb Senior Poly Group Rehearsal (4.30-5.30pm) PAC
- 27 Feb Staff v Students Volleyball (lunchtime) Gym
- 27 Feb Production Auditions (3.30-6.00pm) PAC
- 1 Mar Dragon Boating CSW & NZSS Comp (Frank Kitts)

### Week 6B Mana Tangata

(See attached Sport Trials and Preseasons Schedule)

- 2-4 Mar RNDM Retreat (El Rancho)
- 3 Mar **Athletics Day** (Hutt Rec)
- 3 Mar Kilikiti CSW Senior Tournament (Fraser Park)
- 4 Mar Māori Achieve (lunchtime) Atawhai
- 4 Mar Wellbeing Council Meeting (1.00-1.40pm)
- 4 Mar Yr 9 Peer Support (2.35-3.20pm)
- 5 Mar Te Huatai Katorika Rehearsal (5.00-7.00pm) PAC
- 5 Mar KI-o-Rahi CSW Senior Champs
- 5 Mar Massy University Intro (lunchtime) P4
- 5 Mar Big Sister (3.30-4.30pm) Library
- 5 Mar Junior Poly Group Rehearsal (3.30-4.30pm) PAC
- 5 Mar Senior Poly Group Rehearsal (4.30-5.30pm) PAC
- 6 Mar SHC International Women's Day Celebration
- 6 Mar Volleyball CSW Seniors (Ākau Tangi Sport Centre)
- 6 Mar Canterbury University Intro (lunchtime) P4
- 6 Mar Production Auditions (3.30-6.00pm) PAC
- 6 Mar St Pat's Junior Dance (details TBC)

## Athletics Day - Tuesday 3 March

Start thinking about what you're going to wear. Leaders will announce the theme on Wednesday 25 Feb.



## New SHC Careers Website

We are thrilled to announce the launch of **CareerWise**, our new website that keeps students and whānau up to date with everything careers-related at SHC. It is regularly updated with careers events, tertiary news, scholarships, job opportunities, and other resources that will help students discover their future pathway. [sacredheartcollege.careerwise.school](http://sacredheartcollege.careerwise.school)

*Holly Hueston, Careers Development*

## Homework Club

Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm  
Library

Cancelled on Athletics Day  
3 March

## Sport

### Outside School Achievements

#### Football

Congratulations to **Jade Wood** (AV12GT), for her selection to represent Māori Football U16 in New Caledonia later this year. We look forward to hearing how the event goes.



#### Softball

Well done to **Madi Nuttall** (S9JP) on representing Hutt Valley Softball in the U13s Rookie Sox Tournament at Waitangi Weekend. Madi was Captain of her team and led them to 3rd place in the Girls' division.

She was also named in the best tournament team in acknowledgement of her efforts and skills over the three-day tournament.



#### Touch

Congratulations to students **Carly Tapa** (LI11DB) and **Payton Austin** (AV11CY) who were part of the Wellington Touch Rugby U16 mixed team that won the gold medal at the Touch Nationals in the weekend. A great achievement.



### Term 1 and 2 Sport (Winter) Trials

Winter sport registrations close on Friday 20 February. Make sure you register on SchoolBridge to receive trial and preseason updates.

Winter sports include Badminton, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Rugby League, Table Tennis.

**Trial and Preseason dates and times** – see the schedule on page 4 of this newsletter.



# Sacred Heart College

## 2026 Trial / Preseason Dates and Times for Term 2 and 3 Sport - Registrations close 20 February

Code	Day	Date	Year Level	Time	Venue
<b>Badminton</b>					
Preseason	Friday	27-Feb	9,10,11,12 and 13	4.00-5.30pm	Badminton Hall Naenae, Vogel St
Junior Trial	Thursday	12-Mar	9 and 10	3.30-5.30pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Senior Trial	Thursday	19-Mar	11, 12 and 13	3.30-5.30pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
<b>Basketball</b>					
Junior trial 1	Thursday	26-Feb	9 and 10	3.30-5.00pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Junior trial 2	Thursday	5-Mar	9 and 10	3.30-5.00pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Senior trial 1	Thursday	26-Feb	11, 12 and 13	5.00-6.30pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Senior trial 2	Thursday	5-Mar	11, 12 and 13	5.00-6.30pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
<b>Football</b>					
Junior	Wednesday	11-Mar	9 and 10	5.00-6.30pm	Petone Football Club Turf
Senior	Wednesday	18-Mar	11, 12 and 13	5.00-6.30pm	Petone Football Club Turf
<b>Note:</b>	Another trial may be held if needed				
<b>Hockey</b>					
Preseason session				TBC	
Trial 1	Sunday	15-Mar	9,10,11,12 and 13	5.00-7.00pm	Fraser Park Hockey Turf, Avalon
Trial 2	Monday	16-Mar	9,10,11,12 and 13	6.00-8.00pm	Fraser Park Hockey Turf, Avalon
<b>Netball</b>					
Year 9 - Intro to SHC Netball	Saturday	21-Feb	9	1.00-4.00pm	Sacred Heart College Netball Courts
Junior trial 1	Saturday	14-Mar	9 and 10	2.00-6.00pm	Sacred Heart College Netball Courts
Junior trial 2	Tuesday	17-Mar	9 and 10	5.00-7.30pm	Sacred Heart College Netball Courts
Junior trial 3	Thursday	19-Mar	9 and 10	5.00-7.30pm	Sacred Heart College Netball Courts
Junior trial 4	Saturday	21-Mar	9 and 10	10.00am-3.00pm	Sacred Heart College Netball Courts
Senior trial 1	Saturday	7-Mar	11, 12 and 13	11.00am-2.00pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Senior trial 2	Tuesday	10-Mar	11, 12 and 13	6.30-9.00pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
Senior trial 3	Saturday	14-Mar	11, 12 and 13	11.00am-2.00pm	Sacred Heart College Gym
<b>Note:</b>	Further trials may be held and if needed players will be advised. For junior trials students may be grouped and not need to attend all trials; this will be advised once the first trial is completed.				
<b>Rugby</b>					
Rugby Preseason	TBC				
Rugby Trial	TBC				

Please check notice board for any changes.

**NB: If you are unable to make a trial out of courtesy please email/teams message us in the Sport Office 48 hrs prior.**