WHCC Newsletter

14 March 2025

Principal's Pen

Faith to Give God our Best

[This is the fourth in a series on our first value: FAITH. This newsletter entry is not the same as the Monday assembly devotion but based on the same passage]

Hebrews 11:5-6 "By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

I have some good friends who don't know God but are impressive in their love for others. How are they different to servant-hearted Christians? One clue is in the passage above, "without faith it is impossible to please God." If deeds are done walking with God, they please him.

Enoch is a standout example of walking with God. In Genesis 4:24 where we read, "Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him". That must be one of the biggest understatements of all time! Enoch walked with God so closely that he did not taste death. What an epic and abundant walk that must have been.

It excites me and motivates me knowing we can please God! Despite all our fallen humanness we can delight him, and he enjoys us. And, as we walk with him and glorify him, we enjoy him! It goes both ways! We are clearly the inferiors in that relationship and can continually marvel at the graciousness and mercy of such abundant love.

When we invite our children to faith in God, we are inviting them to a relationship like no other. When we wander he draws us back, when we cry he comforts, when we praise he delights, when we ask, he gives generously. I can't make my children love God, but I sure can pray my children are irresistibly drawn into a life walking with God.

Prayer Points

Please pray for wisdom in the task of building the school.

Now that the initial rush of the term has eased (a little), we need to turn our attention to those systems and practices that give strength to our long-term culture. Here are two that need prayer. First, we are embarking on a project to articulate, “What makes for an excellent Christian school?”. This includes determining measures of success. Along with this is the task to articulate a clear vision statement to sit above the values. Both these will take time and prayer.

Teachers thank you for your prayers. Please continue to uphold the school in prayer.

Continue to pray for the details of the new entrance way to be worked through at good speed.

Notices

SkoolLoop

Parents, relatives and friends can all connect to the school through the SkoolLoop app. It includes:

- reading the newsletter
- absences
- notices
- booking interview times
- the school calendar
- completing permission forms
- contact information

Download from app stores.

Music Intro/Trial Sessions and/or Lesson Options

If you’d like to sign up for one of the following intro sessions, trial lessons and/or lesson options, please contact the tutor directly. Their contact details are in the attached notice.

Julia Joyce - Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass)

Intro session Monday March 17, trial lessons Tuesday 18 March, then lessons begin the following week.

Mark Hanify - Guitar, Bass, Drums, Ukelele and Keys

Lessons begin from Monday 17 March.

Kirsten Robertson - Piano / Keyboard

Lessons begin Friday 14 March.

Tamsyn Simmons - Vocals

Lessons begin Thursday 20 March.

Jo Milsted - Woodwinds

Free taster session on Monday 24th March at 1:10pm for all woodwind - flute, clarinet, saxophone and oboe.

Clarinet available for lessons

We have been donated a clarinet by the Harding family for a student who wishes to learn to play. Please get in touch with Jo Milsted if you are interested in lessons and contact Mrs Price regarding the instrument.

Repeat Notices

Parent and Teacher Interviews

Dates: Tuesday 25 March and Monday 31 March.

Times: 15 minutes per interview. If longer is needed a separate time can be arranged.

Who: Parents/Caregivers and Home Room teachers.

Purpose: Discuss academic progress.

How to make bookings: Use the Skool Loop app. Bookings are now live. Instructions to set up the app are attached.

Cultural Celebrations

Kia ora parents and whānau,

As part of Topic Studies/Social Sciences, our students from Year 3 to Year 9 are learning about 'Multi-Ethnic New Zealand' and 'Atlas of the World'. To enhance students' understanding of these topics and to celebrate the diversity of cultures we have at our school, WHCC intends to hold a Cultural Celebration Day (or week!).

Our current thinking is that parents could volunteer to come into school some time in Week 10 (7 - 11 April) and teach a 20-minute lesson about their culture/their ancestors' culture to one or more of the classes. The lesson could be about anyone, or a combination of, the following categories:

- Food*
- Clothing
- Dance
- Language
- A cultural tradition
- A history of faith of that culture

Although our Year 1 and 2 students are not taking part in this term's Topic Studies, we are still keen for those students to be a part of Cultural Celebration Day/Week.

If you are interested in contributing to Cultural Celebration Day/Week, please fill in the Google Form below. You will be contacted at a later date to work out the finer details.

Sarah Grant

*Please ensure food is nut free. While WHCC is only peanut free, we have many students with other nut allergies. WHCC can contribute to the cost of buying ingredients.

CULTURAL CELEBRATION PARENT SURVEY LINK

Key Dates

Calendar

Our google calendar is linked to the front page of our website. You can also access it here CALENDAR LINK. Term dates and events are already in place.

Some Key Dates

Tuesday 25 March	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday 28 March	Teacher Only Day
Monday 31 March	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 09 April	Year 7 Vaccinations
07-10 April	Cultural Celebrations (see notice above)
Friday 11 April	Last Day of Term