WHCC Newsletter

4 April 2025

Principal's Pen

Ridiculous or Glorious

God's promises can seem ridiculous. If you really analyse what he promises you could argue they are born out of insanity. On Monday, in the series we are going through in Hebrews, we covered three such crazy promises (see Hebrews 11:11-19). And yet, the great heroes of faith believed the promises.

By faith Abraham and/or Sarah (depending on your version) believed a 90 year old could have a child. By faith our heroes believed in, and longed for, a heavenly country not of this earth. By faith Abraham was prepared to kill his promised son because he "reasoned that God could even raise the dead". That is crazy faith!

When Jesus came, he made more seemingly outlandish promises.

I am the bread of life … you need never be hungry again. I can forgive your sins. I can give you eternal life. I will die and then rise again. I'm going to prepare a place for you. All who come to me will find rest and have well-springs of life flowing out from them. I am going to send you a comforter, the Holy Spirit.

No wonder the unbelieving in his day accused him of being "out of his mind" and "of the devil".

So, what makes these promises believable? Knowing the One who made them! In faith we know God's power is limitless, his character is pure, and nothing will stop his plans. The promises go from ridiculous to glorious, from insane to oh-so-true, from unbelievable to the most certain reality in all the universe. No longer do we scorn them, but we delight in them, claim them and long for them, as our spiritual ancestors did.

Paul puts it this way, when speaking of God's sovereign plans; "…all the promises of God are "Yes" in Christ. And so, through Him, our "Amen" is spoken to the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 1:20).

Amen!

Prayer Points

Please continue to pray for wisdom in the task of building the school, as we seek to establish the school strongly on its values and on the principles of a good education.

Teachers want to thank you for your prayers. Please continue to uphold them.

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

Diary

I will be away on Thursday 03 and Friday 04 April visiting my mother in Australia for her 75th birthday.

Uniform Update

We wanted to send an update out about uniform as we approach the cooler months. Unfortunately, there have been a couple of unforeseen delays, and we wanted to communicate this to you. These updates are passed on with sincere apologies from NZ Uniforms.

Jerseys

The yarn delivery, initially scheduled for the end of March, has been delayed until the end of April. Following the yarn arrival, the manufacturing process will take approximately 3-4 weeks, then the jerseys will be shipped through to NZ. Apologies for this. The soft-shell jackets will still provide plenty of warmth as an alternative.

Senior Boys Trousers

These will be available to order from next week. If you are looking to purchase, you can order online and have them shipped directly to you or collect (and try them on) instore.

Senior boys (Year 9) link here

NB: The junior boys charcoal pants are a different style from the senior boys' trousers.

Senior Boys White Shirts

These are on track to arrive early May.

PE T-shirts

NZ Uniforms have acknowledged and apologised for the too-tight necks on the PE shirts (for the junior school sizes) and realise this isn't ideal for our students. They are organising a replacement for all PE shirts that have been purchased once a delivery of a revised shirt with stretchy neckline has been printed. Note, the larger sizes don't appear to have the same issue. Again, they apologise for this unanticipated design flaw. We will communicate with you as soon as these are available, and you will be able to head in store to swap your shirts in due course.

Notices

Whole School Football Tournament

Weather permitting, the whole school will participate in a football tournament next Thursday 10 April from 1pm to 2:45pm at Alex Moore Park. This is being run by the Year 9's. Please ensure your child has their PE gear that day, and feel free to come along and watch. If wet, it will be normal school in the afternoon.

Culture Dress Up Day

Next Friday 11 April is “Culture Dress Up Day”. We would love to see our students come to school dressed up as their culture.

Job Vacancies – Teacher Aides

If either of the following Teacher Aide roles sound like something you or someone you know would be interested in, please see the separate advertisements and job description.

Teacher Aide – Classroom Learning Support

In class support for Maths and Literacy in Year 5/6, small groups and 1:1. Speech and language support (Term 2 only).

Fixed Term (part of Term 2 and all of Terms 3 and 4, 2025). 10 hours per week.

Teacher Aide – High Health Needs (HHN) Support

Supporting a child with HHN – Type 1 Diabetes. Training will be provided.

Work with students 1:1 and in small groups as directed by the teacher, but priority will be given to the student with HHN.

Permanent position, while funded student attends WHCC. 25 hours per week shared with two people – 9:15am to 2:45pm daily. It’s essential to have two staff so they can relieve each other. Likely start date 19 May (dependent on training).

Can you occasionally help a family with transport from Churton Park?

We have a family who want to send their daughter to WHCC next term but need occasional assistance with transport. See below for their requirements and let Eugene know directly if you can help. Eugene writes: -

Good day parents. We want to send our 9yr old daughter to WHCC and we are looking to team up with one of the parents who live in Churton Park for transport. We can do both mornings and afternoons 80% of the time but once a month I travel for work making transport a bit of an issue. If there are any parents willing to team up with us to carpool, will you please contact me. We will be a great support to you too making this a “win win” for all.

Eugene 022 169 3438 / efvrvo@outlook.com

Group Vocal Music Lessons

We have a student eager to join a group vocal lesson, but we need a few more participants to make it happen. These lessons will take place at school during the school day. If your child is interested, please reach out to Tamsyn—her contact details can be found in the ad at the end of this newsletter.

School Roll

We have a lot of interest for next year. This will mean we cannot take all students who apply to come in 2025. Our decisions will be based on the enrolment scheme.

If you know of families who have children in Years 1, 3, 4 or 9, or, are turning five between 1 July and 31 December (Year 0), they can still enroll *this* year and beat the rush.

Year 7 to 10 BYOD

Here is an update:

WHO

- BYOD is Years 7 to 9 only.

SINGLE DEVICE

- The school is still committed to iPads as the cheapest and most functional option for Years 7 to 10.
- They are cheaper than a suitable lower end laptop.
- They are more expensive than a Chromebook but are more functional, last longer, and have better resale. This means they are cheaper and better overall than a Chromebook.

WHEN

- Our ICT provider will be developing a new ICT platform due to complications with the system brought over from last year. This delays the rollout of BYOD.
- We are aiming for mid to late term two for devices to be purchased so they are setup and usable by the end of term.

SUPPLIER AND SETUP

- We would like all families to have a specific iPad supplied through Aiscorp for the following reasons:
    - Fully set up to the school's specifications
    - Preinstalled with apps required
    - Set up allows them to be fully controllable by school to minimise distraction and maximise beneficial use of device as a tool.
- We will release information on the devices required and their prices in Term 2. If you already have one, we may be able to integrate it.

FUNDING

- We are applying for funding to help a limited number of families where buying an iPad is difficult financially. We will let you know if we are successful.

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

Wednesday 09 April	Year 7 Vaccinations, 11:30am
Thursday 10 April	Whole School Football Tournament at Alex Moore Park, 1pm
Friday 11 April	Culture Dress Up Day (come to school dressed up as your culture)
Friday 11 April	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 28 April	First Day of Term 2
Wednesday 14 May	Vision and Hearing Screening for New Entrants & Year 7

Advertising