WHCC Newsletter

Faith | Character | Wisdom | Excellence | Community

25 July 2025

Principal's Pen

URGENT! Working Bee – Futsal Court and Shelving

Two projects

1) The futsal court needs a net roof installed so we can use it.
2) A lundia shelving system is needed in the music store

We are desperately short of volunteers. We need:

- 4 helpers for futsal court
- 3 helpers for lundia system.
- We have two supervisors – both of whom are NOT parents of the school
- Volunteer for a morning or afternoon on four possible dates in August
- Allow three hours.

We are very short of volunteers – click here to volunteer

Hospitality

A dear friend of ours had the view that anyone who walked up her driveway, invited or uninvited, was sent by God, and she and her husband would treat them this way. Even in her frail 80s, she and her husband serve guests as best they can, and we love going there.

Growing up, my parents had a good flow of guests through our home including old friends, pastors, relatives and the occasional quirky person. We may have had an angel or two (Hebrews 13:2). It was a great education about people and was also a model of obedience to God's command to be hospitable. We have sought to follow this example as much as possible.

There are many good examples and frequent commands to be hospitable in Scripture. A well-known one is Jesus saying to the good and faithful servant, "I was a stranger, and you invited me in" (Matthew 25:35-40). In hosting the stranger, we host Jesus!

As with all of God's commands, they end up blessing us more than we could hope. Meeting people is very enriching for us and our children. In our house we greatly benefited from the friendships formed, the ideas shared, and our imagination inspired by other people's stories.

This week, our school is host to Japan students. I can only commend our students in the manner they have gone about welcoming their guests. It is a joy to see their proactive love and care.

Tonight, some of our parents have the privilege of hosting our guests for dinner. For some it can be unnerving. Will they enjoy the meal? How will the conversation go? Will we get along? But we know that God will be with us as we love him in our obedience. God bless you tonight.

Being hospitable and welcoming as a school is a goal that we carry over from Miramar Christian School days. It is great to see it in action.

Prayer Points

- Please pray particularly for a wise path in growing the school.
- Thanks for our visitors and ongoing prayer for their time to be enriching and safe.
- Board elections coming up
- Working bees coming up

From the Board

Board Elections

We only have one nomination for the board so far. Please see notice below. Please give this some serious prayerful thought. Talk to Tim Kuipers or one of the board members if you want more information.

School Board Elections – 10 September 2025

Warm greetings from all of us on the school board.

All state and state-integrated schools in New Zealand are governed by a school board. The board sets the school's strategic direction, develops policies and procedures, and oversees key areas such as curriculum, finance, property, health and safety, and the employment of staff. As an integrated school, we are privileged to operate through the lens of our Christian Special Character. A key responsibility of the board is to ensure this focus is maintained and actively nurtured.

In short, the board sets the direction of the school and monitors progress towards our goals, while the principal and staff manage the day-to-day operations and implementation.

Our board is made up of the principal, a staff representative, elected parent representatives, and proprietor-appointed representatives. Except for the principal, all positions are voluntary, with a small stipend provided to cover basic travel and other expenses. We typically meet in the evenings, around nine times a year, making the commitment manageable even for those with busy schedules.

Board elections are held every three years, and our next election will take place on **10 September 2025**. There are **five positions** available for parent-elected representatives and **one** for a staff representative.

Next month, we will call for nominations. Each nominee will be invited to submit a short background statement to help inform the community's voting decisions.

If you are passionate about Christian education and interested in helping shape the governance of our school, we warmly encourage you to consider standing for election. You're also welcome to attend one of our upcoming board meetings as a guest to see how we work together. Our next meetings are scheduled for 18 August from **6:30–9:00pm**.

We hope to see you there.

Blessings,
Peter Wilding
Presiding Member / Board Chair

Nomination Packs for School Board Elections

Nomination Packs have been sent home with your children last Friday.
If you did not receive one, please contact the office (office@whcc.school.nz)

Completed nomination forms are to be submitted in the box located on the school office counter.
Please note: nominations close at **12pm on Wednesday, 30 July 2025**.

Notices

Relieving Teachers

We would like to increase the size of our teacher relief pool. If you know of anyone available, please contact the school office or email Dan Shaw (dan.shaw@whcc.school.nz)

Japanese Students Visit

Yesterday, 24th July, We welcomed a group of students from **Siegakuin Primary School in Japan**, who will be with us until **Wednesday 30th July**.

The visiting students will be spending time in our **Year 3–6 classrooms**, joining in with class activities and experiencing school life here in New Zealand. As part of this special visit they visited Te Papa today along with our Year 3 to 6 students. We will do this again to Zealandia on Tuesday 29th July.

These outings are designed to support learning and to give both our students and our visitors a chance to explore some of Wellington's most iconic cultural and environmental sites together.

We look forward to a fun and enriching week of friendship, learning, and cultural exchange!

WHCC Facebook Community Group

WHCC Facebook Community Group Our APT (Parent Support) Group has established a Facebook group to help keep our school community connected. For school-related updates and communications, click here to join.

School Lunches: Now Available

Starting **Thursday, 31 July 2025**, we're introducing a **school lunch ordering and delivery service in school on Thursdays and Fridays.**

To take advantage of this convenient option:

- Visit www.lunchonline.co.nz to create your account.
- Register your child under your account and complete their details.
- Select **Wellington Hills Christian College** as the school and specify their **Year Group/Homeroom**.
- All your orders will be delivered in school before lunch time (12:15pm)

If you have any questions or need help, feel free to contact the school office (office@whcc.school.nz)

Parent Portal

In May, the Ministry launched a new and informative webspace for parents and whānau called the Parent Portal. It's designed to support every child's learning journey by strengthening the relationship between families, schools and kura, and offering tools and resources to make it easier to help with their child's education at home.

It includes:

- **Year-by-year Curriculum Learning Guides:** Parent-friendly versions of both The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, detailing what children are learning, why it's important, and when they'll be learning it.
- **Practice activities:** activities that parents and whānau can use to support their child's learning at home, such as phonics cards with audio files to model correct sounds.
- **Informative videos and resources:** videos explaining new assessments like the Phonics Checks and Hihira Weteoro, which help identify additional support a child might need, and resources to help parents prepare for the first day of school and parent-teacher interviews.

The Parent Portal can be accessed at: www.parentportal.education.govt.nz

WHCC – Bank Account Number

For all school banking, such as donation payments and school fundraisers, please make an internet banking payment to:

Wellington Hills Christian College Board
ASB Bank
Account Number: 12-3481-0040719-00

Calendar

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

Key Dates

Tuesday 29 July	Yr 3-6 Zealandia Trip
Wednesday 30 July	Yr 3-6 Shared lunch with Japanese guests
Friday 01 August	Places offered to General Public
Sunday 10 August	Second round offers made to General Public

Community Notices

Piano Lessons

Piano lessons for all levels, from beginners to advanced with professional pianist and experienced piano teacher, Kirsten Robertson. Learn for fun with a lesson book, or work towards a graded exam. Kirsten teaches the ABRSM, Trinity College London syllabus and AMEB syllabus'. Kirsten will be available to teach at WHCC on Wednesdays and Fridays, during school hours.
Kirsten is a classically trained pianist and she studied postgraduate performance piano at the Royal College of Music in London. Kirsten plays regularly with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as Principal Keyboard.

Name: Kirsten Robertson MMus (Uni. Cant.), PGDip, PGDip adv. (RCM, London)
Contact Number: 021 188 1044
Email: krr.robertson@gmail.com

Camp Code for Year 9 Girls

Camp Code for Girls is a FREE week-long program that makes computer programming fun and accessible for girls in Years 9 and 10. Campers gain hands-on experience in coding, while learning how to solve real-world problems, build mobile apps, and make a positive impact.
Instructors and guest speakers—all accomplished tech professionals—connect with the campers to introduce them to the opportunities open to women in tech from programming to engineering to cybersecurity, and more!

Space is limited, apply now at https://www.fastenterprises.com/camp-code-nz/