WHCC Newsletter

Faith | Character | Wisdom | Excellence | Community

21 August 2026

Principal's Pen

Belief Into Action

Our vision statement includes the teaching of James 2:14-in the words **"We … live out our faith by translating belief into action"**

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? … Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?"

The first principal I worked under was Joan Gibson. Before being my principal, she taught in Campbell Park, a school for some of the worst behaved children in NZ. She visited ex-pupils in prison from time to time. She was devoted to them and to her calling as a teacher.

Joan influenced me in many ways. One, was through her love of the Word. "Bible before Breakfast", she would say. One of the books she found most difficult to read was James, in particular, the above passage. Others can find it difficult as well. I believe this is because we can see a gap between our deeds and what our deeds might be. This gap may lead us to question the authenticity of our faith and then wonder if we are even saved. The gap may then be filled with despair or fear or just a whole lot more effort as though we could get there.

But we need to imagine the gap as being filled with the grace of God, like liquid gold being poured into the cracks of a rock, making them whole. We need to remember how Jesus spoke with Peter, and Zacchaeus, and Mary who anointed him, and the woman at the well. That's the Jesus we follow.

Our deeds don't fill any gap. There is no gap. Our deeds are simply things that flow out of faith, done in thanks to the One who fills the gap. Even more wonderful; our deeds of faith are pleasing to God (Hebrews 11:6). In this way, we come to realise we are not only saved by grace but may live by grace each day.

Let's be to our young as Jesus is to those he meets. Let the children find that they please us. Let's encourage them with words nurturing the sparks of young faith, cupping our hands around them so they may catch fire. We can gently correct the things we may find in the gap, always accompanied by the same grace we have generously received.

New Notices

House Competition

Students enjoyed a fantastic House Competition packed with fun, teamwork, and friendly rivalry. Dressed proudly in their house colours, everyone enthusiastically participated in a range of activities, including a relay, Bible quiz, dart throwing, and an obstacle course. It was wonderful to see students encouraging one another, demonstrating great sportsmanship, and giving their best effort throughout the afternoon. While the points are still being tallied, we will announce the winning house once the final results have been confirmed.

Cultural Day

It was a joy to see so many students dressed up in traditional outfits for Cultural Day today. The fabrics, colours and patterns were beautiful! We also enjoyed trying a variety of different foods at our shared lunches this afternoon. A special thank you to the parents who gave presentations to classes about their culture and/or the culture of their ancestors. The students learned so many new facts and had some great questions to ask. We are already looking forward to next year's Cultural Day!

Parent Teacher Interviews: Y7-10 Arrangements

Please see the changes in schedule below for Tuesday, 25 August 2026 and Wednesday, 26 August 2026.

Tuesday: 25 August 2026

- **12:55 - 1:00pm:** Short Lunch
- **1:10 - 2:00pm:** Period 5
- **2:00pm:** Secondary Students dismissed

Wednesday: 26 August 2026

- **12:55 - 1:00pm**: Short Lunch
- **1:10 - 2:00pm:** Period 6 from Tuesday. (No rotations)
- **2:00pm:** Secondary Students dismissed

Please note the following arrangements for students after school:

Years 0 to 6 will finish at the usual time of **3:00 pm**.

If required, **Years 7 to 10** students may remain in the playground after school while waiting to be collected.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the **School Office** at office@whcc.school.nz

WHCC Sports Notices

Badminton Competition

Congratulations to our Junior Girls A Badminton team of Janaki, Jemimah, Judy and Diana who won the regional Division 2 final over Heretaunga College. The girls won the final by 4 games to 2. A great effort. Well done, Girls!

From the APT (Active Parent Teacher) Group

Spring into Tawa Fair Fundraiser - We Need Your Help!

Our school fundraising and connection group (Active Parent Teacher or APT group) is organising a stall at the annual Spring into Tawa fair on 17th October 2026 to fundraise for outdoor space enhancements at the school. We would love help from our school families by way of donating suitable items to be sold at the fair.

Before You Donate:

A separate notice has been sent out to families with all the details including what is being collected, collection days and drop off. It is important you read this notice before bringing any items into school. The notice can be found on the school's Helix app, and in an email sent by the school on 14 August 2026. We will send the notice several times in the lead up to the final collection date.

Queries to be sent to the APT contact person below - not the school please.

We appreciate your help, including prayers for a successful fundraiser!

The APT Group Contact person

Hannah Ashdown - 020 444 5502.

Key Dates

Our school calendar can be accessed here. Term dates and events are already in place.

Monday 24 Aug	Teacher Only Day – School Closed
Tuesday 25 Aug	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 26 Aug	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday 04 Sep	Yr 7 Immunisation Programme – 2nd dose
Monday 07 Sep	Yr 2 & 4 Futsal Tournament @ Akau Tangi Sports Centre
Tuesday 08 Sep	Yr 7 & 8 Futsal Tournament @ Akau Tangi Sports Centre
Friday 25 Sep	Last day of Term 3
Monday 12 Oct	Start of Term 4
Saturday 17 Oct	Spring into Tawa Fair Fundraiser by APT

Reminders and Repeat Notices

Teacher Only Day – Monday, 24 August 2026

Monday, 24 August 2026 is Teacher Only Day.

School will be closed for the day.

Book Parent-Teacher Interviews

Book Parent Teacher Interviews HERE

Parent-Teacher interviews are happening on Tuesday, 25 August 2026 and Wednesday 26 August 2026.

When you click the button, you will be prompted to follow the instructions below:

1. Input your email and contact details
2. Select the subjects and teachers you wish to see
3. Select the time slots

Once booked, you will receive a confirmation email outlining your appointments.

Further information

- Students are welcome but not required in the interviews. You may wish to speak with the teacher alone.
- Bookings will close four hours before the interviews for that day start.

Important Note for parents of students in BOTH junior and senior school

- Junior interviews are 15 minutes long. Senior interviews are 5 minutes long.
- Your senior student may have one teacher for two subjects. Please only book **ONE** interview with that teacher.
- Please be careful when you select times so that you don't create any overlapping times.
- Note the time slots include the time required to move from one teacher to the next. Please be mindful of the incoming parents and allow appropriate time, especially when moving between floors.

Note: If you feel you need a longer interview with a specific teacher, we are happy to arrange this with you and the teacher at a later date.

If you encounter any difficulties during the booking process, please email **Zipporah Lee** at office@whcc.school.nz

Photography and Social Media Notice

Parents and caregivers are welcome to take photos and videos at WHCC events for personal use. Please remember that some students cannot have their photos or videos shared on social media.

Before posting any images online, please check that other students are not identifiable in your photos or videos, unless you have permission to share them. Thank you for helping us respect the privacy of all WHCC students.

Operation Christmas Child – Fundraiser

This term our school is participating in **Operation Christmas Child** (Samaritans Purse).

What Operation Christmas Child is:

Operation Christmas Child is a way to help show God's love to children around the world. People fill shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other gifts. These boxes are then given to children who need them in over 100 countries.

After receiving a shoebox, children can join The Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson program that teaches them about Jesus and following Him. The mission is to help children in need and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

What to bring:

The school had been divided into 5 groups; each group has a category. The items in each category will be the items that students can bring into class, as shown below:

Year 1s & 2s: Personal care items (e.g. toothbrushes, hairbrushes, small water bottle etc)

Year 3s & 4s: Crafts and activities (e.g. stickers, chalk, small colouring books etc)

Year 5s & 6s: School supplies (Pencils, notebooks, pencil case etc)

Year 7s & 8s: Clothing and accessories (e.g. hat, flashlight –with batteries - etc)

Year 9s & 10s: WOW items (e.g. soft toys, skipping rope, small balls etc)

****If wanted, families can bring any additional items from other categories as well as the one they have been assigned.**

****Students will not be packing shoeboxes; they will only be bringing in items to put into them. Our Service and Outreach Team will do the packing.**

When it's happening:

Gift collections for Operation Christmas Child will begin on the 11th of August, and finish on the 2nd of September (Wednesday week 7).

Our goal as a school is to pack at least **30 boxes.**

Each class will have a dedicated place to put their items before they are packed into the shoe boxes.

Students will be able to make Christmas Cards to put in the boxes at school (or at home as well if wanted).

We will be sending the boxes away on the 19th of October.

For more information about Operation Christmas Child, click this link, which includes what to bring and what not to bring. We ask that you look over this before purchasing any items.

Teachers Needed for 2027

We are currently advertising for the following Secondary Teachers and a Guidance Counsellor who have a faith in Jesus and are strong teachers. We are growing our High School out to Year 13, so having experience is an advantage.

Part-time fixed-term teachers (due 28 August): LINK

- Mathematics and Statistics
- English
- Science
- These could be full-time permanent if paired with other subjects

Full-time permanent teachers (due 28 August): LINK

- Commerce
- PE/Health
- Biblical Studies
- Legal Studies
- DVC/Art
- Digital Technology/Computer Programming
- Humanities/Social Studies.

Guidance Counsellor (due 19 August): LINK

- Five hours a week
- Potential to increase

Use the links above to find out more or contact Dan Shaw at dan.shaw@whcc.school.nz

Relieving Teachers – Needed

We would like to increase the size of our teacher relief pool. If you know of anyone available, please contact the **School Office** (04 939 8558) or email **Dan Shaw** (dan.shaw@whcc.school.nz)

Bank Accounts

School Bank Account Number

For all school banking e.g. 'Be Yourself Day' koha payments, school fundraisers, etc. please make an internet banking payment to:

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

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust (NZCPT)

School attendance dues and property maintenance donations are paid to the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust. A direct debit option is available but should you need their bank account, please make internet banking payments to:

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust
ASB Bank, Account Number: 12-3107-0061704-16

Please use the student surname in the ‘reference’ field so they can match the deposit.

Peniel Trust Bank Account Number

Click here to support the school’s expansion project.