



*Living the Mission
through:
Ako
Manaakitanga
Wāhine Toa*

**Sacred Heart Girls' College
Manawa Tapu
New Plymouth**

TERM TWO

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM THREE

Mon 14 Jul:

First day of Term 3

23—24 Jul:

Noho Marae
Muru Raupatu

Weds 30 Jul:

School Board meeting

Mon 4 Aug:

Subject conferences
3.45pm-6.00pm

Weds 6 Aug:

Subject conferences
3.45pm-6.00pm

Weds 13 Aug:

Course Information
evening

Fri 15 Aug:

Founders Day Mass
10.00am St Joseph's NP

**The office will
be closed
during the July
School Holidays**

TERM THREE

Mon 14 July—Fri 19 Sept

TERM FOUR

Mon 6 Oct-Wed 10 Dec



Principal's Peace



Kia ora e te whānau

Tēnei te mihi mahana ki a koutou. Kei te piringa ahau he rawe ō koutou Matariki. Warm greetings to you all. I hope you have enjoyed the Matariki long weekend and found some time to be with family as we celebrate the Māori New Year and this time of considering our aspirations and our blessings.

This year, Term 2 has been short and busy, with everything packed into just 9 weeks. Our students have been highly engaged in every arena from their studies at school to Sport, Music and the Performing Arts and year level retreats based at St Joseph's. Thank you to all our student councils for the organisation of extra student events in Cultural & Arts Week, Pride Week and our inaugural Academic Council Quiz Night held this week. Congratulations to all of our students who were confirmed this term and thank you to those who were student leaders or sponsors. May God bless you on your sacramental journey. (See page 3)

At King's birthday weekend our hockey team was again, the winner of the **Te Toa Shield** competition at Sacred Heart Napier. Our netball team were runners up for the Mission Cup by a very narrow margin. Thank you to our coaches and managers for the dedication and professionalism with which you run these teams. (see p 11 for further details)



Also at King's birthday weekend, we had a team win an award at the national Sheilah Winn Shakespeare competition in Wellington. Congratulations to **Sophie Fowler, Evangeline McKinnon** and **Maeve Quinn**. In addition, one of our acoustic guitar groups who performed at the recent Chamber Music competition won the regional competition and went on to perform in Auckland. Congratulations to **Elvina Kwong, Georgia Jeffrey, Ruby Smither** and **Mackenzie Hall**. Special thanks go to Mrs Heather Ashton and Mrs Raewyn Hunter for everything you do to make these opportunities possible for our talented performing arts students. We wish our group travelling to Melbourne these holidays a safe and rewarding experience. Thank you to everyone who contributed to raising money for Sacred Heart, Melbourne's appeal supporting girls' education in the Philippines.

Openly Engage with Community

It was wonderful to welcome our new Kaiako Māori, **Whaea Kelly Jennings** with pōwhiri this week. We look forward to working closely with Whaea Kelly to continue to build strong connections with our local Te Atiawa iwi and the Tūparekino hapū that Whaea Kelly has whakapapa to. We are currently planning a noho marae at Muru Raupatu for all ākonga Māori for **23 – 24 July**. This is part of our mahi with the Māori Achievement Collaborative this year. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to our whānau hui at Ngāmotu House.



In other staff news, our wonderful receptionist and attendance officer, **Bernadette Holdom** is retiring at the start of next term after more than 20 years at Sacred Heart! Bernadette is a past student and a past parent of the school and has made a significant contribution to our school community over many years and in many different capacities. We will miss Bernadette's endless energy and enthusiasm in our front office and wish her all the very best for a well earned retirement (I'm sure her family will keep her just as busy as ever!)

In Board news, we are currently working on the next 3-year strategic plan for Manawa Tapu. We will consult with you on our Vision and Goals for the school next term. This board finishes their term in September when we will hold Board elections. Please see further information about this on page 7.

Finally, thank you for your understanding when we needed to cancel the Subject Conferences on Wednesday 11 June. Reports will come to your Inbox at the end of this week and the next opportunities to meet with teachers will be in Week 4 next term (**Monday 4** and **Wednesday 6 August**) after school. We wish you all a restful and refreshing school holiday.

Kororia ki te Atua ki runga rawa, Maungarongo ki runga i te mata o te whenua, Whakaaro pai ki ngā tangata katoa ahakoa kō wai, Pai mārīre. (*Glory to God in the Highest, peace on earth and goodwill to all people.*)

Barbara Costelloe
Tumuaki—Principal

Taranaki Regional Chamber Music Competition

The 60th year of this iconic NZ Music Competition was held this year. In the local competition we had SHGC students involved in 15 of the 31 groups involved.

Congratulations to **Elvina Kwong, Georgia Jeffrey, Ruby Smither** and **Mackenzie Hall**, the overall winners. Winners of the Best Performance of a NZ work – **Elliana Luke, Alex Stuck, Sofia Asi** and **Elvina Kwong**. The Junior Award—SHGC Fiddlesticks
Highly Commended Award: **Isabella Kwong, Frankie Lamb** and **Nancy Chen**.

A huge congratulations to our 35 young performers.



In the recent Taranaki Regional Chamber Music Competition our Guitar group – '*Chitarre Armoniche*' – were the overall winners. They then travelled to Auckland University to participate in the Northern Regional Final – an amazing experience.

We also caught up with past student Francis Chow who has recently completed her Music Degree.

Nourish Catholic Character

Caritas Fundraising – Gospel Values in Action

Since the beginning of the year, our school community has come together through various events to raise money for Caritas. Caritas is a Catholic international aid and development organization that works to promote justice and alleviate poverty around the world. The name *Caritas* comes from Latin, meaning “charity” or “love.” We are proud to announce that we have raised \$1356.47 to go towards Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported our efforts!

Year 11 Retreat – Pilgrims of Hope

Our recent Year 11 Retreat was a meaningful opportunity to step away from the classroom and encounter Christ in a special way. Inspired by the Jubilee Year theme, “*Pilgrims of Hope*,” the day offered students a chance to reflect, connect, and learn more about the rich history of St Joseph’s Parish—an important focus of their internal studies. The day began with a short hikoi, leading us to St Joseph’s Church, where we were warmly welcomed. We were privileged to hear from our special guests—Fr Tom Lawn, Catherine Landrigan, and Ireen Crossan—who generously shared their time and insights, answering students’ thoughtful questions about St Joseph’s Parish. We then joined the parish community for a beautiful midday Mass, followed by a shared kai. In the afternoon, students experienced adoration and explored the art and architecture of the church, deepening their appreciation for its spiritual and cultural significance. It was truly a wonderful day of faith, learning, and connection. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this retreat so special.



Confirmation on Trinity Sunday

On Trinity Sunday, many of our students received the **Sacrament of Confirmation** at St Joseph’s Church—a deeply moving and spiritual occasion. The primary purpose of Confirmation in the Catholic Church is to strengthen and deepen the grace received at Baptism, and to empower individuals to become active witnesses to their faith. It was truly inspiring to witness so many young people publicly commit to their faith and take this important step in their spiritual journey.



We extend our heartfelt thanks to Susilo, our Youth Minister, and the junior leaders—many of whom are students from our school—for their dedication and support in preparing the candidates. Your time, guidance, and encouragement made this celebration possible.

Preparing for the Sacraments – Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

We are now preparing students for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion—a very special time in their faith journey. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Confession or Penance, is a sacred opportunity for individuals to confess their sins to a priest, receive forgiveness, and restore their relationship with God and the Church. The Sacrament of First Holy Communion, also known as the Eucharist, marks the first time a baptized Catholic receives the consecrated bread and wine, believed to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. It is a joyful and deeply meaningful milestone in a young person’s spiritual life.

If you would like your daughter to receive these sacraments, please contact **Wendy** wmu@shgcnp.school.nz or **Amelia** amu@shgcnp.school.nz for more information.

Nourish Catholic Character

Sacred Heart Feast Day Celebration

On Friday, 28 June, we joyfully celebrate our Sacred Heart Feast Day—a special occasion in our school’s spiritual life. The Feast of the Sacred Heart is a solemnity in the Roman Catholic Church that honours the physical heart of Jesus Christ as a symbol of His divine love and compassion for all humanity. This moveable feast is celebrated on the Friday that falls 19 days after Pentecost. It is a truly memorable experience, filled with reverence, reflection, and many blessings.

House Singing

Following Mass, we continue the celebration with our **traditional House Singing**—a vibrant display of House spirit and musical talent. The compulsory song this year was “*King of Kings*”, and each House deliver it in their own unique and heartfelt way. It is a rich tapestry of house loyalty and beautiful singing that fills our Events Centre with joy and energy. This day is a powerful reminder of our shared faith, unity, and the joy that comes from celebrating together.

Wendy Mulligan – Director Of Religious Studies & Amelia Luke – School Chaplain

Volunteering

Volunteering New Plymouth hosted its annual Volunteer Recognition Awards on Saturday, June 14th, celebrating the incredible contributions of individuals who make our community stronger. Among this year’s standout recipients was **Gabriella Brady**, recognised as one of only three young people to receive a prestigious “Youth” award.

This well-deserved honour acknowledges **Gabriella’s** committed service with the community initiative *Take Them a Meal*. In her role leading social media content, **Gabriella** has helped amplify support, showcase sponsors and spotlight the needs of families across our region. Her commitment, creativity, and compassion have made a meaningful impact and we’re so proud to celebrate her contributions.



Gabriella with Julia McNeil, Barb Costelloe and Heather Ashton

Puanga



On Thursday, 26th June, a group of students gathered at 6:45am to volunteer at the Puanga service held at St Joseph’s Primary School.

We were honoured to join in the prayer service and assist with breakfast preparations. It was a truly special occasion, and we are deeply grateful to have been invited to take part.

Thank you to everyone who contributed—your generosity and spirit were amazing.

A beautiful example of Gospel values in action!

Openly Engage with Community

Drama



Two groups participated in the annual SGCNZ Shakespeare Competition. This began in Stratford on the glorious King's Theatre stage. **Jane Doyle** directed a 15-minute piece exploring justice in the play The Merchant of Venice. Her cast of six, narrowly missed being selected for Nationals, losing to our Francis Douglas friends!

Evangeline McKinnon directed a 5-minute piece, a scene from Macbeth, that won the regionals in this section! This means that the team got to compete at the National Competition in Wellington over the King's birthday long weekend.

Tula MacLean accompanied the performers, **Maeve Quinn**, **Sophie Fowler** and **Evangeline** for this epic weekend of theatre. We enjoyed fantastic workshops on the Friday and were treated to some outstanding performances over the Saturday and Sunday. The ultimate excitement was getting to perform on the magnificent St James stage on Sunday morning!



The group went on to win an award too! This is an amazing achievement given the standard of work showcased. It is a real tribute to the clear diction, careful attention to projection and meticulous care taken considering pause and pacing that won the group the "Best Understanding of Sound and Silence" award.

Openly Engage with Community

PCT Challenge

The annual PCT (Police Competency Test) for Year 8 students was held recently at the TSB stadium. We took 8 students who teamed up with boys from FDMC to form 4 mixed teams of fours. Teams had to complete a variety of challenges that tested, speed, agility, strength, coordination and teamwork. All while having lots of fun.

Our team members comprised of **Aninga 'Ahio, Sofia San Diego, Clare Icaro, Honor Zhao, Claudia Yukich, Aimee Carradus, Miela O'Connor, Villa Parker.**

It was wonderful to reconnect with police officer Rhianne Van Dillen, former student of Manawa Tapu, and for her to catch up with her old Year 7 teacher! What a fabulous cheerleader and role model for our girls.



"Te Hunga Hikoi i roto i te Tūmanako"

"Pilgrims of Hope"

Openly Engage with Community

School Board Elections

School Board Elections

The boards of all state and state integrated schools are required to hold elections every three years, and this will be happening again in 2025.

The School Board is an important part of our school as they set the strategic direction for our school, consult with our school community about our school, ensure the schools funding is spent wisely and ensure that we are giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi within our school. Our board is made up of 5 parent vacancies, the principal, one Proprietor Appointee and two Bishop's Appointees, a staff rep elected by the staff, and a student rep elected by the students.

The current board have made the decision to appoint Election Pilot as the Returning Officer for our election and for the election to be provided online. They have been assisting schools with elections for over 20 years and have been the only election provider accredited by the Ministry of Education to provide online election services since online elections started in 2022. Nomination and voting forms will be sent to all eligible voters by email directly from Election Pilot. If we don't have an email address for you, nomination and voting papers will be sent by post so no one will miss out.

School Board Elections must be held in accordance with the provisions in the Education and Training Act 2020 and the Education (Board Elections) Regulations 2022. Your name and contact details have been provided to Schooled Election Pilot to enable the provision of elections services for our school as required by legislation. They will use your contact details for the provision of election services for Sacred Heart Girls' College only and your details will be deleted 60 days after the election date as required by legislation.

If you have any questions about the election process, please contact the Returning Officer directly on 0800 VOTENZ (0800 868 369) or election@electionpilot.nz.

We will continue to keep you updated through the various stages of the election process, and our election date is Wednesday 10 September.



On Wednesday the 25th of June, the Academic Council hosted the Back-to-School Quiz Night to fundraise for Conductive Education Taranaki. It was a fun night filled with witty questions, fierce competition, a highly contested raffle, and lots of laughs in the name of charity. We ended up raising over \$1,500! Thank you to everyone who made this possible and showed us your support, and a special mention to our incredible sponsors. It certainly was a night to remember!

Amber Cayley & Juliet Hitchcock, Academic Leaders



The Winning Team—Brown Lightning



The Head Girls' quiz team—'Jack thought this was speed dating'—took out 2nd place.

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Rose Ceremony

We held an assembly this week and were able to celebrate many students who had achieved outstanding things across different areas.

Roses were awarded to students:

Who have won a National Event, and/or a category of a National Event;

Who is a New Zealand representative in an Arts, Sports, or a Cultural International Event;

Who has won a Mission College event, such as O'Shea Shield.



Rose recipients this week are:

Amber Whitehead

Annabel Stevenson

Zara Stevenson

Nayeli Pelletier Morales

Lexi Silver

Freya Stolte

Cassie Colbourne (x2)

Francie O'Sullivan

Zoe Lawn

Aimee Carradus

Izaro Williamson Sasia

Pippa Gower-Johnson

Bernie Vanner (x2)

Sinead O'Sullivan

Sienna Asi

Iris Cayetano

Bryah Edwin

Elliana Luke

Martha-Rose Hagenon (x2)

Macy Stuck (x2)

Sophie Fowler

Evangeline McKinnon

Maeve Quinn

Olivia Atherton

Rania Bennett

Georgia Coronno

Grace Coronno

Olivia Flood

Lucy Forsyth

Lexi Hancock

Belle Hay-Vega

Madeleine Howatson

Kayla Kennedy

Libby Robinson

Pieta Smith

Nikiwe Zhanje



Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Principal's Award

A Principal's award recognises a significant achievement that doesn't meet the Rose award criteria.

Principal's Award recipients this week are:

Elvina Kwong

Ruby Smither

Mia Hart

Aimee Riordan-Spannagl

Georgia Jeffrey

Shannon Doyle

Florence Moorby

Keri Graham

Mackenzie Hall

Villa Parker

Alex Stuck

Eva Hodson



Manawa Mission Principal's Award

This prestigious award, in the form of a badge, is awarded to any student who has earned their Ako, Manaakitanga and Wahine Toa gems in addition to their Arts, Academic, Hauroa, Mission and Sports badges.

Manawa Mission Principal's Award recipients this week are:

Bethany Winters

Amelia Rose Persico

Billie Stenning

Jessica Rabe

Nancy Chen

Arabella Thomson

Sophie Straathof

Paige Macalalag

Florence Reid

Samantha Sera



Openly Engage with Community

Ngā Manu Kōrero

On 14 May 2025 two students competed at Ngā Manu Kōrero in Whanganui.

For my first Manu Kōrero I really enjoyed attending it this year. The event was held at Rānana Marae in Whanganui, which made the whole experience feel really special.

One of the best parts for me was meeting lots of new people from different schools and catching up with some of my whānau who I hadn't seen in a while.

My personal highlight was the night before the event. **Eva** and I practiced our speeches in front of everyone staying at the motel. It was a bit scary at first, but we ended up having so much fun.

Overall, Manu Kōrero was an awesome experience. I learned a lot, made great memories, and felt proud to be part of it.

Keri Graham—English

I think Manu Kōrero is a great experience to have. The build up to the presentation day is quite nerve-wracking but I was surrounded by people who supported me. My personal highlight was the greeting at the Rānana Marae. Everyone was so welcoming and once we'd said our speeches, we got the chance to listen to the senior impromptu speeches. I'm so happy I got the opportunity to do this!

Eva Hodson—Junior Te Reo Māori



Eva Hodson, Mrs Costelloe, Keri Graham



Stay connected with our Sports News!

Catch up on all the latest updates, results, and highlights from our school's sporting achievements on our **Sports Facebook page!**

Here are just a few of the exciting stories we've covered recently:

- TSSSA Netball
- Cross Country
- Equestrian
- Rugby
- Netball Skills Session
- Rugby 7's Sign-Up
- Canoe Polo
- Football Quiz Night
- Ferdie Fun Holiday Sessions
- Volleyball Holiday Skills Camp



Don't miss out—follow us on Facebook to stay in the loop and celebrate our students' amazing efforts and successes!

Find us on  **facebook**



[Sacred Heart Girls College NP - SPORT | New Plymouth - Facebook](#)

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Te Toa Shield & Mission Cup

SHGC Napier hosted the annual Te Toa Shield (hockey) this year. Outstanding competition was shown by all the teams involved. The 1st XI hockey team played outstandingly and managed to **win the Te Toa Shield title for the third year in a row!** The team won all four games, with no goals conceded against us. A special congratulations to our team captain, **Libby Robinson** who was voted and won most valuable player across the entire Te Toa Tournament.

Our team played with determination, pride and total commitment to win all four games convincingly. An extra special thank you to our coach for the tournament, Jude Sewell-Monod, Manager Kim Pennington and Bernie Howatson as well as all the supporters cheering us on. Thanks also to Mrs Costelloe for supporting us in each and every thrilling game of hockey!

Lucy Forsyth



Over King's birthday weekend, our premier netball team travelled to Napier to play in the annual Mission Cup tournament. We were lucky enough to build connections and engage in friendly competition with our sisters from the five other RNDM schools present. Every match was fiercely contested and demonstrated great sportsmanship. We won five out of our six games with a close loss of only one point against SHGC Lower Hutt, resulting in us coming away with second place. Thank you to all the supporters who came to watch, to the staff who helped to make this event possible and to our coaching and management team who help us to grow as players week in, week out. The weekend was a great opportunity in preparation for our ultimate tournament, Lower North Island Secondary Schools, in late August. Special acknowledgement and a huge congratulations to **Quinn Parker-Bishop** who won most valuable player of the tournament, this is an outstanding achievement, and we are so proud.

Sahara Cameron



Nurture Hauora

Tough Girl Challenge

The Year 12 PEO class ventured to Ngāruawāhia to participate in the Tough Girl challenge, a 6km mud run with over 1000 other students from over the North Island competing. They had spent 4 weeks training in class leading up to the event and were all pumped to get to the start line



Thursday evening, news of the gorge closure had reached the teachers, they quickly put their heads together to manage an alternative route home.



After the rains had cleared, the students took to the start line ready to embrace the tricky conditions, they all slipped, slid and scrambled their way through the course, crossing the finish line still having huge smiles on their faces. **Heidi Fenton** was first across the line amongst the class. **Mr Haylock** even managed to be the 'toughest teacher' being the first teacher to finish the race.

The journey home was equally as tough; road closures, detours, flooding, unusually low bridges and back country gravel roads kept us all on our toes.

Overall, a fantastic trip and all the students can all be proud of their effort and results.

