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Term 1 Week 7 Newsletter 2024

## Principal's message

### Message from the Principal - Week 7, Term 1.

Kia ora e te whānau,

Over the last two days, I have had the privilege of attending a first time principal's gathering for Catholic schools at the Home of Compassion in Island Bay. I have spent this time meeting new tumuaki, listening to guest speakers and reflecting on the year ahead. Connecting with people that are on a similar journey has confirmed that I have taken the right step into principalship. It has also made me think about my purpose. Today, I had to ask myself the question, "What fills my cup as a teacher or principal?"

I realised that the people around me fill my cup. I live for those moments where students, teachers and families achieve things they never thought possible. When the shy girl with a beautiful voice leads singing for the school, when the child that previously felt disconnected to his culture stands up and performs a whaikōrero at the pōwhiri. When the "non-verbal" child (who specialists thought would not be able to talk) is now chatting away in class and around the school. Helping our children and their families achieve more than they dreamed possible is my "why" and will always fill my cup.

During the last newsletter, our strategic plan was sent out to the community to look at, read, digest and provide feedback. A strategic plan is for our community and I wanted to very quickly outline "why" the board and school have chosen these three goals to focus on in 2024 & 2025.

**Goal 1 Kotahitanga/Community:** To work with whānau/ family to celebrate the identity, cultures and learning needs of all ākonga/ learners.

*Why this goal?*

- Students learn best and thrive when they have a strong sense of belonging and identity. We want our

children to be confident about their faith and who they are in the world.

- Working more with families gives us a better chance to know them, celebrate them and help them realise the potential of their children.

**Goal 2 Ako/Learning:** To actively involve ākonga/learners in purposeful and accessible learning opportunities.

*Why this goal?*

- We want students to experience and be a part of the world around them. They are the next generation of leaders and we want them to be servant leaders and critical thinkers in their world.

**Goal 3 Whakaako/Teaching:** To strengthen kaiako/teacher practice in teaching diverse ākonga/learners.

*Why this goal?*

- We want our teachers to strengthen their practice by learning the most up to date methods of teaching and how to teach to the different needs of children in our school.

The strategic plan is now up on the school website. Please feel free to pass on feedback as this plan is not only for the school but for our community. I will be continuing to update and change the plan as we reflect on our goals. I leave you with this whakataukī

"Tē tōia, tē haumatia"

Nothing can be achieved without a plan, workforce and a way of doing things.

Ngā mihi nui,

Tala



## Meaning of the Parable of the Sower

The human heart can be likened to different types of soil that receive The Seeds of the Word of God. Jesus used this analogy in the Parable of the Sower. The soil that the seed fell on represents four different reactions to the Word of God: the hard heart, the shallow heart, the crowded heart, and the fruitful heart.

1. First, there is the hard heart, the seed that falls along the roadside. This represents people who hear the Word of God, but never really believe.
2. Then there is the shallow heart. That is the seed that falls on stony ground. This signifies the people who hear the Word of God and receive it with joy, but because there is no root to sustain them, they wither.
3. Next, there is the crowded heart. That is the seed that falls on ground where weeds choke out its growth. Slowly and surely, these people, busy with the cares and riches of the world, just lose interest in the things of God.
4. Finally, there is the fruitful heart that receives the Word. The seed falls on good ground and the plants produce a rich harvest.

We are the ones who determine what kind of soil our hearts will be. We decide whether we will have a hard heart, a shallow heart, a crowded heart, or a receptive heart. The Word of God cannot work in our lives unless we have receptive hearts.

Room 7 has recreated the 4 different types of soil. In groups we learned that it often is easy to show kindness and aroha to your best friends, but what God really wants us to do is to stick to his path, even when things are not that easy. That means that we should try to also be kind, inclusive and caring for people that are not our best friends such as new families, people that are different and strangers that need help.

## Catholic Character



The Parable of the Sower [Mark 4:1-20](#)

A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."



We have been busy....



Attached are some photos from the Technology session on Tuesday for Year 7 & 8 (Room 1 & 2) students.

It was great to see stop motion animations, making custom lamps, chicken curry and tote bags.



Room 3 has been exploring Kaitiakitanga as we deepen our understanding. We have taken action by picking up rubbish around our kura, writing poems describing where we feel calm, and delving into the pūrākau of Rata and the Waka. We have communicated in talk circles, written quietly and worked together. We are looking forward to our hikoi in Seatoun next week to continue our learning.



## Celebrating St Patrick's Day



On Monday 18th March we will be celebrating St Patrick's Day. If you wish you can either come along dressed in green or in school uniform, this is entirely up to you.

## Letter from Archbishop Paul

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4303/archbishop\\_paul\\_martin\\_letter\\_to\\_the\\_people\\_7\\_march\\_compressed.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4303/archbishop_paul_martin_letter_to_the_people_7_march_compressed.pdf)

## GKR Karate

### FREE karate class after school

When: Monday 25th March

Where: In the school hall

Time: 3.15-4.15pm

For Whom: Holy Cross School kids, parents and their families  
Come along, give it a go!



## Health news

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4285/rheumatic\\_fever\\_school\\_letter\\_holy\\_cross\\_school.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4285/rheumatic_fever_school_letter_holy_cross_school.pdf)

## BOT vacancy

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If you would like to join the board please contact [botchair@hcm.school.nz](mailto:botchair@hcm.school.nz) or contact the office for more information.

The board meets twice a term in week 3 and week 8 and you will join a team of dedicated parents and proprietors reps to help with the governance of the school.

The position will be valid until September 2025 when the three yearly BOT elections will be held again.

## Holy Trinity mass on Sunday

Kia ora

We have had to replace the mains entry box to Holy Cross Church and although the work was completed on Wednesday, it won't be signed off in time for Mass this Sunday.

This means the 8.30am Mass this Sunday 17th March will be at St Patrick's Church in Kilbirnie.

Please let anyone you know who usually attends the 8.30am Mass that it has been moved.

Thank you for your help and understanding

## Garden to Table



Cilla has made these kono for use as harvest baskets for our Garden to Table programme. She is learning to weave and made them from the Harakeke growing on HCM grounds. These small baskets are for our herbs and one for vegetables/fruit. We really appreciate her support in the garden.

Ngā mihi

Olivia



[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4274/sweet\\_corn\\_fritters.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4274/sweet_corn_fritters.pdf)

### Luke - Gardener of the Day

Today in the garden Henry, Isaiah and Esme were watering the plants while Millie and Angelia cleaned the compost buckets after they collected it from the gate. Kaku and David figured out the difference between sweetcorn, strawberry corn and gem corn. The difference was apparently the size and the colour. Sweetcorn was the biggest and was yellow. Raspberry corn was the second biggest and was pinkish red. Gem corn was the same colour as raspberry corn but a bit smaller and the colours were a bit darker.

We need to be careful about working out the difference between the types of corn. This was very interesting. My favourite activity was passing around the apple slices to everyone. The apples also came from the garden.



### Nerine - Chef of the Day

Today Spinach group was in the kitchen, where we made Sweetcorn Fritters. I love Corn! I will love it forever!!

I liked everything about this recipe especially the taste. It was worth it. We had to be careful when we were grilling the fritters as we could burn ourselves and also be careful when chopping up the herbs from the garden. I wouldn't change anything about this recipe as I loved it!

I wish I had a lifetime supply of corn fritters!



## Whānau Hui on Monday 18th March

At Holy Cross School we have a number of our students that identify as Māori. We like to gather the whānau of these students at least once a term so we can

- + have a time of whakawhanaungatanga- building our relationships
- + discuss how Holy Cross meets the needs and aspirations of our Māori tamariki
- + plan together ways all in our school can experience the richness of Māori culture.

If you have tamariki that identify as Māori you are welcome to join us on

Monday 18th March in the staffroom.

Time- 6pm

Bring your whānau and a koha towards Fish and Chips kai.

Our agenda for this meeting is  
Whakawhanaungatanga - getting to know everyone  
Tikanga of pōwhiri at Holy Cross  
Planning of Matariki hāngī  
Feedback on the Strategic Plan  
Te Kura Correspondence & Te Matoe o te Reo Symposium  
21st March  
Anything else anyone wanted to discuss

## Success at Athletics..

Congratulations to Angel, Brooklyn, Cattleya & Dreius Mativa and Anira Durkin who participated in the Wellington Junior Athletic Champions over the last 2 weekends and placed extremely well.

Results:

Angel Mativa – 10 Girl

200m – 2<sup>nd</sup> place Silver medal

400m – 1<sup>st</sup> place Gold medal

100m – 1<sup>st</sup> place Gold medal

Long jump – 7<sup>th</sup> place

Brooklyn – 8 Girl

Discus – 2<sup>nd</sup> place Silver medal

Shotput – 2<sup>nd</sup> place Silver medal

Cattleya – 7 Girl

Discus – 1<sup>st</sup> place Gold medal

Shotput – 1<sup>st</sup> place Gold medal

Dreius – 7 Girls

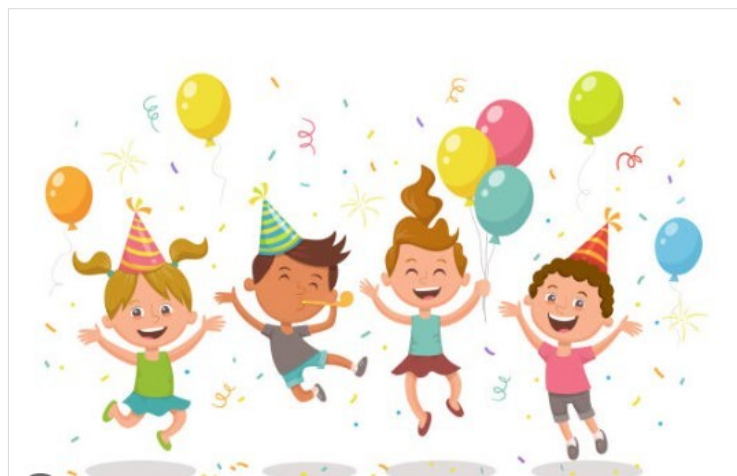
Discus – 4<sup>th</sup> place

Shotput – 4<sup>th</sup> place

Attached - podium photo is Angel (100m 1<sup>st</sup>) and Anira (100m 3<sup>rd</sup>)



## Who's Celebrating their Birthday?



Big Happy Birthday to the following students:

Daniel B, Alexandra, Isabel, Hope and Hawi.

Have a great day everyone.

## Inspire Photography

Hello parents,

We would like to invite you all to view your pictures at Inspire Photography's online ordering site. This gallery and ordering system is live and working as of now. This gallery will close at midnight on Tuesday 26th March 2024 and orders

placed before the fundraising period finished aim to be dropped off at your school by Term 2 Week 1. Orders to be posted will be processed at the same time as the prints that are to be returned to the school. Digital files are purchased as is and retouching requests may incur fees.

The gallery will remain live and online for up to 12 months after the main ordering period closes, postage and packing fees may also apply as drop off at school is not available with late orders. The school does not receive any fundraising donations on sales after the main ordering period finishes.

To view and order your photographs:

1. Go to our website at <https://www.inspirephotocart.co.nz>
2. Log in or create an account. This is an important first step as it should save the passwords you use and should stop you having to re-enter the passcode every time you wish to view the images.
3. Enter the unique codes on the info leaflet(s) sent home with your child(ren) - there are two codes; one for individual/sibling shots and one for groups:
4. If you have misplaced the codes, please contact the school office [administration@hcm.school.nz](mailto:administration@hcm.school.nz) for your unique code(s)
5. Save the images you would like to purchase to your 'Favourites'
6. Groups code: Save the relevant class groups to your 'Favourites'. Please check your child's name is spelled correctly and let us know before 26.03.24 if amendment is needed
7. We recommend adding your images to the shopping cart from your 'Favourites' page - the images should be easier to navigate between from there.

Please check your order confirmation email closely and get in touch if you believe your confirmed order does not match what you wanted to order. Incorrectly-ordered prints can not be swapped or reimbursed.

If you require help with the ordering ordering process or have any other questions around ordering, you can best reach us by email: [orders@inspirephotography.co.nz](mailto:orders@inspirephotography.co.nz)

Kind regards,

The Inspire Team.

[orders@inspirephotography.co.nz](mailto:orders@inspirephotography.co.nz)

043848009

Inspire Photography

Studio 3, Level 1

177B Thorndon Quay, Pipitea 6011

## Camp donation receipt

If you would like a donation receipt for camp in order to claim your doantion tax credit, please contact Suzanne [finance@hcm.school.nz](mailto:finance@hcm.school.nz) for a receipt.

## Yummy Apple stickers





Collect the Yummy cut-out labels from bags (each cut-out label is worth 10 stickers) and individual Yummy apple stickers for a share of the \$200,000 free sports gear prize pool. Yummy apples are available from New World, PAK'nSAVE and participating Four Square stores. The more you collect, the more sports gear you get so get going and start collecting your Yummy cut-out labels and stickers now!

You can drop your labels into the office and pick up a tally sheet from us.

gift to the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 online at [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz), or using the envelopes provided at Mass.

Thank you!

## Parish Newsletter and April Mass roster

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4299/72.\\_mass\\_roster\\_holy\\_trinity\\_april\\_24\\_compressed.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4299/72._mass_roster_holy_trinity_april_24_compressed.pdf)

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4300/17\\_march\\_2024\\_final\\_compressed.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4300/17_march_2024_final_compressed.pdf)



## Wellington Harriers Children's Cross Country

Our Open day is Saturday 6th April at 1.45pm.

We meet at that the Wellington Harrier Club rooms on Alexandre Road Mount Victoria.

The season will start with a relay (Donaldson Memorial) near our club rooms on Mt Victoria. This relay race is a fun introduction with mixed teams of adults and kids, laps are about 1.5k, and new members are very welcome to come along and give it a go!

We offer two midweek after school cross country trainings, run by Athletics New Zealand Accredited Coaches.

Close to our clubrooms we are lucky to have 8 different training locations, providing lots of variety to keep trainings interesting and fun! Our clubrooms couldn't be in a better spot. They're also a fun place to hang out in, before and after training. A pool table, table tennis table and foosball table are also available for indoor amusement.

We also assist with training for primary/intermediate age children competing in the school's cross country competition and help with fitness for other sports.

Our races are held on Saturday afternoons except for Wellington Cross Country Champs. They are held on a Sunday.

There are 5 club races and 7 interclub races. throughout the season and entry to these races is free. (Note interclub races are only open to club members) The membership period lasts for 12 months so if you join in the winter it also covers the summer athletics program which is held at Newtown Park.

Register at - <http://www.whac.org.nz>

For more information please contact:

Julie Richards

Children's Manager

[juliemaerdy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:juliemaerdy@yahoo.co.uk)

0212959026

## Community Notices

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4297/miramar\\_central\\_school\\_fair\\_2024.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4297/miramar_central_school_fair_2024.pdf)



## Caritas Lent Appeal

Each year, Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand runs the Bishops' Lent Appeal to support their work to aid and empower the most poor and vulnerable in our society.

For the Catholic community, Caritas is the means by which we help our brothers and sisters in need across the Pacific and beyond. – upholding their human dignity through partnerships grounded in Catholic social teaching.

Over the last couple of years there has been a drop in giving to Caritas, putting pressure on their ability to fund programmes that serve those most in need.

We ask that during this time of preparation and almsgiving, you may consider to make a special

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4304/boost\\_your\\_learning\\_poster.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4304/boost_your_learning_poster.pdf)

### St Patrick's Day Parade and Concert

Celebrate St Patrick's Day on Sunday 17th March along the Wellington Waterfront. Entertainment begins at 12pm at Kumutoto Square (near Flamingo Joe's) with the annual Parade starting from there at 1pm. At 1:30pm the Concert under the sails at Queens Wharf showcases Irish culture with Irish dancing and top local musicians. There's something for everyone with activities for kids and the popular 'best dressed in green'. More detail on Facebook [WellingtonIrish](#)

[https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4265/saint\\_patrick\\_s\\_day\\_poster\\_2024.pdf](https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4265/saint_patrick_s_day_poster_2024.pdf)

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