

From our Acting Principal Mrs Cat Roberts

**Tēnā koutou katoa
Nga mihi nui ki a koutou**

It is my pleasure to write this newsletter as the Acting Principal while Miss Gunn is away for her well-earned Sabbatical Leave.

As the end of Term One is approaching and we reflect on the happenings of these first ten weeks of the school year, it is not hard to see why it feels like this term has passed in the blink of an eye. This year, my eldest child started school. Watching the process of learning from a parent's perspective has been fascinating, and at times I find myself asking what I can do to help my child more. There are lots of ways that as parents you can be involved in your daughter's learning journey: ask what she is learning – not just doing in her classes, but learning; support her in doing her homework by providing a quiet space to work – encourage her to put her phone away while she does this to allow her to focus, interruption free; meet with her teachers kanohi ki te kanohi at our 'meet the teacher' evenings. This is an excellent opportunity to sit down with your daughter's teachers to discuss her learning progress, and what you might be able to do to support this.

It is also timely to consider the impact that absences and lateness to school has on student learning and, consequently, often their academic success. While absences due to illness are to be expected, of more concern is when absenteeism and lateness become habitual. Missing one day of school every fortnight equates to four weeks of missed learning over a single school year. Similarly, missing 10 minutes of Period 1 every day adds up to one lesson per week of missed learning opportunities compared to their peers. Lost minutes are lost learning!

No doubt the learning students have done so far this year is already being assessed in their classes, and we appreciate that workload is often increased around this time of term due to this. Our recent staff only day was timed strategically to try to alleviate some of the stress that senior students in particular may be experiencing at the moment. It also coincided with Summer Tournament week, where a number of our sportswomen were out competing in National competitions - our rowers competed at Maadi Cup, our paddlers competed at the Waka Ama Championships, and our Sevens rugby players at the North Island Secondary Schools Tournament. As always, these young women have represented us in a way that embodies our school motto: Age Quod Agis.

As Holy Week approaches, we remember Jesus' last week alive on Earth. We may also reflect on the fickleness of those who celebrated Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem only to call for his death days later. In a time in our own country where we are reminded of the hate that prejudice and discrimination can achieve, we must not waiver in our love and devotion but instead remain steadfast in our faith. In this Holy Week, let us all stay loyal to God, even in the difficult times.

UPCOMING DATES TO DIARY

- 6th & 7th April NISS Athletics
 - 8th April Junior Meet the Teacher Evening
- Hall (3.30-5.30pm)
BOT Meeting - Parent Drop-in session
(6.00-7.00pm)
 - 12th April Holy Week Liturgy - Early finish at 1.30pm
Last day of Term 1
- PLEASE NOTE - TERM 2 dates:**
- 29th April Students by Appointment only Day
 - 30th April School resumes - Term 2
Change to Winter Uniform

Our Vision

Ignite the Passion: inspiring young women to change the world - me aro ki te hā o Hineahuone.

We live the virtues of Faith, Hope and Justice.

Our charism is expressed through **Communion, Contemplation, Mission.**

EASTER

Easter is the most important feast on the Christian calendar, for us as a Catholic community is a time to remember that 'we are resurrection people and Alleluia is our song'.

The 40 days of Lent have been a time to contemplate the life of Christ and his willingness to lay down his life for us. During Lent we have been involved in a number of service activities bringing hope to those around us. Mrs Jamieson and the Liturgical Singers led music at a 6pm Mass at the Cathedral and two CCM groups have been out cooking at the Vinnies Centre. Last week another group went to the Caritas Leadership Day in Rotorua and from this we organised our Caritas Challenge where we raised funds for aid work in South Sudan.

On Friday 5th April we, along with many New Zealanders, wore gumboots in support of people experiencing depression.

As a school community we were deeply saddened by the tragic killings of our Muslim sisters and brothers in Christchurch. We have taken time to look at who we are and how we respond to people and there have been some challenging and positive conversations within classes and in our staffroom. We have focused on being a people of hope, especially as we move towards Easter.

Our Holy Week Liturgy will take place on the last day of Term 1. A group of students from Years 9, 10 and 13 have been using their VCE time to prepare a liturgy for us.

We wish you all a blessed and holy Easter, take time to be with family and those you love. Take time to go to Church and to remember that love came to us in the form of a baby who grew into the truth that sets us free, Jesus.



COUNTRY AND WESTERN MUSIC COMPETITION

Year 9 student Avalldamarie Godinet took away top prizes at the recent Auckland Country and Western Music Competitions, winning the Country Rock section, coming runner up in Junior Gospel section and runner up overall in the Junior section. She is also a member of our Heart Attack Barbershop Chorus, The Big Sing Project and the newly formed Performance Troupe for 2019. Well done Avalldamarie.



STUDENT ABSENCES

Email: absences@shgcham.school.nz

Phone: 07 856 7874 ext 2852

OPEN DAY

Thursday 9th May

11.00 – 12.30pm

1.30 – 3.00pm

Click on the link below for more info:
New Enrolments

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Sevens

Presenting the North Island Secondary Schools Sevens Plate U15 Girls Champions! Our girls beat Long Bay in the semi 22-7 then Tauranga Girls 31-10 in the final! Congratulations, what a great effort!



Maadi

SHGC Rowing took a squad of 18 girls to the NZ Secondary Schools Rowing Championships (Maadi Cup) last week at Lake Karapiro. All girls learnt lots throughout the week, including that not only are there more crews to compete with but the intensity of the races goes up another level.



For more results follow the link here: [Maadi Cup Results](#)



SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Equestrian

Jessica-Rose Young has a big smile on her face - and so she should! She is a member of the school Equestrian team and achieved two firsts in the St Peter's Invitational Dressage Pony class in the weekend. This is Jessica-Rose's first year at Sacred Heart. Well done!



Waka Ama

Last week a team of seven girls participated in the NZSS Waka Ama Nationals at the Blue Lake (Tikitapu), Rotorua. Overall results were 7th in the Plate 250m semi-final and 6th in the 500m semi-final. The team gained plenty of experience and are looking forward to next year's competition.



Lacrosse

Interested in playing Lacrosse? Ever wanted to give it a go? Come and join us for pre-season training on Wednesday's 3.30pm at Steele Park.

Football Update

The football year started early with pre-season trainings on Tuesdays and Thursdays attracting many enthusiastic players. Thanks to this year's First XI coaches Chris Reed-Hadley and Phil Fletcher for their time and effort in organising and running these sessions. The trainings culminated in trials where we were fortunate to have two guest selectors, Rodi Rojas (former Northern League Coach, Manager) and Andrea Rogers (former NZ Football Ferns and Arsenal Women's team). Many thanks to them both for taking the time to help select from the quality players we are lucky to have at Sacred Heart. We have been successful in being able to enter three enthusiastic teams into the Waikato Secondary Schools competition this season which kicks off in the first weekend of Term 2.

If you would like to be involved in the Football and/or Futsal program as a coach or manager please contact Mr Stokes in the Sports Department.

Cross Country

Tuesday 7th May 8.45 - 11.30am at Days Park.

Keep an eye out for more information to register.

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

Our senior French students had the opportunity to go to any of a number of top rated French films during the two week French Film Festival at the Lido. As a lead up to this, Louisa Mulligan, native French speaker and member of the Alliance Francaise of Hamilton came in and did a teaching session with the girls on the film they had chosen. As a treat, she brought in a whole box of enormous "pain au chocolat" for everyone to enjoy. One of the joys of learning another language is the exposure to another culture through films and food, even here in Hamilton.



SENIOR FRENCH CAMP

Bonjour tout le monde! On the 8th March, the Year 13 French class travelled to Kopua Holiday Park in Raglan for our Senior French "Camp d'Immersion." We were joined by three other schools; Cambridge, St. Peter's, and Hillcrest High. Each school was split into three groups with the different schools combined, which allowed us to get to know new people, make friends, and to speak French with fellow students. Even with the rain, we still had fun! The groups participated in different activities such as making a French monument out of newspaper, a quiz, charades, and solving a mystery. We even had a scavenger hunt in town, which was awesome because it gave us the opportunity to explore!

In the evening, we had a concert where each school performed a skit. Our school sang a bunch of songs which Madame had taught us in class over the previous years. Afterwards, we had the option of watching a French movie while drinking hot chocolate. The next morning, we had a breakfast of croissants and toast, then we walked to the beach where we made French icons out of sand. A group made a map of France, another made the Arc de Triomphe, and another made the Mona Lisa! Unfortunately, the activity was interrupted by the rain, so we returned to the camp and to our warm dorm rooms. Later, certificates were awarded to outstanding students within the four schools. And finally, we said our goodbyes.

Overall, it was an amazing experience to be able to interact and connect with other French-speaking students. It's definitely one of the things we'll remember the most about being in a French class.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Memberships are here, with exclusive offers for activities, attractions, shopping, travel and all kinds of tasty treats - from cool cafes to fabulous fine dining. With Entertainment Books there are thousands of experiences you can enjoy, while raising funds to help Sacred Heart purchase Laptops, for full-school use.

By ordering now you will also take advantage of the bonus Early Bird Offers included, which are only available when you purchase an Entertainment Book before 1st June 2019.

Click on the link here: [Early-Bird-Offers](#)

To see what deal's are available in the Entertainment Book, click on the link here: [Entertainment Flickbook](#)

ORDER NOW ... DON'T DELAY!

Click on the link here: [ENTERTAINMENT BOOK ORDER](#)

Please don't hesitate to share this great offer with family and friends! For further details contact Nic Davis:

hearts@shgcham.school.nz or phone: 856 7874 ext 2801



Support us NOW!

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

It has been a week of farewells (and a few tears) as the rest of our short-term Japanese students headed home.

Before they left, the girls from Kojimachi spent some time with members of the Sacred Heart Kapa haka group and learned some new skills.

Julie Radice, Director of International Students



SHGC SPECIAL CHARACTER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Board of Trustees (BoT) invites applications from Year 10-12 students to apply for a Special Character Student Scholarship award, from a fund of up to \$2000.00.

Timeline for 2019 applications:

Week 2/Term 2 – Friday 10th May 2019

Applications close 3.30pm

Week 3/Term 2 – Friday 17th May 2019

Selection decisions made, interviews if necessary

Week 4/Term 2 – Friday 24th May 2019

Successful applicants announced

To apply, click on the link below:

[SHGC Special Character Student Scholarship Application](#)

NZQA FEES

NZQA fees have now been charged and invoiced. If you have a community services card, or believe you are eligible for assistance, contact accounts department for the correct form: accounts@shgcham.school.nz. Alternatively follow the link here: [NZQA Financial assistance form](#)

BOARD ELECTIONS

Board elections are being held on Friday 24 May, 2019. The Board of Trustees is hosting a drop in session for anyone considering putting their names forward for Parent Representative positions on the Board. This is also the ideal opportunity to find out what is involved in becoming a Parent Representative.

The session will be on Monday 8th April 2019, between 6-7pm, in the St Catherine's room, located in our main Administration block, entry off Clyde Street. Parking is also available behind the Chapel across the road (entry via Notre Dame Court).

If you have any queries please contact the Board Secretary, Mrs Vivienne Leddy on 07 856-7874 ext 2856.

NZ UNIFORMS



Sacred Heart Year 13 Blouses have arrived and are available for purchase.

BOT ELECTIONS

If you can
share your skills
you can be
a trustee

YOUR RETURNING OFFICER IS:
W McLeod
Sacred Heart Girls' College
52 Clyde Street
Hamilton East
Hamilton 3247
07 856 7874
wmcleod@shgcham.school.nz



For more information follow the link below.
Link: [School Trustee Elections](#)