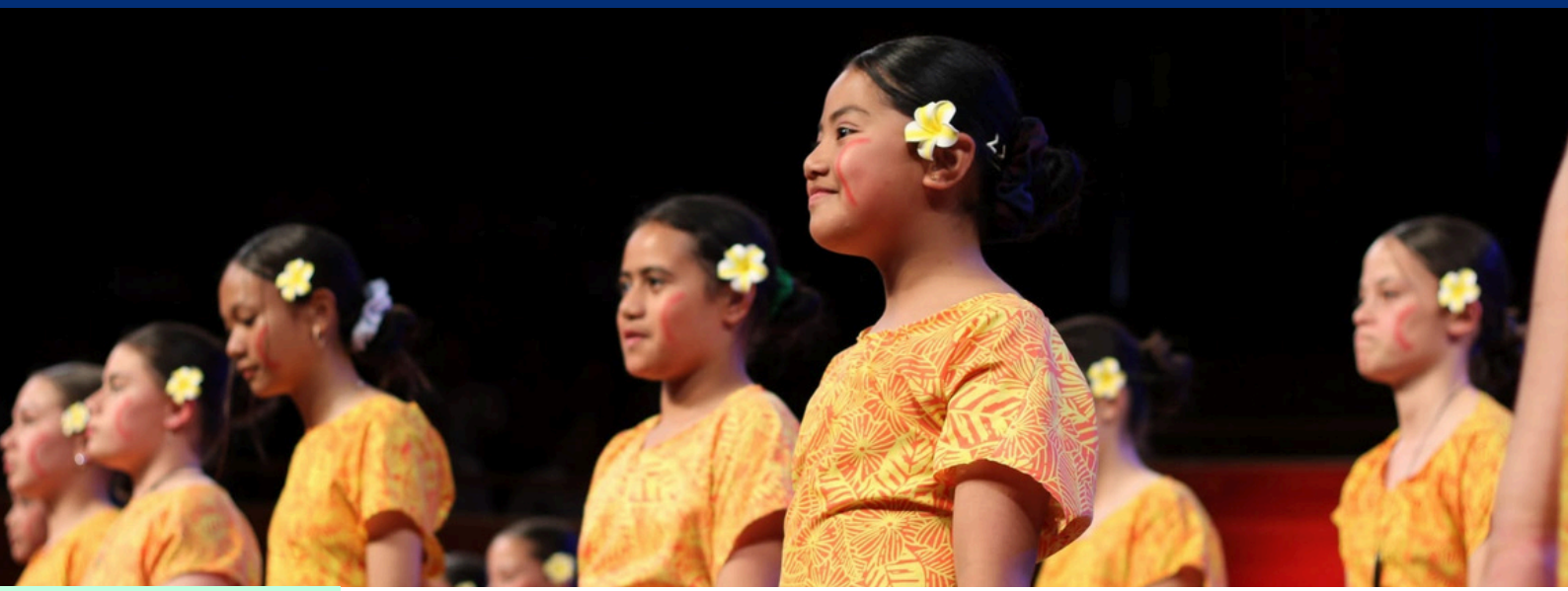
Term 4- Week 3
Newsletter 2026

Holy Cross School
Newsletter



Important Dates:

Monday 2nd November
PSG Meeting in Staffroom 7-8pm

Every Tuesday
Breakfast Club - 8am hall

Wednesday 4th November
Eastern Zone Athletics

Every Thursday
Year 1-3 swimming

Friday 6th November
R4 Trip to Miramar Library 10.15-11.15am

Friday 20th November
R1 & R2 City Art Gallery/Library trip

School Production Tuesday 24th November, Wednesday 25th November
6pm school hall
Pre- order your tickets

Principal's Message

Talofa lava, kia ora and warm greetings to our Holy Cross whānau,

The past few weeks have been filled with exciting activities and special events for our tamariki. From welcoming new students through our pōwhiri, to performing at Tagata Moana at the Michael Fowler Centre and competing in our school athletics, there has been plenty to celebrate! Labour Day also gave us an extra day to rest and recharge before the busy weeks ahead.

And we're not finished yet! We still have our mini school production in Week 7, our Year 8 graduation and, to finish the year, with a family picnic and Christmas carols.

Tagata Moana – A moment to shine!

Over the past two terms, I have had the privilege of helping lead our tamariki as they prepared for their Tagata Moana performance. I deliberately challenged them throughout rehearsals because I knew they were capable of achieving a high standard and wanted them to realise just how much they could accomplish.

Principal's Message

Tagata Moana 2026

On the night, every single one of them shone on stage! They stepped up, embraced the challenge and performed with confidence in front of a much larger audience than many were used to. Well done, tamariki! You have done yourselves, your whānau and Holy Cross proud.

One of my favourite moments came after our performance, as we made our way back to our seats. Our families were waiting near the gate to welcome us back, with parents, siblings and friends cheering us on. The smiles on our tamariki's faces, matched by the pride and excitement of their whānau, were simply priceless. It was a beautiful reminder of what happens when our school and families come together to celebrate our children.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Evelyn, Lyn, Francis Perez and Chris Paese for the time, energy and commitment they put into creating our performance items and supporting our group throughout this special event. Your contribution helped make this experience such a memorable one for our tamariki.











Principal's Message

Tagata Moana 2026

















Principal's Message

Phones at School



Holy Cross School Cellphone Policy

Last week, we dealt with a social media incident that began outside of school but affected our tamariki at Holy Cross. Private conversations and photos were shared online, leading to gossip and concerns about students keeping their phones in their bags.

Our school policy is "**Phones away for the day.**" This means no cellphone use from the moment students enter the school gates until they leave at the end of the day. We want Holy Cross to be a safe place for all our tamariki, where everyone feels respected, included and safe. To protect our students' privacy and wellbeing, we are strengthening our cellphone procedures. We ask all families to support us by following the student cellphone process below.

1. **Students who bring phones to school must label their phones clearly and put them into their class phone bag in the office as soon as they arrive at school.**
2. Each class phone bag will have an accompanying list of students who are expected to bring a phone to school.
3. Teachers will collect their phone bags from the office and check that all cell phones are in the class phone bag.
4. All phones will then return to the office. Phones will return to the classroom at the end of the day for students to collect.

This process keeps all students safe digitally throughout the day whilst removing temptations to use phones during school time.

As part of our school policy, *if students are found using their phones during school hours, they will be confiscated and an adult or caregiver must pick the device up from the school office.*

Principal's Message

Keeping Safe Online



Online Safety - Navigating the Digital World

Moving forward, to keep our tamariki safe, I will be sharing online safety tips for our families as the world of AI and social media continues to play a big part in our children's lives. The recommended age limit for children using apps such as Instagram, Tik tok and Snapchat sits at 13+ however this is not the reality in New Zealand. This means that our kids are exposed to themes, messages and trends that are beyond the maturity of lots of our children.

A few questions to consider are:

- Is your child on social media? If so, what apps do they use?
- How do you keep them safe online?

Digital guardian guide - Supports you and your whānau to have safe, confident and positive online experiences. From setting boundaries and managing devices, to preparing for digital milestones and handling online challenges.

Tik Tok Safety Guide - This allows you to link your account to your teens', so you can decide what they can see, how long they spend online, and who they interact with.

Guide to Snapchat - This link explains how Snapchat works and how you can enhance security for your child on the app.

Where should parents start?

If you're unsure where to begin, start with these simple actions:

1. Ask your child which apps they use and sit down together to explore one.
2. Check their privacy settings and who can contact them.
3. Have a conversation about what they should do if something online makes them feel uncomfortable.

Online safety starts with open conversations, clear boundaries and ongoing guidance. We cannot monitor every online interaction our children have, but we can help them develop the confidence to make safe choices and seek help when something doesn't feel right. Let's work together to keep our tamariki safe, both inside and outside the school gates.

Ngā mihi nui,
Matua Tala

Online Safety
– Navigating the Digital World –

You don't need to be a tech expert to keep your child safe. Small steps can make a big difference!

1 Ask your child to show you their favourite app.



Sit beside them and ask them to show you what they watch, how they send messages, how they share photos and who can contact them.

2 Know who your child is talking to.



Ask who their online friends are. Encourage them to connect only with people they know and trust in real life. Remind them that people online may not be who they claim to be.

3 Check privacy settings together.



Ask your child to help you find the app's settings. Check whether their account is private, who can message them and who can see their posts.

4 Set simple family rules.



For example, devices stay in shared family spaces, phones are charged outside bedrooms overnight, and there is no screen time during meals or at bedtime.

5 Teach them to pause before sharing.



Explain that messages, photos and screenshots can be saved, copied and shared with others, even when an app says they will disappear. Encourage them never to share private information.

6 Make sure your child knows they can come to you.



Tell them they can ask for help if someone is unkind, sends something upsetting, pressures them to share photos or makes them feel uncomfortable. Stay calm and listen – children need to know they won't automatically lose their device for telling you something.

7 Learn how to block and report.



Ask your child to show you how to block an account and report harmful messages or content. If something concerning happens, save relevant evidence (such as screenshots) and seek advice from Netsafe.

Start here this week!

- ☐ Ask your child which apps they use and explore one together.
- ☐ Check their privacy settings and who can contact them.
- ☐ Have a conversation about what they should do if something online makes them feel uncomfortable.

Trusted Resources

netsafe	Digital Guardian	Keep It Real Online
netsafe.org.nz	digitalguardian.guide	keepitrealonline.govt.nz

Let's work together to keep our tamariki safe, both online and offline.

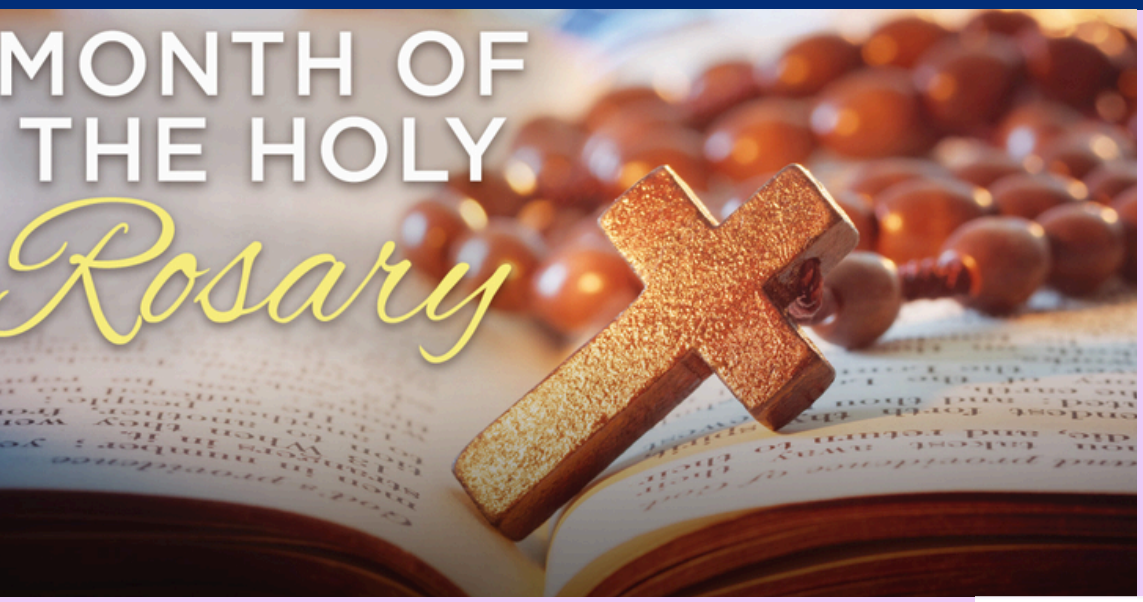
Ngā mihi nui,
Holy Cross School



Catholic Character

Director of Religious Studies
Simone Meech

Holy Cross School
Miramar, Wellington
Te Rotokura



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. October includes the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, celebrated on 7 October. At HCS we have been learning the prayers of the Rosary and have been reflecting about Jesus' life in our classes, on our individual levels.

Praying the Rosary

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the Apostles' Creed.
3. On the first bead, say an Our Father.
4. Say one Hail Mary on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the Glory Be
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery (perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture) then say the Our Father.
7. While holding each of the ten beads of the decade, say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a Glory Be.
8. After saying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen.
9. Conclude the Rosary with the Sign of the Cross.

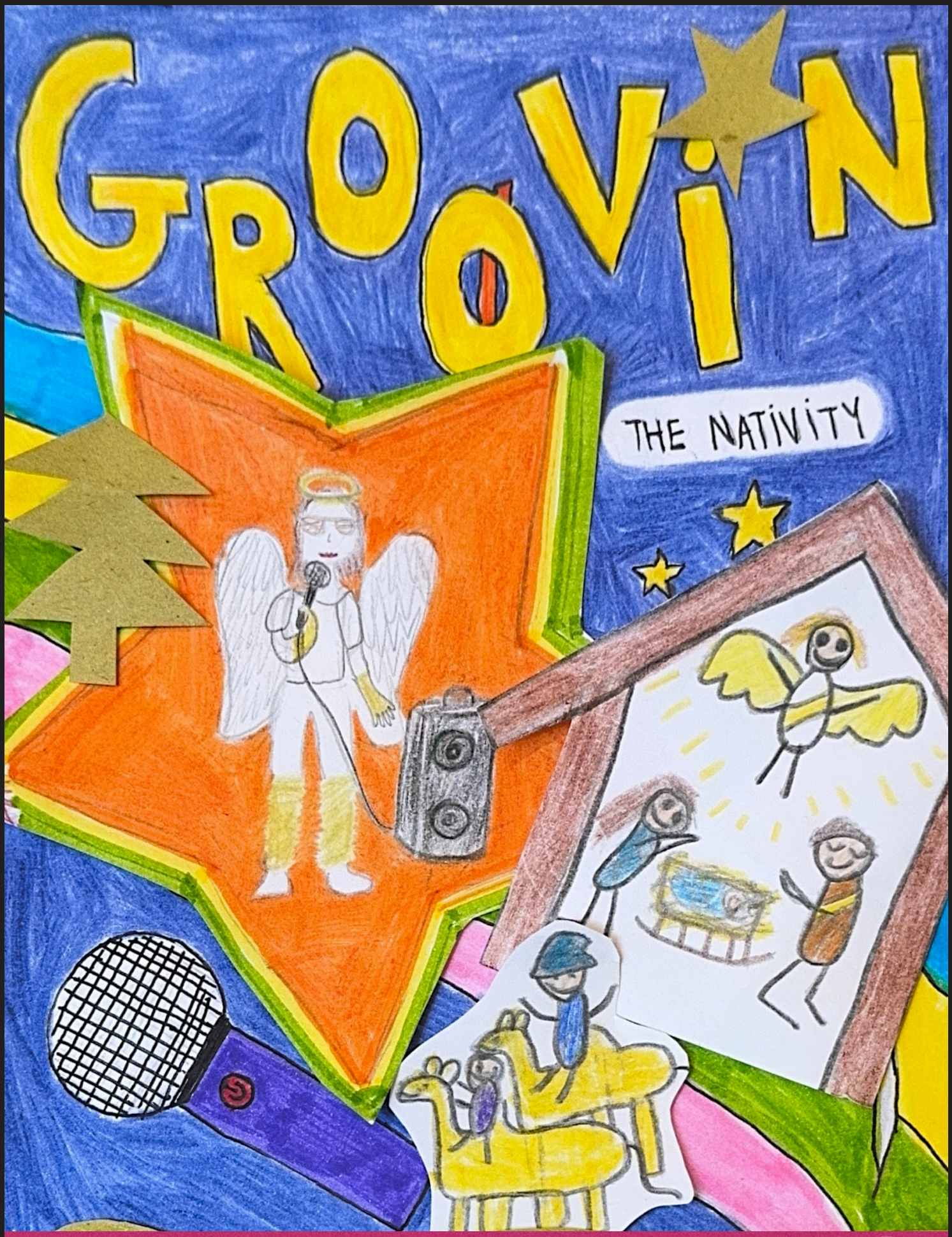
Looking ahead, in the coming weeks HCS will be learning about Saints, what it means to be holy and our own personal call to holiness, as modelled by Jesus. We will also be honouring, remembering and praying for all who passed away.



ALL SAINTS DAY - NOVEMBER, 1ST
ALL SOULS DAY - NOVEMBER, 2ND



THE PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY



24th & 25th of November, 6pm in the school hall

Please pre-order your tickets. We welcome a donation for tickets (up to $5 per person). Cash or online transfer.

Holy Cross School
Miramar, Wellington
Te Rotokura

Groovin' the Nativity
What a show!

We are busy bringing all the bits and pieces together for our upcoming production, Groovin' the Nativity, happening on Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 November. We can't wait to share this special event with our Holy Cross whānau!

ALL TAMARIKI WILL BE ON STAGE!
We have organised the show so that every child gets their moment to shine. With an audience capacity of 200 people each night, we encourage you to book your tickets as soon as possible so you don't miss out!

Attendance and timings
All tamariki are expected to attend both evenings, as every child has a part to play in making our production a success.
Drop-off: 5.30pm
Pick-up: 7.15pm from your child's classroom if you are not staying to watch the show that evening.

Costumes
Later this week, your child's class teacher will send home a newsletter outlining what your child needs to wear for their costume. We are aiming to keep costumes as simple as possible, so please look out for this information.

Can you help us source some items?
Rather than purchasing everything new, we would love to borrow or source some items from our school community.

- Old sunglasses for Rooms 1 and 4, and some of the Wise Men
- Five old play phones or cellphones
- A basket of fake fruit
- Four old tartan picnic blankets
- Fairy wings and tutus for Room 4
- A disco ball

If you have any of these items that we could borrow, please send them to the school office with your family name clearly attached. We will make sure they are returned after the show. Thank you for helping us bring this production to life. With everyone's support, we are looking forward to a fun, memorable event where all our tamariki can shine!

Ngā mihi nui,
Lyn Hough

Senior Syndicate





This term is all about performance- an activity that taps into our Yes! value of being courageous and putting ourselves out there. We have had an amazing start with Tangata Moana- what a wonderful inaugural display of culture and talent! Not all of our Senior syndicate has been involved but those that have will have some wonderful memories to treasure. This has been great preparation for our next big performance- Groovin the Nativity. All children will be on stage! Everyone gets a moment in the spotlight so we are expecting bursting at the seams audiences on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th November from 6pm. This is a school activity- so we look forward to having all our senior students attend. Tamariki have been very involved already with designing posters and programs, sharing ideas for dances, learning words both for speaking and for singing. It is coming together in an exciting way.

Other memorable activities taking place this term include Class trips to the newly opened City Gallery- Te Whare Toi to view the art work of Cornelia Parker and also visits to find our way around the revamped City Library Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui. Room 5 and 6 went on Friday and Rooms 1 and 2 will be there on Friday 20th November. Please let teachers know if you can help out.

Graduation is also on the horizon for our wonderful group of 24 Year 8 students. This year the event has been elevated somewhat with a special dinner and Graduation ceremony at the Pines Restaurant on Wednesday the 9th of December. Again, special memories will be made.

We began the term with our own athletics sports day and from this event, there are approximately 40 students going on to Eastern Zones athletics this Wednesday- all the best to our talented tamariki as they practice their whānau (supporting the team) and yes (doing the best we can!) values.

Learning is still very much front and centre especially as we implement our end of year assessment activities. We are gathering data through tests and activities that will confirm teacher judgements about where students will be against their year level curriculum come the end of the year. This will be shared with you all in the end of year reports which are due out on Friday 4th December along with class placements for 2027.

Lots happening in the last term of 2026- it will be a memorable finish to another great year of learning.



Junior Syndicate





Our schoolwide overarching theme for 2026 is
Ka Whiti Mai te Ra
Let Your Light Shine





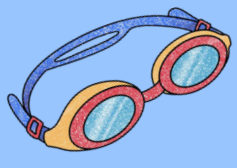






In the junior school, we are letting our lights shine this term by developing our dancing, singing and speaking skills, as we prepare for our Christmas show. We will be focusing on the nativity story, and we'll have fun making Christmas crafts with our friends. We are heading to the pool each week to learn to swim, and while we're there, we'll work on building independence by looking after our gear and getting ourselves dressed.







School News

Holy Cross School
Miramar, Wellington
Te Rotokura

Summer Uniform in term 4

Year 1- 6 students

- Shorts/ Skort - navy
- Holy Cross polo shirt - blue,white and maroon
- Socks - navy cotton ¾ length
- HC maroon jersey/polar fleece with logo
- HC jacket - blue
- Hats (cap/bucket) - navy
- Shoes/black sandals (all black)

OPTIONS

- HC dress (optional)

Year 7 - 8 students

- Shorts/Skort - navy
- Holy Cross polo shirt- blue,white and maroon
- Socks - navy cotton ¾ length
- HC maroon jersey/polar fleece with logo
- HC jacket - blue
- Shoes/Black sandals (all black)

OPTIONS

- Shirt long sleeve sky colour (optional)
- Blouse - HC white short sleeve split hem with school logo (optional)
- Skirt - tartan box pleat (optional)



Reminders: Payments for Sports & Technology

Unfortunately, we have outstanding payments for:

- Futsal, basketball, touch & floorball (invoices emailed to you on 16/10/26) and
- Year 7 & 8 students technology payments

If any of these are outstanding for your family, please arrange to pay at your earliest convenience at ASB 12 3174 0252703 00.

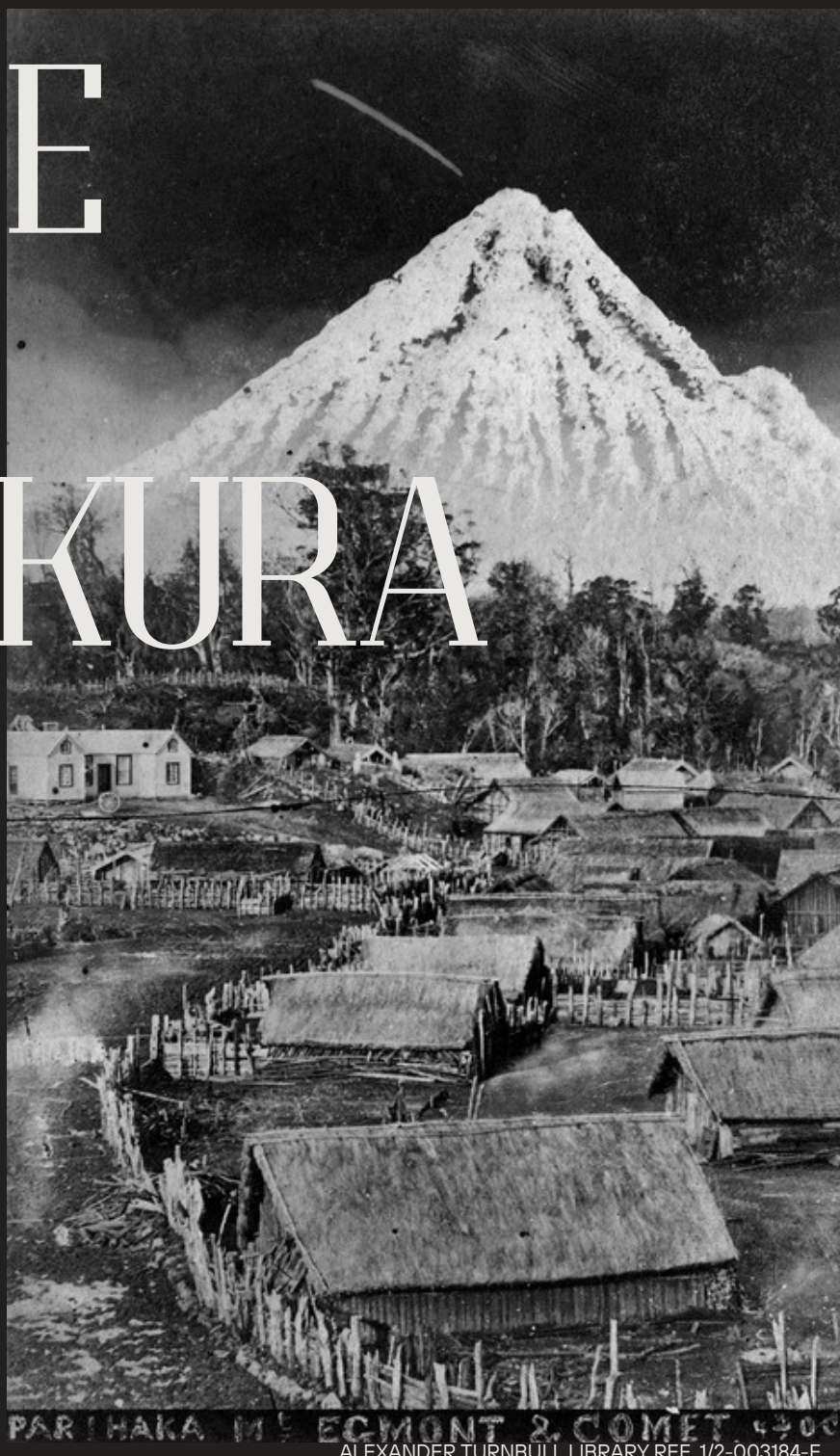
Happy Birthday to..

Anira, Aria, Avery K, James, Izrael-Jerome, Tessa, Luna and Maia T.

Lots of blessings on your special day!



HOMAGE TO TE RAUKURA



ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY REF. 1/2-003184-F

THE POWER OF PEACEFUL RESISTANCE

AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE
TO MARK THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESPONSE TO THE INVASION BY COLONIAL TROOPS OF THE VILLAGE OF PARIHAKA ON 5 NOVEMBER 1881.

HOSTED BY RICHARD SHAW
AUTHOR OF
THE FORGOTTEN COAST

FREE ADMISSION

5 NOVEMBER 2026

6:30PM-8:30PM
ST MARY OF THE ANGELS, BOULCOTT ST

Archdiocese of Wellington
Commission for Ecology, Justice and Peace

MORE INFORMATION ON HUMANITIX

Community News

Miramar Tennis Club

Junior Development Programme: We have partnered with One Community Tennis to run this programme on Monday afternoons in Term 4. It is very similar to what used to be called Hot Shots. There are three levels: red ball (5-8 yr olds), orange ball (8-10 yr olds) and green (9+ yr olds). There is more information, contact details, and a link to the One Community Tennis booking page on our website

Friday Family Community Play: All are welcome to these fun informal sessions which we're starting up again on Friday afternoons 4-5pm. They are a great opportunity for parents to have a fun time with their kids, with guidance from some of the clubs' seniors. Only $6 a session for non-members (and free for members)! There is more information and a link for booking on our website (you can also just pay cash on the day).



CAPITAL GYMNASTICS

At Capital Gymnastics, our focus goes beyond teaching gymnastics skills. We're passionate about building lifelong friendships, fostering a sense of belonging, and helping every athlete reach their full potential.

Whether your child joins us for recreational classes, holiday programmes, or competitive gymnastics, they become part of the Capital Gymnastics family — a community that celebrates effort, supports one another, and inspires confidence both inside and outside the gym.

To find out more or to enrol, please visit our website or email us at office@capitalgymnastics.nz

Community News

SGCNZ
Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand

Primarily Playing with Shakespeare 2026

Romeo & Juliet





Friday 6 November
12.30 - 1.30pm
Tāwhiri Warehouse

Wednesday 11 November
12.30-1.30pm
VUW Memorial Theatre

Tickets on Eventfinda
$2.50-$15

https://www.sgcnz.org.nz/

TĀWHIRI warehouse

Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Shirley Keesing Bequest

WelCom
ewsle: er of the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand
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Ordination of Fr Emilio Capin

It was a blessed Spring day on September 5 at a full Sacred Heart Cathedral in Wellington as Fr Emilio Capin was ordained to the priesthood. The now-Fr Emilio Capin was ordained by Archbishop Paul. Also present were Cardinal John, the priests of the Archdiocese, Emilio's family and hundreds of parishioners. Archbishop Paul said at Fr Emilio's ordination that God continues to call his priests, and that it's important to trust God when he does call.

"The strength of a priest doesn't come from having all the answers. It comes from knowing the one who called him."



Archbishop Paul also said: "The priesthood is not something we achieve, but a gift we receive."

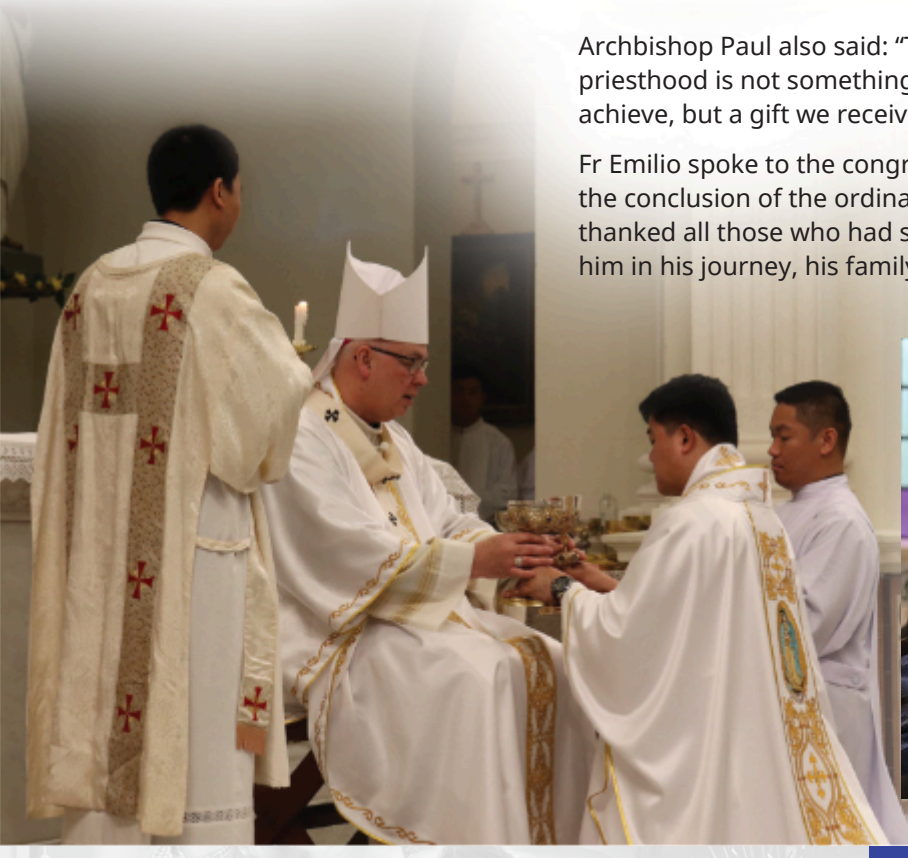
Fr Emilio spoke to the congregation at the conclusion of the ordination. He thanked all those who had supported him in his journey, his family and Cardinal John, who Fr Emilio said accepted him as a seminarian.

He also expressed his humility at being called to priesthood and asked for continued prayers. The congregation responded with thunderous applause.

Fr Emilio completed his formation at Holy Cross Seminary and was welcomed at Masses at Holy Trinity Parish in early July, where he will minister as Assistant Priest. His Mass of Thanksgiving was at St Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Island Bay on September 6.

Fr Emilio is from the Philippines. He started his seminary formation in 2020, and prior to becoming a priest was ordained to the diaconate in September 2025.

Please pray for Fr Emilio as he takes up God's call. Let's also pray that more young men may take up the call to priesthood.



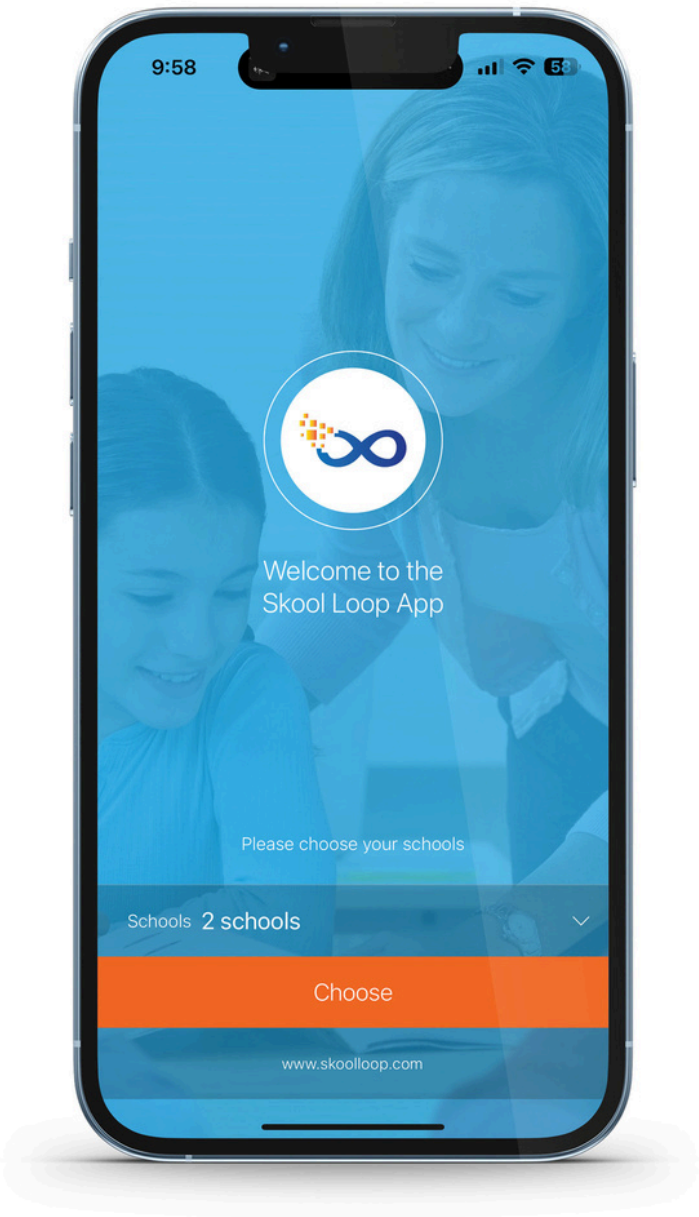


Something happening in your parish? An event, celebration or call for volunteers?

Please let us know. Info can be sent to *b.mack@cadw.nz*
We look forward to hearing from you!

Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington
Level 2, 204 Thorndon Quay, Wellington 6011
PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140
04 496 1777 *cadw.nz* catholicwellington

Downloading the Skool Loop app
a step by step guide



Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school

1. Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
2. Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
3. Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side. You can select as many schools as required.
4. Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
5. Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
6. Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.
7. Use the circular arrow button at the top of the main screen to toggle between your chosen schools.

NEED MORE HELP OR INFORMATION?
Call Skool Loop on 0800 238 379

SKOOL LOOP

Holy Cross School









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Melanie Robertson
Financial Adviser & Mortgage Adviser
M: 021 429 854



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Search **'Skool Loop'** & choose your school once installed.

SKOOL LOOP