



FAITH
CITY SCHOOL

Te Kura Hāpori o te Whakapono

**Faith City
School**
NEWSLETTER
Term 4
November 2025

From the Principal's Desk

Ni sa Bula Vinaka!

As we move toward the final weeks of Term 4, it's wonderful to reflect on the immense enthusiasm and engagement our students have shown across so many learning areas.

As you'll see in this newsletter our classrooms have been buzzing with hands-on and creative learning such as Kitchen Science, Chemistry Experiments, Creative Arts, Technology & Life Skills. It has also been an incredible time for building confidence and teamwork outside the classroom with Athletics and our Year 5&6 Camp at Highland Home in Pohangina Valley. It was an unforgettable experience, featuring highlights like the waterslide, toasting marshmallows, and spotlight games. We extend our sincere thanks to all the parent helpers who made this camp safe and successful. You guys were amazing. And a big thank you to Mrs Sievwright and Ms. Baxter for organising and running the camp.

We also want to outline the importance of kids having access to healthy food at school particularly at brain food times. The dental clinic has noted that they think a slight upturn in cavities is from the type of foods the students are accessing in the lunchboxes and its sitting there for the day and thus causing cavities - something to be aware of.

This year we held our own athletics competition. For six weeks the kids trained for a wide range of athletics events culminating in two afternoons where they competed. It was an excellent event – the students tried their best and were incredibly focused on doing as well as they could. The students were amazing, and everyone had a lot of fun running the relays. Congratulations to the place getters and a big thank you to the parent helpers. Next year we intend it to be bigger and better.

As we look at the beautiful logo of Faith City School, we see the cross, the Holy Spirit (dove), the Word (open book), and flowing awa. This awa reminds us of the journey we are all on together.

The Bible tells us in **Proverbs 3:5-6**: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."* The river of life has its twists, turns, and sometimes unexpected rapids. Whether we are learning to be guardians of the environment, or preparing for new adventures like camp, we never walk alone.

Our faith is our foundation—the book, the cross, and the Spirit show us the way. And so, as we step into the last weeks of the school year, let us acknowledge God in all we do. He will make our paths straight, directing us with purpose and grace toward the future He has planned for us.

Marty Bullock

Upcoming Events

**Fri 21 Nov – Mitre 10
Tough Kids**

**Thurs 27 Nov – Room 7
Day Camp**

**Wed 3 Dec to Fri 5 Dec
– Year 7 & Year 8 Camp**

**Wed 10 Dec – Junior
Prizegiving 1pm to 3pm**

**Thurs 11 Dec – Senior
Prizegiving 6:30pm to
8pm**

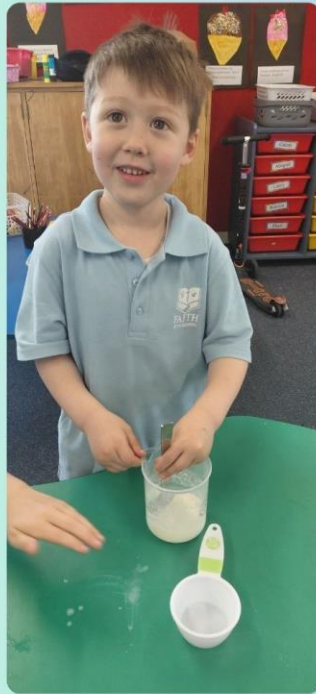
**Last Day of School for
2025 – Tues 16
December**

**First Day of School for
2026 – Mon 2 February**

Room 1 Kitchen Science

This week in Kitchen Science, Room 1 used the House of Science Kit and discovered what happens when you mix vinegar with milk (we did not like the smell of vinegar!)

We also learnt that we can make our own sherbet. It was very fizzy and tingly on our tongues!



Room 2 Bread in a Bag

Room 2 has been enjoying an array of kitchen science experiments this term! Our most recent was our “bread in a bag” experiment in which we created colourful and delicious mini bread buns!



We then created some lovely writing pieces afterwards.....

Today we made coloured bread in a bag. First we put ingredients in. Next we pinched and squished it softly!! And be careful so it doesn't POP! I loved it and it tasted delicious! -By Damian

Today I made bread in a bag. First fill the bag with warm water. Next we put sugar in from the cup. It was as gooey as melted marshmallows. Then we waited and we put it in the oven and it was ready. -By Connor

Today Room 2 made bread. When it was in the bag it blew up like a balloon. We got to eat it. It was delicious. Yum! Mrs Hamilton helped us. I had a purple one. -By Eponine

Today we made special bread. My colour was greenish blue. We mixed the bread. And it was crunchy like a bar on the outside and it was soft like a cloud inside. We pinched the bag and mixed all the ingredients together and we put the bread in Mrs Hamilton's car to rise and it was ready to bake. We ate it. The bread was yummy. -By Anlea

Room 3 Writing & Experiments

Room 3 are sure you will enjoy reading our writing!

The Last Garden – by Ryan

In a small city there was one last wonderful garden. Zara grew pear, fig and nut trees. She cared for her plants even though there was a war happening. She also cared for her juicy apricot and her pretty flowers every day. Her friends came to her garden. It was too dangerous to stay. They had to leave. But they still picked flowers. But...Smash! The walls crumbled. They had to leave right now. Bombs were falling from the sky! The tins stated rusting! The plants are still growing! They were back at last! Zara unlocked the gates. Her trees had blossomed. The city came to colour again.

The Little Fairy – by Kayleigh

In the forest, there was a charming miniature house. I did not know who lived there, but as I walked closer and closer, I started to shrink until I was the same size as the door. I slowly crept inside. The door creaked as I opened it. I was very surprised to see a little table made from sticks and a bed made from leaves. Suddenly, the doorknob started turning. I hid under the bed. I was so surprised to see a little fairy walking in, so I came out of my hiding spot. She was surprised to see me.

David and Goliath – by Joseph M

In a place called Bethlehem there was a boy named David. David was a follower of God and Jesus. David was also a shepherd. He fought lions and bears! One day David was taking food to his brothers. The Philistines had a nasty giant named Goliath. "Bring out your best soldier to fight me," he yelled. "I will," said David, and one of the Israelites took him to king Saul. King Saul said, "You're just a kid. David said, "I have protected my sheep from lions and bears." "Ok," said King Saul, "but you'll need my armour. "No need," said David. I will use my sling shot. "Ok," said King Saul. So David entered the battlefield and grabbed 5 smooth stones from the lake and he put 1 in his sling shot and... FLING! The rock hit Goliath's forehead and he fell to the ground. The Philistines ran away and the Israelites heard that David had won. "Hooray David," they said.



Cup Experiment

Room 3 enjoyed a kitchen chemistry experiment using a base (baking soda) and an acid (vinegar). It was fun watching the reaction of the new gas called carbon dioxide being made. The bubbles showed us the gas escaping.

Balloon Experiment

Room 3 enjoyed kitchen chemistry experiment using a base (baking soda) and an acid (vinegar) again, but this time the gas is also evident as it fills the balloon.

Room 7 Pastel Artwork

These are some still image pastel artwork that Room 7 have been working on.

These Paintings created with pastels that depict inanimate objects like fruit, flowers, or household items, often emphasizing light, shadow, and texture.

Room 7 students have done a fantastic job and here are some examples.



Room 6 Camp Lessons - Preparing to Be Great Kaitiaki

In the lead-up to our Year 5 and 6 camp, we've been meeting together to learn more about what to expect and how we can be great kaitiaki (guardians) of our environment.

Our first stop will be **Awahuri Reserve / Kitchener Park**, so we began by reading an article about **kaitiakitanga** – the Māori concept of caring for and protecting the natural world. We learned about a farmer in Taranaki who is passionate about planting trees, protecting native bush, and restoring New Zealand's beautiful landscapes.

We also explored some **Bible verses** that remind us that God has asked us to be caretakers and protectors of His creation. This helped us think deeply about our responsibility to look after the earth.

To finish, we had a **LEGO challenge** – to create a "Grow a Garden" model that showed what we had learned about being great kaitiaki. There were some awesome inventions and creative ideas about how to care for a garden! Some even included **solar panels** and **renewable water sources** – such great thinking about sustainability and the future.

Ka pai, everyone! It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm and creativity as we get ready for camp.



Room 4 Technology

Monday's, for some, are a painful entry into the long week ahead. Thankfully, for our lucky Year 7 & 8 students, their Mondays are something to look forward to. After a short bus ride to Whanganui Girls' High School, our students are given the valuable opportunity to rotate between 4 different tech options: food, woodwork/hard tech, visual art and science. Not only is this opportunity serving as a springboard into secondary school, but it is also providing excellent transferable life skills. It has been amazing to see our Faith City students engaging with the learning with enthusiasm and enjoyment.



Year 5 & Year 6 Camp

Our recent camp at **Highland Home in the beautiful Pohangina Valley, Fielding**, was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved. Over 2 days, students participated in a wide range of engaging and challenging activities designed to build confidence, teamwork, and resilience.

Among the many highlights were **the waterslide, toasting marshmallows under the stars**, and the spotlight games we played before bed. Of course, one of the best parts was simply spending time together — **staying up late chatting with friends** and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

We would like to extend our **sincere thanks and appreciation to all the parent helpers** who gave their time, energy, and enthusiasm to support the camp. Your help with activities, supervision, and encouragement made the experience both safe and successful.

Overall, the Highland Home Camp was a wonderful opportunity for our students to **learn outside the classroom**, strengthen friendships, and enjoy the natural beauty of the Pohangina Valley. We are already looking forward to our next camp adventures!





Important Health & Learning Notice: Fueling Success!

Focus on Healthy "Brain Food"

To ensure all our students have the energy and focus they need for a successful day of learning, we are reinforcing the importance of **healthy, sugar-free snacks and lunch items**.

The food students eat provides the fuel for their brains and bodies. Snacks high in sugar can lead to energy crashes, making it difficult to concentrate in class. We encourage you to choose:

- Fresh fruit (like apples, which can also help clean the palate!)
- Vegetable sticks
- Whole-grain crackers
- Cheese or yoghurt

Stay Hydrated, Protect Teeth

We kindly ask that all students remember to bring a **labelled water bottle** to school every day. Staying hydrated is essential for concentration and overall well-being.

A Note from the Dental Clinic: We have been notified that sticky, sugary foods brought to school are contributing to increased rates of tooth decay, as residues sit on teeth throughout the day. Drinking water regularly helps to wash away food particles, keeping teeth cleaner and promoting better dental health after eating.

Thank you for helping us support your child's health and maximize their potential in the classroom!

Faith City School

Athletics 2025



11 & 12 November 2025

Athletic Results were:

8 and 9 Girls – overall winner Fern

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Grace	Fern	
Discus	Fern	Indianna	Mackenna
Long Jump	Fern	Mackenna	Clara
High Jump	Fern	Mackenna	Mackenzie
Sprint	Fern	Clara	Mackenzie
300m	Fern	Clara	Mackenna & Mackenzie

8 and 9 Boys – overall winner Ezekiel

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Danny	Mataio	
Discus	Mataio	Emmanuel	Archer
Long Jump	Bradley	Oscar	Joel
High Jump	Emmanuel	Ezekiel	Joel
Sprint	Ezekiel	Bradley	Emmanuel
300m	Ezekiel	Bradley	Oscar

10 and 11 Girls – overall winner Josie

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Josie	Peyton	Jemima
Discus	Peyton	Josie	Taonga Ngaro
Long Jump	Josie	Jemima	Taonga Ngaro & Suci
High Jump	Jemima	Taonga Ngaro	Josie
Sprint	Jemima	Josie	Taonga Ngaro
300m	Josie	Jemima	Taonga Ngaro

10 and 11 Boys – overall winner Mason P

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Mason P	Logan	Estian
Discus	Mason P	Estian	Lucas
Long Jump	Mason P	Leo	Estian & Lucas
High Jump	Lucas	Mason	Leo
Sprint	Leo	Lucas	Mason P
300m	Leo	Mason	Lucas

12 and 13 Girls – overall winner Eva

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Eva	Sofia	Annabelle
Discus	Eva	Sofia	Annabelle
Long Jump	Olivia	Eva	Elektra & Annabelle
High Jump	Olivia	Ivy	Eva
Sprint	Eva	Olivia	Ivy
300m	Eva	Olivia	Ivy

12 and 13 Boys – overall winner Isaac

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Shotput	Isaac	Tatum	Moses & Ethan
Discus	Isaac	Nicolas	Ethan
Long Jump	Oliver	Ethan	Isaac
High Jump	Tatum & Isaac	Oliver	Nicolas
Sprint	Ethan	Isaac	Oliver
300m	Ethan	Isaac	Nicolas



CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

OUTDOOR CAMPS WEEKEND

6-8 MARCH 2025
BLUE MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE CENTRE

**A WEEKEND TO SUPPORT NETWORKING
BRAINSTORMING AND ADVENTURE**

**FOR THOSE WHO PLAN SCHOOL CAMPS IN
THE OUTDOORS: DEANS, RE STAFF,
OUTDOOR ED TEACHERS, ETC**

FRIDAY

- ARRIVE, WEEKEND OVERVIEW

SATURDAY

- ACTIVITY OPTIONS: CANYONING, RAFTING,
CAVING, CLIMBING, TRAIL RUNNING

SUNDAY

- WORKSHOP: MAKING THE MOST OF OUTDOOR
CAMPS, BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER

MAX 3 FROM EACH SCHOOL
\$120PP, FOOD, ACCOM AND EQUIP INCLUDED
REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL
CONTACT OUR OFFICE FOR MORE INFO

bmac@salvationarmy.org.nz
07 892 2630



BLUE MOUNTAIN
ADVENTURE
CENTRE

If there are any parents who would like to attend the **Outdoor Camp Weekend** with a view to start running some **Education Out of the Classroom** events for senior students then please get in touch with **Marty**.

Our Kids Online



We have the opportunity early next year to have Rob Cope, filmmaker, author and one of NZ's leading parent educations in the online safety space, hold a parent evening at FCS.

If you would be interested in attending please let Robyn at the Office know.

From Rob Cope on his Parent Evenings:

"My parent evenings are powerful, eye-opening and with plenty of humour to make the message hit home. Parents leave feeling informed and empowered with practical tools to reset boundaries, improve sleep, and bring calm back into the home, which in turn helps with learning at school.

I paint a clear and honest picture of the online world our kids are growing up in, the risks they face and the challenges they're quietly battling. I offer simple strategies to keep them safe through strong boundaries, effective internet filtering, and the right conversations at the right time."



PTA Notice – Seeking Members for 2026

Our PTA plays a significant role behind the scenes of our kura, helping to support school events, initiatives, and the wider school community. For 2026, we're looking for parents and caregivers who are enthusiastic, proactive, and keen to get involved.

If you enjoy being part of our school community (or would love to be more involved) and would like to help support or organise events and initiatives, we'd love to welcome you.

Whether you can offer ideas, lend a helping hand occasionally, or get involved more regularly, every bit of support makes a meaningful difference to our school and our tamariki.

We're a small, friendly team and warmly welcome anyone interested in joining us.

If you're interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch with Aroha Hamilton at a.hamilton@faithcity.school.nz.