Te Kura o te Manawa Tapu
SACRED HEART
SCHOOL REEFTON

School News

Thursday 30 April 2026

Rāpare 30 Āperira

"O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen."

REEFTON - Sacred Heart Church Saturday 18 April 5:00PM Sunday 26 April 9:00AM Saturday 2 May 5:00PM	REEFTON WEEKDAY MASSES Thursday 9.00am Friday 9.00am

Sacramental Preparation

"The Sacraments are beautiful milestones in a child's faith journey. If you would like your child to receive the Sacraments of **Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, or First Holy Communion** this year, we warmly invite you to reach out. Please feel free to contact the school office, Fr. David, or Bernadette Snowden to begin this special process. We look forward to supporting your family in these steps of faith."

Belated Welcome to Term 2

Welcome Back to Term 2!

It is wonderful to see everyone returning to school refreshed and ready for action. While the unseasonably beautiful sunshine feels more like a summer encore than the start of the cooler months, we are certainly making the most of it!

Fond Farewells

As we look forward to the weeks ahead, we also take a moment to look back with a touch of sadness. We have officially said goodbye to the wonderful **Andrews family—Sam, Ella, and Paige**. They have departed

for the stunning beaches of Papamoa, and while we are thrilled for their new adventure, their presence will be deeply missed within our SHS community.

A Term Packed with Purpose

We have an incredibly vibrant calendar ahead, blending high-energy adventures with meaningful leadership and learning opportunities:

- **Adventure & Leadership:** Our **William Pike Challenge** participants have more exciting adventures in the pipeline. Additionally, our Year 6–8 students are preparing for an inspiring overnight trip to Christchurch for **National Young Leaders Day**.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** We are delighted to welcome **Harold and the Life Education team** back to school to share their valuable lessons with our students.
- **Sporting Excellence:** It's time to lace up the running shoes for the **Buller and West Coast Cross Country** events. We also look forward to sharpening our footy skills with **Ryan from Buller Rugby**, who will be leading specialized coaching sessions.
- **Academic Growth:** Amidst all the excitement, our core focus remains on the classroom. Our teachers are ready to dive back into a rigorous and engaging term of **Maths, Reading, and Writing**.

We are committed to making this term one of growth, achievement, and great memories. Thank you for being part of our vibrant school family—let's make it a fantastic Term 2!

School Reports (HERO)

These will look different as we move into a new phase of reporting. I will put information out to you once HERO gives us access to the new platform.

Attendance and Engagement 2026

In New Zealand, an Attendance Management Plan (AMP) is a mandatory strategy that every state and state-integrated school must implement as of Term 1, 2026.

The goal of these plans is to standardize how schools track and respond to student absences, ensuring that attendance issues are caught early rather than waiting until a student becomes "chronically absent."

The "STAR" Framework

The core of these plans is the Stepped Attendance Response (STAR). This is a nationally consistent framework that uses specific "absence thresholds" to trigger different levels of intervention:

Threshold (Absence per Term)	Category	Typical Action Required

0 – 4 Days	Regular / Good	General promotion of attendance; standard absence notifications.
5 – 9 Days	Worrying	First formal notification to parents; school investigates barriers.
10 – 14 Days	Concerning	Attendance Plan created with the student, whānau, and school.
15+ Days	Very Concerning	Referral to the Ministry of Education Attendance Service.

Key Components of the Plan:

Each school's plan is unique to its community but must legally include:

Strategic Targets: Specific goals (e.g., "Aiming for 80% of students attending 90% of the time").

Clear Processes: How the school records rolls, identifies absences, and notifies parents (usually via SMS or email by 10:30 am).

Barrier Identification: Steps the school takes to find out why a student isn't attending (e.g., transport issues, health, or bullying).

Interventions: A list of what the school will do at each STAR threshold (e.g., meetings with Deans, home visits, or counselor support).

Note for Parents: Under these new rules, you will likely receive more frequent automated updates regarding your child's total days absent for the term to help you track their progress against the 90% regular attendance goal.

School Photos

You should have by now received a code via email that allows you to order school photos of your child. If you haven't received this, please make contact with Tracy in the school office.

New Personalised SHS Reefton Hoodies

We will soon be placing a bulk order for our school hoodies (when they eventually arrive via snail mail!) These are a wonderful way for our students to show their school pride, featuring our traditional design:

- **Front:** The Mercy Cross embroidered on the left chest.
- **Back:** "SHS Reefton" with your child's name printed below (some may prefer not to have their name screen printed…up to you?).

Ordering Process An order slip will be sent home in school bags in a week or two. To ensure accuracy and **systematicity** in our ordering, please ensure the following details are completed clearly:

1. **Size:** Please ensure the right size is ordered. Once screen printing has been completed we cannot refund costs.2
2. **Personalisation:** Print the exact name you would like to appear on the back.
3. **Payment:** Details regarding cost and payment methods will be outlined on the form.

Drink Bottles

Please can you ensure that your child/ren have a filled water bottle daily.

Tissues

We go through tissues like you would not believe…especially at this time of year. If each family could donate a box, that'd be really helpful

For the Fridge Door!

Term 2			
BOT Mtg	1pm	7 May	School Mtg Rm
Westport Netball	(tbc)	9 May	PERC Westport
Mothers Day	All Day	10 May	At Your Place!
Buller X Country	11am-12.30pm	11 May (ppd 13th)	Westport Golf Course
Buller Rugby Skills Session	11am	14 May	School
William Pike Tramp (Y5-8)	9am	18 May	
Life Ed	All Day	21-22 May	
West Coast X Country	(tbc)	3 June	Kumara
Y6-8 students travel to CHch	10am	8 June	
NYLD '26 (Y6-8)	9am - 2pm	9 June	Chch Town Hall
Mass Feast of SH	9am	12 June	Sacred Heart Church
Term 2 Concludes	3pm	3 July (11 Week term)	