Te Kura o te Manawa Tapu
SACRED HEART
SCHOOL REEFTON

School News

Tuesday 28 July

Rātu 28 Huari

"O most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, save us and the whole world."

REEFTON - Sacred Heart Church Sunday 26 July 9:00AM Saturday 1 August 5:00PM Sunday 9 August 9:00AM	REEFTON WEEKDAY MASSES Thursday 9.00am Friday 9.00am

Taken from the latest Parish Newsletter…

JULY IS KNOWN AS THE MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

The blood of Christ saves us from sin. It is the blood of Christ that gives us the hope of heaven. St. Paul tells us that Jesus reconciled "to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross" (Col. 1:20). Without the blood of Christ shed for us, all would be lost. I offer all the suffering, pains, and death of Your only-begotten Son Whom You love, for Your triumph and Your reign on earth. May You, through the Precious Blood of Your Son, make a new covenant and bring all Your children back to Your Holy Will. Amen. Precious Blood of Jesus Christ - reign forever.

Prayer intention for July from Pope Leo is for, respect for human life: Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Welcome Back - Assessment Update & Updates to HERO's Reporting Platform

It has been fantastic welcoming our students back and catching up with parents, grandparents, and caregivers over the past week.

Our students have spent much of the week involved in mid-year testing—something they have approached with impressive focus and enthusiasm!

As you may be aware, government requirements now mandate that all primary schools implement standardised assessments in Mathematics, Reading, and Writing twice a year, utilising either the Ministry's new SMART tool or PATs (Progressive Achievement Tests).

We have made the deliberate decision to utilise PATs. While these carry a financial cost to our school budget, PATs offer decades of proven reliability, deep analytical insights for teachers, and have recently been updated to align with current learning standards. By contrast, the Ministry's SMART tool is still in its early rollout stages—often described by the Ministry itself as "building the plane while flying it." We strongly believe our students and teaching staff deserve assessment tools that are robust, dependable, and fully fit for purpose right now.

Because we are adjusting to these newly updated tests, processing and analysing the data is taking us a little longer than usual. We appreciate your patience as we work through these results to ensure we provide you with clear, accurate, and meaningful updates on your child's progress.

These rich assessment insights allow us to tailor our teaching precisely to each child's next steps, ensuring every learner is supported and challenged appropriately.

We have also invested considerable time updating our HERO reporting platform to align with the Ministry of Education's new national guidelines.

As part of this government update, you will notice two significant changes to the way we report on your child's learning this year:

- **New Progress Descriptors:** To ensure consistent language across all schools nationwide, the Ministry has mandated that we adopt a new set of standardized terms. Moving forward, you will see your child's progress described as: ***Emerging, Developing, Consolidating, Proficient,*** **or** ***Exceeding*****.**
- **Moving from 'Levels' to 'Phases':** We will no longer be reporting against the old 'Curriculum Levels'. Instead, from this year onwards, all progress will be reported against 'Phases of Learning'. These are structured across the primary years as follows:
    - **Phase 1:** New Entrants to Year 3
    - **Phase 2:** Year 4 to Year 6
    - **Phase 3:** Year 7 & Year 8

While the terminology is changing, our commitment to providing you with clear, accurate, and honest feedback on your child's learning journey remains exactly the same. We know that navigating new educational jargon can sometimes be confusing, so we will provide more guidance on exactly how to interpret these new phases and descriptors when our first round of updated reports goes live.

Property & Safety Update: New School Fencing

We are thrilled to share that the new fencing along the Walsh side of our school grounds and around the carpark entrance (as you head towards the courts) is now fully complete!

It looks fantastic and significantly enhances the look of our grounds. More importantly, it provides an extra layer of safety and security for our students—especially our younger ones—during busy drop-off, pick-up, and break times.

We extend a huge thank you to the Archdiocese of Wellington for fully funding this important property project for our school community.

Mid-Year Student Progress Reporting Latest Update

As we approach the end of the term, we wanted to provide you with an update regarding our mid-year student progress reports and upcoming parent-teacher interviews.

Over the past few weeks, our school community has experienced a significant wave of illness affecting both students and staff. Due to these subsequent absences, we have been unable to conduct our scheduled baseline testing in a way that ensures accurate, meaningful, and effective results for every child.

To ensure the integrity of our assessments, we have decided to reschedule this baseline testing to Week 1 of Term 3.

Revised Timeline:

- Week 1 (Term 3): Student baseline testing will be conducted.
- Weeks 2 & 3 (Term 3): Mid-year reports will be finalised and be available on HERO.
- Following Report Completion: Parent/teacher interviews will take place (dates and booking details to follow).

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we navigate these winter illnesses. Our priority remains delivering a thorough and accurate reflection of your child's progress, and this adjusted timeline allows us to do just that.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and well.

Thanks - Who Cares House Food Drive 🥫

A huge thank you to everyone who has already contributed to our food drive for **Who Cares House**! Your generosity makes a world of difference to families in our community who are doing it tough right now.

Our collection box is currently looking amazing. However, we'll continue to keep the collection open until the end of this week.

Please continue to send any donations to school with your child to drop into the collection bin at the school office.

Thank you so much for your incredible kindness and for rallying together to support such a wonderful cause. We truly appreciate your support!

For the Fridge Door!

Term 3	**Time**	**Date**	**Where**
Term 3 Commences	**9am**	**20 July**	**School**
Mass	5pm	01 Aug	Sacred Heart Church
Y5&6 Field Days	10am - 1pm	17 Aug	PERC Westport
Y5&6 Field Days ppd		19 Aug	
Y7&8 Field Days	10am - 1pm	24 Aug	PERC Westport
Y7&8 Field Days ppd		26 Aug	
Crazy Hair Day/Mufti Day	All Day	4 Sept	School
Y 5-8 Science Roadshow	9.30-10.30pm	8 Sept	RAS
Last Day Term 3		25 Sept	