



*Living the Mission
through:
Ako
Manaakitanga
Wāhine Toa*

**Sacred Heart Girls' College
Manawa Tapu
New Plymouth**

TERM ONE

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM ONE

Wed 19 Feb:

Meet the Teacher Evening and BBQ, 5pm

Friday 21 Feb:

Swimming Sports day, Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

Fri 28 Feb:

Photo day for class and individual photos

Fri 7 March:

Athletics Day, TET Stadium

Mon 10 March:

Taranaki Anniversary

Mon 17—Fri 21 March:

Arts & Cultural Week

Tues 18 March:

Excellence Assembly, 9.40am, Events Centre

Wed 19 March:

Airbands Caritas Fundraiser 6.30pm, Events Centre

Wed 2, 3 & 4 April:

Mary Poppins Performance Evenings, 4th Wall Theatre



TERM ONE

Thurs 1 Feb—Fri 11 Apr

TERM TWO

Mon 28 Apr—Fri 27 June

TERM THREE

Mon 14 July—Fri 19 Sept

TERM FOUR

Mon 6 Oct—Wed 10 Dec



Principal's Peace



Kia ora e te whānau, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2025. In this newsletter we share some important information with you about key contacts at school, our processes, and expectations. We welcome everyone back for the new school year, but particularly those families new to Manawa Tapu. Please be in contact with us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to such a positive start to our 2025 school year.

It was wonderful to start with Mass at St. Joseph's for our new students and boarders and then welcome new students and whānau at pōwhiri. Opening Mass on Tuesday 4 February was



celebrated by Father Sobin Sebastian who has recently arrived in our Parish. At this Mass, we acknowledged our Year 13 leaders (see photos pages 6 – 7).

As you know the Pope has declared 2025 a Jubilee year and the theme is "Pilgrims of Hope". Our school theme is also "Pilgrims of Hope", "Te Hunga Hīkoi i te Tūmanako". This theme is apt for us as we keep moving with our strategic direction. Pope Francis has chosen hope as being particularly important for young people. The Pope encourages us to renew hope, practice kindness and serve others. In his message to young people, he says "Always walk ahead. Look forward with courage and with joy." In keeping with our charism, we renew hope through **contemplation**, practice kindness (manaakitanga) through **communion** and serve others through **mission**.

Our Manawa Mission of Ako, Manaakitanga and Wāhine Toa will also serve to build hope and kindness. **Ako** – we take every opportunity to learn, **Manaakitanga** – we love and respect one another and **Wāhine Toa** – we love and respect ourselves.

Congratulations to all our senior students on their NCEA results for 2024. We are incredibly proud of how well our students have achieved. This was the first year for the new NCEA Level 1 standards and we have read much in the media about lower rates of achievement. Our students have performed much better than the national average (SHGC achievement rate for NCEA Level 1, 87.4% and national average 44.9%). Similarly, our Level 2 and 3 achievement rates continue to be well above the national averages. SHGC Level 2 rate is 95.3% (national average is 72.7%) and SHGC Level 3 rate is 82.4% (national average is 68.2%). Please note that NCEA results are not yet finalised but will be by late February, and we will celebrate student success at our Excellence Assembly.

"Te Hunga Hīkoi i roto i te Tūmanako"

"Pilgrims of Hope"

Openly Engage with Community

Principal's Peace continued

In Term 4 last year, ERO completed their 3-yearly evaluation, and the confirmed reports will be available for the community shortly. This year is the last year for our current strategic plan and the school board will need to draft new strategic goals for the next strategic plan for 2026 – 2028. Your voice is important for our planning. Thank you to everyone who filled in our survey or made contact in person or by phone. The board will report back on the findings soon.

Last term, we also shared a Draft Statement on the Delivery of the Health Curriculum (including Relationships and Sexuality education) with you and offered a survey. There will be further information about the delivery of this curriculum at our Open Evening and Meet the Teacher event on **Wednesday 19 February** at 6pm in the Performing Arts Centre. Following this there will be further opportunities to have your say through the survey or in person or by phone call. The Board plans to adopt the statement at the March Board meeting after considering your feedback. Please see page 4 for more information about the Open Evening on 19 February.

In 2025 we continue to have a big focus on improving our attendance rates. The Ministry of Education target is that by 2030 80% of students should be attending school regularly (at least 90% of the time). Our school rates are considerably lower than this (see table below) and we need everyone's help to improve. Please follow the attendance processes detailed on page 8 -9.

SHGC Overall % of students attending 90% of the time

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Term 1	58%	40%	63%	65%
Term 2	57%	18%	47%	58%
Term 3	45%	42%	46%	53%
Term 4	54%	44%	0%	59%

Please take note of some Health and Safety messages shared on page 8. Please ensure that students are not dropped off or picked up in the school grounds before or after school. Also please note that there is a disturbing new trend on social media encouraging intentional tanning under high UV conditions. The social media post then boasts of how high the UV levels are (the higher the better) and show a recording of the suntanning or the tan lines. Health professionals are seeing an epidemic of skin cancer. Please work with us to keep our students sun smart.

This year we again encourage a wellbeing first approach to email and Teams messaging for staff and students. Staff have been encouraged to only send emails after 7am and before 7pm Monday to Friday. We encourage the same for our students. When we need to attend to emails at other times we can use schedule send!

Please note that this year we will be operating a user pays system for printed copies of our school magazine that is published at the end of the year. The digital copy will again be available for everyone on our school website. If you wish to buy a printed copy, please pay for this through your school account by the end of Term 3. We will keep the charge at \$25 + GST even though we anticipate the actual cost to be closer to \$30 per copy.

Finally in staff news, we have welcomed **Michael Healion** (Science and Maths teacher) to Manawa Tapu and **Amanda Brown** has returned from refreshment leave. **Emma McIntosh** is our new SENCO and can be contacted by email (senco@shgcnp.school.nz).

Kororia ki te Atua ki runga rawa, Maungarongo ki runga i te mata o te whenua, Whakaaro pai ki ngā tangata katoa ahakoa kō wai, Pai mārire.

Barbara Costelloe
Tumuaki—Principal



Nourish Catholic Character

Pōwhiri and Opening Mass



A Pōwhiri, held on Thursday 30 January 2025, welcomed all returning and new students/staff to the school year.

Opening Mass was held on Tuesday 4 February.

Mass was celebrated by Fr Sobin Sebastian, from Kerala, India, who is new to our community. Welcome Fr Sobin.



Openly Engage with Community

New and Returning Staff



We welcome the following new staff and returning staff to Manawa Tapu.

Amanda Brown returns from a year's refreshment leave.

Emma McIntosh takes up the role as SENCO. And Michael Healion joins us this year, as a Science and Maths Teacher.



Amanda Brown
Social Sciences
Teacher



Michael Healion
Science and Maths
Teacher



Emma McIntosh
New to the role of
SENCO Teacher

Meet the Teacher Evening

We warmly invite you and your family to join us on **Wednesday the 19th of February** for a BBQ in the quad and to meet the Manaaki teacher and the subject teachers who will be guiding your child's learning this year. This is a great opportunity to create a relationship and establish a connection for future communication. We are fortunate to have passionate and committed teachers who are warm, caring, and inspiring, and would love you to get to know them.

This is an opportunity for you to meet other families that will be in class with your child, get a preview of the curriculum, and for you and your child to share any extra information you would like their teachers to be mindful of.

The evening will be casual with a BBQ sausage sizzle available in the quad from 5:00pm-6:30pm. During this time, you can grab some kai and head along to meet any of the teachers you'd like to catch up with in their classrooms. We will have copies of staff location available on the day in the quad.

At 6:00pm in the PAC, there will be information about the delivery of the Health Curriculum, followed by an NCEA Information talk at 6:15pm. This is open for anyone to attend, and will cover general NCEA Information, Literacy and Numeracy, as well as our school policy around assessment, appeals, extensions, etc. This will go for approximately 15 minutes, with time for questions afterward.

5:00pm – 6:30pm: BBQ in the Quad and find any teachers you'd like to meet

In the PAC:

6:00pm – 6:15pm: Information about the delivery of the Health Curriculum

6:15pm – 6:30pm: NCEA overview

We look forward to seeing you there.

Ngā mihi

Holly Miller

Deputy Principal

Openly Engage with Community

Key staff contacts:



Jeremy Taylor
Deputy Principal
Kaitiaki Hauora
jta@shgncp.school.nz



Holly Miller
Deputy Principal
Kaitiaki Ako
hmi@shgncp.school.nz



Barbara Costelloe
Tumuaki / Principal
bco@shgncp.school.nz



Kim Goodey
Assistant Principal
Kaitiaki Ako
kgo@shgncp.school.nz



Wendy Mulligan
DRS
Kaitiaki Mission
wmu@shgncp.school.nz



Ria Cummings
Guidance Counsellor
rcu@shgncp.school.nz



Jan Finnigan
Guidance Counsellor
jfi@shgncp.school.nz



Marina Walsh
Hostel Manager
mwa@shgncp.school.nz



Andrea Taylor
Year 7 Dean
ata@shgncp.school.nz



Sheree Rangiwahia
Junior Barbier Dean
sra@shgncp.school.nz



Helen Basile
Senior Barbier Dean
hba@shgncp.school.nz



Jade Harrison
Junior Chanel Dean
jhr@shgncp.school.nz



Shin Kirkcaldie
Senior Chanel Dean
ski@shgncp.school.nz



Ross Howarth
Junior Lourdes Dean
rho@shgncp.school.nz



Joan Hodson
Senior Lourdes Dean
jho@shgncp.school.nz



Katie Coleman
Junior Vianney Dean
kco@shgncp.school.nz



Carly Avery
Senior Vianney Dean
cav@shgncp.school.nz

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Leaders 2025

Head Girl Team



Sahara Cameron (Deputy Student Council) **Lucy Forsyth** (Head Girl), **Meliz Cerda** (Deputy Special Character)

Head Boarder Team



Ruby Edwards (Deputy Events), **Hayley Coogan** (Head Boarder), **Rhiannon Crowley** (Deputy Special Character)

Liturgy Leader



Sienna Asi

Māori Leaders



Freya Wano and **Sahara Mana**

BOT Student Rep



Bella Millar

Hauora Leaders



Georgia Nelson and **Esmé Pease**

Academic Leaders



Juliet Hitchcock and **Amber Cayley**

Rainbow Youth Leader



Lara Smith

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Leaders 2025

Cultural & Arts Leaders



Bryah Edwin and Sindiso Mpfu

Sports Leaders



Ellie Edcombe and Olivia Atherton

Barbier Leaders



Olive Crowley and Kayla Hodson

Chanel Leaders



Olivia Adams and Molly Sergent-Shadbolt

Lourdes Leaders



Neviah Raumati and Callie Visser

Vianney Leaders



Libby Neilson and Haidee Christie

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

Expectations of students

At Manawa Tapu we take great pride in our students and have high expectations of them. As Wāhine Toa, we expect students to wear their uniform correctly, be in class on time and be engaged in their learning. As the lead pastoral carer, the Manaaki teacher will support our students in meeting these expectations. This is the pastoral process our Manaaki teachers use if there is an attendance or uniform issue:

Student is not meeting expectations	Low level restorative chat. The student is reminded of the expectations.
Not resolved	Expectations are revisited – The teachers makes a note in the student management system.
Not resolved	Teacher contacts home and makes a note in the student management system.
Not resolved	The teacher refers the issue to the Year Level Dean.

We really appreciate the role caregivers have and the support they provide in helping our students meet Manawa Tapu's behavioural expectations. If you would like to discuss uniform or attendance, please contact your daughter's Manaaki Teacher in the first instance. Our uniform policy can be found at <https://www.shgcnp.school.nz/schoolinformation/>

Attendance Goals



Regular attendance at school is a key factor in a successful education and positive outcomes later in life. Ideally, students should only be absent for justified reasons. Examples of a justified absence:

- Unplanned absence such as a vehicle break down, accident, road closure
- Planned non-attendance such as local/national representation in a sporting or cultural event
- Attendance at a funeral or tangihanga
- Illness or medical reasons

We will be asking for evidence from a medical professional to support any medical absence longer than three consecutive school days and any student who has had more than three days unjustified absence will be referred to the Central New Plymouth Attendance Service. Participation in extra and co-curricular activities will be contingent upon a student keeping their unjustified attendance rate below 15%.

If a student is absent during term time for a family trip for example, this is an unjustified absence. An email to the Manaaki Teacher and Dean should be sent prior to taking the trip.

Cell Phones

A reminder of our cellphone expectations: All Students – cellphones are not to be used or seen during school hours (8.40am – 3.10pm). Cellphones can be turned off and left in the students' bag or left at home. Students are not to carry them on their person during the school day.



If you need to contact your young person during the school day you can either email them or ring the school office and a message will be passed on.

We really appreciate the role caregivers have and the support they provide in helping our students meet Manawa Tapu's behavioural expectations. If you would like to discuss any pastoral issues, please contact your daughter's Manaaki Teacher in the first instance.

Jeremy Taylor, Deputy Principal—Hauora

Openly Engage with Community

SchoolBridge

SchoolBridge allows digital permission slips, report absences and the ability to access Kamar web portal through one platform.

There are two parts to the SchoolBridge platform, the website (shgcnp.bridge.school.nz) and the SchoolBridge App. See below for instructions on how to login to SchoolBridge and how to download the App.

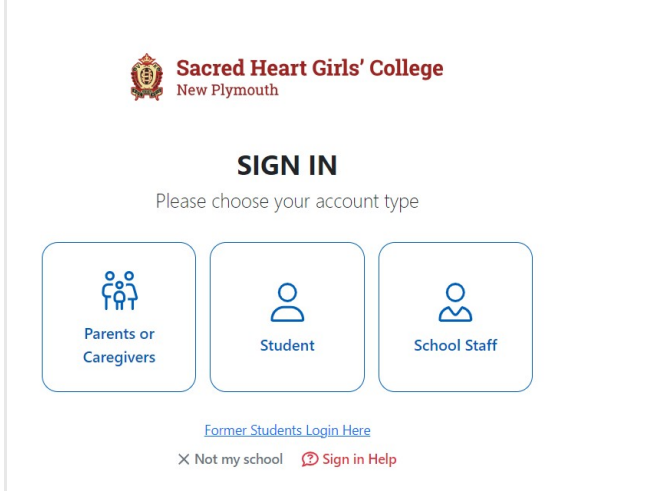
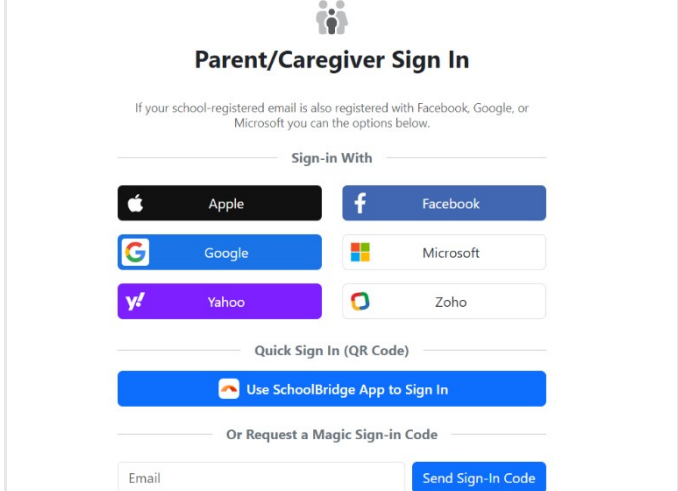
Kim Goodey

Assistant Principal

E-Learning Lead

How to login to SchoolBridge

Go to <https://shgcnp.bridge.school.nz>

Click on "Parents or Caregivers"	Sign in using the email address registered in our system. Or, request a Magic Sign-in.
	

SchoolBridge App SchoolBridge



[Android – Google Play Store](#)



[Apple App Store](#)

If you have any problems, please contact Kim Goodey (kgo@shgcnp.school.nz)

School Accounts

Your yearly statement has been issued via email. Payment options can be either in full or by regular automatic bank payments.

For any queries on your account, please contact Liz—accounts@shgcnp.school.nz

Strengthen Ako and Poutama

PTFA



Hello from the PTFA and welcome back to another new school year.

The PTFA will be selling Tote bags for \$10 at the Meet the teacher BBQ night on Wednesday 19th February. Payment with cash or eftpos available.

The next monthly meeting will be Monday March 17th, 7pm meet and greet in the school staffroom. All new parents and caregivers are welcome to come along and meet with the current committee.

Sharyn Watson (PTFA Chairperson)

Pre-Loved Uniform Shop

We welcome donations of your pre-loved - Sacred Heart School and Sports Uniforms

Please drop off at the Main Office

Once we have enough items for this, we will advertise a date and time that the pre-loved uniform items will be available to our community.

Prestigious Awards



If you think your child has met the criteria below for a **Rose Award**:

⇒ For **ALL Sporting success** or for any **Art/Cultural or Academic** success, please use the online form found on SchoolBridge.

Manawa Tapu Criteria to be awarded a Rose

To earn a rose at one of these ceremonies, students will have earned something at a national level:

- Student has **won** a National Event, and/or a category of a National Event
- Student is a **New Zealand Representative** in an Arts, Sports, or a Cultural International Event
- Student has **won** a Mission College Event, such as O'Shea Shield

Note: Principal's Awards are awarded at the discretion of the Principal for other outstanding achievements.

Enrolments for 2026

Sacred Heart Girls' College is a Catholic Integrated school for students from Years 7 – 13, which celebrates the charism gifted to us by our founding order, the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions.

To be considered for enrolment and entry to the boarding hostel, Elizabeth House, and as a day student, in 2026, applications must be submitted by the end of Term 2, Friday 27 June 2025.

Our Priority in Enrolment Procedure can be found on our website (www.shgcnp.school.nz) and will be rigorously applied in discerning enrolment.

If you have any enrolment queries, please address them to the Executive Assistant, Denise Stachurski; ph 758 5023 ext 704 or Email: dst@shgcnp.school.nz

Nurture Hauora

Meningococcal vaccines

Health New Zealand / Te Whatu Ora are encouraging all rangatahi aged 13 – 25 to be immunised against meningitis. For our hostel students, or students with high health needs, this may be **free**. More information is available on the websites of [Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora](#) and the [Meningitis Foundation](#).

School Canteen

The school canteen is run in conjunction with the Faith in Action RST students and staff volunteers, managed by Bernadette Forsyth. Please note we are not certified to produce fresh food on site.

This started as a student-led canteen trial in 2024 and has been well received by our community. It is an excellent learning experience for our students.

The school canteen is open at interval and lunchtime for students to purchase morning tea or lunch. Cash or eftpos is available.

(Please note, there is no credit card facility, or the facility to get cash out at the office).

There is also a healthy option of ordering lunch online for students.

- ◆ Every **Wednesday**, students can order **Sushi**
- ◆ Every **Friday**, students can order **Subway**



Sacred Heart Girls' College - Lunches

See below instructions on how to register:

It's simple; all you need to do is register at

www.lunchonline.co.nz

and follow 4 easy steps to get started

1. Create an account in Families tab
2. Add member/s including your name and delivery location
3. Make a payment to have funds in your account before you order
4. Select your lunch and place an order

Geography

On the 13th February, our Y13 Geography class joined with FDMC at Pukekura Park to learn about the planning process for the Festival of Lights.

A huge thank you to Mark Wales for organising and Briana Dolan from the Event Lead Team for her time and knowledge.

Amanda Brown
Geography Teacher

