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Term 4 Week 10 Newsletter 2024 - End of Year

Principal's Christmas Message

Message from the Principal - Week 10, Term 4.

Kia ora e te whānau,

This newsletter draws the year to a close and with it, a few results, reports and goodbyes I would like to share with our community. First, I would like to show you the improvements we have made in our learning this year.

End of year - Overall Teacher Judgements (OTJ's)

As you read your child's report, you will notice that our teachers provide an overall teacher judgment reflecting their progress. Below, I have included a comparison of our mid-year results versus our end-of-year results. The green arrows indicate the positive progress made over the past two terms, highlighting areas where our efforts have been successful. Conversely, the red arrows point to areas where improvement is still needed, guiding our focus for continued growth. I am proud of the progress our students have achieved and I am committed to supporting them further in their learning journey.

Mid Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Above	10%	2%	5%
At	67%	69%	71%
Below	20%	25%	22%
Well Below	3%	4%	2%
Mid Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
At / Above	77%	71%	76%
Below / Well Below	23%	29%	24%
	Ove	rall	
At / Above	75% of our results were at or above		
Below / Well Below	25% of our results were below or well below		

End of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Above	11%	1 5%	1 6%
At	1 71%	1 71%	1 75%
Below	1 11%	17%	1 16%
Well Below	1 7%	† 6%	1 3%
End Of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
At / Above	1 82%	1 77%	1 81%
Below / Well Below	↓ 18%	\$ 23%	₽ 19%
	Ov	erall	
At / Above	80% of our results were at or above		
Below / Well Below	20% of our results were below or well below		

Here is a quick breakdown of the results from the end of year reports.

Reading:

- 82% of students above or at the standard.
- 5% increase of students working at or above the standard.

- 9% decrease of students working below the standard.
- 4% increase of student reading well below the standard.

Writing:

- 77% of students above or at the standard
- 6% increase from term 2 OTJ's
- An increase in students well below the standard.
- 3% increase of students writing above the standard.

Maths:

- 81% of students above or at the standard.
- 4% increase from the middle of the year.
- 75% are at the standard in mathematics.
- Almost 20% are below the standard.

Overall Data:

- 80% of students above or at the standard.
- 20% of students below or well below the standard.
- A 5% increase of students performing at or above the standard.
- A 5% decrease of students working below the standard.
- 108 students "At" or "Above" Mid Year
- 138 students At" or "Above" End of Year

Next, we have the breakdown of results for our Māori, Pasifika, and Middle Eastern students. Our Māori and Pasifika students have shown an increase across all areas of the curriculum since the mid-year point. A particular highlight for our Pasifika cohort is that there are no students in the "well below" category. For our Māori students, 13% are achieving "above" the standard in reading and writing, which is an excellent achievement. Our

Middle Eastern students have also shown some positive results, and we are actively working alongside their families to support students currently in the "below" category to reach the "at" standard.

These results reflect the progress we are making as a school and our ongoing commitment to supporting all students in their learning journey.

End of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	End of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Māori	%	%	%	Middle Eastern	%	%	%
Above	13%	13%	8%	Above	0%	0%	0%
At	58%	58%	67%	At	19%	15%	23%
Below	21%	25%	21%	Below	15%	19%	19%
Well Below	8%	4%	4%	Well Below	23%	23%	15%
End of Year 2024						- December 1	
End of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	End Of Year 2024	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
	Reading %	Writing %	Mathematics %	End Of Year 2024 Pasifika	Reading %	Writing %	Mathematics %
Non Māori			The state of the s			THE REAL PROPERTY.	The second second second
Non Māori Above	%	%	%	Pasifika	%	%	%
Non Maori Above At Below	% 10%	% 4%	% 6%	Pasifika Above	% 7%	% 2%	% 2%

2024 Annual Implementation Plan

This year marked my first experience writing an annual implementation plan, and the process has been both insightful and humbling. One of the key lessons I've learned is that the purpose of the plan is to demonstrate how I am working to achieve our strategic goals each year.

As a result, I've included a breakdown of this year's goals, the targets we set for each, and whether those targets were met. This reflection has provided valuable insights into our progress and areas for growth. Looking ahead, I will base next year's annual plan on the reflections and learnings from this year. It will focus on addressing what still needs to be done to fully implement the rest of our strategic plan.

Goal 1: Kotahitanga/Community

Key Initiative	Target (Met/Not Met)
Deepen our relationship and connection with Holy Trinity Parish.	Target: Hold termly services involving input from Holy Trinity Parish, with the first combined mass taking place in Term 1, 2024. Target: Met
Grow and develop Pasifika identity and engagement	Target: Create a regular Pasifika fono and group to gather community voice 1-2 times a year, with the first fono taking place in Term 3, 2024. Target: Not Met
Grow and develop agency for our Māori whānau rōpū	Target: Create and share our tikanga and kawa with the community by Term 4, 2024. Target: Mat

Goal 2: Ako/Learning

Key Initiative	Target (Met/Not Met)
Provide opportunities for ākonga to carry out acts of service in our community	Target: Integrated termity planning showing authentic connections to kaltiakitanga, beginning Term 1 2024. Target: Met
Provide opportunities for ākonga to carry out acts of service in our community	Target: Create a formalised leadership programme established, ready to be trielled in Term 4 2024, with a parent consultation and full implementation in Term 1 2025. Target: Not Met
Priortise ākonga wellbeing to strengthen social skills and learning	Wellbeing Target; An improvement in NZCER Wellbeing at School Survey results (2 yearly - next survey mid-2025) Target: Not Met

Priortise ākonga wellbeing to strengthen social skills and learning	Wellbeing Target: An improvement in NZCER Wellbeing at School Survey results (2 yearly next survey mid-2025) Target: Not Met
outcomes	PBAL Target: An increase of positive relationships in the playground (anecdotal evidence / decrease in recorded PB4L behaviour incidents). Target: Met
Develop kaitiaki and student leadership across the school	Target: Increased student participation and agency in leadership around the school. Target: Met
Ensure our tamariki have core curriculum skills for success	Target; Use of the Feedback rubric shows an improvement in student understanding of their learning. Target: Met
Ensure our tamariki have core curriculum skills for success	Curriculum Targets: 1. 60% of students currently working below the expected level in maths will be at the expected curriculum level by the end of the year. 2. 60% of students currently working below the expected level in reading will be at the expected curriculum level by the end of the year. 3. 50% of students currently working below the expected level in writing will be at the expected curriculum level by the end of the year. Target: Not Me

Goal 3: Whakaako/Teaching

Key Initiative	Target (Met/Not Met)
Develop an understanding of To Tatou Whakapono (The new RE curriculum) and effectively teach the new content.	Target: The use of specific learning outcomes in reports and integrated planning. Target: Met
Strengthen kalako practice to design learning that creates success for all	Target: A teacher Professional Growth Cycle goal based on the New Curriculum or Common Model Practice. Target: Not Met
åkonga using Te Måtaiaho (The refreshed curriculum).	<u>Iarget:</u> Implementation of the Feedback rubric and all classrooms to have 2-3 visual learning walls established from the beginning of 2024 and added to throughout the year. <u>Target: Met</u>
Kaiako continue to develop their knowledge in te reo, te ão and tikanga Māori from our local iwi perspective (Te Åti Awa whānui).	Target: Simple commands, greetings and language used in all classes, aligned with Kura Ahurea termly signposts. An increase in the Taku Reo Survey results. Target: Not Met

Farewell: As we come to the end of my first year as principal, I want to thank you all for your support, dedication, and faith in our school community. It has been a year of growth and blessings, and I am humbled to serve as your principal. On Wednesday night, I was equally humbled to celebrate the graduation of our year 8 students and before I sign off, I wish them all the best with their transition to college. My parting piece of advice to them was to live our values and look for opportunities to try new things because they may find new passions and paths to follow. Ka whiti mai te rā!



I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to;

- Kirsten Puddick Thank you Kirstern for creating a safe and warm space for new room 11 students.
 You have filled some big shoes this year and it has been lovely watching your class thrive;
- Suzanne Archer Fa'afetai for all the love and awhi you have shown our ORS students this year, especially Olani. I will miss your visits to my office with an excited Olani who loves talking about Atarangi.
- Vicky Holben Ngā mihi nui for supporting Holy Cross school as a TLA but also a kaiako this year. You have a drive and passion for teaching that is contagious. Keep up the good work and good luck with your teaching journey
- Ben Gittos You're not leaving us, but a year is a long time! We wish you well with your refreshment leave. I will miss your big booming laugh, constant positive approach to life and our reflective chats. Have a great 2025.

Final words: Our Catholic character calls us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, to love, serve, and grow together as a whānau. This year, I have been inspired by how our school values—Whānau, Aroha, and YES!—have been lived out in everything we do. Together, we have nurtured a community that is inclusive, kind, and courageous. I am immensely proud of how our tamariki have embraced these values too. .

Please stay safe over the holidays and remember to look after those around you. Together, let us carry the spirit of Whānau, Aroha and YES! into the new year.

Manuia le Kerisimasi, Meri Kirihimete and God bless,

Ngā mihi nui,



Tala Moemai

Catholic Character



At our Christmas Carol Liturgy we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ, God's gift to the world. We are grateful for the many gifts from God to us in 2024: Some of us started school for the first time and we all remember the relaxing holidays. There were lots of celebrations like Easter, the Holy Cross Hāngi at Matariki and the Food Fair.

We also experienced challenging times like losing family members and friends. We remember the gift of having had them in our lives.

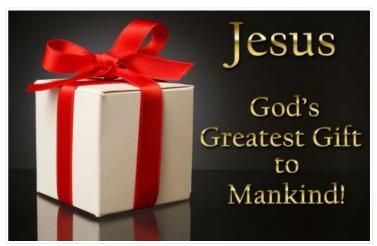
This Christmas let's think about how we can bring the Gift of Jesus Christ to others.

These Christmas prayers were read out by our students:

- Love: Loving God, help us to show patience, to stay calm and forgive others, even if they have been mean to us.
- Peace: We pray for peace in the world and an end to all wars. We pray for all refugees and migrants that had to leave their home countries. May they find some peace in New Zealand. We pray for peace and harmony in our families over Christmas and the holidays.
- Joy: God of Joy, help us to be kind to everyone and bring others joy. Help us to be helpful, inclusive, welcoming, caring, forgiving and give others our time and undivided attention.

 Hope: God of Hope, help us to be generous this advent, with our time to listen to others, and to take time to play with each other, not on devices. Help us to be generous so that we may donate money, toys, clothes or food to the many charities asking for help this advent.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays. May your days be filled with love and cheer!



Room 1

Rūma Tahi - Term 4, 2024

In term 4, we have had snorkelled at Worser Bay, celebrated the birth of Jesus with our Christmas Liturgy, hosted a Bunnings Mitre 10 NPC Trophy Visit, participated in our House Colours Sports Day, had a Korero with Abbas Nazari, Author of After The Tampa, and our Year 8s have had their Graduation. To our graduates, we wish you well on your journey to college; we will miss you! Kia Kaha, Kia Maia, Kia Manawanu! Be strong, be brave, be steadfast.





Signing off from our HCS Year 8s, Class of 2024.



Closing words from Marilyn Graham-Mika Year 8 Leaver's Speech presented at graduation.

"I always heard that you never leave Holy Cross, and I know in my heart that this is true. At my pōwhiri, my Mum shared these words, so I close my speech tonight with them, to remind us all that we are all important. He aha mea nui o te ao? He tāngata. He tāngata. He tāngata. What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people. The people. The people."

Room 2

Kia Ora Everyone

It has been another action-packed term at Holy Cross. I have included just a few of the events and activities our students have participated in during Term 4. These include the visit from Project Jonah about saving whales and dolphins, a visit from the Wellington Lions Rugby Team to show us the champions trophy, Garden to Table, our Siva performers, snorkelling training in preparation for snorkeling at Scorching Bay, our sports fun day last Friday and our Christmas Liturgy.

I have enjoyed teaching the students of Room 2 this year and watching them grow and progress academically, socially and spiritually. I wish all the students of Room 2 and their whānau every success and blessing for the future.

As you no doubt know, I will be taking refreshment leave in 2025 but I will probably see many of you around next year as it is likely that I will do some relieving at our kura.

Until then I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed and happy 2025. God bless you all.

Ngā mihi nui

Ben Gittos









Room 3

My favourite thing in school was riding the bikes in the pumptrack and going really really fast when going downhill. And uphill. I like playing cops and robbers too with my friends. Chasing the criminals. Over taking people too. I like when I am a robber because I like going really fast. I like chasing people too. I like using my bike and changing gears. When I change the gear it is hard to control. By Tyler

My favourite activity this year has been... (drum roll please)... The dance party! What happened was this.

The school was split into 2 groups: The older people (yrs 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8) and the Juniors (yrs 1, 2 and 3). I was in the older group, who went first. We had a mufti day on the same day too. When we got inside DJ Lyn gave us a lecture about having

fun. Then the fun started! DJ Lyn did Just Dance versions of different songs and she played the right ones too! So that was a fun day. By Rory

My favourite activity this year was the trip to Zealandia. It was my favourite activity because I got to see a really big fat Takahe. It was so pretty. My mind exploded. Not really exploded, I was just blown away. It was so fascinating. We also saw a tui, a kaka and I think we even saw a parrot. All the birds we saw were so exotic. They were pretty and rare. We then crossed a dam. It was so tall and terrifying. I am really scared of heights and there was so much water. I tried not to look down but I kept on looking down. Luckily there was railings along the dam. There were artifacts that was founded when the sanctuary was built. It was old and rusty. It was so rusty that the rust could peel off. There were also weta hotels. We saw some wetas. I had a very good time and I wish I could go again. By Brooklyn

My favourite thing this year is Wacky Thursday because I love dressing up and wearing togs crocs and track pants. I liked marching around the GTT room. The bonus thing was we could get books diaries mini stationery and bags. By Ruby

My favourite thing to do this year was going to Government House with my class and Room 5 because we saw special and rare stuff like the Governments coat of arms, a football signed by FIFA and history of the Government House. Kate, Richard and Heather were helpers that guided us around and explained the things around including the greeny, grassy gardens below Government House to a garden that Dame Cindy (Governor General) sprouted and a big, grey statue of a oreo cookie at the end of Dame Cindy's garden. Inside we saw a shiny, royal, golden throne and paintings of Royal Families like King Charles III, young Queen Elizabeth II and more. There are big, silver, shinny chandeliers everywhere around the rooms except upstairs because upstairs is where Dame Cindy signs paperwork. By Avery

Room 5 round up

Wow! It has been a very busy year this year!

The theme of Kaitiakitanga has been woven through all we have done this year. We have visited the Community Prison Gardens in Miramar, we have investigated the local history of the Miramar and Seatoun area and have seen the local flora and fauna of Zealandia when focusing on Ngahere - the Forest and will be visiting the beach at Worser Bay as the final PB4L reward tying in with our Moana focus in term 4.

We have had many sporting opportunities this year with Pedal Ready cycling, weekly biking sessions, swimming at Kilbirnie pool, touch rugby, soccer and cricket coaching sessions. There have been weekly sports games in touch, futsal, netball, mini polo, floorball and basketball through the year as well as many opportunities to attend Eastern Zone events.

We have been busy in our weekly Garden to Table sessions, helping to plant the garden and a pollinator pathway garden. Produce form the garden has been used in the kitchen weekly where we are developing solid knife skills!

We have been lucky enough to have weekly music sessions with Emily where we experimented with ukulele and recorder

playing. We have become confident using technology to aid our learning and have enjoyed the opportunity to use chromebooks in our learning, In RE we have looked at the lives of Saints and how they inspire us as well as how to pray the Rosary.

We have become more confident in our ability as learners and have improved our self management skills while managing to have fun along the way! Looking forward to a break then back into it in 2025. Have a lovely Christmas and we'll see you all next year!

Room 5





Room 7

In room 7 we learned about the Nativity, the early life of Jesus and wrote prayers for Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. We also learned about the life cycle of (bean) plants, parts of a flower and native plants of New Zealand. A highlight was our trip to the Botanic Garden.

It was inspiring when the Wellington Lions' NPC Trophy came to HCM.

It was a great, fun-filled year with lots of learning and exploring new things. I wish everyone happy holidays! Simone Meech







Room 8

Our year together has come to an end. We enjoyed a great trip to the Wellington Botanic Gardens and we have done some lovely learning around the Nativity story.

Of course, we have all been angels in Room 8, as you can see from our Angel pictures we made of ourselves.

We are all looking forward to a happy Christmas and a rest, to get ready for our new classes next year!





Room 11 is finishing the year by looking back at the wonderful times we have had and the creations we have made. It has been fun to sort out the artwork to send home and tamariki have enjoyed remembering the different topics we have covered.

We had a fun day out at the botanical garden where we sketched, played and explored.



It was exciting for everyone to visit their new classrooms this week and to connect with their teachers for next year. It was lovely to hear that children have been chatting with their new teachers at break times and are ready and happy to move up the school.

As we finish the year with more fun at the beach and in class, Room 11 wishes everyone a Meri Kirihimete. Thank you to all whānau for your support throughout the year.

Change to TOD 2025

Holy Cross School Term Dates for 2025 has slightly changed. Please NOTE the Teacher only day is now on Friday 30th May. Please see attached.

https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5471/holy_cross_school_term_dates_2025_1_.pdf

Sports fun day

Reflections on the Sports Day - By Ezira (Room 3)

My favourite thing to do this year was the colour day. They all have a special meaning to each colour. I was in green. I did a tug of war representing green. In tug of war we won but only lost once. Then when all the sports were done they told us the winning team, it was...GREEN. All the green people were sooooooo happy. I enjoyed the tug of war obviously. I liked it because it was sooooooo fun and funny. Me and Ceydeaz laughed at the people that fell because they fell funny.

Congratulations to our kaitiakitanga winner 2024

The Kaitiakitanga winner for 2024 goes to Avery. Avery has shown the following attributes -

Cares for resources.

Shows initiative to solve problems related to our environment.

Is a sustainability advocate.

Well done Avery & congratulations.



Whānau conference 2025

Whānau Conference 30 minute sessions 2025

WHAT: Learning Conferences - 30 minute individual meeting time

WHEN: Wednesday 29th January 2025 9:00am - 5.30pm

Thursday 30th January 2025 9:00am - 5.30pm

WHO: You and your child

WHY: We believe these Learning Conferences will be extremely valuable for both families and teachers.

The purpose of the conferences is to offer you, your child and your child's teacher an opportunity to start the year having met and discussed:

• Your ideas about areas of strength and interest

- Possible areas of challenge or concern for your child in their learning; behaviour or social/emotional needs
- Class routines and expectations
- Initial goal ideas for the first term
- Shared expectations
- Any other topics that will assist a positive start to the year.

We will also use this time to update any forms, permission slips and emergency contacts.

We are expecting every child to attend a Learning Conference on one of these days.

Full classes will resume on Monday 3rd February 2025 at the normal time of 8:45am.

WHAT TO DO:

Go to login with your email address, click add new student, enter your child's name and follow the prompts.

Stationery Class Lists for 2025



A BIG shout out to the Holy Cross Parents' Group for contributing \$3000 to our student class stationery lists for 2025. For 2025 the following stationery items will be covered; glue sticks, whiteboard markers, coloured pencils, pencils, rulers, pencil sharpeners, erasers, crayons (shared class item) and

journal bags. This is fantastic as it will help keep the overall costs down to all our families.

Stationery Class Lists for 2025

All families should have received their Stationery Class List for 2025 with their child's school report which was sent home on Monday 9th December. If you didn't receive your child's stationery list please let the office know.

Attached is the Stationery Class Lists for 2025.

How does this all work?

Option 1:

Listed are the steps for you to order on line:

- 1. www.warehousestationery
- 2. Select Lists (top right hand side)
- 3. Shop School Lists
- 4. Search for your school
- 5. Find school
- 6. School year
- 7. Search

NOTE: This will all go LIVE from the 1st January 2025.

Option 2:

You can shop at your local Warehouse Stationery in Lyall Bay, and the team there will be happy to assist you with any items on the list. Please advise them it is Holy Cross School as they will credit points to the school.

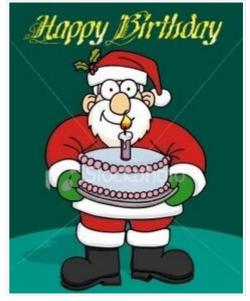
Vietnameezy Price List for Lunch Orders 2025

Please see attached the lunch menu and prices for Vietnameezy school lunches which will be starting next year on Wednesday 5th february 2025, cash only at this stage which is to be paid at the office before 8.45am

Envelopes will be provided to place order (similar to how Subway works).

https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5433/price_list_for_lunch_orders.pdf

Birthday Celebrations



For all those students celebrating their Birthday around Christmas and over the Christmas School holidays, have a beautiful and fun loving day.

Community News

https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5454/pertussis_information_sheet_dec_2024.pdf

https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5434/20241112_strathmore_park_kindergarten_flyer.pdf





THE VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY SUMMER & TERM 1 PROGRAMS

See Dates Below

Y7 & Y8 Holiday Programme: January 15th, 2025
Y3 - Y6 Holiday Programme: January 21st, 2025
Intermediate/Advanced College Camp: January 22th – 24th, 2025

TVA Drop-In Sessions: January 6th, 8th, 13th, & 15th, 2025
Term 1 VolleyKids and VolleyCollege starts February 8th, 2025
Times, locations, and prices listed on our website

Y7 & Y8 Holiday Programme

Y3 – Y6 Holiday Programme

Intermediate/Advanced College Camp

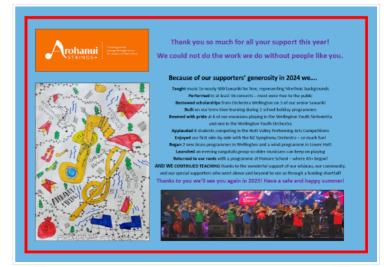
TVA Drop-In Sessions

Term 1 VolleyKids & VolleyGollege Rego

> TVA Phone: 02102493755

thevolleyballacademy.co.nz

Email: josette@thevolleyballacademy.co.nz



https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5497/22_december_2024_final_compressed.pdf

https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5498/2412_archbishop_s_christmas_letter_compressed.pdf



https://hcsmiramar.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/5440/screenshot_2024_12_13_103431.jpg

BIGAIR

January Holiday Fun – Have you booked and locked in your plans?

Join Bigair Gyms popular January 2025 Holiday Programme for those Syrs and above!
Kids will enjoy gym circuits, challenges, competitions, free play, structured games, and talent quests.

Contact Info & January Holiday Programme Dates:

- Bigair Gym Owhiro Bay & Tawa: 13th 31st January (3 weeks)
- ph. 383 8779, e. wgtn@bigairgym.co.nz at 14 Landfill Road, Owhiro Bay.
 Bigair Gym Tawa: 13th 31st January (3 weeks)
- ph. 232 3508, e. office@bigairgym.co.nz at 10b Surrey Street, Tawa.
- Bigair Gym Kapiti: 21st 31st January (2 weeks)
 ph. 297 0400, e. kapiti@bigairgym.co.nz at 4 Manchester Street, Kapiti.

Morning, Afternoon and Full Day Sessions available.

Spaces are limited and are already filling up, so we recommend securing your spot early to avoid disappointment after Christmas. Book now at www.bigairgym.co.nz.

Keep your children active, learning and engaged with Bigair Gym this summer!

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