

Term 3 Week 7



Hamilton
Seventh-day Adventist School
Educating For Eternity

VOL. 13, 2025

Friday, 29th August
Rāmere, 29 Ākuhata

What is in your Control?



This week, 19 of our students participated in the annual Intermediate Town and Country Sports Camp. It was an exhausting & exhilarating week, with early mornings and late bedtimes, as students participated in more than 30 sports against 10 other schools.

One of the most exciting things about sports is the tension that arises when two teams are evenly matched and battling for victory. That tension only exists when the teams have a real chance to triumph. While the possibility of victory is exciting, it also brings the nervous energy of potential failure. It's in these moments that students are thrust into real-life opportunities to learn to dig deep, to silence the inner voices of defeat, and focus only on the things that are completely within their control.

Karakia

Over the next two weeks we will be praying for the following families

Term 3	Week 8	Week 9
Rāhina	O'Halloran	Paul
Rātū	Ockleston	Peter
Rāapa	Odgers	Potter
Rāpare	Olivet	Rahul
Rāmere	Ordenez	Reece Morgan

There are many things that impact performance, and to expect that at any moment, we are going to have our 'perfect' game doesn't reflect reality, even for professional athletes. There are things completely outside of our control that influence our impact. The key is to focus on the things that are in your control.

What's Completely in your Control?

1. **Energy** - Only you can control the energy and effort that you bring to a game. The effort you put in will go a long way toward adding value to a team.
2. **Positivity** - You can choose to stay positive, even after you or others have made errors (even the best athletes do). You can choose positive self-talk and encourage your teammates.
3. **Bravery** - You can choose to be brave, even when you face stronger opposition or fear failure.

Watching the kids grow in such high-pressure situations has been a joy. That's what I love about sports: It places students in these moments of tension and allows them to lean into the discomfort and practice focusing on what's in their control.

Your faith walk is similar. Doubt can creep in, you can become distracted, and you can start listening to the wrong voices. In your spiritual walk, what is within your control?

1. **Energy** - You can control the energy and effort you put into growing your faith and furthering your understanding of God.
2. **Positivity** - Even when He seems distant, you can choose to trust in His goodness, despite the storm raging around you.
3. **Bravery** - You can choose to be brave, to step out in faith, and move as you hear Him calling.

Our Deep Hope

Our students will encounter the heart of God, as they walk in a growing relationship with Him and with others, that inspires them to make a positive impact for His Kingdom

Zone Success

On Thursday, 18 of our students participated in the Country Zone Cross Country Race held at Tamahere Model Country School.

Congratulations to Colomba (4th Place), Emmanuel Barrios (4th Place), Olivia (6th Place), and Zach (9th Place) who all made Top 10 placings.

Thank you to the parents that came along and helped and supported the team.



Introducing our new Board Team

Over the next few Newsletters, I will be introducing our newly elected School Board members and have asked them a series of questions. This week, I would like to introduce you to **Maritha O'Halloran**, one of our newly appointed Parent Reps.

1. What inspired you to run for a position on the school board?

I felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to put my hand up. I have no prior experience in School Governance, but I am looking forward to gaining a better understanding of what happens "behind the scenes" when it comes to operating a school. I hope to be a fair representative for the parents and caregivers of this school community. I am inspired by the family feel of the school.

2. What is something you love about our school community?

What I love most about our school community is the love for Christ that is displayed in both the classroom and on the playground. It always struck me that I feel very "at home" when I am at the school. It is a breath of fresh air to be surrounded by people from all walks of life, yet one in Christ. I remember the first time I ever visited the school. We were in the principal's office and could hear the kids sing a worship song in room 1. It brought me to tears, and I just knew this was a safe and wholesome place for my child. A hidden gem right under our noses all these years!

3. What is a book you enjoyed reading in Primary school that you think every child should read?

I grew up in South Africa, and my native tongue is Afrikaans. But we did have English as a compulsory second language at school. My number one book that all kids should read (in my opinion) is The Chronicles of Narnia. I also have vivid memories of my English teacher reading The Secret Garden to us in class. Books are always better than movies...always!



Chris & Maritha O'Halloran

*"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, through the Spirit.
2 Corinthians 3:18"*



Our Sports Camp Team Shines

Over the last 5 days, we demanded a lot of our Sports Camp team, and boy did they deliver. From being up and ready to go at 6.30 am each morning, cleaning toilet blocks each day, helping out with serving meals, running from one game to the next, at times with games half a kilometer apart with a 5-minute turnaround, ensuring they carried all of the gear they needed at all times. Spending every free minute working on the team Cheer, competing until 9 pm each night, and trying to get to sleep with rowdy school groups in neighbouring cabins.

And then, adding to that, the adrenaline highs of winning vital games and the lows of failing to win others. Sports Camp was an incredibly demanding week, and though tired and weary, our kids stepped up and delivered what was asked and expected of them every time.

One of the highlights was watching our team perform their team Cheer in front of an audience of more than 600 people, with many of their families coming along to watch and support.

This was our most successful Sports Camp yet, and we are so incredibly proud of the energy, bravery, and positivity that each child brought to our Combined team. We delivered some tired kids back at school today and they will certainly deserve the rest they get tonight.

Sports Camp Results

Winners	Runners Up	Third Place	Semi-Finalist
Cheer	Petanque	Mini Golf	Girls Indoor Soccer
Girls Volleyball	Shooting	Quality Living	Boys Indoor Soccer
Netball	Pickleball	Boys Table Tennis	Spikeball
Girls Table Tennis	Sportsmanship	Scramball	
Draughts	This year, our Combined Team finished 4th overall out of 10 teams.		
Wallball			

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Praying for Families

Every morning, our staff team pray for a family in our school community. We invite you to join us in praying for families listed on the front of the newsletter.

If it is your families turn for prayer and you have a specific prayer request, please email your request to the school office and we pray specifically for it.



Friday Tuck Shop

Every Friday, the PTA runs a small tuck shop to raise money for a number of initiatives that support the school.

Cost: \$2 each.



Informed and Empowered

When: Thursday, 18th September

Where: Hamilton SDA School

Time: 6.30 pm start

Come and learn about the dangers of access to the online world for our children, and take home some tools and resources to more confidently navigate this space as a parent or caregiver.



Adventist Basketball Competition

When: Tuesday, 22nd October (Term 4)

Where: Bruce Pulman Park, 90 Walters Rd, Takanini

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Who: Y5/6 and Y7/8 Basketball Teams

Permission Slips will be sent out over the next few weeks.



Chess and Speech Competition

When: Friday, 31st October

Where: Bethlehem Chapman College, Rotorua

Who: Y5/6 and Y7/8 Students

Dress: Formal school uniform

More information will be sent home early in Term 4

“Poipoia te kakano Kia puawai”

Nurture the seed and it will blossom



HAMSDA PTA FUNDRAISER

Quiz Night

JOIN US FOR TRIVIA,
SILENT AUCTIONS,
FOOD & PRIZES

\$10 per adult **\$2** per child

KIDS
QUIZ/MOVIE
& GAMES
PROVIDED

**SAT 30 AUGUST
6PM**

Hamsda Central Church
58 Palmerston St, Hamilton

**HOT FOOD / SNACKS
& DRINKS AVAILABLE**

EFTPOS AVAILABLE



MAKE A TEAM OF 4-8 PEOPLE
PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED ADULT TEAM
AND BEST DRESSED KID

<https://near.tl/hamsda-pta/>

Displaying Our Values



RESPECT. RESPONSIBILITY. RESILIENCE.

Important Dates

Coming up in Term 3

Sat, 30 th Aug	PTA Quiz night - Hamilton Central SDA Church - Palmerston Street
Mon, 15 th Sept	School Board Meeting - 6.30 pm in Room 1 (First meeting for the new School Board)
Wed, 17 th Sept	Within School Speech Competition - More information to come
Thurs, 18 th Sept	Informed & Empowered - Our Kids Online - Room 4 @ 6.30 pm
Fri, 19 th Sept	Reports to go Home

Early in Term 4

Mon, 20 th Oct	School Board Meeting - 6.30 pm in Room 1
Tues, 22 nd Oct	SDA Basketball Tournament in Auckland
Fri, 31st Oct	Chess & Speech Competition

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