VOL. 17, 2026

Term 4 Week 3

Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist School
Educating for Eternity

Friday, 30th October
Rāmere, 30 Oketopa

To Be Known, Not Merely Seen



Today, a group of our students traveled to Rotorua to represent our school at the annual WaiBop Christian Schools Chess and Speech Competition. It was a full, rewarding day, and our young people did us exceptionally proud.

Over at the chess boards, our players faced tough competition, taking both wins and losses in stride. More importantly, they walked away having sharpened their strategy, adapted to new challenges, and demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship throughout.

In the speech competition, our students delivered outstanding presentations. It takes genuine courage to step up to the front and share your convictions with peers and judges, yet they spoke with poise, clarity, and real presence.

One presentation that particularly resonated with me came from a Year 9 student from Bethlehem College, who challenged the audience to move beyond merely seeing one another to truly knowing one another. In a digital world dominated by scrolling, liking, and leaving quick comments, he reminded us of the difference between superficial visibility and authentic connection. His call to put down our devices, look up, and invest in understanding our friends' real lives, their burdens, passions, and joys, was a message well beyond his years.

Seeing our youth engage with ideas so thoughtfully, articulate their values, and stand up with such conviction was deeply encouraging.

My sincere gratitude goes out to the parents who gave their time to transport, encourage, and support our team.

Above all, congratulations to each of our students for their dedication, resilience, and exemplary attitude throughout the day.

Shaun Hurlow
principal@hamsda.school.nz

Karakia

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

Prayer	Term 4	
	Week 4	Week 5
Rāhina	Chavachery Robin	Florendo
Rātū	Donguila	Foley
Rāapa	Dunstone	Fourie
Rāpare	Esteves Paddison	Galdames
Rāmere	Fletcher	Gardyne

Our Deep Hope

We will encounter the heart of God, as we walk in a growing relationship with Him and with others, that inspires us to make a positive impact for His Kingdom

Double the Futsal Fun

Student participation in Futsal has multiplied in our school, especially among our younger students. In term 1, we had three teams participating across the Primary and Intermediate age competitions. This term, that has doubled to six teams, with our U9 group consisting of three teams altogether.

Our students enjoyed a positive start to the Futsal league with 4 of our 6 teams opening the season with a win. Our U13 team, SDA Blaze, continue their unbeaten run, with a 6-1 win over Te Kōwhai. In our U11 division, SDA Flames were beaten 4-7 by Berkley in a closely contested match, while SDA Scorchers beat Gordonton 9-3. Our U9 teams also had a great start with SDA Fire winning 8-6 against St Josephs, SDA Sparks winning 4-3 against Hillcrest, and SDA Embers making a positive start with a closely contended game losing 4-6.

A big thank you to our parent helpers that manage the teams at the games. We couldn't do it without you.







Ultimate Officiating Fun

Our Ultimate Frisbee teams continue to battle the wind and their opponents as they learn to grapple with the rules and officiating themselves. The philosophy of Ultimate Frisbee relies on 'the spirit of the game', placing the onus of sportsmanship and honourable play on the students themselves. With no referees, even at professional level, players make the calls and when dispute over calls happen, players use structured on-field dialogue to resolve things in under a minute.

Our teams have been learning to be assertive and make calls as infringements happen. Thank you Holly and Ezra for coaching and supporting the students as they navigate a new way of playing sport. Our mixed team won 8-3 this week, and our girls team were narrowly defeated 7-8 by Berkley.
Well done to both teams!



"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

Cultural Celebrations

Our school community is vibrant, diverse, and full of rich traditions. To honour and celebrate the many cultures that make our school so special, we are once again hosting our Cultural Celebrations Evening on Thursday, 10th December, and we would love for your family to be part of the programme!

We are inviting students, parents, and whānau to prepare an item for the stage, whether it is a traditional song, dance, musical performance, cultural dress presentation, or storytelling piece.

Key Information & Guidelines:

- **Item Length:** To ensure a smooth evening, items must be no longer than 5 minutes.
- **Limited Availability:** There are time slots available for 12 items overall, allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Who Can Join:** Items can be presented by individual students, siblings, or whole families.

To secure a performance slot, please email principal@hamsda.school.nz with a brief description of what your family plans to share.

Get in early to reserve your spot, we look forward to an unforgettable evening of sharing and celebration together!









Weet-bix Try-Athlon

When: Sunday, 6th December
Where: St. Peter's School, Cambridge
Entry: Click HERE to enter our school team

You can opt to have your race pack sent directly to school if you enter at least within two weeks of the event.

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Praying for Our School

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 will pray specifically for it.

PhotoLife™

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

School Photos

When: Monday, 2nd November
Dress: Formal School uniform

If you would like individual or sibling photos taken, please check your email. Arranging these photos are to be done through Photo Life directly and you should have received an email with information on how to order these.

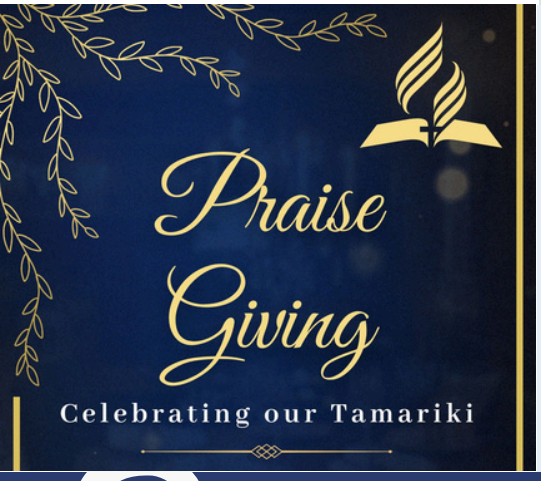
Finlay Park ADVENTURE CAMP

School Camp in Week 6

When: Monday - Tuesday, 16th - 17th November
Where: Finlay Park, Lake Karapiro
Who: Year 0-4 students - Monday ONLY
Year 5-8 students - Stay overnight

Thank you to those that have indicated their availability to help with transport and/or supervision at camp. These events cannot proceed without your help and support and we greatly appreciate it.

Please click HERE to find the list of what to bring to camp



Praise Giving (Date Change)

When: Tuesday, 15th December
Where: Hamilton Central Baptist Church, 33 Charlemont Street
Time: 6pm start - Doors open at 5.30pm
Dress: Formal School Uniform

This year, we have moved to a larger venue so that we can celebrate and give praise for the year that has been as a whole school community

Displaying our Values





RESPECT. RESPONSIBILITY. RESILIENCE.

Important Dates

Coming up in Term 4

Mon, 2nd Nov	**School Photos -** Dress in formal school uniform
Mon, 2nd Nov	**School Board Meeting -** 5.30pm in Room 1
Mon-Tues, 16-17th November	**School Camp @ Finlay Park -** See Permission FORM on Skool Loop App
Sun, 22nd Nov	**Orchard Working Bee** - 10am start (Should finish around lunch time)
Tue, 24th Nov	**Adventist Basketball Tournament -** Year 5-8 students - Pakuranga
Mon, 7th Dec	**School Board Meeting -** 5.30pm in Room 1
Thurs, 10th Dec	**Cultural Celebration Evening -** 5.00pm start
Tues, 15th Dec	**Praise Giving -** 6pm Start - Central Baptist Church, 33 Charlemont Street
Fri, 18th Dec	**End of the School Year**

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