

Term 4 Week 3



Hamilton
Seventh-day Adventist School
Educating For Eternity

VOL. 16, 2025

Friday, 24th October
Rāmere, 24 Oketopa

Steadfast in the Storm



Karakia

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

Prayer	Term 4	
	Week 4	Week 5
Rāhina	Vesseur	Barrios
Rātū	Abraham	Barton
Rāapa	Andrews	Barton Pihama
Rāpare	Anzweni	Beauchamp
Rāmere	Baker	Beck

It's easy to feel the ground shaking lately. Everywhere we look, it seems there's turmoil. We see it in the news—from wild weather battering communities to the ongoing strain of teacher strikes and the passionate debates over curriculum changes that spark such significant kickback. The challenges facing our nation can feel relentless, and as leaders, it can be tempting for our focus to be drawn into the immediate crises.

Yet, something remarkable happened at our Christian Principals Leadership meeting this week.

None of these immediate challenges—the strikes, the curriculum changes, the policy battles—were the main topics taking up our collective thinking space. Instead, our conversations revolved around something far more foundational and enduring: the very mission of Christian education and the profound heart for transformation that defines our work.

We talked about how to cultivate genuine Christian character in students. We explored strategies for integrating faith authentically across all subjects. We shared ideas not on how to react to the latest headline, but how to proactively shape young lives for Christ.

It was a powerful reminder that while the world around us may be in constant flux, the core of what we do is unshakeable.

Faith is UNMOVEABLE.

This distinction isn't about ignoring the realities of our world; it's about leading from a place of deep conviction.

The difficulties we face—the external pressures, the societal shifts—are like the fierce winds and waves described in scripture. They are powerful, they are real, but they do not determine the course. Our focus on mission is the anchor that holds us steady. It is the unwavering belief that Faith is unmoveable—a firm foundation upon which we build schools, curriculum, and, most importantly, lives.

The world needs Christian schools to be a source of calm and consistent truth now more than ever. When we, as leaders, prioritize the eternal—the transformation of hearts and minds for God's glory—over the temporary, we equip our staff and students to do the same.

Whether at home or in your community, my prayer is that you continue to reveal the heart of God, knowing that in the midst of every storm, our foundation in Christ remains firm.

Shaun Hurlow

principal@hamsda.school.nz

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

WWW.HAMSDA.SCHOOL.NZ

SDA Hoops Score Big!

A huge congratulations to both the Hamilton SDA School Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 basketball teams for their outstanding performances at the recent Adventist basketball tournament!

Our 'ballers put in an incredible effort, with both teams topping their respective pools and heading into the semi-finals undefeated. The competition was fierce in the knock-out rounds, but our teams held their own, demonstrating skill, teamwork, and great sportsmanship.

The Year 5/6 team fought hard to secure a magnificent 2nd place overall, and the Year 7/8 team achieved a fantastic 3rd place overall. These results are a testament to the dedication of every player.

A massive thank you must go to Ezra Odgers for generously giving up his lunchtimes to coach, train, and prepare both teams for the tournament. Your commitment made a real difference!



Orchard Planting - Phase 3

Last Friday, Bertie and Dave from Kernow Trees and Edible Gardens spent the day supporting students in small groups with pruning and planting a range of companion plants to support their growth.

These plants help by attracting more bees to increase pollination. They also deter pests and predatory insects with their strong scent.

It is exciting to see the new growth on the trees we planted earlier in the year.



A few more pictures from the week

*"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"*





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.



Chess & Speech Comp

When: Friday, 31st October

Where: BC Chapman, 47 Biak Street, Rotorua

Time: 9:00 am Start (Depart School at 7.45 am)

Dress: Formal School Uniform

All the best team!



School Photo's

When: Monday, 3rd November

Dress: Full FORMAL School Uniform

Just a reminder to ensure that all uniform is clean, tidy, and students are dressed in their FORMAL school uniform for photo's. (Not their Sports Uniform)



Weet-bix Try-Athlon

When: Sunday, 7th 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.

“Poipoia te kakano Kia puawai”

Nurture the seed and it will blossom



Displaying Our Values



RESPECT. RESPONSIBILITY. RESILIENCE.

Important Dates

Coming up in Term 4

Mon, 27 th Oct	Labour Day - No School
Fri, 31 st Oct	Chess & Speech Competition - BC Chapmen, Rotorua
Mon, 3 rd Nov	School Photo's
Tues - Fri, 18 th - 21 st Nov	Northland Trip - Room 4 students
Mon, 1st Dec	School Board Meeting - Room 1 @ 5.30 pm
Sun, 7 th Dec	Weet-Bix Try-Athlon - St Peters, Cambridge, Click HERE to enter
Wed & Thur 10 th & 11 th Dec	School Production - 6.30 pm (9 th & 10 th Dec - Rehearsals at Clarence Street Theatre)
Wed, 17 th Dec	Praise Giving
Thurs, 18 th Dec	Last Day of the School Year

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