



Kia Ora Whānau,

What a week it has been with all the celebrations and assemblies!

At our senior leavers' celebration last night, we enjoyed Stephen Hart's message that God has a plan for all of us, no matter how broken we are – he can make us a masterpiece. In Him, we have our success. But let's look at the word success. Does success imply fame, wealth or simply being happy? Does it imply that we will never fail? No, *Proverbs 3: 1- 4 states: **Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart** <sup>1</sup>My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, <sup>2</sup>for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. <sup>3</sup>Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup>So you will find favour and good success<sup>[a]</sup> in the sight of God and man.*

Jesus reiterated this teaching in the New Testament when He declared which is the greatest commandment: **"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'** Loving God means obeying Him and keeping His commandments.

## Picture two hands.

**In the right hand** there is the offer of true contentment, the ability to handle life's problems without being overcome by them, amazing peace that sees us through all circumstances, wisdom to know what to do, knowledge and constant direction for life, love for others, acceptance of ourselves, joy no matter what, and at the end of life, an eternity with the God who freely gives all these gifts.

**The other hand** holds all the money and power and success the world has to offer, without any of what the right-hand holds.

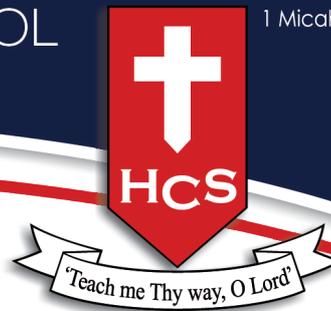
**Which would you choose?** *Matthew 6:21 states, "Where your treasure is, there also is your heart".* That which is in the right hand is the biblical definition of success. That, and that when we fail, we see it as an opportunity to do better, to learn from our mistakes and go on. We are living in God's story – we are part of our Father's narrative.

So remember the following three things when things don't work out the way we planned:

1. Don't demand that the story go your way (in other words, surrender completely)
2. Look for the Storyteller (look for his hand, pray and develop an eye for Jesus)
3. Stay in the story. Don't shut down and exit the story when it goes wrong (according to you)

And then remember: C.S Lewis was successful in living his faith while having a successful career despite numerous failures and disappointments. "It is not your business to succeed, but to do right; when you have done so, the rest lies with God." - C.S. Lewis

We would love to see you at our Thanksgiving at St Paul's on Tuesday night where we celebrate students' achievements, but above all reflect on how good and faithful God has been this year. We will have an early finish on both the Tuesday and Wednesday (last day of term).



Thank you for your support and prayers this year – we can see that prayer has moved the arm of God. Continue to pray for all the building and renovating that will continue during the break so that we can be ready for the start of 2021.

Blessings

Petra Verbeek

**Deputy Principal**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS – GOOGLE CALENDAR**

Please make sure to check the [Google Calendar](#), which we will update if changes are made.

Mon 7 Dec: Y10 - End of Year Activities  
Middle School - End of Year Activities  
Construction Zone – Pyjama Day (remember to wear PJs and bring a healthy plate to share)

Tues 8 Dec: Y1-9 Orientation morning (new Year 10s included as well)  
Early school close – 12:55 pm  
Thanksgiving Service and Prizegiving, 6:15 pm for 6:30 start  
[St Paul's Collegiate, Chapel](#)

Wed 9 Dec: Term 4 end  
Early school close – 12:55pm  
**MUFTI – TEAR FUND FUNDRAISER (Gold Coin Donation)**

## **THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

The end of year is fast approaching and there is much happening in and around the school. Please see details below for Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, which includes our Thanksgiving Service and the planning thereof.

### **Thanksgiving – Tuesday 8 December**

The service will be held at St Paul's Collegiate at 6:15 pm for a 6:30 pm start.

### **Rehearsal:**

- Year 11-13s who are involved (make their own way to St Paul's by 9:30am – these students have been notified directly by Mr Bosgra)
- Primary, Middle School & Y10 students who are involved in the Rock Memorial (will be transported by school van from school and returned to school). If your child is being transported by school van and they need a booster seat to travel, please make sure that you send this in with your child in the morning.



**On the night students need to be seated as follows: (year level signs will be on the first seat of each row)**

- Year 13 will be seated in the front row on the right
- Year 10 -12 will be seated as per year level from the row behind the Year 13s.
- Year 7 - 9 will be seated as per year level in rows, near the front left.
- Year 1 – 6 need to be seated with their parents.

Please remember that this is a **formal event** and all students need to be well presented, with a clean (correct) uniform that is correctly worn. **NO jerseys / jackets (soft shell or older style) / sports hoodies** are to be worn on the night.

### **INFORMATION FOR 2021:**

Please note that we will again be sending out an electronic information '**mailout**' which will include several forms and links with essential information needed for the year ahead - this will be sent out by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec and will also be available on our school website.

### **TERM DATES - 2021**

Term 1: Wednesday 3 February - Friday 16 Apr

Term 2: Monday 3 May - Friday 9 Jul

Term 3: Monday 26 Jul - Friday 1 Oct

Term 4: Monday 18 Oct - Wednesday 15 Dec

### **TEACHER ONLY DAYS**

Thursday 28 Jan

Friday 29 Jan

Wednesday 19 May

Thursday 12 Aug

Tuesday 23 Nov

Thursday 16 Dec

Friday 17 Dec

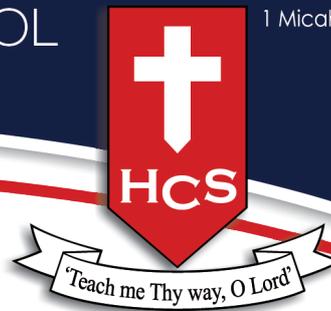
While most of the above-mentioned Teacher only Days have been scheduled during the school holidays, there are three dates during the year that are dates that the Ministry of Education and the unions have agreed upon – these are highlighted in red. Please note that the dates above are subject to change.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

School hours for students are Monday to Friday, 8:40 am - 3:10 pm

### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

Please follow the link for up to date information regarding [NZ Public Holiday & Anniversary dates.](#)



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES



Our Primary and Middle School celebration assemblies took place yesterday, which celebrated the students' achievements for the year. Students received a certificate spotlighting both a character attribute and academic area that they shined in. We were also treated to beautiful performances by our younger students which were thoroughly enjoyed. A special thank you to all those who worked hard to bring together such a memorable celebration and to all the parents who joined us in the celebration.

## LIBRARY – SUMMER READING

### Summer Reading 2020

#### Avoid the summer slide!

Students in years 7-12

may borrow library books over the holiday

To take advantage of this offer students must:

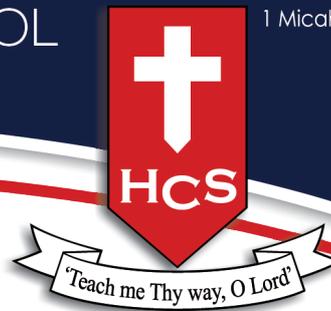
- + Be currently in Year 7 – 12
- + Be returning to HCS in 2021
- + Have no outstanding overdue books
- + Have no outstanding fines for lost or damaged books
- + Agree to abide by the school's borrower restrictions

Hand your permission form in at the school office  
Select your books from the 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> December!

**Take away up to 10 books  
for over the summer break!**



Come to the library  
**BEFORE SCHOOL or at  
LUNCHTIME ONLY**  
As NCEA exams  
are still on  
in the mornings  
and afternoons



## HCS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

A reminder that the link to our school policies and procedures can be found on our [website](#) or accessed as below:

<https://hamiltonchristian.schooldocs.co.nz>

Username: hamiltonchristian

Password: micah

## COMMUNITY

