



Newsletter

Term 3, Week 8, 2023

6 September 2023

Manukau Christian School

Dear MCS Friends and Families,

This has been an exciting term with physical activities prevalent across the primary school: swimming for our Year 5 and 6 students, and lots of running practices that culminated in the main Run4Bibles events recently. Thank you again for your help in supporting your child with this worthy cause. For our high school students food is always high on the list, from baking and cooking, to the student-led sausage sizzles—which were a big hit with everyone! We are now moving toward external exams for high school students where their commitment and perseverance will be assessed.

Builders or Destroyers

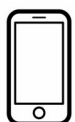
When God created the world, he didn't create things in a finished state. The world with man in it was **very good**, but God created us in his image. Part of that was that we were to keep on 'creating' and developing what God had made.

God didn't design people to laze around in Edenic hammocks plucking fruit and patting tame

animals. He gave man a job. He told us to be fruitful and multiply, to fill the earth and subdue it – to rule over it. God's vision for his creation was a world bursting with life filled with lots of babies so there would be millions of humans who love God and live for him, exploring his world, discovering the rich treasures he had deliberately hidden in the ground waiting for us to discover.



The fact that we can turn silicon, one of the most abundant elements in the earth's crust into silicon chips is not lucky chance. It is part of God's good design of our world, and a sign that there are likely many other good things he has richly blessed this world with that we are still completely unaware of. The point is that God designed a world like this and set mankind the task of exploring, discovering and gradually developing great civilizations for his glory and praise. That is why, when we are



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given a peek into the end of history in the book of Revelation, the picture is not of a garden, but a garden city, where the treasures of the nations - possibly their cultural treasures: art, music and discoveries – are brought together into a great and unified God-honouring multitude.

Of course, we all know that this wonderful picture is not what we see around us. The reason for this is sin. Satan hated the idea that humans would build a God-honouring civilization. He wanted to destroy God's plan. That's why one of his names is Apollyon – the destroyer. We see his influence all around us. People seek to build civilizations and cultures that promote their own greatness rather than pointing back to the Creator. Some are lazy and refuse to contribute and build. Others seek to deliberately destroy. But in all cases, the effect of this rebellion is the same – a deteriorating culture. We see cases of this all around us. It might be denigrating marriage and family, painting graffiti on someone's fence, stealing other people's goods or simply dropping rubbish on the ground instead of picking it up and putting it in the bin. These are all the acts of destroyers rather than builders.



When Adam sinned, he introduced into the human race a poison that causes every heart to be biased against God. Instead of learning about his creation and wanting to fill the earth and subdue it for his glory, people refuse to follow this mandate and instead of building they end up destroying. However, Jesus, by his redemption and through His Holy Spirit enables Christians to become the builders that God intended us to be from the beginning. Instead of living for our own glory and promotion, we live to see God's name honoured throughout the ends of the earth.

At MCS, our great hope is that we will provide our students with an education that will turn them into builders. We hope and pray that each student who leaves here will acknowledge Jesus as king, and prepare to live a life of building so that God's kingdom may grow and Satan's may be pushed back and the whole earth may be filled with God's glory as the waters cover the sea.

House Points

WILBERFORCE	CALVIN	TE WIREMU	TARORE
41	80	48	84

The cartoon is divided into two panels by a vertical line. The left panel is labeled '1960' and the right panel is labeled '2010'. In the 1960 panel, a man and a woman are shouting at a small child who is holding a card that says 'REPORT CARD F'. A speech bubble from the man says 'THESE GRADES ARE TERRIBLE!!'. In the 2010 panel, the same man and woman are shouting at a child who is sitting at a desk with a 'F' grade card. A speech bubble from the man says 'THESE GRADES ARE TERRIBLE!!'. The child is sitting at a desk with a 'F' grade card. The teacher is sitting at a desk with a 'F' grade card. The teacher is sitting at a desk with a 'F' grade card.

In a Christian environment, we acknowledge the sinfulness of all human beings, including children. Children are not just impacted negatively by their

We encourage our parents to avoid falling into the ditch of always blaming outside influences for a child's failures. This 'victim mentality' is common in New Zealand, but does little to help children improve their characters. Rather, we encourage you to teach your children to first look at their responsibility for any issues that crop up.

We recently received the results for Cambridge IGCSE examinations in English and Mathematics. Our year 11 students have performed exceptionally well.

- 

Serena Wang and Ezra Liu

Kind Regards,

Principal

CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11	12	13	14	15
18 St John Years 7 and 8	19	20	21	22 School finishes 12.30pm
HOLIDAYS				
2 OCT HOLIDAYS	3 OCT	4 OCT High School Students start term 4	5 OCT	6 OCT
9 OCT TERM 4 starts 8.30am Years 1 to 8 Whole School Assembly 8.50am	10 OCT CAIE Exams start	11 OCT	12 OCT	13 OCT Year 6 Checkpoint Exams
16 OCT Year 6 Checkpoint Exams	17	19	20	21

GENERAL NOTICES

Enrolments and Withdrawals for 2024

We give prayerful thanks for our Lord's provision: enrolments exceed available places and we have waiting lists for all year levels. Please remind family and friends to enrol early.

Last week an update was emailed regarding planning for 2024 and the importance of letting us know if you intend to withdraw your child at the end of the year. Please return the slip by the **end of this term** if you intend to withdraw your child. If you wait to inform the school until the end of the year, **you will be liable for Term 1, 2024 fees** if you withdraw your child. If there is ***any possibility*** of withdrawal, please speak to Mrs Oosterbeek in the office.

Fees are due in the first week of each term unless you have a regular payment plan in place. Please talk with Mrs Oosterbeek if you have any questions in this area.

Students and Vehicles

Senior students with a restricted or full licence may apply for permission to drive to school and park in our carpark, but must obey all driving rules i.e. no passengers on a restricted license. Students may only park their vehicles at the senior end of the school.

GENERAL NOTICES

Thank you



- For your attendance at the Senior Pathways Information evening for your high school child's future planning.
- For supporting the Calendar Art Fundraiser. Please ensure your order is submitted now.
- For supporting our high school's sausage sizzle fundraiser for their end of year graduation celebration.
- For supporting your child in getting sponsors for Run4Bibles.
- For your offers of help with various activities, including swimming—without which we could not take part.
- For spreading the word about our school. We have waiting lists in all year levels.

Health and Safety



- We are serious about Health and Safety at school. Thank you parents who consistently ensure the safety of their children by parking your car in the correct place, and walking your child to the central courtyard area from the upper carpark. Parents, **please** be respectful of others by parking your car, not blocking the driveway, and parking along the road if your child is Year 4 and up.
- Please observe the direction of the arrows in the upper carpark.
- Please update your contact details—address, phone number and email if this changes. Often this only comes to light when a child is unwell.
- If your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea, they need to stay home for 24 hours before returning to school to prevent spreading illness.
- Please download the Skool Loop App—not only do we use this for messages and notices, but we will use this in an emergency. Information loaded to this app is available instantly and can be viewed on your phone. Student absences can also be notified via this app.
- Any new medications that your child may be taking e.g. asthma inhaler, must be accompanied by a *Medications Advice* form, available from the office.
- Please report any hazards to the office.

HAPPENINGS

Run4Bibles



What a joy it was to have the run off-site at Barry Curtis Park, and to savour the sunshine at the upper primary event. Student feedback follows. And we also appreciated fine weather for our junior primary event that was held on site.

Your enthusiastic, unwavering support of this cause continues to astound Bible League. Thank you for making Bibles available to those that are Bible-less in South Africa. Please ensure that your child has returned their form and money now. We will update you with totals as soon as we can.

Results per Year Level

	1 st boy	2 nd boy	3 rd boy	1 st girl	2 nd girl	3 rd girl
Year 1	Jayden Song	Alvin Chawla	Wesley Han	Amelia Posthuma	Beatrix O'Neill	Emily du Plessis
Year 2	Euan Alarcon	Japjot Boparai	Trent Lottering	Chunyu Sun	Bonnie Li	Elva Wang
Year 3	Eben Schellingerhout	Jonty Faletanoai	Hugh O'Neill	Teegan Posthuma	Zarya Zhang	Sky Alarcon
Year 4	Ryaan Bhatia	Basti Alarcon	Hunter Edmonds	Sam Musara and Kayla Posthuma	Ivy Li	Nia Tafea
Year 5	Jean Schellingerhout	Zachary Bryant	Arthur Oliveira	Jovel Ong	Emily Willis	Summer Li
Year 6	Victor Lee	Jesse Faletanoai	Joshua Zhu	Bella Xia	Kudrat Boparai	Pegella Gao
Year 7	Alaric Maney	Harrison Willis	Victor Carter	Kaitlynn Mathews	Jemima Musara	Anania Wilson
Year 8	Noah Reitsma	Ethan Chatkeonopadol	Veer Bhatia	Bernice Han	Hayley Sear	Jessica Dass

Overall winners:
(Years 7 and 8)



First Boy: Alaric Maney:
17 minutes 44 seconds.

First Girl: Bernice Han:
20 minutes 52 seconds.

Congratulations on a race run well!



HAPPENINGS

Year 5 Student feedback from Barry Curtis Park venue:

I had an amazing experience at Run4Bibles. I loved the Juicies (but wished we could have two) and the bus ride. In the end, I was very happy, especially because we missed a lot of schoolwork, and because I was first place!

Jovel Ong

At Run4Bibles, I was so excited but also very nervous because there were so many competitors. The part that I enjoyed the most was when you ran through an arch full of plants, it gave me some shade. Overall, I really loved the scenery and nature. I had a great time!

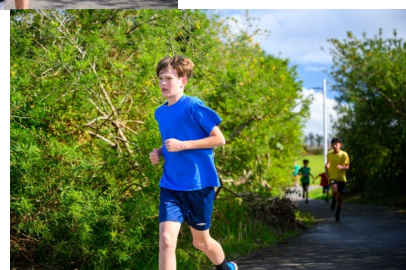
Jean Schellingerhout

At Run4Bibles, we ran 2km and I had an amazing time. The bit I enjoyed the most was the Juicies, however, the bit I didn't enjoy was the start because we were packed together, and I was feeling very nervous. Overall, I loved it!

Zachary Bryant

Run for Bibles was amazing! Especially the Juicies at the end. The nice, luscious grass beside us, the fast flowing river we ran past, and the best part was being cheered on by the marshals. You would always hear them saying things like, "Good job!" or "Keep it up". The people that know me would say, "Go Emily, keep it up!" It was an amazing experience. It was hard doing one lap so I can't imagine what it would be like doing two! I was exhausted at the end.

Emily Willis



HAPPENINGS

Run4Bibles continued

Students in Years 1 to 4 ran at school. This is what a number of Year 3 students had to say:

I learned from Run4Bibles that you need to have perseverance. I enjoyed when we started running. At first, I sprinted and we were half way through, I started slowing down. I learned you can't run too fast but need to run at a steady pace. When we were getting ready we ran four laps. I knew I would be tired but I sprinted. If I jogged all the way through I would not walk at all.

By Jayde Li



I love Run4Bibles and I like making God truly proud of me. It doesn't matter if I come first, second or third. It matters if I finish the race with faith and if I enjoyed it. The most important thing I have learned is making God proud. I thought it was about being first, but I discovered this while I was running.

By Aaroah Ahlowalia



My first experience with cross country was hard at first. I kept running and stopping. The teacher motivated me and I kept going. One day, it was PE, the teacher gave us dots and I really listened to her. I heard her say "Go at your own pace." But this time when I ran, I went at my own pace and each day I was improving. But when the day of Run4Bibles came, I did not come first second or third. It was fine because I had fun. I learned if you work hard you can achieve your goal.

By Zoey Samuel

When we were practising for Run4Bibles, I always came first. It was fun running around the court and field with my best friend on my tail.

On the day of the big run, I was ready and focussed. Once we started, I was zzzooming. It was a lot of pressure because I wanted to perform well. My mum was with her class cheering us all on.

At the end, I came first. After everyone did their run, we had ice-pops. I had a green ice-pop.

Hopefully we will win the pizza.

By Eben Schellingerhout

HAPPENINGS

First, we were practising a lot. I was totally exhausted from running four laps. Then, I got better and better.

When it was our morning run, we only did one lap, but when it was PE, we did four laps. Together, it equaled to five laps of practice.

On Tuesday, we had a practise of the real game. Well...it wasn't the actual game. It was just a practice. When it was Friday, the actual game started.

On race day we were working. I heard a noise. I sneakily peeked through the window and saw a man setting up the race.

We started the race. Everyone was running. I felt like stopping but I didn't stop. After the race I came fourth place. I enjoyed my ice-pops. ***By Luca Pei***



When the day had come, it was time for Run4Bibles. I love Run4Bibles because I want to help people to know about our powerful and mighty God. It really means that you have to really love God even if you don't believe in the LORD. You are still his child. We are the sheep and he is our shepherd. He loves us no matter if you are different. Run4Bibles is not only about running. It's about helping people to know about our LORD God. God is stronger than the Devil! Do you know where heaven is? Not me! But God does! Run4Bibles is a good exercise too! When you run, you might get out of breath and you feel like giving up, but don't let the devil go in your heart and make you give up. God says "You can do it!" You have to trust in the Lord. ***By Natalia Haw***



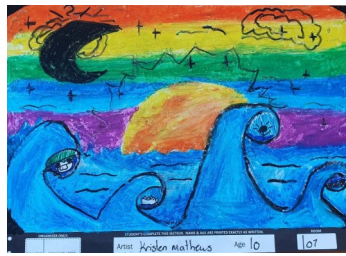
Run4Bibles is really good, it's not just running for Bibles, it's helping poor people to learn about God. People who do bad things will learn how to do good things if we have Run4Bibles. Anyone who does Run4Bibles will have to finish the race with faith.

By Amaira Kumar

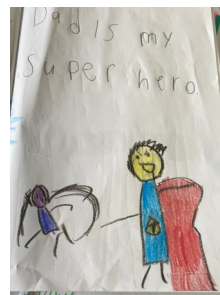
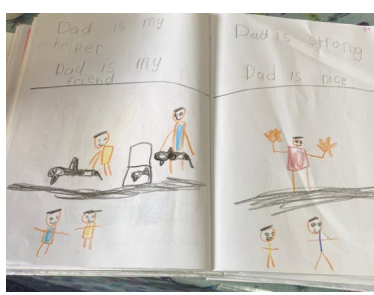
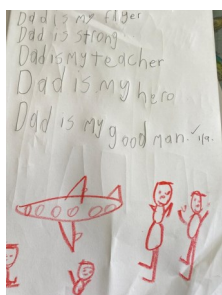
HAPPENINGS

Years 1 to 8—Calendar Art

Students have created stunning pieces of art for you to enjoy in the form of cards, calendars, sketch books, diaries or mouse pads. They make beautiful gifts too. Please send in your order now.



Year 1—My Dad



Year 2—Father's Day

Thank you Dads in Year 2 for joining your child for the Father's Day celebration on Friday last week. Having dad in the classroom is very special as students prayed, sang, dressed dad with the trendiest tie and entertained them for the morning.

The highlight was the 'Dad Wall' as dads oohed and aahed at the delightful portraits and chose their own portrait.



HAPPENINGS

Year 4—Visiting Missionary

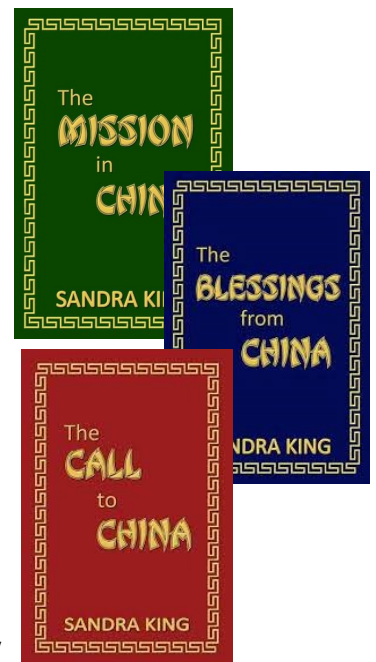
Students in Years 1 to 4 recently had the privilege of a visit from Sandra King, missionary, publisher, volunteer community supporter and author of three books.. Sandra's three-part series details her life's calling, her mission and the blessings of her thirty-year journey to the heart of China. Two students shared their experience of her visit below:



Sandra King

She was a missionary in China. Sandra spent 20 years there, saving 670 children. She built three orphanages. God always provided everything for her. She spent five minutes reading the bible, five minutes praying and five minutes worshipping. She would walk through the streets looking for babies. Sandra would find them in dustbins, on roads and on the sidewalk. Once Sandra had to feed the babies every two hours, and she was very, very tired, and had almost no energy left and went to sleep. When she woke up she looked at the time. It was 7.00am! She raced down and standing there were angels! Feeding and putting the babies to sleep. Sandra dashed over to the window and thanked God for what He has done!

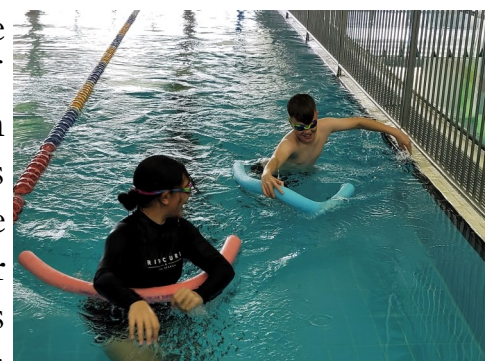
By Lillian du Plessis and Caitlyn Chand Year 4



Year 5 and 6—Swimming



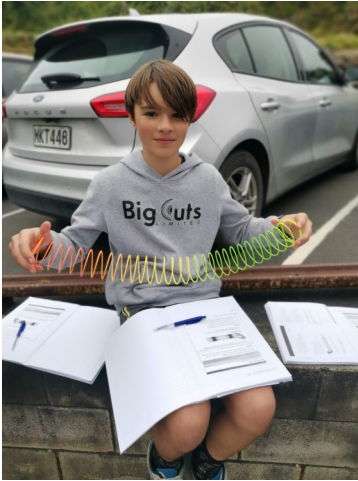
Year 5 and 6 students are enjoying a change of scenery as they engage in swimming lessons this term. They love the peacefulness of the water and the kind instructors who make lessons fun.



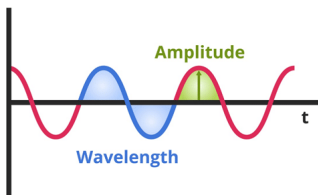
Students are excited to be learning new skills and improving their swimming abilities so that they can be safe and confident around water. It has been particularly exciting to be using the main pool with the challenge of swimming in deeper water than lessons in previous years.

HAPPENINGS

Year 7—Modelling Sound Waves



Above: Movement of a slinky spring to show movement in a sound wave.



Above: Black dots were made on the slinky to represent the movement of particles in the wave. This practical activity helped students understand how particles in the air move in a sound wave.

Year 8—Narrative Structure in Writing

The Year 8s have been looking at the narrative structure in writing. An important part of any narrative is the 'orientation'. This is where the author introduces the main character/s and sets the scene for the rest of the action that will take place. Students were tasked with the job of creating their very own 'pourquoi' – a short story explaining how or why something came to be, usually focusing on an aspect of creation. Below is a sample of some of the wonderful description on display in their 'pourquoi' orientations.



HAPPENINGS

Many centuries ago, on a happy little island, lived a group of dodos. They had a beautiful leader called Dolly. Dodos were the most wonderful creatures on the island. Their large and colourful wings spread out, allowing them to fly long distances. In the eyes of all the animals, dodos were the centre of beauty, especially Dolly. Dolly was known as the best leader in the world. Famed for her snowy white plumage which formed patterns on her back, she was also the most admired dodo.

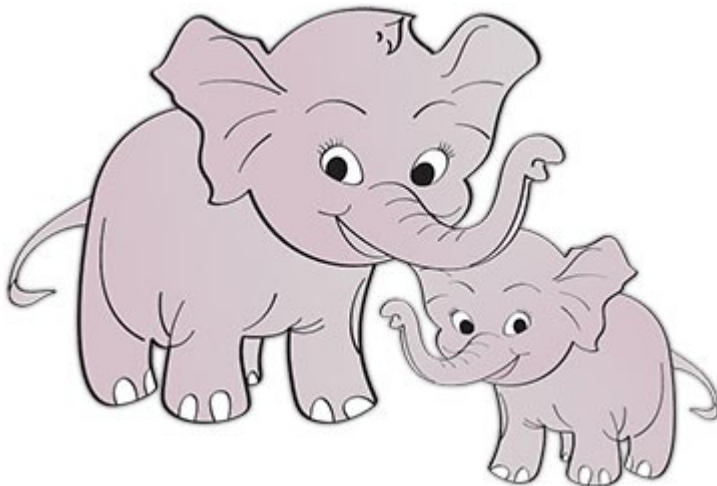
By Bernice Han



Several centuries ago, in the peaceful land of Africa, there lived elephants. These elephants, however, were very divergent from the elephants you see nowadays. Being lightweight and burly, these creatures were affectionate towards each other, but were greatly dreaded by the entire animal kingdom.

These elephants had a strict routine – without it, they would not retain their elegance and strength. Working out frequently, their bulging biceps and colossal calves frightened any beast that dared to venture near any of these monstrous animals.

By Jassanpreet Dhaliwal



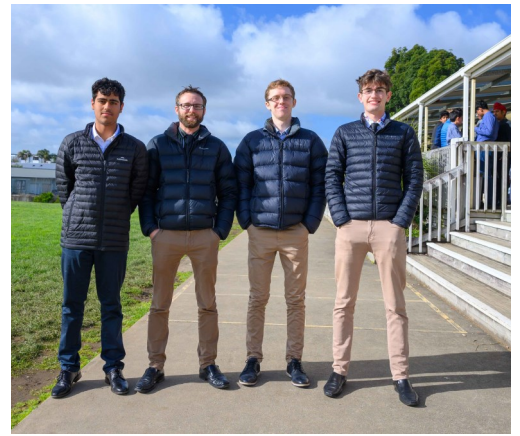
Not so long ago, Snake was one of the most skillful beings that walked the earth. Snake, who had been blessed with many abilities, came into the world better than most animals. He could climb a tree better than a monkey. He was as fast as a brisk cheetah, and could swim as swiftly as a tiger. All the animals praised him for his talents, and some even suggested that Snake would become one hundred times faster than any other animal. However, Snake paid no heed and scoffed at them. The older he grew, the more notorious he became. His deeds gained him an infamous reputation. Once he was at his best, there was no predicting what misery he could cause.

By Nandu Arun

HAPPENINGS

High School

Dress Like a Teacher Day is fascinating as teachers realise how perceptive and observant students are. Seeing so many Mrs Maney's and Mr Kennedy's all at one time is quite unsettling, not to mention that some students had suddenly gone bald! On the flip side teachers enjoyed their youth again...even if it was only for a day.



Media Visit

As part of our year 12 and 13 Media module, we invited Juana Atkins, editor of the BFD website to speak about the media and answer questions on the topic. We investigated media bias, government funding of media, as well as fact-checking and censorship. We are grateful to Juana for her time and expertise on this very important subject!

The BFD is the fastest-growing media organisation in New Zealand. Its brand of news, opinion, analysis and entertainment is finding fertile ground with an audience that is feeling abandoned by traditional news media



PRINCIPAL SNIPPETS

Last week Mr Kennedy had the pleasure of meeting with the executive members of the New Zealand Association of Christian Schools (NZACS). The Association aims to further the interest of Christian schooling and provides high quality support to member schools, including professional development based on Christian worldview. There are currently 65 full member schools.

Below left: Governing body members: Tim Kuipers, Principal of Ashburton Christian School, Craig Utting, Associate Principal of Middleton Grange School, and Collette Budler, Associate Principal of Kingsway School.

And **below right** we have Nyra Kaushal receiving a Principal's award for excellence in her work.



GENERAL NOTICES

Yummy Stickers—please continue to collect them. www.yummyfruit.co.nz

Clothing—please ask your child to check the clothing bin for lost property. All unclaimed clothing will be disposed of at the end of the term.

Clothing Bin—A reminder that we have a bin on site at the senior end of the school for used or unwanted clothing or bric-a-brac. Please support our school. We receive a donation every time the bin is emptied.

Manukau Christian School Community Facebook page—please ask to join so you can browse through photos and events.

PIPS—Please pray for the school and our students. Join parents on a Friday morning in the staffroom once you have dropped off your child at 8.40am.

Polar Fleece Jumpers—we have a limited number of polar fleece jumpers with the school logo available for purchase. These are \$55 each. Sizes available are 10, 12, and 18.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER



Give thanks:

- for a dedicated and very capable Trustboard
- for the excellent results received in our IGCSE mid-year English and mathematics examinations
- for committed and supportive school families



Please pray:

- for God's provision for staffing for 2024
- for our seniors as they enter the home straight and prepare for their exams

Scripture

"Whoever is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys."

Proverbs 18:9

TERM DATES

2023

Term 3: 17 Jul to 22 Sep
Term 4: 9 Oct to 8 Dec
4 Oct to 24 Nov (Yr 11-13)

2024

Term 1: 1 Feb to 12 Apr
Term 2: 29 Apr to 5 Jul
Term 3: 22 Jul to 27 Sep
Term 4: 14 Oct to 13 Dec



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