



From the Headmaster

Dear Parents, Whānau, and Friends,

What a term! As we finish an incredible Term 2, we reflect on a successful ten weeks of learning, sport, and creativity.

We began the term by welcoming our new Chaplain, the Reverend Blythe Cody, who has already brought wonderful warmth to our Southwell community. Other Term 2 highlights include:

Performance

The Year 3 and 4 production of The Wizard of Oz enchanted us all. Our students delivering a powerful performance at Showquest, and The Girls' Chapel Choir who performed beautifully at St Peter's Cathedral.

Sport

Winter sports kicked off with great enthusiasm across home and away fixtures. The Southwell School Gym Champs offered a great chance to perform under pressure, with many students moving on to the Hamilton festivals.

Community

Literacy came alive during Book Week,
Year group Discos brought out dance-fever in all of us
We celebrated our year group Speech Competitions, and
The colour and passion of House Singing!

Thank you to our students, staff and our wonderful community for a memorable term. Wishing all of our students a safe, restful holiday break ahead!

Keryn Bindon, Headmaster

SOUTHWELL NEWS- AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



YEAR 3 VALUES BADGES

Jacob Wein, Ziggy Scott, Christine Zhou, Sifat Kaur, Piper Bourke, Feison Qi



Boarder of the week -

Joe Joe Davis -
for being kind,
respectful and fun



Boader Squad Leader

Tommy Rowe



NZCT Chamber Music Contest | best newcomer award

Ellie Li, Ryan Jia, Max Zhang
Scarlett Davison



Inter House Book Quiz

Lincoln House



Gymsport Festival

Charlotte Ariaens
Shiya Gong



CHESS POWER HAMILTON JUNIOR REGIONAL COMPETITION

Junior Distinction Certificate & National Qualifier:

Feison Qi, Edwin Zhou, Kieran Yu, Christopher Lim,
Leo Xu

Junior Distinction Certificate:

Charlie Dong, Liam Wein, Zeno Xiong, Veronica Lee,
Sky Li, Ishika Nair

Placegetters:

Edwin Zhou- Gold, Kieran Yu -Silver, Leo Xu - Bronze

Best Overall Girl (Int.) Performance:

Amanda Liu

Intermediate Team - 3rd place & Credit Certificate:

Ryan Jia, Andy Shi, Alex Li, Achilles Xiao, Edison
Yang, Jerry Ji, Amanda Liu



SOUTHWELL NEWS - AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



YEAR 6 SPEECH COMPETITION

Karen Singh Cup

1st - Amelie Charles - The secret life of a carrot

Highly Commended - Riordan Waihape - The importance of the pepeha

Highly Commended - Jonty Oehley - Octopuses are aliens



YEAR 7 SPEECH COMPETITION

Year 7 Speech Cup

1st - Jaeden Potter - Football is the best sport

2nd - Briar Ord - Why you don't have to be perfect

3rd - Emily Stevenson - Why you should join the boarding house



YEAR 8 SPEECH COMPETITION

Day Cup

1st - Sienna Culpepper - The most dangerous migration in history

2nd - Beauden Crome - The dumb farmer

3rd Equal - Eddie Heap - Discovering yourself

3rd Equal - Blake McIntyre - Dance is life

TERM 2 Y4-6 ACHIEVEMENT BADGES



Jonty Oehley, Madeleine Beer, Alana Hawira, Jack Rider, Asher Bourke, Sophie Currie, Kieran Yu, Olivia Hoy, Rylah Jones, Grayson Te Weehi, Issy van den Engel, Ben Checketts, Charlotte Copeman, Indie Feistt, Aria Mahajan, Mila Pert, Ella Russell, Eddie Zhang

SOUTHWELL NEWS - AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TERM 2 Y6-8 ACHIEVEMENT TIES



Roddy Tan, Taj de Groen, Rahil Singh, Kobe Martin, Simón Nordstrom, Harrison Burns, Jonny Cridge, Beauden Crome, Guus Holloway, Roscoe Thompson, Jack Baldock, Jack Hobson, Jayden Liang, Pedro Nordstrom, Jacob Schneider, Archie Tapper, Harry Hatcher,



Ariel McIntyre, Chevy Rayner, Bella Bai, Alexa Sanders-Edwards, Rylee Vining,

Calling all Southwell alumni stories



Do you know a Southwell Old Boy or Old Girl doing something interesting, inspiring, adventurous, creative or just plain cool?



We're looking for alumni success stories, news, unique experiences and 'where are they now' updates worth sharing with our community.



You might be an alumni parent with a great story to tell, or have a young Southwell alum doing something noteworthy.



We'd love to hear about it



Email alumni@southwell.school.nz

Share a story, a shout out, or a lead.

TERM 2 Y6-8 ACHIEVEMENT BAR



Evangeline Rushbrooke

SOUTHWELL NEWS - ASSEMBLY - WEEKS 9 & 10

THE BELOW IMAGES WERE DISPLAYED ON THE LARGE SCREEN AT ASSEMBLY
WHO SHOWS BALANCE



STUDENTS TELL US HOW THEY CARE FOR SOUTHWELL SCHOOL



All Hallows Echo

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN - THE REVEREND BLYTHE CODY

Sunday was a joyous occasion at All Hallows Chapel as we witnessed and celebrated the baptisms of several of our students. Presiding at a baptism service is always a humbling experience for me and each time I stand at the baptismal font, I find myself feeling emotional as I say aloud the name of those being baptised. I think it is because baptism is one of those liminal spaces - an in-between - the space when you step from one thing and have not yet taken your first step into what is next or new. In general, I do not like liminal spaces - these are the waiting spaces where we pause before going on to the next thing: as mundane as airport terminals and as profound as the space between the end of something significant in our lives and what might come next. In a small way, the end of each term brings this liminal space to us and to our students. We are ending one term and we have some time to sit, wait and rest before we move to the next. It can be full of regrets for what we could have achieved, how we could have done more, better, extra. Or we can turn it into gratitude, rest and reset for where the next term will take us.

Whatever this term has held for you - the highlights, the hard days, the moments you'll carry with you - I hope these holidays offer you genuine rest and renewal. I am grateful to be walking this journey alongside you, and I look forward to what we will discover together in the term ahead.

SOUTHWELL NEWS- HOUSE SINGING



SOUTHWELL NEWS

THE PJ PROJECT

As part of the Year 3-4 community inquiry, they explored the roles and responsibilities that hold a community together. To put their learning into action, they teamed up with the PJ Project, to collect warm pyjamas to give to families in our local community who are facing tough times.

Last Friday, Laura from the Kindess Collective visited our school and attended Chapel, where students presented over 80 pairs of warm snuggly PJ's to be distributed to worthy children.

A special mention to Alana Hawira from 6PW, whose speech topic was the PJ Project. Alana also put her learning into action by adding additional boxes throughout the school and encouraging others to contribute PJ's- thank you Alana.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE Reminders and Routines

Thank you for a wonderful term! To ensure our afternoons run safely and smoothly, please review these quick reminders:

Hours & Structure: ASC operates from 3:30 pm to 5:15 pm. Afternoon tea is provided. Monday–Thursday features senior homework time followed by free play; Fridays are homework-free.

Locations: Years 0–4 are based in the Junior School hub; Years 5–8 are in the library.

Sign-Out & Pickup: An authorised adult must sign children out at the desk before leaving. Written notice is required if someone else is collecting your child, or if your child has permission to leave unaccompanied (e.g., for a bus or tutoring).

Late Pickups (strict 5:15 pm close): * 5:15 pm – 5:25 pm: Staff wait with children in their designated zone and will give you a courtesy call.

From 5:30 pm: Remaining children are moved to the Dining Hall (walking from 5:27 pm). A late fee applies. Note: Supervision is not guaranteed here; this option is unavailable on Fridays or pre-public holidays.

Contact: If you are running late, call 027 487 5380 (monitored 3:30 pm – 5:15 pm only)



CAPTIVATING MINDS: AUTHOR DES HUNT VISITS SOUTHWELL

Last Monday, our Year 6-8 students had the absolute privilege of hosting legendary Kiwi author and octogenarian Des Hunt. From the moment he stepped onto the stage, he held the entire audience completely spellbound. Combining his passion for storytelling with his background in science, Des filled the room with energy, sparking the students' imaginations through live science experiments and insights into the creative writing process. Beyond the books and test tubes, his core message was one of resilience: inspiring our young learners to work hard and never give up on their dreams. It was an unforgettable, inspiring experience for students and staff alike.



from the **LIBRARY**

HOLIDAY READING

Our students are always encouraged to think about their holiday reading. Reading for Pleasure develops empathy, imagination, focus, concentration, vocabulary - not to mention the fact that it is relaxing!

What are they going to read?

When will they make time to read?

You can support this by encouraging them to read for pleasure daily and by modelling reading yourself.

This might look like:

Reading a recipe and making a cake / dinner

Snuggling up with an old favourite

Heading to the public library to choose something great

Listening to an audio book (students can borrow from the Southwell [Wheeler's e-platform](#) or Borrowbox from HCL)

Reading a magazine about a favourite subject

Starting a new series

Reading with a family member

Reading to a pet

Getting together with friends to talk about books



CONNECTED & PROTECTED: CHILDREN IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

WHAT ARE OUR KIDS REALLY SEEING ONLINE?

Parenting in the digital age can often feel like navigating a minefield without a map. If you've ever felt worried, overwhelmed, or just a little out of the loop regarding your child's online world, this is the reality check - and the toolkit you've been looking for.

We highly recommend taking some time this week to listen to the latest **Between Two Beers podcast** episode featuring **Rob Cope**. Rob has spoken to over 40,000 New Zealand parents about the hidden dangers in our children's digital lives, and he pulls absolutely no punches.

"Good kids in good homes aren't automatically protected." This episode delivers the raw, honest truth that every modern parent needs to hear.

Why This Is a Must-Listen:

The Reality Check: A blunt look at what Kiwi kids are actually accessing online (and how easily they find it).

The Science: An eye-opening breakdown of the neuroscience behind screen addiction.

Practical Tools: Real, actionable strategies you can implement today to safeguard your home.

The 'Wild Dad' Movement: An inspiring call to action for fathers to put down the phones and get back into their kids' lives.

Whether your child is just starting to use a device or is already deeply embedded in social media, this conversation is an invaluable resource for our school community.

Links to the podcast can be found on [Spotify](#) and [YouTube](#).



CELEBRATE YOUR CHILD'S ACADEMIC TALENTS:



We are excited to offer our Year 4–8 students the opportunity to showcase their academic skills in the world-renowned ICAS assessments this year.

What is ICAS?

ICAS is an online academic competition designed to challenge and celebrate students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Science, and Mathematics.

Why participate?

Every participating student receives a printed certificate to celebrate their achievement and access to an online results report to track their progress year-on-year.

How to prepare?

No prior study or revision is needed. ICAS is a skills-based assessment designed to discover what students can do on the day.

Key Dates & Subjects

The final registration deadline for all subjects is Monday, 20 July 2026.

English

10 August – 14 August
Southwell specific date TBC

Science

17 August – 21 August
Southwell specific date TBC

Mathematics

24 August – 28 August
Southwell specific date

How to Participate

Registration and payment are done directly online through the Parent Payment System.

Visit the [ICAS Parent Portal](#).

Enter our unique school access code: **FHN008**

Enter your child's details, select your chosen subjects, and complete the payment.

(Optional past test papers are also available for purchase during the registration process if desired).

Want to learn more?

Click [HERE](#) for more information. Please do not hesitate to contact lisa.murray@southwell.school.nz if you have any questions.

SOUTHWELL NEWS

GOES BOARDING

Late nights rehearsals..

Parents driving back and forward...

Spend your weeknights in the boarding house over Opera Season?

Weekly: \$500 or Full Term: \$4,450

Costs inclusive of care, food, laundry & activities

Find the short term boarding application form on the 'Boarding' page of our website.

Applications encouraged before **Friday 26 June 2026**.

Completed application forms or short term boarding enquiries can be directed to:

becky.russell@southwell.school.nz



Dame Malvina Major Presents
A Night at the Opera
6th August 7.30pm
A magical evening, internationally acclaimed singers.
All proceeds support strengthening St Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton, New Zealand.
Tickets available at www.bnztheatre.co.nz
bnz Theatre
GALLAGHER KINGST. Sir William and Lady Judi Gallagher Foundation

[Tickets are on sale now](#)

Have you updated your New World Club Card ?



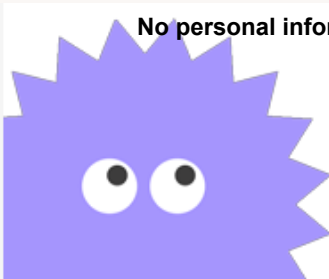
Did you know that parents, caregivers, family and staff can link their Club+ account to **Southwell School**. From there, our associated store, New World Rotouna, will contribute 1% of the total monthly spend from the linked Club+ accounts back to the school. This programme enables schools to receive ongoing support from their local New World, helping to build a positive relationship between the school, store, and wider community.

We would really appreciate you choosing **Southwell School** as your nominated school.

This offer is ONLY VALID at New World Rototuna.

It does not affect any other Club Card benefits.

No personal information is collected or stored by School or New World, just your Club Card number.



[Click **HERE** for the nomination form](#)

[Click **HERE** for the Information Sheet](#)

Please return your signed nomination form to Reception in the Management Centre



Hamilton Operatic Society presents
featuring Kahurangi Potae-Tamates as Matilda (maggots cast)
27 June - 5 July
bnz Theatre
ticketmaster
ROALD DAHL
Matilda
THE MUSICAL

HAMILTON OPERATIC SOCIETY PRESENTS



ROALD DAHL
Matilda
THE MUSICAL



Hamilton Operatic Society presents
featuring Briar Oud as Lavender (maggots cast)
27 June - 5 July
bnz Theatre
ticketmaster
ROALD DAHL
Matilda
THE MUSICAL



Waikato Decorative and Fine Arts Society (Waikato DFAS)

presents a lecture by Mark Cottle (UK)

Thursday 16 July 2026, 7.30pm at Southwell School

**Portraits in Stone:
The Great Cathedrals of Medieval England**



Over a timespan of five hundred years, the great medieval cathedrals of England were built. This lecture follows the evolution of cathedral buildings and includes some of the fascinating characters and events.



Mark Cottle graduated from Birmingham University and has an MA in medieval history and literature. His career has been spent in teaching, training and lecturing at home and abroad.

Come as a guest for only \$25.00 and enjoy a glass of wine and an inspiring lecture, followed by refreshments and socialising.

Our programme for 2026 and further details about joining as a member can be found on our website www.dfaswaikato.org.nz or email dfaswaikato@gmail.com

HAMLUG **TOYWORLD**
THE HAMILTON BRICK SHOW
KIDS' COMP
YOUR CHANCE TO WIN:

- ★ YOUR WINNING CREATION ON DISPLAY AT WAIKATO'S BIGGEST BRICK SHOW!
- ★ FREE PASSES TO THE SHOW!
- ★ LEGO PRIZES FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR CLASSROOM!

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS: 'HOLIDAY FUN'

TO ENTER
SIMPLY MAKE AN ORIGINAL
LEGO CREATION AND
FILL OUT
THE FORM
HERE:

AGE CATEGORIES:
SCHOOL YEARS
PRESCHOOL - 0
1-2
3-4
5-6
7-8

LEGO® IS A TRADEMARK OF THE LEGO GROUP OF COMPANIES WHICH DOES NOT SPONSOR, AUTHORISE, OR ENDORSE THIS EVENT.

UNIFORM SHOP TERM 2 HOLIDAY HOURS OPEN:

Monday 13th -
Friday 17th July
9am - 4pm



SOUTHWELL SNAPSHOTS

