



From the Headmaster

Dear Parents, Whānau and Friends,

The countdown is officially on, opening night of our production "Annie" is this Friday, 11th September and the excitement around Southwell is contagious.

After months of rehearsals, prop building and nonstop energy behind the scenes, our talented students and dedicated team are ready to put on an incredible show. A massive thank you to our skilled staff, our shining student performers, and every single helper who has poured their time and heart into bringing this stage to life.

A special mention and heartfelt thanks to Angela Walker for her years of vision, creativity and exceptional dedication to our performing arts program, marking an incredible total of 19 productions under her direction.

With opening night this Friday, plus two matinees and three more evening shows, tickets are selling fast. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, don't wait until "tomorrow" lock them in today so you don't miss out!

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our school and our students. I look forward to seeing you all at Annie.

Keryn Bindon, Headmaster



SOUTHWELL NEWS- AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 NIWA Science Fair



Prize winners

Amelia Li | Drawing - Pogonatum nanum

Emily Cooper | Living World Board - What effect does nitrogen have on grass growth

Lucas Wang | Living World Board - Purrfect Purrscription

TERM 2 SCIENCE BADGES



One Project - Jiahua Yang, Joey Lyu, Indie Harvey, Jaden Potter, Rizak Kaur, Arthur Ma, Achilles Xiao, Anabel Stent, Amelia Li, Daniel James, Jayden Qaio, Lucas Cheung

Two Projects- Jerry Ji, Parleen Kaur

Three Projects -James Clune

Fairfield Cluster Cross Country



Emily Roach - Y4 G - 2nd
Joshi Bourke - Y4 B - 3rd
Willa Crome - Y6 G - 2nd
Daniel Bell - Y6 B - 1st

Waikato Gymsport Festival



Shiya Gong - 3rd Overall
Dylan Daws - 2nd Overall
Spencer Lee - 1st Overall
Bella Matheson - 2nd Overall

Y8 Boys Cross Country



Challenge Cup
Riku Bryant

SOUTHWELL NEWS- AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Intermediate Chess Team - Ryan Jia, Theo Chen, Andy Shi, Achilles Xiao, Alex Li, Edison Yang, Jerry Ji, Amanda Liu

Junior Chess Team - Christopher Lim, Zeno Xiong, Liam Wein, Charlie Dong, Michael Lim, Feison Qi, Veronica Lee, Sky Li

WFPS REGIONAL SPEECH COMP.



Yr8 Boys 2nd - Beauden Crome
Y7 Boys 3rd - Jaeden Potter
Y7 Girls 2nd - Briar Ord

NZSS CYCLING NORTHERN TOUR



Deagon Everton
2nd
Mt Wgt Hill Climb
2nd
27km Waiuku Rd Race
1st
5km Time Trial at Pukekohe Race Track
2nd
Overall in the U13 competition

WAIKATO JUNIOR BAND & ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT - ORCHESTRA



SOUTHWELL NEWS - AWARDS, BADGES, CERTIFICATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WAIKATO JUNIOR BAND & ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT - WIND BAND



WAIKATO JUNIOR BAND & ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT - STRING ENSEMBLE



CONNECTED & PROTECTED: CHILDREN IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

FALSE ONLINE ALLEGATIONS - HELP IS AVAILABLE

As students grow in independence online they may come across untrue or defamatory statements made about themselves or someone else that cause harm or distress. False allegations have the potential to ridicule individuals or expose them to hatred or contempt. Find out what [help is available from Netsafe](#) to handle false allegations shared online.

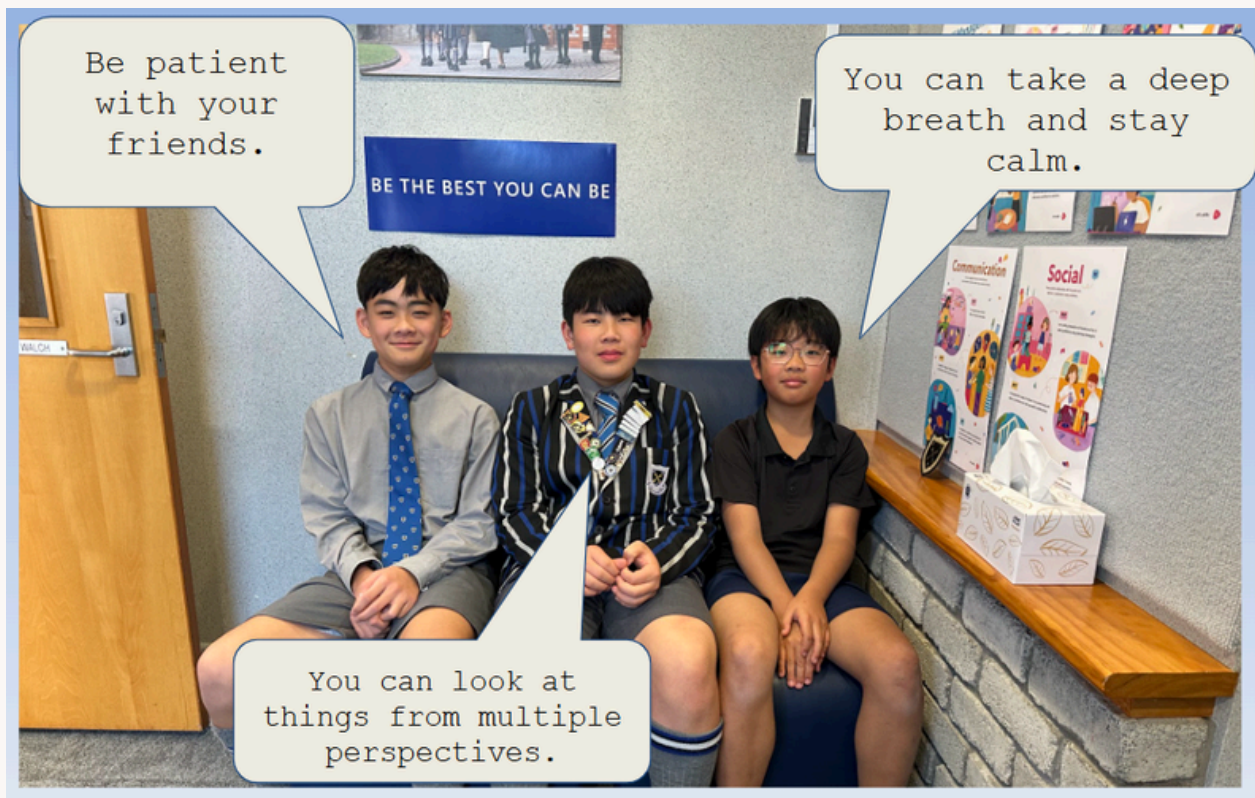
Have you been affected by online harm? Contact the [Netsafe helpline](#) for free confidential advice: 0508 638 723



SOUTHWELL NEWS - ASSEMBLY-WEEKS 7 & 8

THE BELOW IMAGES WERE DISPLAYED ON THE LARGE SCREEN AT ASSEMBLY

STUDENTS TELL US ABOUT BEING TOLERANT



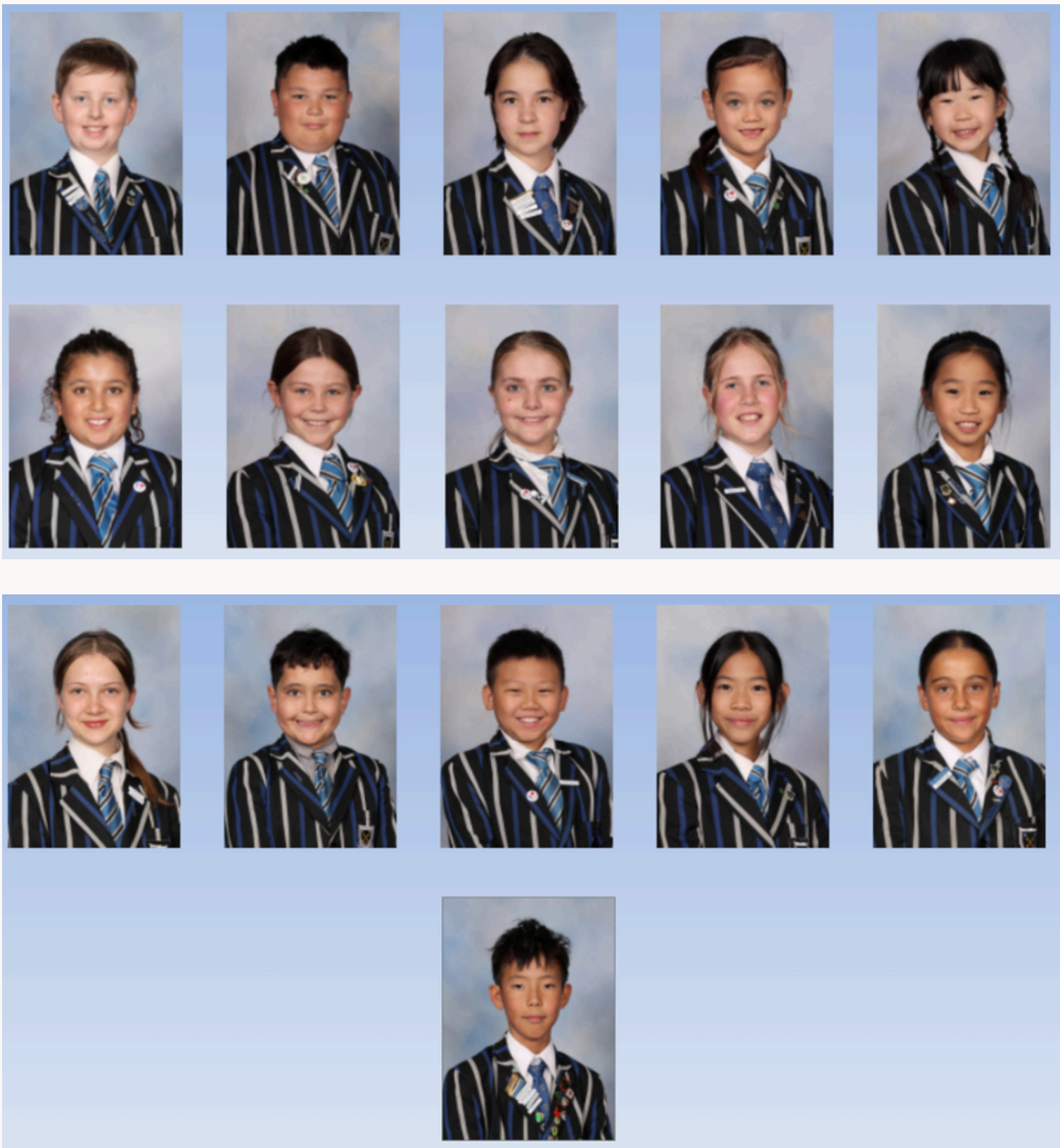
WHO IS TOLERANT?



SOUTHWELL NEWS - ASSEMBLY - WEEKS 7 & 8

THE BELOW IMAGES WERE DISPLAYED ON THE LARGE SCREEN AT ASSEMBLY

WHO IS RELIABLE?



All Hallows Echo



This term we marked one hundred years of All Hallows Chapel, we did this not simply by remembering an idea, but by re-entering something living and concrete: these very walls, still holding a century of prayer and a thousand acts of hope.

We wouldn't normally classify hope as a verb, it's usually a word we define as a feeling, a desire for things to be different than they are. Something powerful happens, though, when hope becomes action, when we start to build something even if we cannot yet see what it will become. This kind of hope says that the world and the people in it are worth love and care, no matter what we've heard otherwise. This hope says that beauty can be created. That there is a future to build toward.

A hundred years ago that kind of hope was practised here when children made the bricks that built this chapel with their own hands. Those children could not have known what would come of their work. They were children, doing an ordinary thing with ordinary clay. There were those who said it could not be done, that children could not make bricks solid enough to build a lasting building. They kept making bricks anyway.

As we celebrate All Hallows Chapel, we are reminded of the important work that it houses. It is the place where we teach students to practise this active hope. We show them, through word and action, that in a world full of cynicism, fear and grief, we can build toward what cannot yet be seen, one brick, one ordinary act, at a time.

Together we are building a kinder, more loving, more beautiful world.

SOUTHWELL NEWS

CELEBRATING CHAPEL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY



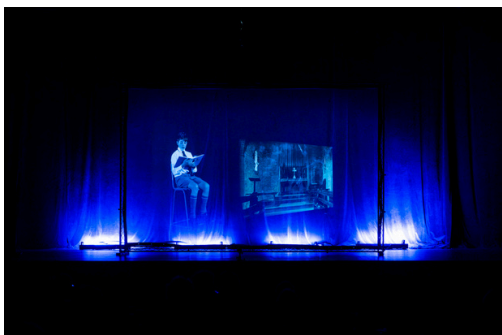
A huge thank you to the hundreds of people who joined us on Sunday, 30 August, to celebrate the Centenary of All Hallows Chapel! It was incredible to see so many families, alumni, staff, and friends gather together, including some who had not stepped foot back at Southwell School for over 50 years.

Our sincere thanks go to:

Our Parents: For helping get students here to perform, especially as we were mindful of the timing being Opera season and the extra commitment this put on families. A very special thank you to you all for making the effort to bring our community together!

Our Hardworking Staff: For working tirelessly behind the scenes to organise the event, feed everyone, and make the day run seamlessly.

We have received so much positive feedback about the event and truly thank everyone who came along to make this chapel milestone something we will remember for a long time.



TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE COMPLETE ALBUM OF PHOTOS
AND HOLOGRAM VIDEO [HERE](#).

SOUTHWELL NEWS

CELEBRATING CHAPEL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY



SOUTHWELL NEWS

YEAR 0-1'S REACHING NEW HEIGHTS AT EXTREME EDGE

Last week, our Year 0-1 learners put core life skills: self-management, independence, bravery, cooperation, and resilience, into practice with an exciting trip to Extreme Edge - Rock Climbing.

Our young climbers got to:

Conquer fears across 60 top ropes and themed climbing walls.

Stay active in a fun, supportive environment.

Build body awareness and confidence as they navigated new heights.

It was fantastic to see the children encouraging one another, stepping out of their comfort zones, and celebrating each other's achievements!



REGIONAL CHESS COMPETITIONS PRODUCE RESULTS

A fantastic result for our Junior and Intermediate Chess Team at the recent regionals competition!

Overall, both teams placed 3rd to bring home Bronze Medals! In addition, every student on the team performed exceptionally well and received an Excellence Certificate.



Junior Chess Team

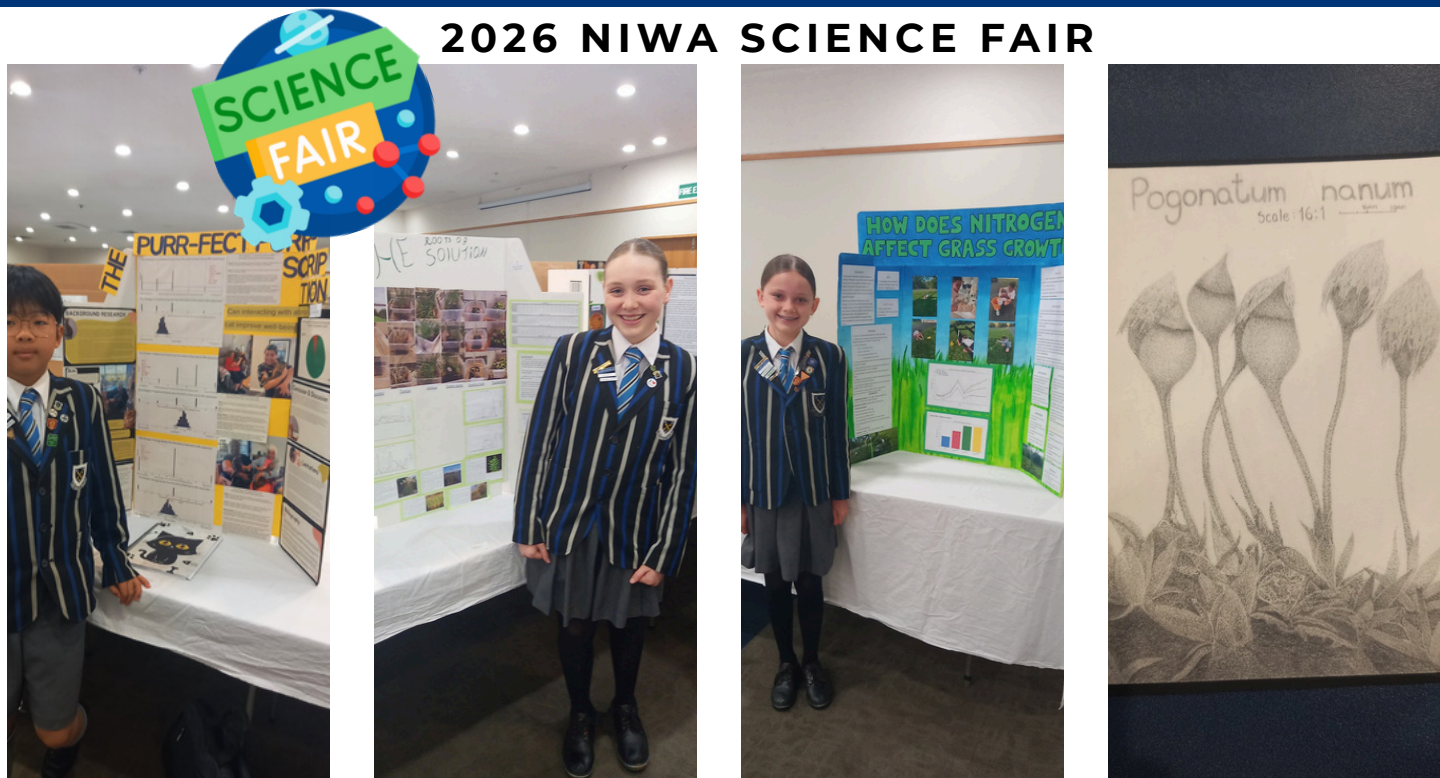
Christopher Lim
Zeno Xiong
Liam Wein
Charlie Dong
Michael Lim

Intermediate Chess Team

Ryan Jia
Theo Chen
Andy Shi
Achilles Xiao



2026 NIWA SCIENCE FAIR



Congratulations to all the students who submitted entries to the 2026 NIWA Science Fair. Your hard work, scientific curiosity, and dedication were on full display across a fantastic range of projects, from creative wall charts and intricate drawings to detailed living world investigations.

A big shoutout to everyone who participated for representing the school so wonderfully. Well done on your efforts, and congratulations on your fantastic results.

Certificate of Participation

Bella Bai & Anna Gan | Wall Chart - Sugar Crystals

Tate Bradding | Photo - Turkey Tail Mushroom

Georgia Hoy | Photo - Flame Fungus

Amyrose Hooper | Photo - Honey Fungus

Sarah Ma | Drawing - Polytrichum juniperinum

Vannesa Green | Living World Board - The Roots of Solution

SCIENCE

Any students wishing to complete a Science Awards Trust badge over the holidays need to see Ms Voss as soon as possible to collect this. All badges currently underway need to be completed and handed to Ms Voss by the end of Week 3 in Term 4, to allow time for marking and then badges to be handed out at an assembly.

MUSIC, CONNECTION & OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES!

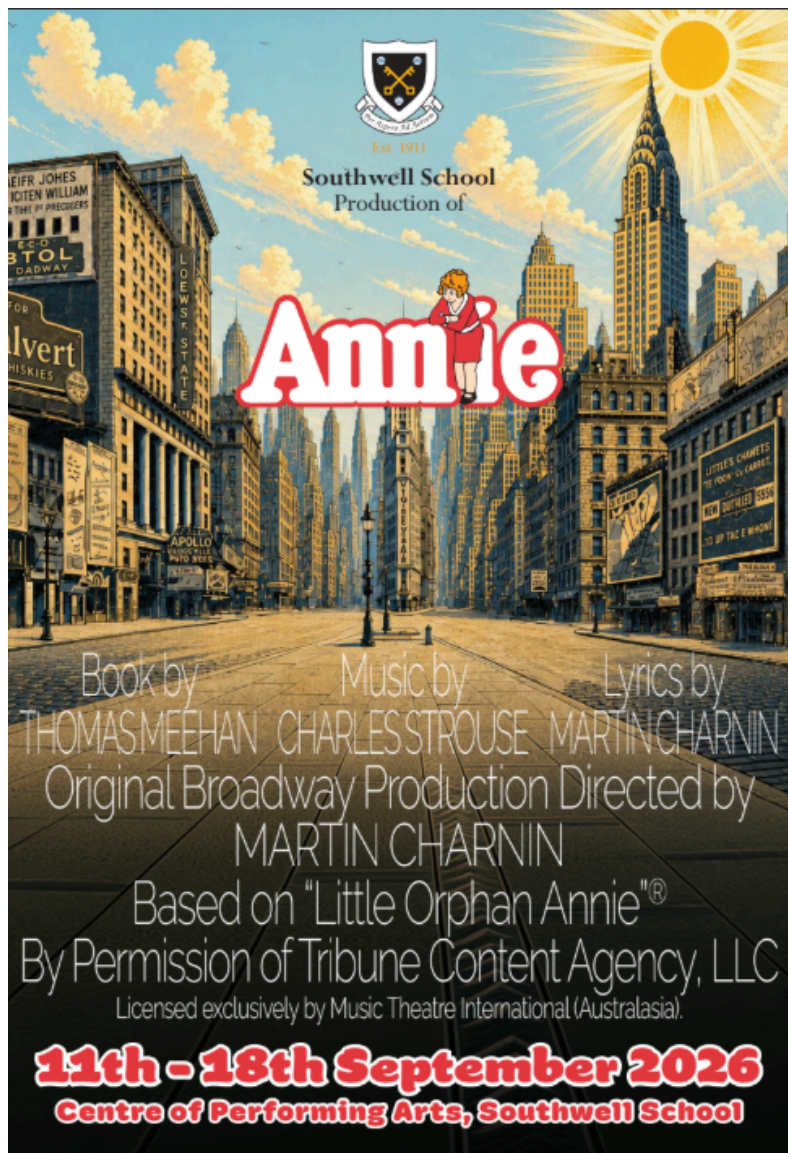
Last Thursday, 78 of our talented musicians from Years 2 to 8 represented the school at the **Te Awamutu Orchestra/Band Festival**. It was a wonderful day dedicated to making music, listening to fellow performers, and connecting with student musicians from across the Waikato region.

Our students performed with remarkable sensitivity and precision, earning fantastic results across all categories.

STRING ORCHESTRA - SILVER

WIND BAND - SILVER

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - GOLD



Southwell School
Production of

Annie

Book by THOMAS MEEHAN Music by CHARLES STROUSE Lyrics by MARTIN CHARNIN
Original Broadway Production Directed by MARTIN CHARNIN
Based on "Little Orphan Annie"®
By Permission of Tribune Content Agency, LLC
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).

11th - 18th September 2026
Centre of Performing Arts, Southwell School



ARTZONSHOW

School Holiday

WORKSHOPS

DANCE DRAMA
ART VOCALS

ENROL NOW!

SOUTHWELL SCHOOL
5-9 OCTOBER

TERM 3 HOLIDAYS
WWW.ARTZONSHOW.CO.NZ



11th - 18th
SEPTEMBER 2026
Centre of Performing Arts, Southwell School
For tickets please visit www.southwell.school.nz



from the **LIBRARY**



Christmas is poking its jingly little head over the horizon, and if you are a family who want to share the love of reading, why not consider donating to Kiwi Christmas Books - which provides those that are in need with books. And we can certainly all agree that Aotearoa NEEDS books!

Kiwi Christmas Books is run by journalist and author Sonya Wilson and it is the organisation which recently ran the writing competition which Roimata Buckle won in the Year 7-8 category.

I know Sonya and the crew would be hugely appreciative of your contribution

Click on [THIS](#) link to find out how to donate (Books for Kids in Hamilton East is a participating store) and brighten up a child's life this Christmas!

Or visit their [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages.

Author and founder of Kiwi Christmas Books, Sonia Wilson, made the trip over the Bommays on Thursday morning to deliver **Roimata Buckle's (8RST)** prize for winning the Year 7/8 Category in the **Every Reader Has a Story** competition. She also delivered a Runner's Up prize for **Scarlett Davison (8JMC)**.

We are so proud of both of these students. Roimata received a box of books for herself and then she and her friends were also able to choose some books for the Southwell library - some of which the library is choosing to pass on to Starship Hospital, where Roimata spent time - and



where her winning piece of writing is set. If you would like to read Roimata's entry, you can do so at [Sapling](#) - it is a beautiful piece of writing.

Reading to your child is possibly the most important thing you can do for them.

And it's not too late to start - even our Year 8 students enjoy being read to!

And if they do stoutly refuse, you can still chat about what they are reading, what you are reading, what you are enjoying about it and what you are not.

Feel free to print and cut out the bookmarks on the following page to remind you of all the benefits of reading!



READING TO KIDS

matters



It helps them
learn new words



It helps them learn
about the world.



It teaches kindness
and empathy.



It grows their
imagination.



It helps them
listen and focus.



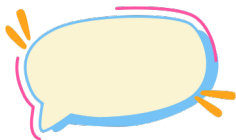
It builds memory
skills.



It builds a love
of learning.



It teaches
problem solving.



It helps them
express themselves



It teaches
patience.



It helps them
ask questions.



It builds
confidence



It teaches them
how stories work.



It helps them
understand feelings.



It helps them
feel safe and
close to you.

why wouldn't you?



READING TO KIDS

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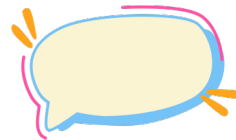
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why wouldn't you?

SOUTHWELL NEWS - SNAP SHOTS

