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Aidanfield Christian School

Term 3 Week 10, 2018

Kia ora

Production

Wow! I have had excellent feedback on the quality of the production presented last week. It was powerful, gritty and challenging. The pupils did an outstanding job and the staff went above and beyond. The learning that happened for all involved was huge in so many different ways. I hope you had the chance to be there and appreciate the talent and the message.

End of year date/prizegiving

Strange, I know, but only 13 weeks until Christmas. We conclude the year on Wednesday evening December 12. Our prize giving (a compulsory event for all pupils) will be from 5pm to approximately 7.30 pm on that Wednesday evening and that will conclude the year for all pupils. Prize giving is held at the Lincoln Events Centre.

Bullying - continued

Last newsletter I added to my thoughts on bullying. If you remember, I questioned the tendency for many to immediately leap to describing an incident as 'bullying' when their child experiences something unpleasant at the hands of another, whether physical, verbal or emotional. I acknowledged that bullying is present in every place that people dwell, it is a part of the sinful nature that we all walk with. I also suggested everything that goes wrong is not bullying – sometimes it is life, the struggles of people living and working in close proximity.

Scripture clearly explains that we are all sinful and have a natural leaning away from the things of God. There should be no surprise when relationships between people (of any age) have issues. As a community that is built on biblical world view our response to imperfect relationships (no matter what the context) should be informed by biblical principles. This leads us to see the restoration of relationships through authentic forgiveness and biblical love and acceptance as a key pathway to follow. It calls us all to truly embrace those that are not only different to us but also that that are the same. It calls us to put others ahead of ourselves and to seek the best of others. Biblical expression challenges us to love others as we love ourselves – this is a clear call throughout the New Testament.

So, what is actual bullying?

Bullying is something specific and beyond 'it's just life'. Bullying can be physical, emotional or verbal. Bullying involves a repeated (ongoing) action over time with intent to cause harm. Bullying involves a misuse of power (or perceived power) in a relationship and bullying involves behaviours that cause harm and should not be a normal part of growing up. This definition of bullying means that an act of aggression is not necessarily bullying. Neither is a verbal outburst towards someone. These are wrong, damaging and need to be addressed but they are not bullying. Children not being welcome into a game is not exclusion. It is actually appropriate depending on the age and stage of the pupils. It is quite normal for children to choose to play with or not play with other children on different days. We as adults make the same choices every week but communicate it in a more sophisticated manner than younger children. Occasional exclusion from a game is not bullying, it is life. Where it is ongoing, the same child and designed with the intent to cause harm through exclusion – then it is bullying.

The challenge as a parent (and I speak as one now) is that when I see my child feeling left out or experiencing one off or irregular events it grabs my heart and makes me want to look after them or protect them. It is at that point that I as the parent make choices that are important. I either chose to talk my child through a reality of life, providing them with the tools to grow in resilience or I chose to leap to their defence and often times remove the chance to learn a valuable lesson about growing strong as a person. My role as a parent is to prepare my child for their life as an adult, not to shelter them from (appropriate) levels of harm! I find this to be one of the hardest challenges as a parent of my boys. I know this is likely to be shared by every parent reading this.

As a school we are developing a programme of Peer Mediators in the play grounds. We will begin to introduce our children at ACS to this in Term 4 with a view to providing an avenue for many of the one off events to get resolved well, teach the skills of coping, right relationship and excellent communication and to model Godly faith in action. We will unfold how this works for you in the coming term. You may find some of the information useful as we work together to build strong, resilient and godly young people in safe but real environment.

Mark Richardson, Principal

www.aidanfield.school.nz

Growing in Wisdom and Stature Stand and be Confident

COURAGEOUS

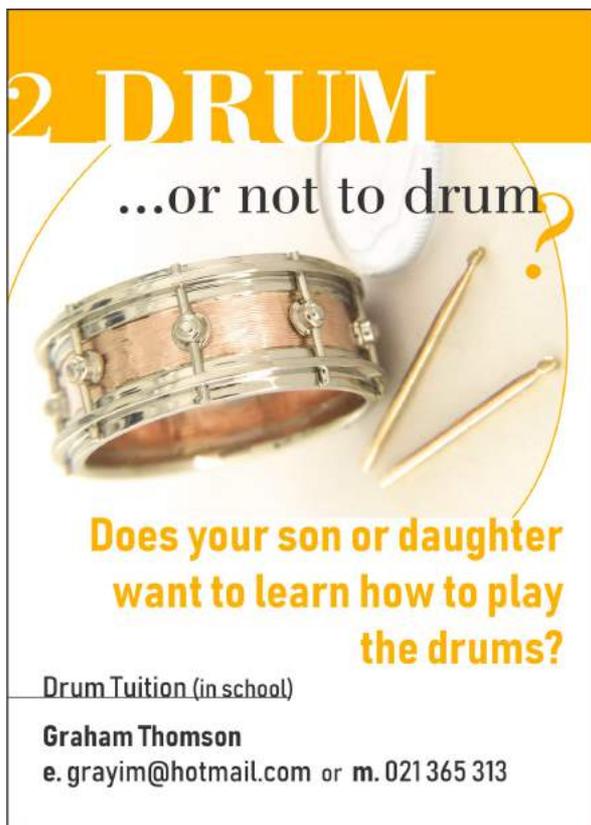


Community News



Canterbury Softball are pleased to be able to offer free Softball Skills coaching again in Term 4 & 1. Bookings are now open so get your school in quick as spaces will be limited. Our programme runs for 5 weeks with a progression of skills aiming at Years 4-8. We have some awesome coaches on board this round to continue presenting a high quality programme. Along with our usual programme we are also introducing a couple of new aspects, with the opportunity to compete against other schools within a cluster if you wish. Along with the coaching, EVERY teacher that participates with their class will receive our great "Kiwi Sox" Softball Coaching resource which is full of fun games to play once the sessions are finished.

For more information or to book, either email or give me a call on the number below. Looking forward to another season of supporting the schools throughout Canterbury.



2 DRUM

...or not to drum?

Does your son or daughter want to learn how to play the drums?

Drum Tuition (in school)

Graham Thomson
e. grayim@hotmail.com or m. 021 365 313



Boys and Girls... Do you like to have FUN?
Want to make new FRIENDS?
Enjoy learning new SKILLS?

PLAY CRICKET THIS SUMMER!

Anyone can get involved!
Year 0 - 8

- Saturday games start 20th October (School Yrs 1-8)
- Superstar Cricket Academy starts Wednesday 31st October (Age 4 - School Yr 2)

Come down and have a try or ask us any questions about our fun game!
HJCC Open Day
Halswell Domain, Sunday Sept 9th
10am - 2pm

Register Online from Aug 20th - Sept 23rd
Visit www.halswellcricket.co.nz
For further club information contact us on juniors@halswellcricket.co.nz



THE SEASON STARTS SOON!

like us on facebook



Registrations are now open for the summer athletic season at www.porthills.org.nz.

Port Hills Athletics Club is a family friendly club with events for all ages and abilities. Club nights for 5-11year olds, is all about giving it a go and learning new skills in a fun environment. Children from age 7 up can also participate in weeknight technical training and Interclub competitions on Saturdays.

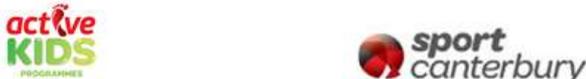
Above all, it's all about friends, meeting personal goals and setting new ones.

For further Information talk to Nikki McAven,

or contact:
Amanda Landers
027 271 4918
amandalanders1974@gmail.com



The Primary School are trying to build up a collection of lego. If you have any lego you are no longer using and are willing to donate to the school, please see Mrs Phillips. Thanks!



Active Kids Holiday Programmes

Registrations now open for **October School Holidays - book online!**
Week 1 - Mon 1st - Fri 5th October *LINCOLN *WESTBURN *PAPANUI
Week 2 - Mon 8th - Fri 12th October *CHCH BOYS HIGH *ROLLESTON

- Our motivated team of trusted staff cares about keeping your kids active and safe over term break.
- Kids will have fun, build confidence, develop a range of sporting skills and enjoy new friendships.
- OSCAR approved; WINZ subsidies apply

P 03 373 50 60
E activekids@sportcanterbury.org.nz
www.sportcanterbury.org.nz