



Aidanfield
Christian School

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Christchurch 8025
Ph: (03) 338 8153



Term 3 - Week 10, 2019

Kia Ora Aidanfield whanau

Fast term - Great term!

Blink and you almost miss it! The term is done and Christmas is not so far away anymore, a scary thought on a range of levels.

Health consultation

Thank you for the feedback that many of you gave us on the Health curriculum. We had a total of 76 parents respond. Primary years 1 to 6 were more highly represented than Middle School families. The results show that our parents see the main responsibility for education in health aspects lies with the home but the school is a significant contributor to the conversation. There was a strong indication (compared to the other topics) that parents wish to have the main say in issues of sexuality, gender and reproductive health. This sits with how we at ACS see the balance as well. There was an indication that many parents wanted the physical changes at puberty to start around the year 5 level which is younger than previously indicated and we are moving to make these changes. Overall there was a real sense that the school honours the wishes of our parent community and there is a strong trust from our parent community in the school and how we tackle these topics.

It is important that families are involved in conversations with their children on issues of sex and sexuality, relationship and current tropical issues in this area. The power of the media and social media to fashion the discussion and set the boundaries cannot be overstated. As parents we either get into the conversation and work with our kids to understand a biblical way of behaving and being or we let others tell our kids what the expectations are. Each family needs to have the chats as they seem relevant and in context over the years their children take to grow up. My encouragement to you is to not grow wary of moulding your children, do not negate the responsibility of being the strong voice in their lives and constantly be looking to scripture for the standard to uphold. There is an increasing gap between what our Lord says and how society would tell us to live. Stay true to scripture and be relevant to your community now.

The term unfolding

This newsletter gives you a window into some of the things that have happened over the term as winter turned to spring and the weather began to warm.

A key event we have been working up to all year was the Cultural Festival. Our kapa haka ropu performed on the big stage in Horncastle Arena and, under the guidance of Matua Anton did an outstanding job. It was very special watching so many of our young ones step beyond the nerves, embrace the event and do so well. It's this process of stretch and challenge that causes growth in confidence and resilience. It's worth the struggle.

The year 4 to 8 athletics was a great day at Nga Puna Wai. It is a fantastic resource right on our doorstep and being able to use it so easily is a real blessing. The quality of the facilities was a big boost to our children and made them feel quite special. The downside from a parent perspective is the inability to get right up close to the action for that special photo.

We have also enjoyed the primary breakfast morning, the Arts Festival, welcoming grandparents to the school, hosted many short-term international pupils from a range of countries and enjoyed a range of sports events in the regular programme with some good success for some of our teams. World Vision 40 Hour Famine totals were also confirmed and, with just on \$7500 raised by the school I had little choice but to dye my hair pink. The family's thoughts are that perhaps it isn't a new style I need to adopt!

As a staff we joined with all the other Christian schools in our network on Friday last week and spent the day discussing ideas around wellness and how we can work with pupils around this very important topic. We had outside presenters for the keynote addresses and they were taken by the strength of community and unity shared across the schools. As they noted, this is a very strong foundation on which to build the message of resilience for our pupils across the city. Again, we are very blessed. Thank you for your patience as we closed the school to do this. There is a significant benefit in having the full network together once a year as we work across the city to teach in a way that honours our Lord and leads our pupils in the knowledge of him.

www.aidanfield.school.nz

Growing in Wisdom and Stature Stand and be Confident

New Building

Buildings

As you will probably be aware our building programme is making very good progress. The windows are in, the roof on and work begins on the internal fit out shortly. RPC are the construction team and they are excellent to work with. The pictures give you an idea of what we will end up with by the end of December (all going well!).

The new building will have 4 new classrooms. One will be the new science room. We are moving our current science room into this new space, which will make a much better link for our science programmes to our middle school programmes. We are also moving the current library into one of the existing rooms in the Akiraho building. It will link to the next door room to make a literacy teaching space. The other three new teaching spaces will be for the growth we are seeing in our middle school years.



When we designed the building spaces we thought a lot about the place of big open plan learning areas that many schools are building. Both the BOT and the proprietor (CST) agree that we are more focused on the strength of relationship that can be built between teachers and pupils in classrooms that allow a more traditional view of learning. You will see that we have the ability to have normal classrooms but we can also open doors to link spaces.



The Proprietor has made significant decisions to provide the school with these facilities and this shows their confidence in the schools' future and their willingness to support the growth we are seeing. We are all appreciative of the quality of the buildings we are getting and we are really looking forward to getting into them from the start of 2020.



ERO

The Education Review Office as let us know they will be in the school during the week starting October 29. They are likely to be with us for four days and will be looking into a whole range of aspects to do with how the school is functioning. As an external auditor ERO hold us accountable across a wide range of aspects and we are looking forward to the conversations with them as we continue to seek to do what we do better. There is likely to be a chance to feed back to them if you wish. They will also talk with groups of our pupils as part of the review. It is likely that we will have their confirmed report either at the very end of this year or more likely in the early part of 2020. It will be freely available once it is published.

Donations

You will notice a change in the way we are seeking help from our parent community in terms of money. The Labour Government has a focus on free education. They continue to refine what we, as a school, can charge for and what we can't. At the same time there is no noticeable increase in funding from the government to do the things that our parents would like us to do. From now on we will be sending an information sheet home before each trip or activity we do showing the actual cost to the school to do the programme and a request for donations to help support our curriculum. Please take the time to read this and understand it. If you would like to talk about this information then please feel free to make a time to come and see me, I would be more than happy to talk with you.

Finally,

The holidays have started. I hope you are able to do things as a family, spend time with your kids. No matter whether you have time off or need to work through, whether you have nothing to spend or that isn't an issue – time with your child is so valuable. Make the time, love them deeply, show them the love of our God in real ways and always stay growing in Him yourself for this is our deepest call!

Grace and peace

Mark Richardson

Kapa Haka

On Monday the 9th of September the Kapa Haka ropu of Aidanfield Christian School performed on stage at the Horncastle Arena for the 2019 Christchurch Cultural Festival. Months of practice all accumulated to the 8 minutes of stage time in which the students sang and performed Kapa Haka to an adoring crowd of family, friends, and others. A big kia ora and thank you to Matua Anton who leads the performance side of the Kapa Haka ropu and to all the teachers who did some much behind the scenes to make it all happen! The YouTube performance is now live, so check it out! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQXdLM9qQWY>



Community News



Dental Care during the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will be providing dental care for children enrolled with our service during the upcoming school holidays. The clinics will offer treatment and relief of pain sessions by appointment only. To make an appointment please contact our Call Centre which operates between the hours of 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday throughout the year.

The following Dental Clinics will be open during these school holidays:

- Woolston Clinic, 11 Hopkins Street, Woolston
- Hillmorton Clinic, Hillmorton Hospital, Sylvan Street,
- Ashburton Clinic, 38 Elizabeth Street, Ashburton
- Hornby Clinic, 2 Hei Hei Road, Hornby

The clinics will offer appointments between 8.45am and 3.00pm for school-age and preschool children requiring treatment.

If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your dentist in the first instance.

To book an appointment at one of our clinics please: call 0800 846 983 or email commdental@cdhb.health.nz



Bookings for the October Holiday Program are now open!

Week One: Monday 30th Sept – Friday 4th October
Email: info@starfishswimschool.co.nz

Or phone us at: 03 3381795

2 Nash Road, Aidanfield

Come swim in our intensive week to refresh your skills in time for summer!



SENIORS

- OPEN MIXED
- OPEN MENS

\$150.00 TEAM ENTRY



JUNIORS

- AGES 6 - 7
- AGES 8 - 10
- AGES 11 - 13

FREE TEAM ENTRY

SEASON STARTS, TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER



<https://www.facebook.com/CanterburySpartanTag/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NZTFI/>



Bookings are now open for The International Antarctic Centre School Holiday Programmes. This year we are also adding a special Tech4Antarctica programme for those older students (9-13yrs)

All bookings are on our website www.iceberg.co.nz - Events and Education



SUMMER FOOTBALL

REGISTER NOW: www.hawkefootball.org.nz/summer

SKILLS CENTRE

KIDS 8-12 YEARS OLD

A structured programme for players, in an enjoyable environment that maximises player development.

WED 16th OCT to WED 20th NOV

\$60.00 (6 weeks)

FIRST KICKS / FUN FOOTBALL

KIDS 4-8 YEARS OLD

Emphasis is on fun and falling in love with Football

FRI 18th OCT to FRI 29th NOV

\$55.00 (6 weeks)

STREET FOOTBALL

KIDS 9-16 YEARS OLD

Get a group of your friends together for this fast paced 3v3 (for 9-12 years), or 5v5 (for 13-16 years),

Round Robin Football Tournament at Halswell Domain

FRI 5th NOV to FRI 28th NOV

\$40.00 (4 weeks - Tues & Thurs) or \$5.00 per session



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