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Aidanfield Christian School

Term 2 Week 5, 2018

Kia ora whanau

I am writing this comment from a hotel room in Xiangyang in Hubei Province, China. It has been a privilege to be here with a group of principals from schools in Christchurch promoting our city as a destination for pupils to come and study. We have also been looking at ways in which we can work with teachers in China to benefit schools in New Zealand as well as China. An off shoot of the visit is that we have two senior pupils and a teaching coming to China in July to take part in a global gathering of young people coming together to learn about each other and the different cultures around the world. It has been a fantastic opportunity to tour a range of schools and to see the quite amazing work that is happening in classrooms in China.

As I travel I am constantly reminded that we live in a global village. As people of different cultures and origins there is far more that we have in common than what divides us. We are all made in the image of God and every one of us carries the image of our creator. We live in similar ways, we laugh, we cry, we experience joy and sorrow, we love and loose and we search for answers in similar ways. Parents the world over have a deep seated urge to do the best they can for their children. Teachers in every country I have been share a commitment to giving their pupils the best opportunities they are able to. We share similar struggles and issues, conflicts and hurdles. We are united as created people living in a fallen world. And God speaks and leads us to a common place in relationship with him through forgiveness. The creativity of our God is evident all around us and it leaves me marvelling at who He is!

Have you taken a moment lately to reflect on the amazing creation you are? Have you appreciated those around you as people formed and fashioned by a living creator God? How have you led your family in this understanding over the last month? Perhaps you may find the chance to have a coffee (or tea, or juice, or water or.....?) for a moment and ponder what impacts such realities might have on your coming week.

What has been going on?

As you read through the coming pages you will get a sense of the range of things going on in and around the school over the last weeks. There have been some fantastic opportunities for our pupils. Amongst other things; we were represented at the ANZAC ceremony by Divyana in April, we have had children at Orana Park, racing in cross countries, competing in a range of sports, enjoying the technology subjects on offer at Hillmorton and Middleton. A significant part of the school heard very good presentations of being social media savvy. The units of work have considered issues of stewardship in a range of different ways. We have had Book Week (with the parade), Chalk Art competitions, and a Mothers Day morning tea (I was the only bloke there!). The Board has signed off on the uniform adjustments and a supplier (detail coming soon) and continued on the discussion of our vision and the Parent Association has begun under a new Executive. Aidanfield is a place of life and opportunities, thank you for being a part of it!

Stay True, be relevant

If you were at the beginning of the year information evenings you may remember that I spoke about a challenge that we face in a rapidly changing society. The challenge is to stay true to scripture as God has revealed it to us and to stay relevant to the communities that He has placed us in. Most of our school from year 3 up had the chance to be challenged on the issues of social media a couple of weeks ago. This surely is one of those realities where, as parents, we need to be very familiar with the issues of now, to know what biblical principles apply to wise behaviour and to have the courage to maintain excellent boundaries for our children. This is a very real place to stay true and be relevant – and exceptionally wise!

Board issues

Please continue to pray for the Board of Trustees. As a point of praise, the Ministry of Education has just approved another roll increase for us, which will mean we can manage our roll up to 375 pupils from next year. The BOT have work to do around how to apply this and build more classrooms to cater for the larger number. Another main focus area at the moment is reviewing the vision of the school. The vision sets a direction for the teaching staff to focus on for the coming 3 to 5 years. It is a really important piece of work. Please pray for wisdom, insight, freshness and clarity as they go about this task. The results will have significant impact on the school in the next few years.

Growing in Wisdom and Stature Stand and be Confident

www.aidanfield.school.nz

continued

Finally

2019 enrolments. If you are planning to have a child at ACS in 2019 please note the closing dates for enrolments. We already have a significant number of applications for 2019. If you are late, you can not be considered until everyone who applied on time has been considered. Year 7 to 10 applications close very soon! Year 1 to 6 applications close in August – don't be late!!!!

Grace and peace

Mark Richardson
Principal



**Aidanfield
Christian School**
Growing in Wisdom & Stature

We specialise in great schooling for years 1 to 10

- years 1 to 6 establishing strong foundations
- years 7 to 10 great preparation for the senior years
- well prepared for life beyond the gate

Application closing date for 2019 enrolments at all year levels is:
August 24, 2018

Limited places in Year 7 to 10 applications are invited

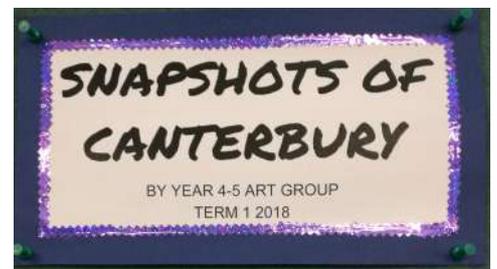
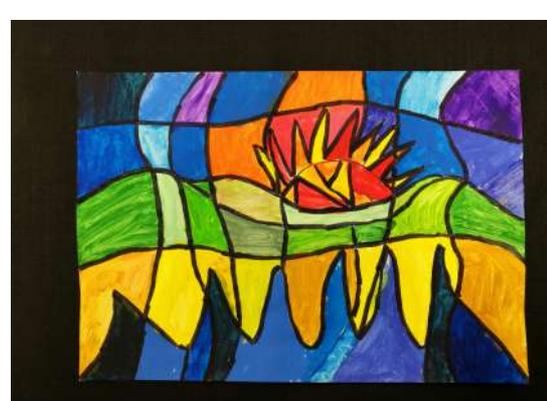
Working together with families in the south west of Christchurch. Our students benefit from our specialist teaching with emphasis on pastoral care and our special focus on personal character development and learning.

For more information, contact us on: (03) 338 8153 or enrol@aidanfield.school.nz or go to our website www.aidanfield.school.nz

Artwork



Ti Kouka 1 and 3 have been studying Dutch artist Tom Schulten and produced our own paints in his geometric style. We had to mix our own tints and shades of colour to use - **Mrs Renner**



These mixed media artworks represent key elements of our local environment:

- The Southern Alps and The Canterbury Plains (*chalk pastel and PVA glue*)
- The Port Hills (*fabric*)
- The Christchurch Cathedral (*pen and wash*)
- Our emerging city centre (*collage pieces*)



Book Week

Book Week 2018 by Senior Librarians : Lilly, Daisy, and Brianna

On Wednesday the 23rd the annual Aidanfield Christian School book character dress up day celebrated a week of reading and enjoying books. Children from all ages across the school came eagerly dressed up in their favourite fictional character. It was a whimsical occasion and there was even sightings of the Teachers dressing up as Mr Men/Little Miss as that was the staff theme. We all gathered for the parade so everyone could showcase their creativity and effort that was made into their costume.



During Aidanfield Schools book week there was a fun and creative competition going on in the Library.. The competition was to find an 'out of ordinary' place to read a book. We had lots of impressive entries like reading in a bathtub, on the trampoline, and hanging upside down on the monkeybars. The photography skills were amazing and there were a large variety of weird places to read. The entries pictures are on display on the library windows.



On Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd, there was an amazing and lively event going on in the library. Children gathered around the book treasure trove and made some amazing and colourful Mr Men and Little miss cut outs. Its was also great to see the Lit

Quiz NZ finalists, Cole, Jasper, Jack, and Josie, contribute and hold a quiz for all the kids to appreciate and enjoy.

Mrs Pranata ran a very popular library scavenger hunt with prizes. Many children enjoyed finding different categories of books they had not seen before.

All in all it was a wonderful week of reading.



Orana Park Trip



This term the school-wide focus is Kaitiakitanga - Stewardship. For the first part of this term, the Junior School (Years 1-3) have been focussing on Animals. We have been learning about what an animal needs to live and how we can take better care of them by looking after the amazing world God has created. As part of our learning, last Tuesday over 100 Junior School students and lots of parents went to Orana Wildlife Park.



We travelled by bus to the park - it was a long way! At Orana Park, we split into five groups and the Zoo School Educators took us around the different animals. We looked at what they needed to live and how Orana Park cares for them. Lots of the animals had interesting things to play with, like the cheeky kea who rolled around a feed ball with her beak. We also learned about how some people don't look after our animals and use parts of them for other things - like a giraffe tail for a fly swat. Highlights included feeding the giraffes, seeing the gorillas, hunting for geckos and seeing an active Spotted Brown Kiwi in the special Kiwi House.



We had to do lots of walking and there were several sleepy children in the bus on the way back to school. It was a very full day! A huge thank you to all the parents who helped on this trip.



School Calendar

All the key events and dates that happen around school are in our school calendar which can be accessed from our school website. By clicking on the calendar link at the top of our website as shown to the right The full calendar gives you access to the whole school calendar and term dates shows the term dates for this year and for 2019. Can we encourage you check this regularly as dates for events may be added during the year.



Antarctic Centre Visit

The 7/8s went to the Antarctic centre on Tuesday the 22nd of May for Social Studies, to know more about Antarctica and to see what they already learned. We started in a small classroom and talked about Antarctica for a while. After that we split into our classes to do the activities that were planned for us. In the end we all did the same thing. Some of us started with the blizzard. We then went into a room all about Antarctica where we could look around and have more knowledge. We then watched a 4D movie where we were on a cruise ship visiting Antarctica. Last of all we saw the penguins. The penguins that we saw were the White Flipped Penguins and the Little Blue Penguins. After that we all met back up in the classroom, where we started. We learnt a lot about Antarctica and how to look after it. We came back with new eyes about Antarctica. **Written by Rachel W.**

It was fun. I learnt a lot of new facts about Antarctica- Briana

My favourite thing was the 4D movie. I found the blizzard cold even though I was wearing warm things- Ella

I found that the teacher made the information very interesting. I now want to go to Antarctica. I liked the 4D movie the most. I also really enjoyed the snow blizzard, but the snow was really hard- Sam Z

I thought that it was really interesting. I found that the blizzard was really cold, but it was fun- Alem

The 4D movie was intriguing, and at points it made me want to experience the real thing- Cole



Cross Country

Cross Country was held this term in May which involved the whole school. All students involved ran different distances with the Yr 7-10s running 3km, Yr 5-6 2km & Yr 0-4 1km. We are very blessed that our students are able to run through such a scenic route so close to school, even with the recent development of Nga Puna Wai underway. All students participated giving maximum effort and it was great to see the enthusiasm flow through to the crowd of spectators. Those who qualified in Yrs 0-4 head to the Cross Country challenge to be held at Hillview on Tuesday 3rd July. Students who qualified in Yrs 5-8 went on to SWZ Cross Country which was held yesterday bringing back excellent results which are yet to be published. Lastly students who qualified in Yrs 9-10 went on to compete at Canterbury Secondary Schools Cross Country Championships. Congratulations to all students, we celebrate your achievements and thank you for representing our school with pride.



Hot Dog Fundraising

The Year 9 and 10's are fundraising for the end of year journey. This is being organised by the Ambassadors and a team of Year 10s. Hot dogs and juicies are for sale every Thursday. Please make sure you give your name and order (along with the correct money) to your child's classroom teacher on Thursday morning. Hot dogs are \$2 and Juicies are \$1. Thank you for your ongoing support.