



TERM 1 WEEK 11 2021

Aidanfield Christian School

Kia ora Aidanfield Whanau

Term one is done and it has been a good one. 2021 is a special year in the life of Aidanfield Christian School.

25th Anniversary 24 – 25 September, 2021

Our school is celebrating 25 years since it integrated into the public school system. We have a rich and varied history with what was Canterbury Christian College forming through the joining of Kings and Avon Christian Schools on this site in Aidanfield in the early 1990's. In 1996 Canterbury Christian College integrated into the state school system to become a state integrated school, which reduced the cost of attending the school significantly and allowed many more families the opportunity of a biblically based learning environment for their children. It has been 25 years since that happened. Over that 25 years the school has struggled to have enough pupils, teachers have sacrificed significantly to support the schools development, proprietors have invested huge amounts of money into the land and buildings. The Board was once told to fix the school or close it, it was on the verge of bankruptcy at one stage and finding enough pupils to make classes viable was a challenge.

The school developed its current identity and a name change linked the school to its local community in the south west of Christchurch. Over the past two decades a very strong and interdependent Christian school network has developed across the city and ACS has become a full and contributing member of this network.

From 150 pupils as a maximum roll ACS now has 375 as the top number and there is strong pressure on the entrance enrolments every year. ACS was once a Year 1 to 13 school and reduced its top level to Year 10 with a step into the Middleton Grange Year 11 programme for preference families. Our cultural expression has developed so that we now have over 35 different countries represented among our pupils. Through all of the years and challenges, God has gradually and faithfully brought about a place that brings glory to His name through the educating of young people in a way that focuses on Him each day and calls us to be a community of people that continues to grow in our knowledge and understanding of who He is – growing in wisdom and stature so that we can stand and be confident. This is what we want to celebrate this year! Mark September 24 and 25 in your diary as we plan a range of activities to celebrate 25 years. More detail will come out in Term 2. Start connecting in those who have been a part of our community in the past – let them know that we want to connect with them again. We will have a web-based form to complete to spread the word and a Facebook link coming soon. Exciting!



It's time for winter uniforms. Visit Mainland Uniforms for any items you may need. PE Tops are now fully stocked in the office for those who have been waiting.



Are you signed up to our School App? It is one of our main ways of communicating. Download at schoolapps.nz



Has anything changed for you and your family this term? Moved/ changed contact details? Please do let us know.

Growing in Wisdom and Stature | Stand and be Confident

www.aidanfield.school.nz | office@aidanfield.school.nz | 03 338 8153 | 2 Nash Road Aidanfield

New ACS Website

Very shortly you will notice a complete change to our website. We have redeveloped the website to make it more user friendly. The [website](#) and the [School App](#) are our main ways of communicating with you. Having each set up on your devices will be very useful!

Enrolments 2022

It is already time to start getting enrolment forms in for 2022. We will have places at year 7 and new entrants mostly. Please tell friends and family and remember: June 18 is closing date for Year 7-10 applications and August 20 is the closing date for Year 1 to 6 applications.



Finally, thank you!

- To our Parent Association who did a fantastic job of the fair in March where it was a real blessing to see so many from the community in and around the school. What a great job done.
- To those middle school families who were able to make very generous donations that helped cover the cost of the middle school camp. I mentioned earlier in the year that the donations towards our activities fund were significantly lower than what was needed to run the middle school camp. A number of families made donations that has meant that we are able to carry on with other activities that we have planned for the pupils through the year. Thank you for your generosity!
- To all those who were able to meet our teachers at the start of year interviews. Taking the time to build relationship between parents and teachers does something powerful for the learning of pupils. We really are in this together.
- To our staff who continually pour themselves into the wellbeing of each child in their care. We are blessed as a school to have such a devoted and focused staff at every level.

Have a great holiday period with the children at home. School starts again on Monday 3 May.

Grace and peace.
Mark Richardson
Principal

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Welcome to **Mrs Deborah Swan** who starts part time in our office from May 3. Debs will be contacting families with regards to absences each morning as well as being in the office all day Fridays.

We also welcome **Mrs Maria Couper** to Matai 6. Maria is filling the role of Primary Teacher while Anna MacGregor is on maternity leave.

Anna, we wish you and Ben all the best as you await the arrival of your new blessing. We will miss you and look forward to seeing you at the school for baby visits.

Teacher Only Day

At this stage we have another Teacher Only day planned for [Friday June 4](#). This leads into the Queens Birthday weekend holiday. School will be closed on Friday 1 June as well as Monday 7, June. Our previous Teacher Only day was significant in that all the Christian schools in the city joined together to explore what it means to be authentic Treaty partners in a faith-based place. It was an excellent day of exploring the Māori world together. Thank you for your patience with these days. We acknowledge the impact it has on families and we are careful to make the most of the time of professional development.

Our school Library Blog is full of wonderful things to discover. You can find it here:
<http://rmt.aidanfield.school.nz/athenaeum/index.php>

Garden Club 2021

An eager group of students has been restoring the so-called "Keyhole Garden" on Tuesday lunchtimes, ably assisted by Mrs Penny, Mrs Harrison and Mrs Anthony. This is a special project as we prepare to celebrate the school's 25th year, because the Keyhole Garden was first designed by Garden Clubbers in 2014. Many of the plants planted then have become quite large and others have needed replacing. Special thanks to Grounds and Services Limited (GSL) for again donating some lovely natives to fill in the spaces.



Board of Trustee Meeting Dates:

The Board meetings are public meetings and open to anyone who wishes to observe. Visitors do not have speaking rights and cannot stay for the publicly excluded section of the meeting. Meeting Dates are: May 10, June 21, August 2, September 13, November 8, December 6.



ACS Middle School Camp 2021

The thrilling and exciting ACS Middle School Camp 2021 can be summed up: Flying. What every person dreams of. Falling. More truthfully what happened, but still... That was the giant swing, our favourite part, at Middle School Camp, 2021. Trekking through the trees, to the top of the hill, we boasted our bravery, each stating how high we would go. It seemed a long way up and an even longer way down. Reaching the pinnacle, the first person was drafted and the rest of us carried their sentence. With us yanking the rope, they rose slowly into the lazy sky, feet tapping together nervously, and then, "Stop!" Creating a movement like an Olympian throwing a javelin, they pulled the rope, and plummeted. Silent screams were swept from their mouths, from the sheer speed and force of a person with nothing holding them back. Then it was our turn. The adrenalin and terror of falling is beyond what we could have ever imagined beyond that point. The whipping wind stole our words. Nothing we could have ever heard or experienced previously could have prepared us for the fall. Exciting as it was, it was soon over, and we were left with a rapidly beating heart, and a memory we would never forget.

AGES 9 TO 18

CODING LESSONS



CODINGNZ

Coding NZ Lessons

- Learn coding languages to create technology.
- An expert tutor is online to help during lessons.
- 1 hour per week at 4pm, 5pm or 6pm weekdays.
- Try a free trial lesson at codingnz.com

Cultural Week 2021

Cultural Week was again a wonderful week of learning for our school. A big thank you to the many parents and supporters who contributed their time and enthusiasm. We are noticing that whānau involvement increases every year! The parade was a real highlight and we were treated to a moving performance from our Filipino students. Mayten Rodriguez led this group splendidly. We are already looking forward to Cultural Week 2022!



Reminder to get your CEM test entries to Mrs Lawn by Friday 7 May years 5-10 only.

Term One Sports Events Gallery



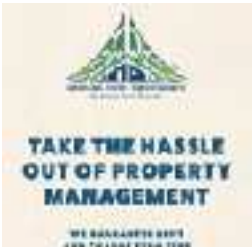
Sports Canterbury Swimming Results

Congratulations to those students that went through to represent Aidanfield at the Sports Canterbury Swimming event.

Alyssa H	Freestyle 7 th in the finals Breaststroke 14 th /29
Sam B	Freestyle 13 th /31 Backstroke 12 th /30
Benji H	Freestyle 17 th /34 Breaststroke 10 th /34
Olivia H	Backstroke 15 th /33
Dana K	Breaststroke 23 rd /31

TERM 2 DATES

11 May	Year 5-10 Cross Country
18 May	Year 5-10 Cross Country Postponement
24 - 26 May	Year 5&6 Camp
27 May	Elgrego School Visit
28 May	Scholastic Book Orders Due
4 Jun	Teachers Only Day
4 Jun	PAACS Pies and Pizza orders due
7 Jun	Queen's Birthday (School Closed)
14 - 18 Jun	Book Week *Parade TBC
17 Jun	PAACS Pies and Pizza Fundraiser delivery
25 - 27 Jun	40 Hour Famine
1 & 6 July	Mid-Year Interviews



Housing First Christchurch

supports our community's chronically homeless into living independently in their own homes. If you have a suitable property to rent in Christchurch - particularly a 1-2 bdm home then Housing First would love to find you tenants and manage your property for you. Our approach is simple: Provide the housing first, and then provide ongoing wrap around supports that enable people to achieve their goals and sustain their tenancy. Visit housingfirstchch.co.nz for more information.