



Aidanfield Christian School

Growing in Wisdom and Stature | Stand and be Confident

House Points



Mārangai
86256



Pōtonga
82139



Hauāuru
81235



Tūāraki
81070

School App

- * Stay Up To Date *
- * Notify Absences *
- * Link to our Website *
- * School Calendar *

Download at
www.aidanfield.apps.school.nz/
install/



We have a committed group of parents that are available to support you in prayer. Contact Jo Dowle in confidence by emailing prayerrequest@aidanfield.school.nz



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

office@aidanfield.school.nz

Kia ora Aidanfield Whānau

One thing that is becoming a regular celebration at ACS is the Matariki holiday later in June. **The school will be closed on Friday 20 June** as this is a public holiday.

The challenge of Matariki - let us worship our God

Matariki is a regular point of discussion in Christian circles with some approaching it with caution for a range of reasons and others embracing it. Every culture around the world has a range of celebrations throughout the year and these focus on many different things. As Christians we are challenged to be wary of anything that appears contrary to worship of our God who created all things and gifted life to each of us. The Bible tells us, God is a jealous God and the only one who is both fully worthy to receive and should receive our worship. At ACS we are very clear about this.

The first commandment calls us to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, to have no other God before Him. It is for this reason that, as Christians we do not worship the stars or the cluster of stars that make up the Matariki constellation - nor do we give acknowledgement to the Māori gods said to be represented in the cluster. We worship just one God and we are very clear about this. Because of this, we can approach celebrations like Matariki with confidence. We can bring our worship and our lives to the God who reveals himself in creation and through His word, the Bible. We can celebrate His remarkable creation; we can see the vastness of the universe and recognise the rhythms and patterns in it and this can lead us to marvel at the creative works of almighty God. We can also use the rhythms of the stars if we choose, as a reminder to focus on the right things - family, relationships, God's provision for us, and the opportunities and challenges of the coming year. If we know Him, if we have our lives in His hands, we can bring all of these to our God in confidence. If we don't know Him, or have left our close relationship with Him, we can hear the challenge to come to Him, to surrender our life before Him and walk into His loving embrace.

Matariki can be a beautiful time when embraced through the lens of our creator God. As our school prepares for the Matariki holiday I invite you to find your place of reflection - and to walk into the coming year in close relationship with Jesus.

Matariki Hangi

This year our whānau group is working to provide a hangi as part of our regular evening celebration. Please have a look at the information later in this newsletter and place your orders and payments using the form provided. It is going to be a great evening as a community, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Teacher Only Day - Friday 30 May

Hopefully you are aware that ACS is very careful about using Teacher Only Days. We know how disruptive these can be for families and so we only take these when we really need them. Our focus on Friday is, once again, the new English curriculum that must be implemented. There are a significant number of changes that the Ministry of Education has built into the new curriculum, and we are using the time to understand the changes and adapt our planning and resourcing to be able to deliver the new curriculum very well.

We have a clear understanding of our foundations as we do this work. Our overarching curriculum document at ACS (called Te Mātaiaho) states among other things:

MĀTAINUKU -Creating a foundation

The purpose of our curriculum is to invite ākonga to recognise that they are image bearers of God, and to grow in learning, character and purpose, to stand and be confident. As members of the school community, ākonga are encouraged to think, reason and reflect on their own learning, being and becoming who they are in Christ, outworked in service to God and others. We have high expectations for learning and character, and celebrate the individual expression of success among ākonga.



Part of our challenge is to weave this call through our English curriculum into reality so that it comes alive for our students (ākonga).

As you know, the schools achievement in English and Mathematics has remained consistently high over numbers of years and across all our demographics. We aim to keep this high achievement even as we grow - and to do better for all our students wherever we can.

Strategic planning

Thank you to those of you who provided responses to our first survey from the Board related to our next strategic plan. We received 101 responses from parents in our community and those responses suggest the school is doing very well generally. It has also highlighted a number of areas for further investigation and this is very helpful. More detailed information will be sent out once the Board has had a chance to look carefully at all of the comments and suggestions. Please be assured that all comments and feedback are carefully considered.

Finally

We welcome a group from Omiya Municipal High School, Japan early in June. This school is a regular visitor to ACS, and it is a delight to share a week with their students in our school. If you are inclined to pray, please hold this group in your prayers and also the many other international students and families we have in the school through 2025. We have the world coming to school and there is significant opportunity for our community to demonstrate in real ways, the love of our saviour. Thank you for being a part of this expression of our faith in action through our school.

Grace and peace
Mark Richardson

COMPULSORY WINTER UNIFORM FROM 3 JUNE 25

Our Uniform Handbook is on our website:
Join us/Uniforms

PARKING PEAK TIMES AT SCHOOL

Please be respectful of our neighbours' driveways and verges.
Be mindful of everyone's safety please.

Thank you

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30 May	Teacher Only Day (School Closed)
2 June	King's Birthday (School Closed)
3 June	Full Winter Uniform
6 June	Multi-Cultural Parent Coffee Group
13 June	Year 7-10 2026 Enrolment applications closed
17 June	Mid Year Interviews
18 June	Primary Canterbury Cross Country
19 June	Matariki Celebration at school
20 June	Matariki (School Closed)
24 June	Mid Year Interviews
25 June	NZ Playhouse Theatre Primary
27 June	Last day of Term 2
28 June - 13 July	School Holidays

MATARIKI 2025

"Whakamoemititia te Kaihanga o ngā whetū"

Let us praise the Creator of the stars.

Thursday June 19. Pulling up of hangi from 4.30pm.
ACS Hall open for activities from 5pm. 7pm evening close.



An invitation to the ACS school community to come together to celebrate the Māori New Year. A time to acknowledge our Creator God as we share kai, reflect on the past year and look forward to the year ahead. Nau mai, haere mai tātou katoa!

Hangi pre-order form to follow. Limit of 200 hangi packs available.

ABSENCES

If your child is away for any reason, please use the School App to email absences@aidanfield.school.nz OR ring the school (03 338 8153 -option 1 preferred).
Thank you in advance

Attendance Dues 2025

You should have received your 2025 attendance dues statement from The Christian Schools Trust. If you have any questions or queries please refer to our website www.cst.org.nz or contact Rhonda on attdues@cst.org.nz.

HOMESTAY FAMILIES NEEDED

Aidanfield Christian School invites international students to study with us throughout the year and enjoys them as part of our school community. As part of this, we are looking for Homestay families who would be able to welcome a student (or more than one) into their homes for part of the year in 2025. The stay could be as short as a week, or occasionally, a longer term. The student would be at least 11 years old, and attend Aidanfield Christian School everyday. This is a wonderful way to introduce a range of cultures to your home, and to share the love of Christ, reflecting hospitality and love to 'strangers in the land'. If you would like to be involved in this ministry or would like more information, please contact homestay@aidanfield.school.nz OR kaye.lawn@aidanfield.school.nz

PRAYING PARENTS

Our faithful group of parents who pray for our school community would welcome more parents to become involved or prayer partners. Please contact Jo Dowle by emailing prayerrequests@aidanfield.school.nz

REMINDER: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Requirements regarding Vomiting and Diarrhoea

Children with vomiting and diarrhoea must stay away from school until there has been no vomiting or diarrhoea for 48 hours.

Will you be part of the 40 Hour Challenge 2025?



When: 8pm Friday 13th June – 12pm Sunday 15th June.

Why: To raise funds so communities in Solomon Islands have enough food.

What will you give up for 40 hours?

- Will you go 40 hours without your phone? Switch off, be present, and connect with friends and whānau.
- Could you go 40 hours without electricity? Go back to basics—light candles, cook over a fire, get creative.
- Can you swap streaming and gaming for something new? Play board games, explore nature, or bake with your mates.

How to sign up:

- Go to: <https://fundraise.worldvision.org.nz/join/AidanfieldChristianSchool>
- Follow the prompts to sign up

Once you have signed up, see the ambassadors to collect your 40 Hour Challenge Booklet.

We are aiming for \$25 000 in 2025
Please help us reach our BIGGEST TARGET EVER!

“Giving up 40 hours of your time to go offline is a small sacrifice that will have a powerful impact on the lives of children and the communities that they live in”



Dawn Hester, 2023/24
Member of the 40 Hour Challenge

RELIEF TEACHERS NEEDED

ACS is keen to add to their pool of valued Relief Teachers. These would be for day relief, often at short notice within the school. If you are a registered teacher, are looking to get back into teaching, wish to have ACS as one of the schools you relieve at AND can uphold the Christian character of the school, please don't be shy - get in touch with Kaye Lawn who will be very grateful to chat with you about the possibilities. This could be for Primary or Middle School (or both).

Please email kaye.lawn@aidanfield.school.nz or call in at the office to speak with her. Please also ask those friends and whānau who may be interested in this. Thank you!

FAMILY EPISODES UPDATES

Listening to Families videos provide answers to everyday questions about health and wellbeing challenges facing children and adolescents. Many of these challenges can affect overall attendance.

The questions the videos answer are real - they come directly from families. The answers are provided by trusted specialists.

Coeliac - a conversation with dietitians

<https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/coeliac-disease/a-conversation-with-dietitians>

Anna Richards-Dietitian and Sophie Hall- Paediatric dietitian, have a conversation about coeliac disease.

Eczema

<https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/eczema>

Aimee Mackey-Clinical Nurse Specialist in Eczema/Allergy, answers families questions.

DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOOL APP THIS AUTUMN



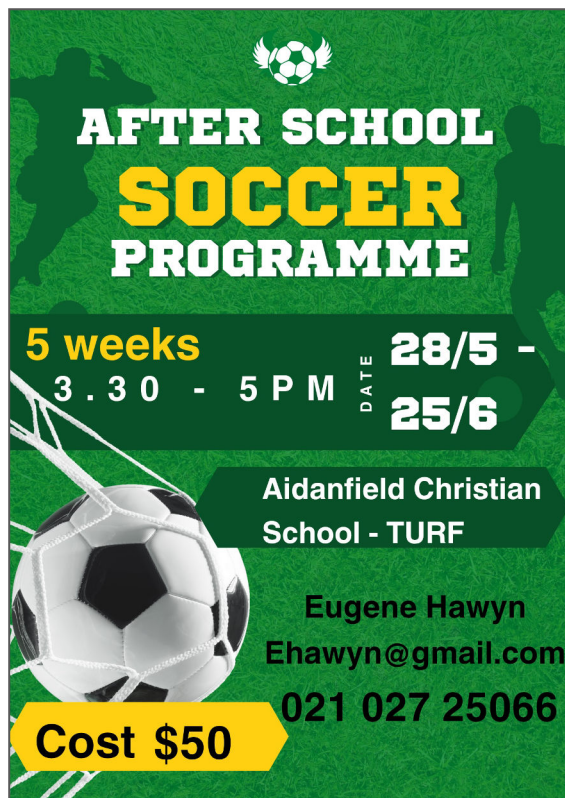
Our School Communication All In One Spot


- School Alert Groups • Cancellations • Direct Absentees
- Contacts Directory • School Events • Daily Notices
- Plus Much More!



School Apps
snApp mobile

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'SchoolAppsNZ' & choose our school once installed.




**AFTER SCHOOL
SOCCER
PROGRAMME**

5 weeks
3.30 - 5 PM

DATE **28/5 -
25/6**

**Aidanfield Christian
School - TURF**

**Eugene Hawyn
Ehawyn@gmail.com
021 027 25066**

Cost \$50



**Halswell
Toy Library**

**TOY HIRE FOR AGES 0-10
HUNDREDS OF TOYS
TO CHOOSE FROM**

Memberships start from \$10
Toy hire fees range from 50c to \$2*

**OPEN WED 7PM - 8PM
& SAT 9AM - 12PM**

Located on Oaklands School grounds in Halswell
halswelltoylibrary.org.nz | [halswelltoylibrary](https://www.facebook.com/halswelltoylibrary)

*Party packs \$10

Board Elections

A comment from Zhuhui Lam, our current Board Chair.

This year we have board elections again with 3 seat to be filled.

Do give prayerful consideration to whether you might make yourself available to serving in this capacity. You would join a team of wise and faithful stewards seeking to glorify our Heavenly Father in every decision, have the opportunity to affect an area significant in the raising of our children both now and for future generations to come.

If you do you have any questions, I or anyone on our board would be more than happy to pick up a conversation - please do get in touch (botchair@aidanfield.school.nz).

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR ACS CROSS COUNTRY WINNERS -YEARS 5-10

Y10 Boys

1st - Levi
2nd - Jonathan
3rd - Simon

Y10 Girls

1st= - Anya and Hannah
2nd= - Elsa and Natalie
3rd - Gracie

Y9 Boys

1st - David
2nd - Ryan
3rd - Benjamin

Y9 Girls

1st - Jessie
2nd - Zara
3rd - Jemma

Y8 Boys

1st - Marcus
2nd - Luke
3rd - Charlie
4th - Kieran
5th - Elijah

Y8 Girls

1st= - Claire and Vida
2nd - Beth
3rd - Lucy
4th - Bonnie

7 Boys

1st - Tami
2nd - Jeremiah
3rd - Ryan HyunSeung
4th - Seth
5th - Theo

Y7 Girls

1st - Chantelle
2nd - Mila
3rd - Sophie
4th - Emma
5th - Gabrielle

Y6 Boys

1st - Isaac
2nd - Elijah
3rd - Jack
4th - Vilikesa
5th - Taku

Y6 Girls

1st - Briana
2nd - Elsa
3rd - Sonila
4th - Joanna
5th - Eleanor

Year 5 Girls

1st - Isaac
2nd - Epeli
3rd - Joshua
4th - Jordan
5th - Isaac

Y5 Girls

1st - Amelia
2nd - Florence
3rd - Esther
4th - Georgina
5th - Evelyn

Primary News Term 2

Year 5/6 Camp at Woodend Christian Camp – A Week to Remember!

Earlier this term, our Year 5/6 students ventured off to Woodend Christian Camp for an unforgettable experience. For many, it was the first time staying overnight away from home. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to build new friendships and step out of their comfort zone. From conquering the climbing wall and racing around on go-karts, to testing their aim in archery and soaring high on the Aerojump, there was no shortage of adventure! The camp was filled with laughter, teamwork, and memories that will last a lifetime. Well done to all the students for embracing every challenge with such enthusiasm!

A huge thank you to the wonderful parents who volunteered their time to help make the camp such a success. Your support, energy, and care made a big difference, and we truly appreciate it!

SOME LOVELY CAMP POEMS

CAMP

Camp is something to remember always:

Laughter with our friends, shooting a bow and arrow,

Waking up in the morning to the chirps of a sparrow.

Running around after a clue,

The sky was so stunningly blue.

Flat out racing round the go-kart track,

Eating marshmallows by the campfire and opening yet another pack.

Zooming down the zipline wire,

Singing songs in front of a raging fire.

Blasting down the waterslide,

No need to get scared and want to hide.

The food was so good, but not quite as good as the bouncy Aerojump trampolines,

Camp is even better than it seems! *By Briana*

Camp - capturing the real essence of nature.

Aerojump, zipline and air rifles - just some of the activities on offer.

Marshmallows roasting on the bonfire.

Piercing targets with the arrows in archery. *By Henry S*

Climbing, jumping, running around with joy.

Amarzing food - you always want more.

Making memories everywhere you go.

Playing, playing, having so much fun, but now camp is done.

By Inge

Woodend Christian Camp is my favourite camp in the universe.

On day 1, the long walk began.

Over the rock-climbing wall I climbed.

Doing fun activities until the day was done.

Ending up in our in camp beds to rest - tomorrow will be the best!

Narrowly missing a sharp turn, as I zoomed around the go-kart track.

Diving and flipping on the Aerojump.

Come and go down the Zipline - it's so cool.

Again and again jumping on the trampolines.

Making new friends.

Packing in new memories of fun, because now camp is done.

By Samantha

CAMP

Starting the long, long walk,

Free time to playfully talk.

Settling into sleeping places,

Amazing dinner fills our faces.

Speeding up the climbing wall - TO THE TOP!

Time to clean up after dinner with a mop.

Zooming down the zipline

Not the fastest, but I'll be fine.

Packing up our bunkroom spaces,

Going back home to see more familiar faces.

By Henry P

WOODEND CAMP

Zip-Line, Fun Times.

Making Chants, Choosing Rhymes.

Having Spread On My Bread.

Climbing Wall, Aero Jump.

Go-Karts, Speed Bumps.

Trampoline, Playground.

Gaga Pit, Round & Round The May Pole

By Judah S

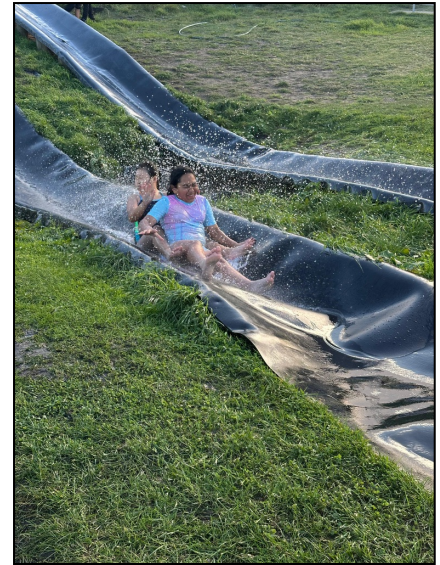
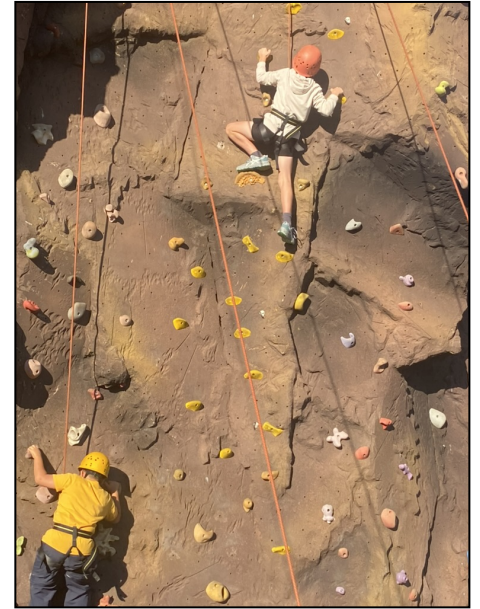
Come to camp with us! You'll have so much fun eating, sleeping, playing lots of games.

Aerojump, archery, air rifles, climbing, Go-karts and zipline too.

Making friends, meeting people, make some food, making memories.

Please come to camp! We'll have so much fun together. Pack your things, come with us to Woodend!

By Esther F



We had our **BOOK WEEK** celebrations last week. We enjoyed so many events including shared reading, alternative literacy lessons in classes and of course, our annual Book Week Parade. The effort put into costumes was amazing... there was a huge variety of characters and some very clever creations. Our age-group winners this year were:

Year 9/10: Zak B and Matthew S

Year 3/4: James S

Year 7/8: Thomas S

Year 0-2: Esther L

Year 5/6: Epeli N

We had so many students we could have chosen... it's so good seeing the creativity of our students and the support of parents too!

Thanks to those who participated in the week's events.



PIRATE WHĀNUA FUN DAY

The whole Primary enjoyed a great Whānau Fun afternoon undertaking pirate adventures. The teachers and children (especially in the Junior School) enjoyed dressing up. Treasure maps and fun games like battleships and walking the plank, were enjoyed by the mixed age groups working together.

Whānau Fun times are an opportunity for the whole Primary to mix together across the year levels, with older students working with younger students.



GROWING IN WISDOM & STATURE

CHARACTER

My character develops as I make choices about:

FAITHFULNESS

I am one whose service others may rely on, whose loyalty others may depend on, whose word others can trust.

INTEGRITY

My character is reflected in my words and actions at all times.

STEWARDSHIP

I look after and use wisely all the gifts that God has given me.

EXCELLENCE

I always give my best effort.

THINKING

I seek God's wisdom and guidance in all aspects of my life.

I use my imagination. I reflect, criticise, solve problems, and am resourceful, curious and discerning.

PARTICIPATING AND CONTRIBUTING

I put my faith into action by contributing to my family, to ACS, to Christchurch, to New Zealand and to the rest of the world. I work well in a team and I use my gifts and talents to benefit others.

MANAGING SELF

I am confident in my relationship with God. I am organised, aware of myself and others, responsible, reliable, accountable and act appropriately. I set goals and I am determined to achieve them.

IDENTITY

I know who I am and I understand my purpose in the world. I know what my gifts, talents and abilities are and how to develop them. I am confident and I can relate to others.

BELIEF

I am engaged in the exploration of who God is and my response to that.

DISCERNMENT

I think critically. I am growing in my awareness of the difference between truth and falsehood, right and wrong. I am learning to apply biblical principles to daily situations.

LEARNING

My choices energise and shape my learning. I grow and mature as I make choices about:

LANGUAGE, SYMBOLS AND TEXTS

When I express myself I am creative, accurate, coherent, confident, clear, independent and fluent. I can understand what other people communicate to me.

RELATING TO OTHERS

I love God first and I love others just as much as I love myself. I am honest, loyal, gracious, accountable, respectful, servant hearted, reliable, forgiving and generous.

PURPOSE

Each day I discover new things about my purpose as I make choices about:

LEARNING

I give my best in everything as I explore the world and my place in it.

SERVICE

I am compassionate. I choose to actively look out for, encourage and support others.



STAND AND BE CONFIDENT



Aidanfield
Christian School