



Aidanfield Christian School

Growing in Wisdom and Stature | Stand and be Confident

House Points



Mārangai
129125



Hauāuru
125265



Pōtonga
123122



Tūāraki
121987

School App

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

Download at

[www.aidanfield.apps.school.nz/
install/](http://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

It is mid term three and the sun is shining. I am beginning to anticipate the shift to spring...it is almost here.

Where are we going next - working in partnership

The Board continues to work on planning for the next three year period. We received some useful feedback through our general survey last term. Thank you to all those who contributed. We will be coming back to our whole school community with a refined set of questions to dig deeper into some of the themes that came through that survey. We are looking forward to understanding more deeply our communities wishes for our school direction.

Completing surveys is one way to have your voice heard and feed into the development of the school. There is always an interesting dynamic that becomes apparent when we seek feedback. On many issues and ideas, we can get opposing views and ideas from our community - people think differently about things, or perceive issues in alternative ways. It is a difficult space to dwell in when totally opposing ideas or views are placed next to each other - both sets of ideas are real, both authentic and well considered, but so different, that there is no middle ground. The Board and leadership are tasked with hearing all the feedback and deciding next steps. Generally, this will mean that some whose ideas or comments appear to be actioned will feel 'heard'. Others whose ideas or feedback was not apparently picked up and actioned may feel they were 'not heard' - perhaps that the school does not listen or even more harshly - not care. The reality is, that those in governance and leadership within the school, listen carefully and earnestly to all the feedback we receive. We pray, we debate, we discuss, we explore a range of options and then we need to make decisions. All opinions and ideas are heard and appreciated, but not all turn into observable change in a particular direction. This is the joy and challenge of working in community. Please be assured, we do hear all the feedback and consider it carefully - even when it appears we don't.

Another aspect of this discussion I have been pondering, relates to what it means to work in partnership with our community - we talk about this regularly but not all feel that it is expressed in how we operate. In my own thinking, I am currently framing the nature of partnership in the school on two levels. The first, is the partnership that teachers have directly with parents related to their individual children and their respective needs. I would suggest we are very good at working in partnership at this individual level with all of our families in an ongoing way. This does not mean we always agree - but we are always open to ongoing conversations and working together with each family for the good of their child. I have countless examples of this every single day, term, and year, and this is a testament to the commitment of our teachers and parents and the relationships that are formed between each. There is a deep devotion to this aspect of partnership as an expression of our school. There is a real commitment to walk with you as parents supporting you as best we can in the learning journey of your young people, and this grows out of our biblically based understanding of the role of parents, church and school.

The other level of partnership I am considering, is that of our whole community and the school. Again, I suggest we are committed to working in partnership on this larger level, but it is much harder for everyone to feel that such partnership exists because of what I mentioned above - we invite feedback and input and almost always get a range of views.



Decisions are then made and some in our community will feel we have 'heard' and acted and there will always be some who feel 'not heard'. This outcome is a result of working in partnership - the reality of life in community.

We are blessed to be able to base all of this interaction, response, motivation and frustration onto a biblical foundation. We are called as people of faith to live the expression of biblical love as outlined in 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrong. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." If you are anything like me - this is a real challenge in the context of partnership and some days I think I have nailed it and other days, I hang my head realising my lack. I invite you to our continued journey of partnership as a community who place Christ first, are devoted to our young ones, engaged in debate and committed to loving our saviour in real and tangible ways each day that we have.

What are you doing in 2026?

A simple request. If you are changing schools next year and have not already told us officially - please do so ASAP in writing (email is fine). We are working through our offers of place for new students in 2026, and it is very helpful to know where a space may be available through the school. We have over 200 applications to date. Very few of our families do leave before year 10 and this looks to be the same this year. If you are making a school change please let me know:

mark.richardson@aidanfield.school.nz

Board Elections

Our Board elections are almost here. You may have received or will receive information soon on the candidates who are standing for the next three year period and the voting process. Please pray and vote. We have had the joy of an excellent Board over many years and I look forward to working with the newly constituted Board shortly.

Carpark - thank you!

It is not quite a symphony but it isn't far off. Thank you for the cooperation of the overwhelming majority of you who follow the direction of our carpark people and the rules for using this space. We have noticed a real change in the times traffic arrives and it is helping everyone to have the pick up time spread over a slightly longer period between 3.00pm, and 3.15pm. It also helps that both exits are being used to spread the load, great job - thank you!

Court progress

In the next newsletter I hope to have photos of our brand new basketball and netball courts. Exciting!

Grace and peace

Mark Richardson, Principal

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.

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

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4 - 28 August	ICAS Middle School
15 August	School Disco
1 - 5 September	Co-requisite testing-Y10
2 September	Wearable Arts Years 1-8
9 - 10 September	School Photos
9 - 19 September	Year 3/4 Swimming
19 September	Last day Term 3
6 October	Term 4 starts
9-10 October	Y 3-4 Marae Trip
13 October	ACS Whānau Hui
27 October	Labour Day (School Closed)

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.

PARKING PEAK TIMES AT SCHOOL

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

Thank you

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.

ADHD - Parent Program

<https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/adhd/parent-education>

Hania Wagenvoort-Social worker, Jan Hassan-Educational Psychologist and Christchurch Methodist Mission talk about the ADHD Parent program

Eczema

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

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

All our school news in one place

Download
Our School
App today



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



 School Apps NZ
an App mobile

DISCO TIME!

Friday 15th August

-In the school hall-

Younger Disco (Years 0-6): 5.30-7pm

Older Disco (Years 5+): 7.30-9pm

Tickets \$5 each or \$10 per family

Get tickets at - <https://events.humanitix.com/aidanfield-christian-school-disco-2025>

Food will be available on the night, we will post a price list soon.

Any questions email: aidanfieldparents@gmail.com

TERM 3 FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Order Ezlunch and support our school!
We're using Ezlunch not just to make school lunches easier - but also to help support our school community. What this means is that 10% of every order placed this term will be returned to our school. It's a simple, everyday way for families to contribute - just by ordering lunch!

We're using Ezlunch not just to make school lunches easier - but also to help support our school community. What this means is that 10% of every order placed this term will be returned to our school. It's a simple, everyday way for families to contribute - just by ordering lunch!

e**zlunch.**

Fundraising Made Delicious

10% of every order
supports our school



ORDER NOW



MATARIKI CELEBRATION AND HANGI 2025

Our school community Matariki celebration this year was a huge event. We had the theme this year of; "Whakamoemititia te Kaihanga o ngā whetū" - Praise the Creator of the stars. For the first time in many years we put down a hangi and it was a resounding success.

We are grateful for the generous help of many in our school community, including the donation of steel (as hangi rocks) from Mike Bouman and the crafting of the hangi crates and hooks by 'Etu Sunia.

On the Wednesday, a group of Middle School students helped Miss Penny to dig the hangi pit on our back field. Then, on Thursday morning a dedicated group of adults and students from our Māori whānau group and beyond came together to prepare the vegetables for over 200 hangi packs, while others lit the fire and heated the steel.

It was a great learning experience for our students to see how the food was lowered into the ground, covered and left to cook for the day, before being pulled up for our evening celebrations. Thankfully it came out perfectly cooked! Finally, we enjoyed a time of celebration in the hall with Matariki themed artwork, craft activities and a performance by the school Kapa Haka.

Thank you to all involved and we look forward to future Matariki events in years to come.



Learning Support 2025

Learning Support at ACS comes from a group of Specialist Teachers and Teacher Aides supporting our Tamariki who have additional learning needs. This valuable work can be supporting the whole class, small groups or individuals. While some of this work is paid for by the Ministry of Education, some also comes from the careful budgeting by the Board and Mr Richardson with funds from other sources.

Our amazing Teacher Aide team, work in classes across the school. Their role is varied and challenging - they can be in a Junior class for one lesson and then move to a Middle School class for the next lesson.

In class they can be supporting individuals to understand and get started on their set work or take small groups. They also help children at break times who need supervision with eating or in the playground. Quite often, our Teacher Aides will work with a range of students in a classroom, swooping in to help a child then moving on to a different child to support them briefly, thus covering a large range of students and supporting the teacher who will be doing a similar thing of helping or extending thinking during lessons.



Junior Literacy

Mrs Gerard takes small groups of New Entrant and Year 1 children for oral language support - practicing taking turns, forming correct sentences, sharing and taking turns to talk.

Mrs Schroeder and Mrs Phillips take individuals and small groups for phonics and early reading and writing support.



Reader/Writers

The learning support team also helps older students who need a reader or a writer for exams. We recently assisted 4 students in the Year 10 co-requisite testing.

Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour (RTLB)

As a school we are supported by the RTLB service. The RTLB's come into school to observe students' behaviour and learning and meet with parents and teachers to formulate plans for next steps to help the students learning or behaviour at school.

Special Needs Coordinators (SENCO's)

At ACS we have two SENCO's who work closely together. Mrs Lawn works across Years 7-10 and Mrs Phillips Years 1-6. They coordinate the Learning Support team: working out teacher aide timetables, observing children, supporting teachers, meeting with parents, transitions and completing a lot of behind the scenes paperwork!



CONGRATULATIONS!!

A huge well done to our talented Year 9 and 10 players for their outstanding performance in the Secondary School Sports Winter Weekly Badminton Tournament. Your skill, teamwork, and determination shone through every match, earning you a well-deserved victory. We are proud of the way you represented our school—both on and off the court!

ADCS 1 - 1st Place (Kanon, Aanya, Jimin, William, David, Jack)
ADCS 2 - 3rd Place (Hyeonseo, Anna, Olivia, Mhadde, Ashley)
ADCS 3 - 2nd Place (Elsa, Gemma, Hannah, Rihanna)
ADCS 4 - 1st Place (Gabrielle, Emily, Tiffany, Bronte)
ADCS 5 - 3rd Place (Sean S., Lucas Lyu, Roy, Aaron, Jeff)



FREE EVENT!

RAISING NEURODIVERSE KIDS

*An evening of understanding,
strategies, and support for parenting
children with ADHD and/or Autism*

Thursday 21st August 2025 - 7-9pm
Chapel St Centre,
68 Harewood Road, Papanui

HOSTED BY
MANA AKE



Register now
via [Humanatix](#):



Alison Schroeder
Director/Speech Language Therapist,
Socially Speaking



Kallysa Hollis, Ngāti Hauiti
Practice Leader/Registered Social
Worker, *Christchurch Methodist Mission*

Subsidised home internet for our school community

We're excited to share that your family may be eligible for subsidised home internet through EDOS
- at just \$6 per week for fast, reliable fibre, no strings attached.

EDOS and GCSN also have other affordable options for those who aren't eligible for a \$6 subsidised internet service.

This is an exciting opportunity for
You can check if your address is eligible for \$6 per week internet [HERE](#).

Let's get your kids connected at home!

MAKE YOUR INTERNET ROAR



NOT BUFFER

Get fast subsidised
fibre internet for **\$6**

www.edos.kiwi

EDOS

0800 441 844

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.

EXCELLENCE

I always give my
best effort.

STEWARDSHIP

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

LEARNING

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



STAND AND BE CONFIDENT



Aidanfield
Christian School