



Aidanfield Christian School

Growing in Wisdom and Stature | Stand and be Confident

House Points



Pōtonga
35455



Mārangai
34280



Hauāuru
33740



Tūāraki
31080

Kia ora Aidanfield Whānau

Term one has had a number of celebrations. We have celebrated the 30th anniversary of the school and buried a time capsule to be opened at the 50th anniversary in 2046. It was an interesting process to consider what might be of interest in 20 years time. It will take 20 years to figure out if what we decided was useful! Learning tree assemblies were recently celebrated, where we honour a range of students for their work and character. We have also enjoyed a range of success in both athletics and swimming sports with many of our students achieving to a very high standard in the various competitions.



The fair was another time of celebration, a fantastic community event. Thank you so much to the parent association organising group for making this happen again this year. They did an amazing job of pulling the whole thing together. It was such a good day in every respect.

Today we celebrated the message of Easter. We gathered on the front lawn area as a whole school.



Our senior drama group took us through the Easter story beautifully. Our choir sang and reflected a call to follow. They did a great job.

Each year we make a point of remembering at Easter time. I talked with our middle school about the idea that if we are not remembering we are forgetting. Today at our Easter assembly I reflected on this again. Easter is a time each year that calls us to remember. To remember means we need to have something to reflect on, to go back to, to remind ourselves about. It raises the question; do you have

an encounter with God the Father to remember? Have you found yourself in a place of knowing that without Him you are spiritually lost and without an eternal hope but with Him you are a new person, forgiven and washed clean, given hope for this life and the one that follows. Have you been at a point of realising the great gift of His sacrifice on the cross where His physical body was broken, His relationship with His father fractured, and His blood poured out? Have you had that wondering at the power of the resurrection where death had no hold on him, the power of the grave shattered, the threat of endless sin habits, addictions rendered powerless because of the promise of new life? Have you marvelled at the risen Christ who invites you to know him, to walk with him...to surrender because of who He is? Have you walked into a new understanding of the love, grace, forgiveness and the promise of life now and in the future? Do you have something to remember in your journey with our Lord?



Easter is a period in the year where, as people of faith in an unseen God we reflect on the process that was needed to make a clear pathway for each of us to be able to be made whole. It is a time that invites reflection so that we do not forget. Because of this may I invite you to that place of remembering as you walk each day. Jesus said that He "came that you might have life" so choose life.

Where am I?

This is not a question you are likely to be asking right now, but possibly in term two you will. I have been awarded a sabbatical for 10 weeks this year and will be taking this in term two. I will be at ACS in week one, as term two is an 11 week term. Mrs Kaye Lawn will be Acting Principal from week two to 11 of term two and will do a fantastic job, ably supported by the rest of our leadership team. My focus while on sabbatical will be on investigating how AI should be embedded in the schools functions.

Reporting your child's progress in 2026

You will notice a change in the way we report to you in 2026. The changes are being made due to the Ministry of Education requirements for reporting. Interestingly, our current reporting format and information meet all of the newly introduced requirements from MoE, but do not use the nationally required terminology, hence we have to change. We have also worked to make the new requirements manageable for our staff, who are being asked to take on so many new government changes. Written reports take a significant amount of time from a teacher and are on top of the usual planning, teaching and assessing loads they carry. The following will happen in 2026.

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



Term 1: End of Term, a "grades" report with no comment. This will give you an idea of the results of our start-of-year testing for your child.

Term 2: End of Term, a written report indicating progress against the new curriculum in Mathematics and English and the current curriculum for the other subject areas. No interview in Term 2.

Term 3: Start of Term, invitation to an interview with your child's teacher to talk over the written report in term 2.

Term 4: End of term, a full written report that will summarise the year.

You will notice from mid-year a change to the terminology used and more information on this will follow next term.

Attendance

As you will know, we have had a real focus on attendance this year. We have added the "Attendance Management Plan" to our Board documents on our website, and this gives a good deal of detail about what is expected under the law and how the school will deal with many of the issues that arise over attendance.

Thank you for the noticeable shift in lateness. Students who arrive late to school really do interrupt the class environment, and they are also on the way to forming habits that are not helpful as they grow.

Thank you to those families who have children in both Middle School and Primary. You will know that these parts of the school have different start times. It is important for Middle School students to arrive no later than 8.35 so they are ready at the classroom door by 8.40 for a prompt start. The first part of the morning is not optional. Primary starts later and need to be at the classroom no later than 8.55.

Thank you for using the absence system. As you know, we ask you to let us know if your child is away on a given day as soon as possible and no later than 8.45 am. You do need to explain why your child is away so that we can code the absence correctly. Explanations directly from students are not acceptable; they must be received from the parent or guardian. Personally, I found School App to be the easiest way to communicate such things, but there are a couple of other options for you to use:

Absences can be reported by:

- School App
- Website "Report Absence"
- Phone call 03 338 8153
- Email to absence@aidanfield.school.nz

Classroom or Whānau teachers should NOT be the first point of contact for absence emails.

- We do encourage all holidays to be taken in the school holiday period and not during term time.

Board meeting dates: Our Chair for 2026 is Mr Zhewy Lam. Board meetings are a public meeting and you are welcome to attend. Visitors do not have speaking rights.

Meeting dates are Mondays from 6.15pm on: May 4, June 15, Aug 3, Sept 14, Nov 2, Nov 30.

Grace and peace

Mark Richardson
Tumuaki/Principal

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3 -19 April	School holidays (includes Good Friday 3 April & Easter Monday 7th April)
Term 2	20 April to 3 July
20 -24 April	Cultural Week - Parade on Wednesday 22
27 April	ANZAC Day - School Closed
30 April	WV Student Leaders Conference
7 May	ACS Cross Country
21 May	SWZ Cross Country (PP date: 26/27 May)
29 May	Teacher Only Day - School Closed for students
1 June	King's Birthday - School Closed
2 -8 June	Life Education Primary
4 -12 June	Saitama Group
15 June	ACS BOT Meeting
17 June	Central Cross Country Y5-8
19 June	40 Hour Challenge Starts
25 June	Primary Jump Off
29 June - 3 July	Fiji Mission Trip
3 July	Last day of Term 2

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

TRANSITIONAL UNIFORM FOR AUTUMN AND SPRING

During the months of Autumn (March, April and May) and Spring (September, October and November) students may wear either full summer or full winter uniform due to the changeable weather patterns. Sunhats are compulsory for the entirety of Term 1 and Term 4. Students can not mix and match the Summer and Winter uniforms.

PAACS (Parent Association of Aidanfield Christian School) created a fridge magnet to celebrate this milestone. You will find one of these within the envelope of the eldest child when they bring home their reports today. (New Entrants have already taken theirs home).

Thanks to PAACS for their thoughtfulness.

ATTENDANCE DUES 2026

You should have received your 2026 attendance dues statement from The Christian Schools Trust. If you have any questions or queries please refer to <https://tinyurl.com/mwf2yxtw> or contact Rhonda on attdues@cst.org.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.

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

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.

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!

The Christchurch City Council annual School Travel Survey is now live!


This 5-10 minute survey helps improve understanding of school travel patterns across Christchurch. This information helps with improving safety, especially for those using active transport. The survey is open to all in the school community (students, parents/caregivers and staff), until 5pm 3 April 2026. There are 10 \$50 up for grabs.


The survey can be found [here](#).




Homestay Hosting Opportunity - June 2026

Aidanfield Christian School is excited to welcome a group of Japanese students (aged 14-15) this June, and we are looking for warm, welcoming families to host them for one week!

 Dates: Friday 5 June - Friday 12 June

 Hosting Details:

- Host one or two students
- Shared bedroom (with two single beds) is an option
- Particular need for families able to host male students

 Remuneration:

\$350 per student for the week

Hosting is a rewarding experience—an opportunity to share your home, learn about another culture, and make lasting connections.

 Interested?

Please email as soon as possible: homestay@aidanfield.school.nz

We'd love your support in making our students feel at home!

AIDANFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 30th ANNIVERSARY - 13 MARCH 2026

We recently celebrated our 30th Anniversary! A number of parents, past and present, along with ex staff members and representatives from the wider Christian School network joined us during the day for tours, our celebratory assembly, and the placement of our time capsule. Following this assembly, we gathered as a school and Mr Richardson climbed the stairs of Akiraho to take a photo of the whole school. God is good in providing all that is needed for Christian education to thrive in this corner of the city!

On the same evening, a dinner was held at which we were able to reminisce, celebrate, look backwards but also celebrate God's ongoing faithfulness as we move forward into the future He has planned for this, His school.



Photo: Left to right: Helen Johnstone, Keith and Marion McQuillan, Rhonda Thorpe, Julie McGregor, Kevin Wakeham, Alistair McKinnon, Joseph and Lesley McCone, Chris Hannen, Andy van Ameyde, Ken Francis.



ANNUAL SCHOOL FAIR 14 MARCH 2026

It was a superb day for our School Fair on Saturday 14 March. With beautiful sunshine and a fantastic turnout, it was truly a celebration of our wonderful community. As always, a fantastic number of parents, teachers, sponsors and students put their hands up to help out in a variety of ways, contributing to it's success.

Particular thanks to the Fair Committee - a team with some fresh, enthusiastic faces, and some regular contributors. The powerhouse behind the committee, Claire Adams, Jessica Fowler and Sarah Cressy did yet another amazing job of delegating roles, rousing interest, and working LONG hours to make it the success that it was.

As a well established event, people from across the city visited, getting bargains from the stalls across the fair and going home with bellies full of a huge range of delicious food options. The school is definitely growing in size, and the replacement of the Junior playground is going to benefit from the money raised.

While we don't yet have a date for next year's fair, I'd encourage parents to look out for notifications inviting interested people to join the crew. It's times like these when the Māori proverb 'Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini' (Success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many) really counts. Thanks to everyone's support, we raised approximately \$25,000, bringing us even closer to our goal of building a new playground for our students.

Heartfelt thanks to ALL who contributed. 'E waka eke noa' (We're all in this together)





THANKS TO ALL OUR AMAZING SPONSORS!
Your generosity has helped make our Fair an awesome school community event!



VT Electrical



....and a big THANK YOU to our school community for supporting these great businesses throughout the year and for getting behind fundraising efforts at the Fair.



Here are the results for the Christian Schools Network Athletics:

- Anne P- 1st in 100m, 1st in Long Jump, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Aimee W - 1st in Discus Throw and 1st in Javelin
- Lucy H- 3rd in Long Jump
- Beth P - 1st in 4x100m relay

- Abby D- 3rd in 100m, 2nd in Long Jump, 3rd in Discus Throw, 3rd in Javelin, 1st in Triple Jump, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Chelsea Y - 1st in 200m, 1st in 400m, 3rd in Long Jump, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Zoe A - 3rd in Javelin
- Grace G - 3rd in Triple Jump

- Westly G - 2nd in 100m, 1st in 200m, 3rd in 400m, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Yuto C - 1st in 400m and 2nd in long Jump
- Ethan G - 1st in Discus Throw
- Marcusa B - 2nd in 1500m
- Jonothan B- 1st in Long Jump and 1st in 4x100m relay

- David C- 1st in 100m, 1st in 200m, 1st in 400m, 1st in Long Jump, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Ryan M - 3rd in 100m, 3rd in 400m, 2nd in 1500m, and 1st in 4x100m relay
- Muno S - 2nd in Long Jump and 3rd in Javelin
- Aaron L - 2nd in Discus Throw
- Warren W - 3rd in Shot Put



After winning at the Christian Schools Network Athletics, we are pleased to share that several of our athletes placed in the top 10 at the Canterbury Secondary Schools Athletic Championships, held on 17 and 20 March at Ngā Puna Wai.

- Aimee W (U15) - 3rd in Javelin
- Abby D (U15) - 5th in Triple Jump and 6th in 80m Hurdles
- Anne P (U15) - 8th in Long Jump
- Yuto C (U15) - 4th in 400m
- Zoe A (U16) - 7th in Javelin
- David C (U16) - 4th in Long Jump, 5th in 400m, and 7th in 200m



Following the CSS Athletic Championships, four of our students have qualified for the South Island Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships.

- Aimee W (U15) - Javelin
- Abby D (U15) - Triple Jump
- Anne P(U15) - Long Jump
- David C (U16) -Long Jump, 400m, and 200m

We are incredibly proud of all our athletes who competed, for their commitment, effort, and sportsmanship in representing our school. We give praise to the Almighty for strength, protection, and success.

On 31 March, three Year 9 students competed in the Canterbury Secondary Schools Swimming Championships at Parakiore. All three athletes qualified for the finals - all three students were placed in the top 4 in their individual events.

A fantastic achievement in a highly competitive premier event! Thank you to our parent supervisor, Mari Suzuki, for her support.

Hannah Y - 4th 50m Freestyle and 8th 200m Individual Medley
 Ethan G - 2nd 50m Freestyle (participated in 200m Individual Medley)
 Yuto C - 3rd 50m Breaststroke (participated in 200m Individual Medley)



**ACTIVE KIDS CLUB
 Holiday Programme
 NGĀ PUNA WAI**



The Active Kids Club is a holiday programme designed for year 5 – 8 children. This holiday programme aims to provide tamariki with four days of fun filled activities to keep active over the holiday period. With a range of Canterbury sports providers delivering at this programme, children will develop new skills, make new connections, and enjoy different variations of physical activity. It is being hosted at Ngā Puna Wai, across different fields/turfs/courts.

Each day will involve 5 sessions, with transition times in-between allowing groups enough time to move to the next station, with morning tea and lunch to ensure children have sufficient breaks.

Children will be placed in groups with their peers, each with a designated group leader who will supervise, encourage, and guide the participants around the different stations.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
 Children must be in year 5 – 8 and willing and able to participate in a range of different sporting activities. Please reach out if you have year 3&4 students interested.

DATE: Tuesday 7th April – Friday 10th April.

REGOS: Registrations close 3rd April (Direct email with late registration requests)
 Use the QR code or this link to register, [Active Kids Club 2026 – registrations](#)

**Disclaimer - Note that should interest be low, the programme will be cancelled.*

VENUE: Ngā Puna Wai

TIME: 9.00am – 3.00pm

COST: \$55 for one day or \$200 for four days
 **10% discount applies to all students from PSC member schools



EQUIPMENT: Children should bring, water bottle, hat, sunscreen, packed lunch (or add catering lunch option in registration), any required medication, and to be in appropriate active clothing e.g. closed toe shoes and clothing suitable for physical activity.

Limited spaces available at



Our preschool provides

A loving, Christian environment where children can grow, learn, and thrive.

Aidanfield Christian Preschool

Operating Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 3:30pm.
 We are licensed for 2 – 5 year-olds.

Through play-based learning, Bible teaching and a school-readiness programme, we provide experienced and caring teachers to deliver faith-centred learning in a safe and supportive community.

If you or someone you know is considering a preschool, now is the perfect time to get in touch as spaces fill quickly. Contact us today to learn more or to arrange a visit.
 Phone: 03 375 4869
 2 Nash Road, Aidanfield
 aidanfieldpreschool@mcctrust.nz
 We would love to welcome your family into our preschool.

... do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. Proverbs 31-2



April Holiday Programme

Full Day 7:00-6:00 07:00 a.m.-06:00 p.m. \$74.00 (All Inclusive - No Extra Fees)
 Full Day 8:30-6:00 08:30 a.m.-06:00 p.m. \$64.00 (All Inclusive - No Extra Fees)
 Half Day 7:00-3:00 07:00 a.m.-03:00 p.m. \$64.00 (All Inclusive - No Extra Fees)
 Half Day 8:30-3:00 08:30 a.m.-03:00 p.m. \$54.00 (All Inclusive - No Extra Fees)

Spreydon School Holidays
 April 2026

50 Hoon Hay Road, Hoon Hay, Christchurch

<p>Mon 06 Apr</p> <p>CLOSED EASTER MONDAY</p> <p>CLOSED EASTER MONDAY</p>	<p>Tue 07 Apr</p> <p>MARKET DAY</p> <p>Our famous Kids Market Day is the perfect way to swap any unwanted games & toys for something new. Always a favourite @ Kidsbase Spreydon</p>	<p>Wed 08 Apr</p> <p>ECO HEROES</p> <p>Become a hero for the planet and learn how to make your own paper, flower press & badges, in a day full of creativity.</p>	<p>Thu 09 Apr</p> <p>CHRISTCHURCH CIRCUS</p> <p>Today we visit the Chch Circus Trust presenting their amazing new Circus Bazaar show. Filled with acrobats and awesome circus fun.</p>	<p>Fri 10 Apr</p> <p>ATLANTIS</p> <p>Dive into the mysteries of Atlantis, today we will be making Underwater Castle Puzzles, Telly Fish Craft, Sea Shells and lots more.</p>
<p>Mon 13 Apr</p> <p>VIKING VOYAGE</p> <p>Set sail on a thrilling Viking Adventure, craft your own longboat, braid keychains and more as you explore like a fearless Viking.</p>	<p>Tue 14 Apr</p> <p>TRIP: New Mario Movie</p> <p>A Brand New Movie Adventure. Mario, Luigi, and Yoshi join Princess Peach and Toad on a Journey across the galaxy. Private Screening @ Heys.</p>	<p>Wed 15 Apr</p> <p>PUZZLE MASTERS</p> <p>Challenge your mind and explore new games by making your own Jigsaw Puzzle, Connect 4 & Tanogram.</p>	<p>Thu 16 Apr</p> <p>GKR KARATE</p> <p>Today we have the GKR Karate Team presenting their fun kids beginner karate show, an awesome new activity day at Kidsbase Spreydon.</p>	<p>Fri 17 Apr</p> <p>STORY STAGE PUPPETS</p> <p>Step into the world of theatre and puppets today as we make your own puppets, stages and lots more to be able to have your very own show.</p>

** WINZ SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE ** All Programmes are MSD approved. Children from ALL schools welcome.
 For more information, call 027 251 6713 Or 027 239 7690 or email info@kidsbase.co.nz

Book now at Kidsbase.aimyplus.com

Powered By **aimy**



FUTURE FERNS YEAR 1 & 2



Why they'll love Netball

- Bring your friends together and play as a team
- Learn the game through fun, structured competition
- 4-a-side games designed for development and enjoyment

Tuesdays 4:00PM | From May 5
 Netball Sports Centre, 21 Augustine Drive, Wigram

Please email netball@cnc.org.nz to learn more

Discover House of Bricks Events in Christchurch New Zealand
 We are hosting two fun community sessions at St Mary's Church hall. Here is the link to book tickets.

Discover House Of Bricks Events in Christchurch, New Zealand

The sessions are on Tuesday the 9th of April session one 9am-10:30am and session two 11am-12:30. The sessions are \$5/child/ Session and adults free- must stay with their child to supervise (they are welcome to join in too!)