



# Elim Christian College

## **BOTANY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER 19th September 2019**



## Updates from Murray Burton - Principal



Kia Ora one and all

Wow – Term 3 is nearly through and where have the past ten weeks gone? I would like to thank the Elim Christian College parent community for your wonderful support during Term 3. We have journeyed through the winter months together. We have navigated many learning activities, learning challenges, conversations, plans, reviews and of course many successes. Our three campuses have all worked as one and it has never failed to amaze me as to the depth and breadth of incredible learning moments from Botany to Golflands to Mt Albert, from Y1 to Y13. At this time of the year I'm always reminded how fast time goes as our Y13s embark soon on their last ever term of schooling! Some of these students have been with us since Y1!

I would like to thank parents for your responses to our online surveys. The one regarding measles featured over 1060 replies! This year we have struggled for various reasons to set up again our 'cottage meetings'. We have held cottage meetings for 4-5 years now. A cottage meeting is where the BOT Chairperson and myself ask parents to open their home for an evening, invite 5-6 other couples from school then we all sit down and chat about school. It is an opportunity for face to face relaxed sharing and parents can ask us absolutely anything, suggest anything and so on. It runs for about 1.5 hours and this is very flexible. So, no matter where you live, if you can host us next term, or in any future term, please let Raewyn Openshaw know at [raewyn.openshaw@elim.school.nz](mailto:raewyn.openshaw@elim.school.nz)

This coming week we welcome with much enthusiasm Mrs Emma Bergh to our staff. Emma is a languages specialist but with abilities to teach across the curriculum. Also, this week with much regret we farewell Mr Mark Castledine. Mark has been our GC Sport Coordinator for a few years and he will be sorely missed. Well done Mr Castledine you have been amazing and you will love living in Rarotonga. Yes folks you heard it right – Rarotonga.

Following Miss Brooking's departure for Australia, we are blessed to have Mrs Jeanette Starrenburg and Mrs Mona Mohun teaching in Room 8 at MAC. Thank you ladies, for being part of our team.

I would like to finish by congratulating all those students who represented our school during Term 3. Some of you won, some achieved good places, all participated so well – and you all represented us with respect, dignity and great enthusiasm. Right across the curriculum we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for!

# SCHOOL WIDE NOTICES

## **Withdrawal from Elim Christian College**

Please be reminded that one term's notice in writing is required to withdraw your child from Elim Christian College. A Student Leaving Form (available from the school office) must be completed and submitted to the Enrolments Team at [enrolments@elim.school.nz](mailto:enrolments@elim.school.nz)

# SCHOOL WIDE NOTICES

## **Summer Uniform Term Four**

Please check the student handbook or the website for the correct uniform items. No long sleeve polo shirts or track pants are permitted.

# Student Celebration

## Caleb Wagener Year 7 at the Golflands Campus

South Eastern Zone Cross Country Championships: Winner Year 7 Boys  
Auckland Cross Country Championships: Winner Year 7 Boys  
AIMS Games Cross Country: 2nd Year 7 Boys

### How did you become second in the country for running?

I've always been a natural runner, I got it from my Dad, but I couldn't have got there without training. Dad helped me train, he knows me really well and he helped me by not putting too much stress on me. I would run bush tracks, those are my favourite cause you don't feel tired when there is something nice to look at. I also ran hills, they are hard, and track work.

### What do you like about running?

I like the competition. I also feel like when you can feel the wind brushing past you, it's refreshing and you feel fast.

### What are your goals for the future?

I want to win the AIMS games next year, that would be awesome. For the future I want to become a professional cricket player.

### Do you have a strategy for how to win races?

You have to go out there and sprint of the line, slow into a rhythm and maintain that, analyse how good your competition is and make your moves from there. There are some races I can run hard and smash it, there are others I need to be more strategic.

### What did you learn from the AIMS games race?

I have learnt a lot from that, I try and look at each race as more of a learning process, that if you don't win that your life is not over. The more you race, the more you get surprised of what you can do. I try not to let outside things affect me, don't let your pain distract you. Dad says if your not feeling pain you can go harder.

### What is most important when your running?

Mindset. If you think that your going to lose, its more likely you will. If you go in confidence, but not over confidence, your more likely to do well. Then you can go off the line hard and hold it. If you want to do well at something go after it.

### What advice do you have for others wanting to succeed highly in sport?

1. Have fun and give it a go.
2. If you want to do something well, get proper coaching
3. Try loads of things at a young age, keep your options open. I run, play football, cricket, do triathlons and swim.

### What do you want people to know about the hard work you put in?

You can't be half, half. You have to be all in. Sometimes I didn't want to do it, I wanted to play on my ipad at home but get someone who is going to encourage you like my Dad.



# Student Celebration



## Y11-13 Kapa Haka Group

At this year's BC cultural evening which also featured Maori and Pacifica groups from other campuses, the Y11-13 Kapa Haka group featured their new uniforms. You will see them in this newsletter. We now own a set of piu piu which is a first for our senior school. The Korowai that Sarah and Matthew are wearing was made by Sarah's grandmother Mereteowai Pou.

This year has seen us step up a level in our cultural responsiveness. Yes we still have much to do but it is exciting seeing the work that Whaia Margaret is doing with both MAC and GC Kapa Haka groups from her base at our Mt Albert Campus and the GC Pacifica group is just amazing. Increasingly all campuses are more and more culturally reflective in communication and classroom practice.

As part of our leadership in our Kahui Ako, as Principal I have also recently begun some consultative work with the Matariki Marae in Howick and Whaea Taini Drummond. This will lead to a hui with you our parents.

- Principal Murray Burton

Featured Maori Group Leaders: Matthew Harrington, Sarah Sharp and Eleazor Temara



# Student Celebration



## New Zealand Secondary Schools Swimming Competition

Students are: Matthew Loh, Matthew Palmer and Serisha Palmer.

They competed in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Swimming Competition, held in Hamilton over 12th – 15th September. There were over 720 swimmers from around the country so competition was really tough but all three Elim swimmers swam really well.

Serisha got personal bests in all 5 of her events and qualified for NZ Div 2 Age groups for next year. Matt did 5 PBs out of 11 races gaining qualifying times for NZ short course in the 50m free and 200m fly. Both Matt Loh and Matt have qualified in five events each for NZ Short course champs first week of October in Auckland.

# Student Celebration



## Gymnastics

Annebell competed at both the Xtreme Invitational as well as the NZ Secondary Schools Championships, where she won both competitions. Annebell is the New Zealand Secondary Schools Level 10 Champion.

# Student Celebration



## AIMS Games

AIMS Games is a week long national tournament held in Tauranga every year for intermediate age. This year we had 1x futsal team, 1x cross country runner, 1x Aerobic gymnast and 1x rhythmic gymnast.

These students have been training hard over the last couple of terms in the lead up to the event. They all had some amazing achievements and we are very proud of all our competitors.

Caleb Wagner placed 2nd in the cross county

Joline Chin placed 4th in Aerobics

Anita Cheng placed 6th overall in Rhythmic gymnastics  
And our futsal team had some very exciting games over the week and placed 11th overall out of 46 teams.

Huge thanks to all the coaches, parents and supporters who came down over the week!

# Student Celebration



## UNISS – Upper North Island Secondary Schools Netball Tournament

This year we had a Netball team represent Elim at UNISS Netball Tournament. This is the first year competing at UNISS and as a result we come in to the competition at D grade level. The team set a goal to make top 5 which they achieved meaning they now lift into C grade for 2020. The girls had a great week over at North Harbour Netball Courts. It was so great to see the girls lifting each game and working together as a great unit! We are very proud of their result placing 3rd in D grade! Huge thanks to the coaches and all those who came over to support the team for the week and also over the season in the lead up to tournament.

# CAMPUS SPECIFIC NOTICES



## The Visit of the Taiwanese Indigenous Students to Elim

10th, Tuesday, saw a burst of bright colors across two of the Elim campuses, accompanied by melodious tunes of a different sphere. This was the Taiwanese indigenous group of 32 students that came to visit Elim, who arrived at the Botany campus in the morning, dressed in their colourful traditional costumes. They attracted a large group of our Senior students to the special morning tea prepared in the visitors' honour by Mr Thomas and Miss Xue. Together they celebrated the different cultures by taking turns to entertain one another with songs and games. Bonding developed spontaneously among the young people. The Taiwanese indigenous students presented our students with special gifts they had prepared and taught origami which was greatly enjoyed by all.

The visitors came to Golfland campus in the afternoon in Period 6, the last period of the day. For the constraints of space, only a limited number of Yr9 and Yr10 students who are currently learning Chinese were selected to join our visitors. Our students ventured to communicate with the visitors in their limited Chinese they had learned only recently, to the great amusement of everyone, providing many chances for laughter and mirth. They again did games and origami together and our visitors also shared their gifts with our students. It was only too soon that they had to part as the day came to an end. Our visitors lined up at the gate of Golfland campus, dancing and singing their indigenous tunes to farewell our students. Their beautiful colors and melodies were captured by many students and parents as well as our teachers.

Mr Zhao Xiang

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday 27th September**

LAST DAY OF TERM THREE