

Elim Christian College

NEWSLETTER

16 January 2018

From the Principal

Greetings to our Mt Albert Campus Parents / Caregivers and Students

I extend to you a warm welcome to join with us in the development of a superb partnership with a strong focus to provide a Christ centred education for your children.

We give thanks for the powerful witness of Hebron Christian College over many years. We acknowledge the faithful service of staff, successive Principals, Boards and the support of parents.

It was a real privilege to attend the 40th Hebron Celebration in December. So much to celebrate and so much to give God thanks for. It was wonderful to see all staff and the principal Mr Geoff Matthews honoured for faithful, effective, passionate service over many years. Thank you too to the BEST Trust for their governance and supreme commitment.

We fully acknowledge the enormity of this past year for the Hebron Christian College Community. Change is challenging and has to be navigated with care and wisdom. As we have progressed through the many challenges of the change process, God's hand has been clearly evident and for this we are humbled and grateful. Thank you for your openness to what God is leading you through. We are incredibly excited at the prospect of not simply continuing Christian Education in Central Auckland, but growing it, deepening it and ensuring its provision for the generation to come.

Currently at Elim Christian College we issue regular newsletters and post it on our website – www.elim.school.nz Today's newsletter comes specifically to our Mt Albert Campus but newsletters in 2018 will encompass all 3 of our campuses.

A brief summary of the last few months of 2017

We have come through many meetings, communications and decisions. Elim Proprietors and the BEST Trust have worked superbly well to pioneer this development. With the previous government approving a roll increase for Elim Christian College, we have now been able to enrol almost 200 students (the roll cap is 200 for 2018) and work our way through the process of forming a staffing team. Whilst the parent community will have the benefit of significantly reduced attendance dues, the Ministry of Education's fiscal model for school operation is quite challenging and has meant restructuring of staffing and resourcing. We are however, confident and full of anticipation with the preparation underway for a superb start to the 2018 school year.

We are thankful for the work of Mr Ray Webb as Residual Manager in the advice and support he has provided both to BEST and to the Elim team – it has been and continues to be a massive task.

The new staffing team has now had two meetings with their Botany and Goflands counterparts and great progress is being achieved. All staff from our three campuses will spend three days together in late January prior to school commencing for students on Wednesday 7 February.



Mr Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'M. Burton', written over a white background.

Start of 2018 School Year Information

Student Handbook

In the first week of school, all families will be sent a link by email which will give you access to the student handbook for family reference. Along with our website, this handbook will provide help and guidance for a range of school matters. Should you require a hard copy please request this from the school office.

Uniforms

If you are yet to organise all uniform items, please contact John Russell Menswear– his details are on our website. Secondly, parents are advertising second-hand items via the ARISE Parents Facebook page. All students are expected to wear clean, neatly presented and approved uniform clothing at all times.

School Stationery

As a school, we recommend purchasing student stationery using OfficeMax. They offer a price promise and your purchase earns rewards for the school.

Elim Mt Albert Campus stationery lists are preloaded into the OfficeMax online ordering platform which is called MySchool. Ordering online makes buying stationery very easy as this allows for payment by credit card, pre-ordering now for payment and delivery at a nominated future date and delivery to your personal address with no delivery charge for orders over \$46.00. In addition, you can pay your special character donation and any school supplied items at the same time.

While you can also print your stationery lists from our website and earn rewards for the school by shopping at any OfficeMax branch by letting them know you are attending Elim Mt Albert Campus, we thoroughly recommend you use the MySchool online ordering system to ensure you also cover off the school supplied items and other information you might otherwise miss.

For information about school stationery (including class stationery lists), please visit our Mt Albert Campus page on our school website www.elim.school.nz . Our website will show the 2018 stationery lists for each year/subject and link you to the correct MySchool lists.

State-Integrated Schooling

Over the first few newsletters next year we will provide information on the distinctives of being a state-integrated school. We will also ensure such information is featured on our website.

Governance

In all state-integrated schools, there are two distinct governance entities:

- 1) **Proprietors** who safeguard the special character and take care of property development.
- 2) **Board of Trustees** who focus on student achievement and educational outcomes. The BOT as we refer to them, are made up of 5 parent elected trustees, 4 proprietor appointees, 1 student trustee and the Principal.

Payments

- Parents pay 'attendance dues' (not fees) to the proprietors for the cost of property. Attendance dues do not come to the school, rather to the Elim Christian Proprietors Trust. For all queries regarding Attendance dues, email: john@roberts.co.nz
- The special character term by term donation comes to the Board of Trustees (school) who use this to provide spiritual resources not provided by the government.
- The cost of uniform does not feature any profit for us; we direct you to John Russell who provides an excellent service.

- There are a number of costs associated with trips, learning activities, technology, digital resourcing, sport, music and so on. We will endeavour to communicate well regarding these costs.
- School and/or class camps are costly and need to be planned for. Advance details regarding these taking place in Term 1, will be out very soon.
- Mt Albert Campus will not have an onsite bursar and parents / caregivers are encouraged to use the online portal for viewing and paying for activities and donations. Eftpos will be available from the school office. A payment deposit box for cash payments and permission slips is also available. For all queries regarding donations, activities or payment portal access, email: accounts@elim.school.nz

The School Day

The official start and finish times for the school day will vary slightly from last year. The timetable for Y9-13 will be exactly the same as our Botany Y9-13 campus so we can coordinate skyped lessons and staff meetings. Y1-8 will have some freedom within the start and finish times:

Y1-8

8.15am	Teacher supervision provided for students on site from this time
8:50am	Classes commence
10:55am-11.15pm	Morning-tea break
12.50pm-1.40pm	Lunchtime
3.00pm	School finishes
3.30pm	All students off site

Y9-13

8.15am	Teacher supervision provided for students on site from this time
8:40am	Classes commence (Tutor Classes and Assemblies – to be confirmed)
10:55am-11.15pm	Morning-tea break
12.50pm-1.40pm	Lunchtime
3.10pm	School finishes
3.30pm	All students off site

After School Programme 'ARISE PM'

Due to the short time frame for planning the setup of the new campus we are unable to commit to an after-school programme at the beginning of the school year. We will work hard to ensure this happens in time for Term 2 and send out expressions of interest during Term 1. ARISE PM once it is up and running, will also feature Mandarin classes. Parents / Caregivers who may be affected by this are welcome to advertise for homebased afterschool care via the school newsletter to assist for term 1.

Mt Albert Campus Staffing and Classrooms for 2018

A full list of staff and appropriate room allocations will be available on the first day of classes, Wednesday 7 February.

School Assemblies

These are important gatherings to worship, celebrate learning and convey key messages.

Parents are most welcome to attend. It is intended that early in the week we will have a strong worship focus and sharing of key matters for the coming week and later in the week will feature the celebration of what has been happening around the campus.

2018 START OF YEAR DATES

GC – Gollands Campus BC – Botany Campus MAC – Mt Albert Campus

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JAN				25 th MAC Only Y11, 12 & 13 Options Confirmation in MAC School Hall 1.30pm – 3.30pm	26 th GC, BC, MAC Office Open 9am – 2pm
JAN	29 th AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY DAY	30 th MAC Office Open 9am-3pm	31 st MAC Office Open 2pm-3pm	1 st February MAC Office Open 9am-3pm	2 nd MAC Office Open 9am-3pm
FEB	5 th MAC Office Open 9am – 2pm	6 th WAITANGI DAY	7 th MAC SCHOOL STARTS Y1-13 Full Day	8 th Normal school day all levels	9 th Normal school day all levels

Other key dates:

Mt Albert Campus

Wednesday 7 February: Official opening Mt Albert Campus (details to follow)
 Thursday 8 February: A 'meet the staff and BOT sausage sizzle' 6.30pm (details to follow)
 Tuesday 27 Feb – Friday March 2: Y5-8 Camp and Y9-13 Camp
 Thursday 1st March: NCEA Information Evening and Academic Planning 7pm at Botany Campus
 (particularly relevant for Years 10, 11, 12 & 13)

Host Families Wanted

Our International students are requiring wonderful Christian homes. Have you ever considered hosting an International Student for Elim Christian College Mount Albert Campus? Students pay their host family a weekly fee.

We are looking for families to become Homestay providers to our International Students. There are opportunities for short term students and long-term students. Families need to be available and willing to spend time with their students. English needs to be the first language spoken at home.

If you would like more information and are interested in becoming a homestay family for students at Elim Christian College Mount Albert Campus please contact Aileen King our Homestay Coordinator at email homestay@elim.school.nz

Focused Expert Tuition Programme Available in 2018

A notice advertising this programme will shortly come out and be posted on our website. We are really excited this parent-funded service will be available exclusively at our Mt Albert Campus daily by Gay Jones and her newly formed company.

Position Vacancy

ESOL Tutor: we have a paid position available for 12 hours per week here at our Mt Albert Campus. This involves providing support for students for whom English is their second language. Please email raewyn.openshaw@elim.school.nz for an application form.