YEARS 9-13

2026 WINTER SPORTS NEWSLETTER

DATES

Monday 12th October

TERM 4 BEGINS

Thursday 15th October

Y9/10 VOLLEYBALL SEASON COMPETITION STARTS

Monday 19th October

Y9/10 FUTSAL SEASON COMPETITION STARTS

Tuesday 20th October

GCMY ATHLETICS DAY

Thursday 29 October

Y9-13 SPORTS AWARDS AND CELEBRATION

Tuesday 3rd November

JUNIOR KI O RAHI CHAMPIONSHIPS

17th & 18th November

JNR 3X3 NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Welcome to our Winter Sports Edition newsletter!

As Term 3 draws to a close, we celebrate the end of an incredible winter sports season. Huge congratulations to all our basketball, netball, hockey, badminton, table tennis, and football teams on their fantastic campaigns, as well as our individual athletes competing in a range of sports codes across the season! Across every code, our students showed outstanding effort, spirit, and pride.

None of this would be possible without our amazing community. A heartfelt thank you to our coaches, managers, and supporters who dedicated their time and energy to training, games, and logistics.

The Sports Council has loved bringing energy to campus this term through organising Teacher vs. Student games, inter-whānau & inter-year level competitions, "have a go days" and recognising students weekly for our Kotahitanga of the week with Borthwick's Box of Brilliance! We can't wait to keep the momentum rolling into Term 4 and continue creating opportunity for students to get involved with sport as we build up to our end-of-year Sports Celebration Evening!

Now, here is a recap and highlights from our winter sports this year. Enjoy reading!

The Student Sports Council
Elim Christian College

Noelle Mak, Alex Cave, Martha Critchon, Tessa O'Leary, Taylin Coetzee, Lianna Delubio, Charlotte Greening, Jun Lai, Mercedez van Rheede, Luca Holmes

ELIM HOCKEY

What a fantastic 2026 season for our Elim Hockey Teams! Both teams represented our school with outstanding skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

A massive thank you to our coaches, managers, and parents—your time, energy, and unwavering support made this success possible!

GIRLS 1st XI - WINNING SUCCESS!

Our girls hockey team had heaps of fun this season. Those who had played for the team in previous years were really able to build on the skills and team connections we made, and enjoyed seeing our hard work finally pay off in some good results.

Our new players this season became such an asset to us as they picked up new skills and covered positions all over the field. We had good vibes throughout the season and our game play improved each week. In the first round we had a mixture of wins and losses but managed to make it into the top 4 section, where we had two wins and one loss which qualified us for the 1st/2nd final against Baradene. Despite having lost 3-5 to this team the previous week, we defeated them 4-2 to come first place in the Auckland C Grade. This was definitely a highlight for all of us. - *Ella Haschick*

Massive congratulations to the team on such an outstanding season and results!





BOYS 1ST XI - PODIUM FINISH!



A huge congratulations to our Elim Boys 1st XI for securing an impressive 3rd-place finish in the Auckland C Grade (Section A)! Facing tough competition all season, the boys showed remarkable determination and growth. Their season capped off with a nail-biting 3-3 draw in the final, securing 3rd spot on point differential.

Outstanding effort, boys—we are so proud of your incredible season!

ELIM FOOTBALL

Our Boys' and Girls' football teams have wrapped up their seasons, proudly representing Elim with grit, growth, and outstanding sportsmanship.
Congratulations to all our players for their hard work and passion, and a huge thank you to our dedicated coaches and managers—we couldn't have done it without your guidance and support!

GIRLS FOOTBALL

This year we had two girls football teams representing Elim in the Counties and Manukau Competitions. They have had a fantastic season between each team, with some rocky starts but ultimately a well played season.

1st XI GIRLS
Our 1st XI Girls team played in the Counties Manukau A grade.

They faced strong opposition but continued to play with determination regardless, and ended up finishing 4th place overall. Congratulations girls!

A special thanks to Connor Greening who did a great job coaching the girls this season.





2nd XI GIRLS
Our 2nd XI team wrapped up a fantastic developmental season in the Manukau B Grade! While the scoreboard didn't always reflect their hard work, the team showed incredible commitment, growth, and sportsmanship every single week. It was a wonderful opportunity for the girls to expand their skills, gain valuable match experience, and strengthen their bond as a team.

A special thank you to Zoe Doughty for her incredible work coaching and encouraging the girls throughout the season!

BOYS FOOTBALL

This year we had 3 Boys football teams representing Elim across the season. A massive congratulations to our 1st XI, 15th Grade, and 13th Grade Boys' Football teams on fantastic seasons!

All three teams showed brilliant skill, determination, and sportsmanship every time they took the pitch and had a fantastic season representing our school proudly.

A huge thank you to our amazing coaches and managers—your time, leadership, and continuous support made this season possible and helped our boys thrive!

15th GRADE
Our 15th Grade team played in the Central East 15B Grade had a great season, exemplifying fantastic work ethic and commitment.

Facing a tough division filled with wins, losses, and a number of nail-biting draws, the team focused on constant skill development, growing stronger and more unified from week to week.

Well done boys on your efforts and representing our school so well.



13th GRADE
Our 13th Grade team showed exceptional teamwork, discipline, and outstanding sportsmanship. Remaining undefeated for well over half the competition, they fought right to the end, finishing just 3 points off the top spot in 3rd place. Their mutual support and camaraderie on and off the field was evident throughout their season.

Congratulations boys on a fantastic season!





1st XI BOYS
Our 1st XI team represented Elim proudly in the Auckland A4 Grade over the season.

They demonstrated resilience, high standards, and continuous drive throughout a competitive season. They had a strong season with some outstanding results, narrowly finishing in 3rd place.

Congratulations boys!

Recently, they also represented Elim at the Rex Dawkins Tournament at Huapai Domain. Staying together at Carey Park Christian Camp, the boys made lifelong memories while proudly representing our school. Below is a recap from the team Captain - Joseph Carter.



"Tournament week was a great experience for the team and gave us a chance to really enjoy our last week together. Despite a bout of flu going around camp, we played some good football, including coming back from behind twice against Hamilton Christian College to win, and holding off Rosmini College in a hard-fought game.



One of the biggest highlights was seeing that we could go toe-to-toe with Division 1 schools and compete at that level. Off the field, the night-time dips in the creek and courtroom drama were definitely highlights, and having that time together was an awesome oppurtunity for the team to bond and make some good memories. It was a great way to finish the season and something the whole team will look back on fondly." *- Joseph Carter*



A huge thank you to our Coach, Ethan Spurdle, Manager, Kim Hunter & teachers who supported our teams during Tournament Week! From handling early starts, transport, and game plans to keeping players fed, hydrated, and motivated, your hard work behind the scenes made the week a massive success. Also a big thank you to the support of our parents to ensure your sons could attend and compete.
We truly appreciate your energy, care, and dedication to giving our students an unforgettable experience!



ELIM BASKETBALL

What a fantastic season for Elim Basketball! With four teams taking the court this year—our Senior Boys 1st V, U17 Boys, Junior Boys, and Girls 1st V—our basketball program continues to thrive. Across all grades, our players showed awesome growth, celebrated well-deserved successes, and developed their skills every step of the way.

A heartfelt thanks to our coaches: Reuben Dunn (1st V & U17 boys), Paul Gray (Junior Boys), Devine Sagote & Mezpah Siaosi Lutu (1st V girls) and team managers: Julie Adamson (U17 boys), and Nicole Waaka (Junior boys), & teachers and parents, whose incredible support, time, and encouragement made this season possible!

BOYS U17

The U17 Boys had a great development season in the Central East U17B Grade, finishing 9th. While the overall placing didn't always reflect just how competitive their games were, the boys played with immense heart every week. Through all the hard work, they grew significantly in their skills, connected strongly as a team, and enjoyed every moment on the court.

Well done on your season this year boys! We hope to see you all back next year!









JUNIOR BOYS - YEAR 9/10

The Elim Junior Boys basketball team capped off a remarkable season by taking 1st place overall in the Central East Junior B Grade!



Showing exceptional resilience and skill, the team navigated a competitive season of hard-fought wins and valuable learning experiences. Their determination paid off in the end as they fought hard to secure the championship title.

Congratulations to the boys on an outstanding achievement!

GIRLS 1ST V

Competing in the Girls Open A Grade each week at Baradene College, our Girls 1st V faced a challenging season head-on.

Showcasing incredible resilience, the team grew in confidence each week, refining their skills, executing intentional plays, and overcoming every obstacle together. Their hard-fought effort brought them closer together, building a strong sisterhood both on and off the court. Finishing 7th overall in the playoffs, the girls can be incredibly proud of their growth and unity.

Outstanding job, team!



BOYS 1st V

The Elim Boys 1st V basketball team wrapped up a brilliant season, finishing 1st overall in the Open A Senior Grade with a flawless, undefeated record.

Demonstrating exceptional skill, dedication, and teamwork, their stellar results qualified them to represent Elim at the Greater Auckland Basketball Tournament. The boys played outstandingly well against top-tier competition, narrowly missing out on a spot in the finals. Congratulations on a phenomenal season! We are incredibly proud of your achievements and the way you represent our school.









The team have also recently represented Elim in the North Island A Premierships National qualifiers during winter tournament week held down in Rotorua. Here is a recap from the Captain, Donovan Reckling about the week.

“During tournament week, we started really well, going undefeated in pool play. We had a few blowout games where we won by 50 points, with all players making the scoresheet, and looked really good throughout our pool play matches. Unfortunately, after the first crossover game, captain Donovan Reckling was injured and couldn’t play for the rest of the tournament. This was a shock to the team, and we went on to lose the next two games to finish 8th, one spot away from clinching a ticket to nationals.

The team was heartbroken not being able to go to nationals, but we learnt the importance of remaining resilient and adapting when things don’t go according to plan. We had to come together, support each other, and understand that everyone needed to step up and take on greater responsibility. Although the result wasn’t what we wanted, this tournament taught us that success isn’t just about wins, but how we respond when faced with adversity.
We all had a great time building camaraderie and enjoyed competing at a high level and seeing how we stacked up against schools around the North Island. Overall, it was an amazing experience that we will all cherish and remember.”

- Donovan Reckling

Elim had some individual stand out performers within the team, in particular captain, Donovan, whom despite not finishing out the last two games due to his injury, remained the highest average points scorer per game over tournament at 34.2ppg.

Congratulations team on your amazing efforts. We are incredibly proud of you placing 8th/24 teams across the North Island. Your attitude and coming together as a team in the face of huge disappointment is an example to all of how we might respond when the going gets tough.

A massive thank you to our coach, Reuben Dunn, manager, Vania Dunn for their incredible support during Tournament Week! From managing game plans, logistics, and meals to your incredible support on the sidelines, your dedication was invaluable.

A special thanks to our parents for the sacrifices made to ensure your sons could attend and compete. Your collective time, energy, and encouragement helped the team perform at their best and create lifelong memories!





ELIM NETBALL

Its been great to see Netball continue to thrive this year. We had 3 college level teams proudly representing Elim in the Auckland Netball competition on Saturday mornings. Throughout the season our players demonstrated incredible determination & resilience (got to love early morning trainings!), growth and sportsmanship alongside teamwork. Each team continued to develop their skills, build confidence and support one another, showing great pride in every game they played. They have embraced many hard challenges, celebrated success and learned from their setbacks.

We've had a very successful season this year. Congratulations to all our teams!

- Elim Premier: Placed 1st overall in the Senior B Reserve (Section 1).
- Elim Senior Sapphires: Placed 2nd overall in the Senior D Reserve (Section 2).
- Elim Year 9/10 Topaz: Finished top of Section 2 in the first half of the season to earn promotion, before battling hard to secure 5th overall in the Year 10 D Grade (Section 1) Championship round.

A big thank you to all our Coaches, Isabella Dunn, Vania Dunn, Kim Borthwick, and Managers, Tina Hernandez, Laura Vosloo, Candice & Scott Wilson, umpires, and parents who supported our netball teams this season! Your time, effort, and dedication behind the scenes made every game possible. Your support means the world to our Elim sports community!



Elim Premier



Elim Sapphires



Elim Topaz

Premier Team at UNISS

Our Elim Premier team also recently represented Elim proudly at the UNISS (Upper North Island Secondary Schools) Netball tournament over NZSS Winter Tournament week down in Hamilton. Thank you to our Coach, Isabella Dunn, Manager, Tina Hernandez and staff for your support over the week. Also a special thanks to all our parents for your support and sacrfies made to ensure your daughter could attend and compete over the week. We truly appreciate it!





Team captain, Jorja Hernandez had this to say...

"Our Tournament week started with some losses and struggles, but right in the middle of the week we finally got our first win. Despite being tired and playing in heavy rain, we brushed off the difficult conditions and played our hardest..." (cont'd)



"...We worked together, supported each other through the slip-ups, and constantly encouraged each other whether we were off or on the court, which made the win even more exciting. A highlight of the tournament was playing against some really strong teams and pushing ourselves to be good opposition. The great sportsmanship throughout the week also made the experience enjoyable, regardless of the results. Off the court, we grew closer as a team, had lots of fun, and created valuable memories that we will remember and reminisce on."

- Jorja Hernandez

Congratulations also to...

Asha Dunn and Jorja Hernandez, who have both been identified by Netball Northern Zone coaching and selection staff over the 2026 representative season and UNISS for invitation to the Northern Zone Auckland Development Day on 18th October. This is a huge achievement and we wish you every success for the day!

Badminton - Term 3



This term, it has been incredible to see the remarkable growth of badminton at Elim, with six teams representing our school in the Eastern Zone Competition at Lloyd Elsmore Badminton Hall. Beyond the scoreboard, the season highlighted the impressive player development across all year groups, as students built their skills, confidence, and court awareness with every match.



Our teams put in a massive effort across all divisions, showing fantastic resilience and teamwork. In the competitive Open B grade:

- Elim Black had a stellar run in the competitive Open B grade, advancing to the playoffs and securing an impressive 3rd place finish overall.
- Elim Gold fought hard through 5 matches, picking up a great win along the way
- Elim Blue gained valuable experience battling tough competition finishing for a position in 9th–11th.

In the Open C grades:

- Elim Red showed great grit in the Open C grade, claiming 4 wins across 9 matches.
- Elim Green persevered through a busy season of hard-fought matches with some very close games.
- Elim Silver finished strong in the girls' C grade with 3 solid wins.



Well done to all players for their hard work and brilliant representation of Elim! A special thank you to our dedicated staff and parents for driving teams, supporting from the sidelines, and making this season possible.

RUGBY UNION

Well done to Tawhiri Neva, who represented Elim this season in the Ormiston Senior College/Elim 2C Open Grade composite rugby team! Rising early for 9:00 AM kickoff every Saturday, Tawhiri faced tough competition head-on. Throughout the season, he sharpened his skills, built great friendships, and played with awesome spirit. Congratulations, Tawhiri, on a fantastic season and for representing Elim so well!



TABLE TENNIS TERM 3

A massive congratulations to our 3 Elim table tennis teams for their fantastic efforts across the Term 3 competition! Every player represented our school with incredible pride, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm throughout the season. Big thanks to our teachers and parents who supported our teams over the past 2 terms of competitions! We appreciate you!
Here is how our teams fared:
Elim B1 — 1st Place in B Grade: A stellar season capped off with a gold medal finish. Special shoutouts to Kayson, who won an impressive 10 out of 12 games, and Elyas, who won 11 out of 12 games to take 2nd place overall in the singles division!
Elim C1 — 4th Place in C Grade: Showed fantastic grit and teamwork to finish in the top half of an 8-team division.
Elim D1 — Demonstrated great resilience against tough competition, showing incredible individual growth, resilience, and skill development over the course of the term..



MOUNTAIN BIKING SUCCESS IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS MTB CROSS COUNTRY SERIES!

This year we had 3 students Ailidh Mckinnon, Y12, Chase Wilkinson, Y10 and Tristan Costar, Y9 represent Elim in the Mountain Biking Cross Country Series. They competed in 5 races held over the year, located across different venues in Auckland.

Ailidh had an outstanding series finishing in 1st overall in the Senior Under 20 Girls Category with a perfect 240 points. This is an outstanding achievement! Well done & congratulations.
Chase also had a strong series, finishing 3rd overall in the Junior Under 15 Boys category with 201 points. Amazing effort Chase, congratulations!
Tristan finished 14th overall in the same category with 110 points - nice work Tristan, well done!!

Congratulations on your fantastic results! All three riders showed great commitment and determination as they navigated the unique challenges and steep learning curves of the different courses. They adapted brilliantly, gained valuable experience, and represented the school with immense pride. A sincere thank you to their parents for their ongoing support and for assisting with essential event duties—your help makes these opportunities possible.











NZSS NORTHERN TOUR CYCLING

Over the 4th - 6th September Chase Wilkinson, Y10 and Brooke Fawkner, Y9 represented Elim by competing in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Northern Tour Cycling event.
The Northern Tour is a school road cycling event where riders compete in a few different races over a couple of days. There is a road race, hill climb, time trial and criterium.

For Brooke Fawkner it was her very first tour and this set her a baseline for the next tours. She competed in the U15 Girls Grade and completed a hill climb up Mount Wellington, a Road race in Waiuku, an individual time trial, and a Criterium race in pukekohe.
The Mount Wellington hillclimb was a very windy day and it was pouring down as well as massive gusts of wind, but she got to the top at a reasonable pace. The Road race in Waiuku was a 27km ride on open road. It was very challenging with all the hills and the last sprint, but a highlight was finishing the race at a time of 1 hr. The individual time trial was racing around a track for 2 laps by yourself. There was a really long straight headwind that slowed everyone down. The Criterium race involved riding around the same track for half an hour plus one lap in a peloton. It was a fast and hard race and she took a break away without realising it. Overall was a great start for her first cycle tour, and she's excited to continue improving and challenging herself in future events.

Chase Wilkinson competed in the U15 Boys and really enjoyed taking part in the NZSS Northern Tour. His favourite event being the hill climb up Mount Wellington. Chase says "I enjoyed it because I like testing and challenging myself against the clock. Overall I found the event really fun and it was good training for upcoming schools track nationals".
The weather made the race more challenging, as it started raining heavily just before the event. Despite this, Chase persevered and finished in an impressive 9th place overall. Congratulations Chase on your fantastic results.

Chase will be competing in the upcoming National School Track Championships. We wish you all the best for your events and look forward to hearing all about it!









ARCHERY ACCOMPLISHMENTS - WILL HITS THE MARK!

We are thrilled to celebrate an outstanding sporting achievement in Archery. William Frazerhurst, Y9 represented Elim Christian College at the Winter AIM Archery Tournament, competing up a level in the Under 16 division against a tough field of 79 archers. Despite taking on older competition, he delivered a fantastic performance to place 12th overall.

This success builds on an already incredible run for Will, who was also recently recognized for breaking two national records. He now officially holds the New Zealand Record for the highest score in U14 Boys Field Archery, as well as the New Zealand Tournament Record for the highest score in U14 Boys!

Congratulations, Will, on these remarkable national achievements and for representing Elim with such excellence!





BADMINTON BRILLIANCE: WHANGANUI REGIONAL JUNIOR OPEN SUCCESS!

A massive congratulations to Carol Huang, Year 9 for her outstanding performance at the Whanganui U15 and U17 Open Championships on September 19th and 20th! Competing against top talent in this national tournament, she delivered a spectacular showcase of skill and stamina across multiple divisions.
Highlights of her impressive results include:

- U15 Girls Singles — 2nd Place: Delivered a thrilling semi-final performance to knock out the tournament's number-two seed in straight sets, before battling through a tough three-set final.
- U17 Girls Doubles — 2nd Place: Stepped up an age category to secure a remarkable runner-up finish.
- U15 Girls Doubles — 3rd Place: Earned a brilliant podium finish.
- U15 & U17 Mixed Doubles — Quarter-Finalist: Fought hard to reach the top eight in both age groups.

We are incredibly proud of your dedication, competitive spirit, and fantastic achievements. Well done Carol!

MIA HENNING TAKE THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE IN RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Mia Henning had an incredible opportunity representing New Zealand for Rhythmic Gymnastics. In Mia's own words she tells us about the event and her experience.

On the 10th of August Mia, Y13 travelled to Tokyo, Japan, to compete in the 2nd Tamara Cup. This is an international rhythmic gymnastics competition hosted by Tamara Yerofeyeva, who is a former Ukrainian rhythmic gymnastics world champion and Olympic finalist.

"In the week leading up to the competition, we trained at the competition venue, Tokyo Women's College of Physical Education. This gave us an opportunity to become familiar with the environment. I competed on the 15th and the 16th of August in the Senior 2008+ category, and placed 2nd overall with 1st in the ball apparatus.

This competition was an amazing experience as it gave me the opportunity to compete internationally and experience the welcoming culture of Japan. I also enjoyed meeting gymnasts from many different countries."

- Mia Henning

Amazing work Mia - what an incredible achievement!! Congratulatons!



OLIVER CROFT HOCKEY REPRESENTATIVE

Congratulations to Oliver Croft, Y13 on his recent amazing hockey achievements!

Oliver was selected for the Auckland U18 Blue team which then competed in the Vantage National U18 Tournament held in Tauranga, where he helped his team secure the national title, placing 1st.

A fantastic achievement and big congratulations to him. Well done Oliver!





Beyond the Gates: Individual Sporting Success...

Alongside our school-based teams, we love celebrating students who excel in their sporting pursuits outside of Elim. From club competitions to regional and national stages, many of our athletes have shown incredible dedication, discipline, and talent in their chosen codes. We are immensely proud to see our students shining, setting new benchmarks, and representing both their clubs and the wider community with excellence.

If your child has achieved any notable sporting accomplishments outside of school, we would love to hear about them! Please reach out to the sports department so we can celebrate their success with the school community.

Looking ahead, we can't wait for another action-packed term as we head into Term 4!
Our sports department is already busy preparing for the summer sports season, with registrations, trials, and trainings well underway for a number of Year 9-10 sports.

Thank you all for a fantastic winter season. We hope everyone has a restful, safe, and enjoyable holiday break, and we look forward to seeing our athletes refreshed and back out on the fields, courts, and tracks very soon!

ELIM SPORTS

Instagram



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