



# A FUTURE & A HOPE

## GOLFLANDS CAMPUS MIDDLE YEARS

Kia ora Parents, Whānau and caregivers,

Term 3 has flown by at incredible speed, I can't believe that it is already the end of term.

This term has been jam packed with wonderful events and opportunities. Most of our winter sports have now concluded and practises are starting for summer sports which are just around the corner!

Exciting times are ahead for Term 4. We kick it off with the grand opening of our new Y5-10 playground on the first Monday back (rain save date for the Tuesday). We welcome anyone who wishes to come and join us on the field at the back of the school to start the day with the special event.

A reminder that during our summer terms we require students to wear a school cap during lunchtimes if they are out in the sun. This is especially important as the days get longer and the sun's heat gets more intense, and the risk of sunburn increases. I have included more information about this, and a link to John Russell Schoolwear on page 6 below.

As we enter into the holiday break I pray that you and your family are able to spend some great quality time together. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October for the start of a wonderful Term 4.

The Middle Years teacher have been reading through Ephesians on a Wednesday morning and I leave you with this encouragement for the holidays from Ephesians 3;

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Ngā mihi nui  
Mr Michael McKenzie  
Deputy Principal

### TERM 4 UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **First day of Term 4**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October

#### **New Playground opening**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October - 8:40am  
(Save date Tuesday)

#### **Device use - Parents Evening**

Thursday 9 October at 7pm  
Elim Botany Church Auditorium



### IMPORTANT END OF YEAR DATES

#### **Year 10 Camp**

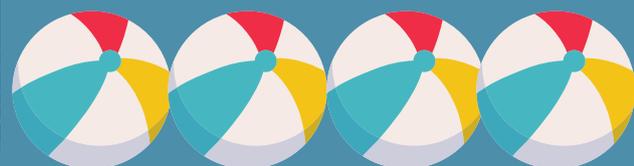
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

#### **Middle Years Prizegiving**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

#### **Last Day of Term 4**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December



## LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES with Jo Robertson

Parents will leave with an understanding of the online and offline world that kids navigate today, identifying potential risks and strategies for addressing them.

- ✓ The online landscape: why and how young people are using tech
- ✓ Screen time, gaming, and social media use
- ✓ Understanding online risks: pornography, exploitation, and grooming.
- ✓ Practical strategies: filtering, games and privacy
- ✓ Counter messages, consent & and conversation starters.



For Parents, Caregivers & Grandparents of children aged 4-18-years-old.

Jo Robertson, an experienced therapist and researcher, brings over 17 years of experience working with children, youth, and parents.

**When: Thursday, 9 October 2025**

**Where: Botany Campus  
Church Auditorium**

**Time: 7pm**



# WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE MIDDLE YEARS

## Māori language Week assembly

This week is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, Māori language week, and on Wednesday we celebrated by having a full Golflands Campus Kapa Haka Celebration assembly. Both the Junior Years and Middle Years Kapa Haka groups performed for all their peers and it was spectacular! This was also a great practise for their performance at the SECKA Kahui Ako Kapa Haka Festival on Thursday. Ka pai everyone! And a huge thank you to Mātua Troy, Mr Froud and Mrs Seymour for all your help with preparing these teams.



# WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE MIDDLE YEARS

## Student Spotlight

Josh Arnold in year 9 received an award at the NIWA science and technology fair for his innovative harakeke (flax) animal enrichment. It was sustainable and promotes Maori Tikanga (weaving practices) as well as animal conservation by enriching the lives of animals in captivity. He provided the enrichment to Hamilton zoo, Butterfly Creek and Auckland zoo where it was enjoyed by a variety of animals, such as the meerkat, cotton top tamarin and siamang.

### Prototype harakeke animal enrichment in action

I went to **Hamilton Zoo** to test the effectiveness of my flax enrichment prototypes. The zoo keepers put my harakeke enrichments into the 'rainforest' enclosures for the cotton top tamarins and the siamangs - and I was able to observe them in action. The video of this can be viewed using the QR code.

The Hamilton zoo staff confirmed for me that the positive aspects of my Harakeke paoro concept designs are that they are 100% natural so they are safe for an animal to ingest. Additionally they are eco-friendly for when animals tear them apart and they need to be disposed of. They also blend in with the animals enclosure as shown in the photos below and the QR code video I have supplied which shows the siamangs and cotton-top tamarins using my enrichments. The cotton top tamarins enjoyed swinging from the basket type enrichment, while the siamang opened the flax poro as if it was opening up a packet of fish and chips!



Photo credit: Hamilton zoo staff for the chimpanzee, ring tailed lemur and ruffed lemur. Video of the prototype in action with the siamang and cotton top tamarins can be seen by scanning the QR code.

### Prototype construction

For my first **concept** designs I found it extremely difficult to make the ball shape. I used the videos I found in my research to help me. Over time I developed my harakeke weaving skills >



< I decided to **develop** my idea by making some different sizes of ball. The smaller ones were made using thinner flax leaves where I had removed some of the sides. The larger ones were made using thick, wide leaves.



Later on I decided to further **refine** and expand on my ideas by attaching them together in a 'chain' by weaving the poro together using their stems. I also experimented with leaving a stem or string sticking out for logistical purposes, to allow it to be tied somewhere if it was for a tree dwelling animal, or one that could climb or fly. Additionally, I trialled making flax baskets (kete) and containers. I also thought about weaving flax flowers onto the ball to further interest and entice the animal. These adaptations allowed for the flax to be more adaptable and versatile for different animals.



# WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE MIDDLE YEARS

## Year 7 Food Tech

Check out the food tech creations that some of our Year 7's have created for the end of the term. Their learning intention for the task was to 'adapt a recipe to their stakeholder, use fan baking with the oven and rubbing in butter to flour'. Hopefully this inspires some holiday baking for these students!



# Y10 CAMP - PARENT HELPERS

Excitement is beginning to build for our Year 10 camp in Week 9 of Term 4.

To run an effective and cost efficient camp, we rely on the help of parents. If you are willing and able to join the Year 10 camp on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December, we would be hugely grateful.

If you are able to, please let myself or Miss Gibson know. One requirement is that you need to have police vetting done with the school (current police vetting at other organisations does not count). The reception team will be able to help you with the process, feel free to pop in to see them with your drivers licence and passport and they can assist you in getting it sorted.

And for you Year 9's - don't worry there will still be a Year 10 camp for you next year at the Botany Campus!

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

A gentle reminder to our families;

Please help us keep our school grounds safe for everyone. We kindly ask that you do not use the staff carpark for dropping off or picking up students, as this area is reserved for our staff.

Also, please remember to keep the bus lane clear at all times. This is essential for ensuring our school buses can safely and efficiently pick up and drop off students. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us ensure a safe environment for all our children.

## SUMMER UNIFORM - HATS

As Term 4 approaches a reminder that all students need to be wearing the regulation school hat if they are playing out in the sun at lunchtime.

The regulation school hat can be purchased from John Russell Schoolwear in Howick for \$16.

<https://shop.johnrussellschoolwear.co.nz/shop/product/elim-middle-cap/>

Students will be required to wear this hat on the field or courts during lunchtime in Term 4 (and Term 1 2026).

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

*Reminder!*

- Please read through the Student Handbook which contains lots of useful information for both parents and students about uniform, absence protocols, traffic, etc.

<https://sites.google.com/elim.school.nz/student-handbook>

# Message from Counselling Sept 2025

This seems to be a time of the year where assessments and grades are at the forefront of teachers' and parents' minds. Let's have a look at a healthy approach to the pressure that comes with the pursuit of academic achievement and growth.

## Process vs Outcome goals

We do not have control over outcomes. We do have control over our habits. Goal setting that is outcome oriented can leave us deflated, disappointed and disempowered. Goal setting that is habit focused is encouraging and empowering. It celebrates the journey rather than the destination. It directs us to what we have control over rather than what we do not have control over.

Examples of Outcome goals are: getting Merit on all my assessments, or getting "Above Expectation" on everything.

Examples of Habit goals are:

- Keeping a homework diary
- Persevering (giving it an extra 10 minutes) when I face a tough problem and feel like giving up
- Pray when anxious about my work
- Completing my homework before going on social media each day
- Weekly review and summary of new concepts learnt (mind map/paragraph)
- Checking I understand everything I learn each week
- Ask more questions when I don't understand (ask friends/teacher for help)
- Use the pomodoro technique for studying
- Draw up a Glossary of terms as I learn- building vocab in a subject
- Identifying things that distract me when I am trying to concentrate or work and making a plan to minimise the distraction.
- Asking for feedback on submitted work from teachers
- Talk to my parents/caregiver about my habits and let them know how they can support me.

Can I encourage you to look over this list with your child, add to it, get them to choose a couple of habit goals to work on and let's collectively resist the urge to focus on the grades alone, on the outcome goals that are outside of their control. When I used to be a teacher in the classroom and hand out reports to students at the end of term, I would say something like this to them "School only measures what school can measure- this report is a helpful reflection on part of your life, not all of your life. Bear that in mind whether you have done well or not. Celebrate success with humility and perspective, and take the failures as feedback - don't allow it to define you".



# IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS



 **No Adults Permitted**   
**in Students' Toilets - Strictly  
for Student Use Only**

 **成人禁止进入**   
**学生厕所 — 仅限学生使用**

**ARISE PARENTS IN PRAYER**

**ARISE**

Parents in Prayer

*Tuesdays @*

**8:40am Botany cafeteria**

**2:30pm Golflands courtyard**

*Come join our team!*

# Ordering your SCHOOL LUNCH is easy via **KINDO APP**

**MON &  
FRI**

**SUBWAY**



**TUES,  
WEDS &  
FRI**



**U-SUSHI**

**THURS**

**PITA PIT**



**NEW**



MYKINDO APP  
IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FOR BOTH ANDROID AND IPHONE