

Middle Years newsletter 10th of September 2021  
Week 7 Lockdown LEVEL 4.

**Malo e leilei. Happy Tongan Language Week!**

We have made some fun progress with introducing Tongan language terms. The theme is Enrich Aotearoa with good education, Fakakoloa 'a Aotearoa 'aki e ako lelei!

Kia Ora, welcome parents, caregivers & whānau. 🧑‍🤝‍🧑 😊

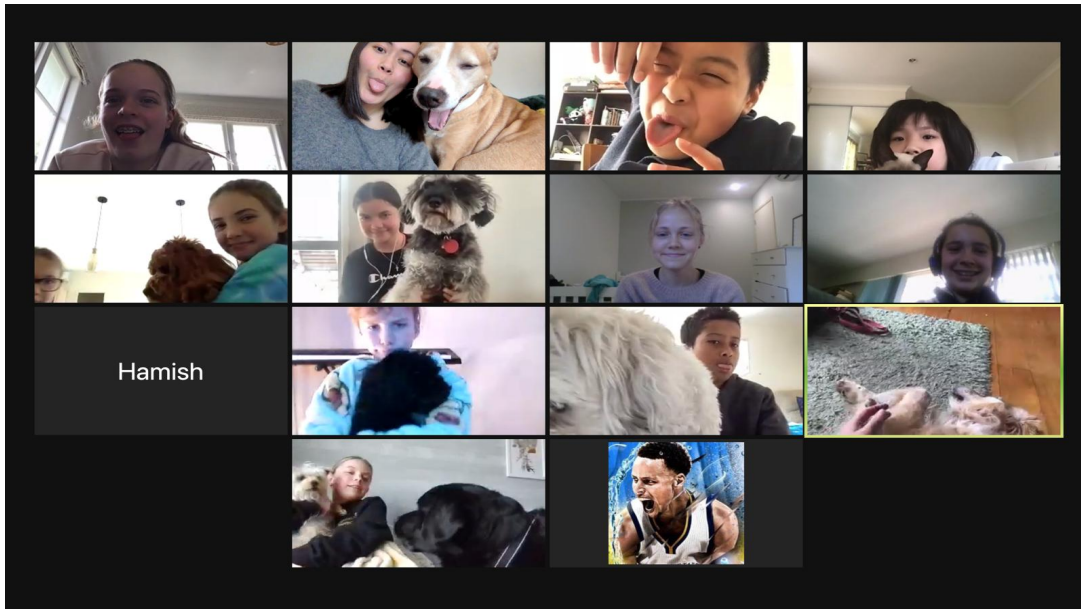
What have been some achievements and the real bumpy challenges this past fortnight? Please can I ask that you send me a photo and a caption or even just a short comment about the real lockdown learning in **your home**. I would love to share a few of these in the next newsletter. Join me- take up the challenge and share one or some of YOUR stories. Pets can be included in your learning stories. I will only share with your permission. Email me: [mandy.heim@elim.school.nz](mailto:mandy.heim@elim.school.nz)



hope

Andre Loubser and I have the delight and privilege of interviewing many new families for positions at Middle Years for 2022. These are for all year levels. I am humbled at the various journeys that some families have had just to get here. Some have been on the waiting list for more than 2 years! Some had words of knowledge from God while living in other countries and they responded in obedience to apply for their children to attend this school. I am sure you agree with me that we have all made financial sacrifices for our children to attend Christian Schooling. Many years ago before Mr Burton took up the principal position I was teaching part time and the principal at the time gave us a word of encouragement and also exhorted us to be faithful in the little things. To not despise the day of small beginnings, Zechariah 4:10. My husband and I had to make some difficult choices as both my sons attended Elim Kindergarten and then Elim for their schooling, and we paid all the fees year after year after year. On that note please can you attend to outstanding attendance fees, special character contributions, school camp or sports camp contributions. Any questions regarding payments or adjusted payments can be emailed to [finance@elim.school.nz](mailto:finance@elim.school.nz).

If you are withdrawing your child from our school we kindly ask that you inform the school as soon as you are able to.



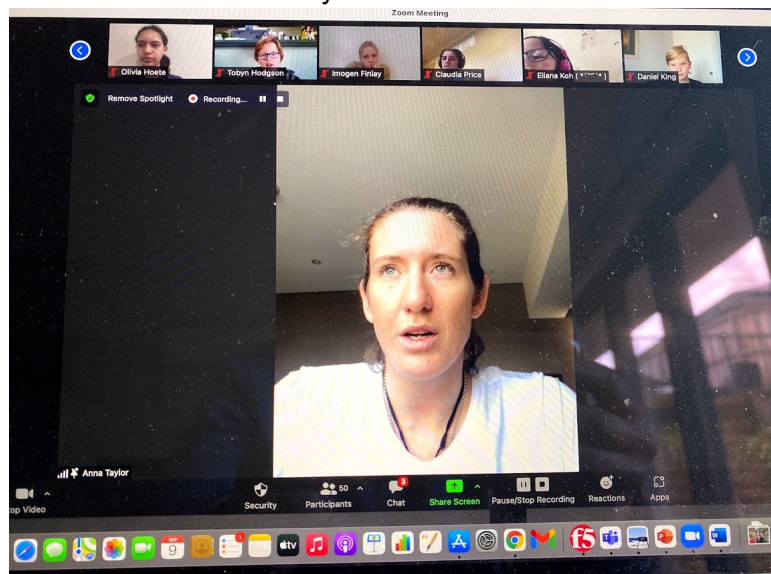
Year 7 zoomtime that became a **show your pet** and tell us something about them during an English session.

Here is a resource you can use freely. There is a 24/7 helpline available..

<https://www.anxiety.org.nz/>



The year 7's had a great zoom with Paralympian Anna Taylor. She shared heartfelt detail about the challenge and the achievement she faces daily and how she decided to push herself beyond her limitations. .



Meet Alice Hilary Booyesen who arrived safely on the 2nd September. She is Mr and Mrs Booyesen's second little girl.



#### Please note these Upcoming dates

I do trust you enjoyed our online assembly today. Please join us for our next **online assembly** on **Friday 17th September- 8.40am-9.10am**. **The link will be on the Parent Group on Schoology and on the students tutor feed**. Please note that student attendance at online assembly is compulsory- no excuses.

Cancellations and postponements of significant events continue to be updated. If you have any questions please email the subject teacher or sports coordinators. I wish I could say that we will arrange replacement activity. In some cases this is just not possible. Updates on these events will be posted by the respective subject teachers on the various course pages.

- **Spelling Bee** postponed to Sunday 19th September
- **Y8 Science Stream and marine exploration and assessment-** postponed
- **AIMS Games** - cancelled, email has been sent to the respective parents
- **Middle Years student conference** - Postponed until next year. By now parents should have received communication regarding refunds into their school accounts. Please message [finance@elim.school.nz](mailto:finance@elim.school.nz) should you have any further questions.
- **Cultural camp** cancelled
- **National monitoring program** for select Year 8 students - to be advised.
- **Dental truck- postponed** - new date to be confirmed
- **Year 10 options** information session will be held in week 9- online.

**PLEASE remember to check the updates, newsfeed in Schoology.**

Please encourage your child to contribute to the weekly sports challenge!

## ICAS - Independent Assessments run by Kip McGrath

Dear Parents,  
We are waiting for ICAS to let us know what the situation is regarding the exams and possible postponements. As soon as they let us know we will pass the message on to everyone.

Thank you for your patience with this matter.  
Kia Kaha everyone.

**Theresa Bosch** Director  
Kip McGrath Howick

## Congratulations to the winners of the first Cube competition:

The category winners are:

- A. Complex speed performer- **Carol Chai**
- B. Simple and dramatic performer- **Noelle Mak**
- C. Creative speedcuber- **Harmon Cornish**

Their prizes will be presented as soon as we are on site or at a LEVEL 2 school assembly.

## Access to your child's Gradebook in Schoology.

If you are not yet signed into Schoology for access to your child's grades please let your child's tutor teacher or [andre.loubser@elim.school.nz](mailto:andre.loubser@elim.school.nz) or myself [mandy.heim@elim.school.nz](mailto:mandy.heim@elim.school.nz) know.

The Online Gradebook allows teachers to share grades, missed deadlines, incomplete notifications and **curriculum level achievement** with you as work is marked. Small tasks or **formative grades** and larger more comprehensive assignments and assessments or **summative grades** are all important for effective learning at Middle Years. This system allows you to see your child's work and progress as it happens.

This means that we do not issue paper reports. We no longer need to share mid- year and end of year reports because you have the information available at all times. In **December** your child's gradebook can be **downloaded** as a **complete record of learning**.

**Comments in the gradebook** show attitudes to learning and relationships as well as the next step in the learning journey.

If you have a question please email me or your child's subject teacher who will respond within 2-3 school days.

Ngā Mihi Nui,  
Mandy Heim, Middle Years Lead