



5 June 2026

Good morning Parents and Caregivers,

Principal's Update 5 June 2026

Faithfulness in the long term

This term, we have been reflecting and challenging ourselves as a staff team about what faith looks like over long periods of time. Elim Christian College was founded as an act of faith to provide a Christian education for families in East Auckland, and it has always kept the Elim statement of faith as a central guiding document.

Sometimes holding fast to a central principle like this is challenging. We can be distracted by the nice-to-have things, such as new and equipment, or shiny new technologies. We can be overwhelmed by the rapid pace of change. We can lose sight of what is important with lots of competing priorities. Our task as a school is to remain faithful to the Lord and to prioritise Him in all that we do. Yes, we want the best facilities we can provide for our students and for them to reach the best academic results that they can with the support of their teachers, but our priority is supporting students in their faith. We would rather they left school with a close walk with Jesus and a faith that remains with them their whole life, than anything else. The author of Hebrews reminds us:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." – Hebrews 12:1

Prayer on Campus

It was so pleasing for us to host a prayer-on-campus event recently and to see a group of parents and Elim church members come and pray for our school. On a sunny Saturday afternoon, this group came and prayed on site at Golfands campus and wrote scripture in chalk in strategic areas to uplift students and staff. I would like to personally thank these faithful prayer warriors for giving their time to invest in our school. The effective prayer of a righteous person can accomplish much, and it is greatly appreciated by our staff and students.

Updates on property and spaces

We continue to work hard to provide the best possible spaces and learning environments for our students and much has been accomplished this term. We have replaced our old wooden chairs in the junior school with new colourful ones and it was a pleasure to see the smiles on our young students' faces as they discovered this upgrade. Also at Golfands, we have had repairs made to the junior and middle years turf to fill in some holes that were growing in the base material. These are now smooth again and students have reported that they enjoy this improvement. Finally, on the astroturf, we have installed ball-stop netting to prevent balls from going over our neighbours' fences as much as possible. I would like to thank the staff and students for their patience as we made these changes.

At the Botany campus, we have made significant upgrades to our outdoor spaces with new outdoor furniture and a new volleyball setup for students to enjoy during break times. We have plans in the near future for more large umbrellas to provide shelter in both wet weather and during the heat of summer. I would like to thank our ARISE parents for taking this project on as their annual fundraising activity.



Students enjoying the new spaces at Botany campus this week

Camp Celebrations

Recently, I have had the privilege of visiting students at two camps - our year 5 camp at Willow Park on Eastern Beach, and our year 7 camp at Carey Park in Hunua. Camps are a big part of education in New Zealand, and it is great to see this continuing strongly here at Elim Christian College. At the Year 7 camp, I saw our young people challenged to try new activities and to grow in confidence and empathy for others. It was so cool to see these students encouraging each other and blessing others through their words and actions. I would like to thank the parents who gave up their time to be part of both camps - without you, these would not go ahead!



Spot our year 7 students taking on the heights of the "superfly" flying fox!

I would like to acknowledge the commitment you all show to these camps, even as we have seen the costs rise from our camp providers and transport. I know that it can be a financial challenge to pay for these, and I want to reassure you that we are working hard to keep the cost as low as possible.

Parking - please do the right thing

It is with regret that I must again raise the issue of parking around our school, especially at pick-up times in the afternoon. Over the last term, we have seen some near-misses with students almost injured by parents who have parked illegally on yellow lines or across driveways. Just this week we had a parent perform a U-turn right in front of the zebra crossing which almost resulted in an accident. Please, can I ask that you follow all of the road code and help us to keep our kids safe.

At Botany campus, please can you park in a designated park before unloading your children. This will support our duty staff with keeping traffic flowing as smoothly as possible.

ARISE Parents Group

For 2026, we have relaunched this group, and it has been great to see a good group of parents form who are committed to prayer and support for our school. The ARISE group has three main foci in their work:

- 1) To pray for our students and staff and the continued presence of God in our school
- 2) To run activities that give opportunities for parents to build community
- 3) To fundraise for specific projects that benefit our students

If you would like to be part of this group, please join us on 24th June at the Botany campus learning hub from 7pm- 8pm.

Jackets during wet weather

We have had some queries regarding what students may wear when it is wet. I would like to clarify that it is absolutely acceptable for students to wear a raincoat from home on their journey to and from school. We do not want students to be wet! Once students arrive at school they will need to remove these and hang them in allocated spaces to dry. Please do not allow your children to wear rainjackets in place of the school jumper or other items of uniform as this will mean they may get cold once they have to take their rainjacket off at school.

Thank you for your support of our school,



Mr Julian Adamson
Principal