



Principal's Update 18 April 2023

Kia Ora one and all

Unbelievable - Term 1 has come to an end. It just feels like we have only just started and suddenly here we are at autumn holidays.

Thank you everyone for supporting your tamariki for learning and growing. Every family and all staff have worked tirelessly and passionately to offer our students such incredible opportunities in learning.

Farewell to Ms Neetha Mudhan (Assistant Campus lead JYGC)

It is with real sadness yet with abundant gratitude that we said farewell to Ms Mudhan at the end of last term. What a watershed day for us as a school!! I am privileged and humbled to publicly honour Neetha for her significant, selfless, servant hearted and passionate service to Elim Christian College for the past 8 years. Our Junior Years have thrived and excelled under her inspiring leadership and she has been an integral and highly valued part of the Executive Leadership Team. We praise God for Ms Mudhan.

Farewell to Mrs Jackie Eksteen (Teacher GCMY)

Mrs Eksteen has worked for us in a part time capacity but with 'full time commitment' since 2004. What an incredibly good input and contribution she has made in the lives of our students and in the life of our school. We praise God for Mrs Eksteen.

Two Mission and Curriculum Trips

We currently have two groups of senior students travelling overseas:

- **Taiwan:** with senior students at BC with Mrs Karen Liu and Mr Stephen Briscoe
- **Cambodia:** with MAC senior students with Mr Craig Scott and Mrs Tania Calvert.

Please pray for these groups.

Term 2

We look forward to seeing all students on campus **this coming Monday 24 April for the start of term**. Yes Tuesday is ANZAC Day and therefore is a public holiday but we still wanted to use Monday to kick start school again and invest in the lives of your tamariki.

Staff Only Days 2023

We have already had one staff only day and there are more to come. The government has given all schools at least two professional development days towards what is called the 'Curriculum Refresh'. However bearing in mind that we have now had two strike days

(impact on Y11-13 at BC) and with more withdrawal of labour to come, we have reassessed what we will do based on:

1. We hosted a staff only day on Monday 6 March - thank you
2. We estimate a number of days have effectively been lost for NCEA students
3. We recognise that staff only days propose a challenge for parents
4. We will not now hold a staff only day on Monday 24 April or May 5
5. We still wish to give staff access to 3 more professional days spread out through the remainder of the year

Therefore the **Staff Only Days to come:**

- **6 June** for all Kahui Ako schools
- **10 Aug** for our Special Character development
- **9 November** (once Y11-13 have gone on exam leave)

We really look forward to an amazingly good Term 2 at our school.

God bless everyone and much aroha to you all.



Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL