



Principal's Update May 2022

Kia Ora our school whanau

This is an update featuring a few key messages and expressing my thanks for the amazing community you are.

1. It has been simply been wonderful to see parents back on site, to see and experience 'live' assemblies at each campus, view amazing photos of the Y7/8 MAC camp, watch well organised student-led conferences and observe so many students getting back into sport. 'Live' community is so good!
2. I wish to celebrate firstly with **Abraham Li for achieving stardom status in diving** to the point where he now represents NZ internationally. In fact he has had a stellar diving career for some time now.

Abraham has just completed the North Island Diving Competition in which he qualified for Fina World Junior Diving Championship Platform event for November in Montreal. He will compete with top divers from all over the world. Along with his parents we as a school are so proud of him for his great dedication and achievements in diving.

3. This is reminder that we have a **Staff Only Day** on **Tuesday 7 June** and **Friday 24 June** is **Matariki Day** – a public holiday for Aotearoa NZ.
4. Further to my outlining on 4 April our financial needs, thank you Elim community for your special character donations and for your continuing amazing response to helping us where you can with donations and fundraisers. All is deeply appreciated!
5. We have, all year struggled to raised attendance above 91% at best. This is increasingly problematic for student achievement and despite the best efforts of home and school -this challenge will likely continue. Couple with that, already 4 weeks into Term 2, both COVID and winter colds are seriously challenging our ability to staff all learning areas. Therefore please do not be surprised if we move some sections of the school or some campuses into online learning for a period of time in the coming weeks. We are trusting we won't have to do this.
6. **Stay alert: COVID-19 will still be with us this winter**

Following a Review this week - Orange Level Continues Here at School

COVID-19 will still be in the community this winter so stay alert - even if you've had it before. Remember these five important tips from Auckland Regional Public Health Service:

Keep up healthy habits:

- Washing and drying your hands well and often
- Wearing a mask – especially inside. They stop the virus spreading when someone speaks, laughs, coughs, sings or sneezes.
- Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or your elbow; not your hands.
- Cleaning or disinfecting shared surfaces regularly
- Keeping inside spaces well ventilated (e.g. open windows) to improve airflow and reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.

Now is also a good time to check your whānau is up to date with their immunisations against diseases like measles, mumps, rubella and pertussis (whooping cough). With New Zealand's borders re-opening, there is a greater risk of diseases like measles arriving here in the coming months.

Know the symptoms to look for: The symptoms of COVID-19 can include a new or worsening cough, sneezing and runny nose, a fever, temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste, sore throat, shortness of breath. Less common symptoms can include: diarrhoea, headache, nausea, vomiting, malaise (a general feeling of discomfort, illness or unease), chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, confusion or irritability.

In an emergency (for example if someone is having difficulty breathing), immediately dial 111 for an ambulance. COVID-related medical care is free.

Have symptoms? Stay home, call Healthline: If you or anyone in your household has COVID symptoms, stay at home and call Healthline: 0800 358 5453. They will tell you what to do, including how to get a test. Healthline is free, available 24/7 and has interpreters available.

COVID-19 in your household? Stay home: Everyone living in a household with someone who has COVID-19 needs to isolate – not just the person with the virus.

- Household contacts need to isolate for seven days and have two tests during that time: one on Day 3 and one on Day 7. The only exception is people who have already had COVID-19, less than 90 days ago.
- Household Contacts can leave isolation after 7 days if they remain well and have returned negative tests.
- Please do not send your child in if they live with someone who has COVID-19, even if they are well.
- It's a good idea to prepare in case you need to self-isolate. You can download an Isolation Plan from the www.covid-19.govt.nz website.

For more information and advice about COVID-19:

Call:

- Healthline: 0800 358 5453 (a free, 24/7 service with interpreters available)

Or visit:

- Unite against COVID covid19.govt.nz
- Auckland Regional Public Health Service www.arphs.health.nz
- Ministry of Health www.health.govt.nz/covid-19
- Northern Region Health Coordination Centre nrhcc.health.nz

Cold weather, clothing and the requirement on schools to provide ongoing ventilation

The weather is getting colder, yet we are required to have as much ventilation as possible under Orange Level. To enable students to stay warm and to also meet such health regulations please note the following for the rest of this term only. **This will be reviewed with any change of level:**

Where teachers are unable to provide usual levels of warmth in a classroom or learning space because of the forementioned ventilation, students will be able to wear these non-uniform items:

1. Parkas, puffer jackets and the like may be worn over the existing uniform
2. T-shirts, crew necks and or polos may be worn under existing uniform shirts and blouses
3. Beanies (and if you don't have a school scarf), non-regulation scarves can be worn

Caution:

1. If any learning spaces on any campus are still able to be maintained at appropriately warm temperatures, and students inhabit these spaces in the main ie do not move period by period to other buildings then Campus Leads will not permit the above uniform variations for those students. Be alert for management updates.
2. In order to protect, and not lose these additional clothing items, please name them and instruct you children to take particular care of these.

Triennial Board Elections

Every three years, state and state-integrated school communities elect their parent and staff representatives to help govern their schools. The next triennial school board member elections are due to be held on 7 September 2022.

The Board at Elim Christian College consists of 5 parent voted members, 4 Proprietor appointed members, the Principal, a staff elected member and a student elected member.

We would encourage parent / caregivers who may be interested in participating in the upcoming process to view more information by reading the [Community member guide to the role of school boards](#) and check out our information for parents on the [NZSTA website](#).

Election timeline:

Returning Officer CES

15 July nomination forms will be emailed

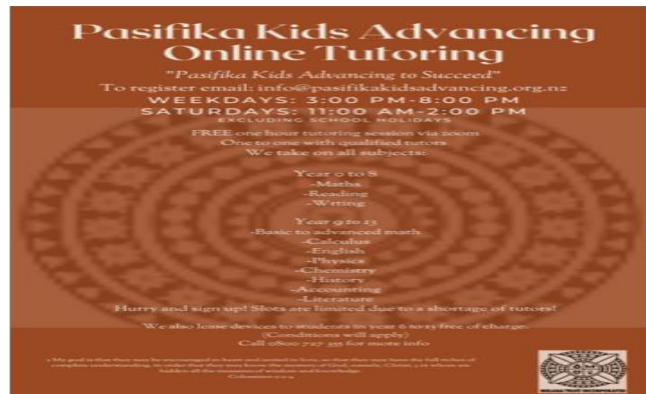
10 August voting papers will be issued

7 September 4pm the poll closes

If you would be interested in attending a Board meeting to observe the Board in action, please contact Raewyn.Openshaw@elim.school.nz for more information.

Pacific Community

Further to our last Fono, please see the amazing opportunities in the poster below:



Pasifika Kids Advancing Online Tutoring
"Pasifika Kids Advancing to Succeed"
To register email: info@pasifikakidsadvancing.org.nz
WEEKDAYS: 3:00 PM-8:00 PM
SATURDAYS: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
EXCLUDING SCHOOLS HOLIDAYS


FREE one hour tutoring session via zoom
One to one with qualified tutors
We take on all subjects:

Year 0 to 8
-Maths
-Reading
-Writing

Year 9 to 13
-Basic to advanced math
-Calculus
-English
-Physics
-Chemistry
-History
-Accounting
-Literature

Hurry and sign up! Slots are limited due to a shortage of tutors!
We also have devices to students in year 6 and 7 free of charge.
(Conditions will apply)
Call 0800 222 424 for more info

*The goal of this event was to encourage our future and current students to get involved in their school and community. We are proud to have been able to provide this opportunity to our students and their families. We will continue to work on providing more opportunities for our students and their families in the future.



Nga mihi nui



Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL