



7 June 2020

Kia Ora parent and caregiver community

Well done on reaching the end of our third week of mainly face to face schooling. Campuses are thriving and we are looking forward to sharing with you and you with us in our mid-year conferences and conversations, being held over the last two weeks of this term.

We fully recognise the demands on families as the country progresses towards Alert Level 1. The roads are now busy, the timetables are bulging, the commitment to be and there is certainly ramping up. In this regard too, we await the Prime Minister's communique on Monday following the Cabinet meeting.

**Regarding our Elim Christian College School Ball for Y11-13:** We will only be able to make our final decision regarding the School Ball after the PM announces a move to Alert Level 1. Provisional details are: **Saturday 1 August 2020** to be held at Ellerslie Events Centre.

#### **Mid-Year Conversations About Learning**

Please note that for Y1-10 at Golflands and Y1-8 at MAC we are not issuing formal mid-year written reports. Instead, given the unique and challenging nature of the lockdown period in which parents were asked to be actively involved in distance learning we are inviting a collaborative conversation approach. Your voice and the voice of your child is essential and with our voice too, with genuine excitement and optimism we can together prepare for future learning.

With the structure of NCEA and the Y11-13 age group, we will issue reports and we have a high expectation that students will take an active 'ownership of the learning' role in the 3 way conferences. The report and the conference conversation should therefore present an accurate description of where each student is currently at in their quest for achieving their year-end academic goals.

You will shortly receive detailed information regarding campus organisation for our mid-year conversations about learning. Each campus will be different. **Here are the dates**

**GCJY:** Years 1-6 Collaborative Learning Conversations will be held with your child's Pastoral Care Teacher (main class teacher), unless notified otherwise. These conversations will be held on two days – 24<sup>th</sup> June and 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**GCMY:** Middle Years Student Led Conferences Year 7-10 and **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>** 1.30pm - 7.30pm **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>** 1.30pm -6.30pm. Middle Years mid-year communication with parents will be in the form of a three-way conference. These student led conferences (SLCs) are essential to our Middle Years mastery model of teaching and learning. Consequently, **we will not be issuing a traditional report.** Students will lead a 15 minute conversation with a teacher and parent to discuss their learning. Teachers will have an online gradebook at the conference. An online booking link will be sent out next week.

**BC and MAC Y11-13** - Reports become accessible to parents on Parent Portal: **Friday 19 June** (Week10)

**BC Y11-13** Parent/teacher/student conferences (Week 12) will take place on:

- **Mon 29 June** 1.30-6.30pm and
- **Tues 30 June** 1.30-5.30pm

10mins conference slots provided – please remember to allow for movement between teachers within this time. Bookings will open on the Parent Interviews site: **Mon 22 June 9am** (Week 11)

**MAC:** 3 Way Parent –Teacher–Student Conferences:

- **Year 0-8 Monday 29th June** 12:30 pm – 8:00pm & **Wednesday 1st July** 3:30 pm – 6:00pm
- **Y9-13: Monday 29 June** 12.30pm – 8.00pm

Primarily these all-important conference conversations will be offered face to face but if families prefer to use zoom, you are invited to do so.

**Looking Ahead:** school sport now gets into full swing, music performance groups are meeting, we are actively planning to hold the school ball, the Board of Trustees and Executive Leadership Team meet soon for a mid-year review morning, BC are rehearsing for their 2020 production, open days will be held in the last week of term as we embrace the enrolment process for 2021, end of year camps and some excursions are expected.

**World Vision:** it is humbling and exciting to see how our World Vision fundraising is going in spite of lockdown and the COVID-19 crisis. Elim, you are one amazing generous community and I love the way our WV student leaders supported by teachers and parents are getting right into it! Well done everyone and keep it going.....in the midst of our country's challenge, we are investing in Malawi a truly devastated country.

Lastly a quote from Ravi Zacharias, world renowned apologist who passed away recently-

***"I am utterly convinced that neither walls nor suffering, neither unfortunate mishaps nor poor decisions can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus. Perhaps you have noticed footprints of one following closely across your own life. Will you follow them?"***

Ravi Zacharias

*Nga mihi  
Regards*

*Murray*

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