

Monday 20 April, 2026

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Nau mai anō, welcome back to all our students and families for the start of Term 2. I hope you had a restful break and are ready for the 11 week term ahead.

Term 2 is always an important time in the school year. It is a period where our students settle into a solid routine and focus on making real progress with their learning. Our teachers have been preparing for the weeks ahead, and we are looking forward to seeing the students settle back into their studies and school life.

This term our Hauora - Well being focus is *Taha Wairua - Spiritual well being*. While we care about every part of our students' health, this is the foundation of who we are as a school. It's about walking with God, growing through prayer and scripture and showing our Christian character in our daily lives. This term, we will be encouraging students to focus on this and understand ways they can deepen their relationship with God and live out their faith within our community.

There are plenty of opportunities for community involvement coming up this term. We look forward to working alongside you to support our students in reaching their goals for the middle of the year.

### **Celebrating 100% Attendance in Term 1**

We are pleased to share our student attendance for Term 1. We had 149 students awarded certificates for 100% attendance. This is an outstanding number of students and families ensuring maximum learning time for the term. Well done!

Regular attendance at school is important to your child's success and there is a clear connection between going to school regularly and doing well in the classroom. Making sure students attend and engage in learning is a shared responsibility. As a parent, you are responsible for making sure your child attends school every day. If your child is going to be absent for any reason it is essential that you fill in the absence form on the website to confirm your child's absence and provide us with the reason. We acknowledge that there are genuine reasons students may occasionally be absent. However, without regular attendance your child will struggle to make progress.

If your child is absent regularly, or for extended periods, we will reach out to you to discuss the situation. We are committed to supporting your child to attend school. If you're having difficulty getting your child to school, you can ask for support by speaking with your child's pastoral care teacher.

We can work with you to develop a support plan that addresses any barriers to regular attendance. More information on attendance, including your rights and responsibilities as parents or caregivers is available on the Ministry of Education's webpage: [Attendance](#).

### Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences Y9-13

Next Tuesday, 28th April are our **Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences Years 9-13**. These conferences are being held earlier this year for Year 9-13. This is an important time for students and families to connect with subject teachers and to look at progress from Term 1 and set some goals for the rest of the year.

School finishes early on Thursday 30th April at 1:20 pm for **Year 9-13 students ONLY**. School finishes at the usual time for year 1-6 (2:50 pm) and for year 7-8 (3:10 pm).

### Whānau Hui / Fono connection time during conferences for Year 9-13 Parents and caregivers

At our Year 9-13 conferences, we will have a **Whānau /Fono gathering**. This is for all parents and caregivers to connect directly with school leadership and staff in a relaxed setting.

We invite you to join us in the staffroom for a hot drink and snack to share your thoughts and feedback on our school vision and traffic plan.

Whānau Hui / Fono Times: Tuesday 28th April, : 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm and again between 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

### "Acts for Acts" Campaign starts in week 3!

Our annual "Acts for Acts" campaign kicks off in Week 3 to raise funds for children in rural Cambodia to attend school. Following a fantastic effort in 2025, we are looking forward to supporting this cause again through some healthy competition on the Raisly platform.

### SMART testing

This term, our school will be trialling the new SMART assessment tool for all students in Years 3–10. This tool will be used across New Zealand as a means of mapping each student's individual growth and ensuring they receive the right support to reach key milestones in literacy and numeracy.

### Relievers Needed

We are looking to expand our team of relief teachers. If you are a qualified teacher and are interested in relief opportunities, please get in touch! Our Assistant Principals, Julie Nola and Jessica Kidd, are able to help you navigate the process of getting on our relief list. Please contact them directly at (firstname.lastname@elimmtalbert.school.nz)

If you have family or friends outside of our immediate school community who might also be interested, please encourage them to make contact as well. We're eager to welcome new talent to our relief team!

### Learning Assistant Vacancies (Teacher Aides)

We are seeking caring and committed individuals to provide essential in-class support for our students. As a school with a unique Christian character, we look for staff who will actively uphold our values while fostering a positive learning environment. Please see website for details of the position/s currently available. <https://elimmtalbert.school.nz/about/employment/>

### Key Term Dates for 2026

To help you plan, here are the essential term dates for the rest of the year. Please do not plan holidays in school term time. Under the Ministry of Education’s criteria, holidays taken during term time are classified as unjustified absences, except in special or exceptional circumstances.

- Term 2: Monday, April 20th - Friday, July 3rd (11 weeks)
- Term 3: Monday, July 20th - Friday, September 25th (10 weeks)
- Term 4: Monday, October 12th - Thursday, December 10th (9 weeks)

### Save the date:

Monday 11th May 9am - 10 am - **Mother’s Day celebration** and classroom visits.

We will share morning tea and fellowship followed by classroom visits for Year 1-6. All mothers, caregivers, grandmothers, aunts and significant ladies welcome to join us for this.

Have a wonderful week and a very enjoyable term!

Tania Calvert  
Tumuaki

