

Tuesday 8th December 2025

Dear parents and caregivers,

As the year draws to a close, there are some important updates and information that I would like to share with the Elim Mt Albert community.

End of Year:

Reports will go live on Wednesday 10th December. You will be emailed the details.

School closes on Thursday 11th December at 12.30pm. We will have a short assembly on the top field to say farewell and pray for students at 12.20pm. Parents are welcome to join us for this.

Please ensure that your child has taken all of their belongings home for the end of year, this includes emptying all lockers and tote trays, checking lost property and making sure that they have all PE and sports shoes. Anything that has not been claimed by the end of the year will be donated.

Details for 2026:

Pōwhiri: School starts for all students on Monday 2nd February at 8.40am. We will have a pōwhiri for new students and staff at 9.00am. We invite all existing and new families to join us for this occasion.

 [Powhiri Invitation 2026.pdf](#)

Option confirmation day: Prior to school starting, all Year 11-13 students will have their option confirmation day. This is on Thursday the 29th of January. Year 11 students are to come in between 12pm and 1pm, Year 12s between 1pm and 2pm, and Year 13 students between 2pm and 3pm.

Class Lists: 2026 class lists for Y0-6 students will be displayed outside Room 1. Y7-8 lists will be displayed outside the double storey intermediate block. Y9-13 lists are displayed outside the hall. Teachers will be outside to assist students with their classes. At 8.40am, students will line up behind their teachers.

Composite Classes: We will have composite (mixed-age) classes across our Year 3 to 8 levels. Students will be grouped as follows: Year 3/4, Year 4/5, Year 5/6, and Year 7/8. These classes will be carefully considered based on each student's academic needs, social dynamics, learning behaviours, and overall best fit.

Term dates 2026:

Term 1	Monday 2 Feb - Thursday 2 April	9 weeks
Term 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July	11 weeks
Term 3	Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Monday 12 October - Thursday 10 December	9 weeks

Uniform Updates:

Next year there will be some uniform changes for you to be aware of.

Year 1-6: Black, polishable leather sports shoes may be worn as a school shoe throughout the year. They need to have black soles and there should be no additional colours including logos, laces or stitching. Black polishable dress shoes can still be worn. Please see some examples of appropriate footwear below.



Year 11-13: Girls will have the option of wearing a full length black skirt all year round. The current shorter black skirt can still be worn. These can be purchased from our uniform supplier, Prestidges, in Eden Terrace.

Uniform Reminders:

Students' hair must be their natural hair colour before they return to school in the new year and boys are to be clean shaven..

Students are allowed to wear one plain round gold or silver stud or sleeper in each ear.

Hair ties need to be black, white or royal blue. Scrunchies, ribbons and bows are not part of the uniform.

Smart watches are not to be worn at school.

This is a good time of year to ensure that all uniform items are in good condition.

Stationery for 2026

Stationery is already available to purchase online through Office Max. All purchases will help the school. www.myschool.co.nz/Elimmtalbert This is to be brought with your child on the first day of school.

Staffing Updates:

It is with heartfelt gratitude and sadness that we say farewell to some of our staff members who have played significant roles in our foundational years. I sincerely thank the following individuals and pray God's blessing on them as they move on to new opportunities.

Mr Marvin Anderson, Deputy Principal of Senior Years for his incredible contributions during our foundation years, including the establishment of some of our pastoral and wellbeing programmes.

Mr Charlie Ahn, HOLA of STEM, for his leadership and the development of Science, Maths and Technology.

Mrs Gina Kennerley, for teaching and caring for the students in her Year 2 class.

Mrs Nelise Tesese, for the passion and enthusiasm she brought to teaching senior History and English.

Matua Victor, for his hard work teaching Year 1-8 PE and sports.

New Staff:

Due to our school's continued growth and God's favour, we are excited to have these skilled practitioners join us in 2026. I am sure that they will enrich our school with their God-given talents and we are delighted that they will be able to offer our students some new opportunities.

I would like to warmly welcome the following people to our staff:

Mr Guy Storrs, Business and Commerce teacher

Mr Harry Kershaw, History and English teacher

Miss Indy Henman, Dance and Drama teacher Year 7-10

Miss Saajidah Shabham, Biology and Chemistry teacher

Mrs Chloe Max, Year 2 teacher

A reminder that our 2024-2025 **year book** is available to purchase at the school office. If you have preordered and paid through the portal your child will be given this at school.

I wish you and your family a very happy Christmas and holiday break. It is such a special time where we are able to reflect on Jesus' birth and the hope He gives to us. I look forward to seeing you in the new year and continuing our partnership.

Meri Kirihimete

Tania Calvert

Principal