

# ELIM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MT ALBERT NEWSLETTER



Talofa lava aiga,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter and a refreshing break from school. We began the term with a full school assembly, where we welcomed new students, families and staff to the Elim whānau.

This term, we're pleased to welcome Mrs Sofia MacKenzie to our staff and we also have Mrs Nelise Tesese returning part-time from maternity leave. Both will be teaching in our Humanities department. A very warm welcome to them and to all new members of our community.

You may have noticed the ongoing improvements on McLean Street. Auckland Transport (AT) is close to completing our new controlled crossing, which is a welcome addition for the safety of our students. It's encouraging to see this safer crossing point taking shape. Clear visibility on both sides of the crossing is essential, so please follow the new road markings, do not park across driveways or do u-turns outside the school. We kindly ask that all families use the new crossing when parking on the opposite side of McLean Street. For everyone's safety, please refrain from crossing at any other points.

I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in the recent Cultural Fiesta. This event is an integral part of our school culture and identity. It was another huge success, thanks to the efforts of so many people. Celebrating and deepening our understanding of the diverse cultures in our community is something we truly value.

A special thanks to our neighbours at Everil Orr for generously providing land for parking—it was very much appreciated. Thank you also to Steve Johnstone for the subsidised use of the stage and cover and to our families and staff for their tireless work on food stalls and performance preparation. A big thank you as well to Jo Robertson and Amanda Abrahams for their outstanding leadership of the event and for ensuring everything was in place for a truly memorable night.

This term, we have a special focus on developing our Christian Character. This will be woven throughout our learning programmes and highlighted through special events. In Week 5, we will launch our Acts for ACTS fundraising initiative, supporting children in rural Cambodia to attend school. We will also celebrate our Annual Hosanna Week—a joyful time of worship, reflection, and community.

I pray that your family stays well and has a fantastic term filled with growth, joy and meaningful moments.

Fa'afetai lava ma ia manuia,



**Tania Calvert**  
Principal Tumuaki

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

1 Peter 4:10

# IMPORTANT DATES

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### WEEK 2

Thursday 8 May  
Mothers and significant ladies morning tea  
9 -10:00am in the Ballroom all ladies  
10:00-10:30am classroom visits Year 1-6

### WEEK 3

#### OPEN DAY FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES/STUDENTS

Wed 28 May 9am – 11am

Friday 16 May  
Civvies Day / Pizza lunch

### WEEK 5

Hosanna Week

### WEEK 8

Wednesday 18 June  
Civvies Day / Pizza lunch

**Thursday 19th June Teacher Only Day**  
**(Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Matariki public holiday)**

### WEEK 9

**Friday 27th June (last day of term 2)**  
**Teacher Only Day**

## JUNIOR (YEAR 1 - 8)

### WEEK 3

Brake: Road Safety Week

### WEEK 4

Wednesday 21 May  
National Storytime

### WEEK 6

Friday 6 June  
Phase 2: Fossils Van Visit

## END OF YEAR DATES

### YEAR 1-2 NATIVITY

Tuesday 9 December 9-10:30am

### YEAR 3-8 PRIZEGIVING

Tuesday 25 November 11am-1pm

### YEAR 9-13 PRIZEGIVING

Tuesday 25 November 6:30-8:30pm

### YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Friday 5 December 3:30-5:00pm

### YEAR 8 GRADUATION

Monday 1 December 6:00-8:30pm

## SENIOR (YEAR 9 - 13)

### WEEK 2

Monday 5 - Friday 9 May  
Year 9-10 Sports Camp

Wednesday 7 May  
Year 11, 12 and 13 Geography  
Tawharanui trip

### WEEK 3

Tuesday 13 May  
Year 12 and 13 Art Gallery Visit

### WEEK 4

Monday 19 - Friday 23 May  
Year 10 Co-Requisites Literacy  
and Numeracy #Week 1

### WEEK 5

Monday 26 - Friday 30 May  
Year 10 Co-Requisites Literacy  
and Numeracy #Week 2

ELIM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE  
MT ALBERT

Looking for a new school with years 1-13 in 2026?  
Come visit Elim Mt Albert campus!

## OPEN MORNING

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 9AM - 11AM

- Guided tours of the campus led by senior students
- Principal's address : Mrs Tania Calvert



Elim Christian College Mt Albert

1 Maclean Street, Mount Albert  
www.elimmtalbert.school.nz

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT ATTENDANCE

As we start Term 2 we are aware of the Ministry of Education's expectations on school attendance. We have implemented several strategies to ensure that Elim Christian College Mount Albert stays well ahead of the national averages and we appeal to you to support us in maintaining this important goal.

We want to encourage parents to take vacations during holiday time. It is disruptive to learning when students miss face-to-face instruction for long periods of time. Term 2 is short and we have a lot of work to get through in order to meet curriculum demands. There are several long weekend holidays in this term that should provide enough of a break. For emergency absences during term, please ensure that you have corresponded with Miss Kidd (Y1-8) or Mr Anderson (Y9-13).

Furthermore, it is important that students come to school each day; they are not permitted to work from home. It is only when your child is sick that we encourage them to rest up at home.

We enjoy seeing your children at school every day and look forward to a great term ahead!



*Elim Christian College  
Mt Albert*

 *Mother's Day*  
MORNING TEA 

We would love to celebrate all the significant ladies who care for our students! Please join us for a special morning tea and time to connect as a community.  
We look forward to having you there!

**THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
9AM - 10AM  
RAHIRI HOUSE BALLROOM**

Ladies with children in Years 1-6 are invited to visit your child's classroom from 10am to 10.30am.

Please sign in at the office when you arrive.



## ASSESSMENT ASSISTANTS

*Mrs Joanna Emery*

We are currently seeking anyone who would be happy to volunteer assisting Y10-13 students with their special assessment conditions for internal assessments. Volunteers could be parents, caregivers, university students, older family members or past students of the school. Volunteers would need to have fluent English and be confident in reading aloud, as well as writing/typing for the student. They would need to be available in term time and during the school day.

All volunteers would need to complete a police vetting application, as well as a short training session. If you are interested or would like to inquire further please email Joanna Emery. [joanna.emery@elimmtalbert.school.nz](mailto:joanna.emery@elimmtalbert.school.nz)

## ANZAC DAY SERVICE

*Liam Butler and Jordan Penny, Year 13 Prefects*

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April, on ANZAC Day, several student leaders attended the Mount Albert ANZAC service at the Mount Albert War Memorial Hall. The student leaders had the opportunity to meet with the local National and Labour MP's for our suburb and others from the Mount Albert community.

Jordan Penny, the deputy head boy, shared the poem "For the Fallen" and laid a wreath as part of the service. Our school's presence was greatly appreciated.



It was a lovely morning to gather with our Mount Albert community to remember the soldiers who gave their lives for our country.

## CULTURAL FIESTA

*Sophia Wakelin, Year 12, Cultural leader*

The Cultural Fiesta at the end of Term 1 was an exciting night that brought our Elim community together for a night of celebration, cultural dances and delicious food. After weeks of rehearsals, organising costumes and praying for good weather, students of all year levels performed their cultural dances for parents, family, and friends. Performing our dances on stage after so much hard work was so worth it and it was so exciting to see the amazing performances of other cultural groups too. I loved seeing the younger kids get involved and the crowd's excitement while they cheered us on. Overall, it was a great night and a reminder of our school's diversity and the importance of celebrating culture.



You can find more photos from [here](#).

## STUDENT LEADER'S CAMP

Recently, all the student leaders participated in an overnight leadership camp. It was an action-packed two days filled with activities, including an escape room, laser tag and a hike to Fairy Falls.

We also had an impactful leadership training session and a campfire worship time. Altogether, it was an amazing experience where we all grew closer together as a team and gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a leader, preparing us well for the year ahead!

- Taj Trebilco and Lucy Harrowfield

I loved the chance to get to know all of my fellow student leaders. It was a great experience to learn more about what it means to be a leader.

I especially enjoyed the escape room. It was exciting to see everyone's strengths.

This is a great team, looking forward to working with them in 2025!

- Ella Carroll

I really enjoyed getting to spend such intentional time with the team and learning so much about leadership and different people's leadership styles and gifts etc.

- Jordan Penny

I really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know everyone better and grow in my leadership abilities. I loved our session with Pastor Mike where he shared some leadership skills which stood out to me as I learnt more about what a leader means.

- Liam Butler

Being able to grow closer to the entire prefect team and learning about each other's strengths was an amazing experience. I loved when we all had a chance to share our own learning and growth as leaders- hearing each person's advice was a great reminder about what we should be focusing on as part of the leadership team.

- Jordane Melchizedek

## BRAIN BEE CHALLENGE

*Mr Charlie Ahn*

Congratulations to Naomi Crookenden and Lily Abrahams, who have been selected to represent the school at the North Island Finals of the Brain Bee Challenge on June 25th at the University of Auckland Medical School. They will compete against nearly 200 students from across the North Island, while also attending neuroscience lectures and exploring the Centre for Brain Research facilities.

The Brain Bee Challenge is an exciting opportunity for Year 11 students to learn about the brain and its functions. Year 10 students will have the chance to participate in this amazing event next year.



Naomi Crookenden, Year 11



Lily Abrahams, Year 11

## ASK A NEUROSCIENTIST

Mr Charlie Ahn

It was an honour to have Dr. Matthijs Dorst speak to our Year 10 to 13 students about his work as a neuroscientist and the fascinating world of scientific research. Dr. Dorst shared valuable insights into the daily life of a neuroscientist, offering a deeper understanding of the complexities of the brain and the cutting-edge methods scientists use to explore its functions.

The session was especially engaging as students asked some insightful questions, and Dr. Dorst's informative answers helped deepen their understanding of the subject.



His talk not only inspired curiosity but also provided a unique opportunity for students to learn directly from an expert in the field. For those considering careers in science or neuroscience, the experience was both motivating and eye-opening.

By the end of the session, students had a greater sense of the challenges and rewards of scientific discovery and left with new perspectives on the possibilities within these fields.

## NEW ZEALAND OLYMPIAD IN INFORMATICS

Mr Charlie Ahn



Vicky Zhao, Year 11

Congratulations to Vicky Zhao (Year 11), who has been selected to represent New Zealand at the 2025 European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics (EGOI).

Vicky will be travelling to Germany in July to compete in person as part of the NZOI team, with all expenses covered - a remarkable opportunity and recognition of her talent.

Vicky competed in the recent NZ Informatics Competition (NZIC), where she performed exceptionally well. She also took part in the Programming Contest for Girls (PC4G) at the end of last year, which is open to Year 9 and 10 girls, and attended a coding camp over the summer holidays.

This is an outstanding achievement, and we wish Vicky all the very best for the competition ahead.

## YEAR 1-6 SCRIPTURE AWARDS

*Mrs Natalie Escobar*

As part of our JY Scripture Programme, ākonga (students) learn two memory verses over the course of each school term. Our aim is to help ākonga develop a deeper understanding of scripture and how it relates to their lives. Passages have been specifically chosen to align with each term's kotahitanga values to help create the link for students between God's word and how He calls us to live. By having only two passages to learn each term, kaiako and whānau have more time to delve deeper into the verses and have meaningful discussions in the classroom and at home.

In our Year 1-6 assembly on Monday, awards were presented to four students from each class who demonstrated excellent understanding and application of Colossians 3:12-15.

Congratulations to the following students.

Room 1: Sonasi, Seoa, Freya and Mawutu  
 Room 2: Josiah, Berkeley, Eliana and Jedidiah Maung  
 Room 3: Matheus, Elias, Heidi and Qiqi  
 Room 4: Abigail, Jayen, Sion and Isaac  
 Room 10: Ethan B, Gabriel, Hannah and Rayna  
 Room 9: Mathias, Cataliya, Mario, Brea  
 Room 5: Lanuola, Brielle, Mia and Kairos

## MITEY

*Mrs Natalie Escobar*

At the end of Term 1, the Year 1-3 team integrated the Mitey programme into our writing to help prepare us for the Cultural Fiesta. Students learnt that not everyone feels the same way about events - some kids were really excited to perform, but others were scared that they might forget their steps.

We shared our worries with the class and realised that everyone was worried about something at school, at home, or in their community.

Our teachers used bottles of soda to show us how worries can bubble up inside us if we don't do anything about them. We learnt that some ways we can release the pressure and stop the bubbles inside us from exploding are by praying to God, talking to an adult, thinking about nice things, playing with our favourite toys, or doing belly breathing.

Take time as a whānau this week to listen and pray together over anything that is worrying your tamariki. It could be a conversation over dinner, while taking a walk, or even during the drive home!



# ZEBRA LITTER-PICKER-UPPERS PROJECT REPORT

Brea Moore, Cataliya Luther, Zoe Gounder, Room 9

**Why?** We started this company because we came up with business ideas in Inquiry class last term. We made a poster to promote the project and presented it to our Room 9 classmates. Then Zoe and I decided make our idea real and invited Cataliya to join us. We did this because we wanted to help the environment but we also wanted to start a business together when we grow up (so this was a big win for us!).  
-Brea Moore

**What?** On Saturday, 26 April at 2pm, we picked up rubbish and litter around Takapuna Beach. We found a lot of cans, bottle caps, dog poop bags and vapes. It was a different experience for me but I had a lot of fun.  
-Cataliya Luther

**How?** Brea assigned us to buy the bags and gloves we would use for the cleanup. On Saturday the 26th of April, (the day of the clean up) Brea assigned me to buy the gloves and she reused the Woolworths bags that she had. After the clean up we handed out little business cards that we hand made to people who might be interested to join us on the next cleanup project. It was a big success!  
-Zoe Gounder



# ARISE WHĀNAU UPDATES



## Hosanna WEEK

(Week 5)

Proverbs 19:17  
Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,  
and he will reward them for what they have done.



### Fundraising for ACTS FOR ACTS MISSION

Check out fun ways you help fundraise

You can.. assist children to school

Bible Festival

Year 1 - 6

Bible Quiz

Year 7 - 13



ELIM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MT ALBERT

Fundraising towards a.....



## School Van

Here are some of the ways you can help with fundraising in 2025



Pizza lunoches



**Carnival Day**  
Term 4  
Details to oome!



Y1-8  
Disco  
Term 3



Civvies - Kakahu  
Kainga Days



Kindo  
School Lunoches



Help us reach our goal of \$20,000

**A school van will provide essential transport for music groups, sports teams, curriculum trips, and many other valuable learning opportunities.**

Ways to Give  
Kindo - one off donation • Eftpos at the office  
Participating in events

## ARISE WHĀNAU CONNECT

Please join only the group/s you currently have a child/ren in. Parents please exit other WhatsApp groups in order to streamline comms and avoid confusion! Year 11 - 13 students are encouraged to be independent and take responsibility for events and information concerning them.



**Yrs 1-3:**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/l8rTyLttmwH1r2LPguptbD>



**Yrs 7-8:**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EFbCWDJBh9OHGcP6Jcmk5u>



**Yrs 4-6:**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Lq6AMreO7zKlgvOD6ZgRs>



**Yrs 9-10:**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Cxcf73xOHAf50R1FpgEKKQ>

## Get connected through Kindo



Create a Kindo account to order sushi lunches and join in ARISE events at school. One account for the whole family! Get started now and be ready... [Click here](https://www.mykindo.co.nz) or go to [www.mykindo.co.nz](https://www.mykindo.co.nz) to start ordering!

For Apple and Android users download the mykindo app. Visit [support.mykindo.co.nz](https://support.mykindo.co.nz) or tel. 09 475 5287 (0800 395 8624) weekdays 8am-4pm. [www.mykindo.co.nz](https://www.mykindo.co.nz) / [www.ezlunch.co.nz](https://www.ezlunch.co.nz)



## ARISE WHĀNAU PRAYER

Please join us to pray for our school, our students and staff.

**When:** Friday 8:40 - 9:00 am  
**Where:** Library  
**Who:** Everybody is welcome!



*Elim* get ready

# “ACTS for ACTS” launches week 5



ASSIST CHILDREN TO SCHOOL (ACTS)  
Plan your ACTS & set a goal <sup>in rural Cambodia</sup>  
From week-5 :

- Create an online fundraising page & share it with EVERYONE!
- Raise funds for stationery, bikes, uniforms & tutors
- Compete between classes to raise the most money!

## What ACTS will you do to make Elim’s ACTS fundraiser fly?



**ACTS of Asking**



**ACTS of Service**



**ACTS of Endurance**