

Year 7-8 Term 1 2025 Newsletter



Mr Peter McDonough, Mrs Yen Kim, Mr Elijah Tay, Mrs Jo Sohn, Miss Hannah Fale, Mrs Amanda Abrahams, Miss Madeleine Chester

Wednesday 5 February

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whānau

A warm welcome from the Year 7-8 team at Elim Christian College Mount Albert. We hope you had a fantastic summer break with family and friends.

The teachers in Year 7&8 are:

Room 6: Miss Hannah Fale

Room 7: Miss Madeleine Chester

Room 8: Mr Elijah Tay

Support staff includes:

Learning Assistant: Mrs Jo Sohn

Hard technology: Mr Peter McDonough

Multi Materials / Food technology: Mrs Amanda Abrahams

Music Specialist: Mrs Rachel Crellin/ Miss Sarah Dunn

DT Specialist: Mrs Tracey Callender

Art Specialist: Mrs Jacqui Reid

Sports Specialist: Matua Victor

Maori Specialist: Matua Dylan

SENCo and ESOL Teacher: Mrs Joanna Emery

Team Leader (until Week 4): Mrs Yen Kim

Deputy Principal Y1-8: Miss Jessica Kidd

The first week will be an Orientation Week with opportunities for everyone to get to know each other. The Music and Technology programmes will also be up and running.

This term our Biblical theme is God wants us to work. The students will understand that Jesus is the truth about our identity through the gospel of John, and work to become His followers. In Integrated Inquiry, students will learn about the Economic World and where our products come from.

This term, our team foci are:

Elim Exploration: Work

Enduring Understanding: God wants us to work, serve and live for the kingdom of God.

Key Question: How can I serve, work, reach out and bless others for the kingdom?

Literacy focus: Skimming and Scanning and Explanation Writing

Numeracy focus: Number Strand, Statistics and Probability

Kotahitanga Value: Manaakitanga - Respect

CAMP: Our Year 7&8 Camp is in Week 7 from Tuesday 18th March to Friday 21st March 2025. Details about this camp have been sent out. See the letter [here](#). Please complete [the permission form](#) by 14th February, and make the payment for camp promptly by 11th Mar, so your child is able to attend. **If you would like to be a parent helper, please ensure you have a current police clearance. If you are not police vetted through Elim Christian College Mount Albert and would like to be a parent helper, please collect a police vetting form from the school office as soon as possible. These take a few weeks to process.**

HOMEWORK: Please take time to read the home learning [guidelines](#). Students will receive a homework sheet every week. Homework is due on Fridays. Homework will include work that reinforces what is happening in the classroom, including memory verse, reading, grammar/punctuation, social studies and maths.

STUDENT HANDBOOK: This can be located on our website for easy reference: [Student Handbook](#)

MEDICAL / CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please send any changes in details, such as medical information, address or phone numbers to office@elimtalbert.school.nz.

COMMUNICATION: Please refer to [our school website](#) where you can check email communications and our school Google calendar. If you are not receiving email notifications, please contact the office office@elimtalbert.school.nz. School newsletters are emailed fortnightly on Tuesdays.

DEVICES/ LEARNING PLATFORMS: Students are required to bring a **fully charged** and **named** laptop/chrome book to school each day. Google Classroom is used to communicate within the classroom and share digital work. I pads are not suitable at this level.

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION: All students are required to take their morning-tea and lunch wrappers, uneaten food, etc. home with them. They cannot dispose of it at school. The recycling bins at our school have little provision for landfill items and food scraps. We would still like to strongly encourage all our parents to pack lunches in reusable containers and to buy in bulk.

BIRTHDAYS: We ask that you do not bring any food items to school to share with the class on your child's birthday. This includes lollies, chocolates, cupcakes, cake, etc. There may be students with allergies in the class and we want to encourage healthy eating choices.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: Carpe Diem Kids provides after-school care off-site. Students are collected from school and taken to another school for after school care. More information about this service can be accessed via their website - <https://carpediemkids.co.nz/>

AQUATIC EDUCATION: The swimming pool is up and running. Classes will have 1-2 sessions per week in the pool for most of Term 1. Please ensure your child wears full togs (rash tops are accepted) for their session. Goggles are optional and swimming caps are recommended to avoid hair entering the filter system.

UNIFORM: During Term 1, students wear the summer uniform. Refer to the school website for requirements or the Elim uniform handbook page for [uniform requirements](#). Please ensure that all items are **clearly named**. Hats are strongly encouraged this term. The intermediate students have a black and white Elim cap they can wear.

PARENT HELP: As mentioned in the 'camp' section above, the school operates on the Ministry of Education's best practice. We have class trips and activities planned for this year. These cannot go ahead if the adult:child ratio is not met. **All volunteers are required to hold a current police clearance with Elim Christian College Mount Albert.** If you are unsure of your current police vetting status, please check with our admin staff. If you are not police-vetted via our school as yet, please note that this takes a few weeks to process.

OPEN-DOOR POLICY: We have an open-door policy. Teachers are in staff devotions until 8:30 am. We are available in the classroom to answer questions and to chat about minor issues from 8:30 am - 8:40 am. Alternatively, if you

would like the time to talk further, please make an appointment with the teacher. We will be more than happy to discuss the matter with you.

If you would like to get in contact with us, our email addresses are:

Miss Hannah Fale Rm 6

hannah.fale@elimmtalbert.school.nz

Miss Madeleine Chester Rm 7

madeleine.chester@elimmtalbert.school.nz

Mr Elijah Tay Rm 8

elijah.tay@elimmtalbert.school.nz

We are looking forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Yours sincerely

The Year 7-8 Team

Elim Christian School Mount Albert