

3 February 2025

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whānau

Welcome back to a new year at Elim Christian College! We hope your holidays have been wonderful and refreshing. Our Term 1 theme is, “God wants us to work”. Students will be learning about the economic world and how God can use our strengths, skills and interests to work, serve and live for the kingdom of God.

This term, our school wide focus is:

- **Biblical Theme – God wants us to work, serve and live for the Kingdom of God.**
  - Elim Exploration – Work
  - Inquiry focus - Social Science - The Economic World
  - Health - Celebrating my identity and looking after my wellbeing
  - Literacy focus - Reading, Writing, Punctuation & Editing, Handwriting, Spelling
  - Numeracy focus - Addition, Subtraction & Place Value
  - Vision – Students will be creative, resourceful, enterprising and entrepreneurial. Actively involved participants in a range of life contexts
  - Principles – Future focus - Students are encouraged to look to the future by exploring such significant future - focused issues such as sustainability, citizenship, enterprise, and globalisation.
  - Values – Innovation, inquiry, and curiosity, by thinking critically, creatively, and reflectively
  - Kotahitanga Focus: We show respect/manaakitanga.
  - ARISE Key Competencies -Achievement: Using language, symbols, and texts  
- Responsibility: Managing Self

**SCRIPTURE UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION:** We want to celebrate how students apply the Word of God in their lives. Students will have two larger passages of scripture to understand and apply each term. These verses relate to our Kotahitanga value for the term, with a hope to integrate character and scripture. On the homework sheet each week, there will be a copy of the scripture focus and discussion prompts for families to use at home. This is to help continue the conversation of scripture at home and deepen students’ understanding and application of the verse. During the term, students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding and application of the scripture and will be able to choose a way to do this. It may be through memorisation and explanation orally, through journaling, drama, song, art work or a recorded presentation.

**SWIMMING LESSONS (YEAR 3 - 6 ONLY):**

Our Year 3 - 6 classes will also be participating in swimming lessons with the Community Swim programme this term. Eight 30-minute learn to swim lessons are delivered by qualified swimming instructors from the Swimgym swim school. The children are transported to and from school in special Community Swim buses.

The goal of the Community Swim Programme is to enable all children to develop the basic life skills of swimming and water survival skills. This aids them to realize the opportunities that await when the door to the world of aquatics is opened.

<b>Friday</b>	Starts: 21 February 2025	Last Friday of swimming: 4 April 2025	10.00am - Room 11 (Year 6) (Bus leaves at 9.30am) 10.30am - Room 1 (Year 3) 11.00am - Room 2 (Year 3) 11.30am - Room 3 (Year 4) 12.30 pm - Room 4 (Year 4)
---------------	-----------------------------	---	--

			1.00pm - Room 12 (Year 6) 1.30pm - Room 14 (Year 5) 2.00pm - Room 13 (Year 5)
<b>The Community Swim Bus will pick each group up approximately 30 minutes before each lesson.</b>			
<b>PARENT HELP:</b> The school operates on the Ministry of Education's best practice. We have swimming lessons, 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. 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.			

**UNIFORM:** Refer to the school website for requirements - <https://www.elim.school.nz/uniform/>. Please ensure that all items are **clearly named**.

**Please note:**

- Hats must be worn in Terms 1/4.
- Short-sleeved polo shirts must be worn in Terms 1/4.
- **PE uniform:** Regulation P.E. uniform shirt and shorts is compulsory for all Year 5 and 6 students, and for all Year 4 students who are representing the school in a sports team.

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

**DROP OFF and PICK UP TIMES at Golflands Campus: as per Mr Adamson's Principal's update from 23 January 2025**

As a school, we don't offer before or after school care. Regrettably, we are not resourced by the ministry to be able to do so. There are community groups that have some limited options for such care. We would encourage you to contact them regarding capacity.

At Golflands Campus the earliest that students are able to be at school is **8:15am**. Before this time there is no supervision or access to classrooms, toilets and safety provisions. Please do not drop students at school before this time.

All students need to be collected from school or have arrangements for their care in the afternoon by **3:30pm**. Beyond this time we begin to lock some buildings for security reasons and students are not allowed to remain unsupervised on site.

There are a number of events happening this term so please ensure you take note of the term events and dates and complete the **EOTC form**, **BYOD form**, **Term 1 permission form** and the **school bus form** (if applicable) by clicking the different links listed below.

**Please complete the online forms by Friday 7th February, by clicking on each link below.**

[- Term 1 Permission Form \(all parents\)](#)

[- Annual EOTC Permission Form \(all parents\)](#)

[- GC Bus Survey 2025 \(only if your child/ren takes the bus\)](#)

**INTERNET USER AGREEMENT: (For Years 4-6 students only)**

Students will bring home a copy of this agreement in their homework books, please read the Elim Christian College Internet Use Policy as outlined in the Student Handbook with your child and have them sign it. Parents are also required to complete the online internet user agreement form (see link below)..

[- Year 4 Internet User Agreement \(all Year 4 parents\)](#)

[- Year 5/6 Internet User Agreement \(all Year 5 or 6 parents\)](#)

**Notices: To keep you up to date, please refer to our school website where you can check notices and our current school calendar. If you are not receiving these notifications, please contact the Golflands Campus.**

The following dates and activities may be helpful to know:

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
Week 1 Monday, 3 February		<b>First day of Term 1</b>	
Week 1 Thursday, 6 February		<b>WAITANGI DAY</b> <i>(public holiday, school is closed)</i>	
Week 2 Thursday, 13 February	6pm - 7:30pm	<b>Welcome to our Learning Spaces Evening</b>	GC hall & classrooms
Week 2 Friday, 14 February	All day	<b>Weekly Swimming Lessons begin</b> <i>(these continue until April 4th)</i>	Lloyd Elsmore Pools
Week 3 Tuesday, 18 February		<b>Photolife photos</b>	GC hall
Week 5 Friday, 7 March		<b>Ministry Provided Teacher Development Day</b> <i>(School is closed for students from Year 1 - 8)</i>	
Week 6 Wednesday, 12 March - Friday, 14 March		<b>Year 5 Camp</b>	Willow Park Christian Camp
Week 7 Thursday, 20 March	6pm - 7pm	<b>New Entrants Parent Evening</b>	GC Staffroom
Week 8 Monday, 24 March - Friday 28 March		<b>Travelwise Week</b>	
Week 8 Thursday, 27 March	6pm - 7pm	<b>Maths No Problem, Parent Evening</b>	GC hall
Week 9 Thursday, 3 April		<b>Cultural Day</b>	
Week 9 Thursday, 3 April	6pm - 8pm	<b>Elim Māori Parents Hui</b>	GC Staffroom
Week 10 Tuesday, 8 April	TBC	<b>Year 5 &amp; 6 Market day</b>	GC
Week 10 Thursday, 10 April		<b>Winning House Mufti Day</b> <i>(free of charge)</i>	
Week 10 Friday, 11 April		<b>Easter Assembly start at 8:40am</b> <b>Students to be dropped off at Botany Campus by 8:30am</b> <i>(free of charge)</i>	BC
Week 10 Friday, 11 April		<b>Last day of term</b>	

We have an open-door policy with regard to communicating with teachers. Please be in touch if there is an issue you want to discuss or seek clarification on. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning.

We look forward to getting to know your child and partnering with you as they continue their learning journey this year.

Yours sincerely  
GCJY Leadership Team