

# BOTANY CAMPUS

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Term 2: Week 10

### GARY JOHNSTONE - ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

What a busy term we have just had! Now, as we approach Term 3, it's time for all the pieces of learning to come together. Internal assessments will be completed, practice exams will be attempted and marked, and results will be analyzed. Focus is essential.

We are looking forward to the return of Mr. Murray Burton as school Principal after his sabbatical leave this term. Following Mr. Burton's resignation notice in April, you will have received notice this week that Mr. Julian Adamson has been appointed as Principal, effective January 2025.

Change can be uncomfortable and hard to accept, but it can also be exciting and something we anticipate with hope. We enjoy watching our children grow, yet we sometimes long for the "good old days" of the past. Life is marked by change; where there is no change, there is no life.

The writer of Lamentations 3:21-26 said: "But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." We worship an unchangeable God, yet His mercies are new every morning. This scripture reminds me to hold fast to unchangeable things like integrity, mercy, and kindness, and to embrace the changes and challenges that are part of everyday life.

Joseph Hart 1712-1768 put it this way in his Hymn.

THIS, this is the God we adore,  
Our faithful, unchangeable Friend;  
Whose love is as great as his power,  
And neither knows measure nor end.  
'Tis Jesus, the First and the Last,  
Whose Spirit shall guide us safe home;  
We'll praise him for all that is past,  
And trust him for all that's to come.

## DATES

Last day of Term 2

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Term 3 Starts

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

## BIG SING

On Thursday 20 June the Elim Mt Albert Senior Choir combined forces with the Botany Campus Senior Choir to form Elim Voices. In the early hours of Thursday morning, we all made our way to the Town Hall to compete in The Big Sing - a national choral competition. In the Auckland region alone, there were 75 choirs represented over four days.

The students performed a thrilling programme that consisted of Sanctos by Greg Gilpin, Pākaitore composed by Timothy Evans and arranged specifically for Elim Voices, and lastly Glory, Glory! arr. Adam and Matt Podd, which featured Karen Liu (piano), Nate Collings (guitar), student Sam Molloy (drums) and alumni Beth Britten (bass) and Isaac Aish (organ).

Although the choir did not receive any accolades on their 2nd attempt at participating in this festival, Alanah Jones, our choir director was awarded the young up-and-coming conductors award! Well done Alanah!!

You can view the full programme and our Gala concert performance of Glory, Glory! on the

[Elim Performing Arts YouTube Channel](#).

[Elim Voices full programme](#)

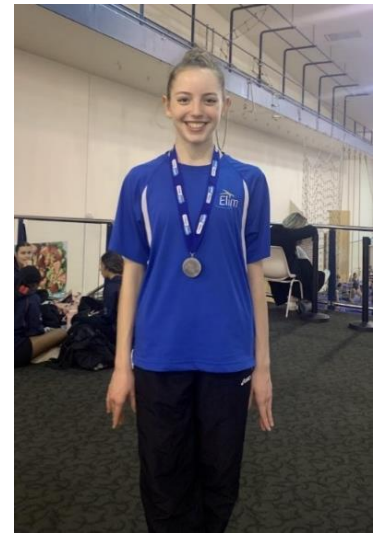
[Elim Voices Gala Concert - Glory, Glory](#)

### STUDENT HIGHLIGHT (MIA HENNING, YEAR 11) - Terina Shaw

We would like to highlight and celebrate one of our very talented students here at Elim - Mia Henning. Mia Henning is a competitive rhythmic gymnast who recently represented our school at the NZ Secondary School Gymnastic Sports Cup at the Bruce Pulman Recreation Centre on June 13th. She competed in the level 7 division with three awesome routines receiving an overall score which earned her the silver medal (2nd place)! Mia said that she “enjoyed this recent school competition as it was a nice change to represent my school where I would usually represent my club.” We asked her a few more questions to learn more about her and the sport.

Mia told us that rhythmic gymnastics is a type of gymnastics which utilises “apparatus such as hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon. This is combined with different elements of dance and apparatus handlings on a rhythmic”. The element of dance is the side of rhythmic which Mia said she most enjoys too. There is also a lot of commitment and effort needed to do rhythmic gymnastics, with Mia saying, “at least 11 hours a week of training is required at senior competitive level to familiarise ourselves with new routines and apparatus.”

As made apparent by Mia though, the hard work really does pay off! If anyone reading is interested in trying out rhythmic gymnastics, Mia recommends “recreational level as a start to rhythmic. From firsthand experience, both Counties Manukau Rhythmics and Howick Rhythmics are amazing, local clubs to try out this sport.” A big congratulations to you Mia and all your hard work!



### ACS NETBALL - Caitie Jackson

On Tuesday 25th June, we hosted the annual ACS (Auckland Christian Schools) Netball Tournament, a highly anticipated event that brought together 17 enthusiastic teams representing Elim from Year 3 to Year 13. The day was filled with competitive spirit, unity, and fun on and off the courts.

We were blessed to have such a beautiful sunny day filled with netball. Seeing each team give it their all and display their passion for the game was so encouraging.

This event would not have been possible without the incredible support from our community. We would like to extend a special thank you to all our coaches, umpires, parent support, and ex Elim Students who helped run the tournament, without you, this day would not have been possible. Another special thank you to Mrs Borthwick's tireless efforts to run this day, we appreciate you!



### PREFECT VISIT TO GC

Junior Years were blessed by the Botany Prefects who led our Monday morning Worship assembly. Our students loved the games they played and the message from Proverbs 3:5-6. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” A great example mentioned during our assembly was Daniel in the lion's den. Daniel continued to pray to God and didn't listen to his own fears. God rescued Daniel from the lions. Trusting in God is powerful. Thank you, Botany Prefects, for your great message and for worshipping with our Junior Years.

## JUNIOR YEARS ASSEMBLY

A few weeks ago, the Prefects went down the road to the Golflands Campus to host a Junior Years Assembly! This assembly consisted of two quick games, worship and a devotion from Keagan Wolsky about "Trusting God". For some members of the team who have been at Elim since year one, this was a really special moment for them. The kids were really receptive and engaged with all the activities, so a huge shout out to them! Can't wait to do something like this again!



## SCHOOL TOURS

Something else the Prefects have been up to include school tours: specifically the Elim Open Day and very recently, touring a few visitors from Australia. This consisted of the Prefects helping to welcome and tour visitors, while introducing our school to them. This event allowed parents and future students to see what our school culture in Elim is about, how teachers interact with students in a classroom setting, and also let them briefly experience our campus. It was great to see many new faces and some familiar ones from Golflands Campus, and hopefully it was a positive experience for all those who dropped by!

## WHĀNAU LEADER MUFTI DAY

In preparation for our Mock Rock performances, the Whānau leader team put on a movie character themed mufti day, and bake sale to raise money for Whānau events. We had some great group costumes and an amazing turnout for our bake sale. The winners of the dress-ups are pictured below.

As the planning for mock rock is heating up, all the Whānau teams are working hard towards their performances for the end of term. We look forward to seeing it all come together in week 10!



## BASKETBALL

Over Kings birthday weekend two of our Elim Alumni competed for Counties Manukau at the Footlocker U20 Basketball Nationals. 2023 First V Boys Captain and Point Guard Joel Sagala, and 2023 Open A Girls Captain and Centre Hannah Dunn. Hannah is also now 6 weeks away from travelling to the USA to take her place at Division 2 Young Harris College in Georgia on a full 4yr athletic scholarship to play Basketball.

It's exciting to see our Elim students and Alumni performing at the elite level and showing that though our school may be small, with hard work, dedication and big dreams there is a sporting pathway here. We can't wait to see what's to come.





## CHESS TOURNAMENT

Elim Botany recently took part in the East Auckland Secondary Schools Chess Tournament in Bucklands Beach. The teams were put together very much at the last minute; however, this did not affect the boys' enthusiasm and excellent attitude. Results were mixed; however, valuable experience was gained and we will be back again next year. A special congratulations goes to David Phillips who won five out of six of his games.

Team A consisted of Timothy Phillips, Seth Zachary Africa, David Phillips, and Elyas Eyou.

Team B consisted of Gary Liu, Jesse Kerkhof, Nathan Wasserfall, and Jack Rush.



## TABLE TENNIS TERM 2

The Inter School Table Tennis Competition has gone well as we have a B-grade team and two C-grade teams. These teams play every Friday at Saint Kentigern's College and have done well in their respective grades. The addition of new players is also exciting as they learn the ins-and-outs of the sport while challenging themselves.



## WHĀNAU COMPETITION



... and the current whanau with most points is ... (drum roll please...), **JOSHUA!**



## MOCK ROCK



**Our much appreciated resident school counsellor had this to say regarding the Mock Rock,**

*It was so good to see so many participating in Mock Rock this week! What a fun atmosphere- one could tangibly feel the sense of belonging and connection. Well done for creating such an awesome event. As you know, taking care of wellbeing is my passion...and it is this kind of connecting, involvement, fun, participation that the boosts wellbeing!*

*I look forward to Cultural evening which also is something you do so well!*

**It truly was an amazing day – and the highest attendance rate of any Mock Rock. Thank you to students and teachers who worked together to make such an event possible. Gary Johnstone**



## FAREWELL TO MR COLLINGS

The photo above is a snapshot of a very moving and sincere farewell from prefects and students to Mr Nate Collings. Mr Collings leaves today to become Head of Music at St Kentigern College.

David Phillips Y12, wrote this tribute. *"We wish you all the best in your new job Mr Collings. You will be very much missed. Sad farewell to... a musical legend and a teacher extraordinaire. Our Mr. Collings leaves to go on his new path. After all, life is about constant change and it's a journey of learning. He has spent wonderful years at Elim and they have prepared him for his next journey, one in which he will do well. Mr Collings, we know God has his hand over you, guiding you to do all the incredible things you do and that you have accomplished here. You have changed the lives of all those you have taught, and as a musician, it's been an absolute pleasure getting to play alongside you, to learn from you, and grow with your guidance. Thank you for all the memories and good times we've had along the way. God bless. All the best."*

