

BOTANY CAMPUS

Friday 24th May 2024

Term 2: Week 4

GARY JOHNSTONE - ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Dear caregivers,

As I write this newsletter today, we have eight teachers across both campuses who are unwell and need relief cover for their classes. Across the country there is a shortage of relief teachers, and some of the more isolated New Zealand schools have temporarily closed. We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff who are prepared to cover their colleagues' classes in their allocated non-contact time and teach combined classes if necessary. Nationally approx. 30% of beginning teachers quit their jobs within five years of teaching, and the number of teachers choosing early retirement has increased by 55% in the last 30 years. Each year, I am aware of the growing pressure on teachers and support staff who deal daily with issues that would have been unthinkable a decade ago.

Again, Elim is blessed to have dedicated teachers who have responded to God's high calling to serve and to go over and above what is expected. One such example of a dedicated teacher at Botany Campus is Mrs Diane Holmes. Thank you, Mrs Holmes, for turning up day after day, week after week, year after year without complaint and for being obedient to your call. Mrs Holmes writes.

"I grew up in South Africa many years ago and decided in primary school that I wanted to be a teacher or a nurse. My wonderful dad was an amazing Maths teacher and inspired me to follow in his footsteps. It was a privilege to teach at Randpark High School where he was headmaster. Thirty-three years ago, we moved as an extended family to this wonderful country. I taught part time at Tyndale Christian School and at the Exclusive Brethren School in Mangere. Those were certainly interesting years. I was very pleased to take up a maths post at the Elim Botany Campus and have loved working with the Elim staff and students for the past 17 years. I have enjoyed working with students to develop their confidence in dealing with numbers and solving problems and I truly have appreciated the years I have spent here. I will miss so many of the aspects of school life at Elim and look forward to coming back as a reliever."

DATES

Monday 3rd June

King's Birthday

Tuesday 4th June

Teacher Only Day

Monday 17th June

Open Day (9.45 – 11.00)

Parent-Teacher-Student
Conferences

Thursday 27th June (1.30-6.30)

Matariki Public Holiday

Friday 28th June

Attendance:

If your child is absent or if your child will be more than half an hour late to school, please fill in the Absence Web Form on our school website before 9am on that day.

If you need to collect your child early from school, please also use the Absence Web Form on the website.

Link to the absence notification page on our website: https://www.elim.school.nz/absence_form/

At Wednesday's assembly this week students held a farewell for Mrs Holmes. Gaius Christie Y12 composed and recited this poem at the assembly.

A Farewell Poem for Mrs Holmes

Labour is red

National is blue,

Our literacy class really loved you.

You're sweet and kind, and you have a terrific, smart mind

Teachers like you are indeed a rare find

We loved the 12 minute breaks

And without you our hearts will ache

We'll treasure our math class and all the times you moved Finn

I'm still wondering why you threw all our paper planes in the bin

Close your tabs and stop smacking your speaker

You're our favourite stats teacher

I'm sure we brought a smile to your face

But it was you that made room 5 a happy place

To us, you were like a mother, a tender mum

And we appreciate all the times you talked about crackheads and F1

Labour is red,

Our faces are turning blue

You're leaving now, and we're gonna miss you

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Cultural exchange with the Taitung Commercial Vocational High School

This is the first time for the students from our sister schools in Taiwan to visit Elim. They experienced dynamic worship in our assembly and spent the whole day experiencing a typical day in a New Zealand classroom. As an exchange, the principal, teachers, and students organized some cultural activities for some of our students on Monday.

Participating in the cultural exchange with students from Taitung and Kiwi students was an enriching and memorable experience for all involved. Through activities like calligraphy, making the Fa Gao (Chinese prosperity cake), and braiding the Pinuyumayan flower wreaths, students from diverse backgrounds came together to learn from one another's traditions and customs. The exchange fostered a sense of understanding, appreciation, and friendship among the participants, highlighting the beauty of cultural diversity. This is a great example of the power of building cross-cultural connections.



HOSANNA WEEK

In week 3 this term, Elim got to spend a fantastic time together in 2024's HOSANNA WEEK! Wonderfully organised by our hosanna team, so many fun things happened in this glorious week.

As a part of this, the Christian Living classes for the entire week were taken over by members of the hosanna team! We got to hear from guest speakers and students alike and we all took away pearls of wisdom for our coming years and lives.

For example, on Monday, the amazing team hosted a panel for the year 12s and 13s, where they got to hear from the wonderful Miss Gibson, Bailey Booth, and Samuel Vincent as they dove deep into the topic of prayer and shared their beautiful knowledge, advice, and personal stories.

And of course, what would Hosanna Week be without the renowned Hosanna Night? This was an awesome space open where people could worship God, draw closer to Him through prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship with one another and church leaders, as well as listen to the amazing Harry Slade bring the Word about truly praising God, fitting so well with the theme of the week "praising God through knowing Him". That night, around 210 people, including those from outside of Elim, came to open their hearts to Jesus and grow in their faith, and God's presence moved and was felt during this time.

On Wednesday lunchtime, the team opened a classroom for pizza & testimonies, where students were able to share and hear from their peers about their walks with Jesus, while creating deep connections over pizza! Following this, the Cafe was open bright and early Thursday Morning for a delicious time of prayer and pancakes, where people could discuss and pray over needs in our lives and the world while enjoying some yummy breakfast. To end off this fantastic week, our weekly Friday assembly was taken to another level with such a cool time of worship and utmost praise for our King. Later at lunchtime, a good ol' Bible trivia took place in the Gym, where teams got to compete against each other around knowledge of the Bible, in a fun and high spirited environment.

Overall, we found it empowering to be in an environment where young people lead the way to worship our God. It was amazing, being able to come together as a school and focus on the worship of our Lord, taking time to truly praise him and his character, and to have Jesus at the centre of our school.



Hosanna Team

Group prayer 1



Group Prayer 2



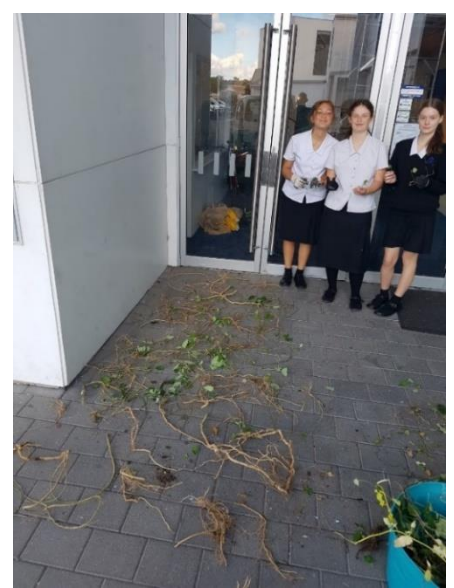
Worship



Question and Answer forum



ENVIRO TEAM WAR ON MOTH PLANTS



This year members from our Enviro Team entered the moth plant competition run by Pest Free Howick and the Auckland Council. With help from the Outdoor Ed. classes, we collected close to 1,000 pods and vines in and around the local Howick area including the Golflands campus. If you see these noxious weeds in your own yard, give them a good pull by the roots and put those pods in the bin to limit the spread of their seeds. A big thanks to all the students involved in helping to keep our local environment pest free.

PREFECTS

Ball Theme Announcement 2024

On Monday morning, the much-awaited ball theme was announced...

The Prefects went with an 'Oscars' approach this year to announce the theme, with black-and-white tuxedos, trophies, and fake ball theme nominations. Following Elim tradition, the fake ball theme video played first: 'Money, Money, Money', inspired by, and utilising the song by ABBA. Subsequently, the real ball theme was announced too. This year's theme is inspired by Vincent van Gogh's famous painting: *The Starry Night*.

It's a bit of a mixed bag with the Elim student cohort when asked about the ball theme. Some of the responses were:

"The presentation was cool: the Oscars would've been fun."

"It's very abstract, creative and will be nice to decorate."

"Inspirational."

"It should've been Money, Money, Money."

"Valid. When I look up to the sky...I think of the ball theme."

"When you search up 'best ball themes' on Google, Starry Night comes up in the top five..."

Here are the ball videos if you would like to watch them at home:

https://youtu.be/Fcr5DdpFfQ8?si=PjRQ0NTVo13i_6eS

<https://youtu.be/S5nNSrukby?si=QMGvpUwxbgx95fPW>



Credits to Micah Guyan for helping us out with the graphics and filming the ball videos!

WHĀNAU LEADER MUFTI DAY

Kia Ora Elim Whānau!

Upcoming in our Kura's calendar: the Whānau Leaders are hosting a mufti day on Thursday 30th May to help raise money for the Mock Rock charity - which will be held on Thursday 4th July. To go with our themes for this year's Mock Rock, we will be hosting a movie-themed mufti day, and we encourage all students to dress up as characters from a movie either individually, or in a group. Throughout the day, we will be taking photos of particularly creative costumes to judge later in assembly. Alongside this mufti day, the Whānau Leaders will host a bake sale during morning tea on Thursday.

We look forward to seeing all your beautiful smiles and brilliant costumes.

Stay blessed! ❤️❤️❤️❤️

FRIDAYS @ TWELVE UXBRIDGE THEATRE

Elim Christian College will present a varied programme of music at the Howick Uxbridge Theatre on Friday 7 June from 12pm - 1.30pm.

This will feature our Elim Voices Choir, Chamber Ensemble, Euphony Ensemble, GCMY Jazz Combo, BC Jazz Combos and Year 13 Worship Team.

Entry fee is \$5. Please come and support our talented musicians.

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

FRIDAYS @ TWELVE

\$5 DOOR SALES | AT UXBRIDGE THEATRE

BOTANY DOWNS COLLEGE 24 MAY
HOWICK COLLEGE 31 MAY
ELIM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE 7 JUNE
PAKURANGA COLLEGE 14 JUNE
ST KENTIGERN COLLEGE 21 JUNE
SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE 5 JULY

Experience the incredible talents of our gifted school musicians. They promise to captivate audiences with a harmonious blend of classical, jazz, and varied musical genres during our secondary school music lunchtime series.

UXBRIDGE

Howick
Local Board
Howick Council

35 Uxbridge Road,
Howick (09) 535 6467
uxbridge.org.nz

NO RIGHT TURN WHEN SIGN IS DISPLAYED

This sign is displayed from 3:10pm on the Northern (Howick side) BC carpark exit for approx. 10-15 minutes
DON'T TURN RIGHT.

Turning right creates a traffic hazard, especially when school buses are parked on Botany Road

If you wish to turn right during this time, use the Southern Exit (Botany Side) where you will have the choice between left or right



HOWICK YOUTH COUNCIL

Updates from our 3 amazing representatives who meet weekly with the HYC and are committed to numerous weekend community events!



This year I have had the privilege of serving in team 4 of the Howick Youth Council. Our 'Quiz Night' event marked the start of Howick Youth Council events for the year, and it turned out a great success. We saw a variety of rangatahi (youth, younger generation) from different schools having fun and interacting positively with one another. Team 4 is currently preparing for 'Youth Summit', a defining event for our council. Taking place on the 21st of June, this event is focused on youth development and the growth of crucial leadership skills. It is our objective to propel individuals on their leadership journey by educating students about specific skills that are vital for quality and effective leadership. It will be great to see Elim students getting involved and participating! Thank you,
Kei McNeill

We look forward to making the most of this coming year and accomplishing our goals in empowering and providing opportunities for our local youth through events such as Youth Week, which will encourage young people to engage and connect with one another and help foster community spirit between schools; How to Life, which aims to help ease the transition into adulthood through various workshops; and the Visual Arts Showcase, which seeks to empower our rangatahi through promoting and celebrating artistic talents and passions within our youth. We hope to make this a great year! Thank you.
Shalom Kim

This year for HYC I am very passionate about the events we will be providing for the youth in our community. Our first event this year was Sports Fest! Sports fest is an event that promotes physical activity and activeness in the rangatahi of East Auckland. Youth were able to try new sports, get out of their comfort zone, and connect through teams with students in our area. The second event we are running this year is Clothes Swap! This event is focused on the topic of sustainability, aiming to encourage sustainable clothing habits such as thrifting. As well as highlighting the importance of sustainable fashion and the impact it has on our environment. The last event me and my team will be running this year is the Mental Health Conference! This event will aim to facilitate an open and safe discussion surrounding mental health so the rangatahi in our area feel as though their voices are heard and have the possibility to make connections with others who have gone through similar experiences. All throughout the year we are aiming to make this community more rangatahi focused and provide the youth in our community with meaningful experiences.
Thank you,
Nicole Jackson

