

BOTANY CAMPUS

Tuesday 29th October 2024

Term 4: Week 3

GARY JOHNSTONE - ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Last week was highlighted by our Sports Award Celebration and Senior Prizegiving. Thank you to the many parents who attended these events and for your continued support of the school. It is a privilege to work in an environment where students are so motivated and passionate in their Christian faith. I am humbled to be part of a dedicated team of staff who serve because they know they are called by God. None of us—parents, staff, or teachers—are immune to doubt, tiredness, frustration, hurt, or disappointment. Yet, through it all, the love of God holds us together, making life richer in spite of the challenges. Perhaps this sentiment is best captured in the devotion given by our Head Girl, Terina Shaw, at the farewell assembly—the final assembly of the year for our senior students.

For many of us in the room today, this is our last assembly. The last time in our uniforms, the last time that we sit through another long assembly together, the last day of doing what we have done for the past 13 years. The last day of school may be one that you couldn't wait for anymore or it may be one that you wish never came. Nonetheless, it is a day to appreciate what we have accomplished throughout the year and to look towards the future.

So, you may have heard the saying before, "Life is like a mosaic." Each person you have ever known, everything you have ever experienced, every aspiration you plan to reach, forms parts of the artwork that is your life. The mosaic of your life has begun with your time at school, with pieces of all your teachers, friends, and other peers, but it does not make you all that you are.

In one of my devotions earlier this year, I spoke about the legacy that we leave behind. Asking you all to think about what values, traditions, culture, and history you will pass down. Each of us here today leave behind a piece of ourselves at Elim, forever adding to the artwork of our school. No matter how big or small you may think your impact was, it has left a lasting impression. Every single individual serves a purpose in the image, and without you all, the artwork would not be the same.

The mosaic of your life makes you who you are and establishes what you will carry out into the wider world with you. Each picture looks different, just as we all do. Even though some shards of glass can have imperfections, they can come together to form a beautiful artwork, because God has made us with intention and for a purpose.

Psalm 139:13-14 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well".

Elim may be a part of you, but it is not all that you will go on to be. The Lord has made a plan for each of us and that plan is a good one. Not only does He set the plan, but He is with us every step of the way. As Proverbs 16:9 says, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

DATES

End of Year reports available
Monday 4th November

NCEA External Exams
Tuesday 5th – Friday 29th November

Year 13 Graduation Dinner
Thursday 28th November (7pm)

I'm sure all of us have planned for something to go a certain way and it went completely differently. All the artists in the room will know that the final design doesn't always look like the intended piece. This is much like our lives and our futures. I know that it can be quite frightening to think about finishing school and what the future holds for us, but we can feel relieved knowing that God is our concrete. Our foundation. Our glue that holds the picture together. "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." - Deuteronomy 31:8. Art is ever-changing and increasing in complexity, just like all our lives. You don't need to be sure of where you might end up, but you can be sure that God will be with you all the way through it.

I leave you with some of the final words spoken by our Head Boy, Tydus Ah Kuoi, as part of the joint speech he delivered with Terina at the Senior Prizegiving.

When grafting a tree, there are two main components. The rootstock, and the scion. The lower part of the tree is called the rootstock and is used to form the roots, controlling the height of the tree. The scion is the upper portion which is responsible for fruit type, flavour and colour. Although Elim has many parts, we are rooted in one person, and that is Jesus. He is the one that makes us stand tall and strong and He is the one who grounds us firmly in good soil. He is our rootstock. And we each have been grafted together to bring a unique combination of flavours and colours to create one beautiful masterpiece.



The Class of 2024.

To view the inspiring haka given at the conclusion of the assembly click on the link:
[Farewell Assembly Haka 2024.MP4](#)

YEAR 13 GRADUATION DINNER

Details are:

Date: Thursday 28th November
Time: 7-11pm
Cost: \$50 to be paid by Friday 25th October
Venue: Pakuranga Golf Club

Payments were due Friday 25th October

SORRY FRIENDS AND FAMILY- THIS EVENT IS FOR Y13 ELIM BC STUDENTS AND THEIR TEACHERS ONLY.

YOUR INPUT- REVIEW ABOUT BULLYING

At Elim, creating an emotionally safe environment is a key priority for us. We want to do all we can to prevent and address bullying at Elim and, as part of that, we would value hearing from you. Please take a few moments to complete this survey: [Parent/Caregiver Survey: Bullying](#)

REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS

- **All textbooks and resources** are to be returned to the subject teachers or to the returns trolley in the learning hub on the day of the subject exam. You will be billed for any books that are not returned before **Friday 29 November 2024**.
- **A reminder to return all locker keys urgently**. To receive your bond your locker needs to be clean, undamaged and you need to return your key. Bonds will be credited to your school account.
- All Year students must complete the **Y13 Leavers Form**.

LEAVERS FORM: For Year 11 and 12 not returning

All formal notifications to withdraw from Elim Christian College will be required in writing, giving one term's notice. Therefore, if your child is not returning in 2025, please download a Leavers Form using the link below and email the completed form to enrolments@elim.school.nz as soon as possible or by Friday 27th September 2024.

Leavers Form: <https://www.elim.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/StudentLeavingForm.pdf>

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Enrolment Team at enrolments@elim.school.nz.

END OF YEAR NCEA EXAMS:

- **2024 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE** 5 November – 29 November.
- You must bring your admission slip to each exam. Do not lose your slip as it has your candidate code number on it and this has to be matched with your exam papers and the venue.
- **Full correct uniform must be worn at all times to school, including exams and visits to teachers.**

SUPPORT DURING EXAM PERIOD- a word from the Counsellor

Exams can be a challenging time for our students. Healthy habits and routine are so important and helpful for coping well. Some suggestions are to study during what would be school hours, taking breaks, and keeping up with exercise. If any student is finding they may want to chat with a counsellor through the exam period, I am available for in person or online sessions by appointment during school hours. They should feel free to contact me on Schoology or by email yvette.britten@elim.school.nz.

NCEA Summer School – Literacy Level 2

Study online with Te Kura Summer School.

Don't let a few NCEA credits stop you from going on to further study, training or employment next year. Registrations open in November.

Extra credits to gain Level 1-3 or for University Entrance

If you are looking for a few extra credits to gain Level 1-3 or for University Entrance, consider enrolling for Te Kura Summer School.

Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu

0800 65 99 88 | summerschool@tekura.school.nz

www.tekura.school.nz/summerschool

SPORTS COUNCIL

On Tuesday 22nd October we had a very successful sports celebration evening. This evening was all about appreciating, recognising and celebrating all the effort that went into the sports this year. We would like to thank all the coaches, players, officials and supporters for making this year possible. We couldn't have done it without you! Once again, thank you to everyone who made this sporting year so amazing and enjoyable. Congratulations to everyone who received an award and to everyone who contributed by participating in sports this year!

This year the Sports Council has been instrumental in enhancing our school's sports culture through initiatives like lunchtime sport, staff vs. students' games, fundraising for tournament teams through bake sales, writing the newsletter to keep our community updated with our sporting achievements, and the Sports Kotahitanga Award (aka Borthwick's Box of Brilliance) in assembly, which recognizes students embodying our values of unity and integrity. Their efforts have significantly increased student participation in both social and competitive sports.

We have loved promoting all our exceptional athletes at Elim and investing in Elim's sporting culture. This year we've had many successful sports seasons and we are honoured to have so many talented sportsmen representing our school. A huge thank you to everyone who helped and contributed to sporting at Elim, and a huge thank you from the 2024 Sports Council.

Passing the baton from 2024 to 2025 sports council team



Thanks to 2024 Umpires and Referees



Full Auditorium - parents, supporters and sports participants

