



2 Nash Road  
Aidanfield  
Christchurch 8025  
Ph: (03) 338 8153

*Growing in Wisdom and Stature Stand and be Confident*



# Aidanfield Christian School

## Term 1 Week 6, 2018

Kia Ora Aidanfield whanau.

Are you ever surprised at how fast the term seems to disappear? We have begun week 6 already. Easter is at the end of the month and then shortly after that the first set of holidays are upon us. Time is precious!

### **Our theme in 2018 as a staff – Stay True Stay Relevant**

One of the concepts that I am thinking a lot about lately and is a part of our staff discussions is how we as a school and as people of faith can 'stay true and stay relevant'. I have been challenged by the idea that we should be compelled to stay relevant in our communities today. This means as people of faith we have a responsibility to know what are the current issues in society and in the world our pupils are growing up in. Not only do we need to know what is going on, we also need to develop responses that are meaningful and relevant to those issues. An example might be the impact of social media on the lives of our young people, or a response to the euthanasia bill before parliament, or perhaps an understanding of how we can speak into issues of sexuality and identity. From an educational stance it could be that we are well informed and relevant on what schools should look like for the best outcomes for children, not swayed by current trends but thoughtful and deliberate in our decisions. Being people of faith calls us to be involved in our communities in a way that makes a difference and is totally relevant to our time – not times gone by.

At the same time as the call to be totally relevant is heard, so to and more importantly is the call to stay true to what scripture teaches. We have the responsibility to ensure that while we are working to be relevant we do not water down or depart from what God has made clear. We are called to be faithful to what we know to be right as defined by the one who called all things into being. Relevance cannot be at the expense of faithfulness. But, we need to be careful to be faithful and true to scripture and not to the arguments of people who use scripture for their own ends or who manipulate the Word. This surely is a challenge.

As parents and those who are charged with the responsibility to lead and guide our young people into a knowledge of God and of His ways we have a responsibility to stay true and be relevant. We are called to model to our children what we know scripture to be saying and to prepare them to stand and be confident in the world they are growing into. How grateful I am for the grace and wisdom of God, available to anyone who calls on His name!

### **Why the rain when we want to play?**

It is pouring with rain as I type these words. I should be on a beach with our middle schoolers learning how to surf! It seems ironic that in the hottest summer on record our two water sport activities have been cancelled due to rain! Both the school swimming sports and the Middle School learn to surf day have been called off. I need to thank Miss Ruth Nixon and Mrs Kiri-Lee Williams for the significant amount of work that went into the planning and organising of both events – in the end for very little return.

### **Year 9 and 10 athletics**

While the weather challenged our water activities, it was perfect for the year 9 and 10 combined athletics with our Christian School partners. The day was run last week and our pupils performed very well being competitive across a range of events. Of note was Toks Babajide's result in the 200 meters breaking the record for that event that has stood for the past 9 years. Thank you to Mrs Thomson for her involvement in getting our pupils there for the day.

### **Interviews**

Thank you to all those who took the time to come and talk with the teachers at the interviews in the last couple of weeks. The partnership built between teachers and parents has significant benefits as the year unfolds. As with any partnership it takes an investment of time to grow understanding and so, if you were a family that invested that time – thank you. It was good to see you!

... continued over page

[www.aidanfield.school.nz](http://www.aidanfield.school.nz)

### **Teacher Only Days – two coming!**

We have a couple of Teacher Only days that you need to keep in mind. These have been notified a number of times from the end of last year. While I acknowledge the hassle Teacher Only days are for families (I struggle with them for my own boys!), they are immensely valuable for staff professional development. I appreciate your efforts to support the school in this regard.

### **Monday March 12 the school is closed.**

All our staff will be attending a conference day with Dr Michael Lindsey, President of Gordon College in the US of A. The Christian Schools Network of Christchurch have worked together to bring Dr Lindsey out to Christchurch for three days. The sessions for our staff focus on Christian Education in our current era and will be highly valuable as we continue to work at being relevant in our world.

### **Friday June 1 the school is closed.**

We traditionally use this day as a staff professional development day. It is the Friday before Queens Birthday Monday and so affords families the opportunity of a four day weekend if they wish to take it.

### **Easter Holidays.**

The school is closed on Friday 30 March, Monday 2 April AND Tuesday 3 April. Please note that Tuesday 3 April is a school holiday for Easter and this is a national school holiday not one decided by our school.



### **A word about money.**

This is a gentle reminder that all activity fees must be fully paid by the end of year term. Please ensure you plan for this to happen. Your help in this is very much appreciated!

Grace and peace from a wet Tuesday afternoon.

Mark Richardson

Principal

## Board of Trustees

Welcome to 2018. As a Board we are thankful for the successes of 2017 and thankful for our Lord's guidance through the challenges. A highlight for 2017 was attending the prize giving, observing the numerous flags of the nations represented at Aidanfield and listening to the words of "What a Beautiful Name" being sung so beautifully. We are so excited by the way God is using this school. He is ever faithful.

This year we will be working hard to review and refine the vision for Aidanfield Christian School. Thank you to all those who have participated in our surveys - we really appreciate your input.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for 2018. I can be contacted on [botchair@aidanfield.school.nz](mailto:botchair@aidanfield.school.nz) if you feel you need to get in touch with the Board. The Board of Trustees for 2018 consists of:

Judith Bullin (Chair)  
Mandy Cleave (Deputy Chair)  
Simon-Pierre Mybonyinshuti (Treasurer)  
Matthew Parker (Secretary)  
Andrew Henderson  
Mark Larson  
Matthew Pratt  
Mark Peters  
Mark Richardson (Principal)  
Ruth Nixon (Staff representative)

As a Board, we are using the model of prayer and thanksgiving shown in Colossians 1:3-14. We would encourage you to join in thanking God for His work in our school and bringing the school, the staff, students and wider community before Him in prayer.

We wish you all the very best for 2018 and look forward to hearing of the successes throughout the year.

Judith Bullin

# Cycle Safety

We started off in the classroom where we learnt about some of the road rules with Constable Megan. We learnt that you can get big fines for simple things such as not putting your helmet on properly, or riding on the footpath.

Then we went out to the court to learn some skills. Some skills we learnt were things like left and right-hand signals. Something many didn't know was the stop signal. We learnt roundabout rules plus heaps more cool stuff!

Here are some of the Year 6's opinions, a lot of people said they would recommend Cycle Safe for the younger generations because it helps you in life and it's really fun.

"Amazing, fun, but cold on Wednesday!" – Robson

"Yes, I would recommend this for the younger generation because it teaches them to stay safe on the road." - Rafael

"I'd rate it 1 billion gazillion/10, because it's fun and the roundabouts, it teaches you to not get run over!" – Nathan

"It was extremely fun! We went on the road, had an adventure and the best experience" – Rasita

"I'd rate it 10/10 because we got to see new places and I learnt how to use a roundabout" – Abigal

"I'd recommend this for the younger people because if you want to ride to school on a busy road, we know what to do now!"- Zoe

On the second day of Cycle Safety we all went on the road and practised how to turn when you're going around the roundabout, and how to turn at an intersection. This stuff may seem boring but once you get started, it's really fun.

When we got started on the road, we were all scared (although some will disagree). On the road, it was super positive and it was really fun! It was raining for some bits but it really didn't make the experience bad!

In conclusion, we think that Cycle Safety was an amazing experience and all the generations to come will love it too.

- Nevaeh, Tawanashe, Tupou, Lorraine, and Faiva



## 2018 Information

Term 1 Monday 12th March - Teacher Only Day - School is closed  
Saturday 24th March - School Fair 10am - 2pm  
Friday 30th March - Good Friday  
Monday 2nd April Easter Monday - School is closed  
Tuesday 3rd April Easter Tuesday - School is closed  
Wednesday 4th April - Cultural Week begins  
Friday 13th April - last day of Term 1

Term 2 Monday 30th April - first day of Term 2  
Wednesday 25th April - ANZAC Day - School is closed  
Friday 1st June - Teacher Only Day - School is closed  
Friday 6th July - last day of Term 2

Term 3 Monday 23rd July - first day of Term 3  
Friday 24th August - Enrolments close for 2019 applications  
Friday 28th September - last day of Term 3

Term 4 Monday 15th October - first day of Term 4  
Monday 22nd October - Labour Day - School is closed  
Friday 17th November - Anniversary Day - School is closed  
Thursday 13th December - last day of Term 4



# New Staff



**Teresa Thomson** - In January, my husband (Graham) and I moved down from Auckland, along with our slightly spoilt cat, so I could take up the role of Head of Middle School here at Aidanfield. I have over sixteen years of experience in Christian education, working in various roles ranging from being a principal, to head of Year 9 in a large Middle School, to classroom teacher of students from Years 1-9. Currently, I am also serving on the executive of the NZ Association for Christian Schools. My husband and I are enjoying exploring Christchurch and are learning to navigate our way around. I am also enjoying getting to know the school, its staff, students and families.

**Jo Eason** - I have always lived in Christchurch and consider it a great city to live in. as it conveniently close to the Port Hills, the Southern Alps and the sea. My recreation activities include mountain biking, running and reading. My husband and I have four adult sons of whom two are married. Fortunately for us, the son who has produced our first grandson lives in Christchurch. I enjoy teaching Science in particular and recently traveled to Antarctica as part of a postgraduate university course. I am very much looking forward to being part of the Aidanfield Christian School community.



**Louise Cahill** - Hi there, I'm Louise Cahill the new teacher in Kowhai 3. As well as teaching, I am a mother to William (aged 6) and Samuel (age 4 and a half) and married to Paul. We have moved down to Christchurch on the 25th January after living and working in Auckland over the last ten and a half years. My interests include gardening, cooking and spending time with family. Thank you for warmly welcoming me into the school community, I am looking forward to the exciting year and adventures ahead.

## Community News



Are your Year 1 – 4 children keen on developing skills and playing netball this year? Then either register your child online at [www.sporty.co.nz/hrlnc](http://www.sporty.co.nz/hrlnc) or come along to our information / registration session on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of March from 4.30 – 5.30pm at the Oaklands School Hall.

The cost of the programme will be \$50 per child. You do not need to do fundraising at this level – please tick “ pay opt out fee “ on the registration form but you will not be required to pay, this is for older players.

We will need some parents to help manage these teams – if you are able to help, please let us know. For more information: Email the club on [hrlnetballclub@gmail.com](mailto:hrlnetballclub@gmail.com)

Check our website on [www.sporty.co.nz/hrlnc](http://www.sporty.co.nz/hrlnc)

Facebook on Halswell Rugby League Netball Club

Contact either Sonya on 0277102022 or Bec on 0272337487



### 14<sup>th</sup> CHCH Boys' Brigade

BB is an action packed programme geared for Young Kiwi guys.

Boys' Brigade is a fun filled Christian based programme for boys aged 5-19 yrs old. We operate in three sections, Anchor 5-7 years, Team Adventure 8-10 years and Company Xtreme 11-19 years old. Activities include Crafts, games, camps, outdoor pursuits, leadership training, life skills and lots more. We meet on a Friday night at Beckenham Methodist Church Hall, 52 Martin Ave, Beckenham. New members welcome for 2018, interested contact Stephen Gregory ph 337 2296, email [admin@14thbb.org.nz](mailto:admin@14thbb.org.nz) see our website for more [www.14thbb.org.nz](http://www.14thbb.org.nz)

## Parenting Helpline

get support, advice  
and practical strategies

we can help  
with any of your  
parenting concerns

**Call 0800 568 856**

9am - 9pm Monday to Sunday

[www.parenthelp.org.nz](http://www.parenthelp.org.nz)



### Learning Difficulties?

*We can help*

**Optimise your child's potential**

**Psycho-Educational Assessments**  
(identifies reasons for difficulties)

**Remedial Tuition and Therapy**  
(fills academic gaps)

**Train the Brain**

[info@trainthebrain.co.nz](mailto:info@trainthebrain.co.nz)  
Level 1, 285 Cashel Street  
Christchurch  
(03) 366 7713

CLARKVILLE SCHOOL  
TWILIGHT  
**Gala**  
FRIDAY  
MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup> 4-7PM  
HIGH TEA ☞ WHITE ELEPHANT ☞ KIDS SIDESHOWS  
BOUNCY CASTLE ☞ RAFFLES ☞ YUMMY FOOD  
PLAYHOUSE BUILDING CHALLENGE  
WITH PLAYHOUSES TO BE AUCTIONED ON THE NIGHT!  
FACEBOOK.COM: CLARKVILLEGALA  
10 HEYWARDS RD, CLARKVILLE  
**Free entry!**