

Aidanfield Christian School

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School Newsletter - Week 5, Term 4, 2016

Growing in Wisdom and Stature

Stand and be confident

Kia Ora Aidanfield whanau

As we draw the year towards a close I would like to take a moment to reflect on what our school is about.

Aidanfield Christian School has a Learning Tree that captures who we are. It focuses on Learning, Character and Purpose. It proclaims that we are here to guide pupils to grow in wisdom and stature so that they can stand and be confident in the communities that they take their places in. It says that as part of the journey towards growing, our pupils will be challenged by issues of faithfulness, integrity, excellence and stewardship. The 'Purpose' branch of the tree highlights the need to engage with working out what they believe, who they are (their identity), how to think with discernment based on biblical wisdom. It states that we will challenge pupils with the issues of service and that they will be encouraged to learn deeply as they explore the world and their place in it. While not stated on the tree, a foundational aspect of the school is that we do this in partnership with parents and families. It is by no means just about what the school does and has done – it's what we do, together, day in and day out.

We have a group of year 10 pupils who will be finishing their journey of learning through Aidanfield at the end of this year. I would like to suggest that this year's group of leavers exemplifies what we are about as a school in a very special way. Each of them reflects the very things the Learning Tree speaks of! Because they are all in year 10 they are still very much learning (as we all are), but for year 10 pupils they are an outstanding bunch!

Every year I watch our year 10 group and I compare what I see to what I had predicted in years prior to them arriving at the year 10 level. I have been here long enough now to remember the first meeting I have had with most of them at the point of enrolment. I remember some of the conversations I had with those that arrived in later years. I have been a part of their journey's for an extended period of time. I have watched as some of them have struggled at school or outside school. I have been a part of numerous conversations with them and their families. I have sometimes cringed at decisions that have been made and sometimes rejoiced at decisions made. I have worried, pondered, prayed as they have walked the journey of learning into their teenage years. Now, at this point of the year I can say without a doubt that I am very impressed with the quality of young person that each of them has turned in to. They really are an outstanding bunch of teenagers, each one of them.

As each one moves on, the school will lose something that each brought to this place and yet, moving on is exactly what they should do to keep learning and growing. And, that should never stop for each one of them – just as it should never stop for each one of the adults involved in their lives! We each are challenged to keep growing, keep exploring, keep learning, keep becoming and to keep growing in a relationship with our living God. As our Year 10 group move on to new things they quietly lay down a challenge to you. How are you going on the journey of living and growing and becoming who you are called to be?

As you head into the Christmas period with all its busyness, what things need to change for you so that you can stay on the path of growth? What is in your control to change and that will help you grow in faithfulness, integrity, excellence and stewardship? What is hindering you from growing in your belief about God and your response to Him? Are there things that need to happen for you to step deeper into your understanding about who you are and how that contributes to your community? Is something hindering your gift of serving and are the decisions you make as an adult ones that are based on biblical wisdom and sound discernment?

Such a challenge and such a joy! May I encourage you to stay on the learning journey through thick and thin and to look not only to those that are older than you for inspiration but also to see those of our young people who also passionately engage with becoming who they were called to be in God.

Live, learn and grow in Him.

Grace and peace.

Mark Richardson, Principal

Serving and working together with families, equipping children in a Biblical community to:

* pursue excellence in academic learning

* become discerning thinkers

* understand their identity

* be faithful in service to God

ACS Athletics Day

Thursday 13th of October was the annual Aidanfield Christian School Years 4 – 8 Athletics Day. The weather was stunning, the athletes were competitive and the Year 10 leaders were super supportive.

The event was about pursuing excellence in physical pursuit. It was a time for the students to put the skills they had been learning and practicing to the test, time for them to put their best foot forward. And they did. We had 32 students qualify for the South West Zones - a stepping-stone towards the Centrals.

Thank you to all those who worked behind the scenes; Mr Keith and Paul McAven who marked the track, and Kiri Lee Williams doing hours of admin. Thank you to the teachers and parents who supported and helped out on the day. And, of course, thank you to the students who participated – well done.

Ruth Nixon
Head of Sport



On Thursday 13th October Year 4 and up had their Athletics Day. There was long jump, high jump, sprints, long distance running, shotput and discus. We were put into age groups. After three sports rotations there was morning tea. After another two was lunch, and then the last one, a pack up and house relays. At lunch there was a cake stall full of yummy food. The sprinters and long distance runners got lots of cheering as they went past. I thought long jump and high jump were particularly fun. Overall, it was a great day.

By Michaela

The Year 4-8 Athletics Day got off to a great start as the weather was highly favourable.

Under the blazing sun the pupils were briefed by Miss Nixon and assembled into their age group teams. The groups rotated around sprints, high jump, long jump, discus and shotput.

I was very impressed with the effort displayed by the children during the long hot day. For me personally, it was great to see that the practises we had done in Term 3 were paying off, as the shotput technique was better than in previous years.

When all the rotations were complete, the house relays and house chant competitions took place. I was delighted that Aspiring took out the house chant competition, even if Tasman was the overall winner.

A big thanks to Miss Nixon and Whaea Kiri for all their hard work in organising the day. Also thanks to the many parents that came along to support it. There was a great sense of community.

By Mr McIntosh



End of Year 2016 Information

Start of year detail and Reports for pupils

Reports will be given in a sealed envelope to each child from year 4 upwards UNLESS WE HEAR FROM YOU ASKING US TO POST YOUR FAMILIES REPORTS. We will put an email reminder and Facebook comment alerting you to the reports availability. Please look out for these on Friday 9th of December for pupils in years 4 to 10.

In the same envelope we will include; class placement letters, stationary lists, parent handbook, magazine and other information relevant to different levels. We will send ONE envelope per family.

Pupils in years 1 to 3 are on a different reporting system so will not receive end of year reports in these envelopes. They will have received two reports through the year starting from the day they started school (their anniversary date). This is in line with National Standards reporting expectations.

Prizegiving detail

When: Thursday 15th December

Where: Lincoln Events Centre, 15 Meijer Drive, Lincoln

Time: Pupils must arrive no later the 5:00pm. Pupils gather outside the hall, find their teacher and wait to be ushered into the hall.

Start time: 5:30pm but there is entertainment from 5:00pm

Uniform: All pupils must be in full school uniform.

Finish Time: We are aiming at about an hour and forty five minutes so we should be finished somewhere around 7.15pm. However, you will understand that we do want to do the prizegiving well and make it a worthwhile event, therefore the finish time may extend beyond this.

Preschoolers: As this is a formal event we would appreciate parents of pre-schoolers making arrangements to ensure that they do not interrupt the occasion.



Early Finish Thursday December 15th

To allow pupils to refresh and be ready for the prize giving on Thursday 15th of December, all pupils may leave school from 12:30pm on that day as long as they go with THEIR parent. If you wish someone else to pick up your child then we will need a signed note from you with the details to the class teacher by 9am on Thursday morning. No pupils will be released to another person or family without the written permission of the child's parent. This is for everyone's safety and sanity.

Children who are not able to be picked up will be supervised at school until 3:00pm.

Thursday 15th of December is the last day of school for the year. There is NO school on Friday 16th December.

End of year survey

Every year we ask for your opinions and thoughts on how the school is going. A link will be emailed home in the next week or two for you to complete this online. This survey helps the BOT know what the key issues are for our community. This year we will include questions on uniform as we begin to review our school uniform.

A number of people have commented that the questions are the same as previous years. This is intentional. The first questions of the survey are the same each year to help us see what the trends over time are in key areas. The second half of the survey asks questions that we want feedback on as it relates to the following years developments. This years focus is school uniform.

We look forward to receiving your views.

Lost Property

Can you please continue to check the lost property box situated just outside the office for any lost items. There is a large number of school jerseys and cardigans. These are expensive items. We have had a few families with items that seem to have disappeared, so can you please make sure you check your child has their own uniform and hasn't accidentally grabbed an item belonging to someone else.

Term Dates for 2017

Term 1 - Wednesday 1st February - Thursday 13th April

Term 2 - Monday 1st May - Friday 7th July

Term 3 - Monday 24th July - Friday 29th September

Term 4 - Monday 16th October - Wednesday 13th December

Community News

Only 9 sleeps until our School Fair!!

Make sure you see the attached notice to see how you can help.
Saturday 19th November 10am - 2pm



2 Nash Road (right here on the school grounds!)
Telephone: 338-9948 Mobile: 022 094-9926
Email: cornerstone@aidanfield.school.nz
Web: www.cornerstone.school.nz

We provide a warm, caring environment with structured morning and afternoon sessions.

- ☺ Quality friendly care for 2½ year olds and up.
- ☺ Limited numbers to ensure quality teaching and a sense of family.
- ☺ Teachers faithful to Christian character.
- ☺ Community based hours 8.30am – 3.30pm, children can attend mornings, afternoons or whole days. Closed for school holidays.
- ☺ Fees: Full Day \$35.00 or Half Day \$17.50
20 Hours Free ECE and WINZ subsidies available.

For more information, contact Karin in the office (who works mornings), leave us a message, send us an email or even a text works just as well ☺



Bookings for January holiday program are not open!
Week One: 16th - 20th January
Week Two: 23rd - 27th January
Cost is \$60 for the week
Email: info@starfishswimschool.co.nz
Or phone us at 033381795
2 Nash Road, Halswell

Make a difference in your community – foster parents needed



Could you provide quality care for young person in your community?

Child, Youth and Family are looking for people, in Christchurch, who are interested in making a difference to the life of a vulnerable young person.

Many young people, in need of care, have had a tough start in life. Mostly they are just everyday kids but can exhibit some challenging and complex behaviours.

It is really important that these young people are part of a caring home, with foster parents who can be firm, are great communicators, are prepared to learn new skills to support their specific needs – parents who really believe in the potential of teenagers.

If you are in the position to offer a young person the quality care they deserve, and support them through adolescence, you would not be left on your own.

You will be part of a dedicated team, receive daily support, professional training, on-going advice, and guidance, and will be remunerated for providing quality care.

Please call us to discuss fostering a young person and the support package we can offer you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact Lorraine Paish

- 03 9615601
- Lorraine.paish003@cyf.govt.nz
- or call toll free on 0508 FAMILY (0508 326 459)

WWW.CYF.GOV.T.NZ



Carols by Treelight

St John of God Halswell | 26 Nash Road, Halswell

Thursday 8 December 2016 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm

FREE FAMILY EVENT | Food vendors & market

Join our annual community event featuring a twilight market with food vendors and performances from award winning Christchurch City Chorus, St Bernadette's Children's Choir and more.



St John of God Hauora Trust



Halswell
Community
Project

facebook.com/hauoratrust | 03 338 2009

Supported By

Christchurch
City Council



Stand and Be Confident

During the holidays the Canterbury U14 won the National Ice Hockey Championship in Queenstown. Lachlan was a part of this team that won the first gold medal for Canterbury in 12 years. Congratulations on an awesome achievement Lachlan.

