

NEWSLETTER

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Principal's Message

Tēnā koutou,

As we settle into the heart of the third term and enjoy the increasing sunshine, it's **a wonderful time to reflect on our progress and look ahead to a promising future**. The steady rhythm of learning and growth speaks to the dedication of our ākonga, kaiako, and whānau alike.

This term, we have been placing **a strong emphasis on literacy, with particular attention to supporting our English language learners**. It's exciting to see the progress being made, especially as we celebrate the recent **completion of the structured literacy micro-credential** by our Maunga team through the University of Canterbury. This is a significant milestone, and we are proud of the hard work and commitment shown by our kaiako. We are equally enthusiastic as the Ngahere team embarks on the same journey, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact on our ākonga.

As we continue through Term 3, our thoughts are also turning towards the year ahead. We will **look to gather those of our community interested in partaking in the ARISE parent committee late this term**. In addition to this, we will begin gathering input from a handful of our whānau, ensuring that **our future planning is inclusive and reflective of the needs of our community and reflects your aspirations**. While much of our daily work remains business as usual, this planning phase is crucial as we look to build on our successes and address areas for growth.

A final note, from me, centres around an encouragement to our whānau. We're **greatly appreciative of your efforts to date and encourage your continued support of your tamariki in their arrival, attendance, and participation** in classroom learning. Beyond this, we welcome your presence at assemblies and acknowledge your involvement in home learning as invaluable. These **small acts make a big difference** in the overall success and well-being of our tamariki.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our kura. **Together, we are fostering an environment where every ākonga can thrive.**

Ngā mihi nui,



Andy Lawrence, Principal





ARISE Focus

by Andy Lawrence

This term, our kura is shining a spotlight on Achievement, an integral part of our ARISE framework. **ARISE is more than just a set of principles; it's the heartbeat of everything we do at Elim**, guiding our ākongā as they arise to a future and a hope to reach, serve and influence.

Understanding Achievement

In our kura, Achievement is defined not merely by results but by the process and journey each ākongā undertakes. It's about **each child working towards their personal best, growing, and changing as God helps them along the way**. Our motto for achievement, "progress before perfection," reminds us that it's more important to invest in and grow what we've been given than to let it waste away. This is beautifully illustrated in the **parable of the three servants in Matthew 25** and reinforced by the teachings in James 1:2-4, where challenges are seen as opportunities to build **endurance and ability**.

Continued...

PROGRESS
BEFORE
Perfection

Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!

Matthew 25:21



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Key Indicators of Achievement

As your child progresses through their years at our kura, they will focus on **different aspects of Achievement**, gradually building on their skills:

- **Communicating Their Learning Confidently:** Knowing what they are learning about and being able to express it clearly.
- **Awareness of Next Steps:** Understanding where they are headed and what they need to do to get there.
- **Using Digital Technology and Other Tools:** Recognising and utilising the tools that can support their learning and progress.
- **Making Meaning Across Contexts and Disciplines:** Learning how to access and apply knowledge across different subjects and areas of life.

Our goal is for each ākonga to move through these stages, gaining confidence and skill, so by the time they reach Year 8, they are **fully equipped to access and apply knowledge across a range of contexts**. Engaging in conversations with your tamariki at home around what they've learnt; goals they have; tools, platforms, and resources they use; or making connections to historical and current events, including your own family's history are simple yet effective ways of making this focus on achievement more visible and more routine.



ARISE Parents

We are excited to announce the **establishment of a new parent committee** designed to work hand-in-hand with our kura to support our initiatives, goals, and direction. This committee will play a vital role in enhancing the experiences of our ākonga and their whānau through **volunteering, coordinating fundraising efforts, and offering practical support** where it's needed most.

Our vision for this committee is to **create a strong, connected community where parents and whānau can actively contribute to the life of our kura**. By joining this committee, you'll have the opportunity to be directly involved in shaping the future of our school, ensuring that our tamariki have the best possible environment to learn and grow.

We invite you to consider attending our first meeting, where we will discuss the establishment process, and some of the finer details and how you can get involved. The **date and time will be confirmed in the coming weeks**, so stay tuned for more details. We look forward to building this supportive and vibrant community together.

abroad: Greetings. 2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. 5 But if any of you lacks wisdom let him ask of God, who gives abundantly and

Embracing

change

Our Term's Focus: Embracing Change

This term, our kura is focusing on the profound theme of **Change**, a concept that is both challenging and inspiring. Our guiding phrase, "**God helps us grow and change**," reminds us that growth is a continual process, one that is supported and nurtured by our faith. This theme is deeply rooted in the scripture **James 1:2-4**, which encourages us to **view challenges as opportunities to develop perseverance and strength of character**. As we navigate through various experiences this term, we are reminded that every obstacle is a chance to grow, and every success is a step in our ongoing **journey of transformation**.

We are also delving into the scriptures **Galatians 6:4-5, 9** and **2 Peter 1:5-10**, which further illuminate the attitudes and dispositions we strive to cultivate in our ākonga. Galatians speaks to the importance of personal **responsibility and the endurance** needed to reap the rewards of our efforts, while 2 Peter emphasises the **virtues of faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, and godliness**. These scriptures guide us in fostering **ambition, endurance, patience, and integrity**—qualities that are essential as our ākonga work towards their goals.

This term's focus on **Change is intrinsically linked to our ARISE goal of Achievement**.

Achievement, as we see it, is not just about reaching a destination but about the **process of striving towards personal excellence**. It's about each ākonga working at their personal best, continually growing, and becoming lifelong learners. The journey of Change, supported by our faith and the ARISE framework, helps our ākonga understand that **progress is made through persistence, reflection, and the courage to embrace new challenges**.

We encourage you to engage with your tamariki about how they are experiencing and understanding Change this term. Whether through dinner table conversations or bedtime reflections, these discussions can reinforce the important lessons we are teaching at kura. In an upcoming newsletter, we will explore more about the specific learning components and subject matter related to Change, providing you with insights on how these ideas are being integrated into our daily learning activities.



Small Pool for our junior students



Swimming Update

by Stephen Ryan

Our Physical Education focus in Term 3 is swimming, and we have partnered with Waterhole Swimming Centre to bring our swimming programme to life. Over seven Tuesdays throughout the term we will venture offsite to receive professional lessons from trained swimming instructors. The lessons are designed to enhance confidence in the water and the swimming ability of each student from Year 0 all the way up to Year 8. The students have eagerly embraced this learning experience and many look forward to Tuesdays because of this. Their comments around swimming so far mention learning confidence in the water, being able to put their faces in the water, learning together and using boards and other equipment to help them swim. It is fantastic to see our students from different classes bonding over the experience of education outside of the classroom.

Student voices...

"I like walking in the water and dunking my head in the water." - Yancy

"I like holding the board and floating in the water." - Bernard

"I can be brave and put my head in the water." - Ethan

"Being together as a class and learning together is fun." - Lize

"Riding on the bus is my favourite part." - Zara

"I love swimming and Tuesdays." - Lachlan



Big Pool for our senior students



Introducing Rūma Pūtakitaki

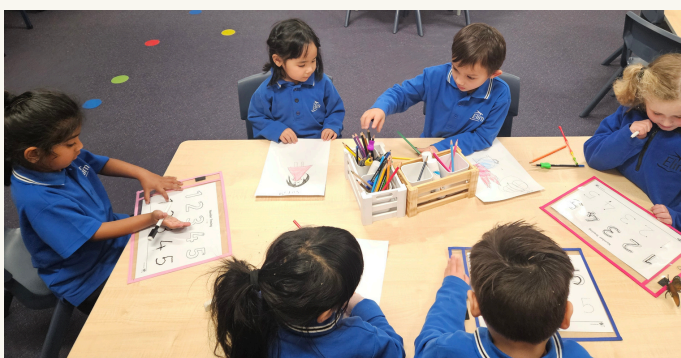


Kia ora koutou!

We're excited to introduce our newest class, Rūma Pūtakitaki! Six of West Auckland's brightest and most curious 5-year olds, joined us at the start of Term 3.

From day one, these little learners have embraced school life with open arms. They've bn busy making new friends, both in their class and with our older buddies. It's amazing to witness their growing confidence as they explore their new surroundings and ask thoughtful questions. We've been particularly impressed by their insightful and supportive ideas to help them learn and grow together.

We're having a wonderful time getting to know these incredible young minds and can't wait to share more about their adventures as the term progresses.



BOOK

WEEK



Book Week: Mon-Fri, 19-23 Aug

CHARACTER PARADE

DATE:
Friday 23rd August

COME DRESSED AS YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK OR BIBLE CHARACTER.

Wear your costume to school.
Bring your uniform if you would like to change out of your costume.
Costume must:
be a book or Bible character.
be modest and appropriate.
respect all cultures.

Any questions ask your child's teacher or Mrs Smith.

You're invited to our
SCHOLASTIC **Book Fair**

Find these books and more at the Fair!

Book Fair
Monday 19th August - Friday 23rd August

Opening Times
Monday 19th August Parent interviews 100-6:00pm
Tuesday 20th August - Friday 23rd August Mornings 8:15 - 8:40am
Tuesday 20th August - Friday 23rd August Mornings Afternoon 2:45 - 3:15pm

Location: School Library



Term 3 Key Dates



**SAVE!
THE DATE!**

- Monday 19th August (1-6pm): Parent-Teacher Conference
- Monday August 19th - Friday August 23: Book Week
- Friday August 23: Book Character Parade
- Monday 23rd September: Mufti Day
- Wednesday 25th September: End of Term Celebration Assembly
- Tuesdays, August 27th, 3rd, 10th, 17th: Swimming Lessons