



## PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

The term is well and truly underway, and already we've seen a number of exciting opportunities take place—with more still to come.

Our kaiako are committed to creating rich, memorable learning experiences for our ākonga—experiences that not only engage but also help uncover new interests, strengths, and areas of growth.

These moments are a vital part of the well-rounded education we're striving to build. At the heart of our curriculum are three key areas: Foundations, ENRICH, and Compass.

- Foundations form the core building blocks of learning—reading, writing, and mathematics—the essential tools for success across every subject.

- ENRICH encompasses the areas that spark curiosity and creativity: music, art, science, technology, and physical education—offering students opportunities to explore and flourish.
- Compass guides our ākonga in their character and faith journey, through devotions, scripture study, values based education and Christian living—helping shape who they are becoming.

We're excited to continue growing and refining what we offer in each of these spaces, ensuring a learning journey that is both grounded and inspiring.

Keep an eye out on this space as we further develop the opportunities available to our ākonga.

## KEY EVENTS

### AUGUST

- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> — Teacher Only Day;  
**SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSTRUCTION**
- Thur 14<sup>th</sup> — Taima Kōrero (Info Session)
- Fri 15<sup>th</sup> — Neon Nights (ARISE Disco)
- Tue 26<sup>th</sup> — Hui | Fono (*Whānau Consultation*)

### SEPTEMBER

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup>-Fri 5<sup>th</sup> — Samaritan Week
- Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> — ENRICH Curriculum (Info Session)
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup> — Elim's Got Talent (Assembly)
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> — Mufti Fundraiser
- Wed 17<sup>th</sup> — End of Term Awards Assembly
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup> — Last Day of Term (2pm Finish)

Want to keep track of what's happening at kura? Our Term Ahead overview is available [here](#), giving you a clear snapshot of upcoming events and key dates.

You can also visit the school calendar on the front page of our website. Each event is clickable, making it easy to add straight into your personal calendar.

# TAIMA KORERO

At Elim Christian College Henderson, we're deeply committed to keeping our ākonga safe—not just in person, but in the digital world too. But we know that safety online doesn't just come from restrictions and filters. Under the principle of "give a man a fish, feed him for a day—teach him to fish, feed him for a lifetime," we want to equip not only our students but also our whānau with the knowledge and tools to navigate the online space with confidence.

That's why we're partnering with **Elim Christian Centre Henderson** to host a powerful, practical session led by **Brett Harvey** from **Tāima Kōrero – Time 2 Talk**. This eye-opening presentation will explore what parents and caregivers need to know about devices, digital media, and protecting our young people from the harmful effects of online content.

**WHEN:** Thursday 14 August at 6:00pm

**WHERE:** Elim Christian Centre Henderson

**COST:** Gold coin entry (or donation of your choosing)

As part of our commitment to community, this event is open not only to our whānau but to families from nearby schools and beyond. You're also very welcome to **invite friends, extended whānau, and anyone in your network** who would benefit from the kōrero. It's a valuable opportunity to learn, connect, and strengthen the support we offer our tamariki as they grow up in an increasingly digital world.

[Register now](#) to indicate your interest and attendance. We'd love to see you there!



# NEON NIGHTS

Get ready, Elim whānau—it's time to shine! Our Neon Nights Disco is just around the corner, and we want every single student on the dance floor.

Hosted by our amazing **ARISE Parents Committee and kaiako**, this glow-in-the-dark extravaganza is open to all Elim Christian College Henderson ākonga. It's a night of dancing, laughter, glowing gear, and making memories—all while raising funds for signage and visual displays that reflect our kura culture and values.

**WHEN:** Friday 15 August

**TIME:** 5:30-7:30pm

**LOCATION:** Elim Christian Centre Henderson

**COST:** \$5 entry or \$10 combo (includes drink, lolly bag, glow sticks – EFTPOS only)



No food will be sold beyond the combos, so have dinner before you come. Parents, snap a photo at drop-off, grab a coffee, and come back to pick up your disco legends at 7:30pm.

**Dress code:** Glow-in-the-dark or neon – come ready to glow up the night!

Don't forget to bring your permission slip with you on the night. These have been sent home with your child on **Fri 1<sup>st</sup> August** and have been attached to this email. Please contact the office if you need another.

Let's fill the room with energy, colour, and all the dance moves—we'll be watching for the worm, the sprinkler, and maybe even a moonwalk or two. Because at Elim, we don't just show up... we shine.

# WATCH US GROW

Earlier this year, our amazing community got behind our school fundraiser with such energy and generosity, and we're excited to share what your efforts helped bring to life!

You may have noticed some beautiful new additions popping up around our kura: fresh greenery and plants at the entrance and throughout the quad. These aren't just decorations—they're a reflection of the pride, care, and vibrancy that defines our school community.

We took the time to carefully plan and ensure the planting reflected who we are as a school—and to make sure we got the very best deal for your fundraising dollars.

Thank you again for your support. Whether you sold, sponsored, or simply cheered us on, you helped create spaces that feel more welcoming, more alive, and more us.

Come take a stroll and see what's blooming!



## YOUR VOICE, OUR VISION

We're looking forward to our upcoming Hui / Fono on **Tuesday 26 August @ 6-7pm**, a special opportunity to connect with all of our whānau, including our tangata whenua, and honour the essential role you play in the life of our kura.

This gathering builds on the conversations many of you shared during last week's whānau conferences. It was encouraging to hear the ways you'd like to shape our school—both in the big picture and in the everyday. We want to continue that momentum by creating space not only to listen but to partner with you in shaping what it means to be an Elim student.

One important focus will be exploring our aspirations for our ākonga through the lens of the Elim Blueprint:

- ➔ Faith-filled
- ➔ Personally excellent
- ➔ Caring and connected

Together, we'll reflect on what these qualities look like in action—at home, in the classroom, in relationships, and in our wider community. Your insight will help us deepen and define our school identity, which is a key part of our strategic direction moving forward.

We warmly invite you to be part of this conversation. Your voice matters, and we look forward to walking this journey with you. Mr Tasi will be in touch shortly to provide more information and gauge interest in attending this event.



# MAKING A SPLASH

As part of our Term 4 Physical Education programme, all students will be participating in swimming lessons at **West Wave Aquatic Centre**. These lessons are a compulsory part of the curriculum unless a medical exemption applies.

We've sent home a **permission slip**, which needs to be completed and returned to your child's teacher by **Friday 1 August**. The cost is **\$85.00 per student**, covering transport and instruction. This can be paid via the **KAMAR Parent Portal** or in person at reception (EFTPOS available). **Payment is due by Friday 12 September**.

## Lesson Dates:

- Monday 13 October
- Monday 20 October
- Monday 3 November
- Monday 17 November
- Monday 24 November
- Monday 1 December
- Monday 8 December

Please ensure students bring named swimwear, towel, and a wet bag each day. One-piece swimsuits are required and long hair must be tied up. For our youngest learners, a bit of practice with changing clothes independently at home can make a big difference.

Thank you for helping us prepare our ākonga for success in the pool!

# BOT ELECTIONS

Nominations are now open for the **Elim Christian College Henderson Parent Board Election**. If you're interested in standing for the board, we encourage you to submit your nomination as soon as possible.

Nominations close on **Wednesday 6 August at 12:00 PM**, so don't miss the opportunity to be part of shaping our school's direction.

Being a board member is a rewarding way to contribute to the life and growth of our school. The board works closely with the principal to help govern the kura, support strategic direction, and ensure the best outcomes for our ākonga. You don't need to be an expert—just someone who's committed, collaborative, and passionate about our community.

*KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE A GREAT VOICE AROUND THE TABLE? ENCOURAGE THEM TO PUT THEIR NAME FORWARD TOO.*

Once nominations are in, the voting period will run from **Wednesday 13 August to Wednesday 10 September**. Voting will take place via email, so please keep an eye on your inbox during this time.

Thanks for helping us build a strong and representative board for 2025 and beyond!

# ONCE UPON A BOOK WEEK

What an incredible Book Week we had! Our kura was bursting with colour, creativity, and characters as ākonga and staff stepped into the world of stories—celebrating the magic of reading in style.

There were a myriad of opportunities from buddy reading to quizzes, scavenger hunts, and surprise guest readers, every corner of the school echoed with the joy of storytelling. It was a week of laughter, imagination, and connection—all centred around a shared love of books.



Thanks to the incredible support from our whānau and wider community, we raised close to \$1000 through our Book Fair. These funds will go directly toward enriching our school's reading resources and bringing even more literary magic into our classrooms and library.

Thank you for helping us write such a memorable chapter—here's to many more stories ahead!

# DATES: 2026

Here's a snapshot of our term structure and important dates to keep in mind for next year.

The first day of Term 1 for ākonga is on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2026**.

Soon after we start, we will observe Waitangi Day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2026, a nationwide public holiday to commemorate New Zealand's founding treaty. This means the first school week transitions into a long weekend—an opportunity for rest or whānau time before settling into term rhythms.

Term 1 runs from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** and will finish on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**, concluding just before Good Friday and Easter Monday, both within our first term holiday's.

Looking further ahead, our final instructional day for the year will be **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2026**, fulfilling the required number of school days and bringing our year to a close with everything wrapped up and ready for the summer break.

# INTENTION TO RETURN

As we look ahead to the next academic year, it's important for us to understand who plans to return in 2026. This helps us make thoughtful decisions about staffing, resources, and support for our ākonga.

We know that circumstances can change—families move, new opportunities arise, and priorities shift. While we hope to continue the journey with all our learners, having early insight into any changes allows us to plan effectively and ensure a smooth transition for everyone.

If you haven't had a chance yet, please take a moment to complete our [short survey](#) by Friday 15 August to let us know your intentions for next year. Your response is greatly appreciated.

# EVERY MINUTE MATTERS

Regular attendance and arriving on time each day are crucial for ākonga to feel connected, confident, and ready to learn. As part of our ongoing efforts to support this, we continue to monitor attendance patterns and will be in touch shortly with whānau where attendance or punctuality has fallen below anticipated levels.

Our analysis of lateness data shows a consistent theme: traffic is often cited as a contributing factor. We understand that mornings can be busy and unpredictable—but we also know that traffic tends to follow patterns. With that in mind, we encourage families to plan for some of these ebbs and flows as part of their morning routine.

To support a calm and connected start to the day, our gates open at 8:15am. This provides a valuable window for ākonga to settle in, greet their peers and teachers, and be well set up before the learning bell rings. Arriving on time is about more than just the clock—it helps students begin the day feeling grounded and ready to engage.

Where ongoing lateness or absence becomes a concern, we may need to take further steps. This is never punitive—it reflects our responsibility to ensure every child is given the best chance to thrive. Regular attendance is not just a requirement; it's a key part of academic progress, wellbeing, and a positive school experience. When issues arise, we're here to work alongside whānau to find solutions that support success.

# EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



This term, our Ngahere ākonga ventured out to the Museum of Technology and Transport. Organised by our wonderful kaiako and supported by a range of parent helpers, this day served as a highlight as they explored phenomena to support their understanding of this unit's objectives in our ENRICH science programme. Here are a few things our ākonga had to say about their experiences.

*"The MOTAT trip: It was grand; there was a Whisper Discs where you whisper into the side of the disc and you could hear even the smallest of sounds at the other disc far away from the other disc; they had steam-powered, almost 100-year-old trains; and a steam-powered water pump that pumped water all over NZ until some years ago."*

*"MOTAT was fun and it felt like I was going back in time. There were 1970s cars and there was a plane made out of everyday ordinary parts that can fly by itself, which I found really inspiring. it felt especially good because this was the first school trip at elim. Also I got to hang out with my friends for the whole day."*



*"MOTAT was very fun. I had a lot of fun with my group. My favourite part of the trip was the tram ride and the Virtual Reality experience. it was very cool."*

*"The MOTAT experience was very thrilling, I enjoyed walking around the campus with students in my group from Tui who I wasn't very familiar with and I got to know them a bit more. I also enjoyed the coding session and learnt something new."*

*MOTAT is a good place, we play VR and it was so fun.*



# EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

As part of our ENRICH Arts curriculum, ākonga were recently treated to a special series of one-off dance lessons—and the energy was electric! These sessions offered a dynamic and joyful way for students to express themselves, step outside their comfort zones, and explore movement in new and creative ways.



Across different age groups, the lessons introduced a variety of styles and rhythms, encouraging confidence, coordination, and a whole lot of fun. Whether it was learning new steps or simply moving to the beat, the focus was on participation, expression, and enjoyment—and it was clear from the smiles and laughter that our tamariki were fully immersed.

We're proud to offer experiences like these as part of our commitment to a rich and well-rounded arts programme. These opportunities not only ignite a passion for performance but also build connection, resilience, and self-expression—one dance step at a time!



## ENRICHING OUR EXPRESSION

Beyond the classroom, our kura is buzzing with creativity and connection. Our junior choir is in full voice, kapa haka continues to grow in strength and pride, and the joyful strum of our ukulele group brings energy to every rehearsal. Excitement is also building for Elim's Got Talent, where ākonga are already preparing to showcase their skills on stage. These opportunities are a vibrant part of school life—nurturing confidence, belonging, and a strong sense of identity through the arts and performance.