

Kia Ora Aidanfield Whanau

TERM 2 | WEEK 4

Week one done! It has been really good to have all out pupils back and the school has been humming. I appreciate that for numbers of you the decision to send your children back was a big one and I applaud your decisions. From what we have seen here they have been settled, focused and enjoying being back. As a staff we continue to both apply the health and safety plans that we have and also to review them and adapt as needed. We are doing what we can to make Aidanfield as safe and user friendly as we can in today's environment. The photos in this email were taken this week as our pupils got back into classroom-based learning. Thank you to our school Ambassadors (Sam, Rachel, and Lexi) for collecting this snapshot into this week.

Thank you for remembering to sign in when you are dropping off and picking up! This is essential for contact tracing if we need to do that in future (hopefully not!).

Thank you for keeping any unwell children at home or picking them up if we call. This is very helpful and is really what happens every week anyway. Overall, it has been a good week!

A couple of don't forgets:

- Teacher Only day May 29 is postponed to a later date.
- Queens Birthday is Monday June 1 so the school is closed for the public holiday.
- We have decided to not do mid-year interviews this year due to the significantly interrupted program to date. I am very keen for our teachers to stay focused on classroom teaching and programs and not be distracted by preparation for the interviews which takes a significant amount of time and preparation. I hope you can appreciate this adaptation for this year. We will do a full report at the end of the year as usual and be back to mid-year interviews in 2021.

What are your thoughts on the distance learning provided? As mentioned earlier in the week, I will be sending out a survey link. We are very interested in your perception of the program we offered to pupils during the lockdown. The intent is to help us learn from what we did, improve on what we did if we need to do it again and to grow as professionals. Your comments will be very helpful. Please look out for this link next week.

Finally Have a great weekend! Don't forget to connect in some way with your church family over the weekend if at all possible. There is significant benefit and blessing to each family as they remain connected, involved and engaged with church life and it is a great example to your kids. It says God is ever-present, fully involved and real in the midst of whatever goes on.

Grace and peace

Mark Richardson Principal



Dear Parents

The need hasn't reduced – it is increasing. Along with the rest of the world, New Zealand is still journeying through the challenge of COVID-19 with all the ramifications of that continuing to impact and unfold within our nation as each day passes. There is much need for help and support in our country, yet our government and other leadership groups continue to provide significant support in a variety of ways.

As we experience challenges to our 'normal', so do other countries, many of which do not have welfare available to help out in difficult circumstances. One such country is Malawi, the country that World Vision is focusing on supporting for 2020. This country has approximately 71.9% of its community reliant upon subsistence farming—making just enough to keep their families alive—in a good year. With repeated unseasonable droughts and floods, communities in Malawi are barely surviving, and World Vision, along with the ambassadors at ACS, invite you to join with us in making a difference to lives of these desperately poor families.

For many years, Aidanfield Christian School has supported World Vision with their 40 Hour Famine. In the past we have set a target amount to see if we can relieve Mr Richardson of his hair – and we have been VERY close! We have enjoyed positive support from pupils, parents and staff in the past, and are very appreciative of the way our wider community have supported this cause in past years.

This year, our recent lockdown has interfered with our opportunity to set up this fundraising event for 2020. As a school, one of our points of focus that comes under the banner of Biblical / Relational is the phrase Missionally Minded. We aim to enhance opportunities for all age levels to lead and serve the community.

There will be no booklets to collect sponsors and money this year, instead, we are heading online where you can sign into the ACS World Vision team to support the cause, and invite friends and family to join too.

This year, the actual famine weekend is June 6-8. We encourage children to take part in an activity which involves giving up something of significance. Traditionally this has been food, with medical advice stating it should be for 20 hours only for those under 15 years of age. However, in recent years, other forms of 'sacrifice' have been giving up a bed, technology, (cell phone and / or TV and / or devices and / or things that use electricity), limiting diet (one food only for 20-40 hours, at parent discretion as there is still an intake of food in this situation – (plain bread – no spreads, and water only). Packing a back pack with all that a child feels they will need for 20-40 hours and not using anything that is not packed, sleeping in a cardboard box, as so many homeless people do... The list of options is really up to individual families to agree upon.

Some prefer to give up nothing but still feel a donation is worthwhile. Of course that is always welcome too!

If you would like to join the challenge (and fun) this year, please head to the World Vision site or click on the link below and add your support.

https://my.worldvision.org.nz/ss/KR7DSG/aidanfield-christian-school

Together we can make a huge difference.

Term 2 Dates

1 June Queens' Birthday Weekend (School Closed)

5 - 7 June40 Hour Famine Weekend10 JuneACS Cross Country (Year 5-10)

15 - 19 June Book Week

18 June El Grego Visit (year 1-6) 2 July Learning Tree Assembly

4 -19 July School Holidays Please note the following cancellations:

- Gymnastics (Years 1-4) (8-30 June) CANCELLED
- Teacher Only Day 29 May CANCELLED
- Mid-Year Interviews (25/30 June) CANCELLED

