

# Newsletter

‘Supporting parents as they lead their children in spiritual growth and educational excellence by teaching and living Biblical truths.’



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CHRISTCHURCH  
Phone (03) 359 3595  
Principal: Mrs Jill Garrett

**Tuesday, May 6, 2008**

There is no one holy like the LORD;  
There is no one besides You;  
There is no Rock like our God.  
1 Samuel 2:2

“Walk as children of light”



## From the Principal's Heart

Prom, prom, promises, God keeps His promises  
And He always will.

Prom, prom, promises, God keeps His promises  
Don't you think that's brill?

Prom, prom, promises, God keeps His promises.  
He's forever true.

Prom, prom, promises and one promise is  
"I will always be with you."

So started the new term. The children sang heartily and it's been on my mind all day. We talked about Hannah who became very unhappy when she was teased because she didn't have any children. We learned that, instead of saying mean things back, Hannah took her sadness to God. She told Him all about her pain and she made a promise to God. "I will give him to you for as long as he lives, and his hair will never be cut." When Hannah's son was born, she named him Samuel because she had asked God for him, and she never forgot her promise. When Samuel was old enough, she took him to the temple and left him there to learn the things of God from the old priest.

The mother heart in each of us can understand how difficult it must have been to keep that promise - to give her son precious son away!

It's a story foreshadowing the giving of another precious Son.

*God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

Maybe, as a family you would like to talk together about how important it is to be like God and to keep the promises we make to Him and to each other.

God bless your week.

## School News

### The School Cross Country

will be held next Tuesday, May 13, in the afternoon with a postponement time of Wednesday before lunch. This is for the purpose of choosing 2 pupils per age group to represent ECS at the Christian Schools Cross Country to be held at Hansen Park on Friday, May 16.

The ESC cross country begins at 1:30pm.

Race 1: Year 1 & 2 boys & girls – 800m

Race 2: Year 3 & 4 boys & girls – 1.2K

Race 3: Year 5 & 6 boys & girls – 2K

Race 4: Year 7 & 8 boys & girls – 3K

Remember: At the Christian Schools' Cross Country there is a race for parents. I seem to remember standing on the side line last year as one or two Mums made plans to be all trained up and ready to enter this year??? I'll be the cheer team.

**The NZ Curriculum:** Continuing our snippets of information from the new document we include the statement on the **Values** to be encouraged, modelled, and explored.

Values are deeply held beliefs about what is important or desirable. They are expressed through the ways in which people think and act.

Every decision relating to curriculum and every interaction that takes place in a school reflects the values of the individuals involved and the collective values of the institution.

The values on the list below enjoy widespread support because it is by holding these values and acting on them that we are able to live together and thrive. The list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive.

Students will be encouraged to value:

- \* Excellence, by aiming high and by persevering in the face of difficulties
- \* Innovation, inquiry, and curiosity, by thinking critically, creatively, and reflectively
- \* Diversity, as found in our different cultures, languages, and heritages
- \* Equity, through fairness and social justice
- \* Community and participation for the common good
- \* Ecological sustainability, which includes care for the environment
- \* Integrity, which involves being honest, responsible, & accountable & acting ethically and to respect themselves, others, and human rights.

The specific ways in which these values find expression in an individual school will be guided by dialogue between the school and its community. They should be evident in the school's philosophy, structures, curriculum, classrooms, and relationships. When the school community has developed strongly held and clearly articulated values, those values are likely to be expressed in everyday actions and interactions within the school.

Through their learning experiences, students will learn about:

- \* Their own values and those of others
- \* Different kinds of values, such as moral, social, cultural, aesthetic, & economic values
- \* The values on which New Zealand's cultural and institutional traditions are based
- \* The values of other groups and cultures.

Through their learning experiences, students will develop their ability to:

- \* express their own values
- \* explore, with empathy, the values of others
- \* Critically analyse values and actions based on them
- \* discuss disagreements that arise from differences in values and negotiate solutions
- \* make ethical decisions and act on them.

All the values listed above can be expanded into clusters of related values that collectively suggest their fuller meanings. For example, community and participation for the common good is associated with values and notions such as peace, citizenship, and manaakitanga.

**The challenge the school is currently facing is how to *encourage, model, and explore* these values Christianly.**

😊 As a school, we **sponsor a child** through World Vision. Money is raised through our mufti day at the end of each term. Last term we raised the princely sum of \$29.40. We are still happy to take those IOU's for those who forgot to pay for the privilege of mufti. We would suggest a \$2 donation per family for mufti days.

**School Uniform:** We hear tell that you are finding it difficult to buy the long sleeved navy polo with red collar stripes. Postie + have them and short sleeved shirts with polyprops underneath will not be acceptable. Sorry!!

**Found:** A cell phone in the play house. Please contact the office.

FROM THE BURSAR;

- There is a deposit in our proprietor account for \$175 and only identified as from the Southland Bldg Soc. If you recognize this please tell me who you are and arrange for deposits to identify that in future.
- PLEASE do not directly deposit attendance dues into the school accounts.
- PLEASE do not include school donations and costs with attendance dues payments.

The proprietors own the school but do not operate the school. It is a legal requirement that proprietor and school funds are kept separate and we go to a great deal of trouble invoicing attendance dues separately from school expenses and donations and explaining payment options on the invoices and statements.

Joseph McKone  
Proprietor bursar

### **Term 2 Calendar 2008**

| <b>Date</b>     | <b>School Event</b>   |
|-----------------|---|
| Friday, May 9   | Visit of the dog control officers                                 |
| Tuesday May 13  | ECS school cross country run after lunch                          |
| Friday, May 16  | Room 6's assembly   |
| Friday May 16   | Christian Schools Cross Country at Hansen Park 12:15pm start time |
| Friday, May 23  | Room 2's assembly   |
| Friday, May 30  | Fantastic Friday – no assembly                                    |
| Monday June 2   | Queens Birthday – no school                                       |
| Friday, June 6  | Room 5's assembly   |
| Friday, June 13 | Room 1's assembly   |
| Friday, June 20 | Room 4's assembly   |
| Friday, June 27 | Room 3's assembly   |
| Friday July 4   | Fantastic Friday. Last day of Term 2                              |
| Monday July 21  | First day of Term 3   |

### **Community News**

- Last Sunday night on “Real Life” with John Cowan, Newstalk ZB paid tribute to the six students and their teacher from Elim Christian College who lost their lives in the recent canyoning tragedy. You can visit their web site at [www.reallife.net.nz](http://www.reallife.net.nz)
- A message from the Ambulance service: As mobile phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons, who should be contacted during emergency, under the name ‘ICE’ (In Case of Emergency). This idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents there were always mobile phones with patients but they didn’t know which number to call. It was thought that a nationally recognised name for this purpose would be a good idea. Emergency personnel would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as ‘ICE’.