

Learn, serve and grow in God

School Newsletter

Week 6 Term 2

Isaiah 41:10: So, do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Acting Principal's Message

Dear Parents /Kia ora te whanau/Malo e lelei/Talofa lava/Bula Vinaka/Konnichi wa/Kia orana/ Namaste/Welkom/Ni hao,

What a joy it has been this week to have almost all of our students back at Cornerstone Christian School!

Last Thursday we had a staff meeting together in the gymnasium (suitably physically distanced of course) to plan together what Alert Level 2 would look like at Cornerstone. To start off our meeting our resident bard Michael Doody sang Dave Dobbyn's 'Welcome Home' to all of the staff. Well that's a bit what Monday this week was like – 'Welcome Home' to our school family.

Thanks so much for all of your support, prayers, and encouragement for our teachers over the past few weeks. This lockdown period certainly has been a trying time for all. I have been reading the book of James in the Passion Translation of the Bible this week. Let me share with you:

James 1: 2-4 "My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are facing nothing but difficulties see it as an invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can! For you know that when your faith is tested, it stirs up power within you to endure all things. And then as your endurance grows even stronger it will release perfection into every part of your being, until there is nothing missing and nothing lacking."

Not for one moment do I believe that God caused COVID-19, or that this is His punishment on us. I do, however, believe that God is able to take every difficult situation in our lives, and work it within us to produce growth, endurance, maturity, and Christlikeness – if we let Him. With this in mind, please be aware that many of our school families have experienced loss during lockdown – extended family, businesses, income and relationships. Let us do all that we can to support those around us and lift them up.

Alert Level 2

Thanks again parents and caregivers for working with us around our requirements to contact trace all parents coming onsite. As a reminder, you are welcome to come onsite to drop off/pick up your children, BUT please don't linger. As you come onsite, you MUST either sign-in at the Mihaere Drive entrance using the Viz Tab system at reception, OR use the Parent Check-in function on the Cornerstone School App (See note later in this newsletter if you are having trouble setting this up).

Our experience this week, has shown us that it is very difficult to achieve good physical distancing in a school with 500+ energetic students onsite. You may see us begin to relax some of the restrictions we have in place around distancing over the next few weeks. Our school goals over Alert Level 2, mirrors our current Public Health guidelines to:



- Minimise the risk of someone becoming infected in the first place.
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person if someone in the school is infected.

Page |2

- Any child who is showing any symptoms of being unwell, will be sent home straight away and parents or emergency contacts will be contacted to collect them.
- All parents must follow the advice of <u>Healthline</u> 0800 611 116 or your healthcare provider. CCS office staff will follow up children who have been sent home sick.
- If the family have been referred for a COVID Test under a Health provider's direction, then the family needs to isolate themselves until the results return negative. Please email notification of the results to <u>office@cornerstone.ac.nz</u> for our records.



NCEA

A number of parents have expressed concern around the effect COVID-19 will have on their child(ren)'s chances of passing NCEA (National Certificate in Educational Achievement) due to lost teaching time in class. NZQA (the body that administers NCEA) have released the changes that they are making to NCEA this year. You may have seen some of these changes in the media already. The key points of these changes are:

- 1. Exams will be pushed back 10 days. They will run from 16th November to 9th December. Our Term 4 calendar is currently being modified to reflect this.
- 2. The requirement for NZQA verification of Level 1 and 2 Visual Arts portfolios will be waived, giving students more time to complete their portfolios, and teachers more time for marking.
- 3. Cornerstone will not have to submit any samples of work for external moderation this year.

Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

As we work our way back into good study patterns here at school over the next week, we will be prioritising learning over other extra-curricular activities. You will see this reflected in our school calendar which has become pretty lean and mean as we have stripped out many planned activities. Many sports events and tournaments have also been cancelled by their respective sporting bodies due to restrictions under Alert Level 2.

We would also like to indicate to parents that we will not be sending home full reports (with teacher comments) at the end of Term 2. However, an academic summary will be sent home for all students. Parent/Teacher interviews/Learning Conferences will be delayed until Term 3, week 3.

School Dates this Term

It is crazy to think that this week is actually Term 2, week 6 and we have only seven weeks left to run in the term. This Term will be a twelve-week term with the July School Holidays beginning on the normal date of Friday 3rd July.

Cornerstone Principal Appointment Process

This weekend the Board of Trustees will carry out interviews (via Zoom) with all prospective applicants. The board would appreciate your prayers as they seek to appoint a new leader for Cornerstone Christian School.

God's richest blessings,

Chris Mitchell Acting Principal <u>chris@cornerstone.ac.nz</u>



Deputy Principal's Message

It has really been encouraging to see the way our students have embraced their return to school this week. Although it is not 'back to normal' yet, just being back on the Secondary campus has brought some sense of normal back to our previously isolated lives.

My message to students at the start of the week was to take the week and ease your way back into the routines of school life. The simple things can make the difference; being organised at home, getting up on time, going to sleep on time, listening to Mum in the morning and getting lunches made etc. Become familiar, I said, with the Level 2 restrictions and find ways to overcome the distancing with encouraging words rather than hugs or high-fives etc.

As we end this week, I would also like to acknowledge the way you, as parents, are engaging with the School App so we can maintain the MOE requirements for contact tracing. Thank you for doing this. Looking forward, keep praying for our students and teachers as we also pray for you and your families. Our strength is in our God, who makes all things possible and our CCS faith community.

God's richest blessings for the weekend ahead.

James Rose

Deputy Principal james@cornerstone.ac.nz

Vacancies

Teacher Aide Vacancies (2)

We have vacancies for two teacher aides, each to work term-time only for approximately 7-8 hours per week in Term 3 (potentially increasing to 14-16 hours per week in Term 4). These roles will involve working with a high needs student(s) in the junior school and are tagged to the ongoing enrolment of the student(s). All staff employed at Cornerstone are required to support and uphold the special character of the school. Please refer to <u>the website</u> for more information.

ORS Teacher

We require a NZ registered teacher to teach two ORS funded, very high needs students who will start school in Term 3 and Term 4. The position will be 0.2 FTTE in Term 3 increasing to 0.4 FTTE in Term 4 and is tagged to the ongoing enrolment of the student(s) at the school. A willingness and ability to support and uphold the special character of the school is a condition of appointment. Please <u>refer to the school website</u> for more information.

Exam Centre Manager Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a new Exam Centre Manager at Cornerstone. The ECM is an employee of the New Zealand Qualifications Authority and is a paid position. The Examination Centre Manager (ECM) is responsible to the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) for the conduct of the NZQA examinations held at examination centres in November/December 2020. As ECM, you will work closely with me, Natasha Casey as the Principal's Nominee to be responsible for the management of all processes relating to the conduct of secondary examinations at your examination centre according to NZQA procedures. The ECM is also responsible for employing sufficient supervisors to ensure reliable supervision, while using the minimum number of supervisors efficiently. Secondary examinations comprise those for NCEA, and those for New Zealand Scholarship at some examination centres. Preparation work begins in September 2020 and you need to be available at every examination session from November 16th to December 9th. Please email Natasha Casey to request more information regarding position the natasha@cornerstone.ac.nz.



School Notices

Drivers Needed

Cornerstone is looking for a parent volunteer who could assist us with driving Year 9 Food tech students (in the school van) to and from Wholegrain Organics at the following times:

- Mondays 11.00am from Cornerstone to Wholegrain Organics
- Mondays 1.00pm from Wholegrain Organics to Cornerstone
- Wednesdays 11.00am Cornerstone to Wholegrain Organics



• Wednesdays – 1.00pm Wholegrain Organics to Cornerstone

Drivers are not required to stay at Wholegrain Organics for duration of the class. Drivers must hold a full driver's licence and be comfortable driving an automatic 10-seater van. If you can assist with this, please email: <u>chris@cornerstone.ac.nz</u>. Thanks.

Student ID Cards (Year 7-13)

The Student ID's that were ordered in Term 1 for Year 7-13 students are in and will be given to life lab teachers this week for distribution. If you are a Year 7-13 students who would still like to order a Student ID and missed the Term 1 order, please collect a form from the office. This requires both parent and student signatures. The ID's are \$10.00 each. Please ensure you bring your form and payment to the office **before Friday 12th June.**

Year 7 & 8 Immunisation Consent Forms

If you have not yet returned your Year 7 or 8 child's immunisation/vaccination form, even if you do not want them to have the immunisation/vaccination, please return this to the school office ASAP. If you do not want your child to have the Immunisation/Vaccination, please fill out the DO NOT CONSENT part of the form. Due to Covid-19 these vaccines will be given later than intended. We will notify you once we receive the new dates.

Public Health Nurse

The School Public Health Nurse is still available to you. If you wish to speak or see the nurse, please ring or txt 027 455 5074 or email <u>schoolhlth@midcentraldhb.govt.nz</u>. Please leave your name, school and the best contact details and a nurse will get in touch with you.

Student Drop off / Pick up Times

Students can be dropped off at school from 8.30am in the morning, not before thanks. All students need to be collected from school before 3.15pm. The school office is closed at 3.30pm and often teachers are in meetings after school. Please notify the school office before 3.15pm if you are running late.

Breakfast Club

Don't forget Breakfast Club is on Tuesdays and Thursdays 8.00am-8.30am. Please check the Kamar notices the day before for the location or email <u>delwyn@cornerstone.ac.nz</u>. Everyone welcome!



Kids who consume breakfast have shown better cognitive performance through the morning. Start your day with the right fuel to learn, run & play!

School Notices Cont'd

Manawatu Secondary Schools Top Art Folio Show

Please note that due to Lockdown Te Manawa has extended the Secondary Schools Top Art Folio Show. It is now open from Tuesday 19th May 2020 until September 2020.

School Uniform

Please be aware that the uniform shop has run out of stock of some winter uniform items. Due to the lockdown, the extra winter uniform order could not be placed.

The following uniform items are currently out of stock:

- Size 6 Junior Trousers
- Size 4 Long Sleeved Polos
- Size 10 Long Sleeved Polos

We are expecting delivery of the trousers within the next 2 weeks. The polo shirts, however, will not be available until the first week of July.

There is a 'Cornerstone Uniform Exchange' page on Facebook, where you can find second-hand items for sale.

We apologise for the inconvenience.



PE Uniform

We are expecting delivery of the new PE uniform by the 2nd week of June. Ilona Shewell will notify the school community that we have received these via the school noticeboards, the school newsletter and the School App.

Student of the Week

Tumanako Class Awards - Term 1: Week 6

C1 Zoe Faiz and Shad Pati C2 Wynton Oldfield and Caleb Chiu C4 Jolie Taylor and Elizabeth Batchelor C6 Campbell Kingsbeer and Zak Bennett

Second-hand Uniform – For Sale

Senior Girls Uniform for Sale

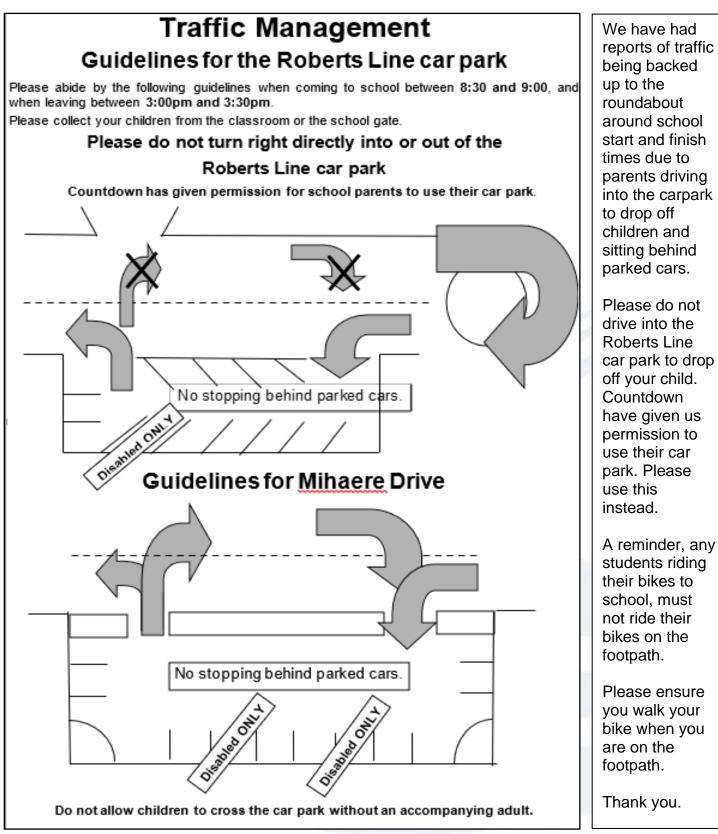
1x Girls Cardigan, Size 87, \$40.
2x Girls Blouses, Size 8, \$10 each.
1x Skirt, Size 61r, \$50.
1x PE Top, Size14, \$10.
1 Pair PE Shorts, Size 14, \$10.

Please Contact Anna: 027 857 2318



Traffic Guidelines for School Carparks

Please see below for a reminder of the school traffic management guidelines:



Community Notices

Girl Guides

Are offering guiding free for Term 2 as well as Pippins Explore and Brownies Explore free for all of 2020. We want to help out the families of Aotearoa. Take a look 😳

Click here for more information: <u>https://girlguidingnz.org.nz/join-us/#joinform</u>



Pippins Explore and Brownies Explore FREE for 2020:

Click here for more information: https://girlguidingnz.org.nz/explore/

Gardener Available

Need help with your garden? Seasoned gardener available. \$30/h Phone: 027 857 2318.

What I like about our school – By Gareth Bell.

How almost every teacher's journey to employment here has a similar theme of God's plan and timing, something we would never expect, and usually a last-minute job application. I remember talking to a current staff member about a job opening and he was adamant he wouldn't apply. Yet here we are, serving a higher plan. Thank You Jesus.





Key Dates:

Monday 25 May-Friday 29 May Samoan Language Week

Monday 25 & Tuesday 26 May Life Education Truck (Manahau Only)

Tuesday 26 May *Fire Drill - 10.55am*

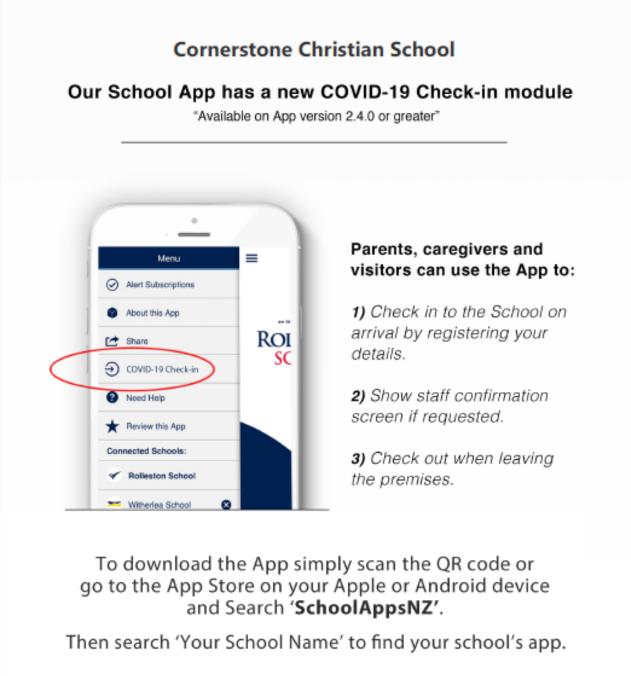
Monday 1 June Queen's Birthday Holiday

Tuesday 2 June Itinerant Music Recital

Tuesday 16 June Lockdown Drill Show Quest CCS Talent Show – 6pm

Friday 19 June Trade Fair

Term Dates for 2020 Term 1: 3 February - 9th April Term 2: 15 April-3 July Term 3: 20 July-25 September Term 4: 12 October-11 December







schoolappsnz.co.nz