

Principal's Message

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

Today the Board of Trustees announced the news of my appointment as the new Principal of Cornerstone Christian School. I am humbled and honoured to be entrusted with leading our School through this next season. I am very aware that I am building on the shoulders of 'giants' who have established and led our school to its current flourishing position. My thanks go to our previous Cornerstone Christian School Principals, Mrs Lois Price, Mr Nigel Tongs and Dr Peter Ferrar. Thanks also to our Board of Trustees Members, and Board of Proprietor Representatives, and in particular their respective Chairpersons, Mrs Jo Auer (BOT) and Mr Richard Tankersley (CCET). I also have an incredible bunch of staff around me and some pretty fantastic students as you can see in this picture.



From left: Chloe Grapentin (Deputy Head Girl), Poppy Hewitt (Head Girl), Ben Rauzi (Head Boy), Chris Mitchell (Principal) and Timote Muli (Deputy Head Boy).

I am utterly passionate about Cornerstone Christian School and the mandate our parent community have charged us with, to disciple their children in their walk with God, enabling them to grow into the fullness of all that God has planned for them.

I have been blessed to be a teacher here at Cornerstone Christian School since 2008, starting as a Year 7 and 8 teacher in Room D3, believe it or not. In those days, our school had a roll of around 160 students and the admin block. G, H and L block didn't even exist. We have grown rapidly over the intervening years and I will very much be looking to consolidate this growth over the next few years.

Contact: office@cornerstone.ac.nz | 06 356 7326 | cornerstone.ac.nz

Absences: absent@cornerstone.ac.nz | Text: 027 315 7764

"To be confident followers of Jesus Christ, equipped and inspired to creatively impact our world."

For those who do not know much about me, I am married to Anne-Marie Mitchell (who is a teacher aide here at Cornerstone) and we have four fantastic daughters: Emma, Zoe, Abi and Beth. Two of our daughters have followed in their proud Dad's footsteps and are teachers here in Palmerston North. Emma teaches at Hiwinui School in Year 3 and Abi is studying towards her Bachelor in Education, while working as an ECE teacher at Tui Childcare Centre. Zoe currently attends Venn Bible College in Auckland and Beth is in Year 12.

I haven't always been a teacher; I initially trained and studied as a computer network engineer, working on a wide area of networks for Telecom South Ltd in Christchurch. I soon found that God had wired me as a people person and in my early 20's I left the computer industry behind to attend Bible College north of Auckland. I ended up spending 6 years working and studying at Bible College while also completing a Bachelor of Education through distance learning. And yes, the adage Bible College = Bridal College came true; I did meet and marry my incredible wife there! With two littlies in tow we shifted back to Anne-Marie's home-town – Palmerston North and have lived here ever since.

We have a lifestyle block (read 'workstyle block') just outside of Ashhurst and love living there. My first principalship was as a Teaching Principal at Awahou School in the Pohangina Valley. With just 72 kids it felt like one big family, rather than a school, and I loved my five years there. As you can see there has been a big gap between my last principalship and this new role, so yes, I am bound to make a few mistakes as I find my way as the new Cornerstone Christian School Principal.

I would like to think that I am approachable, so please feel free to catch up and have a chat if you find me wandering around the playground after school. To finish, let me share with you a scripture that I stumbled across the other day in the book of Zechariah of all places. It is a scripture that really encouraged my heart and maybe speaks a little prophetically about our school going forward:

Zechariah 4:6: "So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel (maybe to Chris Mitchell): 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. "What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring forth the Cornerstone with shouts of 'Grace! Grace!'"

God's richest blessings,

Chris Mitchell
Principal
chris@cornerstone.ac.nz



Colourful Artwork by
A2 Students.

Principal Appointment – Letter from the BOT Chairperson

10 June 2020



Re: Principal Appointment

Dear Cornerstone Christian School Community

The Cornerstone Christian School Board Of Trustees have now concluded the appointment process for the Principal vacancy.

The Board were blessed with the high calibre of applicants for the position and many hours of zoom meetings were consumed with the interview and deliberation processes.

We are pleased to announce the new Principal of Cornerstone Christian School is Mr Chris Mitchell.

We look forward to the settling of our community for the remainder of 2020 after a surreal beginning to the year. The Board would like to acknowledge the incredible breadth and depth of the dedicated staff and committed families we have here at Cornerstone. We look forward to walking well together to with that which God has called us all to do.

Sincerely,



Jo Auer

Chairperson
Board of Trustees

School Notices

Enrolment Scheme and Maximum Roll

Many of you will be aware that Cornerstone operates under a maximum roll of 580 students. This year, for the first time, we expect to have 580 students enrolled at the school by December. Many families who would like to access Christian education for their children have had their children's names placed on a waiting list, because we would exceed the maximum roll if we were to enrol them.

For the past 3 years, our proprietor (the Cornerstone Christian Education Trust) has been petitioning the Ministry of Education to increase our maximum roll to 730 students. This would allow us to enrol 54 students at each year level from Year 1 to Year 13 (rather than the current 45). The process for getting an increase in the maximum roll, involves submitting an application, consulting with neighbouring schools and ongoing discussion with the Ministry. In 2019, we were informed that the Ministry would continue to consider our application when the school had put in place an enrolment scheme. We have been working on the scheme for the past eight months – drafting, consulting, re-drafting and finally submitting it to the Ministry of Education. The scheme is about to enter its final phase, and we hope that it will be approved by the Ministry by the start of Term 3.

In the meanwhile, the proprietor has re-submitted the application to increase the maximum roll. There are still a number of matters to work through with the Ministry, including their further consultation with other schools. Please continue to pray for all those involved in these processes. A successful maximum roll increase application will bless many families and ease several pressure points within the school.

Vacancy - 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 [refer to the school website](#) for more information.

Mufti Day

We are having a Mufti Day today. This is to raise money and awareness about the people in Malawi, who are being reached this year by World Vision NZ. They are facing a double crisis: weather disasters which are destroying their crops, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

All the money raised from mufti day will go to support the people struggling in this country.

Cost: Gold Coin Donation (on the day) OR you can donate directly to World Vision on our school's fundraising page:

<https://my.worldvision.org.nz/ss/tuMrcd/cornerstone-christian-school>



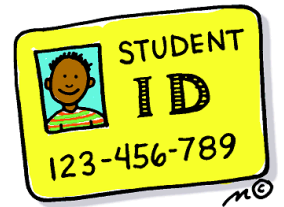
School Notices Cont'd

Congratulations!

Cornerstone Christian School staff and students would like to congratulate Mr Chris Mitchell on his appointment of Principal. We are blessed to have you at the helm of our school (under God).

Student ID Cards (Year 7-13)

Today is the last day for students to purchase a student ID. All application forms and payments need to be handed into the office before 3pm today. Thank you.



WINTER SALE - Secondary Blouses/Shirts

It is getting colder and colder, winter is here! So we are having a winter sale.

Girls L/S Blouses were \$43.00 now only \$38.70

Boys L/S Shirts were \$43.00 now only \$38.70

Please note we now have Junior Long Sleeve Polos from Size 4-12 in stock again. Apologies for the delay.

Rain Jackets

If you would like to place an order for a Cornerstone School monogrammed rain jacket, please contact Ilona at ilona@cornerstone.ac.nz or 06 356 7326. The cost is \$46.00 each. We have some samples in the office if you would like to have a look at these or check for sizing. Please place your order/s ASAP. **(Please note that we require a minimum order of x10 jackets in order to place the order with our supplier).**

PE Uniform

We are expecting delivery of the new PE uniform any day now. Once we receive them, Mrs Ilona Shewell will notify the school community via the school noticeboards, the school newsletter and the School App.

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.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club have a huge brochure of books available for the rest of this term! Orders can be placed online only between June 2 and July 11 for free delivery to school. View the brochure on the Scholastic website or a paper copy can be collected from the student side of the school office shortly. Any questions? See Mrs Sutherland in D3 or email janis@cornerstone.ac.nz Thank you!



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Student Notices Cont'd

Star of the Week Certificates - Term 2: Week 7 & 8

Congratulations to the following students who received the Student of the Week certificate:

A2: Arlo Sutherland & Theo Cooper
A2: Jackson Batlajeri & Matthew Shin

IMPORTANT NOTICE – L Block Driveway

Parents ***please do not*** drive down the L Block driveway to drop off/pick up your child/ren before or after school. Instead please drop them off from the curb side. This is a **STAFF ONLY** entrance.

Life Lab Devotions

L4 Life Lab Devotions with Mrs Marx

Mrs Nicolene Marx shared your Life Lab Devotions with Staff this week. It was encouragement to me. May this encourage you also; Be a Swap-Out Detective: If you someone says something to you that is not very helpful or negative - **SWAP IT OUT!**

Find a verse or a promise in the Bible and encourage them with it, because we know that God's Word is full of promises. God is ALWAYS faithful. God's promises are TRUE and RELIABLE. Let's read them, learn them, and put them into action.

For example: If someone says, I can't do that, I am not confident enough! - **SWAP IT OUT!**

Share these verses/promises with them: *Joshua 1:9 says: Remember that I have commanded you to be determined and confident. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go.*

Philippians 4:13: For I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Trade Fair 2020

We would like to invite our Cornerstone Community to come and support the Year 10 and 11 Entrepreneurship learners as they have been working very hard preparing for the Annual Trade Fair. There will be a variety of food and drink stalls available.

DATE: Friday 19 June 2020

TIME: 1:00-1:40pm

PLACE: Main Netball Court Outside the Staffroom



Some of our Year 10 Entrepreneur students hard at work preparing for the Trade Fair

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Community Notices

Blood/Plasma Needed

NZ Blood need Blood/Plasma donors now more than ever. The demand for these products never goes away. Please help us to help others. Call 06 350 0963 to make an appointment.

**keep donating blood.
it's essential.**

NZBLOOD

Wanted: 10-11-Year-Old Boys to Play Rugby

If you are a 10 or 11-year-old boy and you want to play rugby, Kiatoa are short 2 players and would love you to come and play for them this year. First game 4th of July. Please phone Sean Hook 021 113 3503 (Coach) or Anna Hook 022 505 5669.

Aplus School Holiday Program

Aplus school holiday program information is available at reception if you are looking for childcare options for the upcoming school holidays. Please help yourselves to the programmes at the front desk.

Key Dates:

Tuesday 16 June

Lockdown Drill

Friday 12 June

MUFTI DAY (Gold Coin Donation)

Year 13 Trip to Bowlarama (1.15pm)

Friday 19 June

Trade Fair

Thursday 25 June

Elite Sports Meeting

Friday 3 July

Last Day of Term 2

Term Dates for 2020

Term 2: 15 April-3 July

Term 3: 20 July-25 September

Term 4: 12 October-11 December



More of A2's Beautiful Artwork!



James Wardle, Cody Hanna, Monty Feulufai pictured with instructor Rob, learning aspects of practical mechanics. The boys are part of a group of students who go to Endeavour Technical Training every Friday as part of their NCEA Level 2 Automotive course.

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Cornerstone Christian School - Alert Level 1 Guidelines

There are no restrictions on personal movement, so all students, children and staff continue to be safe to attend Cornerstone Christian School. All enrolled students must now attend school unless they are sick.

While Cornerstone is no longer required to keep a contact tracing register, **parents and visitors must continue to check-in and check-out using the SchoolApp or sign in at the School Office using the VisTab** (tablet) provided at the reception desk.

Physical distancing is not a requirement but is encouraged when you are around people you don't know.

There are no restrictions on numbers at gatherings or on physical activities including cultural and sporting activities, practices, and events. We will look to get assemblies and sporting competitions back up and running as soon as possible.

There are key public health measures for everyone in New Zealand to follow. For schools like Cornerstone, this means:

- If people are sick, they should stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if they have cold or flu symptoms).
- Continue to regularly wash and dry hands, sneeze, or cough into elbow.
- Soap, water, and the ability to dry hands will be provided in all school bathrooms.
- The school will continue to regularly disinfect shared surfaces.
- Stringent self-isolation of those who display relevant symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19, or have been overseas in the last 14 days.

Thanks again for all of your support throughout the COVID-19 Alert Levels.

