

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Well you all made it! The last week of the school year! Thanks to everyone in our wider school community for an awesome year with lots of incredible learning here at Cornerstone Christian School. We pray that all our students have a safe and restful summer break and return to us safely on the first day of term next year – Monday 3rd of February 2020.

You know, I love this time of year – the excitement of Christmas; decorating the Christmas tree and the anticipation of family visitors, a shared meal together, and of course presents on Christmas day. Being a Christian, adds another layer on top of these important Christmas rituals and traditions; it's the day where we celebrate the crazy idea that the same mighty God who breathed the stars into existence (Psalm 33:6) made Himself become utterly small – a tiny foetus in fact, just so that He could be one of us – Emmanuel, allowing mankind to see what He was really like. I love how Phillip Yancey puts it in his book 'The Jesus I never knew':

Before Jesus, almost no pagan author had used "humble" as a compliment. Yet the events of Christmas point inescapably to what seems like an oxymoron: a 'humble God'. The God who came to earth came not in a raging whirlwind nor in a devouring fire. Unimaginably, the Maker of all things shrank down, down, down, so small as to become an ovum, a single fertilized egg barely visible to the naked eye, an egg that would divide and re-divide until a foetus took shape, enlarging cell by cell inside a nervous teenager. "Immensity cloistered in thy dear womb," marvelled the poet John Donne. He "made himself nothing ... he humbled himself," said the apostle Paul more prosaically.

The Messiah who showed up as the baby Jesus, wore a different kind of God-glory, the glory of humility. 'God is great,' is the cry of the Moslems - a truth which is self-evident through the glory of creation. The God who roared, who appeared to order armies and empires about like pawns on a chessboard, this God emerged in Palestine as a baby who could not speak or eat solid food or control his bladder, who depended on a teenage girl for shelter, food, and love. God's visit to earth took place in an animal shelter with no attendants present and nowhere to lay the new-born king but a feed trough. Indeed, the event that divided history, and even our calendars, into two parts may have had more animal than human witnesses. "How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given."

School News:

Late last week our Principal Dr Peter Ferrar requested that the Board of Trustees grant him leave of absence from School to work through some personal matters which had come to a head. At this stage I will be acting principal in Peter's stead. I would sincerely appreciate it if you could all uphold Peter in your prayers.

This week we also farewell a number of special Cornerstone Christian School staff:

Lynette Olson was first employed at Cornerstone waaaay back in the year 2003. She has spent 17 fruitful years teaching at our school and we estimate that Lynette has directly taught around 500 Cornerstone students! A legend! We wish you all the very best for your retirement Lynette.

We also farewell our amazing secondary school teacher, Mr Alderdice, at the end of this year. Martin has been an incredible physics teacher and life-lab mentor for many of our High School students and we pray God's richest and best for you and your family in this next season of life.

We also farewell our lovely ESOL and Aroha Team Teacher Aide, Jayne Lawrence, and our special Teacher Aides Natalya Bissell and Debbie Palmer. Thank you all for your amazing input in the lives of our students and the contributions you have made to our school.

God bless,

Chris Mitchel (Acting Principal)

Mission: "To provide, with parents, a balanced Christian education to help children develop to their full potential in God."

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

Contact us: Ph: 356 7326 Fax: 356 8391 E-mail: office@cornerstone.ac.nz Website: www.cornerstone.ac.nz

Calendar

Thur 12 Dec	Year 7-13 Early Finish 12.15pm
Thur 12 Dec	Year 1-6 Prizegiving (In the School Gym) 1pm-3pm
Thur 12 Dec	Year 7-13 Prizegiving (At Crossroads Church) 6.30pm
Fri 13 Dec	Last Day of School (Year 1-10) (12pm finish)
Mon 3 Feb	START OF TERM 1 2020 (Y1-13)

2020 Term Dates

Term 1:	Monday 3 February - Thursday 9 April
Term 2:	Tuesday 28 April - Friday 3 July
Term 3:	Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
Term 4:	Monday 12 October - Friday 11 Dec

School Notices

Early Finish Y7-13 Students Thursday 12 Dec 12:15pm

The secondary school will be finishing at the earlier time of 12:15pm on Thursday the 12th of December.

This is to release students to attend the junior prizegiving in the afternoon with their families.

Some supervision will be available from 12:15pm to 3:10pm should it be needed. If you need to use the supervision for health and safety reasons, please register your son or daughter at the office before the 11th of December.

The Feilding and Ashhurst Buses will be leaving Cornerstone at the usual times.

Year 7-13 students are expected at Crossroads for the Senior prizegiving at 6.30pm.

Early Finish on Friday 13 December (Last day of school)

On the last day of school (Friday 13 December) school will finish at the earlier time of 12pm. Children whose parents have notified the office that they would like their child to be cared for, will be looked after in the school gym until 3pm. Please pick your child from the gym at 3pm.

Buses on the Last Day of School

Due to school finishing at the earlier time of 12.00pm on the last day of school (Friday 13th December) the Feilding and Ashhurst buses will be arriving at Cornerstone at the earlier time of 12.00pm to collect students.

Sports Uniform

We are still in the process of confirming our new sports uniform design. We will notify you via the school newsletter once this is available to purchase.

School Notices

School Newsletter 2020

Next year we are moving to having our school newsletter supplied in digital format (i.e. by email). We will also be providing this fortnightly instead of weekly. These changes will start from Term 1, 2020. If you would prefer to receive a paper copy, we will have some available in the school reception area for parents to collect.

Uniform Bookings for 2020

It is time to buy uniforms for 2020. The uniform shop (situated at the student reception) is open Mon-Fri 1.45pm-3.30pm.

The uniform shop is also open the week before school starts next year from Monday 27th January to Friday 31st January 2020 (**by appointment only**).

To book your appointment to purchase your child's uniform please go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the event code **kyrp2** and follow the prompts.

Alternatively, you can go to our school website: www.cornerstone.ac.nz and click on the link "Uniform Bookings" under the announcements tab. (**Please note that we may not be able to assist you if you do not have an appointment**)

Change of Contact Details

If you have recently changed your address, telephone number or email address, please let the school office know. We need to have your correct contact details on file, in case we need to contact you regarding your child/ren.

Not Returning to Cornerstone in 2020?

If your child is not returning to Cornerstone next year, please can you notify Sarndra via email: sarndra@cornerstone.ac.nz or phone 06 356 7326. Thank you.



School Notices

Cornerstone Uniform Exchange

A group of Cornerstone parents have set up a Cornerstone uniform exchange Facebook page. This is a great way to pass on old uniforms and find new ones for next year. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/499233177235027/> or search Cornerstone Uniform Exchange.

Piano Lessons for 2020

If your child is interested in receiving individual piano lessons next year, please phone Robyn Good (Interant Piano Teacher) on 021 046 3105 or email goodonthepiano@gmail.com.

Lessons are half an hour, during school time and cost \$25 per lesson, payable at the start of the term.

Epic Music Academy

Does your child want to learn an instrument, play in a band and perform on the big stage? Epic Music Academy runs it's one of a kind instrument tuition programs in school, and there are a few spots open for new students in 2020. To sign up, go to our Facebook page fb.com/epicmusic.pn, or email your interest to alistair@epicma.nz.

Sport Notices

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jasmin Tattle who received a trophy and certificate for being Top Ranked under 15 Girl's Sabre at the Fencing Central Awards this week in Wellington. Olivia Brookie also received a trophy for Top-Ranked Under 17 Girls Sabre and a certificate for Best School Girl Fencer. A great achievement for both girls.



Community Notices

Summer Rental

2 bed, fully furnished home close to city centre and Esplanade available for rent for 6 weeks between Jan 3rd and Feb 14th. All utilities power, Wi-Fi & rubbish collection included. Contact karina@vergis.co.nz

Comac Job Vacancy

General Warehouse Duties at Comac. The job requires accuracy and some manual lifting. A forklift licence is preferred but training will be given. Hours 8am-5pm Monday to Friday. Email sales@comac.co.nz for further info or go to: www.comac.co.nz.



FOR HARD TO FIND HARDWARE

School Stationery 2020

2020 Stationery

This Friday 13 December, the 2020 Class Lists will be posted on our school website www.cornerstone.ac.nz. Once you know which class your child is in for 2020, you can then go to myschool.co.nz to order your child/ren's stationery. Search for our school, select your child's class and/or subject lists and follow the instructions on the website. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 724 440.



Order your child's stationery online at myschool.co.nz in December... and you decide when you pay.

The OfficeMax team have done all the hard work for you! Your school's stationery lists are already online at myschool.co.nz

Order online between 1-31 December 2019 then choose when you pay - and when we deliver... no holiday worries and no back to school hurries! Plus, you'll get a free gift* with your order.

Back
to
SCHOOL
made easy



Important Information

The Uniform Shop

Open from Monday 27 January 2020 to Friday 31 January 2020 (by appointment only). To make an appointment please go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the event code kyrp2 and follow the prompts. If you have any queries, please email ilona@cornerstone.ac.nz.

Year 9-13 Students

We expect student timetables to be available on the student portal before the first day of school.

Year 9-13 Course Confirmation

Thursday 30 January 2020 from 10am-12pm: This is for students who have gaps in their timetable.

Year 13 Mentoring Training

Friday 31 January 2020 from 8.45am.

Year 13 MiCamp

Monday 3rd February 2020 to Wednesday 5th February 2020 at Whakamaru

First day of School for all Students

Monday 3 February 2020

If you have any queries, please email Jean at office@cornerstone.ac.nz

Y9 /Y10 Food Technology Stationery 2020

1 X 1B5 Exercise Book
Glue
Scissors
500ml food-safe container to take food in

Y11/Y12 Food Technology Stationery 2020

1 x 1B5 Exercise Book
1 x Activity Scrapbook
Glue
Scissors
Highlighters & Pens
500ml food-safe container to take food in



2019 Year 13 Graduation Supper

Congratulations to all our Year 13 Graduates. May God continue to bless you as you begin the next chapter of your lives. Thank you to the parents and families for your support and a huge thank you to Sarndra Rauzi and all her helpers who made the gym look amazing for our 2019 Year 13 Graduation Supper. A wonderful evening was had by all.