Elim Christian College

BOTANY CAMPUS

22 June 2026

DATES

Thursday 25 June

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Friday 26 June

CULTURAL MUFI DAY

Monday 29 June

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Wednesday 1 July

MOCK ROCK

Welcome to this week's newsletter. It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding fortnight across all year levels, with our students stepping outside the traditional classroom to embrace hands-on learning, cultural immersion, and regional competition.

From the kitchen to the great outdoors, our students have been demonstrating some key values of curiosity, resilience, and teamwork that help make our school community so special. We are immensely proud of the way our students represent our school, whether they are conducting local scientific research or competing against the region's best. Thank you to all the staff and families who continue to support these rich learning experiences.

Important Notices for the Week Ahead

- Parent-Teacher Conferences: A reminder that our parent-teacher conferences will be held this Thursday and following Monday. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and connect with their teachers. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday
- Cultural Mufti Day: To wrap up the week, we will be holding a Cultural Mufti Day this coming Friday. Students are encouraged to wear traditional attire or colours that represent their cultural heritage as we celebrate the incredible diversity of our school community.

Year 10 Dragon Boat Festival



Our Year 10 Chinese language students enjoyed an unforgettable cultural immersion to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival (Duanwu Jie), hosted by the Taiwanese Hwa Hsia Society of New Zealand.



The day was packed with vibrant, hands-on activities. Students tried their hand at making traditional zongzi (sticky rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves), crafted aromatic xiangbao (herbal perfume pouches), and teamed up for festive cultural games. This wonderful experience brought their classroom learning to life, allowing them to practice their language skills and deepen their intercultural understanding.



Events like this beautifully showcase the richness of New Zealand's multicultural community. We are incredibly proud of the curiosity, respect, and enthusiasm our students showed throughout the day!



Culture Meets Culinary in Year 10 Dumpling Lesson!

Cross-curricular learning never tasted so good! Recently, Year 10 Chinese and Hospitality students joined forces for an engaging, hands-on dumpling masterclass. From scratch-making fillings with chives and shrimp to folding, saucing, and cooking, the students managed every step of the delicious process.

Beyond the kitchen, the activity was a brilliant exercise in teamwork and communication, giving students a tangible connection to Chinese culture. The session was a resounding success, capped off by everyone enjoying a well-earned feast of their own creations.









Year 13 Outdoor Ed Conquer the Elements at Ōmana Regional Park

Our Year 13 Outdoor Education (OED) students recently put their resourcefulness to the ultimate test during a challenging bush camp at Ōmana Regional Park. Trading traditional tents for creativity, the students took on a bivy shelter challenge. Working in teams, they used only tarpaulins, ropes, and the natural features of the coastal forest to engineer overnight structures built to withstand the elements. A task requiring serious problem-solving, teamwork, and an eye for structural safety.



The hands-on survival training continued with a fire-lighting challenge. Under strict safety protocols, students braved damp coastal conditions to source tinder and kindling, using flint and steel to spark a sustainable flame. This exercise required immense patience and a practical understanding of fire dynamics. We are incredibly proud of how our Year 13 peers collaborated, adapted, and problem-solved, returning home with a newfound sense of self-reliance and unforgettable memories.



Putting Geography into Practice: Senior Field Trips







Year 11: Assessing Botany Creek In preparation for their second internal assessment, our Year 11 Geography students recently headed out to evaluate the environmental health of Botany Creek. Blessed with a beautiful autumn day, the students visited four specific sites along the waterway adjacent to the school to gather water samples and record observations on the local ecosystem. With data collection successfully wrapped up, they are now busy analysing their findings to complete their research.

Years 12 & 13: Investigating Taitai Stream Meanwhile, our senior Geography students traveled to the scenic Clevedon Reserve to conduct field research for their upcoming internal assessment. Investigating streamflow variations, the seniors collected data from two contrasting sites along the Taitai Stream to identify and explain differences in water flow. Alongside the hard work, a few of our particularly energetic students even managed to fit in a quick run up Clevedon's famous "Stairway to Heaven" track!

Botany Sport:

Phenomenal Results at the Gymsports Auckland Championships

On Thursday, 11th June, two of our talented students proudly represented our school at the Gymsports Auckland Championships held at the Pulman Recreation Centre in Takanini. Competing against top talent from across the region, both athletes delivered outstanding performances to claim top honors in their respective categories.

Mia Henning, Y13 took home a spectacular 1st place finish in Level 9 Rhythmic Gymnastics, mastering the hoop, ball, clubs, and ribbon.
Matching her success Amanda Kirby, Y10 also secured an impressive 1st place in Level 6 Rhythmic Gymnastics, showing incredible skill across the freehand, ball, and ribbon apparatuses. Congratulations to both Mia and Amanda for their hard work, dedication, and for bringing home gold for our school community!



Botany Sport:

Braving the Elements: Rogaine Championships

On Sunday, 14th June, Nathan Ko (Year 11), braved the elements to represent our school at the Rogaine Orienteering Championships.

Held across the rugged terrain of Woodhill Forest and the ARC park surrounding the Muriwai Golf Course, this demanding event tested both physical endurance and mental strategy. For those unfamiliar with the sport, Rogaining is a fast-paced, grueling form of cross-country navigation. Armed with only a map and compass, competitors have a strict 90-minute time limit to travel on foot and visit as many checkpoints as possible. With checkpoints worth varying point values and strict penalties for late finishes, strategic planning is everything.

A huge congratulations to Nathan for showing fantastic grit, navigational skill, and school spirit!



ELIM SPORTS

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Kotahitanga Award

Every week, we focus on what it means to exemplify one of our school learning behaviours. Teachers look for students displaying the selected behaviour throughout the week and nominate them for a prize draw held during our Friday assembly. Below is a list of students who have been nominated so far this term

We show Māia , we are **Courageous**

The following students were recognised for displaying one of these values, and were nominated for this award:

Nominee:

Noah Jonck

WINNER:

Noah Jonck

AWARDS CHOSEN:

Chocolate