

Jireh Christian School Newsletter



30 August 2018 Important Dates

Gymnastics (Final)	Friday 31 August
Ika Dance Sport	Friday 7 & Wednesday 12
PA Cultural Dinner	Saturday 8 September
Grandparents' Day	Friday 14 September
ACS Cross Country	Tuesday 18 September
Manu Botanical Gar- dens / PA Meeting	Wednesday 19 September
Speech Finals	Friday 21 September

We would like to start school a little earlier at 8:45am instead of 8:55am.

This will allow for more time in the school day. If you have any comments or questions regarding this change please contact Sandra Bosman (Principal). It will not affect the buses as they all arrive by 8.45am.

TIWAI IN THE SPOT-LIGHT

What a privilege to share with you what life is like in the Tiwai Learning Area at Jireh Christian School. For those of you who are “old school” – and that includes me – Tiwai is the Intermediate or Year 7 & 8 area of our school. While I would like to think it is the most exciting area, the truth is that every age and stage has special moments. However, what makes Tiwai so interesting is our wonderful students. Let me back up the truck a little, though.....

In Tiwai Learning Area we have two classes, Kotukutuku and Nikau. Tiwai is the Maori word for tree, and the classes in this area have chosen two beautiful trees by which to name themselves. I think it is apt that Year 7 & 8 are the “tree” part of our school metaphor. At this stage of life, students in Tiwai are beginning to **branch** out into developing their own perspectives of life, the world and their place in it. They are moving

away from believing what Mum and Dad have told them, and they are owning their faith. It is a very important transition – and if we can lead them well through it, we know that God will be faithful to guard them in all their ways and keep them on His path. Not only are they branching out, but they are learning to be deeply **rooted** in God’s Word, understanding it for what it says and knowing how it will guide them to live lives that bring glory to Jesus Christ – in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. There is a fantastic desire in our students to be authentic in their faith. That’s why we want the roots to go deep...deep into God’s Word.

Life in Tiwai is never dull or slow. In fact, the pace in these classes could be described as frenetic at times. Ask Mrs Stoffels and Mrs Mackie and they will both tell you that there are not enough hours in the school day for all the teaching and learning they have to do. The

learning that takes place is rich, purposeful and sincerely infused with God’s truth. Of course, Year 7 & 8 students still need to learn Mathematics, Reading and Writing, but there is so much more as well. One of the highlights of the week is the day that is spent at Elim Christian College (Mt Albert Campus) studying Hard & Soft Materials and Food Technology. Once again, old school terms are metal-work, woodwork, sewing and cooking. But wait, there’s more.... with developing technology, the students also incorporate electronics etc. Added to this learning is the Technology time they spend with Mr Alexander on Tuesday afternoons. During this time, they have been experimenting with coding and 3D printing. Physical activity is very important for Year 7 & 8. In light of this, it was great to start our year exploring God’s amazing creation at Goat Island – snorkelling and exploring the ocean was exhilarating for some and challenging for others. (Continued back page)

Feed the Streets

1897 items were donated. Thank you to everyone who brought something. These items will be used to feed and clothe our local community. Well done, Jireh Christian School families!



Safety in the Car Park

Dear parents, when collecting your children or dropping them off, please do not walk in the middle of the car park. It is important that you use the designated path that goes past the church and the kindergarten. There are cars reversing and people walking around which is potentially very dangerous. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our car park safe.

Tiwai Food Technology:

Our lesson on knife skills resulted in some amazing salads. Liam Warner impressed the teacher with his skill and focus.



Gardening and making a worm farm



Introducing our new Year 4 teacher— Ms.

Rautenbach

Stephanie says: I am so pleased to be joining this school and teaching Year 4s for the rest of the year.

I am a NZ trained teacher, and recently moved back to Auckland after teaching in Abu Dhabi for 8 years. After teaching in a non-Christian country I am very excited to be teaching at a Christian school where we can openly glorify God, and teach Biblical truths and values.

(Continued from front page)

The Tiwai camp at the end of the year will also provide its own physical challenges with tramping and kayaking being high on the agenda. For those who are particularly gifted with sporting prowess, there is the Intermediate Sports Camp held at Totara Springs. We are in the throes of training and preparing for this camp which will be held from 24-28 September. What a way to end the term! 14 of the Tiwai students will join with 14 students from Elim Christian College (MAC) to make a combined Elim/Jireh team. This week will be full of almost every sport you can think of (and some that you might not even classify as sport), such as football, volleyball, hockey, triathlon, swimming, kayaking, archery, darts, lawn bowls, chess, wall-ball and shooting – to name a few!

“What about the students who don’t enjoy sport?” I hear you ask. Those students will be treated to a WoW week – a Week of Workshops, in which they will make, create, build, design, explore and collaborate. Just as Sports Camp will be fun and engaging for our sporty Year 7 & 8 students, so the WoW week will be captivating for the rest of the Tiwai students.

One important part of being in Year 7 & 8 is the “growing up” aspect of life. In Term 2, the students were highly engaged with the human body lessons provided by the Life Education bus. We can never hear enough about how important it is for our bodies to drink water, get rest and ingest the right nutrients. The other vital area of learning is around puberty. Tiwai ended Term 2 with a special day hosted by Nest Consulting called Puberty Plus. This was a fantastic and sensitively-run day in which our students came to understand how their bodies are changing and why. Most importantly, they were reminded that all this design was perfectly orchestrated by God. With maturity they supported each other through this day. Getting older is mandatory but growing up is optional – as the saying goes. However,

in Tiwai we believe that growing up is vital for service in God’s kingdom. To this end, we deliberately provide opportunities for Year 7 & 8 students to develop servant leadership skills. At Jireh Christian School we have divided our school community into four “houses.” These are cohorts of children from N.E. to Year 8, led by 2 Year 7 and 2 Year 8 students, designated as house leaders. One of the roles of a house leader is to encourage the children in their house to live the Jireh student outcomes. They also have opportunities to organise events, such as the school picnic, house sports’ competitions and assemblies. Growing up ensures access to greater rights, but as the Tiwai students are often reminded, it also means great responsibility. All students in Tiwai are role models for the rest of the school whether they carry the title of “house leader” or not.

Inquiring into God’s world and how it works is also a key aspect of life in Tiwai. Mrs Mackie has been in her happy place, also known as the Science lab, each Wednesday. While two-thirds of Tiwai are at Elim Christian College, the other third are at school, exploring scientific concepts and developing appropriate skills, based around conducting experiments. The enthusiasm and engagement are palpable in the lab! And the students love it, too!! 😊 Mrs Stoffels is in her happy place when running our school Kapa Haka group. Providing an opportunity for students to express Maori culture through waiata, haka and poi is important. If you were at the school’s Opening Day, you will have seen our students in action. How proud were we of their kapa haka performance?

If you are still considering where to send your child for their Intermediate education, may I strongly urge you to choose Tiwai at Jireh Christian School? The opportunities for learning, leadership and discipleship abound – there is truly something for EVERYONE!

Vicki Morris

From God, For God | Atua, Hoki Atua

+64 00 9 836 6913
+64 2108538662

administration@jireh.school.nz
www.jireh.school.nz

63 St Georges Road,
Avondale,
Auckland 0600



‘We are a Christ centred community where learners are nurtured to glorify God’