



Newsletter

Term 1, Week 2, 2018

8 February 2018

Manukau Christian School

Dear Parents and Friends of Manukau Christian School

Thanks to so many of you for giving me a warm welcome as I begin my tenure as principal. The impressions that I have gained over my initial few days are that the staff here are capable, friendly, punctual, accepting and highly professional. Students are polite, respectful and ready to work hard and do their best at learning. Parents, I have met only a few of you so far and I have a big challenge ahead of me as I attempt to learn your names and those of your children. Please feel free to stop and chat. If we have already met and had a conversation but I just stare blankly and smile, please just bear with me and introduce yourself again.... I have a lot of names to try to learn!

Right at the outset of this year I want to celebrate the fact that we are a Christian school. What does this mean? It means that for students at this school, learning starts with God. We learn because God has entrusted us with the ability to think cognitively and to make rational and responsible choices. We teach, because the world needs people trained in how to 'do life' well, to do life God's way. A secular education might train children to make a living. That is important, but in a Christian school we are helping each student to make a life – the sort of life God intends them to lead. We are seeking to partner with you parents, to assist you to train up your children to fulfil their potential and to be everything God wants them to be. We are overt about pointing your children to God's Word, the Bible, and encouraging them to seek Him in prayer, because the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7).

As you read this newsletter carefully, you will celebrate some outstanding academic results from last year and you will learn of our goals for this year, you will be introduced to new staff and you will read of the exciting growth of Manukau Christian School. There are lots of important details. If you have feedback or questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with us.

Blessings, Pete Slaney (Principal)

Term Dates 2018

Term 1: 1 Feb to 13 Apr

School closed: 30 March

2 April, 3 April

Term 2: 30 Apr to 6 July

Term 3: 23 Jul to 28 Sep

Term 4: 15 Oct to 12 Dec



**Cambridge Assessment
International Education**

CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATE SCHOOL

ACSNZ

ASSOCIATION OF CAMBRIDGE
SCHOOLS in NZ INC

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The School Continues to Grow

Word seems to be out in the local community. Manukau Christian School is a popular choice for parents. Our starting roll for 2018 is 221 students. Although this is small by state school standards, the starting roll last year was only 177, so this is 25% growth. With growth comes the challenge of ensuring the distinctive qualities of a small school are maintained. This is something that is very important to all of us.

Our Goals and Plans for 2018

- Academic excellence across the school, including the inaugural Year 12 class
- Building school community – growth in community as well as in numbers
- Installation of a new classroom for Mrs du Plessis and the Year 1 students
- The development of a high school science laboratory
- Growing the high school as we look to start Year 13 in 2019

Health and Safety

Please let us know if you identify a hazard on our school grounds. It is important that we learn of any hazards so that we can take appropriate steps to minimise the risk of injury to staff, students or parents.

Our car park is a potential hazard area. Students, particularly young students, do not have the situational awareness that adults possess. They must never be unattended in the car park, otherwise they are likely to walk or run behind a driver who is backing and is unable to see them. The consequences could be disastrous.

Parents, please park your car in a designated space, take your child or children by the hand and lead them down the steps and into the school courtyard. At the end of the school day, please collect your children from the courtyard (see page 7) .

School Fees

School Fees are due **on the first day of each term** *unless* paying by automatic payment. Overdue fees put a strain on our finances and manpower. We have eftpos and credit card facilities available in the office. A 5% prompt payment discount may be applied if fees are paid within the first five working days of the start of term. A 1.5% surcharge is levied for credit card payments.

Outstanding Cambridge Results—October Series

Our year 6 pupils sat external Cambridge Assessment International Examinations in Maths and English in October last year. These tests are taken under strict exam conditions with supervision by an independent examiner, followed by marking, evaluation and analysis in the UK. Results were received in January.

All our Year 6 pupils passed both Maths and English. The highest possible score is 6.0 and the table below explains the grading scale.

6.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Excellent	Very Good	Good	O.K.	Poor	Very Poor

The school's overall average score for Mathematics was **5.1** and the English overall average score was **5.3**. This is outstanding.

Special mention must be made of the large contingent of pupils who scored the perfect 6.0 for Maths **and** English— well done to Matthew Shallard, Bella Fickling, Emma Cairney, Tanvi Kewal, Lola Tavan and Brayan Wang and to Benjamin Saseve for English. Well done too to Oliver Kuik, Avneet Kumar, Mayah Allerby and Ekamjot Singh who scored in the 5.0 and up range.

Congratulations are also due to their teacher, Miss Jessica Sonneveld, and all our teachers who teach and prepare these children in their junior years.



*Pupils displaying their Cambridge Assessment International Examinations results. Back: Josiah, Avneet, Matthew, Brayan
Front: Benjamin, Lola and Oliver*

Outstanding High School Cambridge Results—November Series

Pupils in Years 10 and 11 sat external exams in the November Series. These are IGCSE exams. The standard is high and is scored as follows:

A*	A	B	C	D	E
90+%	80-89%	70-79%	60-69%	50-59%	40-49%

Top results were achieved in these exams by **all** pupils. Their hard work and commitment throughout the year has been rewarded. Special congratulations to the following pupils:

A*	
Nine A* achieved in total 90%+	Caitlin Shallard, Grace Paddison, Talitha Sharma and Mae Savill across subjects of Co-ordinated Sciences, English Language, Literature and Mathematics
A	
Eight A's achieved in total 80-90%	Grace Paddison, Caitlin Shallard, Prisca Wang, Talitha Sharma, Rebekah Shallard, Mae Savill, Esha Kumar across subjects of English Language, History, Economics and Mathematics



Top Achievers: Grace Paddison, Mae Savill, Caitlin Shallard,
Esha Kumar, Talitha Sharma and Rebekah Shallard.

Meet the Teacher Evening Wednesday 14th February 7.15pm



This evening will begin with a short talk from the Principal. Following this you will be able to meet with your child's teacher(s) and find out how you can best support and encourage your child. Please make this evening a priority. Please bear in mind that this is not a 'parent-teacher interview' situation. The year has just begun and the teacher will not yet have enough information about your child to make any detailed comments about progress. However, the teacher will have important information for you about classroom routines, expectations, homework and so forth.

Please also be aware that if there are any problems, speak directly to the teacher concerned by setting up an appointment through the school office. If it is not possible to resolve a conflict at this meeting, please set up a meeting with our Principal, Mr Slaney by phoning or emailing the school office.

Watersports Afternoon—Friday 16th February 1.30pm



As part of their PE lesson, pupils in Years 1 to 8 will enjoy a water-sports activity afternoon on Friday 16th February, starting at 1.30pm. This lesson will only be cancelled if it rains heavily. Parents are welcome to attend.

Parent Teacher Interviews—Wednesday 14th March



Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 14th March 2018**. This is an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher and find out how their child is settling into class. Parents will also be informed of expectations and given the results of early PAT testing and particular strengths and weaknesses.

A time sheet will be sent home closer to this date for you to complete and return to the office. **Please remember that school closes at 12.30pm on this day.**

School Family Picnic—Friday 23rd March



A family picnic is scheduled for Friday 23rd March 2018 at 5.30pm.

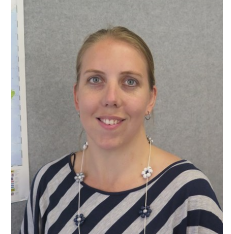
We would encourage you to come to this event as it is a wonderful way to meet more families in a relaxed environment. Further details will be sent out closer to the time.

Staff for 2018

Year 1	Miss Char Luck
Year 1	Mrs Madelaine du Plessis
Year 2	Mrs Christina Ackermann
Year 3	Mrs Evelyn Luther
Year 4	Mrs Leonie Logan
Year 5	Mrs Minda Busch
Years 6 and 7	Miss Jessica Sonneveld
Years 7 and 8	Miss Louise Kennedy
Year 9-12	Miss Priscilla Dhinakar
	Mr Gabriel Boyd
	Mrs Sue Dando
Modules:	Mrs Maree Kennedy
	Mr Shane Kennedy
	Mr Richard Flinn
	Mr Gareth Jones
Teacher Aide	Mrs Nicole Fickling
	Mrs Sam Savill
Support Teachers	Mrs Elsie Orr
Admin Assistant	Mrs Susan Lowen
Caretaker	Mr Maurice Papesch
Executive Officer	Mrs Geraldine Oosterbeek
Deputy Principal	Mr Scott Kennedy
Principal	Mr Pete Slaney



Miss Luck, Mrs du Plessis and Mrs Ackermann



Mrs Luther, Mrs Logan and Mrs Busch



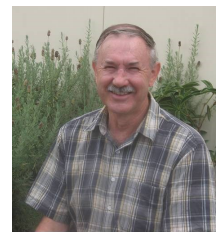
Miss Sonneveld, Miss Kennedy



Miss Dhinakar, Mr Boyd and Mrs Dando



Mrs Fickling, Mrs Savill and Mrs Orr



Mrs Oosterbeek, Mrs Lowen and Mr Papesch



Mr Pete Slaney
Principal



Mr Scott Kennedy
Deputy Principal

Dropping off and collecting children

Please be considerate of others when using the carpark. Could parents please drop children off and collect using the entrance that is closest to the class of their youngest child.

- A **ONE-WAY SYSTEM** operates.
- Please **PARK YOUR CAR** to prevent traffic build-up.
- Please **DO NOT PARK ALONGSIDE THE FENCE** in the upper carpark.
- Please **DO NOT PARK DOWN THE DRIVEWAY**. This is reserved for staff and church visitors.
- Children in Years 1 to 6 must be accompanied to the courtyard please.



Picking up your child after school

Our school policy states:

1. Children in Years 1 to 6 being picked up by parents, are required to wait on the seats outside the main school block.
2. Parents/caregivers must come down from the carpark to the assembly point and physically accompany their child back to the car.
3. Children will not be released by the duty teacher to go off unaccompanied to the carpark.
4. If your youngest child is in Year 7 or up please use the entrance in Beaumonts Way. Senior pupils are to sit on the steps outside Room 211 until parents arrive. If senior pupils have siblings in the junior school they go up to the junior school and wait on the seat with their sibling. Children walking or biking home leave via the preschool gates.

School Hours and Arriving late for school

We appreciate the efforts of parents to get their children to school on time. Doors open at 8.30am for Years 1 to 8 and 8.20am for Years 9 and up. Parents are reminded that there is no teacher supervision in the courtyard before 8.15am. School starts promptly at 8.40am for Years 1 to 8 and 8.30am for seniors.

At the start of each day each teacher records late arrivals on their class attendance register. If your child is late **please do not disturb the class** by going into the classroom with your child. Any communication you wish to make at this time may be done via the school office. Parents will be contacted if their children are continuously late as this impacts their learning and inhibits them from reaching their full potential. It also negatively impacts the class and teacher. Primary school finishes at 3.00pm and high school pupils finish at 3.15pm. We would request that children are picked up no later than 3.15pm as there is no supervision of children after this time.

Miscellaneous

Yummy Fruits—we will again be collecting stickers after receiving a range of sports balls and equipment last year.

School Banking—Our school subscribes to the ASB school banking programme. Enrolment packs are available from the office if you would like your child to start saving their money through the school banking programme. Deposits for school banking are cleared on Tuesdays and the box is situated in the school reception. Talk to Mrs Oosterbeek for more information.

School T-shirts are available from the office. These T-shirts have been manufactured from a durable quick-dry UV40 fabric. T-shirts are required when pupils go on school trips.

T-shirts \$35 Shorts \$30 Caps \$15 Hats \$15

Sick Children

If your child is sick please **do not** send them to school as this increases the risk of teachers and other children also getting sick. This is particularly important if your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea.

- If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure that that we have an **Asthma Plan** that is specific to their needs.
- ***It is important that we have up-to-date*** contact details should your child get sick at school.
- It is advisable that our Year 1 pupils have a change of clothing stored in their school bag should they have an 'accident'.
- If your child has **allergies**, please ensure we have an action plan and up-to-date medication.

If your child is unable to attend school, **please ring the school**. While we endeavour to follow up on absent children, it remains the parents' responsibility to inform the school if your child is going to be away for the day. We require a note the following day if your child has been absent unless you ring or email to inform the school office.

Trustboard

The school Trustboard meets once a term and current members are:

Mr Rod Peek (Chairman)

Mr Simon Camp

Mr Richard Flinn

Mr Rob Darby

Mrs Janet Simons

Mrs Judith Boldy

Please forward any correspondence to Mrs Oosterbeek, the Trustboard secretary at admin@manukauchristian.school.nz

Dates to Remember

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12 February	13	14 PIPS Meet the Teacher 7.15pm	15	16 Watersports Fun Afternoon 1.30pm
19 Trustboard Meeting	20 Duder Park Yr 9 12.30pm	21 PIPS	22	23
26	27 Clevedon Yr 9 12.30pm	28 PIPS	1 MARCH	2
5 Whole School Assembly	6 Whaitawheta Overnight Tramp Year 9	7 PIPS	8	9
12 Photolife 8.30am	13	14 PIPS Parent Teacher Interviews <u>School finishes 12.30pm</u>	15	16
19	20	21 PIPS	22	23 Family Picnic 5.30pm
26	27	28 PIPS	29	30 Good Friday
2 APRIL Easter Monday	3 Easter Tuesday	4 PIPS	5	6
9	10	11	12	13 Whole School Assembly End of Term <u>School finishes 12.30pm</u>

PIPS



Parents in Prayer for the school
meet each Wednesday morning
at 8.40am in the church lounge.

Please join our parents in praying for our school and children
and acknowledging God's faithfulness.

A prayer box is situated in reception. Prayer requests may be anonymous.

Year 6—Bike Day

For pupils in Year 6 the year ended with important information, practical training and expert assistance for using a bicycle on the road. Each child's learning experience was unique. This is what they had to say:

Brayan: "Bike day was very enjoyable due to me learning how to ride a bike for the first time."

Aaidan: "Today was awesome as we learnt the four pointers to check that our bike is safe to ride."

M.J.: "Bike day was awesome! We learnt how to signal to other road users while on our bike."

Josiah: "Bike day was spectacular. We learnt how to check our bikes are safe to use."

Ekamjot: "Today was smashing! To legally be able to ride a bike on the road I must have a rear red reflector, a helmet, and two brakes that work."

Benjamin: "Bike day was a blast. When it was over I was disappointed as I wish it could have gone on for the whole day."

Tinotenda: "Today was exciting because it was one of my first times riding a bike. I learnt safety rules for on the road and footpath."

Oliver: "Bike day was amazingly exciting. I learnt how to balance on a bike, learnt the four pointers to check a bike is safe and I now know the three laws for riding on the road."

Lola: "Bike day was very educational, yet it had me falling off my bike with the excitement pumping through my body."

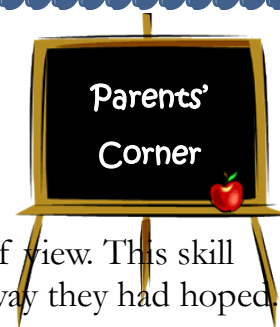
Sophia: "Today was amazing because we played games on our bikes."

Matthew: "I really enjoyed bike day because everyone learnt something new, whether it was learning the rules for riding on the road, or being educated on the safety checks for your bike."

Calvin: "Today was fun because everyone in the class learnt a new skill. We also got to play awesome games."

Boyao: "Today was a very special day because we got to ride a bike with Courtney and Megan as our helpers and now they are our friends."

Raising Flexible Thinkers



What is flexible thinking? The ability to view life from another point of view. This skill allows children to cognitively flex when life's circumstances don't go the way they had hoped.

While you don't see the term "flexible thinking" in the Bible, the idea of flexibility is easy to see in the pages of Scripture. When the apostle Paul lists the fruit of the Spirit in [Galatians 5:22-23](#), those traits include patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control — traits that work together for a calm, positive and flexible response to life's challenges. Flexible thinking helps us make good choices.

For a copy of the complete article and with acknowledgement to *Focus on the Family*, click on the link below:

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/schoolage-children/adaptability/raising-flexible-thinkers>

Community Notices

Girls Brigade

Girls' Brigade meet on **Mondays** from 6.30pm to 8.00pm at Covenant Church, 77 Rogers Road, Manurewa commencing 12th February 2018.

For more information phone Tabettha Gorrie on 021-610-096



For children aged 2½ years and up,
8.00am to 5.30pm
Monday to Friday.
Please ring 269-1048
Email preschool@covenantkids.co.nz
for more information.

COVERING YOUR CHILD'S BOOKS



A school parent has offered to cover your children's books with duraseal, in return for a **donation to our school building fund**. Overnight service. Please provide your own duraseal. Drop off and pick up from the school office.

ICONS for Boys

Covenant ICONZ - open to boys of all ages, meeting **Monday nights** at the school (during term time) 6.30-8.00pm. Contact Steve Simons 021-610-323 or 268-6082 in the evenings for any questions. All welcome. ICONZ starts on Monday 12th February 2018.

Covenant ICONZ
Term 1 Activities 2018
Venue = Manukau Christian School
77 Rogers Rd
Manurewa










Kick Off Night Monday 12 th February 6.30pm – 8.00pm Registration Night, Parent / Care Giver to attend, sign registration and meet with Leaders. Games and Ice Cream night	Water Night Monday 19 th February 6.30pm – 8.00pm Be prepared to get wet, make sure you have something warm to put on after.
Capture the Flag Monday 26 th February 6.30pm – 8.00pm	Practice Camp Setup Monday 6 th March 6.30pm – 8.00pm Practice Putting up tents for Camp
Bush Orienteering Monday 12 th March 6.30pm – 8.00pm	Movie Night Monday 19 th March 6.30pm – 8.00pm Movie to take it easy after the camp. Popcorn Supplied
Games Night Monday 26 th March 6.30pm – 8.00pm	Easter No ICONZ 2 nd April
ICONZ Birthday Monday 9 th April 6.30pm – 8.00pm	ICONZ CAMP 16 th , 17 th , 18 th March 2018

SCHOOL DESKS—FREE

We have a number of wooden school desks available for removal. Free. Please see Mrs Oosterbeek in the office.



Matters for Prayer

-  Give thanks for enjoyable and relaxing holidays.
-  Give thanks for 53 new students to Manukau Christian School.
-  Give thanks for extremely pleasing Cambridge external exam results.
-  Give thanks that students are making a positive start to the 2018 school year.
-  Give thanks for the opportunity to learn with God's Word at the centre.
-  Give thanks for PIPs—parents in prayer for our school—we appreciate you.
-  Pray for new students to settle quickly, especially the little ones.
-  Pray for finances to be made available to build the new Year One classroom.
-  Pray for all students to grow in faith and to embrace the lordship of Christ in their lives.

Scripture

**‘For you did not receive
a spirit that makes you a slave
again to fear,
but you received
the Spirit of Sonship.
And by Him we cry,
“Abba, Father.”
The Spirit himself
testifies with our spirit
that we are God’s children.’**

Romans 8:15-16



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