



CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Cambridge Middle School - Issue 8 - 06 December 2023

What's Coming Up...

Thursday 07 December

Last day of school for Year 8/9/10's

Thursday 07 December

Senior Dance 6pm - 8pm

Friday 08 December

Last day of school for Year 7's. School finishes at

12.40pm



Principals Pen 2023

Week 9, Term 4

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we are almost at our final day of the school year I would like to thank the school community for your support during this year. **Opportunity** is one of our school values, and providing a wide range of

opportunities often means relying on community support. This year we have appreciated your support in many areas such as: our Year 8 camps and Waimarino days, AIMS Games, WIMS events; cultural events such as Kapa Haka, and our Performing Arts and Music opportunities. We have also appreciated everyone who has been able to give time to support learning and sharing their knowledge or expertise with our rangatahi. Without this generous support we would not be able to provide the wide range of opportunities that we do - ***thank you!***

This time of year often brings with it a change in personnel. We wish Jenny-May Wilson all the best with the opportunity that awaits her and her family in Australia. Maddie Gordine is pursuing a career in her original field of study in social work and Tessa Wood is moving back home to the Bay of Plenty and will be teaching at Omokoroa No.1 School. Lucy Rowdon has filled many gaps to support our staff on a part time basis over the past three years and she will take up a full time position at Te Miro School. We thank Laura Wallace for her part time work at CMS this year. Thank you also to Paul Mudge who was Mr Dependable this year supporting Room 1 and Room 14. Izzy Douglas, a Learning Assistant, is moving on to begin her teaching career at her new job and we wish her the very best of luck.

Kahurangi Heta is moving on to study and we will hopefully continue to be able to work with her on a part time basis. We thank Kahurangi for the mahi she has done with our staff and ākonga over the past two years. We also farewell Benjamin Heaton who has completed 7 years at CMS and has won a position at Te Awamutu High School. Katie Scherer has made the decision to not return after maternity leave and we thank her for her time at CMS over the past few years. Finally Lorraine Shaw is retiring after more than 50 years in education, mostly as a teacher but the last few as valued Learning Assistant. She has been such a positive influence as a staff member and in the lives of so many Cambridge children. We wish all of the staff who are leaving us all the best with their new adventures.

Next year we welcome Jamie Hopson, Larah Jane Adams-O'Riley, and Clare Brooke-Smith as new teachers to CMS. We are excited to have their diverse range of experience and skills joining our team for



Principals Pen Continued...

next year. We also welcome back Jo Wright into her Science specialist role after being on leave in 2023.

I would like to thank our School Board for their support this year. We are lucky to have a committed group of people who have learners at the heart of their decisions and are future focused. At the end of this year our Presiding Member, Bob White, will be stepping down from the Board. I would like to sincerely thank Bob for his dedication to CMS over the past 9 years. We have been very fortunate to have had someone with his expertise and educational background supporting our school.

On Wednesday 22 November we held our Whānau Hui. This was a great opportunity to celebrate the achievement of our ākonga Māori, the kapa haka rōpu, and to seek feedback from our Māori whānau. Whaea Kahurangi has done an outstanding job this year supporting staff in Te Ao Māori to upskill and gain confidence in themselves as teachers. She has also supported many additional groups for ākonga to learn additional te reo Māori, and of course her expertise has seen our kapa haka reach a standard for all to be proud of. Over 100 whānau were treated to a passionate performance from our kapa haka rōpu, followed by the presentation of our Māori leader awards and presentation of taonga. This is the first time we have presented these awards at the hui and it was so nice to be able to recognise the achievements in front of a large group of whānau. The recipients this year for most improved were Taj M and Ruby M, and kapa haka excellence were awarded to Ngarimu W and Amaria P.

We also sought feedback from whānau around what we are currently doing well as a school, things we can improve on, and ideas on what we could add. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive with some great celebrations of what CMS is doing well in terms of honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi and bringing Te Ao Māori to life. We gathered great ideas of things we could add in such as a wharenuī to our front entrance, more opportunities for kapa haka/extension classes for Te Reo Māori, more leadership opportunities and awards for ākonga Māori.

We are excited for a number of initiatives moving into 2024. We will be focusing the professional development of staff in the areas of English and Mathematics to support a structured approach to literacy and numeracy. We have also almost completed the tender stage for our new specialist classes. This is going to be an exciting and innovative space that will be an asset to the CMS community and will enhance the learning experience for students.

To our families who have their final child moving on to begin their next stage at secondary school, we thank you for your support of CMS during your time here and we look forward to seeing all of our new and current families next year.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Kia pai to hararei
Daryl Gibbs

Cambridge Blue Light Newsletter

Please click [here](#) to view the Cambridge Blue Light 2023 Newsletter. Quite a few CMS and past CMS students feature.

Blue Light have had a very busy year and want to share some highlights which involved Cambridge Youth.



SENIOR DANCE



Thursday 7th December 6pm-8pm

Tickets: \$15

On sale at morning tea time on:

Week 7: Tues 21/11, Wed 22/11, Thurs 23/11

Week 8: Tues 28/11, Wed 29/11, Thurs 30/11

Week 9: Tues 5/12 and Wed 6/12

Let's celebrate the end of the year!



DEC/JAN HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Christmas
Variety

single or multi-day dance,
drama, art and music
Christmas themed
workshops.

18 - 21
DEC.

**CAMP
ROCK**

MUSIC WORKSHOPS FOR
BUDDING ROCKSTARS

JUNIORS : 15 - 17 JAN
SENIORS : 15 - 18 JAN

**SURVIVOR
ISLAND**

22 - 25
JAN.

Four days packed full of
pacific island themed
FUN!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO  IGNITEARTS.CO.NZ 