



# CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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## Cambridge Middle School - Issue 1 - February 2024

### 2024 Term 1

**Tuesday 20 February**  
BOPPS Triathlon

**Wednesday 21 February**  
Whānau Picnic.  
4.30pm Classrooms open  
5.15pm Food Trucks/mingle  
with staff on field

**Tuesday 27 February -  
Wednesday 28 February**  
School Photos

**Tuesday 27 February**  
WIMS Boys Cricket

**Wednesday 28 February**  
Camp Parent Helper Meeting  
6pm in the hall

**Tuesday 5 March**  
WIMS Volleyball

**Monday 11 March**  
WIMS Swimming

**Friday 15 March**  
Little Heart Day

**Tuesday 19 March**  
WIMS Touch Rugby

**Tuesday 26 March**  
WIMS Drama Day

**Friday 29 March**  
Good Friday

**Monday 1 April**  
Easter Monday

**Tuesday 2 April**  
Easter Holiday



### Principals Pen 2024 Week 3 Term 1

Kia ora koutou,

It is great to be back at school. It was nice to see so many whānau members at our pōwhiri on the first day. Thank you to Whaea Kahurangi for supporting us on the day. This year we welcomed over 350 new

students. There is a very settled feel in the school with all students learning about the HERO values and expectations at CMS. I would like to thank you for your support and commend the children for how they have adapted, especially our new students who have had to deal with a big change in their school environment. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you during your time at Cambridge Middle School. We know that the transition from primary to middle school is a big one and our staff will work hard to support you and your child during this time. At CMS we have an open-door policy and encourage you to make contact with your child's teacher as the first point of contact if necessary. Our school has great staff, who are dedicated to supporting your children to develop themselves academically, culturally and, especially at this age, socially and emotionally.

CMS is a busy place with many opportunities for students to take up. Opportunities already available are Production and auditions started yesterday. Sports trials for inter-school volleyball and Totara Sports Camp are also underway. Soon we will begin our academic and specialist subject enrichment programs. You can support your child by looking at the key places we put information and announcements - our school Facebook page (CMS Facebook page), on our school website (CMS website) and through our EDGE app. Please check your emails regularly as important notices are also shared this way.

It was nice to connect with a number of families who took the opportunity to meet their child's teacher before school began. We are looking forward to seeing you all at our whānau BBQ on Wednesday 21 February.

Our Swimming Sports for competitive swimmers was held on Monday, and it was a beautiful day! Congratulations to all



## Principal's Pen Continued...

.placegetters. Thank you to the parent helpers and Mrs Hawkins for your hard work. Mrs Hawkins will have the full results up by the end of the week and from there we will announce our WIMS swimming team.

### Our School Values - HERO

Our HERO values are what we promote at CMS and outline what we aspire to be as students, staff and a school community. One of our core values is **Happiness**. We take this to mean that at CMS we provide an environment where your identity is nurtured and you are cared for and safe. It is very important to us that if you become aware that your child is having any issues that you communicate with us. Your first point of contact is always the classroom teacher. Should additional support be required this may need to include the team leader or a senior leader. We want all of our students to come to school feeling safe and at times it is hard to help when we are unaware. To begin the year our teachers have been closely unpacking our school values, and what that looks and sounds like if we are looking after ourselves and being considerate and kind to others. All of this helps to build a positive class, team and school culture.

h	e	r	o
HAPPINESS HĀKOAKOA	EXCELLENCE PANEKIRETANGA	RELATIONSHIPS WHANAUNGATANGA	OPPORTUNITY WHEAKO
We provide an environment where everyone's identity is nurtured and they are cared for and safe.	We encourage the pursuit of our personal best in environments that are engaging and innovative.	We create a sense of belonging through valuing diversity, kindness and respect.	We offer a variety of meaningful and enriching experiences to enhance our lives.
"Mauria te pono"	"Whaia te iti kahurangi"	"Aroha atu, aroha mai"	"Tūwhitia te hopo"
Believe in yourself, to be authentic, to be honest	Strive for excellence	If kindness is sown then kindness you shall receive	Feel the fear and do it anyway

This year we have welcomed new teachers: Jamie Hopson (Rm 10), Larah Adams-O'Riley (Rm 14) and Claire Brooke-Smith (26). They have all made a great start and we are excited to have them all as part of our CMS whānau.

We are also excited to be able to announce the new teacher for Room 13 following Mr Guy's resignation. **Claire Hewson** will begin Week 5 and brings with her a wealth of experience teaching the emerging adolescent age. We will also welcome **Travis Mclellennan**. Travis will be the new teacher for Room 19 for the remainder of 2024. He is very experienced with this age group having worked in a range of intermediate schools.

# Principal's Pen Continued...

## Online Safety

The online world is one that students need support navigating and it can be an area in which you need some skills as a parent to best support your child. Netsafe is an online site set up to support parents and caregivers. I strongly encourage you to visit this site and to engage in ways you can support your child to be safe online. <https://netsafe.org.nz/>. The majority of negative interactions online tend to happen in the evenings or on weekends, the Netsafe site is a great place for you to seek advice about what to do if your child is a victim of online bullying, it also explains your rights and the law around this type of situation.

We will continue to give you information and tips throughout the year on how you can provide support for your children as they navigate the apps and tools available to them online. We will be holding a parent evening later in the year with digital safety expert, Rob Cope- Our Kids Online.

## Curriculum

During the year our conceptual curriculum will focus on four key concepts, beginning with Turangawaewae. This concept will form the foundation of learning for your child over the first couple of weeks of the year while we develop class, team and school culture. The other three concepts will be Survival (Oranga), Culture (Ahurea) and Change (Whakarerekē) During these concepts, where possible, learning will be woven through all curriculum areas to connect their learning and engage our students. A strong focus this year will be on deliberate acts of teaching by teachers in the core areas of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We are utilising high-performing learning programmes such as The Code, Writer's Toolbox and Step Up Numeracy. Our teachers are doing professional development to ensure there is consistent and skilled teaching in these areas. These deliberate acts of teaching alongside our Conceptual Curriculum forms an engaging, relevant and challenging curriculum for our students.

## Sun Safety

At this age and stage, we encourage students to become more self-managing but we also realise they still need our support to make healthy choices. At CMS a school hat is a compulsory uniform item and must be brought to school each day during terms one and four. Teachers remind and encourage all students before breaks to wear hats, and sunscreen is also available in classrooms. We use our positive behaviour approaches to encourage hat-wearing such as our rewards system, which creates positive engagement with students. We have seen a large increase in the past two weeks of students wearing hats but there are still a number who are not.

## How you can help:

As a whānau, you can help us work together to help your child make safe choices. You can discuss sun safety, encourage application of sunscreen before they leave the house for school each day, and ensure they have their school hat.

It is important we work together to help our young people make healthy choices for life. Our School Board has discussed this important area and an action the board is committed to this year is providing more shaded areas around our school. We are very pleased with the new shade sails that have just been finished by Rooms 12-15.

Ngā mihi nui,

Daryl Gibbs



## School News

Over the coming newsletters we will be highlighting the importance of attendance. We want to focus on all of our tamariki attending all of the time (with a few exceptions). This is so that they can get the most out of their school experience and be the best that they can be.

It's important to make sure your tamariki are showing up to school every day. Good attendance is the key to success and a brighter future. It's everyone's responsibility to encourage positive attendance.



We have discussed the following at our full school assembly. Please take the time to read and talk through with your child.



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## Leaving School Wehenga i te kura

- Students walk calmly from class, we do not run
- If walking home, all students leave the school by using the crossings
- If you need to get to William St, cross carefully after the white poles
- If biking or scootering, push bike or scooter until you are on the road (bike) or it is safe to scooter
- If getting a lift home, still use the crossings to get to your lift, if need be

## Community Notices

Thank you for supporting our uniform expectations. Thank you also for naming all uniforms. A few items have wandered and been reunited with their owners



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### Uniform expectations Kākahu Kura

- Uniform will be checked every morning
- Only correct uniform to be worn to and from school
- Only school hats to be worn
- Walking around the school with shoes on or bare feet only
- If you have bare feet please wash them before entering the classroom
- Use your own PE gear

#### Netball - Winter 2024

**2024 REGISTRATIONS FOR YEARS 7 & 8 ARE OPEN NOW** with the following two clubs:

##### Hautapu Sports Club

For Intermediate players (years 7-8 ) register [HERE](#)

For more information email Jody Anderson, [juniornetball@hautapusports.com](mailto:juniornetball@hautapusports.com) or check out their website <http://www.hautapusports.co.nz/>

##### Leamington Rugby and Sports Club


For more info click [HERE](#) or email [leamingtonjuniorsport@outlook.com](mailto:leamingtonjuniorsport@outlook.com) or check out their website: <https://www.lrsc.co.nz/>






## Community Notices


### LUNCHTIME CLUBS




**DAY 1**  
**CHESS** in Rm 2  
**MINDFUL COLOURING & SILENT READING** in the Library




**DAY 2**  
**LEGO** in Rm 23  
**SKITTLES** in Rm 3



**DAY 3**  
**CODING** in Rm 22  
**CRAFTING** in Rm 15




**DAY 4**  
**MAINLY BOARD GAMES** in Rm 5  
**MINDFUL COLOURING & SILENT READING** in the Library



**DAY 6**  
**DRAWING & SKETCHING** in the Science Room

**Wednesdays & Fridays**  
**UNICYCLE CLUB**



### BRIGHT FUTURES BEGIN WITH GREAT ATTENDANCE



SCHOOLPOSTERS.COM  
#BEHERE

### SCHOOL ANXIETY COACHING



Empower your child for a positive school year ahead:

- Cultivate a **positive mindset**
- Learn how to **manage emotions**
- Develop **courage** and **resilience**

Email [hello@thekidsempowermentcoach.com](mailto:hello@thekidsempowermentcoach.com) to find out more

### COMPUTER/MOBILE CODING LESSONS



**A BRIGHT FUTURE**  
In coding lessons, your child will learn useful technology skills which help prepare them for success in our increasingly digital world. They'll have fun creating cool games while learning to code from expert tutors.

All skill levels welcome.

**FREE TRIALS AVAILABLE**  
Sign up now at [codingnz.com/signup](https://codingnz.com/signup)

**AGES**  
9 to 11  
12 & 13  
14 to 16  
17 to adult

**WHEN & WHERE**  
Online at home for 1 hour per week, at your choice of 4pm, 5pm or 6pm.

**CODINGNZ**  
codingnz.com