

Year 0-3 Term 3 2026 Newsletter



Mrs Lynda Butler, Mrs Tracey Callender, Mrs Jane Young, Mrs Rita Ah Kau, Mrs Chloe Max, Mrs Kirsty Sim, Mrs Natalie Escobar

Monday 20 July 2026

A warm welcome back to the Year 0-3 team at Elim Christian College Mount Albert. We hope you had an enjoyable break with family and friends. At the start of this term, we welcome all new students and their families to our Year 0-3 team. We wish you all a blessed term filled with learning and making new friends at Elim.

The teaching team includes:

Room 2A/RH1 (Year 0): Mrs Jane Young
Room 2 (Year 1): Mrs Rita Ah Kau
Room 3 (Year 2): Mrs Chloe Max
Room 4 (Year 3): Mrs Natalie Escobar

Support staff includes:

Learning Assistant: Mrs Kirsty Sim
Literacy Activator: Mrs Lynda Butler
Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO): Mrs Joanna Emery
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Teacher: Mrs Jeanette Starrenburg
Music Specialists: Mrs Rachel Crellin
CRT Teacher, Digital Technology (DT), and Art Specialist: Mrs Tracey Callender
Phase 1 Team Leader: Mrs Rita Ah Kau
Assistant Principal Y1-8: Miss Jessica Kidd

This term our Biblical theme is ***God Helps Us Grow and Change***. Students will explore the story of Moses and the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 1-14), discovering how God guided and strengthened His people through times of change. They will develop an understanding that change is a natural part of life and that God is with us through every season.

Through our Inquiry theme, **Change and Continuity**, students will investigate why the past is important and how it shapes the present. They will extend their learning through hands-on experiences and interactive exhibits at the New Zealand Maritime Museum, while developing resilience and an appreciation for the connections between the past and the present.

Elim Exploration: Change

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Key Knowledge: God helps us grow and change.

Enduring Understanding: God wants us to develop resilience, perseverance and patience as we grow and change.

Key Question: How can I embrace change in my life so that I grow?

- **Social Studies:** Change and Continuity
Context: Immigration and Identity (NZ Maritime Museum trip- more information to follow)
- **Literacy Focus:** Writing to Inform
- **Numeracy Focus:** Rational Numbers (fractions)
- **Strand Maths:** Measurement
- **Kotahitanga Value:** Pukuahuwheua (diligence)
- **Scripture:** Galatians 6:4-5

HOME LEARNING: Guidelines for home learning are pasted in the front of student's home learning books, or can be accessed via Class Dojo. Please take time to read these guidelines.

MEDICAL / CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please send any changes in details, such as medical information, address or phone numbers to office@elimmtalbert.school.nz.

COMMUNICATION: Please refer to [our school website](#) where you can check email communications and our school Google calendar. If you are not receiving email notifications, please contact the office office@elimmtalbert.school.nz. School newsletters will now be emailed every third Tuesday of the month.

ATTENDANCE: The Ministry of Education has specific requirements for student attendance. They have set a target for students to attend school for 90% of the time every term. Therefore, holidays during term-time are strongly discouraged. There will naturally be times when it is appropriate for tamariki to stay home and recover from illness. However, minor symptoms do not always require time away from school. Below is a link to information that will help you decide when it is okay to send your child to school, when you should keep your child at home, and when you should contact a health professional for advice: [Healthy habits for learning](#). If your child will be absent from school, please complete the [absence form](#) on the school website.

DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORM: ClassDojo is used to communicate notices with parents. More formal information will be sent through emails. Login information will be sent with home learning guidelines. Please ensure you have the ClassDojo notifications turned on. The students will also use ClassDojo to showcase their learning.

KOTAHITANGA: Elim is a PB4L school (Positive Behaviour for Learning). Our classroom management systems are based on Elim Christian College Mount Albert values and uphold the special character of our school. We use a tino pai (traffic light system) to reward students based on the Kotahitanga values. The focus in Term 3 is pukuahuwheua (diligence) so students will be learning what diligence looks like in various school settings. All students start on a green light at the beginning of the day and have the potential to move to the purple 'tino pai' light for outstanding behaviour. Any student not adhering to classroom expectations will receive an orange light warning (a chance to change their behaviour). If the behaviour continues, an orange light is given. If the behaviour continues, a red light warning, and then red light would be given. When a red light is acquired, or patterns of concerning behaviour are observed, parents will be contacted.

UNIFORM: In Terms 2 and 3, students can wear black Elim trackpants with reinforced knees and a long-sleeve blue polo. If it is raining to or from school, students can wear a black or blue raincoat. Refer to the [school website](#) for requirements or the uniform section of the [Student Handbook](#) document. Please ensure that all items are **clearly named**. Hats are optional in Term 3.

STUDENT HANDBOOK: This can be located on our website for easy reference: [Student Handbook](#)

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION: All students are required to take their morning-tea and lunch wrappers, uneaten food, etc. home with them. They cannot dispose of it at school. Our recycling bins have little provision for landfill items and food scraps. We would still like to strongly encourage all our parents to pack lunches in reusable containers and to buy in bulk.

BIRTHDAYS: We ask that you do not bring any food items to school to share with the class on your child's birthday. This includes lollies, chocolates, cupcakes, cake, etc. There may be students with allergies in the class and we want to encourage healthy eating choices.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: Kowhai Kids Club provides after-school care off-site. Students are collected from school and taken to another school for after school care. More information about this service can be accessed via their website - [Kowhai Kids Club](#).

PARENT HELP: The school operates on the Ministry of Education's best practice. We have class trips and activities planned for this year. These cannot go ahead if the adult to child ratio is not met. All volunteers are required to hold a current police clearance. This clearance needs to be with Elim Christian College Mount Albert. If you are unsure of your current police vetting status, please check with our admin staff. If you are not police-vetted via our school as yet, please note that this takes a few weeks to process.

We have an open-door policy. Teachers are in staff devotions until 8:30 am. They are available in their classroom to answer questions and to chat about minor issues from 8:30 am - 8:40 am and again after school. Alternatively, if you would like the time to talk further, please make an appointment with the teacher. They will be more than happy to discuss the matter with you.

If you would like to get in contact with us, our email addresses are:

Room RH1 - Year 0 -1

Mrs Jane Young

jane.young@elimmtalbert.school.nz

Room 2 - Year 1

Mrs Rita Ah Kau

rita.ahkau@elimmtalbert.school.nz

Room 3 - Year 2

Mrs Chloe Max

chloe.max@elimmtalbert.school.nz

Room 4 - Year 3

Mrs Natalie Escobar

natalie.escobar@elimmtalbert.school.nz

We are looking forward to working in partnership with you this term.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 0-3 Team, Elim Christian College Mt Albert

**Recommended Apps to download on home devices
(we do not have BYOD in Years 0-3)**

If you require a colour copy, or for any other queries regarding apps,
please contact your child's teacher

	Apps to download for communication and showcasing of student work	
ClassDojo	Class Dojo is a place to share kids' most important learning moments through photos, videos, messages, and more. The free subscription is sufficient and will allow you to view all necessary updates from your child's teacher.	
	Recommended Apps to download	
Nessy Hairy Phonics 1	Paid App: Hairy Phonics 1 app introduces consonant digraphs and floss doubles: sh, ch, th, ck, ff, ll, ss, zz, ng.	
Nessy Hairy Phonics 2	Paid App: Hairy Phonics 2 app Introduces vowel digraphs. Learn 9 phonemes (sounds): ai, ay, ee, ea, ie, oa, oi, oy, oo.	
Nessy Hairy Phonics 3	Paid App: Hairy Phonics 3 app will help you learn vowel-r and magic 'e'. Learn 9 phonemes: ar, or, er, ir, ur, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e.	
Bible: <u>YouVersion</u>	Free: please ensure this is the ' <u>youversion</u> ' app	
Bible App for Kids	Free: Through interactive adventures and beautiful animations, kids explore the big stories of the Bible	
Sumdog	Free: Maths learning App	
Math Slide: addition and subtraction	Free: 1-4 player interactive Maths learning App	
Math Slide: multiplication and division	Free: 1-4 player interactive Maths learning App	
Epic!	Free: Online Kids Library	
	Subscription Apps recommended	

Mathletics	Reinforces maths concepts, level and tasks set by teacher.	
Reading Eggs	Literacy Learning App	