



CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

CONNECT · INSPIRE · GROW



Cambridge Middle School - Issue 3 - May 2024

2024 Term 2

Friday 17 May
Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday 22 May
Student Led Open Celebrations 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Tuesday 28 May
WIMS Hockey

Thursday 30 May
WIMS Visual Arts Day

Monday 3 June
King's Birthday (school closed)

Tuesday 11 June
WIMS Futsal

Thursday 13 June
WIMS Chess Day

Friday 14 June
Teacher Only Day

Tuesday 18 June
WIMS 1st XV Rugby

Friday 21 June
CMS Cross Country Champs



Principal's Pen 2024 Week 3 Term 2

Kia ora koutou,

We have had a settled start to Term 2, with many exciting opportunities continuing and all classes well underway with their learning. Last term we held our **Relay for Life** day again. We would like to express a huge thank you to our CMS commu-

nity for the way in which you supported this day. We raised over \$13,000 for the Cancer Society. Another highlight last term was a return of the **Battle of the Schools** cycling challenge. This is the first time since covid that it has been run and it was fantastic to see so many of our students take up this opportunity. Congratulations to all of the teams who trained and competed, particularly Emily, Nina and Ellie who were the Battle of the Schools champions.

New Build

Our new build continues to progress on time. It has been exciting this week to see the main structure being erected. At this stage the building is on track to be finished at the end of term 3. During the next school holidays the Food Technology and Science rooms, as well as the hall will be refurbished.



Principal's Pen Continued...



Conceptual Curriculum: We are currently finishing our inquiries around Survival and will begin exploring our learning through the concept of Culture next week. This is a highly engaging concept where the students will explore different aspects of culture from Aotearoa and around the world - exploring the similarities and differences.

English: This year our teachers have continued to receive professional development in writing to continue to develop their teaching practice. At CMS we implement Writer's Toolbox and The Code for our structured writing programme. These programmes give teachers the tools to teach effective programmes in spelling, sentence structure and paragraph writing, supported by online tools.

Sports: It is fantastic to see so many CMS students participating in a wide range of winter sports. I would like to congratulate the Boys and Girls football teams who last week were both winners of their respective competitions at the WIMS competition. This was an amazing achievement. Thank you to all of the coaches and parents who supported the day. Remember if you have any sporting inquiries to email our sports coordinator Anita Hawkins - anita@cms.school.nz

Production: Over 70 students continue to work hard towards creating Seussical the Musical. More information regarding ticket sales for this exciting show will come out later this term.

Ngā mihi nui,

Daryl Gibbs

Term 1 Student Engagement Survey Summary

At the end of Term 1 we conducted a Student Engagement Survey with all homeroom classes. The purpose of the survey is to help us ensure that CMS is a safe, fun, and engaging place for everyone to learn at.

The questions are broken up into three sections - Wellbeing, Learning and Engagement. This survey will be run again in Term 3 to be able to compare the data and track the impact and improvement of changes we have made as a result of the survey information.

Wellbeing

Key points of interest:

- 'My homeroom teacher cares about me' scored very highly at 94.4%. This is such an important component of developing strong student-teacher relationships so it is really great to see.
- 96.5% of students have someone to hang out with most of the time or all of the time. It would be interesting for teachers to identify the students in their class who don't have strong friendship groups and support them to develop these.
- An interesting point is that 13% of students don't feel that the HERO values are talked about in their class regularly. This will be something to discuss as a staff and work out ways to make the teaching of our values even more explicit and meaningful for students.

Learning

Key points of interest:

- It is wonderful to see that 95.9% of students say they can talk to their homeroom teacher about their schoolwork. This impressive feedback reflects that our homeroom teachers have established effective safe and positive relationships with the large majority of their students.
- It is exciting to see 91.1% of our students say they use their teachers' comments and feedback to improve their schoolwork.
- 87.1% of students feel like they are improving in their learning at school. It would be interesting to find out from these students what action they and their teachers implement that empower these students to feel they are improving in their learning.

Engagement

Key points of interest:

- 94.5% of students feel that their teacher respects their culture . This positive trend has been observed over multiple previous years and is clearly a strength across our school and teachers which is to be celebrated with our staff and Board.
- Students enjoy being in their homeroom class (84.9%) and feel that their teacher makes learning fun and enjoyable for them (83.9%). These are great results but it would be good for teachers to look at what they can do to further engage and motivate those students who don't find it as positive as the vast majority.
- 68.6% of students talk to others about their learning. This question has a significantly lower score (as in previous years) when compared to other questions in this section.

Community Notices

Key actions moving forward:

- **Wellbeing** - The Goodspace Survey will be completed by the end of Term 2 across the school. Action will be taken to support and address issues that are highlighted for individual students. Students who are scoring low in particular areas will be offered support and guidance e.g. lunchtime clubs and Pouarataki support.
- **Learning** - The homeroom teachers and SLT need to find out more from the 56 students who are not finding their teachers' comments or feedback helpful and 79 students who are not feeling like they are improving in their learning. We need to reflect if there are different ways to reach these students through other formative assessment practices or communication methods to help improve their learning and confidence.
- **Engagement** - We are planning to provide opportunities for students to share their learning with their whānau through student sharing events (twice a year). This is a new initiative that we are really excited about. We will seek to evaluate the teaching of, and connection with whānau through, our conceptual curriculum, and work to establish more consistency across the school in this area. .

Dance is a great all-round activity for children of all ages - and adults too!

We are Cambridge Cruisers Rock n Roll Club and we are focused on serving our community and providing opportunities for people to connect, learn and do this by providing enjoyment via dance along the way.

Helping our kids within our communities is an important part of what we wish to offer.

Prior to COVID times we had a big number of juniors indeed!

We feel now is a good time to re-grow this aspect and are focused and committed to raising the awareness for children's dance.

We kindly ask if you could share this within your school and for parents to be aware of too! That would be super.

If you have any questions at all please do reach out to myself or to Kathy Johnson our Secretary as per email above cambridgecruisers@gmail.com

Community Notices

Student Support and Mentoring at Cambridge Middle School

Student wellbeing is a priority for us at Cambridge Middle School. We would like to share with you our team of supporters who help us make a difference every day.

Pouarataki/Counselling

We have two counsellors who have joined us for the majority of this year as they have chosen to complete their practicum at CMS. This has enabled pouarataki support to be available each day of the week.

**POUARATAKI
STUDENT
WELLBEING
SUPPORT**

- feeling anxious?
- friendship problems?
- feeling overwhelmed?
- life getting you down?

We all have times in our lives when problems may visit us. No problem is too big or too small to need a listening ear.

If you need to talk please email us

studentsupport@cms.school.nz
leigh.m@cms.school.nz melissa.m@cms.school.nz

Pouarataki/counsellor Info

• Background

Student counsellors are completing their practicum hours at CMS. At CMS, the name Pouarataki and counsellor is used synonymously. The word counsellor can be off putting to some students; to support this, the team have visited all of the classrooms to make introductions and are known as Whāea Nat, Leigh and Melissa.

• Confidentiality

In almost all cases parents/caregivers and teachers will be aware that their child is receiving Pouarataki support. Confidentiality will be discussed between the student and counsellor, and the student will be able to think about who becomes informed of their attendance. We welcome any information from caregivers that they may wish to share that might be helpful in working with students.

• Pouarataki availability

Monday/Tuesday Leigh. Wednesday/Thursday Melissa. Friday morning Nat.

• Appointment system

Parents and students can email studentsupport@cms.school.nz or email Melissa or Leigh directly (see poster which is displayed in all classrooms). Students can also ask their teacher if they need to visit the Pouarataki room.

Community Notices

24/7 Youthwork

24-7 Youthwork is a Nationwide network of youth workers who are working in our local middle and high schools across NZ. In Cambridge, we appreciate the opportunity to have youth workers in both Cambridge Middle and Cambridge High School. Every day could look different for any one of our youth workers. We support the students and the school by being an additional positive presence. We aim to meet the 24-7 five outcomes; supporting students, building positive relationships, cultivating school spirit, leadership development, and integrating students with out-of-school activities.

A typical week might look like supporting the school with running events, getting alongside leadership students, mentoring students who are disengaged, running programmes for small groups that support personal growth, helping with school camps or trips, or simply building relationships with students at lunchtime, engaging in sports, or coaching teams.



GoodSpace Schools

This year we will be running a confidential survey with all our students, one team at a time, to gauge the wellbeing of our students.

This is a youth-friendly secure online survey for schools to be able to identify students who may need support.

All students will complete the survey during class time in their homeroom. The survey takes 10-15 minutes and results are known immediately to our school counsellors, who work within the bounds of confidentiality, who, together with our Pastoral Team will be taking responsibility for the survey. As a result of the survey, all students with identified needs will be followed up by a member of the Pastoral Team and offered appropriate support, with students of higher needs prioritised.

Community Notices

IS YOUR CHILD TOO SICK TO GO TO SCHOOL?

New guidelines to help parents decide whether their child is well enough to go to school.

KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL IF:

- They are too sick to learn and need time to rest and recover
- They have tested positive for COVID-19
- They display a "symptom of concern" including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or difficulty breathing
- They have nits (head lice)
- They have been diagnosed with an infectious disease

YOUR CHILD CAN GO TO SCHOOL IF:

- They have mild respiratory symptoms like a mild cough, headache, or a clear runny nose (but not COVID-19)
- They have hayfever or allergy symptoms
- They have non-infectious skin problems
- They appear well - happy, eating and drinking normally, and able to focus on learning
- Remember, the health and wellbeing of your child and their classmates is the priority. When in doubt, keep them home to recover and prevent the spread of illness. Working together, we can keep our school community healthy.



GAIN CONFIDENCE & GET RESULTS

WE GIVE STUDENTS THE SKILLS TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND AND LEARN SUBJECTS BASED TOTALLY ON THE NZ CURRICULUM, THEY WILL GAIN MORE CONFIDENCE AND IN TURN GAIN SUCCESS. ALONG WITH MATH, LITERACY, AND SCIENCE, ACTION TUTORING ALSO HELPS WITH STUDY SKILLS, INCLUDING STRATEGIES AND DEVELOPING TIMELINES FOR BETTER STUDY HABITS.

LITERACY
ENGLISH

MATH
SCIENCE

FIND OUT MORE AT ACTIONTUTORING.CO.NZ
OR CONTACT KATH - 0273101847
77 DUKE STREET, CAMBRIDGE

FREE ASSESSMENT OFFERED



Kōrero MAI
KŌRERO ATŪ
MAURI TŪ, MAURI ORA
SPEAK UP, STAND TOGETHER, STOP BULLYING
FRIDAY 17 MAY 2024

Mental Health Foundation
mauri tū, mauri ora

JOIN THE MOVEMENT:
WWW.PINKSHIRTDAY.ORG.NZ
#PINKSHIRTDAYNZ

Casual Clothes Day
Friday 17th May

Gold Coin Donation

Brighten up your day and those around you on Friday 17 May, 2024 by wearing PINK and supporting a great cause!

Pink Shirt Day works to reduce bullying by celebrating diversity in all its forms and supporting schools, workplaces and communities to be safe, supportive, welcoming and inclusive for everyone.

