



**CAMBRIDGE
MIDDLE
SCHOOL**
CONNECT · INSPIRE · GROW



Cambridge Middle School - Issue 8 - December 2024

2024 Term 4

Tuesday 10 December

Senior Dance, 5.30pm
arrival, Dance 6pm -
8pm.
Last Day for Year 8,9,10

Wednesday 11 December

Last Day for Year 7
School ends 12.40pm



Principal's Pen 2024 Week 8 Term 4

Kia ora e te whānau,

It is hard to believe we have almost come to the end of the school year. Firstly, 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 whānau and community support. This year we have appreciated your support in many areas such as; our camps, AIMS Games, Totara Sports Camp, 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 in the classroom by sharing your 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 and for this we are very grateful - **thank you!**

At this time of year we often have a change in teaching staff for a variety of reasons. **Mrs Sacha Reichardt** will be leaving us to take up a part time position teaching music at Maihihi School. Sacha has created an engaging programme for all students and many extension opportunities for our talented musicians. Thank you for what you have offered music at CMS and all the best for your future! A number of our wonderful learning assistants are leaving at the end of this year also. **Jane Maclellan** is leaving to re-enter teaching and we are excited for her to take this step again. **Tegan Fookes** is returning to university to study Primary Teaching. **Waisake Salabiau** - has taken up an opportunity to pursue his rugby career with the Otago Highlanders and **Ella Smith** is studying but will hopefully be back. We wish all of the staff who are leaving us all the best with their new adventures.

Next year we welcome **Bevan Tohia** and **Harmony Cairns** as beginning teachers. **Kara Coulam** will also return from maternity leave in a job share position with **Marnie van de Wall**. We are excited to have their diverse range of experience and skills joining our team for next year.



Merry Christmas



Principal's Pen Continued...

I would also like to congratulate **Julie Dawick** and **Chris Garland** who have both been appointed as Across School Teachers for our Kāhui Ako. This is an excellent opportunity for them to continue to develop their leadership and to support schools across the Cambridge community.

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. A major achievement for the Board this year was the completion of the new specialist building. This has taken many years and many hours of meetings to get it completed. I would like to thank our presiding member, Vanessa Markwell, for her support and tenacity to ensure this project was approved. It is a facility we can be very proud of and the students already love using.

On Tuesday 26 November we held our Te Hui ā Whānau. 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. Over 120 whānau were treated to an inspiring performance from our kapa haka rōpu, followed by the presentation of our Te Ao Haka awards and presentation of taonga. The recipients this year for He Manawa Tītī - showing endurance and perseverance - were Kahurangi Q, Dallas K and Ruby M, and Whaia Te Iti Kahurangi - pursuit of excellence - were awarded to Micheal T and Chaya W. As we shared with you earlier in the week we also revealed the new concept and names for our teams for 2025 and beyond. This was well received and I would like to thank Kahurangi Heta for her work and research in coming up with the names and concept, and Isiah Middlemiss for his creative design work in bringing the concept to life visually. I believe this will enable lots of rich learning and a strong way for students to connect to their team and CMS.



2025 will bring with it many new opportunities and initiatives for staff and students. With the government's focus of 1 hour a day on Reading, Writing and Mathematics we will be continuing to focus our professional development for staff in the areas of English and Mathematics, to support a structured approach to literacy and numeracy. We will continue to be using Writer's Toolbox and The Code to support literacy and we have chosen Oxford Maths as our key resource to support high quality, structured learning in mathematics.

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 wish you and your children all the best for the next step in their education journey. To all of our new and current families we look forward to seeing you all next year.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Ngā mihi nui,
Daryl Gibbs

CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S

SENIOR DANCE

"A STARRY NIGHT"

Tuesday, 10 December

Arrival 5:30pm-6:00pm

Dance 6:00pm-8:00pm

Supper will be provided

Tickets cost \$15 each

More information will come soon



You make the difference

School's important for your child's growth.
Help them get there.

PARTY IN THE PARK

Welcome home to our Olympians and Paralympians

Friday, December 13, 3pm-6pm
Victoria Square, Cambridge