

## St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui 3/04/2022



Kia ora whānau,

I hope you are enjoying a lovely weekend, with an extra hour to sleep-in, rest, have fun, or simply just be.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent John 8:1-11

With two weeks to go until the end of the term, we are also two weeks away from Easter and the hope we seek in our risen Lord. Today's Gospel speaks of the unconditional love and total acceptance, Christ has for us. As we head towards the hope of Easter, we are given time to reflect on how we are accepted and loved by those around us, and in turn how we provide acceptance and show our love for others.



- Can you think of a time when you have felt totally accepted? How does that feel?
- Who are the people in your life whom you love and accept unconditionally?
- Are there times or situations when you find yourself being judgemental or too hasty in your judgements? What steps can you take to correct this attitude?

### Attendance onsite

Attendance and engagement in learning onsite has certainly increased, with 90% of students now back at school most days. Unless they are isolating, unwell, rostering home, or for another justified reason, students are expected to be at school every day.

Please remind your daughter to check she has everything she needs for the school day. This includes bringing PE gear when required, the correct books and ensuring her device is fully charged.

### Rostering Home for learning Years 10-13

This week we continue to roster home students in Years 10-13. The calendar is at the end of this Pānui. Thank you for your continued support.

For the most up to date information including the changes to the traffic light system, please visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/>



### **Fundraising and Can Drive for Tonga**

A huge thank you to everyone for your efforts so far in supporting our friends and whānau in Tonga. A total of \$812.40 was raised from the Mufti Day. Our can-drive continues next week. A prize of a pizza lunch will be awarded to the form class that brings in the most cans. Thank you for all the can donations so far. The last day for cans to come in is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Caritas Fundraiser for Ukraine**

A fabulous \$1451.30 was raised from our mufti day and bake sale. Thank you so much for this support. The money will be given over to our friends at Caritas who will ensure it is used to help families in need at this time.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Gold training weekend at Anawhata**

It was lovely to be able to pop out and see some of our adventurous students yesterday, undergoing their training and preparation for their upcoming tramp in the school holidays.

Part of the prep for the Gold candidates was to build a bivouac structure from what they could find in the bush, to sleep under for the night.



### Parent Info page on College Website

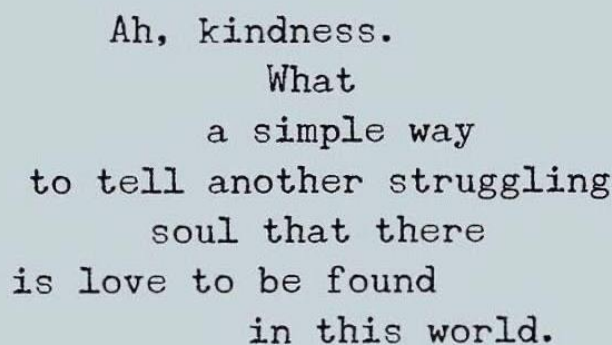
Please take a minute to visit a new page on our College website which provides some key information and LINKS for current parents, caregivers and whānau.

Please visit [https://www.stdoms.ac.nz/Parent\\_Info.html](https://www.stdoms.ac.nz/Parent_Info.html)

### Support Available

The reality of isolating is different for everyone. If you require any support during your isolation period or beyond, please make contact and let me know.

Happy Sunday whānau.



Ah, kindness.  
What  
a simple way  
to tell another struggling  
soul that there  
is love to be found  
in this world.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Anna Swann

### TERM 1 WEEK 10 - Week B Timetable

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Year 10 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Year 11 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Years 12 & 13 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Year 10 Rostered Learning from Home*  
*Pathways Health and Safety Course*
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Year 11 Rostered Learning from Home*  
*Pathways Health & Safety Course*



## *St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui* 9/04/2022



Kia ora whānau,

We have enjoyed another great week at school, with students and staff continuing to do the mahi in teaching and learning.

On Friday, Year 9 gathered as a year level in the gym for their first Level's Assembly for the year. In keeping with our theme for 2022, certificates were presented to students who have continually demonstrated kindness in their actions and words, throughout the term.

Congratulations to:

Rosanna Apoligasio-Sofe, Sihyenne Fuiava, Sovita Ah Him, Danielle Monterio, Faith Heke and Molly Day.

### **Palm Sunday**

This weekend we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The joy shown by the crowds who had gathered was to be short lived as Jesus is arrested, beaten and sentenced to death.

As we journey towards Good Friday we are provided time to reflect on the true meaning of Easter.

What does the cross mean? Jesus chose to be beaten, humiliated, and killed for us. When you wear that cross on your neck or make the sign of the cross, what does it really mean?



### **Rostering Home for learning Years 10-13**

Rostering home continues Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

On Thursday this week (Holy Thursday), we expect all students back on-site unless isolating, unwell or absent due to another justified reason.

Thank you for your support with our rostering home system this term. With staff (including relief staff) being required to isolate due to COVID, rostering home a year level each day has enabled us to ensure classes at school are staffed appropriately. We hope that we are able to return to full schooling onsite next term, however this will be dependent on staffing wellness. I will be sure to continue to communicate with you as information comes through.

## **Public Transport Feedback Survey (A message from Auckland Transport)**

*Auckland Transport (AT) is seeking public feedback on proposed changes for some West Auckland bus services. We are proposing to transform the bus network so you can use buses to travel to more places more often. The proposed changes aim to create more reliable and frequent bus services and we would really like to hear your feedback on them.*

*We're rolling out a comprehensive campaign to promote this consultation, but we would appreciate your help in letting your staff, parents and pupils know that public consultation is underway and how to give their feedback to AT. Attached is the proposed changes.*

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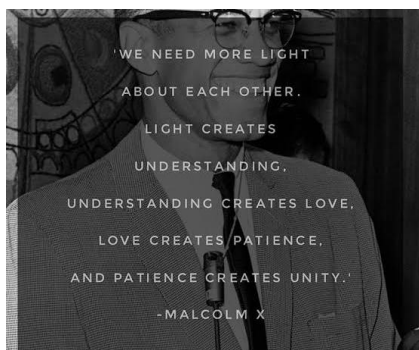
*Feedback is open until Sunday 1 May 2022.*

## **COVID Developments**

The Government is due to give an update on COVID restrictions, later this week. This will undoubtedly impact how we return to school next term. I will be sure to keep you up to date as information comes through.

For the most up to date information including the changes to the traffic light system, please visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

Ngā manaakitanga,  
Anna Swann



## **TERM 1 WEEK 11- Week A Timetable**

### **HOLY WEEK**

- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Years 12 & 13 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Year 10 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April**  
*Years 11 Rostered Learning from Home*
- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April - Holy Thursday**  
*All Year Levels on-site*  
*Last Day of Term - School finishes at normal time 3.20pm*

## **TERM 2 WEEK 1- Week B Timetable**

- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**  
*NCEA Information Evening (more details to come)*
- **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May**  
*Academic Coaching Day*

## St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui Easter 2022



Kia ora whānau,

It has certainly been a busy and eventful Term 1 and I thank you most sincerely for all your patience, flexibility and support. Just as over the past two years, we have come together to navigate the challenges that 2022 has presented since the start of this school year. I am incredibly grateful to all staff and students, who have risen to each challenge with the same resilience and dedication they have displayed for many, many months.

As we prepare to welcome all students back onsite full time again, we do indeed look forward to Term 2 with positivity, and a sense of renewed hope.

### Easter Season



After Lent's forty days of preparation for Easter, it would be anticlimactic to celebrate the feast of Easter for only one day. On Easter Sunday, we celebrated the resurrection of Christ following the traumatic events that led to His death three days before. We are now living in the Easter season, which is a whole season of eight Sundays that lasts from Easter until Pentecost Sunday, a time we celebrate the Spirit of Christ in the church as the presence of Jesus' work ongoing in the world.

*Where do you see the presence of Christ working in our community?*

*How can we each show the presence of Jesus in our actions and words?*

### COVID - Health and Safety Term 2

The latest developments to the COVID Protection Framework (traffic light system) brings about some welcomed changes in our everyday lives. Whilst we are now able to enjoy further familiar freedoms, it is important to remember that COVID has not been eliminated from the community. There are still many factors to take into consideration as we navigate the COVID waters and we continue to work towards revising our Health and Safety plan for next term.

The Ministry of Education still '**strongly** encourages face masks continue to be worn by ākonga and staff in Years 4 and above when indoors'. I am awaiting further guidance on this and will explain further in our Term 2 revised *St Doms Way Health and Safety Plan*. This will be sent through to you next week in preparation of our return to site for all staff and students from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

For the most up to date information including the changes to the traffic light system, please visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/>



### Staff farewells

We sadly and officially farewell Mrs June Rodrigues from St Dominic's, and from teaching, due to her retirement last term. Mrs Rodrigues has given faithful service and commitment to St Dominic's over the last two decades, to the education, guidance and nourishment of the hearts and minds of hundreds of Dominican women. We send Mrs Rodrigues off with our love, our gratitude and our very best wishes, as she begins a new chapter in her life.

Sadly, we will also farewell Mrs Vicki Jones early next term as she embarks on an exciting new adventure in customer service. Vicki has been a valuable and much loved member of our administration team. She is often the first 'face of St Dom's', welcoming each and every student, parent, caregiver and visitor with the same warmth and friendly smile. Vicki's two decades at St Dominic's College has seen her get to know and learn the names of thousands of student's, as well as their many connections to sisters, cousins and other members of our College community. Often referred to as 'the nicest teacher in the whole school' we shall miss her very much and wish her nothing but love and blessings on her new adventure.

### Staff arrivals - We welcome....

**Mrs Margaret Karanga** as our new Head of Department-Visual Art. Margaret comes to us from Mangere College. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge, passion and expertise in Visual Arts as well as experience in Careers education.

**Mrs Barbara Stepanicic** to our RE Department. Barbara comes to us from Holy Cross Catholic School where she served as the Director of Religious Studies for 9 Years. Prior to Holy Cross, Barbara taught Religious Education at Marist College at both Junior and NCEA levels.

**Miss Rebecca Nolly** to our PE & Health Department. Rebecca joins us from Green Bay High School where she has spent her first year as a PE and Health teacher. Her passion for Physical Education and Health Education make her a fabulous appointment for our College.

We are very excited to welcome these newest staff members to our St Dominic's whānau!

### Vacancy-School receptionist and Administration Assistant

With the departure of Mrs Jones, we are now seeking a School Receptionist and Administration Assistant. This is a part time, term time only appointment. Monday – Friday 8.30am-3.30pm. For further details, including a full job description, please contact Ms Tina Allingham [principalspa@stdoms.ac.nz](mailto:principalspa@stdoms.ac.nz)

### NCEA Teacher Only Day

Please be aware that there is a Teacher Accord Day on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May and students will be learning from home on this day. There will be supervision available onsite for students under the age of 14 whose parents need to go to work. Please contact Ms Heffernan if your daughter requires supervision on this day [associateprincipal@stdoms.ac.nz](mailto:associateprincipal@stdoms.ac.nz)

### Great 'stuff' this term

#### Cheerleading

A group of our students have been undergoing cheerleading training. We look forward to seeing their skills in action in the upcoming College Production of High School Musical, later in the term.



## Bluelight Camp

On Monday morning, April 4th at 6am, we travelled to Manurewa High School to attend the Blue-light camp for a week at Trentham Army Base. This was jointly run by the NZ Police and NZ Defence Force and there were three secondary schools in attendance.

The bus trip was very long but it was great to see the North Island in autumn. Our camp leader was fun and we completed some Level 2 Unit Standards throughout the week such as Interview Skills, Group communication, Problem solving methods and Team Work with an objective.

These standards were geared towards us preparing for our career pathway of entering the Police Force, and we had lots of physical drills and outdoor confidence challenges, so you could say that we grew a few muscles and are now very fit!

We made some good friends from other schools and are well on our way to developing the life-skills that we need to be confident, young women.

*(Pictured from left to right: Alyssa Spillane, Ria Singh, Mercedes Rakete, Salomi Wilson)*



## Technology

9EN students have managed to complete their bird feeder project despite an interrupted time period. Their teacher Ms Barnett says they have worked really well this term to complete them to a high standard.





## Performing Arts

Two year 11 girls attended the Waihi performing arts Dance Competitions a couple of weekends ago – Tasmyn Grey and Ari Everett. Both girls did really well in the many classes they danced in. Tasmyn Grey received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Restricted Variation class and also won the Waihi Performing Arts Most Promising Dancer trophy. Well done girls!

## Waiora Student Leaders

The Waiora Leaders are a group within our school that focuses on wellbeing, and work with the Year 7, 8, and 9 students. The Waiora Team is led by Year 13 Student Executive leaders; Amber Maitland and Cayla James. The Waiora leadership team consists of twenty seven Year 11 and 12 student leaders and our promotion of wellbeing is through form class and whole school activities. This term each form class mindfully coloured and put together a mandala display for their form room. Another activity we did was going to each form class and discussing the topic of kindness - what we thought it was, what it meant to us, and how we can show it. Each class then made a poem to show what they did. Form class 9 KM is a wonderful example of the outcome of the activity.



The Waiora team promotes wellbeing within our school to uplift the staff and students. At the end of this term we wrote kindness cards to each staff member. The kindness card has a small kind message written on it by the Waiora Team to let them know that all their hard work does not go unnoticed. This term has been a very fun and enjoyable start to the year and we are very excited for the activities we have planned for the terms to come.

*Amber Maitland & Cayla James (Year 13 Waiora Leaders 2022)*

### 9 KM Kindness Poem

Kindness is showing respect to each other.

Kindness is;  
not judging others,  
treating others how you want to be treated,  
sharing positive energy,  
and being nice.

Kindness is being there for someone when they need it.

Kindness is;  
including others in your friend group if they are lonely,  
giving to charity,  
being considerate of people's feelings.

Kindness is when you treat others the way you want to be treated.

Kindness is;  
bringing a smile to people's faces,  
giving people a hug,  
making someone's day,  
the joy you bring to someone's face.

Kindness is a boomerang - it always comes back.

- By 9 KM and Waiora Leaders Sasha Thakker and Tirzah Alfante -

## UNIFORM PURCHASES FOR TERM 2

Our students all wear **regulation school shoes** from the start of Term 2. No sandals are to be worn in Terms 2 and 3 by any student in Years 7 to 13. Thanks for ensuring that any new purchases match the shoe requirements listed on the college website for Year 7 to 12.

Year 13 shoe requirements are on their Google Classroom.



Also in Terms 2 and 3, students may wear **black, non-see-through tights** or regulation socks, but not both together. To save your family any difficulty, do avoid purchasing leggings or footless tights, which cannot be worn with our uniform.

Due to COVID-19 we will continue to ventilate classrooms all through the winter. Because of this extra ventilation it would help if each student wore, not only her jersey, or cardigan (Yr 12 and 13 only), but also the **college anorak**. This will be able to be worn inside classrooms this year due to the ventilation and lower resultant temperatures. Our college anorak can be purchased from Elizabeth Michael Uniforms.

In addition, to help keep your daughter warm in winter, we strongly recommend **white long sleeved undergarments**. Only if she is wearing the college regulation slacks, she can also wear **warm long polyprops or similar**.

Any new purchases need to be clearly labelled with your daughter's name, in two places.

We appreciate your support to keep our students wearing their college uniform in the way that we require, so that we can all be proud of how we look as a school.

## **Public Transport Feedback Survey (A message from Auckland Transport)**

*Auckland Transport (AT) is seeking public feedback on proposed changes for some West Auckland bus services. We are proposing to transform the bus network so you can use buses to travel to more places more often. The proposed changes aim to create more reliable and frequent bus services and we would really like to hear your feedback on them.*

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*Feedback is open until Sunday 1 May 2022.*



Have a lovely long weekend everyone.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Anna Swann

### **TERM 2 WEEK 1- Week B Timetable**

- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**  
*Term 1 starts*
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**  
*NCEA Information Evening*  
*Senior Netball begins @Te Pai afterschool*
- **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May**  
*Academic Coaching Day*
- **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May**  
*Year 9&10 Netball begins @ Te Pai*