



St Dominic's Catholic College

21st February 2013

2/2013

Diary dates



**Thursday 28
February**

5.00 – 7.00pm
New families to the
College BBQ

**Saturday 2nd & 9th
March**

Netball and Football
trials

Wednesday 6 March

7.00 Information
Evening Yrs 11-13

Friday 8th March

Teacher Only Day

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The past few weeks at St Dominic's College has been busy with Swimming and Athletic's House Competitions, settling into new classes, making new friends and for our newly enrolled students getting to know the College. These first few weeks at school can be fun but also exciting for everyone as we look towards the new year with hope and promises of what the future can bring. It is important that our students are thinking about their goals for 2013 and they will soon have the chance to talk to their Academic Coach about these. These academic goals will be written down and reviewed on a regular basis with the girls and they will also be discussed at the report evenings during the year with yourself, your daughter and her form teacher.

Research indicates that children who achieve often have parents who are involved in their child's education. It is important that as parents you come along to Information Evenings so that you gain an understanding of National Standards and NCEA qualifications and your daughters Report Evenings.

We have the following activities happening this term: 28th February New Parents BBQ 5.00pm – 6th March 7.00pm, Information Evening (10ACC, Years 11,12 & 13) and 26th March Information Evening (Years 7 & 8). We look forward to meeting you at these evenings.

You are warmly invited to our Foundress Day Eucharist at 9.30am on Friday 22nd February. This celebrates the beginning of our academic year and also the beginning of Dominican education in New Zealand. On February 18th 1871 a small group of sisters lead by Mother Gabriel Gill arrived in Dunedin to set up a school for the sons and daughters of the miners. They opened the school two days after they had stepped foot in Dunedin and St Dominic's Catholic College is the only remaining school that carries the tradition forward into the future.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2012 Year 13 students who achieved Scholarships in the last year's NCEA examinations. Kendall Jones achieved an Outstanding Scholar award and Top Scholar in Dance (Kendall is the Top Scholar in New Zealand in Dance for 2012), a superb achievement and Scholarships were awarded to Danielle Dakanay in History and Fiona Qu Painting. Also to Rene Beveridge (Year 13 2011) who has gained a place in the New Zealand Junior Orienteering Team, competing in the Junior World Orienteering Championships in Czechoslovakian Republic, in June this year.

LAWN BOWLS CONGRATULATIONS In 2011, four St Dominic's College students travelled to Dunedin to compete in the Secondary Schools New Zealand Pairs Lawn Bowls Championship. Tarani Paul and Sadie Sieglar won the pairs tournament to become New Zealand champions. In December 2012, these two girls defended their title to remain National champions – a feat accomplished by just one other NZ College.

God's blessings to you and your family,

*CAROL CODDINGTON
PRINCIPAL*

PARENTS PICKING UP/DROPPING OFF STUDENTS FRONT GATE & PINEDALE ROAD

We ask parents/caregivers **PLEASE DO NOT BRING CARS INTO THE COLLEGE GROUNDS** when dropping off and/or picking up their daughter(s). This is a health and safety issue as the school buses come into the grounds and the lack of parking space causes severe congestion. Please organise a meeting place with your daughter away from the College's front gates. Be aware that there are yellow lines on both sides of Rathgar Road around the school and the area is patrolled regularly by the Police. We also request that you **DO NOT** enter the gates on Pinedale Road, this is staff only parking. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

“As pilgrims with Dominic we; Act justly, Love tenderly, and Walk humbly with God”

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE COOKING CLUB IS PROUD TO PRESENT: DINNER CLUB:

The club has been running for four years, and for the first time in 2013 we are going public! We invite you to purchase tickets to our inaugural event on Friday April 5th at 7pm at the school. Tickets are \$30 pp for a three course meal, BYOW. The Cooking Club has produced some amazing culinary feats in its time, and we look forward to showing off our haute cuisine skills to you. Further information can be obtained from the front office, and you can buy tickets from March.

MESSAGE FROM ACCOUNTS OFFICE:

We would like to welcome our new families to the College and offer our assistance with any school accounts queries that you may have. The School Fee Statements were mailed at the end of January – if you have not yet received one please let us know. We have a variety of payment options available, including cash/cheque /eftpos/credit card and also automatic payments – contact us if you would like an automatic payment form. If you are paying by internet banking please add your family code as our reference, which can be found on the bottom right hand side of your Fees statement. As per previous years we offer a discount of \$100 per student if the School Fees Statement is paid in full by 31/3/2013. Tax receipts for claiming a donations rebate from the Inland Revenue Department will be available from the accounts office in early April. For any accounts queries, please contact Karen on Ext 8913 or Laura on Ext 8810 or email accounts@stdoms.ac.nz

YOUTH PARLIAMENT 2013

Applications are now open for Youth Parliament 2013. This exciting event will be held on 16th & 17th July 2013 at Parliament and we encourage students to make the most of this opportunity. It is a wonderful way for young people to help shape the future of New Zealand and is also a key opportunity for Members of Parliament to learn about the views of youth. Youth Parliament 2013 will bring 121 Youth MPs and 10 Youth Press Gallery members from across New Zealand to Wellington, where they will learn about and participate in the Parliamentary process. For more information, please see Mrs Hodson.

PEER MEDIATION

St Dominic's College runs peer mediation sessions for students who are experiencing conflict. Our trained peer mediators/ambassadors run peer mediation at lunchtimes, peer mediation is where students help students to resolve conflicts peacefully. If your daughter is experiencing upset or conflict with others this is a good way to resolve it. Please contact the school guidance counsellor, Jane Hunter for further information.

CHAPEL

The St Dominic's Catholic College Board of Trustees are ready to commence the construction of the new Chapel for the College and are inviting from parents who own a construction company an expression of interest for tendering for this project. Please forward all details and references to the Business Manager St Dominic's Catholic College P O Box 21123 Henderson Auckland 0650 Email noel@stdoms.ac.nz by the 28 February 2013.

SPORTS

The sports department has had a busy couple weeks, with the school swimming day held at WestWave Aquatic centre on the 8th of February and the year 9-13 athletics day held at Trusts Stadium on the 12th of February. There was a fantastic atmosphere on both days, with everyone encouraging their house participants to do their best. There were an impressive number of entries in the 100m sprint, with many of the heats hotly contested. Our competitive swimmers again demonstrated great technique and a willingness to win in the swimming sports. St Rose's won the house competition for swimming sports. Watch this space in the next newsletter for the Individual Champions and the Athletics house winner.

LOCKERS

There is a limited amount of lockers still available to students of all levels. The cost is \$40 per year. Please enquire at the office.

ASH WEDNESDAY AT ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE



Wednesday 13th February began the Christian season of Lent. At St Dominic's College students experienced a liturgy to mark this day in the church calendar. During this time we journey with Jesus toward the cross and ultimately brings resurrection life. Lent is a time to examine our lives and see what needs changing in order for us to get closer to God and to others. It is a special time of prayer and forgiveness. Each form class received two symbols in which change could be observed: a Caritas koha box and a potted seed. These symbols invite us to think about ways in which we can turn away from ways that are ways of darkness - ways which cause hurt for others and ourselves and move the light.

The journey begins with us facing our brokenness and our deep need for God's healing. These elements are fundamentally human. A famous nun once wrote that "My limitations make space for the gifts of other people." Let us contemplate on this as we journey through Lent. Philomena Clare (Acting DRS)

"As pilgrims with Dominic we; Act justly, Love tenderly, and Walk humbly with God"



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