

St Dominic's Catholic College

Founded by the Dominican Sisters

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VERITAS

13th February 2020

Kia ora whanau,

Once again, welcome back to another great year! It is wonderful having all the girls back into school and the atmosphere is one of excitement and joy. You will have seen that our buildings have had a makeover over the holiday break and our new playground is proving a massive hit.

Our powhiri to welcome new students, staff and whanau was led beautifully by our Kapa Haka group on the first day of school last week. Approximately 200 new students and their whanau, as well as three new staff members were called through the gates by our Maori Student leaders, as they officially joined our St Dominic's community.

Following our powhiri we moved through to the new fitness playground constructed over the summer. Our Special Character Leaders blessed the playground and Auckland Councillor Linda Cooper cut the ribbon. The playground has been a huge hit during break times and the PE department have begun using the apparatus as part of their fitness and body strengthening programme. Thank you again to our PTFA and the Trusts for your organisation, planning and fundraising that went into this. We are all very appreciative.

School Van update

Our much anticipated school vans are only a few weeks away from arriving at school. They are at present being reconfigured to allow for bigger luggage space. We still have some advertising space left if you or your company are interested in this sponsorship opportunity. Please contact Wayne Smith on businessmanager@stdoms.ac.nz or office@stdoms.ac.nz for more information.



2020 Head Girl Grace Kairua and Deputy Head Girl: Savete Tealikisele

Nga mihi nui,

Anna Swann
Principal

PTFA CORNER

It has already been a busy start to the year for the PTFA. We were all delighted to attend the lovely powhiri and blessing of the new school playground on 5th February. We are so pleased to see this project come to fruition for the College. Enjoy it girls, have fun and keep fit!

We have had our first PTFA meeting of the year... so what's coming up? The PTFA will be helping to host the new entrant's family BBQ on Wednesday 19th February after school. Please note that Olga will be attending and selling second hand uniforms during the evening. If anyone has any uniform they wish to donate to the school Uniform Shop, please bring it to school reception and it will be put to good use. The school second hand Uniform Shop is open at school on Thursday mornings 9am - 10am. We have a Swim Party planned for the Year 7 & 8's! This is the first time we have done one and look forward to fine weather and lots of fun around the pool. Save the date - Friday 28th February 3.30pm - 6pm. More information coming soon.

If you would like to join the PTFA please get in touch. We meet once a month at 6.30pm on a Wednesday evening. (Please see the college website calendar). We would love to see you there. *Norma Hayward, PTFA Chair*

FIJI RESEARCH TRIP JULY 2021

Students from Year 11 and 12 this year are invited to register for this trip. Working alongside professionals and post graduate students, our students will gain research skills and knowledge of forest and coral reef ecosystems. Contact Mrs Taylor gtaylor@stdoms.ac.nz or Mrs Davidson adavidson@stdoms.ac.nz

AFTERSCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS AT ST DOMINIC'S

After school swimming lessons will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons for the next 3 weeks in the College pool (Tuesday 18 February to Thursday 5 March). If you would like your daughter to attend these lessons to further develop her water confidence and skills she can collect a letter/permission slip from any of the Physical Education teachers at school. Lessons will be from 3.30 - 4.00pm. Teacher in Charge - Mrs Ah Ken.

SPECIAL CHARACTER – STAFF RETREAT DAY

On January 28, our whole staff came together before the students returned, to reconnect with each other, with our Theme for the year, and with our Special Character. Sr Jane Frances O'Carroll led us through a reflective process about what it means to be a Dominican College, and what that looks like for staff. It was an energising and positive day at the French Bay Yacht Club and set us off on the right note for a fabulous 2020.



MESSAGE FROM ACCOUNTS OFFICE:

School fees have now been emailed out – if you did not receive your invoice, please let us know. The fees are also available to view and pay via the parent portal. We welcome payment by weekly/fortnightly automatic payment if you prefer – please add your family code from the statement for our reference when making payment by automatic payment or online banking. Please contact Mrs Laura Hook lhook@stdoms.ac.nz or Extn 8810 with any queries.

2020 POLYFEST

This year St Dominic's College will be participating in the 2020 Polyfest. The groups that are currently running are Chinese, Japanese, Tongan, Korean, Filipino, Kapa Haka, Samoan, and Indian. This is a huge undertaking by staff and students and any help from our lovely parents and caregivers will be greatly appreciated. If you think you'd like to help support any of the groups, please could you email me at mwebb@stdoms.ac.nz, or send a message with your details to me at school via your daughter. Thank you, Melanie Webb

STUDENT ORGANISER

Each student has a student organiser for 2020. This book is not a private diary. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to read and familiarise yourself with all the material in this book, and to use the organiser as a communication channel between you and your daughter's form or subject teachers. Students should be recording their commitments on each date and planning for upcoming assessments and other activities.

UNIFORM

The girls are generally looking lovely in their uniforms as they return to school. Thank you for all your preparation of their school wear. A small number of students have grown over the Christmas break. Their skirt hems need to be let down or a replacement skirt bought. The full and official school uniform is listed on the college website. It is two pages long and includes what is excluded. Thank you for ensuring that your daughter follows these requirements. To avoid confusion about footwear, please see the photo for regulation school shoes at St Dominic's Catholic College. If you have anything you need to discuss about uniform, please contact her Dean or myself through the college office. *Ms Heffernan, Associate Principal.*



DANCE TRIP

There is an exciting opportunity to attend a dance trip to the Auckland Arts Festival to view a French Ballet Company performance of Snow White Ballet Preljocaj on Thursday evening 12th March 6-9.30pm. All students are welcome to attend. Limited seats available. See the Arts Board or Mrs Lambert for more information and a permission letter. Tickets are \$40, including the bus to and from school.

Congratulations to **Dan-Yel James** who was awarded Scholarship Dance. We are all so very proud of her!

2020 Theme

"She is clothed in strength and dignity
and rejoices without fear of the future"

*He korowai, kia kaha, kia hōnore ai ōna kākahu, a kaua e wehi, titiro whakamua kia hari kia koe .
Proverbs 31:25*