St Dominic's Catholic College

Founded by the Dominican Sisters

Principal: Carol Coddington B.Ed., Dip. Tchg.

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Dear parents and caregivers,

16th August 2018

Tena Koutou, tena koutou tena koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou nga mūtua nga kaitiaki,

Last Tuesday we celebrated St Dominic's Day and acknowledged with both Eucharist and an afternoon of celebration with dance and items from both the students and staff. A big thankyou to Mrs Whitham-Blackwell and her team for the wonderful music, participation of students, great involvement of the various ethnic groups who make up our community and the sense of reverence that prevailed throughout. Miss Linda McQuade, Vicar for Education, has commented that our Feast Day Mass was "a most wonderful occasion".

In the afternoon everyone enjoyed the House performances and the staff item of "Dancing with the Staff". Congratulations to St Rose's who won the House performance and to Mr Hamblyn and Mrs Masters who won the Dancing with the Staff Competition. A big thank you to Mrs Schischka and her team for the afternoon organisation.

During this week we have been acknowledging and celebrating our students' various language backgrounds. To date we have had a Chinese, Korean and Japanese assembly and on August 31st we are celebrating International Day with the wearing of different national costumes. We have 41 different ethnicities at St Dominic's Catholic College and we truly represent a diverse and multi-cultural community.

Congratulations to Mrs Geary who has been awarded recognition of her 15 years of service to both St Dominic's College and the Hilary Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Over the years many students have benefited from Mrs Geary's enthusiasm and support for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

God's blessing to you and your families.

Condition

Carol Coddington Principal

SPECIAL CHARACTER CORNER

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

At St Dominic's Catholic College the Mary statue in the Chapel is Our Lady of the Assumption. She was specially decorated for the Assumption day Mass on 15 August.

YEAR 13 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This term Year 13 are exploring the Finding Meaning topic. During their studies they research and compare secular humanism to the Catholic tradition. This is very useful as our students prepare to soon move out into the wider world of study, work and travel, and Aotearoa New Zealand now being such a secular society. Their final college retreat follows the internal exams this term, and with it Year 13 focus on preparing for the transitions ahead of them. The last topic this year is Relationships and Marriage, one that is of great interest to students. Each year students evaluate the Year 13 R.E. programme and their feedback helps inform course adjustments for the following year.



OPTION CHOICES FOR 2019

We are moving into the season where students choose their options for 2019. Currently Year 10, 11 and 12 students are in the process of choosing their options – a very important process that will lead them further down their career pathway. Just this week we have had our Options Information Evening for parents of Year 10 – 12 students to come and talk to subject leaders. We are proud of the wide range of options that are available for our senior students, a range that rivals that of larger schools across Auckland. Next year we will be introducing Coding in Year 10 and Global Studies in Year 11 as we continue to update our programmes. If you want to look at the range of options available, check out our Senior Option Booklet on our website https://www.stdoms.ac.nz site. Over the remainder of the term younger students will have the opportunity to choose their options for 2019 as well.

MCINTOSH \$5,000 ORTHODONTIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Does your daughter need orthodontic work such as braces? Too much for your family at present? If so, we strongly urge you to apply for a McIntosh Orthodontic Scholarship. Applications close 31 August 2018. Fliers can be downloaded from the McIntosh Dental website or collected from the college office.

MESSAGE FROM ACCOUNTS OFFICE

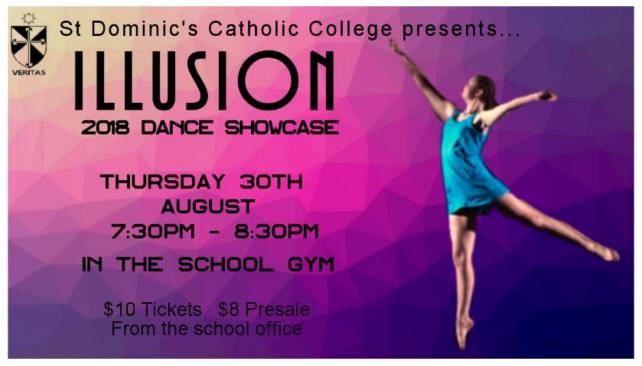
Thanks to everyone who have already paid the fees in full or have a payment plan in place, it is much appreciated. Please ensure that by now, you have paid at least 50% of the school fees owed, especially the Attendance Dues which are a compulsory payment. The Attendance dues collected by the College are forwarded to Auckland Common Fund Ltd. Attendance dues are used for loan repayments, property related costs and for building works done at schools in the Auckland Diocese. Attendance Dues are a compulsory charge for all students who attend Catholic Schools in New Zealand. They are a condition of enrolment and are a legally enforceable charge.

If you are having difficulties paying the school fees, please contact the accounts office in confidence as soon as possible to apply for financial assistance - accounts@stdoms.ac.nz or call Karen on Ext 8913 or Laura on Ext 8810.



THE ECO CLUB FOR JUNIORS was a hive of activity at lunchtime on Wednesday 15 August 2018. About twenty junior students gathered in \$7 to make bird feeders. They collected pinecones beforehand and Mrs Ferguson showed them how to make a Macramé net to hold the pinecones up so that it could be hung in a tree. They then covered the pine cones in peanut butter and finally in a wild bird seed mix. The end result looked brilliant. A lot of birds in West Auckland will get a very good feed over the next two weeks.





NIWA AUCKLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FAIR

Every year, as part of GATE program at St Dominic's Catholic College, students from Year 7 to 10 carry out a science fair project. This year, over 30 students have been selected to take their Science Fair Project to the NIWA Auckland Science and Technology Fair held at the Auckland War Memorial Museum from 31 August to 1 September. You are invited to come and view the projects during the public viewing sessions. We wish them all the best for the competition.





DIARY DATE: Monday 27th August Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm