

St Dominic's Catholic College

Founded by the Dominican Sisters

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Dear parents and caregivers,

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

I hope that all our families enjoyed the Easter break and were able to spend time with family and friends. Easter Sunday is a time of celebration for the Catholic Church and it is often seen as the birthday of the Church. We are called to be the voice of hope in our communities and positive role models for others.

You will be well aware of the issues that schools have had involving the misuse of social media and inappropriate comments and actions. As a school, we do teach the girls about what is appropriate and what is not, regardless of the medium that is used. We talk to them about the following:

- How the actions of a few can bring a whole school into disrepute
- How comments made on social media can become an incredibly serious issue
- That their behaviour/ actions online are just as accountable as their actions in person
- That cyber bullying is not acceptable and will not be tolerated

We hope that you too take the opportunity to speak to your daughters about this. Below is the Netsafe link that we recommend it is a really helpful website for students and parents. Any cyber complaints/reports/advice should be firstly directed to Netsafe <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice-for-young-people> also <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/parenting>. You may be aware that St Dominic's Catholic College now has a Facebook page that is being administered by Mr Jellyman. We are using this page to give families, students and the wider community up to date information about what is happening here at school.

This is the last newsletter for Term 1 and I thank parents, caregivers and our wider community who have helped with sports, outdoor education and school related activities throughout the term. Your support and assistance is very much appreciated. We also farewell Miss Turner at the end of this term and we thank her for her work in the Dance area. Miss Webb returns at the beginning of Term 2.

God's blessing to you and your families.

CAROL CCODDINGTON
PRINCIPAL

SPECIAL CHARACTER CORNER YEAR 7 RETREATS

All of the Year 7 classes really enjoyed Retreat. It was a time to connect with God and each other during the day. When we arrived at the Te Pai Centre we started our day with an opening prayer. After this we talked about how we are all unique and different and how this is a good thing. Most of us found that the more we thought about this the more we understood the deeper



meaning and the fact that we should not criticize each other for our differences. During the day we took part in lots of different activities that helped us understand the communities that we belong to, and the gifts and talents that we all have. We spent time understanding that it is up to us to bring our gifts and talents to all of our communities. *Holly Hadwin, Sophie Blomfield, Tiare Cole 7AC7*



The theme for Lent 2018 is inspired by a quote from Suzanne Aubert: 'Let us go together'. We are personally called to go on a journey - with each other and with God. In the course of the journey we are changed and we change the world around us.

Last Wednesday, Year 12 students listened to the talk of Ms Gemma Sinnot from Caritas who talked about their work in Timor Leste. This talk is in connection with the topic they are studying which is about Social Justice. Students learned how the Catholic Ethical Principles were put into practice through their projects. The talk was an eye opener and very inspiring for the students. They realized that their contributions to Caritas through their financial support and prayers can make a difference in the lives of the people living in Timor Leste. *Mrs E. Cala*



UNIFORM FOR TERMS 2 and 3

Students may only wear regulation school shoes (see attached photo) and have the option of black tights in terms 2 and 3. Thanks for your support in ensuring that your daughter has the correct footwear in particular i.e. no sandals; the correct type of regulation school shoes. *Ms Anna Heffernan*

FAST FOOD

Thank you for not arranging for fast food to be delivered to school. Our college supports our own school canteen. You are welcome to send a home prepared lunch with your daughter. *Ms Anna Heffernan*

NCEA CATCH-UP HOLIDAY ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITY

Year 11, 12 and 13 students may have been informed by one or more of their teachers that they can have an assessment opportunity for an Internal Assessment during the holiday. Your daughter will know if she is one of these students and her teacher will speak to her about it and ask her to inform you. The assessment opportunity will be on the first Monday of the holiday. Assessments will take place at the College in S1 at 9.00am on Monday 16 April. Please ensure that your daughter attends if she has been given the opportunity to achieve NCEA credits which are part of her studies in 2018. *Robynne Andrews - Academic Adviser*

PAST STUDENT NEWS

St Dominic's past student Kate Nalesu, who graduated from AUT with a Master of Spatial Design, was selected to work as an intern at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and started in February. Kate won this opportunity through AUT's Internz scholarship programme, which provides final year students with paid work internships in the USA and Canada.

AUCKLAND TRANSPORT UPGRADE – IMPORTANT INFORMATION – DELAYS!!!

Over the next 12 weeks Auckland Transport (AT) will be upgrading the Pedestrian Crossings along Rathgar Road. AT have advised that it will take up to four weeks to complete the upgrade of each crossing. During each of those four week periods, there will be at least 4 days where the road will be down to one lane. The Pedestrian Crossing by the shops (close to Pomaria Road) is the first to be upgraded. Followed by the upgrade of the crossing near Waitakere College and finally there will be a Pedestrian Crossing installed by St Dominic's Catholic College (replacing the traffic islands currently in place). Rathgar Road and surrounding streets are already busy before and after school, these upgrades are expected to increase the time delays already being experienced during these busy times.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING ORGANISATION

Trades Academy students attended the BCITO student day held recently at Alexandra Park where 15 Trades were represented. The building and construction industry requires a diverse range of skilled professionals to make it tick. Our students were given the opportunity to trial Brick laying, Cabinet Making, Floor and Carpet laying, Wallpapering and Construction after being briefed in First Aid, Health and Safety. An apprenticeship sets students up for a career as a qualified trade professional. All that is needed to begin is level 2 NCEA, a job, a drivers licence and a great attitude. An apprenticeship is a cost effective way to earn a qualification because you earn while you train. Thank you BCITO for such a great initiative and a very enjoyable day.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues for preference students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest or the Revenue Manager at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland for further information. Application forms for the Hardship Scheme are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website :www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools/ (go to Catholic Schools in Auckland / Attendance Dues and Special Character Contributions)

Congratulations to Arabella Culley, Olivia Stairmand and Bethany Friend who competed in the Western Zones Year 7 & 8 Swimming. All three finished in 1st place in their heats and qualified for the finals in all the events. In the year 7 group finals Arabella finished 1st place in Breaststroke and Backstroke and 2nd place in Freestyle. In the Year 8 group finals Olivia finished in 1st place in all strokes while Bethany finished 2nd in Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly. They have all qualified for the Auckland Championships on the 6th April. **Congratulations** to Suluama Vaeau-Mulitalo, who competed in the Auckland Athletics Championships on Wednesday 28th March. Suluama finished 2nd in both Open Girls Hammer and Junior Girls Discus. Suluama has qualified for the North Island Championships.



DIARY DATES:

Thursday 12th April 2018 Year 10-13 NCEA Information Evening at 6.30pm in the Chapel

Friday 13th April Term 1 ends Monday 30th April Term 2 commences

Friday 25th May PTFA Quiz Night 7.00pm in the Gym

