

St Dominic's Catholic College

Founded by the Dominican Sisters

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VERITAS

Depart Parents and caregivers,

6th December 2018

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

This is my last newsletter not only for the year but as Principal of St Dominic's Catholic College for 23 years. I leave with mixed feelings excitement about a new challenge and sadness that I am leaving behind a great community of students, staff and parents. Thank you to all for what you have contributed to our school not just this year but also in the past.

As we move into the Season of Advent we are in a period of waiting and in the Catholic tradition each Sunday we light a candle that depicts the lead up to Christmas. Purple (or violet) has traditionally been the primary colour of Advent, symbolizing repentance and fasting. The first candle of the Advent Wreath, the Prophecy Candle or Candle of Hope, is purple. The second, called the Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation, is also purple in colour. Likewise, the fourth Advent Candle colour is purple. It's called the Angel Candle or the Candle of Love. Pink (or rose) is also one of the colours of Advent used during the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday in the Catholic Church. Pink or rose represents joy or rejoicing and reveals a shift in the season away from repentance and toward celebration. The third Advent Wreath Candle, named the Shepherd Candle or Candle of Joy, is pink in colour. White is the colour of Advent representing purity and light. Lastly, the Christ Candle is the fifth Advent Candle, positioned in the centre of the wreath. This Advent Candle's colour is white.

I am delighted to announce that **Kate Deveraux** has been appointed to the position of Head Girl 2019 with **Sandy-Mary Fonoti** and **Dan-Yel James** as Deputy Head Girls, congratulations girls, I am sure you will rise to the challenge!

Start of year information and stationery lists etc will be posted to families early in January. The College office will re-open on Monday 21st January 2019.

Once again, thank you for your support as parents and community and on behalf of the staff I wish everyone the peace and joy of Advent and a blessed Christmas.

God's blessing to you and your families.

Carol Coddington
Principal

SENIOR QUIZ

Are you looking for an opportunity to test your general knowledge? Perhaps you are looking for a thrill on Friday lunchtimes or just looking to try something new. Whichever one it is, come and join us at Senior Quiz in NC7! Senior Quiz is a welcoming place. It doesn't matter if you join at the beginning of the year or halfway through, everyone and anyone from Year 10 to Year 13 is welcome to participate.

Every quiz is a new challenge with sub topics that accommodate everyone's knowledge in the team. The competitive atmosphere adds to the excitement of it all, but we found that it's not so much about winning as it is about the interaction within our own team and learning new things. Quiz in general is a thought-provoking experience with questions that test our knowledge on subjects in and out of school. Quiz also encourages us to be aware of the news and what is happening around us as one of repeated rounds is current events.

Having it on Fridays, especially in the Senior school, provides a fun way to end the week. As a team this is what we look forward to and continues to be the highlight of our week. The anticipation and excitement keep us at the edge of seats and even causes us to shout out in frustration or glee.

Nothing is more satisfying in quiz than when a team member knows the answer to a question that proves to be difficult. And, after attending quiz for three years, even something such as losing or winning by as little as ½ a point becomes the most fun life or death situation you could possibly imagine.



From losing by $\frac{1}{2}$ a point, arguing with Ms Fox Rogers about spelling, and even crossing out the right answer, we wouldn't change anything about our experience at senior quiz and we truly encourage all senior girls to come and join in the fun. The top-notch questions, the presentation and the freedom to voice your opinion on rounds and offer your input is some of the reasons why we encourage you all to come and join.

Nakita Chandra, Nomhle Dube, Charlene Bacani and Anna Lacson (Year 12)

ACCOUNTS OFFICE: School fees statements will be sent via email this week for any outstanding balances. If you are already paying by automatic payment, this is for your information only – you do not need to do anything. If you are not paying by automatic payment, we would appreciate it if you could endeavour to pay the account over the next week or so. The payment portal link at the bottom of the email seems to be working well and gives you ability to select which items on the statement you would like to pay - do try it if you haven't already. The school office will also be open and available to take payments until 11.30 am Friday 14th December. Thank you and have a safe and holiday break!

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

St Dominic's Catholic College students continue to participate enthusiastically in Mathematics Competitions.

The Great Kiwi Maths Competition 2018

Thirty-six students from Years 7 to 10 participated in the Great Kiwi Maths Competition. The top scorers were Jenny Kim and Sasha Thakkar from Year 8, Maxine Ortiz from Year 9 and Laura Harding and Lucy Li from Year 10.

Therese Molloy, Sasha Thakkar, Angel Afamasaga, Jenny Kim and Maxine Ortiz



Otago Problem Challenge 2018

Eighty-one Year 7 & 8 students participated in the 2018 Otago Problem Challenge. Twenty students were awarded Merit certificates and Therese Molloy of Year 7 and Kristina Peppers and Angel Afamasaga of Year 8 were awarded Excellence certificates.

Mathex 2018

The Casio Mathex competition took place this year over two nights on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd August 2018. There was another huge turnout at the stadium in Kohimarama with schools from all over Auckland taking part in this annual competition. This year we had full participation at all year levels which was fabulous. The girls really enjoyed themselves and spent a lot of time in their teams preparing for it. While we did not get a placing, it is always an excellent opportunity to develop problem solving skills and work away at some very clever mathematical puzzles.

Congratulations to this year's MATHEX teams:

Year 7 Team A: Sophie Blomfield, Lubaina Bohra, Danica Madeira, Holly Hadwin. Team B: Fiona Shao, Izabella Stevens, Jennika Huang, Caitilin Araullo.

Year 8 Team A: Sania Singh, Olivia Vista, Aisling Joyce, Sasha Thakkar. Team B: Jenny Kim, Dessi Guan, Brittany Chea, Angel Afamasaga.

Year 9 Team A: Caroline Liu, Jessie Cheng, Danna Pabayo, Nicole Venter. Team B: Mia Hepburn, Amrita Maggu, Stella Hammond, Sophie Ferguson.

Year 10 Team A: Maike Boquiren, Beatrice Ang, Lucy Li, Elise O'Brien. Team B: Molly Hayward, Laura Harding, Sophie Wheeler, Greshka Lao



ELIZABETH MICHAEL ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE "POP UP" UNIFORM SHOP
SATURDAY 12th JANUARY 2019 10.00am - 1.00pm GABRIEL GILL SPORTS CENTRE.

New Hoodie \$55, Sun hat \$25

The new SKORT will be in store from 14th January 2019