

St Dominic's Catholic College

Founded by the Dominican Sisters

Principal: Anna Swann

T (+64 9) 839 0380

F (+64 9) 839 0390

E office@stdoms.ac.nz

29 Rathgar Rd, Henderson, Auckland 0610

PO Box 21-123, Henderson, Auckland 0650



VERITAS

Kia ora whanau,

7th February 2019

A very warm welcome to all our St Dominic's whanau, in particular to our new students and their families. We also welcome our new staff member, Lauren Jeffares. We are excited to have Lauren join our college community in the science department as a chemistry teacher.

We had a wonderful start to the year on Monday with our powhiri to welcome our new students, staff and whanau as well as myself as principal. It was an emotional experience and I was truly humbled by the aroha that was shown by all involved. Thank you to everyone for your kind words of support. I am really looking forward to developing our home, school and community relationships further. The beginning of the year is always a busy one as we come out of 'holiday mode' and get back into the routines of work and school. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the office or your daughter's Dean. Deans and all staff can be contacted by phone and email. Please refer to our school website www.stdoms.ac.nz for details.

Upcoming Events

The first few weeks of this term are very busy with many exciting events taking place. Athletics Day is next Wednesday 13th February at the Trusts Stadium, Foundress Day Mass is on Tuesday 19th February and Swimming Sports is Friday 22nd February at West Wave.

Safety at the school gates

The beginning and end of the day are busy times around our school and parking can cause some issues. Please be mindful of the rules around the gate. Parent cars are not permitted to enter the school at these times as it causes risk to our students. Their health and safety is our priority and we appreciate your support in this.

Nga mihi nui,

Anna Swann
Principal

Message from Accounts office

The school fees statements for 2019 have been emailed (or posted in the absence of an email address) recently. Please contact the accounts office if you have not yet received a statement. If you are already paying by regular automatic payment, you do not need to do anything - the statement is just to let you know the balance due. However, it may be a good idea to check your automatic payments amount is still enough to cover the fees. If making an online payment from your bank, please ensure that you add the family account code for our reference - this can be found at the bottom of your statement. You are now able to pay via the payment portal where you can select the exact items that you wish to pay. The link to the portal can be found at the bottom of the email that was sent to you with the statement. Please contact the accounts office in confidence if you believe financial circumstances have arisen that will prevent or delay the payment of the account. A discount of \$100 *per student* is available if the account is paid in full by 31 March 2019.

Financial Assistance for school attendance dues is available to assist families who may need it for preference students attending Catholic Schools in Auckland Diocese. Contact school office, Parish priest or the Revenue Manager at the Catholic Diocese for further information. Application forms are available www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz.

AUCKLAND TRANSPORT LEARNER LICENCE WORKSHOPS



Alongside all our learner licence workshops, we are pleased to advise that we now have restricted licence workshops. We currently have a licence workshop scheduled every month for both our learner and restricted licence workshops up until June. To find out more click on the following link and register to attend any one of our workshops via our online web

form. <https://at.govt.nz/driving-parking/road-safety/young-drivers/restricted-driver-licence-workshops>.

AFTER SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS Two weeks of after school swimming lessons will be available for students wanting to improve their water confidence and swimming skills. Lessons will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 19 February until the 28 February from 3.30 – 4.00pm. If your daughter would like to attend, please ask her to collect a permission letter from her Physical Education teacher.

STUDENT ORGANISER

Each student has a student organiser for 2019. 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 ahead 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. 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 attached photo for regulation Roman sandals and 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.

News from the Mathematics Department

We are very excited to share news of the academic success of some of our senior Mathematics students. Tayla Paauwe, Anastasia Bryleva, Amanda Wang and Jae Hwang, who completed Level 3 Calculus in Year 12, have been accepted to follow the University of Auckland Young Scholars' Programme MAX course this year. MAX (Mathematical Acceleration and eXtension) is a first semester (internal or extramural) course in university mathematics for high achieving high school students throughout New Zealand. The programme is designed for students who enjoy academic challenge, have shown themselves to be very capable at high school mathematics and can handle a solid workload. The Department of Mathematics and the Department of Engineering Science at the University of Auckland jointly offer this course which is academically equivalent to the first year Engineering Mathematics course.

Pictured L-R Tayla Paauwe, Jae Hwang, Amanda Wang.

We congratulate these students for this significant achievement!



SALT AND LIGHT

LOGOS LEADERSHIP RETREAT

From 22nd - 24th of January, our Head Girls and Special Character Leaders were invited to attend the annual Salt and Light Logos Leadership Retreat. We travelled to Kaueranga Valley Christian Camp, along with other Year 13 leaders from Catholic schools in Auckland and Hamilton. Over three days we engaged in group activities and challenges such as "the amazing race". We connected with other students and retreat leaders as well as have time to reflect on ourselves and what leadership skills we would bring to our school communities.



Every activity we participated in helped us to deepen our understanding of what it is to be "salt and light", which is derived from the Gospel of Matthew 5:13-16 stating, "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be

made salty again?"... "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden." Salt represents our differences and unique talents, whilst light represents guidance, warmth and how we are able to use our light to help provide direction for others. As we reflected as a group and individuals on this bible verse we realised that as leaders we are called to be salt and a light and this is something we are really looking forward to acting upon as we head into this school year. This retreat cultivated beautiful friendships and created some amazing memories. Not only that but it gave the leaders of our Catholic School communities a chance to grow together. We couldn't have been more honoured to be given the opportunity to attend this retreat and represent our amazing school.

Pictured above Head girl Kate Devereaux (centre) Deputy Head girls (left) Dan-Yel James and Sandy-Mary Fonoti (right)