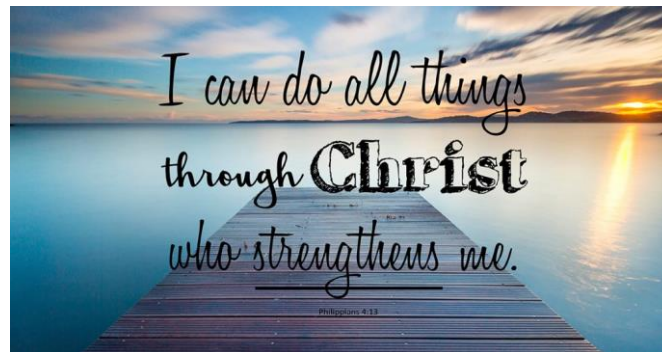


St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui Wednesday 15th February 2023



Kia ora koutou,

It was wonderful to have so many of our students return to school today. I appreciate the great lengths that many of our families have gone to for this to happen.

We still have many of our students who are unable to get to school at present due to road closures, cancelled transport, and severely affected properties. Our prayers are with all our community who are continuing to face challenges at this time. The lack of internet access, power and clean water will cause ongoing challenges for some of our students and their families, and we will do what we can to provide what support we can.

Wherever possible, please contact the office if your daughter is away or will be away for a longer period due to impact of the cyclone.

Students at Piha and Karekare recommended to stay home tomorrow and possibly Friday

Emergency Services have been in contact and strongly recommend that only essential travel takes place from the Piha and Karekare area. Although the road is technically open to one-way traffic, they do not have confidence in the slip in the road holding up under pressure at the moment. Emergency Services will be in touch again with us tomorrow with an update, but my **recommendation is that our students from Piha and Karekare do not come to school tomorrow and until we are assured, they are safe to get here.**

Home Learning

Those at home with power and internet access.

For those not able to get to school but have power and internet access, most students should be able to access their online Google Classrooms, and this is where you will find learning tasks and expectations from subject teachers.

Those at home without any power and/or internet access.

Those who are completely disconnected are to prioritise their family well-being above all else. We will do what we can to support our students over the next few weeks whilst roads, power lines and properties are repaired and or people are relocated. If you are in contact with any of these affected families, please pass this on to them.

Those with no power or internet access but able to get to school.

For our students who have no power or internet at home but can get to school, please feel supported to do so.

There are showers at school you can use and any devices, mobile phones etc can be charged up onsite at school. If you require uniform to be washed, please let me know as we can help with this also.

Health and Safety at Drop Off and Pick Up times.

As you will be aware, our school is in a busy area which we share with at least five other schools. Most of these schools have varying start and finishing times which helps reduce the busyness of drop off and pick up times. However, our roads are busier than ever and traffic can at times be incredibly dense. We rely on all our community to work together to keep all our students safe.

If you are dropping off or picking up your daughter before and/or after school, I ask that you please do so outside the school gates.

Rathgar Rd

Before and after school there are eight buses that enter and exit through the Rathgar Rd gate. It is not possible for parents to enter through here at all before or after school. Students need to walk out the gate and meet their parent either on Rathgar Rd, one of the side streets such as Ti Nana Crescent, or at another organised spot.

Pinedale Place

Pinedale Place is an entrance for staff cars and limited deliveries only. If you are dropping off or picking up your daughter from this entrance at peak times, please do so outside the gates on Pinedale Place or one of the roads running off it. Parents and caregivers entering this carpark at peak times are placing our students at risk and also causing major traffic issues.

Many parents choose to delay pick up to 3.30 pm or a bit later, after the traffic around the entrance/exit ways has subsided. This alleviates a lot of the pressure and greatly supports the health and safety of our young people.

Arts and Crafts during the storm

Darcie Reddington in 7DT enjoyed some arts and crafts over the last couple of days at home in the storm.

She was very proud to show me her sock puppet – complete with a full set of teeth! Don't panic like I did – the teeth are from a mould, not from a family member!

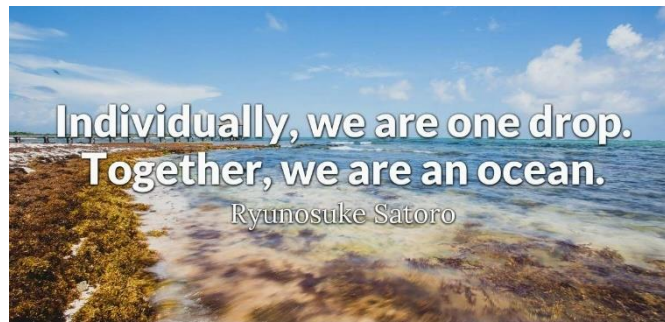


School Property Damage

We are very fortunate to have had minimal damage to our College property. A couple of small leaks will be repaired and the clear up of broken branches and leaves has been cleared up.

Thank you again for the understanding and kindness shown over the last few days while we navigated the challenges we were faced with. We remain optimistic that through settling back into the routines of school life, we will forge ahead on the return to some sort of normality.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Anna Swann



Key Calendar Dates

Friday 17th February

- Foundress Day Mass

Tuesday 21st February

- School Photos – full school uniform including blazers please
- New Families BBQ 5.30pm – 7pm
- Year 13 Families BBQ 5.30pm – 7pm

Key contact numbers/websites for support

If you require any support please let me know as soon as possible. Alternatively, the following websites and numbers may be helpful at this challenging time.

St Vincent de Paul – Vinnies

Flood Relief Food Support

<https://svdpak.org.nz/>

0800 680 090



Society of St Vincent de Paul
AUCKLAND

[Auckland severe weather: What support is available and where can you get help – NEMA](#). (On this page you can find information in alternative formats: Large print, easy read, audio and Braille.)

[National Emergency Management Agency – Civil Defence](#)

[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland Emergency Management](#)

[Important Storm Updates: OurAuckland – Auckland Council](#)

[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland – Facebook](#)

[National Severe Weather Information - MetService](#)

[Emergency preparedness in New Zealand – Get Ready](#)

[What you need to know: How to prepare for an emergency – RNZ News](#)

Emergency contact information

Here are some emergency contact details that may help in the event of Cyclone Gabrielle:

[Major Incidents – Auckland Emergency Management](#)

[National Emergency Management Agency – Civil Defence](#)

Ministry of Social Development contact numbers

Support and assistance may be available if you've been affected by weather events in your region

Dedicated line for impacted residents

[0800 400 100](#)

Urgent accommodation assistance

[0800 22 22 00](#)

Accommodation for those who have COVID-19

Where people have COVID-19 and must leave their homes and cannot be accommodated with other whānau, the number to call is Health [021 227 4908](#)

