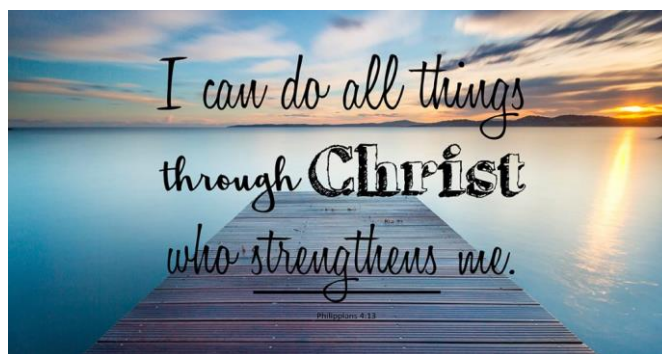


St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui 19th March 2023



Kia ora koutou,

The last couple of weeks have been full on as we have settled into the busyness of the term. There has been much to celebrate, and to commemorate.

4th Anniversary of the Christchurch Mosque attacks.

This week marks four years since the devastating event of 2019, where the lives of innocent people were taken in what has become known as one of the darkest days in our nation's history. The words of our then Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, still stand true today.

That quiet Friday afternoon has become our darkest of days. But for the families, it was more than that. It was the day that the simple act of prayer, of practising their Muslim faith and religion, led to the loss of their loved ones' lives. Those loved ones were brothers, daughters, fathers, and children. They were New Zealanders. They are us. And because they are us, we, as a nation, mourn them.

We continue to pray for the families of all victims and the communities which have suffered because of this tragedy.

Eternal rest grant unto them oh Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Passing of Fr Mario

We have been saddened by the passing of Fr Mario Dorado, OFM Cap. on Tuesday 14th March.

Fr Mario is remembered for his untiring and unselfish support for all parishes and churches he has served in. His servant leadership has truly touched so many in so many ways.

At these difficult times, please let us comfort each other with the good memories Fr Mario has left us with. May we all continue to remember him in our prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto him oh Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Polyfest 2023

Our cultural groups took to the stage last weekend at the ASB Polyfest at the Manukau Sports Bowl. Our Chinese, Korean, Burmese and African groups performed on the Diversity Stage, whilst our Samoan and Tonga groups performed on their respective stages. Some outstanding results were achieved.



African 2nd place African



Chinese - 1st place Chinese and 1st for overall choreography on Diversity stage

Samoan - 3rd place Maulu'ulu, 3rd place Sasa, 3rd place Pese, 3rd place Exit.



Tongan - 3rd place Tauluga



Burmese Group – First ever Burmese group to be represented at Polyfest.



Korean Group

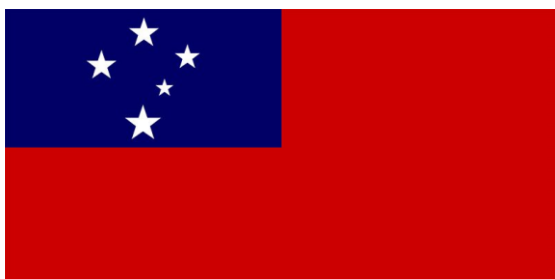
Huge thanks again to all the staff, parents and whānau who supported the girls in their practices and performances.

Year 9 – 13 Athletics Day

On Monday we celebrated Athletics Day – our first in three years! The Trusts Stadium was indeed alive with cheering, and chanting as our students leapt, ran, jumped, and threw on the track and field. A real highlight was the staff v students relay, where the competition rally ramped up and some hidden athleticism was displayed! The results and winning House will be shared with students this week. Thanks to our staff who organised and supported yet another awesome school event.



Representative Netball



Congratulations to Jenaya Lata and Mia Swann for their selection into the Under 17 Samoan representative team to tour Samoa later in the year. Well done girls!

Past students Heta and Sila Matautia will also represent Samoa in the Under 19 and Open Women's grades respectively. Congratulations!

Important Dates to Note

PPTA Strike Action Day Thursday 29th March – Due to ongoing industrial action by the teachers union PPTA, and the Ministry of Education, a second PPTA Strike Day may occur on Thursday 29th March. If this is confirmed, all students will be learning from home on this day.

Supervision will be available for students under the age of 14 who's parents/caregivers need to go to work on this day. Please email Ms Heffernan associateprincipal@stdoms.ac.nz if you require supervision on this day for your daughter. Any other students requiring to be onsite for their learning for any other reason on this day also need to contact Ms Heffernan.

Netball Trials 2023

Our netball trials continue this week, for students in Years 10-13

SENIORS: Years 11-13 Tue 21st Mar, 3.30-5.30pm, Wed 22nd March, 3.30-5.30pm

YEAR 10: Thursday 23rd March 3.30-5.30pm

PTFA meeting Monday evening 6pm

Our Parent/Teacher/Friends Association has a meeting on Monday 20th March in the Helensville Block (Admin/Reception building). New members are welcome.

We will be planning our fundraising and events for 2023.

Other Key Calendar Dates

Monday 20th March

- PTFA meeting 6pm – new members welcome.

Thursday 23rd March

- Open Evening 6.30pm

Monday 27th March

- Board Meeting 6.30pm

Tuesday 28^h March

- Academic Coaching Day

Wednesday 29th March

- Possible PPTA Strike Day – TBC
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Thursday 30th March

- Year 7 Retreat - Details to come.

Friday 31st March

- Year 7 Retreat – Details to come.

Have a lovely week everyone.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Anna Swann

