



INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE



International Team

Our core team has remained a steady, comforting presence: Gay Foley (Director & Dean of International Students), Ally Glen (ESOL & International Support), and Lye Otani (International Coordinator) – the familiar faces who continue to guide, support, and care for our international whānau through every season.



Nau mai, haere mai –

Celebrating a vibrant Term 2, 2026.

Term 2 has been a season of transition in every sense. As Auckland's autumn leaves gave way to the crisp chill of winter, our International Department experienced its own gentle turning of seasons – bringing both fond farewells and exciting new beginnings.

That spirit of new growth showed up everywhere this term – especially in the new faces who

joined our St. Dominic's whānau. Alongside our continuing international students, we welcomed two very special groups who made Term 2 especially vibrant: seven girls from Colegio San Bartolomé in Colombia, who joined us for eight weeks, and a lively group of 20 girls from Hong Kong, who spent a busy week immersed in Kiwi school life. Their energy and curiosity added so much colour to our classrooms this term.



Saying goodbye is never easy – thank you, Tanya, for eight years of love, laughter, and care. We will miss you dearly. ♡♡

Message from the Director

I would like to thank Tanya Corrigan for her service to St Dominic's College, our students and the wider community in terms of pastoral care for international students. I have been a wonderful 8 years working with her and I wish her all the best for her next venture.

I would like to welcome Claire Cox to the team. Claire starts with College Homestays on the 3rd of August and she is bringing with her a wealth of expertise, wisdom and experience. Her background is in Psychotherapy and business – a perfect combination!

I want to acknowledge Kayla Magill and Jenny Goodwin for stepping up when we most needed support in homestay this term. Their commitment to the team and the students and families have been exemplary. We have had the largest intake of new families join our school programme for a long time. Thank you both!



CAREERS & PATHWAYS

New Zealand is a nation built on diversity — and at St. Dominic's, we live that every day. With students from across Aotearoa and around the world, each bringing their own heritage and stories, our community is a beautiful reflection of humanity at its best.



Finding Her Path 🐾

Anju, a Year 9 student whose love for horses inspired us to find her a special Friday internship working with them hands-on. Watching her thrive has been one of the quiet joys of this term.

Gateway

Gateway is a government-funded programme that gives senior students the opportunity to gain real workplace experience while earning NCEA credits toward their qualifications.

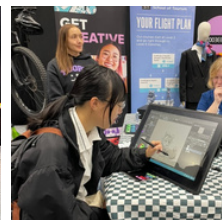
Shin followed her passion for food into a Masterchef culinary course, bringing creativity and dedication to every session.

Christina spent her placement at Bird Barn on Lincoln Road — surrounded by animals, learning the ins and outs of a busy and

Irene has successfully completed the Food Safety course through the New Zealand School of Food & Wine and has since begun her work placement at McDonald's as part of the OASIS Programme — an initiative providing Auckland secondary students with valuable workplace training and real-world employment experience. This placement is allowing Irene to develop practical skills, gain industry experience, and build confidence in a professional work environment. We wish her every success!



We are so proud of these young women for stepping outside their comfort zones and embracing every opportunity that came their way. Gateway is not just about earning credits — it is about discovering who you are and what you are capable of.



Careers Expo

On 6 May 2026, our Year 11–13 students attended the Careers Expo Out West at The Trusts Arena. The event was a great success, providing students with the opportunity to connect with representatives from universities, polytechnics, private training establishments, and a range of industry providers.

Students were able to explore future study and career pathways, ask questions, gather information, and gain valuable insights to help them make informed decisions about their next steps beyond school. Events such as this play an important role in supporting students as they consider the many exciting opportunities available to them after leaving St Dominic's College.

Year 10 Employer Engagement Event

On 2 June, St Dominic's hosted its inaugural Year 10 Employer Engagement Event in the school gymnasium — and what a success it was! More than 40 employers and industry representatives gave their time to meet our Year 10 students, sharing insights into their careers and the many pathways available after school. Through small-group discussions, students had the chance to ask questions, explore different professions, and begin making meaningful connections between their education and their future.

A huge thank you to all the employers who came along and helped inspire the next generation. ❤️

CULTURE & COMMUNITY

New Zealand is a nation built on diversity — a place where different cultures, languages, and traditions come together to create something truly unique. At St. Dominic's, we live this every day. With students from across Aotearoa and around the world, each bringing their own heritage, stories, and perspectives, our school community is a beautiful reflection of the world we live in. This diversity is not just something we celebrate — it is something we are.

Term 2 brought that spirit to life in the most joyful of ways. From the colour and energy of our Cultural Evenings to the quiet kindness of Pink Shirt Day, our students — domestic and international alike — showed what it truly means to embrace difference, stand alongside one another, and find strength in what makes each of us beautifully, uniquely ourselves.

Cultural Dress Day & Cultural Evening



our students take the stage at

NZ Music Month Live Performance

In celebration of NZ Music Month, St. Dominic's Music Department took to the stage at Ranui Library for a wonderful concert featuring the Junior Choir, College Choir, brass ensemble, and solo performers. We are proud that some of our international students were among the musicians, sharing their talents with the wider Henderson community — a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.

Pink Shirt Day



Pink Shirt Day is a reminder to stand together against bullying and to promote kindness, inclusion, and respect — values that are at the heart of our St. Dominic's community. Thank you to everyone who got involved and showed their support! ❤️

¡BIENVENIDAS! OUR COLOMBIAN WHĀNAU

This term we had the absolute joy of welcoming seven girls from Colegio San Bartolomé in Bogotá, Colombia, for an eight-week Kiwi Cultural and Educational Experience. Arriving on 3 May and departing on 28 June, they truly became part of our St. Dominic's whānau.

During their time here, the girls attended classes alongside their St. Dominic's buddies, joined our Colombian Culture Club for salsa and Spanish lessons at lunchtime, and took part in regular Q&A sessions to share their experiences and reflect on their journey.



But it wasn't all classroom learning! Their New Zealand adventure took them across some of Aotearoa's most beautiful places — an Auckland City Day Trip, the stunning Bay of Islands, a beach walk and BBQ at Muriwai, a day on Waiheke Island, a thrilling visit to Vector Wero Whitewater Park, a weekend in Rotorua, and a final Snow Planet day trip before their farewell. They even joined us for our Cultural Evening — bringing a little piece of Colombia to our school stage.



Eight weeks, countless memories, and friendships that will last a lifetime. We said our goodbyes surrounded by the friends they made here — proof that eight weeks is more than enough time to find your people. ¡Hasta pronto, chicas — you will always have a home at St. Dominic's!

HAERE MAI, HONG KONG!

This term we were thrilled to welcome 20 girls from four Hong Kong schools — St Peters, St Andrews, Yan Tak, and Little Flowers — for an exciting week of cultural and language immersion at St. Dominic's.

Around 12 years old and full of energy, these Year 7, 8 and 9 students arrived with wonderful English, a fantastic work ethic, and the most delightful manners. They threw themselves into ESOL activities, experienced authentic Kiwi school life, and quickly found their feet — thanks in no small part to our wonderful St. Dominic's buddies, who made sure every girl felt welcome, included, and at home from day one.

It is amazing what can happen in just one week. Friendships formed, laughs were shared, and connections were made that crossed oceans and cultures. That is the magic of St. Dominic's.

And the good news? We are not done with Hong Kong just yet! We are delighted to share that another group will be joining us in August — 14 girls from Hong Kong Schools, arriving 4–12 August as part of a wonderful 6-year partnership that continues to grow. We cannot wait to welcome them!



More Than a Classroom

In Ally's English classes, learning about New Zealand goes far beyond textbooks. This term our students hiked coastal tracks, mastered the art of the Kiwi BBQ, discovered the joy of a classic NZ cream doughnut, and even made their own farewell cards with aroha. Every Friday brought a new adventure — and a new word to add to their Kiwi vocabulary! A huge thank you to Ms Ally Glen for making every session so memorable.



FAREWELL TERM 2...

As Term 2 draws to a close, we say a heartfelt farewell to six wonderful students who have been part of our St. Dominic's whānau this term. You came from across the world and made our community richer, warmer, and more beautiful simply by being here.

We hope your time at St. Dominic's has been as meaningful for you as your presence has been for us. You have taught us so much – about your cultures, your countries, and the beautiful diversity of our world. We are so proud of everything you have achieved and the young women you are becoming.

Wherever life takes you next, know that you will always have a home here. Ka kite anō – until we meet again!

- Anju Watanabe 🇯🇵
- Kamonpon Ulit 🇹🇭
- Karin Katsuragawa 🇯🇵
- Praifon Chaona 🇹🇭
- Ruyu Yan 🇨🇳
- Xiaoxi Li 🇨🇳



WELCOME TO TERM 3!

As we step into the heart of winter, we warmly welcome everyone back to St. Dominic's for Term 3. There is something special about these cooler months – the warmth of friendship feels even more precious when shared indoors, and the connections formed during winter terms often last a lifetime. We invite all our students, new and returning, to embrace this season with open hearts and curious minds.

Term 3 brings exciting new faces to our whānau – short-term visitors and long-term students alike, arriving from across Asia and beyond. We cannot wait to welcome you all into our community and share this season with you. ❤️

We also welcome our newest team member Claire Cox, who joins College Homestay on 3 August bringing a wealth of expertise and warmth to our team.

A warm St. Dominic's welcome also goes to our newest team member, Claire Cox, who joins College Homestay on 3 August bringing a wealth of expertise, wisdom and experience. We are so lucky to have her!

KEY DATES — TERM 3:

- 3 August — Claire Cox joins College Homestay
- 7 August — St Dominic's Feast Day
- 11 August — Principal's Awards Assembly
- 4 September — Teacher Only Day
- Week 28 — Co Req Exams / Prelim Week (Y11-13)
- Week 30 — Y11-13 Drama Production Week

A SPECIAL MENTION TO ALL OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED **THE ST DOMINIC'S AND LISTON COLLEGE BALL** THIS TERM – YOU LOOKED ABSOLUTELY AMAZING AND THE SMILES SAID IT ALL. WHAT A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!



