

## St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui March 2024



Kia ora e te whānau,

What a full-on month February has been! Full of energy, celebrations, and getting back into the vibe of college life. It has been heartwarming to see all the girls embrace the new year with such enthusiasm as well as a renewed commitment to a great year ahead and striving towards personal excellence.

Everyone has settled in quickly to new routines and surroundings. A huge thank you to all our families who have been so supportive in ensuring your daughters are well prepared, at school and on time every day. It was lovely to see and meet so many families at the whānau BBQ on Thursday evening. We are always aware of the huge changes that starting college can bring for our students coming in at Year 7 from primary school. Please remember to contact your daughter's dean or whānau teacher if you have any questions.

### **Hope Week for the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Thank you for your support this week in bringing awareness to the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

With limited media coverage, the situation has the potential to go un-noticed. Our friend and talented gardener Lema was overwhelmed by the acknowledgement and generous support shown by our community.

Our students have raised nearly \$900 this week which will go directly to Lema's village to provide some relief for her family at this challenging time.



## Athletics Day 2024

A fabulous Athletics Day was had at the Trusts Stadium last week. The St Dominic's school spirit was at its best, and all students represented, competed, and supported each other beautifully in a range of track and field events. Congratulations to all winners!

**Junior  
Athletics Champion**  
*Gabriella Mataele*



1<sup>st</sup> in 100m  
1<sup>st</sup> in 300m  
1<sup>st</sup> in Shot-put.

**Intermediate  
Athletics Champion**  
*Bianca Alexiou*



1<sup>st</sup> in 100m  
2<sup>nd</sup> in 200m  
1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump and  
new school record

**Senior  
Athletics Champion**  
*Sienna Mulcahy*



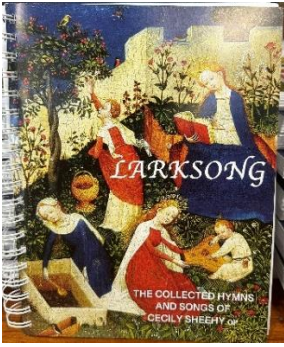
1<sup>st</sup> in 100m  
1<sup>st</sup> in 200m  
1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump and  
new school record

## Winning House for Athletics Day: *St Catherine's*



Our next full school sports event is **Swimming Sports at West Wave on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**. All students are encouraged to participate in competitive and/or non-competitive events to earn valuable House points for their House. Come dressed in your House colours and be ready to swim, cheer and chant your way to victory.

## Sr Cecily Sheehy's Book Launch



Sr Cecily is well known for her gifts in music and song writing. It was a privilege to attend the Book Launch of 'Larksong', a collection of her hymns and songs. This beautiful compilation has been some time in the making, and today we celebrated the launch at Good Shepherd Parish, with many of the people who had helped pull it all together.



One of our school favourite songs of Sr Cecily's is *Kingdom Blues* which we all enjoy singing in our school masses. Congratulations and thank you, Sr Cecily for sharing your gifts with us all.

## Student Leaders Instagram Page

For those of you who are Social Media users, you might wish to follow our Student Leaders Instagram page [@stdominicsleaders\\_](#)

They regularly post current college events and activities, and share the awesome things our college community is involved in.

## Congratulations to...

**Poppy Arkle** has been selected to represent New Zealand in the Under 18 Girls Division at the ISA World Junior Surfing Championships in El Salvador in May this year. She has had huge success surfing above her age group (which would usually be the under 16s). Poppy also competed in the final Billabong competition last month where she placed 2<sup>nd</sup>!



We know you have worked hard for this, and we are so proud of you Poppy!

**Carolann Faamani** recently returned from competing for Tonga at the World Aquatics Championships in Doha, where she came away with the following outstanding achievements:



50m Backstroke: 32.13 (PB) National Record for Tonga

50m Freestyle: 28.71 (PB)

Mixed 4x100m Freestyle Relay: 3.57.90 (PB) National Record for Tonga.



Well done, Carolann! Your representative achievements make us all very proud.

## School Photo Day on Tuesday

This Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March is 'Photo Day'. All students will have class photos taken and individual photos will also be taken for ID cards. Please remind your daughter that she must be in full school uniform for her photo to be taken. This includes following all jewellery rules. Failure to comply with school uniform rules will result in her not being in any photo. Please have your daughter check the uniform regulations on the college website if she is unsure of the uniform rules. She can also speak with her dean if she needs further clarification. Blazers are required. Please make contact if you have any questions.

## Student Safety on Swanson Rd

Swanson Rd is always an incredibly busy road, especially before and after school. Many of our students walk along here on their way to the train station, buses, pick-up points and walking into Henderson. There have been a couple of close calls, where students have been knocked by, or knocked into cars as they attempt to cross the road. Please remind your daughter to avoid using the traffic island, or weaving between cars that are stopped along Swanson Rd. With so much traffic on both sides of the road at peak times, we ask that for their own safety, all our students cross Swanson Rd only at the traffic lights.

## PE Uniform

We are aware of the supply issues for PE uniform at the moment. If you have been unable to purchase PE uniform for your daughter, they are able to bring alternative active gear for now. Shorts, leggings, yoga or dance pants and a T-shirt are all acceptable.



## Year 7 & 8 school-based immunisation programme 2024

**Year 7 students** will be offered Boostrix vaccine (Tdap) in school. This vaccine is a booster of tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (pertussis). Most children received these immunisations last as preschoolers. This is scheduled for May 2024 with a catchup date 1-2 weeks later for students absent on the day.

**Year 8 students** will be offered human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in school. This is a New Zealand schedule vaccine that is recommended to be given at 12 years of age. Students need two doses with a 6-month gap between dose 1 and 2. The first dose is also scheduled for May 2024 with a catchup date 1-2 weeks later for students absent on the day.

A consent form with information will be sent home with your child. Please read, complete, and return the completed form to school. For more information on this important programme or to access an electronic consent form, please go to [School Immunisations](#)

Dear parents and caregivers,

**The Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDS)** is a Te Whatu Ora-operated service, which provides FREE dental care to children across greater Auckland. In order to prevent any eligible children missing out on receiving free dental care, ARDS is cross-checking their own records with school rolls.

For our children's better oral health and wellbeing, our school roll will be shared with the service as required. To find out more information about ARDS, please visit [ards.co.nz](https://ards.co.nz) or call 0800 TALK TEETH (0800 825 583).

## Government ban on student phones in schools

Next term the Government's ban on all use of mobile phones by students in schools, will come into action. Please discuss this with your daughter in preparation for the new rules that will need to be followed. The full set of rules and regulations will be sent out when these have been confirmed by the Ministry of Education.

We currently have our own processes and protocols in place to limit phone use during the school day. Please continue to support our current system of student phone use by:

- Contacting the office if you need to unexpectedly collect their daughter during the school day.
- Refrain from calling your daughter during the school day.
- Reminding your daughter about the need to follow all current school rules on phone use at school.

Your daughter will be reminded that:

- If she feels unwell, she needs to go to the office where a member of staff will contact her parent/guardian if needed.
- Phones are to be kept in their pocket or their bag during the school day
- Phones are only used in class when instructed by a member of staff (E.G. to take educational photos, recording etc)



*The Kingdom is within you. The Kingdom is within you.  
Why do you go searching for the answers of the mighty?  
The Kingdom is within you. The Kingdom is within you.  
Like a little seed, plant it in the ground and let it grow.  
(Sr Cecily Sheehy OP)*

Have a lovely week everyone.

Ngā manaakitanga,  
Anna Swann

## **The month ahead...**

### **Week 6 Week B (for Timetable)**

#### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

- School Photo Day – Full and correct uniform please

#### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

- Marae Trip – Details to come

### **Week 7 Week A (for Timetable)**

#### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March

- Swimming Sports Day – House Colours

#### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March

- Junior Information Night 7pm
- Year 7 & 8 WZ Swimming
- Year 10 - 13 Dance & Drama students trip to ASB Waterfront Theatre

#### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March

- Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Catch Up Tramp

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March

- Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Catch Up Tramp

### **Week 8 Week B (for Timetable)**

#### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

- Level 2 Outdoor Ed Trip
- Year 7 & 8 WZ Tag

#### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March

- Level 2 Rocky Shore Trip

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

- Open Night
- Year 7 & 8 WZ Orienteering

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

- Duke of Ed Silver and Gold Bushcraft Training

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

- Duke of Ed Silver and Gold Bushcraft Training

### **Week 9 Week A (for Timetable) Holy Week**

#### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March

- Board Meeting

#### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

- Holy Week Liturgy

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

- Good Friday – School Closed

## **Week 10 Week B**

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April

- Easter Monday – School Closed

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

- Easter Tuesday – School Closed

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

- Easter Liturgy Assembly 8.40am

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April

- NCEA Information Evening

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

- Drama Trip for NCEA

## **Week 11 Week A**

### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April

- Academic Coaching Day (details to come)

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April

- Senior WZ Kilikiti Tournament

### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April

- Junior Talent Show

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

- Last Day of Term 1