Friday, 13th April 2018

#### Kia ora tātou

Nature seems to have provided a clear message that the 'summer' term is over and winter terms are around the corner.

To parents of new year 9 students, I hope that the first term at Glendowie College has gone well for you and your child(ren). I hear many positives about our year 9 students from teachers and parents, and hope that your child has settled in well.



Last Saturday we ran our inaugural GDC Alumni Sports Day. My thanks to Caroline MacKenzie, Alumni Advancement Officer, and all other people who helped organise this event. It was great to see former students, recent and not so recent, join us. Teams played against our current school teams in football, touch, basketball and netball, competing for the 'Jeanette Bell Cup'. Congratulations to the Alumni who won this year's competition.

Thank you to parents who have paid all or part of the school donation. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March, we are progressing steadily towards our 2018 budget. These donations make a significant difference to the education – curricular and cocurricular that we provide to students.

Weather permitting, the redevelopment of the Quad starts this weekend. Contractors arrive tomorrow to fence off the Quad and will do the initial (noisy) demolition work over the holidays. They will then landscape the new Quad and install the new seating and garden areas through most of term 2. This means that the Quad will be unavailable to students while this work is taking place. The Parents' Association are also generously contributing to this project by supplying and planting the gardens. Fingers crossed for good weather.

Work has also begun on significant maintenance work to the old Gymnasium, with the roof and upper windows being replaced over the holiday period. This is part of the school's '5YA', i.e. our five-year Ministry funded maintenance programme.

I talked about senior students having internal assessments 'stack up' in the last newsletter. Many students will have assessments to work on over the holidays and will need to prioritise time to work on these.

It is also important that students, and parents, take time to relax. As we head into the winter terms and internal assessments keep coming, the holidays are an important chance to rest and unwind.

### **Upcoming Events:**

### April

- 14 USA Dance Trip departs
- 25 Anzac DayVietnam Trip returns
- 26 USA Dance Trip returns
- 30 Term 2 starts

#### May

- 3 Parents' Association Meeting (7pm-9pm, Staffroom)
- 5-6 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Journey
- 12-14 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Journey
- Board of Trustees Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)
- 17 2019 China Trip Information Evening (6:30pm-7:30pm, Staffroom)
- 21 Parent/Teacher/Student Conferencing (3pm-8pm)
- 23 Scholarship Breakfast Meeting (8am-9:45am, Library)
- 26 School Ball (7pm-12am)
- 29 Parent/Teacher/Student Conferencing (3pm-8pm)

(For a full list of upcoming events, please see the calendar on the college website.)

Whether you are heading away, or staying local, I wish you and your family a pleasant holiday period and safe travel if travelling out of Auckland.

Ngā mihi nui,

R Dykes Principal



## **Term 1 Reports**

Term 1 Key Competencies Reports for all students will be available on the school portal from Monday, 16 April 2018.

### **Sports Update**

#### **Rowing Maadi Cup**

Congratulations to our entire Maadi squad, coaches and supporters on an awesome regatta, and particularly to the following students who won the medals:

Silver Jamie Iro (Year 12) and Jessica McIntosh (Year 12) in the girls U17 2X

Bronze Samuel Calvert (Year 12) and Aaron Painter (Year 10) the boys novice U18 2X

In addition, the announcement of the North Island U18 trialists includes Jamie Iro (Year 12) and Olivia Hay (Year 12). A huge congratulation to both Jamie and Olivia, we wish you both the best of luck for your trial.







#### **Summer Tournment**

#### Volleyball

The Senior Girls Volleyball team headed to Palmerston North for the NZ Secondary Schools Nationals.

The girls started out splitting their opening two games before suffering three serious injuries that ruled players out for the remainder of the the tournament. The team battled through the remainder of the day shorthanded.

Reinforcements were called in and the team regrouped and finished the tournament with some great performances.



Thanks to Miss Jorgensen, Martin Hunter, Captain Kaitlyn Hunter (Year 13) and Coach Sila Saleupolu for enabling the team to experience Nationals.

#### **Boys Cricket**

Our First XI Boys played in the Auckland Senior A T20 Tournament at Avondale.



After a couple of losses early in the week, the boys finished strongly with three straight wins. While this was not enough to propel them into the final, the team did claim the scalp of the eventual winner Western Springs College.

The team was well led by captain Samuel Veal (Year 13). A huge thank you to Garry Ivill, Board Trustee, who managed the team this season and ensured the team was well looked after during the week out west.

#### Girls Cricket

Congratulations to Miss Rasmussen's Girls First XI team. The girls have finished fourth in the Auckland Premier Grade this season. This is the highest placing our girls team have achieved and a great achievement for the young team.

The team secured their position with a great win over St Kentigern College. Having been beaten by the same opponent the week previous, the girls batted first putting on 134 runs. An excellent effort in the field had the St Kentigern's team all out for 99. A pleasing way to end the season. Well done to Miss Rasmussen, Mrs Finn and the girls.

#### Baseball

The Senior Boys Baseball Team endured the arduous journey from school to Crossfield Reserve to take part in the NZSS Championship.

After battling through pool play, the team locked in a spot in the semi finals with a win over the St Kentigern's team, which beat them 11-0 earlier in the season. Coach Dan Tan would have been very pleased with this improvement.

The boys came up short post pool play, lacking the depth of power house schools Botany Downs College, One Tree Hill College and Auckland Grammar School.

#### Cricket - 'The White Cross Roll of Honour'

It has been a great season of cricket for our school teams this year, with some strong squad and individual performances across their competitions.

The 'White Cross Roll of Honour' is to recognise outstanding performances with the bat and ball from all grades of Auckland Cricket. All teams have demonstrated strong skills and sportsmanship, particularly outstanding are two 'White Cross Roll of Honour' students, Avinaash Krishnan (Year 11) for a 5 wicket bag (6-11), and Joshua Calvert (Year 9) for a hat trick. Girls' first XI Coach, Katie Gurrey, is also recognised for her 135 not out, we are certainly thankful that she is willing to share her skills with our girls.

Thank you for all the community support throughout the season, we will see you all again in term 4!

## **Climbing New Zealand – Auckland Interschools Competition**



Glendowie College had two competitors at the Climbing NZ Auckland Interschools Competition, which was held on Sunday, 8 April 2018 at Extreme Edge Glen Eden. Both Niahm Montgomery (Year 12) and Lukas Blenkinsopp (Year 13) won their respective categories. Well done Niahm and Lukas!

Mr D James, Director of Sport



## **Parents' Association Update**

With an influx of new blood comes a renewed enthusiasm in our Parents' Association. A huge thanks to Susan Keats, who stepped down recently as our Chairperson – what a fabulous job done during 2017.

Let's address a Glendowie College urban legend that a bunch of old ladies knitting and sipping tea plan your next fundraiser. The Parents' Association members are anything but boring, and are an interesting eclectic bunch of dedicated parents, staff and Board of Trustees members of both genders. Meetings are full of laughter, new ideas, debate and even chocolate. We are lucky to have the great Gordon Robertson, Deputy Principal, and a Board of Trustee representative attend all of our meetings and share



insights into what is happening around the school. The current rebuild, which is a huge project, is about to kick off in the school holidays with earthworks to prepare for the Quad redevelopment as the first step. We are often the first to know what is happening and hear about success stories and achievements of our students, and have great insight — a great reason to join our team.

So what are we actually raising money for? This year the Parents' Association aims to raise \$16,000 to fund part of the redevelopment of the Quad area, in particular the planting. Experts have designed a magical area using native plants, trees, and seating structures where all our students will be able to hang out and enjoy. Later in Term 2, we will be seeking helpers and experts to transform this area on our Planting Day.

#### What's coming up:

The Parents' Association organise some great fundraising events, but that is not all we do. We also help out behind the scenes in many ways. Each year we organise dinner for all teaching staff on one of their Parent/Teacher/Student interview nights, this year it is on Tuesday, 29 May 2018. From our school community, we seek out fabulous cooks to make meals to feed our hungry and dedicated teaching staff. Look out for our sign up page soon.

Tech ninjas have taken over and we have gone paperless, and our systems are all online which make seamless organization and communication among our group and our school community. Ticketing to all events/fundraisers this year will be done via <a href="www.trybooking.com">www.trybooking.com</a>, an online ticketing system that will make our lives and yours easy to manage, so you will be able to easily find information, attend and volunteer for any of our events/fundraisers. We look forward to your feedback on how easy this process is.

Save the date for – **Mamma Mia 2**, our next major movie event to be held on Thursday, 26 July 2018, more details to come soon.



Entertainment Books 2018/2019 will be sent home with all Year 9 and 10 students early in Term 2. This book offers many great deals and with only a couple of uses you get your money's worth. Please click here <a href="Support Us Now">Support Us Now</a> to go to our order page.

You can find us at our next meeting in the staffroom on Thursday, 3 May 2018 – see you there.

Should you wish to contact us, please email <a href="mailto:gdcparents@gmail.com">gdcparents@gmail.com</a> or visit our Facebook page to view the latest update <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/">https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/</a>

Mrs Sara Haddon, Chairperson Parents' Association



### Year 13PHE Whanganui River Trip

Buoy did the boat rock this week! From Saturday, 7 April to Wednesday, 11 April 2018, the year 13PHE class travelled down to one of New Zealand's greatest adventures: The Whanganui river.

The group of 17 students started the journey at Whakahoro on Canadian canoes and paddled 37.5km though the beautiful valley, laced with little waterfalls and rapids. We were able to learn the area's history from our two wonderful guides, Michael and Te Haumihiata Poa, who are a part of the local iwi. As the sun started to set, we arrived at the John Coull hut, where we were greeted by a roaring fire and five other people from all over the world, also there to experience what the river had to offer.

On our second day of paddling, we were able to enjoy more rapids as well as being able to stretch our legs walking to the Bridge to Nowhere. Upon arrival at the Tieke campsite, we were formally welcomed onto the land with a pōwhiri, and in return we performed a waiata and gave our koha. We all prepared and had dinner together with our new friends and their pet deer Dinky, in formal dress code of a DIY tie. That night we were all in tents which were not that comfortable given our sore backs and shoulders from the day.

On day three, we woke to the sound of thunder, lightning and torrential rain. Tāwhirimātea was not happy! The rain pounded on the ground which all filtered into the river along with debris, making it rapidly rise and turning it into a raging torrent. We had to assess our situation and after much contemplation and liaison with our guides, we decided the safest option was to put in place our evacuation plan and be taken off the river via jet boat. Even though we were disappointed that we could not fully complete the river in canoes, it was still an exhilarating way to end the trip and we were able to get out of the storm and back into to warm, dry clothes quicker. On our journey home to Auckland, we stopped to play in a crazy April snowfall, a fun way to end the trip.

Thank you to Miss Smith and Miss Barrack for putting up with us and giving us the opportunity to experience such a beautiful part of New Zealand.



Gemma Scott, Sophie Atkinson, Olivia Davies and Laura Hiskens, Year 13PHE students

## **Glendowie College Alumni Sports Day**

Alumni teams played against current school teams in netball, touch, basketball and football. The alumni teams were victorious on the day, winning 3 of the 4 games played and taking home 'The Jeanette Bell' cup. (Photos credit to Jeanette Bell, former teacher).







Mrs C MacKenzie, Alumni Advancement Officer

## **Closing the Gap**



Last Thursday, the Maori and Pasifika students met for their second student-led 'Closing the Gap' session of the year.

Students enjoyed coming together to play games, get to know each other and talk about the issues that have arisen for them over the past weeks. We discussed changing the name of the group, but students overwhelmingly voted to retain it. In their view, 'Closing the Gap' is very meaningful: communicating the idea of closing relational gaps between younger and older students; behaviour or expectation gaps between home life, church life and school; and closing gaps between students from a variety of ethnicities.

For many of our students the whanaungatanga established by the original founders of the group is perfectly encapsulated in this name.

As always, there was an opportunity for challenge at this session. This week's challenge was issued by year 9 student, Nia Fepuleai, who taught the group a Samoan sasa. Here we are learning, laughing, whooping, losing our place and feeling uncoordinated together.

'Closing the Gap' is also supported by the Tuakana Teina programme, where students form accountability relationships with each other, within their house, in order to support each other in a more personal environment. Both programmes centre on the development of whānau relationships that encourage deeper engagement and student leadership.

Mrs R Richardson, Maori & Pasifika Liaison



### **Economic Update Breakfast**



On Thursday, 5 April 2018, four Economics students, Mrs Rothbart and Mrs Harduar attended the Governance New Zealand Economic Update Breakfast to learn more about the current economic situation in New Zealand.

A variety of topics were discussed ranging from the effects of Brexit and Trump on our economy, the importance of growing opportunities and threats in trade and exports, and the new policy targets agreement that requires the Reserve Bank to consider both sustainable employment and the inflation rate when setting the OCR.

Leading economists and lawyers spoke, including Nick Tuffley, Chief Economist at ASB, Mei-Fern Johnson and Sarah Salmond, lawyers at Russell McVeagh.

Those who attended found the presentations very interesting, and we appreciated the opportunity to further extend our understanding of the economic outlook. We look forward to applying what was discussed in our work in class.

Joshua Taylor, Year 13 Student

#### **GDC Lawn Bowls Team**

Our GDC lawn bowls team competed at the Glendowie Lawn Bowls Club this week in the 'Battles Of The Bays' competition. 'The Divas' (named by Miss Webster) consisted of year 12 students Madison Clarke, Lita Owen and Talia Head, successfully won over the competition with a tough final game against Sacred Heart College.



Glendowie College, Sacred Heart and Selwyn College participants



Prizegiving - The girls received medals and a trophy presented by Peter Vodanovich, Glendowie Bowls Club Patron

Miss K Webster, Health and Physical Education Faculty

## **Outdoor Education Camps**



Last Thursday and Friday, both 12 Outdoor Education classes completed their overnight tramp as part of their Bushcraft unit.

Mr Thompson's class completed various routes on Rangitoto and Motutapu Island, whilst Mr Salmon's class took on the mighty Mt Pirongia. All students learned and developed a variety of tramping and interpersonal skills. They slept under the stars in tents and had to plan and

prepare all their food for the camp. Highlights included gazing at the stars, cooking meals and for some, just finishing the tramp was a major achievement.

Mr Thompson, Mr Salmon and all the students would like to thank Miss Hancock, Miss Vincent and Mr Ross for attending the tramps and making them possible.

Mr A Salmon, Health & Physical Education Faculty



## **Interact 2018 Easter Egg Fundraiser**

The Glendowie College Interact group has made a cracking start to the year with the completion of our annual Easter Egg fundraiser. We managed to sell a total of 1025 chocolate eggs and 275 chocolate bunnies with all of our profits made going towards the Starship Foundation!

We would not have been able to make such a great effort without all the help from our group and many teachers and staff. The Interact members were selling eggs in the Quad, walking around the school selling at intervals, labelling chocolate, and handing out massive amounts of chocolate.

The Interact Group was formerly known as the Student Council. The group has recently partnered with Rotary to form the Interact group. By partnering with Rotary, we are able to broaden our views and take on more projects and opportunities to support our local community. As a group, we aim to increase our role of supporting our local community by helping in the environment with local charities, our community as well as our school community.





Keep your eyes open for more fundraisers including Daffodil Day, where we will be raising money for the Cancer Society. We have had a great start for the year and hope to continue our upwards trend in the coming terms.

Jessica Nielsen and Tayla Clark (Year 12 Students), President and Treasurer of Interact Group 2018

## **Year 12 Accounting and Economics Trip**

Year 12 Accounting and Economics students went on their annual class trip on Tuesday, 27 March 2018. The first stop was a quick 'top up' at McDonald's before we went on to the main event — a Ports of Auckland Boat Tour. There was an informative commentary from a tour guide on the boat about the history of the Port, its present trade and growth as well as financial information on the Port's Assets and Profitability. Students had booklets to fill in and finish for their homework relating to the economic influence of the Port on the City of Auckland and New Zealand, and interpretation of the recent financial statements.









Ms N Doherty, Mathematics Faculty

## **U.S.** University Fair



For prospective students (Years 10+) and families.

U.S. University Fair Thursday, 3 May 2018 5:00pm – 7:00pm Mount Albert Grammar School

RSVP: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/us-university-fair-tickets-44241070232

This free public University Fair is an opportunity to have a face to face talk with admissions professionals about American university application requirements and financial assistance opportunities. The fair runs from 5:00pm - 7:00pm, with short presentations on each university.

Participating universities include: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hofstra University, University at Buffalo and Whitworth University.

### **GDC Communication Pathways**

Glendowie College Communication Pathways	
Portal	https://glendowie.mystudent.school.nz/  • Student Details e.g. attendance, grades / Billing / Accounts
Website	http://www.gdc.school.nz/  Calendar / General Information / Policies
GDC Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/Glendowie-College-1598323453768825/  • Current Events / News / Updates
Flickr	https://www.flickr.com/photos/138591673@N03/  Photos of School Events
Parents' Association Facebook	<ul> <li>https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/</li> <li>Parents' Association Events / Information</li> </ul>

### **Parent and Student Portal**

Both parents and students can access the 'Parent and Student Portal' through the college website (see below). Student's specific accounts (fees which have been paid or are yet to be paid) can be viewed as well as reports, attendance, daily notices, calendar and timetables.

Passwords are given to parents and students at the beginning of the year. If you have mislaid or forgotten your password, please email Brigita Kesminaite on <a href="mailto:kes@gdc.school.nz">kes@gdc.school.nz</a> for a new password.

