



Friday 17th February 2017

Kia Ora

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to our rowers who came 2nd across all schools competing in the “Head of the Harbour” regatta last weekend. This is a fantastic result as the regatta also acts as the Auckland championship.

Under the guidance of our head coach, Josh Schmidt, and the support of many volunteers, our rowers have been training and competing through the summer and are now working towards the North Island regatta and then the MAADI Cup.

Well done to everyone who involved in this programme.

Also congratulations to our boys’ First XI cricket team who have kicked off this half of the season with two wins over Papatoetoe High School and Orewa College, and to our girls’ First XI team who beat Mount Albert Grammar School on Wednesday.

School has settled into a regular routine with students in class and working hard. I am aware that there have been one or two changes to classes due to unexpected student numbers. This has affected a small number of students in years 11 and 12. These have been addressed as quickly as possible.

Thanks to everyone who involved in swimming sports on Monday and congratulations to the winning house – Europe. Go to our Facebook and Flickr pages (follow the links on our website) to see the photos of the day.

Enrolments for summer and winter sports teams are now open. They are being done online this year. If your child is unsure of how to enrol, please send him or her to the sports office (at the end of the old gymnasium) during interval or lunchtime, or email our sports staff (Jeremy Adams – adm@gdc.school.nz; Nicki Beattie – sports@gdc.school.nz) and they will help you get your child enrolled in a sport.

Alternative Facts?

It has been curious to follow US politics over the last few weeks. It has been quite a brutal and polarising time. Much of the debate is not new. Nationalism has been on the rise in Europe and was seen in the Brexit vote. ‘Fake news’ (i.e. propaganda) precedes the US election ... arguably by several hundred years.

What concerns me as an educator and parent, is how some public figures seem to play with values such as truth, respect and community to push their agenda or self-interest, and the example this sets for our young people. Often what is published in the media can seep into what our students/children believe and say.



Upcoming Events:

February

- 18-19 Duke of Ed Bronze Practice Tramp
- 20 KBB Music Evening in the Hall (6:30pm)
- 21 Parent/Form Teacher/Student Interviews (2:45pm-5pm)
- 21-22 Gateway Health & Safety Course (Years 12 & 13)
- 22 Parent/Form Teacher/Student Interviews (8:45am-4:00pm)
- 24 Athletics Day (Years 9-13)
- 25-27 Duke of Ed Silver Practice Tramp
- 27 Athletics Rain Day

March

- 1 Principal’s Cottage Meeting at Library (7pm-9pm)
- 2 Parents’ Association Meeting (7pm-9pm)
- 6-10 Summerfest
- 9 Principal’s Junior Curriculum Meeting at Library (7pm-9pm)
- 9-12 North Island Rowing Regatta
- 14 Board of Trustees & Community Meeting (7pm-9pm)
- 17-19 Harken Sailing Regatta
- 21 Taurere Whanau Group Meetings (6:30pm-9pm)
- 27-31 Summer Tournament Week
- 27Mar- Maadi Cup 2017
2Apr
- 30Mar- Auckland Cup Team Sailing
1Apr



None of us hold an absolute authority on values, but they are very important and we need to discuss them with our children.

At Glendowie College we commit to **truth**. A few years ago, the famous statistician, Hans Rosling, said “Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, they are not entitled to their own facts.” We teach various historical and scientific facts to our students. Some facts are quite black and white (e.g. there was a war) and others are overlaid with opinion (e.g. it was good that we won the war). We need to be clear about both. Truth must be based on objective reality, not just asserting an opinion loudly.

At Glendowie College we commit to **respect**. It is not okay to make a point or win an argument by belittling someone else.

At Glendowie College we commit to **community**. In our DNA we say that ‘we are family’. Being in an immediate or extended family means supporting others and their opinions, even when we do not necessarily agree. Sometimes family is great and sometimes it is not, but we stick together.

Thankfully politics in New Zealand is not so polarised, but as Benjamin Franklin warned, we must not take this liberty for granted.

In our first staff meeting of the year, I raised this with staff and said that we need to be open and transparent about our values as teachers. It is important that we articulate our DNA – our values, why we hold them and that we have a positive process for discussing them with our students.

R Dykes
Principal

Cottage Meeting

As mentioned in the last newsletter, each year I would like to make myself available to parents, existing and new to the college, to present my vision for the college and answer any questions or concerns that parents may have. I welcome you to attend this meeting.

This year the cottage meeting will take place on **Wednesday 1st March at 7pm in the library**. If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact my PA, Eliza Wong on won@gdc.school.nz to reserve a place.

The meeting will consist of a short presentation by me about the college, our annual goals and my vision for the college and its students, followed by an opportunity for parents to ask questions to me directly.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mr R Dykes, Principal



Parent / Student / Form Teacher Conferencing

Parent/Student/Form Teacher Conferencing will be held at the school on Tuesday 21st February from 2.45pm to 5.00pm and Wednesday 22nd February from 8.45am to 4.00pm.

***Students are required to accompany their parents/caregivers to the interview.
They must be in full school uniform.***

As the interviews are about their academic progress, it is important that they are part of the discussion and have a clear understanding of their progress to date and future priorities. ***Please note that the interviews will take place with EACH student regardless of whether or not a parent/caregiver is present. Form teachers will let these students know of their interview times.***

The interviews will be conducted in your child's form room and will be of 15 minutes duration. Your child can help direct you to the relevant room and there will also be staff and prefects to assist you.

- Subject Teachers are not available for these interviews. There will be the opportunity to discuss subject specific progress at the mid-year Parent/Teacher Interviews or by arrangements organised through the Form Teacher.
- School will finish at 1.40pm on Tuesday 21st February. It will be arranged for buses to be on time for the early finish.
- Classes will not run on Wednesday 22nd February.

To book Parent/Student/Form Teacher conferencing appointments:

1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz
2. Input the schools unique code **urwk7** on the Home Page, then follow the instructions.

Please note:

- There will be a few computers made available at school to students who might not have internet access at home. They can use them to make appointments.
- You can print your appointment sheets.
- You can go back and edit appointments later.
- When making appointments with other people listed as well as the Form Teacher, it is advisable to have a gap between appointments to facilitate the movement between rooms.
- **The booking website will be closed at 9am on Tuesday 21st February for the interviews. This is necessary for the teachers to prepare for interviews and to schedule time slots with students who do not have an interview time.**

Students Drop Off / Pick Up

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents that students should be dropped off / picked up at either the Mt Taylor Drive or Riddell Road entrances. Parents are requested not to drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick up their children.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Junior Curriculum (MYP)

In 2017, one of our annual goals is:

We will prepare for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) in years 9 and 10 ready to implement it by the start of 2019.

Last year, Glendowie College reviewed its junior curriculum looking at how we teach and assess students in years 9 and 10. The reasons for this review were:

- exit data from our contributing schools shows that the academic ability of students arriving at Glendowie College continues to rise, which is reflected in the ongoing improvement in NCEA results when these students reach years 11, 12 and 13
- we want to purposefully develop a more global perspective in our junior curriculum, as we are aware that many of our students will increasingly spend time overseas and interact globally
- to ensure our teaching practice continues to reflect best practice in New Zealand and around the world

Through 2016, a group of 12 staff visited schools (including our contributing schools) and conferences around New Zealand and overseas. From their research, the group came up with the following statement:

The Glendowie College junior curriculum will prepare our students to be resilient lifelong learners with the skills and values to be active and responsible global citizens.

They presented three frameworks to enhance our junior curriculum to staff, school leadership and the Board of Trustees. The College and Board of Trustees decided to proceed with the Middle Years Programme (MYP).

The MYP is a 'framework' which guides how students learn in years 9 and 10. It is overseen by the International Baccalaureate Organisation.

The College believes that the MYP approach to learning aligns well with our focus on academic excellence, holistic education, inquiry learning and a strong global perspective that prepares our students for success in NCEA, NZ Scholarship and their tertiary studies.

The MYP is an approach to teaching and learning, i.e. it is a framework that works within the New Zealand Curriculum. It defines how students learn rather than what they learn. A key aspect of the MYP is inquiry learning, which is part of the excellent learning programmes in our contributing primary schools.

Students will continue to learn the same content from the New Zealand Curriculum as they do now, preparing them for success in NCEA and beyond.

The MYP is specifically for years 9 and 10. The review only considered the junior curriculum. Glendowie College remains an NCEA school with year 11-13 students continuing to Levels 1-3 NCEA and NZ Scholarship.

It will take the college 2-3 years to plan for and implement this programme. Ideally we will start the programme in 2019.

If you would like to learn more about the Middle Years Programme, I am holding an information evening in the library on **Thursday 9th March at 7pm**.

Please contact my PA, Eliza Wong (won@gdc.school.nz) to confirm your attendance. This helps us to ensure we have a suitable venue for those who attend. I look forward to meeting with you to share our vision.

Mr R Dykes, Principal



Music Information Evening for Parents of Year 9 Students 2017



On Monday 20th February, we are holding an evening for all parents of Year 9 students to inform you of the opportunities to learn a musical instrument and voice at Glendowie College.

Many of our 10 itinerant tutors will be present at the meeting, and students will be performing to demonstrate the level of performance that we are achieving here.

Representatives from KBB Music will also be present to explain their plan for instrument hire.

Last year, 115 students took lessons, and 97 were involved in a musical group. It is our intention to enlarge the range of musical options in 2017, and this involves year 9 students.

The evening begins at 6.30pm in the Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs C Myhre, Arts Faculty

Rotary National Science and Technology Forum



For two weeks in the summer holidays, I was given the amazing opportunity to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum.

Staying at the University Hall at the University of Auckland for 14 days, with 167 other students from around the country with a passion for science and technology proved to be not only stimulating, but more fun than I could possibly have imagined. It was a privilege, not only because it was such a great opportunity and environment to learn, but also because the students were kind, fun and humble.

The purpose of the Forum is to have a taste of different science and technology courses available at University to expose us to the wide-ranging possibilities in these areas for future study and careers, and to help us make a more informed choice when choosing what to study. We had labs and lectures in 16 different fields ranging from microbiology and nutrition, to robotics and astronomy. More interesting are labs that were extra hands-on and engaging, such as dissecting lungs and hearts in biomedical science or programming robotic cars to be able to exit a maze in engineering.

The whole forum experience was a highlight, but this was also because of all other experiences outside of the academic sessions. From the insane energy at the inter-group volleyball competitions to just spending as much time as possible with so many new friends (despite almost falling asleep on our feet due to being super sleep deprived!), everything over the two weeks was an amazing once in a lifetime experience which I will never forget. If you get the opportunity to be part of the Forum in future years, I highly recommend that you grab it!

Georgia Tippet, Year 13 Student



GDC Sailing Team – Launching Ceremony of Bucklands Beach Yacht Club



The Glendowie College Premier Sailing Team were invited to attend the Launching Ceremony of Bucklands Beach Yacht Club's six new 420 yachts on Thursday 9th February.

Glendowie College Team Sailing Captain Year 13 student, Amelia Masters, was called upon to christen one of the new yachts. Amelia has been sailing since the age of 8 and been involved in School Team Sailing for 4 years.



Bruce Kendall (two time Olympic Medalist in Wind Surfing) said a few words at the Ceremony and christened the new boat named after him.

Glendowie College Premier Team then tested the new yachts out with some races against St Kents Premier and Development Teams with distinguished guests observing from the PJ Lounge while enjoying some celebratory drinks and nibbles.

The Glendowie College Team consisted of Amelia Masters, Jonathan Turnbull, Samuel Liddell, Jamie Lock, Willem Scott, Matthew Brewer, William Beauchamp and Jack Manning. It was a great start to the Team sailing season!

Ms F Smith and Mrs N Beattie, Team Sailing Managers

“Seussical” Update

We are hoping to create a colourful, crazy Dr. Suess character filled world for family fun. Set design and construction is underway. We will need parents' help with sewing and managing costumes and costume changes, publicity (posters, liaising with schools and retirement homes, T-Shirt etc), and make up. Please email Cherise Stone sto@gdc.school.nz if you can commit to any of these roles.

We have finally cast the show (mostly) and are very excited to start rehearsals. Students will be informed today (Friday) lunch time and given a contract to sign with dates and details to share with their parents.

This year's aim is that all characters and chorus members will sing and dance in styles appropriate to the music and the unique characters they are portraying. Lots of practising! We would all like the kids to be recognised in the Showdown Awards and we think this is the answer.

Key roles and people to contact:

- Christine Myhre, Music Director (musicians and singing)
- Lydia Rasmussen, Choreographer (chorus, dancers, all character movement)
- Clare Thomson, Chorus Manager (chorus characters, singing and intergrating movement)
- Cherise Stone, Director (leads, design, blocking, overseeing the show as a whole)
- Debbie Chapman, Administrator (contracts, lists, programme details etc)

We are all contactable at our school emails. Thank you for your continued support!

The “Seussical” Crew



Sports Update

Swimming

Our school Swimming Sports were held at Sacred Heart College on Monday 13th February. Well done to all our competitors and special mention to Jordan Wilson who broke school records in the Senior Boys 100m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke and 50m Butterfly. Sean Gibbs also blitzed the field in breaking the Intermediate Boys 100m Freestyle record.



Fantastic efforts by our champions for 2017, who are:

- Junior Girls - Mya Coromandel
- Junior Boys - Henry Evans
- Intermediate Girls - Alex Solly
- Intermediate Boys - Sean Gibbs
- Senior Girls - Ellissa Hunter
- Senior Boys - Jordan Wilson



At the end of a great day, it was Europe which earned the title of top House. America piped Pacific for 2nd with Asia rounding out the field.

Cricket

A great start by our GDC Cricket teams! The First XI boys have had back to back wins over Papatoetoe High and Orewa College, the Junior Boys defeated Sacred Heart last Saturday and the Girls First XI kicked off their Premier Grade season with a win over Mt Albert Grammar yesterday.

Rowing



Last Saturday, Glendowie College competed in the Auckland Regional School Championships for Rowing. All age groups were in contention to bring home medals and show the Auckland schools what we were made of. We had 8 ex-Glendowie College students take on the prestigious old boys' race, which they won and gave us more motivation and pride to do well in our own races. As a result of our efforts, we claimed 20 Division One medals which included 10 gold 3 silver and 7 bronze. Not only did we place in Division One events, we also placed in the other divisions which contributed a lot for points overall. Glendowie College as a whole came 2nd overall out of 33 schools and second by 5 points to Westlake girls for the girls' trophy.



We would like to thank family, friends, GDC staff and coaches for their support in preparation for our regattas. We now look forward to finishing the season by competing in the North island champs and Maadi Cup Nationals coming up soon. *(By Mary Rose Millett and Finlay Watson, Club Captains)*

Signs Ups and Parental Support

Thanks to those who have already signed up. Anyone who is yet to sign up, please do so as soon as possible. In addition, any parents or caregivers, who are interested in coaching or managing sports teams this year, are encouraged to contact the Sports Office.

Jeremy Adams, Sports Co-ordinator



Vietnam History Trip – April 2018



Presentation Evening
Thursday 23rd February
School Hall @ 6.30pm

We have a fantastic opportunity to take a group of students from Glendowie College to Vietnam to experience the amazing history, culture and people of this diverse land. The tour will be relevant to the History school curriculum and allow students to stand in the footsteps of history and experience places of significance first hand.

We therefore would like to invite you to a presentation which will be held in conjunction with Defining Moments, which is a specialist education tour provider. The information evening will be at the **Glendowie College on 23rd February 2017 (Thursday) at 6:30pm in the School Hall.**

The purpose of the evening will be to provide detailed information on the tour itinerary and to cover all other aspects related to the proposed tour. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation for questions. We anticipate that the presentation will be no longer than one hour.

We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Please RSVP to Ms M Simpson via email sim@gdc.school.nz by **Monday 20th February** to confirm your attendance.

Ms M Simpson, Social Science Faculty

Scholarship Parent Information Evening – 1st March 2017 (Wednesday)

What is Scholarship?

- New Zealand Scholarship provides recognition and monetary reward to top students.
- Scholarship examinations enable candidates to be assessed against challenging standards, and are demanding for the most able candidates in each subject.
- Students can sit scholarship in a subject or multiple subjects in which they are achieving highly.
- Scholarships are awarded to the top 3% of students in each subject nationally.

If you are interested in finding out more about Scholarship, please come to a presentation in the school library at 7pm on Wednesday 1st March 2017.

Mrs S Hewetson, Deputy Principal



Student Council Leadership Team

As the teacher in charge of the Student Council, it is my privilege and honour to thank everyone who helped throughout the 2016 school year with any, or indeed all, of the student council events. It was great to see further growth in participation and enthusiasm when it came to various fundraisers.

With the new year, a new student leadership team has been formed. On Tuesday this week elections were held to select new leadership for the Student Council. It is up to the students to come up with agendas and strive towards excellence, which is something that is engrained in the Glendowie College fabric.

It is therefore with great joy that I announce the following four students as the leaders of the Student Council for 2017. Congratulations!

Chairperson

Deanna Louis (12CGN)

Secretary

Tyler Sullivan (12CGN)

Vice Chairperson

Jamie Martin (12CGN)

Treasurer

Adam Mangnall (12CHS)

Mr H So, Student Council Teacher-in-Charge

Fundraising – Car Wash

Does your car need a wash? If your answer is yes, then



Bring your car down to Placemakers on Lunn Avenue, Mount Wellington this Saturday 18th February from 10am to 4pm where students from the Glendowie College Antipodeans Group will be washing cars to fundraise for their trip to Tanzania and Zanzibar.

The cost of the car wash is a very reasonable at \$10 per car and \$15 for large cars.

Thanks for your support in advance, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Ms F Smith, Year 12 Dean

Mrs Kay Harris (ex. GDC Teacher)

We were sad to hear of the sudden and unexpected death of Mrs Kay Harris' husband, Michael Harris, on 6th February 2017. A number of staff and myself attended his funeral last week.

Our condolences and sympathy go to Kay Harris, her son Daniel Harris (a former student of Glendowie College) and the extended Harris family on their loss of a beloved husband, father and family member.

Mr R Dykes, Principal



Concert Band Fundraising Garden Party at "Ayrlires"

GLENDOWIE COLLEGE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS

Music at Ayrlires Gardens



11am to 3pm
Sunday 19th March

 **\$25**

125 Potts Road, Whitford (Event for ages 12 and over)

**Proceeds towards attendance at
Sydney International Music Festival**

Enjoy great food, live music and explore the stunning surroundings

Pre-order a concert lunch box, BYO picnic or purchase refreshments on site

Raffles and door prizes to be won

To book, email gdcayrlires@gmail.com or see the Music Office at Glendowie College

On Sunday 19th March, we are holding a fundraising event at "Ayrlires", 125 Potts Road, Whitford, Auckland.

Ayrlires website: www.ayrlires.co.nz will enable you to view images of some of the garden. For map and directions, please visit this link: <https://www.google.co.nz/maps/place/Ayrlires+Garden>

For further information and enquiries, please contact gdcayrlires@gmail.com

Mrs C Myhre, Arts Faculty



Corban Tupou (ex. Glendowie College student)



Corban Tupou, one of our Year 13s in 2015, has entered the Discovery Intern Competition.

It all started at GDC, photographing and video school events, just a fun interest and look where its leading.....a possible life changing Internship travelling the world, and an amazing opportunity for a young man who has never been overseas yet!!

50,000 entrants, submitting a photo and gathering the most votes for their photo via facebook. Corban has made it through and now fighting to make the top 5 who will be interviewed for the job!! Currently close behind 5th in 6th place, so it would be awesome if everyone could take a few seconds to place their 10 votes every day until this Sunday.

If you're on Facebook, simply click on the following link, and search for Corban's photos, then vote 10 times daily, every vote will put you in the draw to win \$1000. Voting closes at midnight on Sunday 19th February, so Corban does not have long to get the votes he needs.

<https://discoverychannel-intern-rd2.runcompetitions.com.au/>

To all those students with a casual interest in photography and videoing, keep it up as you never know where it will lead you!!



What's on his sweatshirt in the photos?? GDC!!

Mr G Robertson, Deputy Principal

School Students save on Travel with an AT HOP Card

AT HOP is a reusable prepay smart card for travel on trains, ferries and buses around Auckland. Students can save \$100 a term by loading a Child fare concession on their AT HOP card. To apply, parents need to buy and register an AT HOP card for their child. Children under 5 years of age travel free when accompanied by a fare paying passenger.

To download the poster, please click <http://engage.ubiquity.co.nz/mail/link/A9lfNgse4yDRYbRMWHbCDA>

Should you need more information, please feel free to contact the AT HOP team at info@athop.co.nz or on (09) 366 4467.