



GDC ALUMNI

October 2019

The Principal's Desk

Kia ora Alumni,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good health. It was wonderful to meet many of our 1960's alumni at their mini-reunion in August, and to hear stories about the school back in the sixties.

The school is certainly changing. We currently have three major construction projects under way - a new weights room, new garages, and an 11-classroom Science Block. The new weights room is being built on the north side of the Moore Gym and will be open for use by the start of 2020. The new Science Block is going between the Adams (Technology) block and the tennis courts, and will open in January 2021.

We are already planning for our next major project which will focus on supporting the wider learning and wellbeing needs of our students. We are currently in discussion with the Ministry and will provide more information when we have a confirmed plan.

Earlier this year I was fortunate to travel to Canada, USA and the UK on a Woolf Fisher Fellowship. I enjoy visiting schools across Canada and in London, and learning how they compare with New Zealand schools. I was impressed with the coherence of the Canadian education system, which enjoys a high level of trust between the central administration and schools. If only that were more true of New Zealand.

The trip emphasised to me the importance of employing quality staff and trusting them to get on with their job and do it well. I took the opportunity to recruit for new staff in the UK as the teacher supply crisis is ongoing. Thankfully Glendowie is well placed for 2020, with a full faculty of well qualified staff.

I acknowledge the work of Gordon Robertson (Deputy Principal) who ably leads the college in my absence.

The education environment remains in flux with multiple reviews, such as the recently announced review of NCEA. Along with other similar schools, Glendowie College has decided to drop Level 1 NCEA (School Certificate) from 2021 onwards. Over 90% of our students now remain through to Year 13 (Form 7) and leave with Level 3 NCEA (Bursary). This makes Level 1 NCEA redundant for our students. This decision will mean students have more time at school and our staff have the space to better prepare them for the more important Levels 2 and 3 NCEA.

Through the myriad of education reviews, our staff and students continue to excel. We had an exemplary winter tournament. Our 1st XI Girls' football team won their tournament in Whangarei, our Underwater Hockey teams coming back as the top school in the country, our Boy's 1st XI hockey team placed 3rd, and the other teams also gained very positive results. I'm very proud of our students' achievement, and thank the many coaches, managers and volunteers who make this possible.

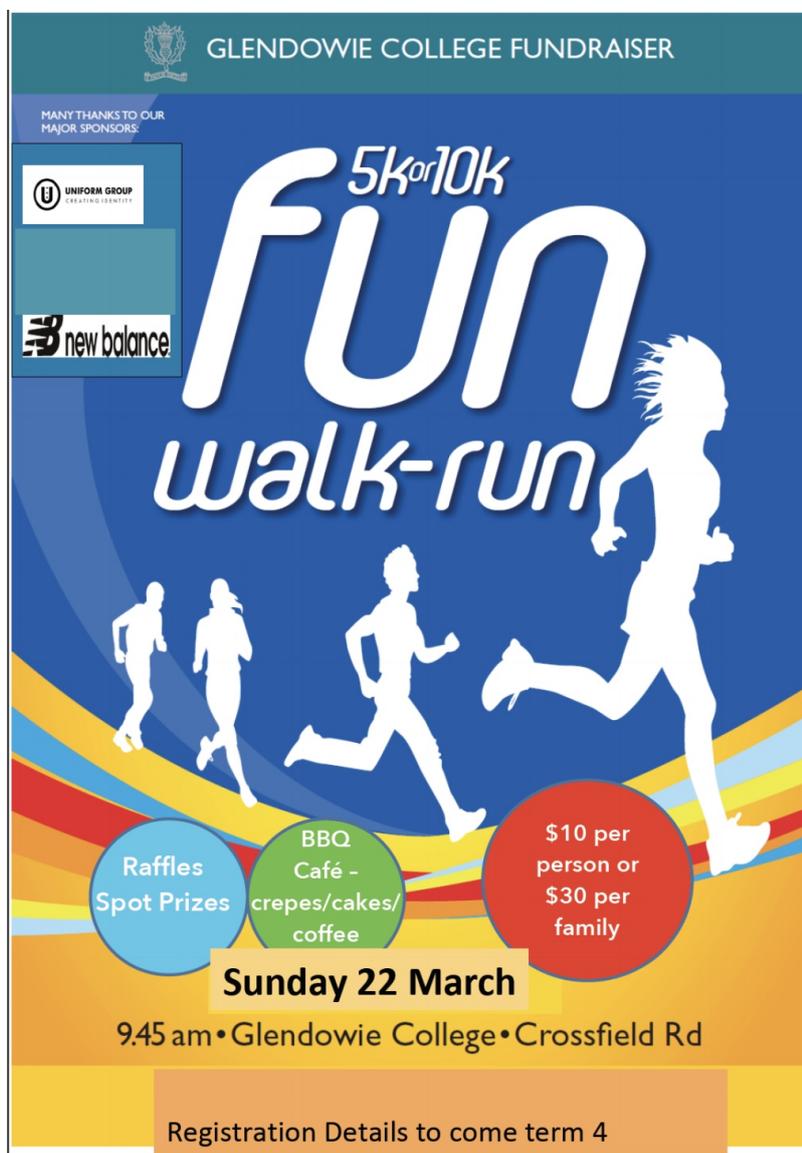
Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards,
Richard Dykes
Principal

Coming up...

- 2019 Leavers' Morning Tea, November 1
- 2020 Glendowie College Fun Run, Sunday March 22

All Alumni are invited to join in the 2020 College Fun Run

More details to come next term...



The poster features a blue background with white silhouettes of four runners of varying sizes. At the bottom, there are three circular callouts: a blue one for 'Raffles Spot Prizes', a green one for 'BBQ Café - crepes/cakes/coffee', and a red one for '\$10 per person or \$30 per family'. The event date and location are listed below these circles. The top of the poster includes the college crest and the text 'GLENLOWIE COLLEGE FUNDRAISER'. On the left side, there are logos for 'UNIFORM GROUP' and 'new balance'.

GLENLOWIE COLLEGE FUNDRAISER

MANY THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS:

UNIFORM GROUP
CREATING IDENTITY

new balance

5k or 10k
Fun
walk-run

Raffles
Spot Prizes

BBQ
Café -
crepes/cakes/
coffee

\$10 per
person or
\$30 per
family

Sunday 22 March
9.45 am • Glendowie College • Crossfield Rd

Registration Details to come term 4

Stay in touch...

Find us on Facebook - Glendowie College Alumni

[Link to Facebook group](#)

and on Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/gdcalumni>

Alumni News

1960's DECADE REUNION

On the evening of Friday, August 16, the college hall was alive with the sounds of 1960's Alumni reuniting. What an amazing night! It was fantastic to see so many past students connecting again — upwards of 160 Alumni from the 1960s were present.

We had seven Alumni travel from Australia, one from the USA and more than 20 from outside Auckland. Many former students hadn't seen each other for years, even decades. It was wonderful to hear all the stories of days gone by and see people so delighted to catch up.

Thank you to 1960's alumni Brian Maginness for all his successful networking to make sure everyone knew about the reunion; to Deputy Principal Sharon Hewetson and Principal Richard Dykes for supporting the growth of the Alumni and all Sharon's hard work on the night; to current and former students Tom Kinley, Jacob Smith, Holly Van der Merwe, Maggie Gibson, Emma Hewetson and Alex Reid for their help with the and serving; and especially to all the 1960's Alumni who made the effort to come along and enjoy the night many of whom also made a donation to the school.

We look forward to seeing the Alumni again at future events.





ALUMNI FEATURE AT UNDERWATER HOCKEY WORLDS

Current and former Glendowie College students played starring roles in New Zealand teams competing at Age Group World Underwater Hockey championships in Sheffield, UK recently.

Current student Jackson Godfrey and recent Alumni Will Heaps played for the Under 19 Men's team, winning gold, with Jackson picking up the player of the tournament award.

Alumni Alyshia Samuel played for the Under 24 women and also won gold with her team. Campbell Blake, and Clark and Joel Samuel all played for the Under 24 men's team and won bronze. The Under 19 Women's team also won gold.



CLASS OF '99 REUNITE

More than 40 Glendowie College alumni who graduated in 1999 got together recently to celebrate their 20-year anniversary. A great time was had by all. Thanks for the photo Aidan Salmon.



Keep us in touch with your news and send updates to alumni@gdc.school.nz

Then and Now...

1971 top netball team versus 2019 top netball team



GLENDOWIE COLLEGE
NETBALL — Team 1
BACK ROW: J. Larsen, V. Kurta, J. Boggs.
MIDDLE ROW: J. Laver, Miss Wood, R. Elvey.
FRONT ROW: S. Brady, P. Seagar, M. Lakes.



School news

COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

The final phase of the sporting facilities upgrade is now underway with work beginning on the new weights room on the north side of the Moore Gym. Building work is expected to be completed before the end of term and the room will be fully kitted out and ready for action by the beginning of 2020. Construction has also begun on the new science block, expected to be ready to hold science classes in 20



FESTIVAL OF ARTS

Term 3 was an extremely busy one for the college arts faculty. It began with the Annual Musical Gala Concert *He Whakaari Puoro* on August 6, where the audience was treated to many musical performances by soloists and college bands.

This was followed by a Dance Showcase later in the term that featured work from more than 80 year 9-13 students performing both curricular and co-curricular performances across contemporary, jazz and cultural forms of dance.

The drama department also presented Dramafest, a annual festival of plays from students in years 10-13. More than 100 students took the stage over nine nights.

Finally, a highlight was the annual KBB festival where three Glendowie College bands earned medals: silver for The Concert Band and Big Band; and bronze for The String Ensemble Band.



SPORTING SUCCESS

It was also a huge term for Glendowie College sport with Winter Tournament featuring large. The Glendowie College teams turned in the best set of results ever: The girls' IX football team won their tournament in Whangarei, with the boys coming eighth in Taupo; both junior and senior boys' underwater hockey teams placed second in Wellington with Jackson Godfrey named player of the tournament; the boys first IX hockey team were placed third in Pukekohe, while the girls came seventh in Levin; the premier netball team came 13th in the B grade Upper North Island Secondary Schools Championship, their best result ever; and a small team of three won a silver and two bronze medals at the New Zealand secondary schools swimming championship. Meanwhile Aiden Beauchamp travelled to China with six other kiwi sailors to represent New Zealand at the 11th Qingdao International Optimist Sailing Regatta, which he described as an amazing experience. Aiden came 12th out of 63 boats.



BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY KUDOS



A Glendowie College interdisciplinary (Business Studies/Creative Digital Technologies) team has been enjoying success with its Young Enterprise Scheme “CloudMass” project. The project is developing a miniature track device to help with consented care and monitoring of demential patients in a way that ensures the safety of the patient while allowing them freedom in their daily lives. The team was selected as one of five to work on the “Global Kaitiakitanga Project” that provides the directors with 14 months of mentoring and one team member, Adam Jonkers, will travel to Thailand to explore how they can make their product more sustainable.

Another director, Sean Gibbs, travelled to Argentina in July, as part of the programme, sponsored by the Latin American Centre of Asia Pacific Excellence, to learn more about business and forge global connections.

Would you like to help us stay in touch?

We are looking for a key person from each year (1961 - 2018) to be involved with promoting the alumni events. If you are interested, please contact Nico at alumni@gdc.school.nz

Spread the Word

If you are in contact with other ex-students

please forward them this newsletter or the link to join our growing Alumni



Find us on Facebook

Glendowie College Alumni



Find us on Instagram



Thank you for being part of the Glendowie College Alumni
We look forward to staying connected
alumni@gdc.school.nz