



Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## Tena koutou katoa

The first part of this message was written prior to the news that Auckland would move to Covid-19 Level 3 and schools would be closed. However, I have retained the message because I think the sentiments expressed are possibly even more valid. The college staff are committed to working in the best interests of our students no matter the circumstances in which we have to teach.



The newsletter has included a number of calendared events that will only be possible if we move to Level 1 or Level 2. With the current uncertainty, we have decided to promote the events in case they are able to take place.

I have been humbled by the best wishes from students, parents, alumni and staff on my appointment as the seventh Principal of Glendowie College. Having been in the Acting Principal role for the past ten weeks, I have come to appreciate the supportive nature of the Board of Trustees, staff, students and the community in general.

My educational philosophy is quite simple. There is a three-way partnership between the college, parents and the student. The purpose of that partnership is to work together in the best interests of the student – academically, pastorally, in co-curricular areas and becoming a positive, caring citizen. Over time, the college and parents continue to offer guidance but step back, so that the student becomes a responsible independent self-motivated adult.

Having been a member of the school community since 1986, I have seen growth and a lot of changes. When I was interviewed way back then by John Somerville, the Principal, he described Glendowie College as “a country school in the city.” He wasn’t referring to the size, but rather the sense of community. That sense of community is something that still exists today and is very important to the culture of the school.

I am very proud to be the new Principal of this wonderful college. I want us to maintain our strong academic results, the high level of participation in co-curricular activities and the willingness of our students to be of service in the community. Given the current times, it is important that the college provides consistency and certainty for our young people so that it is a place where they feel safe and enjoy attending. As such, our existing goals and priorities will continue.

I look forward to my ongoing involvement with parents and your children.

## Upcoming Events

*Please note these events are subject to change based on the government’s lockdown status announcement.*

### August

- 17      Dramafest – Year 10 Drama  
‘What an Ass Can Do’  
(5:30pm-7:30pm, Drama Room)
- 19-20    Dramafest – Year 11 Drama  
‘O.U.T. Spells Out’  
(6pm-8pm, Drama Room)
- 24-25    Dramafest – Year 12 Drama  
‘The Fridge’  
(6pm-8pm, Drama Room)
- 24      Sports Wellbeing Evening  
(6:15pm-7:30pm, Old Gym)
- 26      Annual Musical Gala Concert  
(7:30pm-10pm, Hall)
- 27      Taurere Whanau Meeting  
(6:30pm-8:30pm, Staffroom)
- 27      Dramafest – Year 10 Drama  
‘Zucchini Tom’  
(6pm-8pm, Drama Room)
- 31-4Sep Winter Tournament Week  
(All Day)

### September

- 3-6      Underwater Hockey Nationals  
(West Wave)
- 3      Parents Association Meeting  
(7pm-8pm, Staffroom)

(For a full list of upcoming events, please visit the [calendar](#) on the college website.)



### **Covid-19 Level 3**

At the time of writing this message for the Principal's newsletter, it is unclear when students will be able to return to school and if they are, at what Level that will be.

I would like to assure you that the Senior Leadership Team have been planning for all eventualities. If Level 3 were to continue or we were to move to Level 4, the college would return to online learning. The details will be posted on the college website as well as emailed to parents and students.

If the move is to Level 2, students will be able to return to school, but there will be some organizational changes to meet social distancing and other health and safety requirements. This may impact on some school events and co-curricular activities.

The uncertainty is challenging for all. It is important that we have structures in place to enable the students to learn and to keep them safe.

Ngā mihi nui,  
**Gordon Robertson**  
Principal

## **Board of Trustees Update**

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### **Gordon Robertson – Our New Principal**

History was made this week with the appointment of Gordon Robertson as Glendowie College's seventh Principal. The all-round response to Gordon's appointment has been overwhelmingly positive: from the cheers and standing ovation Gordon received from staff; to the clapping and cheers from students in their classrooms when student trustee, Laura Oh, advised the school over the intercom; to the social media comments, likes and love hearts(!); and the positive emails from many parents in response to the Board's email announcement.

Congratulations, Mr Robertson – the students, staff, community and Board of Trustees of Glendowie College have made it clear that you have our confidence and support.

### **School Donations**

On a far less positive note, the school has taken a big hit to its finances with the drop in international student enrolments, with no immediate improvement likely for this major source of our funding. In addition, we have seen a slump in the payment of school donations. Your donations pay for many of the extras the school offers our students. The Ministry of Education will not come to the school's rescue, so staff will need to prioritise which activities and services will stay, and which will have to go.

Our sincere thanks to those families who have paid the school donation this year. We respectfully ask parents who haven't paid to consider making the payment. We do not want to reduce what Glendowie College offers students, but without parent financial support the sad fact is that we will have to work within our means.

***Mr Garry Ivill, Chairperson Board of Trustees***



## School Statements

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School statements were sent out on Tuesday, 4 August 2020. Please check your SPAM/JUNK folder if you did not receive your statement as it might have dropped into one of these folders.

If you have any CREDIT available and wish to use it, please email Mrs Bernadette Hyde on [hyd@gdc.school.nz](mailto:hyd@gdc.school.nz).

Please also be reminded that payments can be made through the portal. If your son/daughter is **taking a partner to the ball or using the bus service**, please inform Mrs Hyde via email, so that she can adjust the amount owing for this.

*Mrs Bernadette Hyde, Accounts Receivable*

## Using Social Media Responsibly

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"We've all heard the social media horror stories – cyberbullying, predators, school stand downs... and the list goes on." *from SmartSocial.com*.

If you are interested in speaking to your child(ren) about using social media sites safely and responsibly, such as TikTok, Instagram, Twitter etc., 'SmartSocial', an organisation, has recently provided some videos and safety tips that you may be interested in using for this purpose. Provided below is a link to this website.

25 Easy Tips for Using Social Media Responsibly: <https://bit.ly/3iqoHLP>

*Ms Vicki Mercer, ICT Manager*

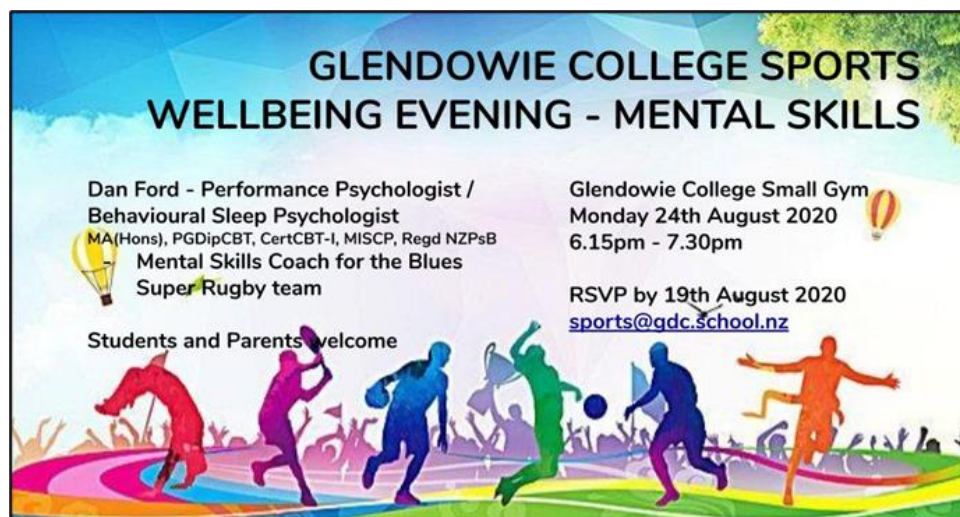
## Sports Wellbeing Event – 24 August 2020 (Monday)

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Does your child:

- get stressed before a game?
- feel pressure to make the right decisions while playing?
- struggle to cope when they make a mistake?

Let's give them the tools to help, come and join the Glendowie College Sports Department for their second 'Sports Wellbeing' Event.



*Mrs Lydia Brown, Director of Sports*

phone: +64 9 575 9128

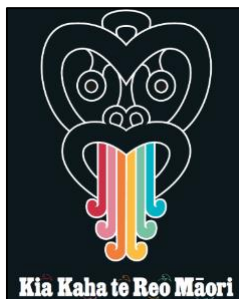
email: [info@gdc.school.nz](mailto:info@gdc.school.nz)

website: [www.gdc.school.nz](http://www.gdc.school.nz)





## Kura Pō Māori



Yaaay, Māori night classes are starting again! If you are interested in continuing your Māori language learning journey - Nau mai Haere mai – Come along!

If you were not able to come before and would like to join now - Nau mai Haere mai - you are very welcome to join us!



**When:** Tuesday Nights, 6pm – 7pm

**Where:** College Staff Room

**Focus:** Conversational Te Reo Māori & learning language features in different context

If you have any questions or if you need a little encouragement, please contact Melisa at:

[che@gdc.school.nz](mailto:che@gdc.school.nz)

**Hei kōnā**

**Melisa Chase**

**Kaiako - Reo Māori, Tikanga-a-Iwi & Kura Pō**

**(Teacher - Te Reo Māori, Social Science & Night Classes)**

## Dramafest

Dramafest runs from Week 3 to Week 6 this term. The Year 10 to 13 Drama classes have been working hard to produce class plays, which will be presented in the annual Dramafest.

Posters, which provide more details about what is on and when, have been put up around the school and are also on the **GDC\_Arts** Instagram.

All performances will be held in the Drama Room (M1) and entry is by koha (except for the Year 13 play, which costs \$5).

Come along to as many performances as you like and support our GDC actors!

**Ms Clare Jennings**

**Faculty Leader Arts**

**Dramafest 2020**

Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
13Drama Love and Information Tues 4th / Wed 5th 6pm	11Drama (THM) Absent Friends Wed 12th / Thu 13th 6pm	10Drama (THM) What an Ass Can Do Mon 17th 5.30pm	12Drama The Fridge Mon 24th / Tues 25th 6pm
		11DRA (HUM) O.U.T Spells Out Wed 19th / Thu 20th 6pm	10DRA (HUM) Zucchini Tom Thu 27th 6pm

All performances in the Drama Room (M1)  
Entry by koha (except 13DRA: \$5)



## Prefects Formal Friday



This term our Glendowie College Prefects are having a 'Formal Friday'. This is a way of celebrating their leadership in the school and as role models for all our students. The work and initiatives that our Prefects have been doing benefits the students and supports the teachers whilst developing a range of valuable leadership attributes.

**The Tuakana-Teina and Sports Prefects** have run a very popular and successful inter-house netball competition for our year 9 students, and this week the year 10s are battling it out on our courts during lunchtimes. **The Events Prefects**, with Mrs Rothbart, have been planning and organising the ball which is

fast approaching. **Our Service Prefects** in each house have been leading their charity events and fundraising to support their chosen charities in our community. Currently Rūaumoko is collecting family packages of food and non-perishable items for the Auckland City Mission. **The Academic Prefect team** has implemented an extensive tutoring programme for students to drop in or have one on one support to help their progress across all subjects. **The 'Year 13' prefects** are organising the leavers jumpers and the leavers book. Lastly **the Kaitiaki Prefects** are leading and supporting their houses to prepare for the haka and waiata competition.

I would like to thank our amazing young leaders for the contribution they are making to our school community.

*Mrs Sharon Hewetson, Deputy Principal*

## KATTI 2020 – Kei a tātou te Ihi



On Thursday 6 August 2020, Ava Franklin (12SHJ), Theo Thompson-Rikys (12PVN), Hope Makiri-Hennings (12SOE), Caleb Jarvis (12MKA) and Camryn Young (12PVN), along with Whaea Melisa Chase, attended the Kei ā tātou te ihi (KATTI Career Development Programme).

The programme was held at Te Whare Wananga o Aotearoa and was attended by many schools including Tamaki College, Baradene College, Orewa High School and Westlake Boys High School. We learnt how to 'Hikina te Manuka' – 'Take up the Opportunity'. Whilst walking up mattress mountains

blindfolded and crawling under tables, we learnt how to trust one another. This experience was valuable in showing us the importance of leadership and how to socialise with others. KATTI 2020 taught us to 'Take up the Opportunity' and to be proud Māori leaders.

*Camryn Young (12PVN)*







## Auckland Schools Snowboarding Championships

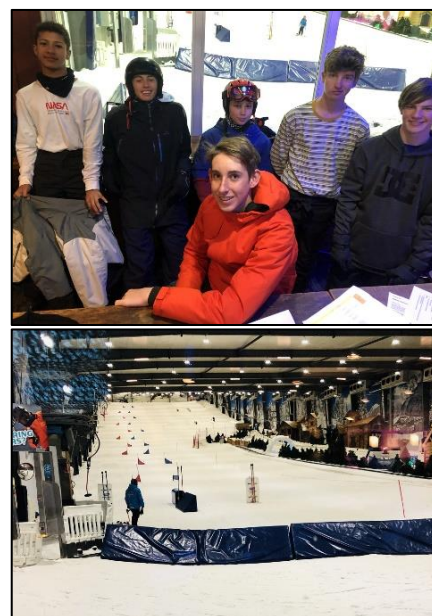
A team of three senior and three junior Snowboarders from Glendowie College participated in the Auckland Schools Championships on Thursday 9 June 2020.

- Samuel Luff (11SHH)
- Ari Zwitter (11SHH)
- Lachlan Potter (11THM)
- Joe Dawes (9LEW)
- Edward Smit (9LEW)
- Matthew Wake (9SOH)

All our students competed in three events – ‘Race Slalom’, ‘Dual Slalom’ and ‘Slopestyle’.

It was our first time participating in this event and we were delighted to be awarded third place in the ‘Overall Team’ result.

Special commendation to Edward Smit, who placed 1st for Junior Boys in the ‘Race Slalom’ and 10<sup>th</sup> in ‘Slopestyle’, and Samuel Luff who placed 9<sup>th</sup> in Senior ‘Slopestyle’ and ‘Race Slalom’ as well as making it through to the hard fought penultimate third round of the ‘Dual Slalom’, where he was knocked out by the eventual event winner.



Special thanks to Lorna Luff, who volunteered her time and energy, and helped make the day so successful.

**Mrs Sarrah Shapley, Snowsports Coordinator**

## Student Success – ‘Change of Command’

On Thursday 6 August 2020, my cadet unit ‘TS Achilles’ which is based in Orakei Bay had a special parade night called the ‘Change of Command’. The parade was held for the CUCDR LTCDR Walecki, who has been the ‘TS Achilles’ Unit Commander for the past 3 years. LTCDR Walecki has been given the opportunity of a different role which will require him to move away from the unit and give up his role as Unit Commander, handing it on to the next in line – LTCDR Belcourt. Many special guests attended the parade, and the majority were officers within the cadet and defence forces. The main officer who helped hand over the roles was the Chief of Navy, David Proctor.

Apart from standing up looking smart during the night, my main contribution was to help teach my peers the Ka Mate haka, so that we could perform this as a unit to farewell LTCDR Walecki. It is tapu that a female leads a male haka, but I was chosen as the person who knew it well and could best lead our unit. Many of the officers noticed this, especially the Chief of Navy, who later came up to me and shook my hand whilst passing me his coin (shown in the photos). The coin has ‘Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral David Proctor’ shown on the front and ‘Royal New Zealand Navy, Te taua moana O Aotearoa’ written on the back. It was a lovely surprise when he gave me this coin for standing out during the squad uniform check and for my leadership in the haka. The coin is unique, and now it has been passed onto me forever, to hold onto and cherish. I am very honoured and thankful for this unexpected gift.



**Hope Makiri-Hennings (12SOE)**



## Blue Light (July 2020) – Life Skills & Leadership Programme



Blue Light has been a registered charity for 30 years. In partnership with the NZ Defence Force they run programmes which aim to empower young people, and which focus on leadership training, practical skills and building self-confidence.

In July, five senior students, Anthony Pome'e (12IFR), Faaiua Matagitau (13CLO), Alyona Derecha (12SHJ), Dominic Baylis (12TID) and Rotem Einhar (12HCK), attended a week-long Blue Light camp at Whenuapai airbase.

Blue Light utilises the camp format frequently, as research has shown that activity-based education during camps are an ideal vehicle to develop young people.

Alyona Derecha, one of the attendees, commented that "Blue Light was a wonderful experience... I wouldn't trade this experience for anything, it helped me personally with clearing up my career choices and I got to learn many essential skills which will help me later in life". She said, "At times it was really hard when it was freezing, but we still had to do our drill... we were all in it together and that helped us through". Another highlight of the course for her was to meet people from different walks of life from all over New Zealand.

At the end of the camp, a formal ceremony was held which was attended by the Police, Defence Force, Blue Light staff and participants' families.

Glendowie College sends approximately 10 students each year and many are considering careers in services such as the Airforce, Army, Navy or the NZ Police.

**Ms Alexandra (Alex) Lonergan, Gateway Coordinator & Careers Advisor**

## TaiWhenua Update



On 30 July 2020, TaiWhenua Directors, Holly Timmins (12TID), Ethan Bakkerus (12MKA) and Vanessa Dinh (12MKA), attended the Young Enterprise markets at AUT campus. Although the day started with a few mishaps with the stalls' structural integrity, TaiWhenua had the opportunity to spread awareness about their ideas and gain important and valuable contacts.

On 6 August 2020, Holly Timmins and Ethan Bakkerus were privileged to attend the 'Westpac 2020 Best of the Best Business Awards'. The night was full of celebrations for the achievements of New Zealand businesses, and was very enjoyable and inspiring.

TaiWhenua would like to thank the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) for providing them with the opportunity to experience this wonderful and insightful event.

**Holly Timmins (12TID)**







## Year 11 Economics Trip – Chelsea Bay Sugar Refinery Visit



The aim of our Year 11 Economics trip to Chelsea Bay Sugar Refinery was to help us understand the interdependent relationships between different sectors in the New Zealand economy for our next internal assessment.



Our trip was split up into three main activities: a factory tour; a baking class and the interactive room. My group started with the factory tour where we were driven around in a tractor disguised as a train. We stopped at various areas in the factory, such as the raw sugar storage and the melting room.

We were fascinated to learn that the factory is operated by only three people who manage and oversee operations from computer screens! We went to the baking area in the amazing test kitchen, where we made some delicious yoyos by following an easy Chelsea recipe. We also learnt the history of the refinery and how raw materials are processed in the interactive room.

We all appreciated the trip and are very thankful to our Year 11 Economics teachers, Mr James and Ms Sawyer, who made the trip possible.

**Angus Monro (11NAI)**

## P.I.L.O.T (Pacific Island Leaders Of Tomorrow)

On 11 August 2020, four Year 12 Glendowie students, Holly Timmins (12TID), Ariana Alves-Culley (12SHJ), Jaxson Murphy (12SOE) and Ana Mapa (12SOE), went to a P.I.L.O.T (Pacific Island Leaders of Tomorrow) programme held at Unitec. 21 schools from around Auckland attended the programme which focussed on leadership. The purpose of the programme was to empower us to learn what it takes to be a LEADER in everything that we do. We descend from a history of greatness and we are gifted to navigate the challenges ahead.

Essendon Tuitupou, Social Entrepreneur, was the guest speaker. Essendon spoke to us about being able to be great in our community without the need for credit or praise. He said that "Success for me is knowing my values and being comfortable with them. Understanding this will guarantee success in whatever you pursue." Following his presentation, we were split into three groups and attended three workshops, all with the purpose of teaching us the importance of leadership among Pacific Island students and that we are all capable of greatness.

Overall, it was a great learning and socialising experience. The four GDC students who attended this programme are aiming to be Pacific Island Leaders of TODAY and TOMORROW.

**Ana Mapa (12SOE), Ariana Alves-Culley (12SHJ), Holly Timmins (12TID) and Jaxson Murphy (12SOE)**

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email: [info@gdc.school.nz](mailto:info@gdc.school.nz)

website: [www.gdc.school.nz](http://www.gdc.school.nz)







## Parents' Association

### Entertainment Book 2020/2021

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Have more fun with 2-for-1 offers of bowling, laser tag, trampolining and the aquarium!
- UP TO \$60 OFF DINING**  
Ditch the dishes and dine for less during these school holidays.

To order, please click this link:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/102r353>



Are you looking for a way to give a little back? By giving just a few hours each term, you can be a PA star! It's easy – a couple of meetings each term, help out at a few events, eat cakes and chit chat with other parents, senior staff and Board of Trustee members about life at Glendowie College. Many hands make light work!

No applications are required, simply email: [gdcparents@gmail.com](mailto:gdcparents@gmail.com) to join us. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3 September 2020, 7:00pm – 8:00pm in College Staffroom.** All new members are welcome.

**Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson**

<https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/> or [Gdcparents@gmail.com](mailto:Gdcparents@gmail.com)

phone: +64 9 575 9128

email: [info@gdc.school.nz](mailto:info@gdc.school.nz)

website: [www.gdc.school.nz](http://www.gdc.school.nz)