



Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## Kia Ora Tātou

This week marks the first anniversary of my appointment as the seventh Principal of Glendowie College. Last year the appointment was announced on the Monday and 24 hours later we went into lockdown on the Tuesday evening. I have an overwhelming sense of déjà vu as the same has happened again.

I originally wrote this newsletter message prior to Tuesday and was going to reflect on the last year. Instead my message will now be quite similar to that written a year ago.

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. Online learning for students is up and running. The plan has been emailed to both parents and students. It is also on the college website. It has been designed for students to follow their normal timetable but with flexibility if students have to prioritise time on assessments or other priority work. If your child(ren) is/are unsure what to do or where to start, ask them what subject they normally have at this time of day and to go on the Google Classroom for that subject.

We are mindful how difficult lockdown can be for parents and students. We want learning to continue as much as usual in these changed circumstances, but the priority has to be the students' wellbeing. If some compromises need to be made to ensure wellbeing is maintained, then so be it. If you need support from college staff, the online learning plan has suggested staff for you to contact. Our focus as always will be to support the learning, safety and wellbeing of our students and we continue to be here to support you as well.

Under Level 4 restrictions, staff and students are not permitted to access the college. We are aware that some students have practical work and resources they need to use. The Ministry is currently looking at protocols, so an exemption to allow access can be granted. When the exemption is given, we will organise ways students can get the resources and equipment they need in a safe manner.

Despite the challenges last year and this week has brought, I still consider myself privileged and fortunate to be Principal of Glendowie College. I am reminded daily of the talents and positive qualities our students possess. I am immensely proud of our staff and how they are endeavouring to produce the best learning outcomes for our students. The efforts of the past few days exemplify this. We have a supportive Board and a community that wants what is best for the college and its students. This is a great place to be.

Ngā mihi nui

**Gordon Robertson**  
Principal



## Upcoming Events:

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

### August

- 24 Rowing Season Introduction Evening (7pm-8:30pm, Staffroom)
- 24-25 Dramafest – Year 11 & Year 12 (Drama Room)
- 26 Parents' Association Meeting (7pm-8pm, Boardroom)
- 26 Taurere Whānau Group Meeting (6:30pm-8:30pm, Staffroom)
- 30-3 Sept Winter Tournament Week

### September

- 2 Parents' Association Meeting (7pm-8pm, Boardroom)
- 7 Year 12 & Year 13 Parent/Subject Teacher/ Student Interviews (2:40pm-6:45pm)
- 8 Dance Showcase (7pm-9pm, Hall)
- 10 Senior Music Performance Evening (7pm-9pm, Hall)
- 15-21 Year 12 & 13 Senior Exams
- 20-22 North Island Ski Championships
- 22 Board Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)
- 23 Parents' Association – 'Nathan Wallis Speaker – Teens' (7:30pm-10pm, Hall)

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



## Years 12 & 13 – Parent/Subject Teacher/Student Conferences

Pre-exam conferences for Years 12 and 13 students will take place on **Tuesday, 7 September** from **2.40pm – 6.45pm**.

These interviews are with the subject teachers and discussions will include a focus on upcoming examinations, and progress towards NCEA. Deans, Kaiārahi and Careers staff will also be available for interview bookings.

Please note that, **for all students, school will finish at 1.40pm on Tuesday, 7 September**. As Auckland Transport no longer change times of school runs, students who normally catch a bus will either have to use public buses or wait for the school buses at the normal times.

We will email instructions for booking interview times on **Monday, 30 August 2021**.

*Mr Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal*

## KBB Festival



The annual KBB Music Festival was held from Monday 9 August to Saturday 14 August at the Holy Trinity Cathedral and St Mary's Church in Parnell. The 4500 participants, 145 groups from 50 schools included Glendowie College's 'Concert Band', 'Big Band' and 'String Ensemble'.

Our 'String Ensemble' was non-competitive this year due to low membership, but they gave a spirited performance of a varied programme and received valuable feedback from the adjudication panel. They performed under the expert directorship of Ms Marija Dimitrijevic, our cello and double bass tutor.

The 'Big Band' performed the very next morning on Tuesday 11 August. Mr Callum Passells led this developing band through their programme of five pieces, showcasing some up-and-coming improvisers with the experienced rhythm section keeping a rock-solid groove. They were awarded a 'Commendation Certificate' by the judging panel.



The 'Concert Band' was the last of the Glendowie groups to perform on the evening of Wednesday 11 August. Their punchy programme highlighted their playing strengths and rapid development during the second half of this year, resulting in a 'Bronze' award.

Special mention goes to Soroush Naseh (13MKA) for being selected and participating in the KBB Honours Orchestra, a group of the best musicians from all the participating schools which rehearsed for three hours to give a concert on Friday 13 August. Their rendition of "Jupiter" from Holst's 'The Planets' was immense, full of vitality and exceptional playing.

*Mr Andrew Lile, Head of Music*





## Glendowie College Board – Student Representative



### Do you want to make a difference in your school?

**Then why not stand for election as the Student Representative on your School Board?**

As a board member, you'll learn new skills, be able to have your say on important issues and make a positive contribution to your school and community.

For more information, go to [www.trustee-election.co.nz](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz).



### Do you want to influence the future of your school?

**Then why not stand for election as the Student Representative on your School Board?**

As well as having a voice on how your school is governed, being a school board member will provide valuable knowledge and experience for your future – it will look great on your CV!

For more information, go to [www.trustee-election.co.nz](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz).



### Fancy yourself as a future Prime Minister of New Zealand?

**The first election Jacinda Ardern won was as the Student Representative on her school board.**

Now's your chance to follow in her footsteps! We're holding Student Representative elections in September.

For more information, go to [www.trustee-election.co.nz](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz).

More information will be provided in assembly (Week 6), including what is involved in the role and how the election process works. Please consider getting involved in this exciting opportunity.

For more information, please check out the website [www.trustee-election.co.nz](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz) or if you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Joanne Fraser, [fra@gdc.school.nz](mailto:fra@gdc.school.nz)

**Mrs Joanne Fraser, Deputy Principal**

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)



## 11Drama Presents 'The Crucible' By Arthur Miller



The second week of Dramafest 2021 just managed to begin and ended just as abruptly. One of our 11Drama classes managed to perform their production of 'The Crucible' to a masked, socially distanced, and appreciative audience. The cast were excellent, scheming and roaring their way through the classic story of witchcraft and mass hysteria. It was great to see the students, particularly those who had never performed for an outside audience before, do so with confidence.

Special thanks to Connor Sumner (11CNR) and Rikki Teura (11THO) for their front of house support, and Ms Jennings and the Senior Leadership Team for their quick decisions around how we could manage to get on stage and see the culmination of 12 weeks of work.

*Ms Clare Thomson, Faculty of Arts*

## Sports Update



### GDC Basketball Reaching New Heights

Congratulations to our U17 A Boys and Open Girls A teams. These 2 teams came first and second respectively in their leagues to qualify for the 'Greater Auckland Basketball Championships'. Great experience at a high level and both teams showed they could compete with the best. Well done!!

### Girls' 1st XI Football

Huge congratulations to our Girls 1st XI on winning the league and being promoted to the Premier grade for 2022.

Special thanks to Coach, Beth and Manager, Miss Tidman.

*Mrs Lydia Brown, Director of Sport*





## Glendowie College Blood Drive



What better way to spend Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> than at a blood drive! Over 120 students and teachers took time out of their busy day to come and donate 400ml of liquid gold to the NZ Blood Service.

The NZ Blood Service requires over 3,500 donations every week to give to people with cancer, accident victims, bone surgery patients and children. One blood donation can save up to 3 lives, so technically Glendowie College has now saved over 360 lives! With less than 3% of people in NZ being blood donors, it is so important for students and teachers to be aware of the Blood Service and how valuable their contribution is.

Thank you to everyone who donated this year, you should be incredibly proud of yourself and know that your donation saves lives. We hope that you will continue to donate in the future. For everyone who missed out or wasn't eligible, there is always next year and there are other ways to help. Finally, thank you to Ms Gibb for organising such a great event!

To find out how to become a donor or for more about the NZ Blood Service, please visit <https://www.nzblood.co.nz/>

**Molly Madill and Holly Harding (13MET)**

## Level 3 Business Studies – Trip to Fonterra Head Office



Glendowie College's Level 3 (Year 13) Business Studies students were able to fit in a trip to Fonterra's Head Office in Auckland just before we found out about New Zealand's latest lockdown – luckily avoiding the major traffic and exodus from the CBD on Wednesday, 17 August.

During this insightful visit our students gained a deeper understanding of some of the practical examples and applications of much of their course material. The focus was on change management, product development, supply and logistics, quality management, international business connections and networking, COVID-response as well as possible career pathways with Fonterra.

Our students really enjoyed this trip and the presentation and were able to gather a lot of evidence to use in upcoming assessments. We would like to thank Gillian Munnik and her team from Fonterra for all the hard work, planning and hospitality put into making this visit so successful!

We look forward to continuing this relationship that adds so much to our student's learning and understanding of Aotearoa's business world.

**Mr Ruan van Aswegen, Business Studies**



## The UCase Team (Young Enterprise Scheme)

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UCase

Want to make YOUR phone case?  
Customisable & Interchangeable phone case

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We are 'UCase' – a group involved with the Young Enterprise Scheme at Glendowie College in 2021. Recently we have been working towards our first and second sales cycles where we are producing and selling our products. 'UCase' is a customisable phone case coming in two parts, a frame and a fully customisable backplate.

An order form (<https://forms.gle/6PH9kkKqX6V8KCQ28>) is available where people can upload their designs onto backplates where they can switch designs in and out. We have been fortunate to be able to produce these using our school's laser cutter to cut out the back of each case and the specific sizes for backplates. We are now producing cases for over 25 different phone types.

If you are interested in purchasing one, please scan the QR code on our poster. We are offering a deal to students and teachers at Glendowie College, if you purchase a frame and backplate, you will receive one free house backplate design, including all houses Tāwhirimātea, Rūaumoko, Tāne Mahuta and Tangaroa! Please follow our journey on our instagram [@ucasenz](#).

### **The UCase Team**

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)



## **GDC Interact Club Donates Defibrillator to Crossfield Park Community Centre**

The Glendowie College 'Interact Club' donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to Crossfield Park Community Centre on 6 August 2021. We worked with Mr Miles Cain from St. John's Rotary Club to have the automated external defibrillator installed.

We heard the story of Doug Kahi, who suffered a cardiac arrest whilst participating in the 'National Butchery Awards' at Auckland's Vodafone Arena on 5 August this year. We learned that the availability of a defibrillator enabled him to be brought back to life.

On Monday 16 August, a student at Glendowie College suffered a serious medical incident that required the use of CPR and the onsite defibrillator. The student is now recovering thanks to ready access to the AED.

This makes us so proud that we decided to use our funds to provide a defibrillator that is available 24 hours a day for our local community.

Studies by St John have revealed that every minute that goes by without CPR or defibrillation reduces the chance of survival by 10-15 percent. We believe that the AED is very valuable because it is accessible to everyone for use in the event of an emergency. We are so pleased that we were able to provide this support and serve our local community.

'Interact' is a Rotary Club for young people aged 12-18. The aim of the club is "*service above self*". At GDC, we organise initiatives throughout the year including the upcoming Daffodil Day fundraiser to support charities. It is the funds from these initiatives that were used to purchase the AED. Our Interact Club provides an opportunity for students to exhibit leadership skills, develop friendships and build relationships with the wider community. We welcome new members.



Mr Aubrey Richardson-Jones, Mr Miles Cain, Ms Vee Samuel, Sean Sun, Amelia Clark, Alvin Wang



Mr Aubrey Richardson-Jones, Mr Miles Cain, Amelia Clark, Alvin Wang, Sean Sun, Ms Vee Samuel

***Amelia Clark (12VIS), President of Interact Club***

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# glendowie news

**GROW HOPE**

**this daffodil day.**

I HOPE THE CHEMO WORKS  
 I HOPE FOR A CANCER-FREE FUTURE  
 I HOPE MY HAIR GROWS BACK  
 I HOPE I CAN LEAVE THE HOSPITAL SOON  
 I HOPE MORE PEOPLE SURVIVE CANCER  
 I HOPE THE RADIOTHERAPY STOPS THE PAIN  
 I HOPE MY HUSBAND GETS TO STAY WITH THE BOYS  
 I HOPE FOR MANY MORE BIRTHDAYS  
 I HOPE I CAN MAKE IT TO OUR ANNIVERSARY

**GDC Interact Club**

**Donate to the Cancer Society (06 0193 0198585 00 via internet banking) to grow hope and show support**



# glendowie news

## Parents' Association

### Nathan Wallis' Talk



## Teen Brain

Navigating those tricky years with your adolescent

Glendowie College - Auckland  
**Thurs 23 September 2021 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm**  
Tickets at [eventfinda.co.nz](https://www.eventfinda.co.nz)

 @nathanwallis  
 @nathanwallisxfactoreducation

For bookings: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/the-teen-brain-auckland/auckland/glendowie>

## 2021 Entertainment Book

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## 2021 Parents' Association Members



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 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 on 26 August 2021 (Thursday) at 7pm in the Boardroom – we look forward to seeing you there!**

**Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson**

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