



Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Kia Ora Tātou

### Continuation of Level 4

The continuation of lockdown at Level 4 is disappointing but expected given the risk to the community. I understand the concern among parents and students, particularly those at Year 12 and 13, about exam preparation and entry to tertiary institutions. There has been considerable discussion involving Auckland Principals, the Ministry of Education and NZQA. Changes have already been made to University Entrance requirements and the provision of Learning Recognition Credits for those students that need them. Further details about these are on the college website on the Covid 19 update page.

The situation we are in is not unique to Glendowie College and is being experienced by all schools in Auckland. We have been through this last year and student results in NCEA were at their usual high level. On top of the changes made by NZQA we have systems in place that will help senior students prioritise their assessment requirements.

I want to thank you for the commitment in supporting your children's learning. Online learning is less effective than face to face learning. Some students have effective self management strategies while others need a lot more direction and support. Within this context teachers are working very hard to keep students engaged and interested while ensuring that the student workload is manageable.

We are all looking forward to Level 2 when we can all be back at school.

### Move to Level 3

At the time of writing this newsletter, the plan is for Auckland to move to level 3 at 11.59pm on Tuesday 21 September. The implications of this on Glendowie College are as follows:

- The college will not be open for instruction, however, Year 9 or 10 students who are children of essential workers can attend school if their parents do not have any other childcare arrangements. Students would be undertaking online learning but based at school. If you need to send your Year 9 or 10 child to school, can you please phone or email reception so that supervision can be organised.
- People who wish to drop off 2022 enrolment forms or cups and trophies to be returned for the Awards ceremonies can do so in the Reception foyer between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm.
- If staff wish to distribute classroom resources they will contact students directly. Students will be required to come into school at pre-arranged times, wear masks and maintain social distancing. Essential resources only will be distributed.

### Return to Level 2

Further information will be sent out by email and posted on the website and social media prior to a move to Covid Level 2. Ministry of Health guidelines will be adhered to and the wearing of masks strongly recommended.



## Upcoming Events:

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

### September

- 22 Board Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)
- 24 Film Festival (Cancelled)
- 27 Film Festival (Cancelled)
- 27-30 Cultural Celebration Festival
- 28 Film Festival (Cancelled)
- 29 Film Awards Night (Cancelled)
- 30 Leavers' Concert (Cancelled)

### October

- 1 End of Term 3
- 9-11 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Qualifying Tramp
- 18 Start of Term 4
- 20 2022 Year 9 Testing Day (8:30am-12:00pm, Old Gym)
- 22-29 Year 12 & Year 13 Exams
- 26 Taurere Whanau Meeting (TBC)
- 27 Board Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)

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



As Level 2 limits the size of groups that can congregate events such as the Senior Prizegiving, Arts Awards and Sports Awards will follow different formats with only a limited number of parents able to be invited. It will also mean that the Graduation Dinner for 2021 will have to be cancelled.

## **2021 Graduation Dinner Cancelled**

It is with regret that I have made the decision to cancel the Graduation Dinner. I know that this is an important occasion for both Year 13 students and their parents as it is a celebration that symbolises the end of thirteen years of schooling. Families will be very disappointed that the event will not take place. The Graduation Dinner was scheduled for 9 November and due to the NCEA exams being delayed for two weeks it is not possible for this to be moved to a later date.

The Delta strain of Covid 19 has major health risks and it is necessary to minimise the risk to students. Under Level 2 gathering sizes are limited and it is unlikely that by early November an indoor gathering of approximately 500 people will be possible. I thought it appropriate to inform you of this decision as early as possible rather than at the last moment.

## **Changes to 2022 Out of Zone Enrolment Deadlines**

The deadline for 2022 out of zone enrolments has been extended to Wednesday 29 September 2021. The ballot will now take place on Friday 1 October 2021. If in-zone and out of zone enrolments are able to be submitted electronically, can this please be undertaken as soon as possible. When Auckland moves to level 3 restrictions although the college will be closed for instruction, enrolment forms will be able to be dropped off.

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Gordon Robertson**  
**Principal**

## **Changes to Term 4 School Examination Dates**

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Due to the long period away from school in lockdown, we are mindful of the lack of contact time for teachers and students. To provide Years 12 and 13 students more time in class before starting exams, the exam period has been shifted and will now take place from **Friday October 22 to Friday October 29**. These examinations are important to give staff, students, and parents an indication of the current level of attainment and understanding of material in the external standards. It is also an opportunity to develop and practice the skills needed to succeed in external examinations. If there is any disruption to NCEA exams at the end of the year, either for all students or individuals, school exam results may be used for derived grades.

More information about exams will be sent directly to parents of examination students in advance of the exams.

**Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal**

## **Return of Cups/Trophies**

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Students and former students are requested to return cups and trophies won at award ceremonies last year. This includes those received at Senior Prizegiving, Sports Awards and Arts Awards. When Auckland returns to Covid Level 3 cups/trophies can be dropped off at the Reception foyer between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

**Mr Gordon Robertson, Principal**



## Exam Assistant Volunteers Needed

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Are you interested in helping students with Special Assessment Conditions? Are you available during **the first two weeks of Term 4? (18 – 29 October 2021)**. *These times may change depending on lockdown levels.*

We are looking for volunteers to help out **during practice exams in term 4** and possibly the **NCEA exams at the end of the year**.

This position could include the following:

- Supervision of a group of students
- Reading exams out to students
- Writing / typing out students' answers
- Both reading and writing for a student.

To be an Exam Assistant, patience, empathy, and a good grasp of the English language are needed. There will be a training session held at the college once we are back at appropriate levels.

If you think you could help out or would like more information, please email Sarah Bassin [bas@gdc.school.nz](mailto:bas@gdc.school.nz) or Celia Finn [fin@gdc.school.nz](mailto:fin@gdc.school.nz)

***Ms Celia Finn, Learning Support Director***

## Warning: Increased Phishing Activity

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Now is a good time to be vigilant of suspicious emails, particular as many of you are working from home. Some phishing emails are targeted and designed to impersonate familiar senders (for example, other schools).

Steps you can take to reduce the risk include:

- consider whether the email was expected and check the sender's details carefully looking at the whole email address
- treat with suspicion emails asking recipients to click links, open attachments, enter passwords, make payments, change or enter bank account details, or any unusual requests
- even if the sender looks familiar, treat with suspicion emails pressuring recipients to perform any of the above actions urgently. An unusual email from a known sender might be a sign that their email has been compromised
- if in doubt, confirm with the sender of the email by phoning them. If possible, use a number you already have for that person or organisation. Don't rely on phone numbers given in the email.

For further information about phishing attacks see the guide on the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) NZ website. [Click here](#) to visit the site.

***Ms Vicki Mercer, ICT Manager***

## Road Safety Online Workshops

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Road Safety are running some online YD (Young Drivers) workshops from 21 to 24 September 2021 while we are in lockdown, and there are also several workshops coming up in October – December 2021. Please forward onto any of your child(ren) who might benefit from these online sessions.

All updated workshops and other details are available on the Young Drivers website.

<https://at.govt.nz/driving-parking/road-safety/young-drivers/>



## Te wiki o te reo Māori

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Well, isn't this an interesting time here in Tāmaki Makaurau to celebrate our indigenous language in Aotearoa. Although we have many reasons to let this be *another* groundhog week, here is how the staff at GDC added a daily dose of Te Reo Māori.

**Mane** we listened to Six60 new waiata - Pepeha and learned a new kupu o te rā (word of the day) - Ka Pai. We watched some rangatahi (teenagers) on Tiki Toki (tik tok) dance. To be honest, it was the red bands for me! Iykyk! Sonny also explained the significance of this week, and how we can support the kaupapa.

**Turei** was all about Stan! Stan Walker of course. We watched his new single Matemateaone. It is breathtakingly beautiful, but for those who were not down for a lovey-dovey waiata (song), they could listen to his other waiata from 2020, Tua. We also extended Ka pai to Kei te pai, learning how to use them both at home and in our teaching. We also heard the karanga/call to spend time in te reo Māori at 12 pm, so, we had a zoom and sang Kia mau ki tō ūkaipō by Six60. Side note: time lagging on zoom creates weird singing results! But we did not let that stop us sing our hearts out. We then played a game of Kahoot. Shout out to Miss Harriet Tidman for the big win! She knows her waiata!

**Wenerei** we learned new kupu (words) like mirumiru (bubble), kāinga (home), Mahuru (September), Raapa (another word for Wenerei) and listened to a Māori waiata using the tune from Earth Wind and Fire song, September. To be honest, I always called it 'Ba, ba, baa... Baaa di raaa' (insert: singing!)

**Taite** we shared apps that are helpful for those who are on their te reo Māori journey, and a waiata by the amazing Hollie Smith - Korūkitia.

**Paraire**, te rā whakamutunga (the last *weekday*) wait, that was pre-lockdown, but you know what I mean. Back to Tiki Toki where we laughed with The Laughing Samoans - I can speak the reo, Reo rotarota (sign language) to six60 waiata, a breakdown of the kupu (word) Aroha and the meaning of Kia ora. A wero (challenge) was sent out for staff to implement more te reo Māori into their daily do so we can be part of the solution to normalise our indigenous language. A simple replacement of Hello to Kia Ora is a great start. Ahakoa he iti, he pounamu e te whānau. Although it is small, it is valuable.

Kia pai ake te wikene! Have a great weekend. E waka eke noa e te whānau, nō reira, Kia kaha te reo Māori, kia rere!

**Nāku iti nei (Humbly), Melisa Chase**

## Community Project - Year 10

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Unfortunately, due to the current lockdown the exhibition of the Community Projects could not take place on 25 August 2021 as planned. Luckily the students had finished their projects and were just working on their display boards for the exhibition. Their journals are currently being marked by their supervisors and grades will be emailed to the students shortly.

The second group of Year 10 students (those in LEW, AMI, WHI, SHN and SWY classes) were due to start their projects on 16 September 2021. These will still go ahead later in the year in a different format due to less time being available to them.

Thanks for your support of your children in SLD, NFS, SOH, JAN and XUT. Some of the projects were really inspiring, and feedback from the students and those they worked with in the community was very positive.

**Willa Henvest, Community Project Coordinator**



## 13 Global Studies Students Taking Action In Our Community

I love coffee. Like, a lot. I'm happiest when I'm strolling along the waterfront, takeaway coffee in hand. Yet my enjoyment is tainted when I chuck my empty cup into the general waste bin, conscious of where it is headed. So, when I was told that for our year 13 Global Studies internal we had to complete a social action aiming to influence a policy change, the first thing that came to mind was addressing this waste issue in our community.

Paper bags, pizza boxes and most coffee cups can be composted, but they end up going to landfill where they break down anaerobically, producing methane. Armed with this knowledge Georgina, Sarah and I came up with our master plan: to implement compost bins along St Heliers' waterfront. After months working out the logistics, which included applying for funding grants and getting permission from Auckland Council and Ōrākei Local Board, we managed to organise a one-month trial bin to be placed near the flagpole once lockdown is over. If the trial is successful, we will implement more bins and make it permanent. A reminder to everyone to be the change you wish to see in the world. Please support our work and the environment and use the bin!



Georgina and I meeting with Auckland Council member Kartik Bhat

**Holly Harding (13SNG)**



Keep an eye out for bins like this along St Heliers' waterfront!

## Online Library



If you or your whānau have run out of reading material the GDC online library via the [Wheelers ePlatform](#) is open 24/7 for use. The Wheelers ePlatform provides access to a wide and entertaining variety of eBooks and eAudiobooks. All students have a login to use this library and should email the librarian for help if they've forgotten their password. If students would like help choosing a book the librarian is happy to curate a personalised reading list for them, students should contact the librarian for this service. Family members are also welcome to use the online library. Please email the librarian, [gyn@gdc.school.nz](mailto:gyn@gdc.school.nz), and she will organise access for anyone in your family who would like to use this library.

The Wheelers ePlatform can be read on a desktop, tablet, or phone. For tablets or phones download [ePlatform Wheelers app](#), and select Glendowie College from the list of schools. If you need any help, please contact the librarian.

**Jody Gayton, Library Manager**



## Parents' Association

Due to the current lockdown and the uncertainty of future alert levels, this event has been cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

### Nathan Wallis' Talk

nathanwallis  
conscious intelligence

**Cancelled**  
Tickets will be refunded by the event organiser.

2021 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm  
tickets at eventfinda.co.nz

@nathanwallis  
@nathanwallisxfactorededucation

## 2021 Entertainment Book

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## 2021 Parents' Association Meetings

Due to the current lockdown and the uncertainty of future alert levels, there will be no meetings for the remainder of the year.

A BIG thank you to everyone (parents, staff, wider community) who has helped us over the past year. We wish you all well and stay safe!

**Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson**

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



## Afghanistan Community Support

# LET'S *talk!*

Proudly supported by NFACT and Multicultural New Zealand

With the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, we anticipate many in the Afghan community in New Zealand will also be facing profound emotional challenges. With this in mind, NFACT has set up a tele-support service to provide confidential emotional and mental health support to those seeking it



# 1

**Dari + Pashto support**  
10AM - 12PM (noon): 020 4097 8997

# 2

**Dari support**  
12PM (noon) - 2PM: 020 4097 9001  
2PM - 4PM: 020 4097 9003

# 3

**General enquiries (English)**  
10AM - 4PM: 021 857 397

Our support lines are open Monday - Friday  
Please send us a text with your details if you require us to call you due to any limitations



[nfact.co.nz](http://nfact.co.nz)



[multiculturalnz.org.nz](http://multiculturalnz.org.nz)