



Friday, 29th October 2021

Kia Ora Tātou

The news from the Minister of Education that schools would be open for Year 11, 12 and 13 students from Tuesday 26 October caught many of us off-guard. On Tuesday over 80% of Year 11 students attended school. Year 12 and 13 assessments this week were conducted online, which gave students the choice to either do these at school or at home. Next week they will be returning to classes.



Teaching of Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be focused on those students at school. For those students who remain at home, teachers will post work on Google Classroom when possible. However, I do not expect teachers to double their workload by providing lessons online and in class at those year levels. If your child is away for legitimate medical reasons, please contact the relevant Dean.

Year 9 and 10 will continue with online learning. At the 1.00pm briefing on Wednesday, Hon Chris Hipkins talked about them returning. However, he did state that the priority was preparing seniors for NCEA and to ensure schools do not become overcrowded. You know as much as I do, but I am predicting Year 9 and 10 may return on Monday, 22 November when NCEA exams start. However, I may be completely wrong.

I have received several emails from both students and parents concerned about the safety of returning to school. This is understandable as it is a huge mind-shift from keeping safe at home in bubbles to mingling with several hundred others.

We have taken a range of steps to keep everyone at school safe. Over 95% of staff are double vaccinated and all have had a negative Covid test before returning to school. Mask wearing is mandated, and we have measures in place to allow social distancing and to aid ventilation of buildings. We have started to obtain the vaccination status of students to determine student vaccination rates. Data from 20 October has all suburbs that make up the college's catchment area at having over 92% of the population with one dose and over 80% with two doses. Percentages would have increased since then.

A Google form has been sent out to student emails seeking information on their vaccination status. An explanatory email went out earlier this week. Seeking vaccination status is a mandated requirement of schools. Thank you to all the families that have already responded.

I know it can be confronting to have your children return to school when there are risks involved. However, this will be the reality for the foreseeable future, and we will have to adjust to that even if we don't think we are ready to.

Upcoming Events:

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

October

26-1Nov Year 12 & 13 Assessment Week

November

- 1 2022 Prefects Day (*Postponed*)
- 2 Sports Awards (*Cancelled*)
- 3 2022 Year 9 Testing Day (*Cancelled*)
- 4 Arts Awards (*Cancelled*)
- 9 Year 13 Leavers' Dinner (*Cancelled*)
- 15 Senior Prizegiving (*TBC*)
- 16 Year 12 & Year 13 Study Leave
- 16 Year 13 Graduation Assembly
- 17-19 Year 11 Exams
- 22-14Dec NCEA Exams
- 24 Board Meeting (*6pm-9pm*)
- 24 Year 11 Arts Evening (*Cancelled*)
- 25 Teacher Only Day

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



glendowie news

Head Prefects 2022

I am pleased to announce our Head and Deputy Head Prefects for 2022.

Congratulations to:

- Abhi Puthigae (Head Prefect)
- Otis McKenzie (Head Prefect)
- Sophie Campbell-Patston (Deputy Head Prefect)
- David Yuan (Deputy Head Prefect)

The staff panel involved in selecting these positions were impressed with the calibre of all the applicants. I look forward to working with Abhi, Otis, Sophie, and David next year.

'Bye Bye Birdie' Nominations

We always knew it was a fabulous production! Our 'Bye Bye Birdie' cast and crew have been nominated for a total of **11** awards in the Auckland Live Showdown Competition for 2021. Nominations are for members of staff and students in lead and supporting roles, and the entire team has been nominated for 'Best Production', 'Outstanding Musical', and 'Best Ensemble'. We are excited for the award ceremony on November 6 and wish all the nominees well.

Showdown Nominations List:

Best Costume Design: Zoe Rogers, Ruth Richardson, Clare Jennings

Best Set: Mike Pavarno, Paul Lyon, Teri Shin

Best Technical Design: Clare Thomson and Andrew West

Best Male in a Minor Role: Ryan Cleland (Year 12) as Mr. MacAfee

Best Female in a Leading Role: Lucy Hibbert (Year 10) as Mae Peterson

Best Male in a Leading Role: Nathan Johnson (Year 12) as Albert Peterson

Best Female in a Leading Role: Emma Herbert (Year 12) as Rose Alvarez

Best Ensemble: The cast of 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Best Direction: Oliver Humphries for the choreography of 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Outstanding Musical: The cast and crew of 'Bye Bye Birdie', Glendowie College

Best Production: The cast and crew of 'Bye Bye Birdie', Glendowie College

Ngā mihi nui

Gordon Robertson, Principal

Health Advice for Locations of Interest

There have been recent Covid 19 'locations of interest' in the community. If students have visited a [location of interest](#), the guidance we have received from Healthline is:

- Stay at home - do not come to school.
- Call Healthline on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) to seek advice. Tell them you are a school student.

Thank you for following the health advice to keep the college safe.

Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal



Glendowie College Board Update

Tena Koutou Katoa

Dear GDC community

This is now the third monthly update during this current lockdown. While it is encouraging that Years 11 to 13 have been able to return this week, we are still a long way from returning to “normal”. This is uncharted territory for both staff and students, indeed for the whole community. The Board would like to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work the staff have put in to enabling the return this week, and also the positive way students have returned, in such difficult circumstances.

While Years 11 to 13 have returned, the operations of the college are still very limited by health protocols. Unfortunately, the prizegivings and other end of year events will not be able to be held as usual. We do recognise these are a really important part of a student’s time at the college, and accordingly are working on ways to conduct these events in alternative ways.

At the Board meeting on Wednesday, we had an update from Deputy Principal, Sharon Hewetson, on the Middle Years Programme. We are now officially an ‘International Baccalaureate’ world school, the only state school in New Zealand with such an accreditation for a Middle Years Programme (Years 9 and 10). Please refer to the information on the college website if you would like to learn more about the programme. This has been a long-term initiative, with planning commencing way back in 2017, and has been one of our key goals for the past two years. Achieving this is a notable achievement, and we would like to thank all staff involved over the years, especially Sharon Hewetson who has driven the project with such commitment.

Finally, we would again like to thank all parents who have made their donation to the College. With international student income likely to remain limited for some time, donations are the key source of funding for us to continue to be able to provide more than the Government-funded basics in both academic and extra-curricular activities. We do appreciate your ongoing support.

Tangohia tiaki – take care everyone.

Mr Matthew Veal, Board Chairperson

Sport Update

Sports Uniform Return- All sports uniforms are to be returned to the collection basket in the college reception.

Sports Awards - We are very sad to announce that we are unable to hold this event. We are currently working on how we will acknowledge our award winners over the next few weeks.

Mrs Lydia Brown, Director of Sports



Year 11 Examinations

It has been great to have Year 11 students back at the college this week. Many are eager to resume the focus on their studies and have started thinking about the upcoming examinations. These will take place in Week 5 - Wednesday 17 November to Friday 19 November. Students will be on study leave for these three days and will attend school only for their examinations.

Year 11 examinations will be in a digital format, completed on student laptops at school. This gives our students relevant experience as NZQA has been working towards online assessment in recent years. A range of NCEA subjects already examine digitally and the remainder is expected to follow within a couple of years. You can read more about [NZQA's 'digital transformation' here](#).

Further information, including a timetable, will be available soon.

Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal

Level 1 MCAT (11MAS/11MAX)

The derived grade exam for the Level 1 MCAT is on **Monday 1st November at 9am**. Students should aim to be at school at the normal time of 8.45am. This is a one-hour assessment. NO calculators are permitted. Alternative arrangements have been made for students unable to be at school. They will sit an online assessment that will be set through Google Classroom at the same time on Monday 1st November at **9am**.

Please get in touch with a classroom teacher or email me (srm@gdc.school.nz) if you have any questions.

Ms Melissa Sirimanne, Mathematics Faculty

Years 12 and 13 Unexpected Event Grades

You may have heard in the media or seen on the NZQA website that students in Auckland will be eligible for 'Unexpected Event Grades' for external standards this year. This recognises the impact of the level three lockdown on students' preparation for upcoming external examinations.

The [Unexpected Event Grade process](#) is similar to what happens every year for students whose attendance or performance in exams is affected by an illness or injury. During the year, teachers gather evidence of students' learning, and send grades to NZQA. These grades have undergone a quality assurance process to make sure they are fair and relate to the standard being assessed. It is important to note that, in some subjects, an unexpected event grade may be generated from a range of evidence, rather than a single assessment.

Students are expected to complete their external examination where this is possible. They often do better in the actual examination than their unexpected event grade might suggest. Where the student attends the examination, the better of the unexpected event grade or examination grade is awarded.

There are no unexpected event grades for New Zealand Scholarship. If students are unable to attend the Scholarship examination, they will be ineligible for an award.

Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal



Junior Girls Awarded 1st Equal in the Greater Auckland Girls' Competition



It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Junior Girls' Football team has been awarded 1st equal in the Greater Auckland Girls' Competition. The week before lockdown, Glendowie College beat the undefeated Avondale College 4-1 in the semi-final with Ella Halford (9COO) scoring three and Lucy Hargreaves (9RGS) also scoring. This placed us in the final against Baradene College who finished top of our pool. Unfortunately, the final was cancelled and as a result we were awarded 1st equal. Ms Barrack and Mr Galt are incredibly proud of the effort of the whole squad this season and are chuffed with the final result. Congratulations to all the girls for what was an

exceptional season and a massive thanks to Chelsea Ferguson for her coaching efforts with the girls.

Mr Stephen Galt, Manager of Junior Girls' Football

GDC Young Enterprise Updates

These are very exciting times for 'IMPLEAT' and 'Juntos'!

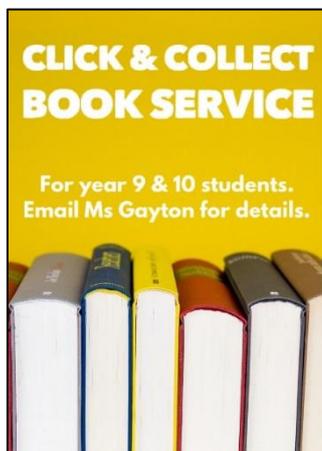
'IMPLEAT' has made it to the 'Regional Finals' as one of the top 8 teams in the East Auckland Region and will be doing their final business presentation on 2 November 2021 over Zoom from 12pm to 2.30pm. We wish 'IMPLEAT' Directors, Simon Fink-Jensen (12THR), Beren Eskildsen (12HRD) and Jordan Eliahu (12THR) all the best. 'Juntos', founded by Gabriela Preuhs (13SNG), Marlo Devereux (13TID), Vidhi Patel (13SIM) and Zakk Haddon (12HRD), has been invited to attend the Regional Celebrations on 2 November 2021 from 3.30pm.

A huge congratulations to the 'IMPLEAT' and 'Juntos' Directors.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the 'Taiwhenua' and 'Ucase' Directors for completing 'YES' for 2021 despite all the challenges, including the COVID-lockdowns, encountered this year. Well done on your perseverance and resilience. Watch this space for the regional results.

Ms Pritika Harduar, Liaison Teacher for Young Enterprise Studies

Click and Collect Book Service for Junior Students



For Year 9 and 10 students who would love some new reading material, the library is now offering a 'Click & Collect' service.

Students can email their book requests (this can be individual book titles or genres they like to read) to Ms Gayton (gyn@gdc.school.nz). Ms Gayton will then get the order ready and email the student with a collection time. Collection times will only be after school, and students must wear masks and follow all other health and safety protocols. Alternatively, junior students who have older siblings at school can arrange for a sibling to collect their book order.

Please share this reading service with your whānau.

Ms Jody Gayton, Library Manager



Parents' Association

2021 Entertainment Book

We are fundraising with
 Entertainment

Get a **FREE Upgrade to Multi City** and enjoy incredible offers over the **school holidays** and beyond, wherever you go.

LIMITED TIME OFFER

BUY SINGLE CITY MEMBERSHIP \$69⁹⁹	GET UPGRADED TO MULTI CITY* \$119⁹⁹
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SAVE \$50

Please click this link to purchase:

<https://brandfolder.com/s/gqmk697k68sfctkh4m995>

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 that you stay safe!

Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson

<https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/> or Gdcparents@gmail.com