



Friday, 25th November 2022

Kia Ora Tātou

This will be the second to last newsletter for the year. Year 12 and 13 students are completing their NCEA exams, and some have already finished. Year 11 have completed their exams and will be confirming their subjects for 2023 early next week. They have less than a week left of school for the year. Prizewinners from all three year levels will be recognised at the Senior Prizegiving on Monday 28 November. I always enjoy prizegivings as they provide the opportunity for us to celebrate academic success and the gaining of university and school-based scholarships.

A hot political and media topic at the moment is the low school attendance rates. I feel there is the need for some clarification. Nationally, there are concerns about attendance rates, particularly from term 2, and the high percentage of students classed as not having regular attendance. Regular attendance is measured as 90% plus or less than one day's absence per fortnight or five days in a term. This means that if your child had Covid or was isolating as a close family contact, they would have been considered as not being a regular attender at school for that term, never mind the impact of any other illness.

In term 2, the regular attendance rate at Glendowie College was just over 40% of students. I don't consider that this was because your children were being deliberately truant or off ram-raiding business premises. It was because they were genuinely sick or required to stay home. Another interpretation of the statistics had a daily average of 86.5% of our students being at school in term 2. I try to be non-political in my comments, but the remarks made by both Christopher Luxon and David Seymour about school principals show either a complete lack of understanding of the attendance statistics or a deliberate attempt to use principals as scapegoats for political gain.

I accept there are students seriously disengaged from school as a result of the lockdowns and a myriad of other reasons. We have a few and I know how hard staff have been working with parents and outside agencies to try to re-engage them. For some principals to be described as 'absolutely hopeless' by Seymour is insulting and shows that he has no comprehension of the complexity involved in getting disengaged students back to school. These comments are particularly irksome when I know how difficult it was to keep the college running as close to normal as possible in term 2 given the scale of student and staff absence.



Upcoming Events:

November

- 25-27 Karapiro Club Rowing Regatta (Lake Karapiro)
- 28 Senior Prizegiving (4pm-6pm, Hall)
- 29 Year 11 Subject Confirmation (10:10am-1:40pm, Hall)
- 29 Taurere Whānau Meeting (6:30pm-8:30pm, Staffroom)
- 30 PPTA Paid Union Meeting (school finishes at 12:05pm)

December

- 1 Year 11 Students Last Day
- 1 Combined (Kāhui Ako) Board Meeting (6pm-7:30pm, Staffroom)
- 1 MYP Exhibition Evening (4pm-6pm, Dykes Building)
- 1 Junior Music Concert (7pm-9pm, Hall)
- 2 Teacher Only Day (no students at school)
- 5-7 2023 Prefects Camp
- 7 Board Meeting (6pm-7pm, Boardroom)
- 8 Junior Prizegiving (10am-12pm, Hall)
- 9 End of Term 4

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



Rant over. There are two weeks of school remaining. There will be a number of events focussed on the Years 9 and 10 students. It would be great if parents could make either of the two events scheduled on Thursday 1 December. Immediately after school on that day is the MYP exhibition showcasing classwork, the Year 10 community projects and the Inter Disciplinary Unit undertaken at Year 9. Later that evening is the Junior Music Concert. Our students are engaged in learning and want to be involved in the wider life of the school and community.

Ngā mihi nui
Gordon Robertson
Principal

Glendowie College Board Update

The Board met on Wednesday this week, the last full Board meeting of the year. We have a shorter meeting in December to review the strategic plan and budget for 2023 and review the Board's performance over the year.

As usual, term 4 is an especially busy time at the College, with numerous events and prizegivings, not to mention exams for the senior students! Next Monday we hold the Senior Prizegiving, which is a chance to celebrate the successes of all our multi-talented students, and also to farewell our year 13s. We hope they have enjoyed their time at Glendowie College, learned a lot, and wish them all the best for the next stage in their lives.

I wrote last month about our hope that the Parents' Association can be re-activated next year. The Parents' Association is a much-appreciated source of support and fundraising for the College. If anyone would like to discuss the role of the Association and its members, please feel free to contact Deputy Principal Andre Worsnop (wnp@gdc.school.nz).

The Board would really like to thank all students, staff, parents and members of the community for their contributions to the College this year. It has been another challenging year, but despite this still one of progress and achievement. We hope you have a well-earned rest at the end of this year and look forward to a new school year in 2023.

Mr Matthew Veal, Board Chairperson

Year 9 to 11 Early Finish at 1:40pm on Monday, 28 November 2022

On Monday 28 November 2022, school will finish at 1:40pm for Years 9, 10 and 11 to allow for Senior Prizegiving preparations, which commences at 4pm. Year 11 prize winners have been notified in person and must attend a practice at 2:30pm in the hall on Monday 28 November 2022.

Mrs S Hewetson, Deputy Principal

Teacher Only Day and Paid Union Meeting

Year 9, 10 and 11 students **will not** be required to be at school during these times. NCEA exams will continue during these dates.

- **30 November 2022 (Wednesday)** – PPTA Paid Union Meeting (students will finish school at 12:05pm)
- **2 December 2022 (Friday)** – Teacher Only Day (no students at school).

Ms Trudy Gibb, Deputy Principal



Subject Confirmation for Current Year 11 Students

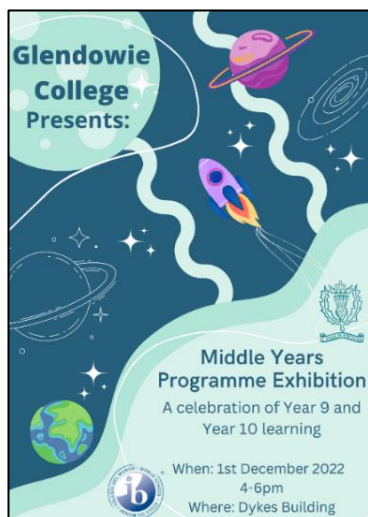
Current Year 11 students (Year 12 in 2023) will attend subject confirmation on Tuesday 30 November. They will be called for, by form class, during the normal school day to confirm their subject choices for next year with their House Dean. If students have not achieved at the level that meets course requirements, or if there are subject clashes, they may be required to change subjects. Careers staff will be available to discuss subjects and future plans with students.

Mr Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal

Subject Confirmation for Current Year 12 students

Current Year 12 students (Year 13 in 2023) are required to attend the subject confirmation day on Thursday 26 January 2023. Students will meet with their House Dean to confirm their subjects for the year. This is essential as some students may have a clash of subjects or may not have met the prerequisites to gain entry into their preferred subject.

Mr Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal



Middle Years Programme Exhibition of Learning (1 December 2022)

We would like to invite you to come and look at what our Years 9 and 10 students have been learning in 2022.

We will be sharing work from the eight subject areas, the Community Project in Year 10, and the Interdisciplinary Unit from Year 9.

MYP Exhibition – 1 December 2022 (Thursday), 4pm-6pm, Dykes Building.

2022 Junior Concert (1 December 2022)

The Junior Concert will be held on Thursday, 1 December, at 7:00pm in the Glendowie College Hall.

Enjoy an evening of music from our own Years 9 and 10 students, featuring performances by soloists, small groups, the Junior String Ensemble, the Junior Jazz Combo, the Wind Band and many more!





School Administration Office



The school administration office (Reception) will be closed from Friday, 9 December 2022 and will re-open at 9:00am on Wednesday, 25 January 2023.

Student Success – William Dickson (10KSV)



Congratulations to William Dickson (Year 10) who won the Rangtahi Category of 'The Warren Trust Awards' for 'Architectural Writing'. The topic for this year's awards was 'What does architecture mean to you?' Writers were invited to write anything on this subject, so long as it had something to do with architecture. His entry was described by the judges as "a contemplative piece of writing set in south China during the pandemic" and "as beautifully contemplative, profound and sublime." It will be published in a book in the near future.

Mrs Melanie van Ansem, Faculty Leader English

Community Project – Ruapōtaka Marae and Social Supermarket – Rua Pātaka



For our Rūaumoko house charity we supported the Ruapōtaka Marae and social supermarket - Rua Pātaka at the start of the year. So, when we started our six-week community project challenge our form class (10MCB) decided to support the same organisation.



In groups, we came up with different ways to fundraise, collect donations and raise awareness about the food scarcity that some families in our community are facing. On Friday 18 November, ten of us went to the marae in Glen Innes to drop off these donations and to look around the pātaka. We all had a really great experience. It was awesome to see what they are doing to support the community and to help others stay healthy and safe. They gave a wonderful greeting, with snacks to share, and took us on a tour of the supermarket. Waimirangi told us about the system that they have and how each family gets allocated a time slot, so they can have their privacy and their shopping is confidential. Overall, it was a really great experience, and I am very grateful that we had the opportunity to give back to our community.

Xanthe Miller (10MCB)

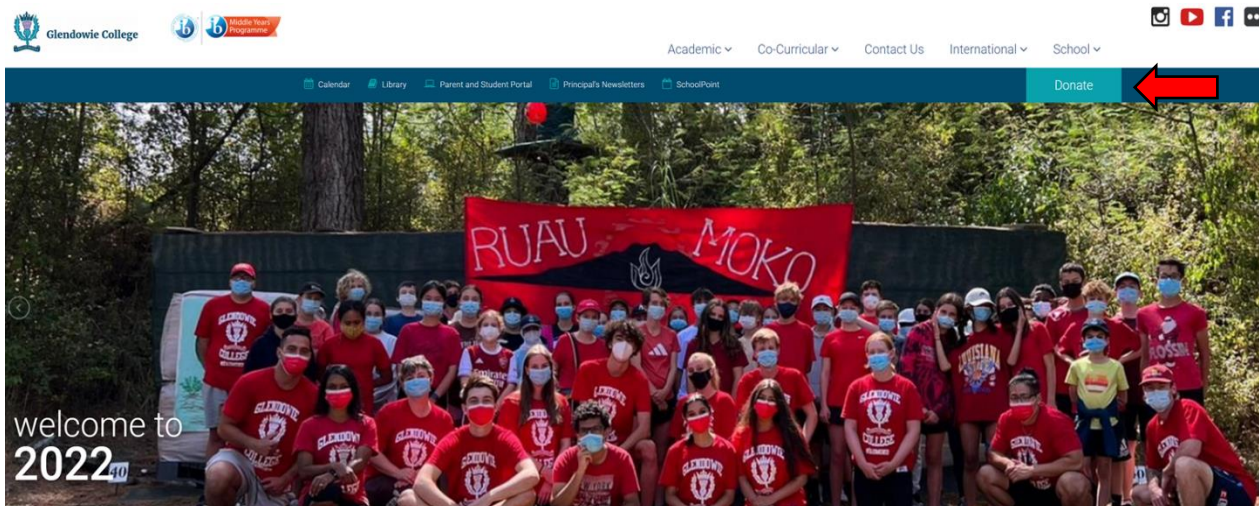


glendowie news

GDC Foundation Pupils Alumni Reunion

Last Friday, we hosted a reunion afternoon tea for 30 members of the very first cohort of students who attended Glendowie College in 1961 and 1962. It provided a great opportunity to cherish memories and the college's history and legacy.

Donations are so important for the College to be able to continue to offer the opportunities to our students which we feel are important, and every contribution helps. If you would like to support the college, the donate functionality is now available on the school website (see snapshot below). Donations to the school-wide fundraisers are tax-deductible. At the moment, our main fundraising campaign aims to provide students with better outdoor seating, shelter, and shade.



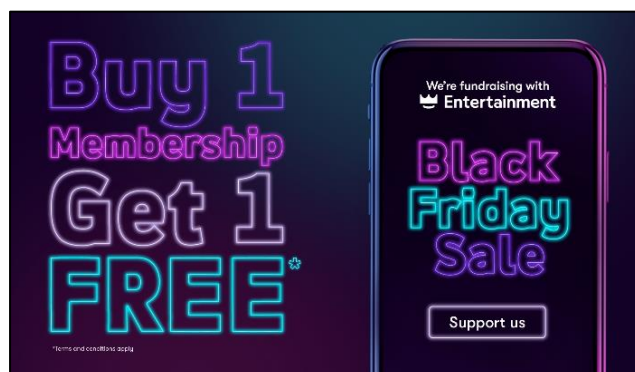
Ms Fabiana Barros de Barros, Alumni Advancement Coordinator, alumni@gdc.school.nz

Entertainment Book

BLACK FRIDAY SALE! For the first time ever, between 6.00pm, Thursday 24 November 2022 and 6.00pm, Monday 28 November 2022, when you support the school's fundraising by purchasing an Entertainment Membership you will receive a second membership **FOR FREE**. Yes, that's double the fun, double the dining, and double the savings!

This year's Entertainment Membership is packed with hundreds of 25% off or 2 for 1 offers from all your favourite local restaurants, takeaways, attractions, shopping and more. Plus, for only \$69.99, you'll only need to use your membership twice and you'll have saved what you spent on it. So, order now to get double the savings!

Order here at our fundraising page: <https://subscribe.entertainmentnz.com/fundraiser/102r353>





New Zealand Surf Academy



Holiday Surf Programme Orewa Beach

We are running our popular holiday surf programme over the Summer School Holidays at Orewa Beach. This is open to 6-16 year olds

Fun, Active & Healthy

6-16yr olds | Monday-Friday | Morning or Afternoon Sessions

Orewa Beach | 19-23 Dec 2022 | 9-13 Jan | 16-20 Jan | 23-27 Jan 2023

Suitable for beginner and intermediate surfers – developing surf skills and water confidence in a fun and safe environment.



Limited spaces | Please email to book

surf@nzsurfacademy.co.nz

www.nzsurfacademy.co.nz



Youth Basketball – High School Camp



FEES

- 5 Days: \$60 per day;
- 2-4 Days: \$72 per day;
- 1 Day: \$85 per day;

CONTACT US

For more information on the camp, get in touch with us.

- admin@ybnz.org
- www.ybnz.org

REGISTER TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPOT

40 spots only

HOW TO REGISTER?

- 1 scan the QR code or click your link
- 2 Enter your details and the required documents
- 3 Pay the registration fee to complete your registration

Glendowie
College
Dec 12 -16
9AM-2:30PM



Youth Basketball New Zealand

YEAR 9 - 12 BASKETBALL CAMP

*Shooting & Game
Situations*
+
3x3 Tournament