

## *St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui* August 2024



Kia ora e te whānau,

Another busy and exciting month has passed by, and we remain grateful for the opportunities that are provided for our students to showcase their skills, talents and hard work. With the busyness of life, it may sometimes be easier to forgo the homework, the practices, the rehearsals and the pressure, so we must ensure to celebrate our efforts and each opportunity and milestone that comes our way.

During a difficult time for many in our community we also take a moment to remember those in our families who are suffering from ill-health or sickness. We pray especially for our loved ones who have passed away recently.

*Eternal rest grant unto them oh Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace.*

### **Vinnies Sleepout**

The Vinnies Community Sleepout aims to shine a spotlight on the issue of homelessness by bringing together community groups to experience a glimpse of "sleeping rough" for one night whilst raising crucial funds and awareness for vital Vinnies Services and Programs.

Some of our Year 12 and 13 students experienced a night outside during the Vinnies *Sleep-Out*, to raise awareness for those in our community who go without homes, shelter and basic needs. Activities were run throughout the evening which had our students discuss and reflect on the privileges we take for granted each day. In groups the students built their own overnight shelter out of cardboard which needed to keep them dry and warm through the night. The experience gave our participating students a small insight into the reality of some of the most vulnerable in our world.

<https://www.vinnies.org.au/nsw/get-involved/fundraise-for-vinnies-nsw/vinnies-community-sleepout>

## St Dominic's Day

We enjoyed a wonderful celebration of our Feast Day with a beautiful Mass followed by House competitions.

The day takes a lot of organisation from key members of staff, especially Mrs Ah Ken, her Special Character team, Mrs Philips and the House leaders, and all other staff and volunteers who put so much energy and effort into making the day one of joy and celebration.

## Caring Foundation Mass

Each year the Caring Foundation celebrates the service and care given by some exemplary members of our community who consistently put time and energy into serving those less fortunate than themselves. This year certificates were presented to:

Puni Afamasaga, Sky Dalziel, Cassey Del Rosario, Morningstar Finau, Juno Gamble, Jazel Nicolas, Logoitumamapotopoto (Tumua) Pesefea, Mia Swann, and Maleah Timu.



## Principal's Awards

Congratulations to all our Principal Awards recipients this term. These awards are presented to one student in each class, each term, who has displayed continued outstanding achievement in their class. Well done to all recipients. Those students who were close award winners will be recognised at Levels assemblies with Merit Awards. Well done to all these students for their consistently high effort and achievement.





## Spelling Bee



The recent Secondary Schools Spelling Bee saw the 76 qualifying secondary schools take part and compete for the top spots. We have had two students among the top spellers to advance to the next stage. The students are, Vichelle Manalo - Y9 and Samantha David - Y10.

Well done girls! A great achievement.



## Textiles and Fashion Design

Congratulations to Caitlin Cascalheira who had her Level 3 Textiles design chosen to be displayed at the Kohara *To Shine* exhibition. This was a collaboration with Massey University School of Creative Arts in Wellington and secondary school students studying Textiles and Fashion Design.

Caitlin flew to Wellington with Mrs Hahn last Friday to set up the display and attend the opening ceremony. The exhibition was open for a week from 30 August to 6 September.

A wonderful achievement for Caitlin and St Dominic's. Well done!



## Junior Choir – Kids Sing

Our Junior Choir was stunning at Kids Sing on Wednesday. They were like celebrities, receiving numerous compliments from the public throughout the day. Everyone including the MC was super impressed with their performances.

We are super proud of all the singers, pianist & page turner. We may be small in number, but mighty in presence!

A big thank you to Ms Liu for your leadership and guidance of the choir and to Mrs Skeen who came along & assisted throughout the day. It was also lovely to see so many of our singers' whānau at the Gala Concert supporting the girls.



## Table Tennis

Congratulations to our Table Tennis Team who qualified for Auckland Championships on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August.

After achieving a top win in their local competition, they went on to win Silver at the champs.

It was a great effort by those involved and with it being our first qualifying tournament, Teams B & C came along for the experience and support.

We enjoyed many a talented match and congratulate all our Auckland college grade winners.



## Hockey

Our senior hockey team ended their season on a high, beating Waitakere College 8 – 0 last Thursday evening. The skill and passion on the pitch was second to none and the girls played their hearts out.

Huge thanks to Mr Kullar and Mrs Phillips for their coaching and management of the team throughout the season.



## Basketball

Our senior basketball team finished off a fabulous season with victory against Pakuranga High School in the grand final earlier this month – earning them 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Senior Open Grade.

This is an amazing achievement, and we are very proud of the whole team.

Thank you to Coach Dion Helu, Manager Mr Jellyman, and Mrs Smith for your ongoing support this season. A fantastic result.





## Dance

Our Dance students from across all year levels have enjoyed performing in several events this term. The St Dominic's Dance Show Case held at Corbans Estate was a real treat to all who were able to attend. The venue provided a great space for our students to really shine in their performances.

Following on from our own St Dominic's showcase, was the highly acclaimed *Dance NZ Made*, which has schools from across the Auckland and beyond, performing and competing in a range of dance styles and genre. Our St Dominic's dancers certainly held their own against some truly fine competition.

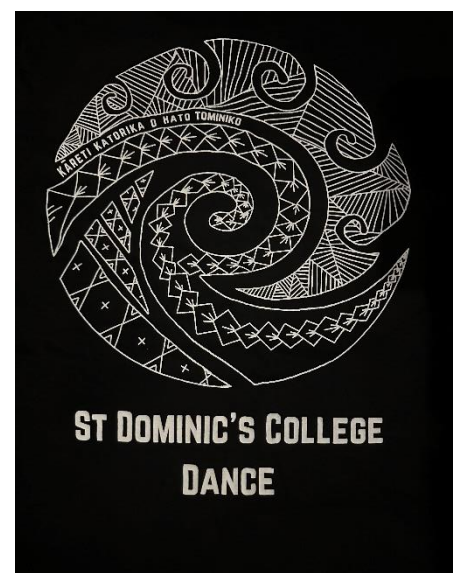


Golden Tickets to Dance NZ Made Nationals competition were awarded to Olivia Cooper, Skye Dalziel and Kayla Ballard, Ayesha Jackson and Madison-Rose Davies

Skye and Kayla also took out first place in Year 7 - 8 Duos, and Ayesha and Madison took out first place in Year 9 - 10 Duos. Well done girls! An outstanding achievement!

Well done to all our dance students! A special thanks goes to Ms Rasmussen and Ms Page for their awesome effort and organisation and to Mrs Friend for her support. We could not do any of this without you.

Congratulations also to Ama Jones, whose winning design was chosen to create the school dance shirts.





## Tournament Week

Congratulations to our St Dominic's athletes who represented our College so proudly this last week at the Secondary Schools competitions held at various venues across the North Island.

### *Equestrian*

Charlotte Cashin represented St Dominic's at the North Island Secondary School Equestrian Championships last week.

Charlotte placed 5th (3a) 3rd (3B) and 6th (3C) which placed her 4th overall in the North Island.

A fantastic achievement Charlotte – we are very proud of you!



### *Football*

Our First XI football team competed in the Kathy Seaward Tournament at Waikaraka Park, placing 15<sup>th</sup> overall.

Well done to the team and a huge thanks to coaches, Sean Joyce and Michael Drewett and their manager Miss Ng Lam for your tireless efforts in the preparation leading up to the tournament as well as the time given away from your families throughout.









### Invitational team

Along with our Prem team, we also entered an invitational team made up from players in our Prem 2, and Year 9 and 10 teams. The girls played hard all week, also facing some great competition and gaining great experience in this high standard tournament.

Thank you to Shalyla Pati, and Tofe Faumuina for stepping up and agreeing to coach the team for the week.

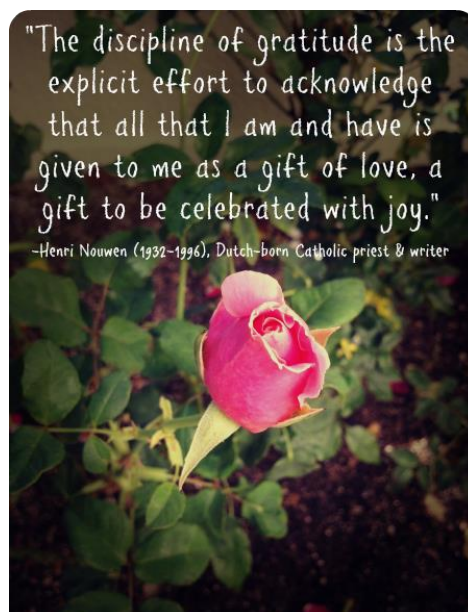


### Sports Prizegiving

We will acknowledge and celebrate our top athletes and teams at our Sports Prizegiving on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Other key prizegiving's will be held on:

- High Achievers Tea Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September
- Senior Academic Prizegiving Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October
- Junior Prizegiving Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

We look forward to seeing you there.



Have a lovely week whānau.

Ngā manaakitanga,  
Anna Swann



**Some Highlights from the Calendar** - *Please check the college calendar on your portal for more information*

**Week 8A - Prelim Exams**

Duke of Ed Bronze Qualifier 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>

**Week 9B**

Year 13 Overnight Retreat 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>

Sacramental Mass Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>

**Week 10A – Mental Health Awareness Week**

OPC

High Achievers' Tea Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>

WOW Wellington Trip 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>

Japan Trip departs 28<sup>th</sup>