

School Newsletter 1 October 2021

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To: staff-all@gc.ac.nz

1 October 2021 at 11:00

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1st October 2021

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Message from the Principal

"Are we there yet?"

It almost feels like the scenario of the child in the back of the car constantly asking the question of their parents. Unfortunately, none of us really knows the answer and that is the greatest challenge we have - the lack of certainty or surety. We all hope that on Monday, 18 October, Auckland will be at Alert Level 2 and staff and students will be walking through the school gates and into classrooms.

As I stated in 2020, being away from school has reinforced how a great education can be attributed to one word - relational. As people, we love contact with others and this is one of Glenfield College's greatest strengths.

At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, I highlighted many of the excellent initiatives undertaken by staff and students over the last seven weeks. The staff at Glenfield College have been absolutely outstanding and as I stated to students at year level assemblies this week, the single most important thing I can do is employ excellent staff for them. On behalf of Donna Kahaki (Chairperson of the Board of Trustees) and the rest of the Board, I would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the staff for all their work and professionalism over the Term.

Moving forward, the two words of focus are "normality" and "safety".

For senior students, upon their return to school, we have deliberately put in place a mixture of school exams and in-class assessments. The purpose of this is to give them as much time as possible in front of their teachers. We are also determined to provide feedback and guidance regarding any work-ons prior to the NCEA exams.

For the junior school, you will find a video below advertising the upcoming camp which is still going ahead, Alert Level dependant. As per last year, we need to celebrate and enjoy opportunities such as this and not say this is too hard so we're not doing it.

In relation to safety, we are following all Ministry of Health guidelines and will continue to update you as we receive information.

Stay safe within your bubbles and we look forward to hopefully seeing our students back in school for Term 4.





Farewell to Nicky Primrose

At our recent Board of Trustees meeting, we said farewell to Nicky Primrose who is moving out of Auckland for family reasons. Nicky has served on the Board since 2013, was Chairperson from 2015 to 2020 and Deputy Chairperson this year.

Nicky has contributed an outstanding amount to Glenfield College and the community. As an ex-student who had her son attending, she typified the word of service by joining the Board. She has provided stability and certainty at a stage when Glenfield College needed it most.

Earlier this year when Nicky signalled stepping down from the Board, she stated that she would find another organisation to support once she settles in to her new home. When I asked her why she always chooses to volunteer her time, her response was that she felt it was the least she could do in relation to giving back to communities and society.

Thank you, Nicky. We wish you and your family all the very best with your new adventure!

Refunds for Events

School Ball

Any funds paid can either be refunded or transferred to either:

- * Year 13 Leavers' Dinner - November 2021
- * School Ball - March 2022

Spirit of Adventure

As this trip is now fully funded, refunds of deposits paid are now available.



Vaccinations

As you know, in New Zealand we are well underway with our largest ever vaccination campaign, and free COVID-19 vaccines are being provided for everyone who is eligible (currently ages 12 and over).

At the time of this newsletter, 77 percent of the population have had their first dose, and 43 percent of the population are fully vaccinated.

I understand that many of you have questions about our staff being vaccinated.

Though the Ministry of Health advises that everyone who is eligible should get a vaccination, no one in New Zealand is legally required to get the vaccine. A person's vaccine status also remains private information. While they are encouraged to be vaccinated, our teachers are not obliged to share their vaccination status and have the same right to make a choice about their COVID-19 vaccination as everybody else.


While high rates of vaccination in our community are very important, there are also a large range of mitigations in place in our school to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including staff and students staying away if they are unwell, regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces and keeping rooms well-ventilated.

It is also important to know that public health experts have said that compared to other places, schools and early learning services are not environments where we have seen significant spread of COVID-19. Household members and work colleagues who are in close contact with people with COVID-19 are the most common sources of transmission.

When considering vaccination, we encourage you to make sure you have the right information about what the vaccine is, why it's important, and what the benefits are.

If you know anyone who is hesitant about getting the vaccine, there is some really great information available on the [Unite Against COVID-19](#), [Ministry of Health](#) and [Karawhiua](#) websites. Please check it out.

We'd also remind you that the vaccine is also just one part of keeping everyone safe. We'd encourage you all to keep doing all the things you've already been doing – scan in everywhere you go, wash your hands often, and regularly clean and disinfect surfaces. Together, we can continue to prevent spread of COVID-19 in our community.





**GRAEME DINGLE
FOUNDATION**

Empowering tamariki and rangatahi
to overcome life's obstacles.

Congratulations to Teina Anderson (11WhBf)

Teina has won the 'Project K – Excellence Award' for the Graeme Dingle Foundation Excellence Awards 2021. This is a national award for his commitment and accomplishments since his involvement with the Project K programme. The award will be presented at the annual Graeme Dingle Foundation Excellence Awards to be held on Monday 15th November 2021 at The Cordis Hotel, Auckland.

Well done Teina, we are very proud of you.



Junior Camp





Lockdown tips with Dr Hinemoa Elder & Nathan Wallis

If you're the parent of a child or teenager in Auckland, you might be feeling a bit anxious about their wellbeing during the extended lockdown or Alert Level 3.

This is normal – all young people are different and will show stress in different ways.

For example:

- not eating well
- spending long periods of time in their room alone
- not doing any physical activity, and
- disengaging from online work

We asked some familiar specialists for their tips and advice.

Watch this video with Dr Hinemoa Elder (Child Adolescent Psychiatrist) and Nathan Wallis (Neuroscience Educator) who describe what you can do if you have concerns.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1GuXHFSOHc&t=4s>



Community Education

Did you know that Glenfield College runs Adult and Community Education classes during the school term?

There are many courses on offer including courses to help with workplace skills like Xero and Excel or courses to help with your mental health or special interest courses such as Indian

Delights and Learning to Sew.

For more information please visit the website:

www.gcc.co.nz or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GlenfieldCollegeACE>.

To sign up to the newsletter to find out what's on and what's new, click sign up for newsletter at the bottom of the homepage on the website.



Pastoral Care

Agencies you can contact for assistance

Many families may find it tough going back into Alert Level 4. It can be challenging having children at home, being cut off from family and friends, trying to making ends meet and having high stress levels.

If you or anyone you know wants some advice or support, here are some further options that might be useful.

Support services that remain open:

- Counselling Free Call or Text 1737
- Healthline for COVID-19 health advice: 0800 358 5453
- Youthline 0800 376 633 or free text 234
- Samaritans 0800 726 666
- Depression Helpline 0800 111 757
- Suicide Prevention Helpline 0508 828 865
- The Fono West (Social Services) 09 837 1780

Work and Income services centres are closed. However, you can apply for assistance via [MyMSD](#) or phone the contact centre on 0800 559 009.

If you need some assistance with food these food banks may be able to help. Call first for instructions of how they are operating to ensure physical distancing:

- Auckland City Mission (City) 09 303 9200
- Salvation Army (Henderson) 09 837 4471
- Vinnies Auckland (Newton) 09 815 6122 or 0800 6800
- Hope Centre (New Lynn) 02108048436
- Vision West (Glen Eden) 09 818 0716 – Mon, Wed, Fri only

If you're in Auckland, [the Auckland Emergency Management website](#) may be useful.

If you know someone who needs financial assistance, tell them to call the free government helpline 0800 779 997

(8am–1am, seven days a week).

Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Translated COVID-19 information can be found [here](#).

Looking after your Haurora/Wellbeing

There are numerous websites and apps designed to help support your wellbeing. This [Ministry of Health website page](#) has some great links to health advice, and mental health and wellbeing resources.

Our Guidance Counsellor

Vivian Fan is operating remotely during Level 4 lockdown. We encourage our students to contact her (v.fan@gc.ac.nz) if they need help. We know lockdown can be a really challenging time and we want students and whanau to know they are not alone. We encourage you to reach out.

If you need to speak to someone outside of school hours, please call 1737 or Youthline 0800 376633 / txt 234 which is a 24 hour service.



School Communications

Contact details

Please ensure we have up-to-date contact details. You can do this by updating them on the [Parent Portal](#), or by sending us an email admin@gc.ac.nz.

Please keep up to date with College events via our online calendar below. This will be updated as information comes to hand.

If you have any questions about our College communication, please feel free to contact me at admin@gc.ac.nz.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view
the school calendar



YEAR 9 2022 ENROLMENT

ONLINE ANYTIME - WWW.GC.AC.NZ

IN PERSON - CONTACT ELLIE NEWTON TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT
E.NEWTON@GC.AC.NZ OR 444 9066

To follow @glenfieldcollegesport click below



To see the latest sports fixtures click below





Glenfield College Uniform Available from 'New Zealand Uniforms'

Store: 19A Douglas Alexander Pde, Albany

Phone: 09 477 6300

Email: albany@nzuniforms.com

Store Hours: Weekdays 9am – 5pm, Saturday 9am – 1pm

Web: www.nzuniforms.com

Payment Options:

NZ Uniforms accepts Cash, Eftpos, all major Credit Cards and WINZ payments. We also offer finance through Gilrose Finance, PartPay and have a 'Uniform Club' which is a great way to save for your School Uniform purchases.

'Uniform Club' :

It's easy, set up an account and make automatic payments (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) in advance and watch your balance grow. When you are ready to make your Schoolwear purchases with NZU, your money is already available and waiting to be spent! Call or visit the store today to get started.



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[Kaipatiki Road](#)

Glenfield

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