

## **Message from the Principal**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers

*Tena Koutou Katoa*



Mr E A Benton  
Principal

### **Winter Sports Registration - 13<sup>th</sup> March**

Registrations for all our winter sports will be taken on **Tuesday evening from 6:30pm in the college Kaipatiki Theatre**. Once again I urge you to encourage your child to play a sport. Sport is a healthy activity and a busy, healthy teenager has a far better chance of staying out of trouble than one with too much spare time on his/her hands. Sport also requires dedication, commitment and the ability to work with others, all great life skills. We don't only want experts or champions in our sports programme; we simply want people who are prepared to have a go. While playing a sport costs money, the benefits to a teenager from being actively involved in sports far outweigh the costs. We are quite prepared to accept payment over time through automatic payment or other arrangements so that every student who wants to play a sport is playing. I look forward to meeting you on the side-lines this winter season.

## **Reports**

Interim reports will go home in the post next week. These are an indication of how your child has settled to work at school this year but do not provide information on their achievement to date as very little summative assessment (testing) has been completed as yet.

### **Report Evening - 27<sup>th</sup> March**

There will be an oral report evening in the college theatre on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** where you will get achievement information on your child from the teachers in person.

## **Attendance**

While overall our attendance rate for all students compares favourably with other schools, it is far from acceptable by my standards. Last year we had a 91% attendance rate. This means that on average, every student had 16.2 days off school last year. This is more than three weeks each. Many students had no time or very little time off and therefore a minority had far too much time off. Put simply, the more time off school a student has, the more likely they are to fail. Students should be at school unless they are too sick or injured to get here. Sadly, some students have too many soft days off and the cost in failure is huge, let alone habits forming that lead to difficulties keeping jobs in the future.

Please do not ask to take students out of school during the school day unless it is absolutely unavoidable and hugely important. This should be avoided at all costs.

This year we are not punishing students directly for lateness or truancy because for some, the accumulated detentions were themselves a barrier to attending school. Where a concern develops we will let you know but the onus is on you to make sure that your child attends school. Lateness and truancy earn demerit points along with rules transgressions such as incorrect uniform and being removed from classes for disrupting others.

## **Behaviour Management**

The demerit points that students earn in a term for breaches of school rules (see above) accumulate and lead to the following actions:

After 10 points: The Level Dean will contact you and inform you of the issues involved so that you can talk to your child.

After 20 points: A Senior Manager will invite you in to meet with you and the student and Dean to seek agreement on targets to reduce the behaviours causing concern and strategies that could help.

## Parent Portal

We are able to give you access to some information on your child online which means that you can be kept up to date in real time on things such as attendance and assessment results. In order to do so, we want you to email us with a reliable and secure email address so that we can safely send you a login and set of instructions. We hope that you find this useful. **Please email to [reply@gc.ac.nz](mailto:reply@gc.ac.nz) and type in the subject 'PARENT PORTAL'.**

*Ted Benton*  
*Principal*

### ABSENCES

Please contact the Student Centre on 444-9066 ext 813 or email the attendance administrator on [absences@gc.ac.nz](mailto:absences@gc.ac.nz) to report your child's absence.

### Database Update

Please inform the school if the contact details that we currently hold for you have changed in any way. Your child can hand in a note from you to the Student Centre, or you can send an email to [reply@gc.ac.nz](mailto:reply@gc.ac.nz) alternatively, please call the school office on 444-9066.

#### What you need to know about the **Student Centre?**

- **Entry through the door on the left side of the Administration Block.**
- **Payment Centre is there.**
- **Services provided for parents and students:**
  - **Late sign-in to school**
  - **Early sign-out from school**
  - **Lost property**
  - **Information to reach your child**
  - **Pick up your child during school hours (eg when your child is sick)**

#### Important Dates

March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Sports Registration
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Report Night
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term 1
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Term 2 begins
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Anzac Day

#### Choi Kwang Do Martial Art North Harbour



Our Teen/Adult classes provide a safe non-competitive and non-contact environment to learn a self defence martial art. Have some fun, grow in confidence and keep active while learning a valuable life skill. There is no sparring as we prefer defensive drills and no locking out of joints to maintain health and wellbeing. All fitness and ability levels are welcome to this family martial art.

Contact Tracey on 027 408 6839 or visit [www.choinorthharbour.co.nz](http://www.choinorthharbour.co.nz) for more information.

### Electronic Newsletters

**The school has started emailing newsletters to parents. If you have recently changed your email address, please inform the school by emailing to [reply@gc.ac.nz](mailto:reply@gc.ac.nz) stating your child's name. The newsletter will also be available on our webpage [www.glenfieldcollege.school.nz](http://www.glenfieldcollege.school.nz).**