



Columba College

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, 2005

Dear Parents and Students,

Warm greetings to you all at the start of a new school year and best wishes for 2005. I hope you have all had a happy and relaxing holiday, and feel refreshed for the year ahead. School is starting to come to life again, and we are looking forward to seeing our students back.

Chaplaincy at the College

From a newsletter at the end of last year, you will be aware that Mrs Barbara Dineen decided she would like to move into a full French-teaching position at the College, taking Years 12 and 13 as well, when Mrs Evans indicated that she would not be teaching in 2005. An appointment was therefore subsequently made to the position of HOD Religious Studies for this year which did not include a Chaplaincy component as consideration was being given to developing a Chaplaincy model for the College.

We have been in discussion with The Rev. Martin Stewart, Minister of Maori Hill Presbyterian Church, and The Rev. Fyfe Blair, Minister of Roslyn Presbyterian Church, and through them with the new Highgate Church (the new name for the combined Maori Hill and Roslyn Presbyterian Churches).

We are very pleased that the Board of Governors and the Highgate Church have agreed to a Chaplaincy model for Columba College which will be expanded and developed further as time goes on.

Martin Stewart and Fyfe Blair will be Co-Chaplains of Columba College. We are delighted about this. Both men know the School, have a good understanding of it and are enthusiastic about the opportunities that Chaplaincy in a school presents.

This year the Tuesday morning assemblies and several of our Special Services will be taken by one or both of the Co-Chaplains.

We are looking forward to this important development for Columba.

Staff News

Three members of staff will be on leave for all of 2005. They are:

Mrs B. Prince	HOD Biology
Mrs J. Duncan	Careers Adviser and HOD Health
Miss S. Climo	Mathematics teacher

Dr M. Vickers, HOD Chemistry, has also applied for leave to travel overseas in Terms III and IV of this year, and his request has been approved.

Mrs L. Piebenga, HOD Geography and Social Studies, will be on maternity leave for part of Term I. She will be teaching the Year 13 Geography class only this year.

Mrs C. Sinclair (née Munro), HOD Physical Education and Health, will also be on maternity leave for part of this year, returning to teach in a part-time capacity for Terms III and IV.

Following are the arrangements made for the above:

Biology, Science and Mathematics

Mrs C. West will teach both Year 13 Biology classes, one Year 12 Biology class and Ms M. Stevely the other.

Mrs B. Duncan will be teaching two Junior Science classes this year (not one), and Miss C. Hennessey will be full-time, teaching Science and Mathematics. Mr R. Smith will teach a Mathematics class as well as Physics, and Ms R. Gemmill who is a Mathematics specialist is returning to teach one of the Year 13 Mathematics with Statistics classes.

Careers

Mrs D. Thornton will be Acting Careers Adviser in 2005.
Mrs J. Dysart will teach the Year 13 Careers Unit.

Health

Mrs V. Monteith and the Intermediate Department will manage Years 7 and 8 Health, and Mrs C. Sinclair will teach Years 9 and 10 Health for most of the year.

Geography and Social Studies

Mr S. Warburton will be teaching nearly full-time this year in the Geography and Social Studies Department, and Mrs J. Dysart will be teaching one of the Year 11 Geography classes as well as two Social Studies classes. Mrs D. Thornton will also teach Years 9 and 10 Social Studies.

Physical Education

Miss K. Dillon will be joining the staff to teach full-time when Mrs Sinclair goes on maternity leave.

Chemistry

Arrangements are still to be finalised for the cover for Dr Vickers' leave in Terms III and IV.

Late last year we also finalised the appointment of Mr Garry Patterson to the full-time, permanent position of Assistant Caretaker and Assistant Groundsman. Mr Corry is very pleased to have Mr Patterson's assistance.

New Staff

Mrs Helen Cryer

Mrs Helen Cryer, B.A. Hons (University of Wales), Postgraduate Certificate of Education (University of Wales), L.T.C.L., has been appointed Deputy Principal. This year Mrs Cryer will be teaching Years 11 and 12 English classes and Years 9 and 10 Dance and Drama, and will be Year 9 Dean.

Mrs Cryer was Deputy Head of Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School (2000-2004), a Senior Manager and Director of Sixth Form at Helenswood School (1998-2000) and Head of Student Services at Bexhill Sixth Form College (1990-1998). From 1982-1989 Mrs Cryer taught in New Zealand at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School in Wellington (English and Drama) and was also Dean of Form Four. She returned to New Zealand in September 2004 as her husband accepted a position at Otago University. Mrs Cryer is a British National (born in Wales) and a New Zealand citizen.

Miss Joanna Carroll

Miss Joanna Carroll, B.Ed., Dip.Tchg., will be teaching full-time in the Intermediate Department, mainly at Year 7 level, and will be a Year 7 form teacher.

Miss Carroll taught at Glenfield Intermediate in Auckland for the past four years. She is originally from Dunedin, and a graduate of the Dunedin College of Education. Miss Carroll will be Teacher in Charge of Waterpolo (Years 7 to 13) and will also assist with Years 7 and 8 Netball in Terms II and III.

Mrs Diane Thornton

Mrs Diane Thornton, B.A., Dip.Tchg., Cert. in TESOL (Otago Polytechnic) will be HOD Religious Studies this year (Years 7 to 13), Acting Careers Adviser and will also teach Years 9 and 10 Social Studies.

Mrs Thornton taught at Gore High School from 1985 to 2000 (History, Geography and Social Studies) and has had a life-long involvement in the Presbyterian Church and is currently active in it. She is a member of Maori Hill Presbyterian Church (new Highgate Church) where she takes Sunday School.

Miss Susannah Page

Miss Susannah Page has a one-year full-time position at the College to assist with the coverage of classes of staff on leave. She will be teaching Junior Languages, one of the Year 11 French classes, Years 7 and 8 Dance and Drama, Year 8 Swimming and Health.

Miss Page completed her secondary teacher training in 2004 at the Dunedin College of Education, having graduated from Otago University with a B.A. and a B.Com. (International Business).

Mrs Adrienne Dearnley

Mrs Adrienne Dearnley, B.A.(Hons), M.Sc.in Knowledge Based Systems (Sussex University) will be teaching full-time in the Mathematics Department. Like Miss Page, she has a one-year full-time position to assist with the coverage of staff on leave.

Mrs Dearnley completed her secondary teacher training in 2004 in Dunedin.

Miss Kate Dillon

Miss Kate Dillon, Bachelor of Sport and Recreation (Southern Institute of Technology), Dip.Tchg., will teach full-time while Mrs Sinclair is on maternity leave, and in Terms III and IV she and Mrs Sinclair will both work part-time, covering the Physical Education and Health classes from Year 9 up between them. Miss Dillon has taught full-time at Craighead Diocesan School for the past two years.

Note: Years 7 and 8 Physical Education will be taught mainly by Miss Carroll, with Mrs Harley taking one Year 8 class for P.E.

Intermediate Department Music News

Mrs Louise Drummond will be teaching both the Year 7 Music classes in 2005 while also continuing with her Core Music teaching in the Junior School.

We have wanted to expand the musical opportunities for the girls in Years 7 and 8 and are very pleased to have the following arrangements confirmed:

Mrs Drummond will be the Tutor in charge of an Intermediate Orchestra that will practise weekly. This Orchestra will be "between" the Junior School Orchestra and the senior one that Mrs Pam Hooper, HOD Music, takes.

Mrs Judith Borick has been appointed to take a Years 7 and 8 Choir that will also practise weekly. Mrs Borick has considerable depth of experience in choral work and is also one of our private Singing Tutors.

New Netball Uniform (Years 7 to 13)

A reminder that a new netball uniform is being introduced this year. We are expecting the stock to arrive prior to the commencement of the netball season and it will be sold through the School Office (a matching top and skirt made by Canterbury). The navy blue sports shirt will still be used for P.E. classes.

Absence Notes to Form Teachers (Years 1 to 13)

If your daughter or son is unwell and unable to attend school, please telephone the School Office by 9.00 a.m. on the day concerned to pass on this message.

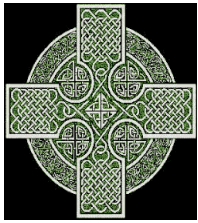
This means that unnecessary concern is not raised by a student's absence on that day.

Follow-up absence notes from a parent to the form teacher are still required. Please ensure these are written promptly and given to the form teacher on the day of your child's return to school.

The written notes assist the form teachers with the accurate recording of absences in the form register, and it is school policy that the form teachers keep the absence notes until the end of the school year.

Covering of Books

All exercise-books and note-books, etc., must be covered for the start of school. It helps to keep books in tidy order for the year. This is a requirement for pupils in the Junior School as well as Years 7 to 13 girls. Books may be covered in clear plastic, coverseal or coloured paper, plain or patterned.



Combined Service with John McGlashan College at Knox Church

Thursday, 17th February at 7.00 p.m.

A new combined Church Service with John McGlashan College is being introduced this year. It has the support of both Colleges and will enable us to mark together the start of a new academic year.

The Service will be conducted by Chaplains from both Colleges.

Girls in Years 7 to 13 will be required to attend the Service. Parents and families are warmly invited to attend.

Fittings for New Winter Kilts

Mrs L.A. Corry of Helean Kiltmakers will be at school on **Monday, 7th February from 12.50 p.m. to 1.40 p.m.** to measure girls who require new winter kilts. **The fittings will be in the School Office on the Hill Jack campus** with parents very welcome to attend. Winter uniform is worn in Terms II and III with summer uniform worn again in Term IV.

2005 TERM DATES

Term I	Monday, 31st January – Friday, 15th April
Term II	Tuesday, 3rd May - Friday, 8th July
Term III	Monday, 25th July - Friday, 23rd September
Term IV	Monday, 10th October – Friday, 9th December

Note: Monday, 2nd May is a Teacher Only Day at Columba. School will be closed for Years 1 to 13. All teaching staff will be working at school on the school-wide implementation of the GATE requirement (Gifted and Talented Education).

Exterior Painting of the Library and Hall Block

The Board of Governors approved the exterior painting of the Library and Hall Block over the Christmas holidays. The weather has been difficult for the painters, but they have managed to finish the Library, and the scaffolding is up on the Hall Block.

A new colour scheme has been selected for both, and when both Blocks are completed the “new look” should be good.

2005 School Diary and Homework Note-Book

All girls in Years 7 to 12 inclusive are issued with the School Diary and Homework Note-Book on Day 1 (it is optional for Year 13).

“MEET THE TEACHER” FUNCTIONS

Junior School

Thursday, 3rd March
3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
in the Junior School classrooms.

Years 7 to 10

Thursday, 24th February
5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
in Girton.

The Years 7 to 10 function is planned to be more informal with drinks served, providing parents and staff with the opportunity to mix and mingle.

During the function, there will be a time when the Years 7 to 10 Deans introduce themselves and also other staff such as form teachers.

As a new departure, the more formal “Meet the Teacher” functions will be held in Term II:

Years 7 and 8
Years 9 and 10
Years 11 to 13

The rationale behind this trial is:

- to give staff more time to get to know their students
- to enable staff to have a greater amount of student work and a fuller overview of student effort and progress to comment on to parents
- to reduce the period of time between a February/March “Meet the Teacher” function and the ones held in Term III.

We will be interested in parental feedback about this 2005 trial.

Areas to report to on Day 1 (Monday, 31st January)

Students are to report to the following areas by 8.30 a.m.

Junior School

All Years 1 to 6 children are to go straight to their 2005 classrooms (the teachers are in their 2004 rooms), or report to Mrs Hogg’s room if unsure.

Years 7 and 8 Recreation Room of Katharine Buchan House.

Years 9 and 10 Caroline Freeman Theatre of Girton.

Year 11 Constance Hall.

Year 12 Miller Lecture Theatre of Braemar.

Year 13 Library.

There will be senior students at the main entry points to the College to help students unsure of where to go.

Other Dates for Noting

Friday, 28th January	2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Years 11 to 13 Course discussions in Girton. Students are not required to attend if their courses are unchanged or require no further discussion.
Saturday, 29th January	All new Years 7, 8, and 9 boarders and all Year 13 boarders are to be in residence by mid-afternoon. 5.30 p.m. Buffet tea for girls and their parents Dinner to follow at 5.30 p.m.
Sunday, 30th January	All other boarders are to be in residence by 4.00 p.m. for dinner to follow.
Monday, 31st January	8.30 a.m. School starts for all classes. A full day with full days to follow for the balance of the week.
Wednesday, 2nd February	8.30 a.m. Years 7 to 13 ID photographs taken at school.
Friday, 4th February	2.45 p.m. Service of Installation for the Prefects and Senior Students in Constance Hall. All Year 13 parents are warmly invited to attend. Afternoon-tea will follow in the dining-room.
Sunday, 13th February	12 noon. Year 7 barbecue at the College for Year 7 parents, girls and Intermediate Department staff.
Monday, 14th February	Years 7 to 13 Athletic Sports at the Caledonian Ground from 8.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Postponement date: Tuesday, 15th February. All parents are welcome to attend.
Wednesday, 16th February	8.45 a.m. start. Years 1 to 13 Form photographs taken.

Note: The next newsletter will contain a fuller Term Calendar.

This brings the first newsletter of the year to an end. We look forward to a purposeful year of teaching and learning and to the two major highlights of 2005 – the construction of the Sports Centre and the College's 90th Anniversary at Labour Weekend.

Good wishes to you all,

Yours sincerely,



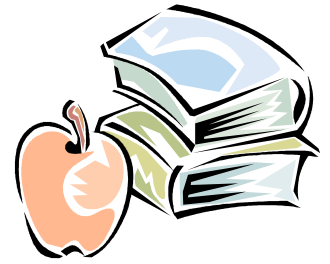
Elizabeth Wilson
Principal
24th January, 2005

Note: Canteen Price List for Term I 2005 on back page.



SCHOOL CANTEEN
Term I 2005

Price List



No deep-fried food is sold in the School Canteen

A list of specials will be posted each day.

♥ Bagel	2.00	American Hot dog (Wednesday)	2.00
♥ Cheese rolls	1.00	Chicken chips	1.00
♥ Chicken salad and roll	3.00	Chicken and wedges	2.50
♥ Chicken or Ham sandwich	2.00	Garlic bread	1.00
♥ Chicken Subway	2.00	Hot chips (baked in oven, low fat chips)	1.50
♥ Fresh yoghurt	1.00	Hot dog	1.00
♥ Fruit	1.00	Hot noodles	1.50
♥ Milkshake (low fat milk)	1.50	Ice cream	2.50/85c
♥ Smoothie (made with fruit and low fat yoghurt - Friday)	1.00	Just Juice	1.50
♥ Sushi (Wednesday)	2.50	Lolly cake/slice of the day	1.00
♥ Wraps	2.00	Muffins (Wednesday)	1.00
		Nachos and beans	2.00
		Pizza – Pizza Haven (Friday)	2.50
		Potato chips	1.00
		Spring rolls (5) (baked in oven)	1.00
		Wedges (oven-baked) and sour cream ("Lite")	1.50

M. Marx (Mrs)
Canteen Supervisor
24th January, 2005