



1 February 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to all our students and hoping that this year will be less disruptive than we endured in 2021. The first day has commenced very positively with nearly full attendance across all year levels. It is great to see the students re-engaging with their learning and friends. By Period 3 we were into lessons. This year we welcomed 470 new students to our community and our roll has increased by 25 students, across the year levels.

Swimming Sports Preliminary Heats:

These start tomorrow and only students who are swimming may be out of class to attend their heats at the appropriate time slot. Masks do not need to be worn while participating.

The **Swimming Finals**, which at Red level restrictions unfortunately will be for finalists and relay participants only, will be held on **Friday 11 February** afternoon. All other students will be in class as normal and parents sadly will not be able to attend.

Further information can be found on the Sports OLE page under 'swimming'. So, students please remember to bring your SKC togs, towel, sunscreen and goggles and swim for your House.

Formal Fridays

For those students, parents and caregivers who are new to the College, let me explain what this means, in Term 1 students do not need to wear their formal uniform every Friday, however, it must be worn on special occasions. During the Winter Terms (T2 and T3), Formal Uniform is worn every Friday.

This Friday, **4 February** every student will be having their **individual portrait and ID photos** taken. Students must look their best and wear their formals to school for the day. Further information about the time and the Elliot Hall venue will be in the daily notices.

Unfortunately, given that we are in 'red level' we are unable to take any large group photos. Please ensure your child/children meet the College grooming and jewellery requirements, or they will not be able to have their photograph taken. There will be a catch-up day next week (**Wednesday 9 February**) for those students that may be absent this Friday.

Mask Wearing

Just a reminder that the wearing of masks in class and on school transport is compulsory. All students are encouraged to wear a mask when outdoors except when eating or exercising / playing. As they say *'don't leave home without it'*.

Vaccination Status

As we have previously mentioned, while there is currently no requirement for students to be vaccinated to attend the College, there are a number of activities outside of the normal Teaching and Learning and other College programmes where students must be fully vaccinated to participate.

COLLEGE

For Boys and Girls in Years 7-13
130 Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga 2010
PO Box 51060, Pakuranga, Auckland 2140
Phone +64 9 577 0749 Fax +64 9 577 0700

BOYS' SCHOOL

For Boys in Years 1-8
82 Shore Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28790, Remuera, Auckland 1541
Phone +64 9 520 7682 Fax +64 9 520 7688

GIRLS' SCHOOL

For Girls in Years 1-8
514 Remuera Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28399, Remuera, Auckland 1541
Phone +64 9 520 1400 Fax +64 9 524 7657

PRESCHOOL

For Boys and Girls aged 3 and 4
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College Sport Auckland has required that all students taking part in inter-school competitions and tournaments must be fully vaccinated, (currently two vaccinations), and have now requested that we gather proof of vaccination. Likewise, for a number of our EOTC activities the external providers have stated that they can require all participants (staff, students and any parent help) to be fully vaccinated. These requirements may change over time; however, we need to be clear and transparent on the impact these requirements may have on some of our regular College activities.

For students who have had two vaccinations, please upload your child's 'My Vaccine Pass', or a photo of the 'My Covid Record' from the Ministry of Health website, and send it to a special email set up to verify the information against our medical records. vaccinepass@saintkentigern.com. The information is held private and is accessible only by our registered nurses in our Health Centre and Senior Management. Should your child elect to participate in an activity that requires full vaccination the data will be referenced.

For those students who wish to participate in College Sport we recommend that you upload the information straight away to ensure your child does not miss summer sports opportunities. For everyone else please upload the information over the next week, or at such a point that two vaccinations have been done.

Sunday House Chapels – Unfortunately given the current level of restrictions the Sunday House Chapel Services must be cancelled until further notice.

Major Events

We continue to review all Major Events at the College and given the Covid conditions it is likely that a number of these events will be postponed or cancelled. At this stage, the Year 7 (Week 7) and Year 9 (Week 4) Camps are planned to go ahead, information regarding the Year 9 Camp will be emailed out this week. However, these may not be held if current circumstances change.

Online Learning

As highlighted previously the College may need to move to distance-learning at short notice. This decision will not be taken lightly, however, the health and wellbeing of our students and staff are our priority, together with the ability to function effectively on site. The longer we are able to stay on site the greater we feel the students will benefit from their learning experiences.

Your sincerely,



Duncan McQueen
PRINCIPAL (Acting)

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