

DNI YEAR 7 ORIENTATION EVENING



25 NOVEMBER 2020

INTRODUCTION - ORIENTATION NIGHT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS EVENING IS:

- TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO FEEL COMFORTABLE IN THE DNI ENVIRONMENT
- TO ADDRESS AS MANY UNKNOWNNS FOR STUDENTS AS POSSIBLE
- TO ANSWER AS MANY PARENT QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE
- TO INTRODUCE STUDENTS TO PEOPLE FROM OTHER CONTRIBUTING SCHOOLS

PROGRAMME

5PM WELCOME!

5:15PM QUESTIONS FOLLOWED BY MIX AND MINGLE, ASK QUESTIONS, BBQ!

Key Dates Timeline

The 2021 Term One start date is Tuesday February 2, at 8:55am.

We will begin the year with a mihi whakatau (welcome) and parents are most welcome to join us for this.

- Year 7 students (and parents) assemble in the Design Lobby. Please arrive between 8:45 and 8:55am.
- Year 8 students gather in the school hall, with the staff and begin the mihi whakatau at 8:55am, followed by refreshments. This should take about 45-50 minutes in total.

December 2020

Wednesday 16 Office closes at 1pm for the year
Tuesday 22 Adventure Outfitters close for Christmas Break

January 2021

Thursday 7 Adventure Outfitters re-open (Mon - Thurs, 8:00-4:30pm and Fri 8:00-4:30pm for January only - Fridays normally 8:00am-1pm). Adventure Outfitters will also be staying open until 6:30pm on Thursday 14, 21 and 29 January.
Mid January Class placements will be emailed out
Tuesday 19 Office re-opens, 9am - 3pm daily
Thurs 28 & Fri 29 Teacher Only Day

February 2021

Monday 1 Feb Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 2 Feb School opens
Weds 17, 5:30pm Class Meeting (opportunity to meet the teacher and hear about class routines)

Term 1 (March) Noho Marae (one night sleepover) for all students

School Day Timetable

8:25am School is open to students
8:55am School starts
10:40 - 11:00am Morning tea break
12:25 - 12:35pm Lunch eating (seated in classrooms)
12:35 - 1:25pm Lunch break (warning bell at 1.20pm)
2:55pm End of school bell
3:10pm All students to have left site

Office Open Dates

Our school office will close on Wednesday 16 December at 1pm and will reopen on Tuesday 19 January 2021, at 9am.

School Donation / Modules Costs

The school donation for 2021 has been set by the BOT at \$75, this is a voluntary donation towards general school activities. The Modules cost is \$90 for the year, this is a recoverable fee which is used to purchase the products and goods required to run the six module classes. These are payable by bulk payment in February, term by term or by direct credit on a regular basis. We also have eftpos facilities in the office. Please talk to Anne or Lucy about the option which best suits you.

Stationery

DNI use OfficeMax MySchool. This provider guarantees their product both in terms of quality and price. The list will be available here www.myschool.co.nz/Dunedinnorth and on our website, from 1 December. You DO NOT have to use OfficeMax.

We expect that children will have their stationery by **Tuesday 2 February**.

Buses

DNI is well placed for bus access. The St Clair/Normanby bus, along with the Opoho/Shiel Hill bus travels through town to the Gardens regularly. Bus services also run from Pine Hill, Sawyers Bay and Waikouaiti to DNI. For the timetables please visit www.dni.school.nz

Noho Marae

We hold an overnight experience in term 1 each year. In 2021 this will be a noho marae in March. The purpose of the overnight is to allow students to make friends in a non-classroom environment as well as taking part in activities that allow them to learn history and experience tikanga in our local environment. This year we'll be heading to Karitane and the cost will be between \$50 and \$70 per student. Additionally, there are always a number of EOTC (Education Outside The Classroom) activities offered in electives (which run in Term 3 and Term 4 each year) and at least one elective involves overnight stays.

Music Lessons (*Term time only*)

At DNI we offer a range of options for learning a musical instrument. Itinerant music teachers are employed to run these classes and they involve a small cost. Most lessons take place during the school day and you can sign up for music lessons on our website.

Please let us know if you require hardship funding to enable your child to attend music lessons. All of these classes blend with, and complement, the school music programme.

Summer Sports

Engagement in sports is a great way to keep fit and learn valuable social skills. We offer a range of options and we're always keen to offer more where there is enough interest. You can sign up for summer sports on our website.

After School Art Classes (*Term time only*)

Julie Butler, our Textiles' teacher, is also an artist and offers individual and small group tuition for students attending DNI. Classes will be based on fifteen students per session.

Cost per student, per session, is \$20.00 including materials, visiting guest artists and supervision. There is a range of interesting project ideas for students. The lessons are on Tuesdays, 3:15 - 5:15pm during term time. If you are interested, please contact Julie Butler on Ph: 029-200 3533, 473 0173 or julieb@dni.school.nz

Class Placement Letter

In mid January we will email a letter to enrolled students advising of their class teacher and when parents and students can call at school to meet with their teacher in the classroom environment before school starts (likely to be Jan 29 or Feb 1).

Bring Your Own Device

Increasingly students are using devices to complete much of their work in class. We are a Google school and use Google classroom and the range of google applications to support teaching and learning. It is not compulsory that your child has their own device, but it is really helpful. If you are considering purchasing a device we would recommend a simple chromebook would be sufficient.

Blanket Permission

At the start of next year you will be asked to sign a blanket permission slip that grants us permission to take children off school grounds for learning experiences. This saves us seeking permission for each and every activity. We will however inform you of outings ahead of time and will also seek written permission for high risk activities and any event that requires an overnight stay.

Lunch Options

We offer the following lunch options at DNI:

- Lunch-on-line on Thursday (Sushi) and Fridays (Hell Pizza). Lunches online can be ordered by parents via their website <https://www.lunchonline.co.nz/> up until 8:45am on the day of delivery. All further information can be found on their website.
- On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays students who need to purchase lunch are expected to do so before they enter the school grounds in the morning. Once at school we do not expect students to leave again.

Lunch online ordering will be available from week 2 onwards

Uniform

Our majority of our uniform is available through **Adventure Outfitters**, 455 Princes Street (Ph: 477 5304) or you may also be able to purchase second hand items on Trade Me, or via the Facebook group Dunedin School Uniform Buy/Sell/Swap. The uniform has some additional options to ensure that our uniforms are as comfortable and gender neutral as possible.

V Neck Vest w DNI Logo	\$ 89.00	Black dress shorts	\$ 50.00
Microfleece w DNI Logo	\$ 49.00	Black dress Pants	\$ 65.00 (Terms 2 and 3 only)
Polo Shirt w DNI Logo	\$ 37.00	Culottes	\$ 65.00
Sports Top w DNI Logo	\$ 37.00	DNI Socks	\$ 15.00
Sports Shorts	\$ 20.00		
V Neck Jersey w DNI Logo	\$ 99.00	*Kilt (NZ Uniforms)	\$ 125.00
Formal School Shoes	See guide on website		

PE shoes - sports/gym shoes

*** The Kilt is supplied through NZ Uniforms located at 342 Lower Moray Place (Ph: 929 1213).**

Adventure Outfitters will be able to advise the appropriate socks required, depending on the options chosen OR the full Uniform Policy and School Shoe guide are available on the school website www.dni.school.nz

Please also note that coloured hair (other than natural colours) is not acceptable.

See Key Date Timeline for the days and times Adventure Outfitters.

School Hours

School is open for students from 8:25am in the mornings. While there may well be staff here earlier than this we can not guarantee that your children will be supervised so we ask that you do not drop off children before 8:25am. Classrooms are not opened before 8:25am.

School finishes at 2:55pm. With the exception of children that wait for the north line bus (Waitati, Warrington, Karitane, Waikouaiti), we expect that all students leave school by 3pm.

School Photos

Kelk Photography will be here in the first week of school, for individual and class photos. Please ensure students are at school on time.

Mobile Phones

As mobile phones become more accessible schools are needing to consider management of mobile phone use. At DNI we accept that many children have phones and that they are a necessary communication method for parents after and before school.

Students may be invited to use their phone during school time for a learning activity. Teachers will make this invitation very clear.

At all other times between 8.45am and 3pm, we expect that mobile phones are switched off and out of sight. Students are invited to check phones for messages from parents between 12:25 and 12:35pm (the designated seated lunch period).

If you need to contact your child urgently outside of these times please phone the school office.

Using phones at other times in the day will result in the phone being removed from the student and returned at 3pm. We take no responsibility for phones that are removed in this instance.

We also ask for your support in ensuring that appropriate methods of conflict resolution are maintained. At times students telephone or text their parents during the day if a conflict arises between another student or a teacher. Children are often very upset at this point, and consequently parents feel very anxious about their child, and it is not uncommon for the office staff or principal to receive a phone call from a parent before a child has even reported an incident to a teacher. We need time to resolve issues at school and we ask that you direct your child to a teacher, rather than taking the issue up for them, if they communicate with you during the school day. If an issue remains unresolved by 3pm then by all means get in touch with your child's teacher.

Internet Access and Social Media

During School Hours

Internet access is made available to students enrolled at DNI to further their education and to staff to enhance their professional activities including teaching, research, administration and management. The school's internet access policy has been drawn up to protect all parties - the students, the staff and the school. The school reserves the right to examine or delete any files that may be held on our drive or to monitor any internet sites visited. This includes mobile phones or devices being used by students during school hours. A user agreement will be issued to you at the start of the year.

Facebook (and most other social media including instagram) requires everyone to be at least **13 years old** before they can create an account. Creating an account with false information is a violation of their terms. This includes accounts registered on the behalf of someone under 13. While we have little control over how students use technology outside of school, we wholeheartedly support this age limit as we find that many conflicts arise, or are continued via social media. Using social media sites at school are not permitted.

Outside of School Hours

While devices and the internet are a well entrenched and valuable educational tool and we certainly make good use of both at DNI, we also believe that parents/caregivers should not underestimate the negative impacts of unmonitored internet access and we cannot stress strongly enough the need for you, as parents/caregivers, to have really tight boundaries on internet and phone usage outside of school. We are also experiencing many children exhibiting behaviours akin to addiction around use of screens and there is [mounting research around potential damage to young brains](#).

Our recommendations include:

- No screens (phones, computers, ipads) after 7:00pm
- No screens in bedrooms (buy an alarm clock if your child needs one)
- Use Parental Control Software such as for example Net Nanny <https://www.netnanny.com/>
- Make use of internet filtering that allows you to shut down internet to particular devices at certain times
- No illegal use of social media/games (note that most social media platforms are R13 and games such as Fortnite are R12 - there is a good reason for this).
- Check out Netsafe <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/social-media-parents/>

More and more the associated effects of inappropriate internet usage (especially around social media) are spilling into school and affecting children negatively. It is time consuming and difficult to resolve internet based issues and our first question to you as parents/caregivers will be “have you addressed the recommendations listed above”.

With regard to social media, it is our strong belief that it does little to enhance the lives of children and in fact often results in low self confidence and insidious bullying. We find that social media is addictive for children and they become reliant on ‘likes’ and online feedback to guide daily life. Like any addiction we know is hard to quit, but we strongly suggest that if your child is already connected to these platforms, you reduce or remove access.

Regrettably we are not in a position to help resolve internet/device issues unless you have ensured that the above recommendations are in place.

Homework

Homework is one of those topics that polarise people! There are always as many families requesting homework as there are vehemently opposed to it.

For this reason we are flexible with homework. We do expect children to get involved in a range of extra-school learning activities including sports, music, computing clubs etc. We also expect children to read daily.

Teachers will outline their own expectations around homework at the Class Meeting night. If these expectations do not work for your family, you are welcome to negotiate an alternative with the teacher (please make an appointment to do this).

Health and Participation

It is really important that children are kept at home when they are unwell to limit the spread of illness. Equally, we expect that all students present at school are able to participate in the school programme (swimming, PE etc). If your child is unwell, or not well enough to fully participate in the school day, then the best place for them is bed, with a hottie :) We thank you for your support with this.

Skateboards, Scooters and Bikes

Students are welcome to play on skateboards and scooters at break times, but not bikes. All students riding a bike or scooter to school will need a bike lock - we take no responsibility for the security of bikes and scooters.