12 February 2019

Dear Bishops Parents and families,

**COLLEGIATE WEEKEND: FRIDAY 22 TO SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY**

It has been a wonderful start to the term, with 25 new students settling in and lots of activity for all the Bishops girls. We had a fantastic Bishops House Athletics Event and Chapel Service on Tuesday. The girls have been participating in swimming and athletics preliminary events these first two weeks. Added to this there have been several House runs, all in preparation for the upcoming Collegiate weekend. Our Year 13 girls are to be commended for their organisation and preparation, leading from the front in all these events. Our House activities and buddy system have formed unity and friendships within the House.

The first traditional Collegiate Weekend will be Friday 22 February to Sunday 24 February when the Inter-House Swimming and Athletics sports will be held. This is also an opportunity for all our parents, Old Boys and Girls and new day and boarding families to meet, reconnect or get to know each other.

The Individual Swimming Championships begin at 9.45am on Friday, where Bishops will go head to head with Godwin House in an effort to gain the Girls’ House Championship title. Following the students’ lunch, we have presentations at 2pm for the morning’s events. The Inter-House Swimming Championships begin at 2.10pm. In this event the girls compete in their affiliated boys’ Houses. It is important that every student is protected from the sun so hats and sunblock are compulsory.

Following the swimming events, afternoon tea will be served at 4.30pm for visitors in the Headmaster’s Garden. The Museum will also be open throughout the weekend should you wish to explore some of the School’s fantastic history. On Friday evening at 7.00pm the PFA host their annual Wine and Cheese event in Big School. This is a great chance to enjoy each other’s company over a glass of wine.

On Saturday there are New Student Parents & Teacher meetings in the Dining Hall, beginning at 8.30am through to 10.30am. Students should attend in their Grey uniform with parents. There are multiple parent information forums on Saturday including the PFA (Parent & Friends Association) AGM starting at 11.15am.

We are looking forward to hosting you at the Bishops House lunch on Saturday 23 February. This will be an excellent opportunity for us to meet and socialise, and hopefully you will find a few minutes to speak to the fellow parents of Bishops House. Please note that the Bishops House BBQ Lunch will be $10.00 per head for adults and $5.00 for non-Collegiate children. This will be charged to your account.
The House lunch is considered an event of obligation for the girls, so their attendance is expected, please. For our Saturday lunch and Sunday morning, in order to make it a memorable occasion for your daughters and to help keep costs down, we would welcome a small culinary contribution:

Year 9 – A dressed salad for Saturday lunch
Year 10 – Slice or biscuits for Sunday morning tea
Year 11 – A dressed salad for Saturday lunch
Year 12 – A dressed salad for Saturday lunch
Year 13 – Slice or biscuits for Sunday morning tea

We will require some assistance for Saturday lunch and would appreciate any volunteers willing to cook on the barbeques and serve at the drinks station. Please let me know if you are willing to help.

As the lunchtime barbeque is held outdoors, we recommend all families bring sunshade to protect you from the midday sun. A picnic rug or chairs would also be useful as seating is limited. Please bring sunscreen and hats as well. Disposable plates and cutlery will be provided.

Please RSVP via email with numbers attending to louise.martin@collegiate.school.nz or phone/message Matron on 06 3490210 extn 745 by Monday 18 February.

Following the lunch, we move to Cooks Gardens for the Inter House Athletics Championships. This begins at 5pm and concludes at approximately 9pm. An evening meal will be provided for all students at the venue.

On Sunday morning tea will be served in the Bishops House Dayroom at 9.15am. Bishops will then join Harvey and Grey for a Chapel service at 10am.

Please note that Collegiate Weekends are an integral part of Collegiate life, and essential for the maintenance of our Special Character. They are considered compulsory events, although the Headmaster is able to grant leave in exceptional circumstances, at his discretion. Please either email Wayne Brown directly at wayne.brown@collegiate.school.nz or me at sjaane.simpson@collegiate.school.nz outlining the details of your leave request.

Monday 25 February

Daygirls, please be aware that School will start on Monday 25 February with a Roll call at 9.15am.

Select the following link to view the summary of events for the weekend.
CollegiateWeekendArrangements or refer to the School website: http://www.collegiate.school.nz

We will continue to remind your child that a sunhat and sunscreen is a must over the weekend.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to Bishops House for these celebrations and to a very enjoyable weekend.

Regards

Sjaane Simpson

Bishops Housemaster