

# DNI YEAR 7 ORIENTATION EVENING



21 NOVEMBER 2018

# 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

- |        |                                     |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 6PM    | WELCOME!                            |
| 6:15PM | QUESTIONS                           |
| 6:25PM | MIX AND MINGLE, ASK QUESTIONS, BBQ! |

## Key Dates Timeline

The 2019 Term One start date is Thursday 31 January, at 8:45am.

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 8:30 and 8:45am.
- Year 8 students gather in the school hall, with the Staff and begin the mihi whakatau at 8:45am, followed by refreshments. This should take about 45-50 minutes in total.

### December 2018

Monday 17                      Office closes at 2pm for the year  
Friday 21                      Adventure Outfitters close for Christmas Break

### January 2019

Monday 7 January          Adventure Outfitters re-open (Mon - Thurs, 7:30-4:30pm; Fri 7:30-2:00pm)  
Mid January                  Class placements will be emailed out  
Monday 21                      Office re-opens, 9am - 3pm daily  
Jan 28, 29, 30                Teacher Only Days  
Thursday 31                    School opens

### February 2019

Weds 13, 5.30pm              Class Meeting (opportunity to meet the teacher and hear about class routines)

### Term 1 (April)

Marae based camps (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 Monday 17 December and will reopen on Monday 21 January 2019, at 9am.

### School Donation / Modules Costs

The school donation for 2019 has been set by the BOT at \$75. 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 Helen about the option which best suits you.

### Stationery

DNI use OfficeMax myschool. This provider guarantees their product both in terms of quality and price. This facility will be available online **from early December** at [www.myschool.co.nz/Dunedinnorth](http://www.myschool.co.nz/Dunedinnorth); the Stationery List will also be available on our school website from the same time.

We expect that children will have their stationery by **Tuesday February 5 at the very latest.**

## **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](http://www.dni.school.nz)

## **Camp**

We hold an overnight camp at the start of the year. The purpose of the camp is to allow students to make friends in a non-classroom environment as well as taking part in activities that will challenge them.

We were booked at Puketeraki Marae however we've recently been advised that they will be having maintenance work done so they won't be able to accommodate us. Finding an alternative so late in the year is tricky and so we'll likely take the opportunity to use the Ōtākou Marae, albeit later in the term than usual. At this stage it's looking likely that this will be in April. We'll come back to you with further details on the new year. They 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](mailto: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 30).

## **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 essential that you child has their own device, as we do have a small number of chromebooks in each class which can be shared, but it is really helpful. If you are considering purchasing a device we would recommend a simple chromebook would be sufficient.

## Lunch Options

We offer the following lunch options at DNI:

- Lunch-on-line on Wednesday (Pita Pit), 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 and Tuesdays 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, Thursday 7 February onwards.

## Uniform

Our uniform is available through Adventure Outfitters at 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	Kilt	\$ 145.00
V Neck Jersey w DNI Logo	\$ 99.00	Sweatshirt	\$ 45.00
Formal School Shoes	See guide on website		

PE shoes - sports/gym shoes

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](http://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.

## 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.

## 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 8:25.

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.

## **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).

### **School Photos**

Kelk Photography will be here on Tuesday February 5, for individual and class photos. Please ensure students are at school on time.

### **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 fully to 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 to school will need a bike lock - we take no responsibility for the security of bikes.