

10 December 2015

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Welcome to St Margaret's College!

Starting secondary school can be an overwhelming experience for anyone. Regardless of where you have come from there are many things about St Margaret's College that may be different from your daughter's old school environment and she will experience many changes. For some of you it has been a long wait, yet for others it has been a relatively new thing. Whatever your story, it is great to have you as part of our St Margaret's College Middle School.

At times during this holiday, your daughter will probably feel sad at what she is leaving behind, while also excited about what is to come. There will be times when she will probably even feel a little anxious – don't worry, a little anxiety is a good thing. You and your daughter are heading on an exciting new journey together. To make your daughter and you feel a little more at ease, I have put together a few key dates and hints for you. I hope they help! Please also find enclosed a one-page document for your daughter to put on her noticeboard or on the fridge.

#### Dates for your diary

- **Tuesday 26 January, 12.30-3.30pm**

Year 9 Peer Support with Year 13s and Powhiri practice. More detailed information is included in this mailout.

- **Wednesday 27 January, 8.25am**

8.25am Welcoming Ceremony / Powhiri

Year 9 students are to meet their Year 13 buddies. New students to St Margaret's College need to make their way to gather outside the Atrium (their Year 13 buddy will point them in the right direction). Returning students will go straight into the Chapel. All students, at the conclusion of this event, will go to tutor time, followed by the normal timetable.

Please ensure your daughter brings her laptop, swimming togs and towel, pencil case and paper for the week as she will need these at different times.

- **Thursday 28 January**

Normal timetable until 2.55pm. From 3.00-4.30pm will be the Arts and Sports Registration for all Year 7-13 girls. NB: Parents are welcome to attend the Arts and Sports Sign-up.

- **Friday 29 January**

Normal timetable.

#### WEEK 2

School timetable as per timetable – nothing extra to remember!

#### WEEK 3

- **Monday 8 February**

School closed to observe Waitangi Day

- **Tuesday 9 February, 5.00-7.00pm**

8.30am-3.30pm St Margaret's College Athletic Sports held at St Andrew's College  
(pp date, 11 February) – Decision will be posted on the SMC website

5.00-7.00pm Curriculum Evening and Camp Info followed by drinks and nibbles, Atrium

- **Friday 12 February**

School closed for Tutor Group Goal Setting Interviews – You will need to make a time with your daughter's tutor to set a range of goals for 2016, including Academic. Your daughter attends these interviews.

**WEEK 4**

- **Monday 15 February**

8.30am All Year 9 students to attend Camp at Boyle River leaving from Papanui Road. Meet outside Kilburn House and returning by 3.30pm on Friday 19 February.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K Gray".

Kathryn Gray  
**Year 9 Dean and Head of Middle School**