



## PARENTS & FRIENDS *of Dio*

Over the course of 2024 Parents & Friends has turned to the Year 13 theme 'looking back to move forward' as we planned events and upcoming projects. Borrowing from the girls, we too have taken time to reflect on what has worked, our successes, our trials and tribulations, using these reflections to develop a plan to try new things, grow and move through 2024 and into 2025 ready for what's next.

In Term 4 we held a new event, a Junior School Parent Daughter breakfast. Expanding on our original Father Daughter breakfast of years gone by, we had already gone off book in Term 2 with a Senior School Father Daughter Quiz. Promising not to leave out the young ones, we were thrilled when Brett Fairweather, world aerobic champion and creator of Jump Jam agreed to travel to Auckland for this event. Brett not only has years of awards in his field of aerobics, but he took his passion for this sport and decided to focus on bringing fitness and fun to young children across New Zealand and Australia. Jump Jam has been a longstanding morning activity in the Junior School: the music kicks off at 8:15am every morning, rain or shine, and the girls get out and wake up their bodies and minds with joyful movement. The breakfast was an action-packed and inspirational event and we thank Brett and Linda Fairweather for joining us at Dio to celebrate the importance of health and physical wellbeing.



We held our annual cocktail party in November, a favourite event with parents across the entire school and especially those with girls in Year 13. The year-end cocktail party, like the Dio brownie, never goes out of fashion and is always well attended.

Speaking of the brownie, our café did a roaring trade over 2024, giving girls a chance to pick up a treat, parents a chance to not pack lunch for a day, and many volunteers a chance to step behind the scenes and engage with the Dio community. Our staff keep the menu fresh with pressed paninis and salad creations, alongside the fan favourites like the Dio brownie and mince pie. All funds from our café are put back into areas of the School, from the arts and sports to learning environments and recreational spaces. We are proud to contribute these café funds to improve many aspects of the School. Moving forward, P&F hope to redevelop the Café kitchen in 2025, to ensure we can continue to cater to our Dio girls and staff by providing healthy and delicious lunch and snack options.

As we begin to plan for 2025, we are excited to continue to work with the Heritage Foundation on the Buchanan



Scholarship as initiated in 2024, work with DIO property on the Café kitchen redesign, and build our committee with parents from across the whole School.

Any parents interested in volunteering with our committee are welcome to attend meetings, step into the Café for a morning, or join us at specific events. We would love to hear from you if you would like to learn more or volunteer at **PFA@diocesan.school.nz**.

P&F wish all students and families a wonderful holiday season and we look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

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