



PARENTS & FRIENDS *of Dio* SMIZING INTO 2022

You may not know this, but the word 'smize' was coined in 2009 by Tyra Banks on the TV show *America's Next Top Model*. I happen to know, as I admittedly loved the show and in fact remember her coining the term. Well, here we are over a decade later all working hard to smize (smile with our eyes) behind masks and, I must say, Dio girls have got it! After spending almost half of 2021 at home and behind screens, the girls were welcomed back in 2022, masks on and smizing beautifully. It has been wonderful to have students back on campus and amazing to see the adaptability and understanding the girls displayed in the first two terms as they navigated the ever-changing traffic light requirements and their schedules.

For the first time, we held a Welcome Morning Tea and Year 7 Picnic in late January for students only, as parents were not able to come on campus. The girls had a superb day with all the Dio students who came in to act as buddies, House leaders and guides. We were pleased to be a part of that event and appreciate all the hard work of the Dio property team and once again the excellent catering of O'Catering.

Pleased to open our café again in 2022, the roster of student helpers has been fantastic, and these girls have been

extremely responsible, courteous and friendly in carrying out their jobs. With the ever-changing landscape of health and safety, combined with pandemic rules, the café staff have had to keep the doors closed to parent volunteers, and so have greatly appreciated the number of girls keen to join the crew.

We were also thrilled to see the completed water play area on the Junior School playground in Term 1. The final piece in the development of this beautiful space, P&F were keen to donate to this project and see it through to entirety.

Always at the ready and looking forward to the chance to bring Dio parents back on campus, when the School asked if we were willing to host four cocktail parties in Term 2, we eagerly jumped on board. Combining with the fantastic food of Brown's Eatery, we were delighted to host parents of Year 9, Year 7, Years 1-3 and Years 4-6 at these events. Understanding that many parents have not been able to connect and meet one another, these evenings were a lovely opportunity to bring people together.

The committee all agreed it was great to be back on campus, especially after many months of Zoom meetings, so we were pleased to be able to wrap up Term 2 with our AGM. Extra thanks

must be expressed to Tina Tsui for all her hard work as Treasurer of P&F, smoothly working with our auditor, Diane Robinson, to deliver our financial statements once again.

Never giving up on the idea that we might be able to do something big in 2022, we have continued talks with Showtime Australia about another concert. After the roaring success and rave reviews of the Queen concert that was held June 2021, we couldn't help but want to host another outstanding event in 2022. We are very excited to welcome back Showtime on 4 November 2022 for an ABBA concert. This event will be R16, and we hope to pack the Arts Centre with parents, friends, alumnae, students, and the entire community, as we enjoy a well-deserved night out in this beautiful venue. Tickets are on sale via i-Ticket, but ensure you search for the Diocesan event, as the concert will also be taking place elsewhere in Auckland.

As always, we welcome anyone interested in joining our committee or volunteering at our events to reach out and connect, and of course we look forward to seeing you all at our concert in November!

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