

# BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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*Dear Parents and Friends*

Term 1

Issue 9

1 April 2011

## BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE OLYMPIANS



*Kelsi Heath, Eleanor Adviento & Mrs Matthews*

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Birkenhead College students **Eleanor Adviento** and **Kelsi Heath** have been selected by the New Zealand Curling selectors to compete in the inaugural **Youth Winter Olympic Games** in Innsbruck, Austria from 12—22 January 2012. Congratulations also to **Mrs Matthews**, who has been a key person in their success.

Last year the girls had an outstanding season. Eleanor skipped the Birkenhead College team to Auckland, North Island and New Zealand Secondary School titles and Kelsi was part of these teams. Eleanor also teamed up with former Olympian Lorne DePage in the Auckland Curling Club Mixed Doubles and placed 3rd, and was part of a team which were runners-up in the Auckland U21 competition. In October the team travelled to Dunedin to compete in the NZ Secondary Schools competition where they won the Mixed title, and then competed in the NZ Under 21 championships. From Dunedin they travelled to Naseby to attend the NZ U21 High Performance camp which had Canadian Coach Sharon Delver providing technical advice.

Birkenhead College has a long history of curling success—attended 7 National Secondary School championships and won 7 National titles. The College



### PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS ONLINE

We are holding two interview evenings, on **Thursday 7 April** and **Tuesday 12 April** from **4pm — 7pm**.

This year parents can book their interview times online using School Links. School Links is a system that allows you to book interviews for these evenings quickly and easily online.

You will have received a 'Welcome' email from School Links that gave you your username and password and guide you through the logging in process. Go to [www.school-links.org.nz](http://www.school-links.org.nz) and log in with the details given to you. After you have gone through the signing in process, look for the **Events** tab and then click **Interview Centre** to the right.

If you are unable to book online you can ring the school office and they will make the bookings for you. **Please have the school report to hand when you phone.**

Please note that **school will finish at 2.30pm** on both of these days.

Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact me. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you soon to discuss your child's progress.

*Ms Fuller*

[fl@birkenhead.school.nz](mailto:fl@birkenhead.school.nz)

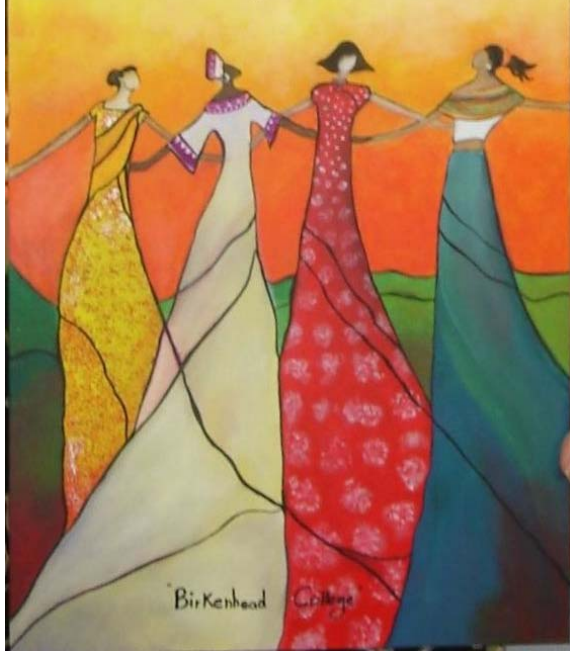
has produced 3 NZ U21 curling representatives, 2 of whom won Bronze Medals at the Pacific Junior Championships and now 2 Junior Olympians. Physical Education teacher, Mrs Matthews - a passionate Curler herself and NZ Senior Curling representative for the last 9 years - was instrumental in getting Curling sanctioned as a secondary school sport with the NZ Secondary School Sports Council and setting up the NZ, North Island and Auckland Secondary School competitions. In 2010 the Auckland competition comprised 20 teams - more than the whole of the rest of NZ combined.

Eleanor and Kelsi will now spend all their school holidays travelling to Naseby for training on dedicated curling ice.

**Monday 4 April is Day 1**

*J O Mathewson Principal*

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FRIDAY!



### Parents Support Group

Friday 24th June 7.30 pm in the cafeteria

## Trivial Pursuits Night!

Sponsors are being sought - if you are able to donate any prizes, or approach your workplace for donations — a bottle of wine, printed t-shirts — anything and everything will be greatly appreciated.



The PSG is now a registered charity so donations are tax deductible !

### School Holiday Programme 18—29 April

Beachhaven Community House, 130 Beachhaven Road, 8sm—5.45pm, \$25 per day (+ 3 trips over the two weeks @ \$18 extra), there are discounts for 2 or more children from the same family and they are approved for the OSCAR subsidy by WINZ.

A fantastic programme organised, there will be something to suit everyone. Ph 483 9149 for info.

### Bubble Dome

Have you ever wondered how 3D movies like Toy Story and computer games are made? Learn the latest in 3D animation and games design on a Bubble Dome School Holidays workshop. Please phone 622 0670 or book online [www.bubbledome.co.nz](http://www.bubbledome.co.nz)

## SCHOOL PRODUCTION

A comic parody of 1950 horror films, this classic musical includes memorable songs such as “Be a Dentist”, “Skid Row”, “Suddenly Seymour” and “Somewhere That’s Green”. Even those familiar with the movie version of this musical will have surprises in store for them.

Mushnik’s Skid Row Florist is set to close until a strange and interesting plant is discovered by the awkward but budding botanist, Seymour. People come from far and wide to view the amazing plant “Audrey II” named after Seymour’s secret love. But to keep the plant alive, maintain his new found fame and fortune as well as a chance to win the heart of Audrey, Seymour must keep the plant satisfied!

**For tickets:** <http://tinyurl.com/bctickets>

Birkenhead College Presents

# LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

13-16 April  
Wed Sat  
7.30 pm

Student \$8.00  
Adult \$12.00  
Family \$25.00

Brian Gerrard Theatre  
Birkenhead College  
140 Birkdale Road, Birkenhead

FOR TICKETS: 483 9039  
<http://tinyurl.com/bctickets>

Music by Alan Menken  
Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman  
with permission from Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2011

### TERM 1

<b>Week 10</b>	Thu 7 April	Report evening
<b>Week 11</b>	Mon 11 April	Production week
	Tue 12 April	Report evening
	Fri 15 April	Last day of Term

# O.P.C. 2011



“ Two weeks ago a group of 20 students, including me, and two teachers **Mr Henley** and **Mrs Dryburgh**, set off to Great Barrier Island for OPC. All of us came back with the same opinion, “It was a week that will never be forgotten, the time of our life.” OPC was designed to push us to our limits, to try things that we have never tried before and to build character and friendship. Through a series of challenging activities, like surf kayaking, abseiling and an activity that somehow ended up being called the “viva piñata” (Via Ferrata), which involved working together to scale the side of a cliff.



Everyone, including the teachers, became like family. Waking up



bright and early every morning and preparing our delicious luncheon sandwiches and surprisingly tasty bars called “dog biscuits” we set off on a day of beautiful sights, rewarding activities and incredible fun. Pushed to our limits every day, we really had to rely on each other to get us through, with the phrase “No regrets” being used to drive each other on and by the end no-one wanted to leave. This week had been an experience like no other and if you asked anyone about their week you would get the same reply, “It was incredible”; “I wouldn’t change a thing” and “I wish I could go back.”



So for those students who are given the opportunity to go to OPC in the next few years don’t make the mistake of turning it down because it is an experience like no other and you will only come out a stronger more confident person. You will leave with truly life changing memories and unbreakable friendships. “

*Simon Cox, Year 13*

## YEAR 12 BIOLOGY TRIP

As part of a Level 2 assessment, the Year 12 Biology students spent Wednesday morning collecting data along the rocky shoreline of Murrays Bay. The students were investigating the different zones that living things occupy along the shore. The sun was shining and everybody enjoyed the few hours away from school before returning to complete the written part of the assessment in the afternoon.



## KILIKITI

On Thursday 24 March our Boys Kilikiti team represented Birkenhead College in the Secondary Schools Kilikiti Tournament held in the Auckland Domain. Kilikiti is a form of cricket which is played



with 20 fielders and slightly different bats and balls. The team was impressively led by **Afano Ulutunu** who organised the boys on the day as well as during practices.

The whole team is to be congratulated on their high spirits, sportsmanship and enthusiastic participation. They played three games and the highlight was a nail biting win over Marcellin College with only a few balls to go. Special praise deserves to go to **Shalom Rimoni** who led the team celebrations which were incredibly entertaining. The key bowler on the day was **Filisi Viliamu** who took multiple wickets in each game. The most impressive batsman was **Tom Bhana** who batted sensationally in the game against Mercellin.

Special thanks to **Kat Ahhoni** for umpiring on the day and to ex-student **Vanessa Viliamu** who scored for the team. Overall, it was an excellent day of team work and non-stop laughter and enjoyment.



## From the nurse ...



**Sickness:** Please keep students at home if they are infectious, this especially relates to eye infections and tummy bugs, flu, fevers etc. STOP the spread of infections by reminding your children NOT to share drinks, foods etc., and to wash hands frequently, especially before eating. Remember there is a Public Health Nurse here on Mondays. To make appointments students should see the School Nurse, Mrs Eberly or call 843-9039, ext 836 and leave a message.

**Absentees:** You MUST call in students who are unwell to advise the school they will not be attending. Please do so BEFORE 10 AM. The number is: 843-9039, ext 836. Students should NOT call themselves in sick, a parent or guardian must call for them.

**Signing Out Early:** If a student needs to leave school early, they must provide a note from a parent or guardian. This needs to be shown to their Form Teacher in Form Period then the student may sign out



at the appointed time. A School Leave Pass must be collected from the Nurse or a Dean. Students who are out of school without going through the proper system will risk being picked up by Truancy Officers and have their attendance record marked accordingly. If students are unwell and wish to go home they need to go through the sick bay.

**Late Starts:** If your child is coming to school late they MUST bring a note to explain the reason and give it to their form teacher or dean. They need to sign in before they go to their class.



**Wasps:** Our fabulous grounds men are working hard to eradicate a couple of wasp nests surrounding school grounds. The council have also been notified of at least one on a walk way. PLEASE advise students to keep clear. A student was stung 26 times after a nest had been disturbed. Please notify the school, or call the council on : 09 301 0101 (24 hours) to report any other nests.



**EX STUDENT Oliver Thorpe** has stepped up from being the Northern Region Junior Selector for badminton to the New Zealand Selector for badminton.

