Term 3 Issue 2 12 August 2011

Dear Parents and Friends

Mayor Len Brown with senior students at the launch

Mayor Len Brown, accompanied by **District Commander Bill Searle** and **Area Commander VJ Lafaele**, launched SelectaDNA for all North Shore schools at our Theatre last week. Selecta DNA is designed to deter burglars. The kits have a DNA glue solution that is painted onto items such as computers and AV equipment. It is invisible to the eye but can be easily detected by Police as it glows under a UV light. The DNA in the glue is unique to the school and is registered on a database. Families can use SelectaDNA in homes as well. Kits are available for purchase from www.selectaDNA.co.nz.

STOP PRESS - for all accounts queries please email **accounts@birkenhead.school.nz**

Health Talks

During Term 3, all Year 9 and 10 students will be learning about sexuality during their health programme. If parents have any concerns about this topic please contact either Mr Henley or Mr Alderman on extension 824 or 826. Thank you

Monday 15 August is Day 1

What is PAPSG?

We are parents supporting the wonderful Performing Arts (drama and music) Departments at BC.

Do you know us?

Members include Leonie Sykes, Jill Sye, Julia Pointon, Antoinette Sturny, Sue and René Baxalle, Lisa Percy, Lisa Ducat, and Anne Lochead.

What do we do?

We help support the performing arts at BC by promoting events, fundraising at performances (for things like music trips, instrument purchases, and establishing a scholarship fund for music students), and communicating between the music and drama departments and parents.

Are you interested?

You are welcome to join our group, or perhaps just help out occasionally with making food, selling refreshments, handing out flyers, etc. Feel free to contact any of us, or send an email to jamesdonaldson@birkenheadcollege.school.nz . More information on the PAPSG can be found via the school Knowledgenet, log on using your caregiver details, then click on the link in the middle of the page. (http://birkenheadcollege.knowledge.net.nz/).

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Martin Baxalle**, Year 9, who was placed 1st in the New Zealand Association for Gifted Children's Gifted Awareness Film Competition. Well done Martin!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Danielle Israel** and our choir, **Vox**, who have made it to the Stand Up! Stand Out! finals to be held on 2nd September. Good luck!

WIN AN XBOX 360 -

Simply by paying your school donation

If your school donation is paid by the end of September, you could win an Xbox 360.

Be in it to win it, pay now!

J O Mathewson Principal

Careers

Important dates for year 12 and 13 students and parents :

AUT Information Evenings start next week :

Wednesday 17th Languages, Social Sciences, Creative Technologies, Hospitality/Tourism
Thursday 18th Education, Health, Science, Sport and Recreation
Tuesday 30th Te Ara Poutama
Students must register to attend these sessions. Go to the AUT website for times and to register

Massey University – Albany campus Open day
Saturday 13th August free text registration system. Go online to find programme and registration details

Auckland University Courses and Careers Day
Saturday 27th August – collect a programme from Ms Russell or Ms Morris

It is strongly recommended that students and parents attend these sessions to learn about courses on offer, entry requirements and application processes.

NZQA Fees

NCEA FEES ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 1st. Payment can be made at the school office between 8.30am and 4.30pm daily by cash, cheque, EFTPOS and credit card. Students can also pay via the envelope system. **All cheques are to be made payable to Birkenhead College**.

In most cases the fee is $76-70. However after Sept 1st an extra "late fee" of $50 is incurred, and payments must be made directly to NZQA.

A pre-printed Invoice was sent with school reports at the end of Term 2. If you have misplaced this please contact the Accounts Office (accounts@birkenhead.school.nz).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Many families are eligible for Financial Assistance. An information sheet and pre-printed application form were also included with the report. Further copies can be obtained from the school office or by downloading them from the NZQA website. You should definitely apply if your family has a Community Services Card, and / or more than one family member entering NCEA.

THE DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS IS ALSO SEPTEMBER 1st.

Applications for Financial Assistance are made directly to the school Accounts office (accounts@birkenhead.school.nz). However after Sept 1st you would need to contact NZQA directly.

BALL IS ON SATURDAY NIGHT!

We are looking forward to over 250 students and staff enjoying our ***Roaring 20's*** themed Ball tomorrow night and take this opportunity to remind students and their parents/guardians of details:

Dress is formal - no trainers or denim clothing.

Venue is Alexandra Park in the ***Top of the Park*** room. Doors open at 7.30pm and close at 8pm. Doors do not open again until midnight. Please do not make arrangements to leave before midnight. There is a coat check facility where students may leave bags, coats and valuables.

A photographer will be present. Proofs will be displayed at school and online in a few weeks and students may order prints if they wish to. Each ticket entitles the bearer to one free print.

No alcohol will be served or is permitted to be brought into the venue. As students enter, security guards will check belongings. If they, or Mr Page and senior management, suspect a student to be under the influence (alcohol/drugs), the student will not be allowed to enter and their parents/guardian will be phoned. This also applies to outside partners. You will be aware the school in no way supports pre ball or after ball functions.

Students and partners have been given the opportunity to travel to and/or from the venue by chartered Birkenhead Transport buses. These will leave school at 7pm and Alexandra Park at 12.15am. Drop-off points are New World, Verrans, school, bottom of Birkdale Road, Beach Haven roundabout and halfway up Rangatira Road. Students travelling back from the ball on buses should text or phone parents once they are close to pickup points.

We are sure this will be a wonderful school occasion.

Senior Writers' Group

If you are a **budding author** in Year 11, 12 or 13, or just enjoy writing creatively, come along to the Senior Writers' Group. We **meet fortnightly** in the library on Tuesdays, after school. We focus on **writing for enjoyment,** entering competitions and getting work published!

Week 3 is our next meeting. Just bring along a pen and paper - see you there!

ENGLISH HELP

Every Wednesday after school in H4, 3:30—4:30. Any BC student who fears the English monster! Help is available.

Senior Boys Squash

The senior boys squash team have placed second in the Senior A division of the Auckland Squash competition. The team is comprised of **Bruno Colantoni**, **Sohail Kashkari**, **Callum Hines**, **Richard Yew** and **Josh Parore**. The final was held on Monday and we faced off against Mount Roskill (who we were also up against earlier in the year in the Auckland Champs final). **Bruno** won his game 3-2 and **Sohail** was the star of the day, defeating Mrs Kumar's nephew 3-1. Unfortunately, we lost overall by 9 points to 6.

The team is off to the nationals this weekend and we wish them the best of luck!

Top: Bruno Colantoni, Callum Hines, Sohail Kashkari. Left: Josh Parore, Richard Yew

Measles Outbreak (Ministry of Health info)

Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops after about three days.

The best measles prevention is the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children.

Any student with measles must stay away from school for 7 days from the appearance of the rash and until recovery

More info: www.moh.govt.nz or phone Immunisation Advisory Centre toll-free 0800 466 863 for advice.

School Yearbook

The School Yearbook will remain at $15 for this year. This will be charged directly to your August school account. To ensure that you receive your copy, please pay **before the 31st October 2011.**

MUSIC!

Upcoming Term 3 music and drama events at BC to note in your diary

1 to 3 September
Year 13 Drama's production of ***The Taming of the Shrew***
BG Theatre, 7:30 pm to 9 pm.
Café open at intermission, $3.00 entry.

Wed, **7 September** - BC **Music Showcase**
Highlights from the Music calendar including rock bands, jazz bands, concert band, orchestra, choir, barbershop groups, chamber groups and the Birkenhead Junior Orchestra … BG Theatre, 7 pm.
Café open at intermission, Students $5, Adults $10, Families $20

Fri, **9 September**
Drama department's **Theatresports Tournament** with invited guest artists. Impromptu drama performances with musical accompaniment. BG Theatre, 7:30 pm.
Café open at intermission, Gold coin donation

Wed, **14 September - NCEA performance evening**
See BC music students perform live (rock, pop, classical, group, solo …) BG Theatre, 6:30 pm
Café open at intermission, Gold coin donation

Fri, **16 September**
BC music students perform at St Andrews Church, Hinemoa St, Birkenhead, 7 pm. Refreshments on sale

Tues, **20 September - BC Arts Awards**
Evening of awards for senior music and drama students, Featuring highlights from the 2011 Cultural calendar. Catering by Year 13 Food Technology students.
BG Theatre, 7 pm, Free entry

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2011

TERM 3

Week 2	Sat 13 Aug	School Ball
Week 3	Wed 17 Aug	NCEA Music Performance
Week 4	Mon 22 Aug	Tournament Week
Week 6	Wed 7 Sept	Music Showcase
	Fri 9 Sept	Talent Quest
Week 7	Wed 14 Sept	NCEA Music Performance
Week 8	Tue 20 Sept	ARTS AWARDS
	Fri 23 Sept	Senior Exams start
Week 10	Thu 6 Oct	SPORTS PRIZEGIVING
	Fri 7 Oct	Junior Progress Reports
	Fri 7 Oct	Last day of Term 3

TERM 4

Week 1	Tue 25 Oct	First day of Term 4

GAMES TO SUPPORT
Week 3

Rugby Saturday	1st XV	vs	Albany Snr	12 noon Albany
	3rd Grade	vs	Rangitoto	9.30am Rangitoto
	6th Grade	vs	BYE	
Hockey—Boys Wednesday	1st XI	vs	Albany Snr High	6.25pm Harb 4
Hockey—Girls Thursday	1st XI	vs		
	2nd XI	vs	St Dominics	4.10pm Miller 3
Football—Boys Saturday	1st XI	vs	BYE	
	Year 9/10	vs	Rangitoto	9am Home
Football—Girls Wednesday	1st XI	vs	Finals	
	2nd X1	vs	Finals	
Basketball - Girls Thursday	U19 Girls	vs	Play Offs	
Wednesday	U15 Girls	vs	Play Offs	
Netball Saturday	Team 1	vs	Albany Snr	10.30am Crt 13
	Team 2	vs	Albany Jnr	1.30pm Crt 14
	Year 10/1	vs	Westlake	1.30pm Crt 17
	Year 10/2	vs	Rangitoto	1.30pm Crt 1
	Year 9/1	vs	Carmel	8.15am Crt 14
	Year 9/2	vs	Kristin	9am Crt 22

Our rugby stars!

As mentioned in last week's Newsletter, four of our staff played in North Harbour rugby club finals during the holidays. Not many schools could boast this sort of talent!

From left: **Mr Wilson, Mr Hamon, Mr Tuu'u & Mr Henley**

TOP TEAMS

Congratulations to the following teams:

Badminton
Girls Team 2 beat Westlake 5-4

Rugby
6th Grade beat Rangitoto 17-13

Girls Football
1st XI beat Northcote 1-0

World Vision 40 Hour Famine – congratulations to all our participants and sponsors. This year we raised $4045 for World Vision, which is significantly more than we have raised in past years. You have contributed to improving the lives of some of the world's poorest people.

6th Grade Rugby

Congratulations to the 6th Grade Rugby team that had a victory against Rangitoto College at the weekend. The 6th grade have had a challenging season playing against predominantly larger and more experienced opposition sides but have been working hard all season and have made steady improvement. The determination and support they gave each other on Saturday was impressive and the win was fully deserved. Special mention to the try scorers **Callum Mower** (2) and **Jacob Pirie-Marsters**. Well done boys.

Senior Girls Basketball

The BC Senior Girls Basketball team are having a fantastic season so far. They had a great win last Thursday against a feisty Kaipara College team, winning 57-4. The score was 4-6 to us after the first quarter and we held them scoreless for the rest of the game.

The girls are up against Hato Petera this week who are the leading team in the tournament. However, with the girls playing as well as they are at the moment I am confident that we will be able to take them down.

The Finals are scheduled for August 19 and the team along with coach Ryle Dela Cruz will no doubt be a force to be reckoned with.