

Dear Parents and Friends

Term 1

Issue 6

12 March 2010

How quickly time passes. This is week 6 in a 9 week term. This means that students only have another week to impress us with their diligence and learning effort in class before **progress reports** are issued on the 25th March. Please talk about these with your son / daughter and encourage them to strive for reports that they are proud of.

What good people!

All week I have received positive comments about our students. We had a group of Auckland university teachers interviewing a large number of our year 11 students for the MEMO programme. They commented on how respectful and helpful they were. I also received a delightful email from a family who visited the school after hours. **Jessica Collins** (13MC) made them feel very welcome at her school and then showed off our theatre. Well done Jessica!

Two Principals leaving

I believe this area is superbly served by its local schools. There is a great sense of community and each school is led by very capable, experienced Principals. Sadly, two will be leaving this year. **Mr Shearer** has taught for 43 years and been Principal of **Birkdale Primary** since 1992. He is retiring and is looking forward to time with his grandchildren. **Mr Brewerton** has been Principal of **Beachhaven Primary** since 2003. He and his family are taking on a new challenge overseas. He has been appointed Deputy Head of a Primary school in Cairo. Do thank them for the great work they have done for our children.

A European Star!

Paul Hunnego (ex student 1994) has returned from Europe to holiday in NZ and visited the school this week. He has a huge job and is currently Head of IT for the investment bank,



Barclays Capital. This means he is in charge of 16 offices throughout Europe (e.g. Frankfurt, Milan, Zurich, Moscow, Cyprus, Tel Aviv). He speaks French, German and a little Italian, and he emphasized to students how important it was to keep studying languages and to involve yourself in sport, music and drama.

ALL BLACK GREAT TO COACH BC RUGBY PLAYERS

On Tuesday 23rd March, former All Black great **Jeff Wilson**, will be leading a specialist coaching session for all BC Rugby players. Jeff will be assisted by 3 North Harbour Community Rugby Officers and the BC coaching staff. This is a rare opportunity for our BC players to receive coaching advice and listen



to experiences from one of New Zealand's most talented sportsman ever. (Jeff also played cricket for NZ Blackcaps) The training will start at 3.30pm, trainers or boots must be worn. Parents are welcome to come along.

Reminder:: The BC Rugby Weigh-in will take place at 9am Wednesday 17th March in the cafeteria.

He was a shining all-rounder himself at school and it has paid huge dividends in this job. When he left BC he completed a BE in Engineering Science (1998) at Auckland University then went and trained with Barclays Capital at their London Head Office. He was promoted to Paris, then Milan, and for the past 5 years has been resident in Frankfurt. It was a joy to catch up. He is presently staying with **Kay Jakich**, long time supporter and ex parent of BC.

Don't miss this!

This Sunday at 4pm, you can come and support our Maori Culture Group, **Nga Peka Hou**. This is the dress rehearsal before they compete in the Polyfest on Wednesday at 4.30pm. There will be a BBQ and entrance is a gold coin donation.

Monday 15 March is Day 4

J O Mathewson Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010

TERM 1

Week 6	9—11 March	Winter sports trials
Week 7	18/19 March	Polyfest
Week 8	Thu 25 March	Progress Reports home
	Fri 26 March	International Day
Week 9	Fri 2 April	Good Friday / End of Term 1

Week 1 Mon 19 April Term 2 starts

CALLING ALL YEAR 9 STUDENTS!

Do you love to travel? Are you a great speller?

Then go online to www.spellingbee.co.nz to register for the New Zealand Vegemite Spelling Bee 2010!

The NZ spelling champion will represent New Zealand at the 83rd Scripps Spelling Bee in Washington DC for six nights at the end of May 2010.

When you register yourself online you will go in the draw to win one of 8 prizes worth \$50.

Register now!

TRAFFIC ALERT

We are most concerned about the safety of our students in the car park area before and after school.

It is not necessary for students to be dropped off and picked up in the school grounds unless they have a medical condition which prevents them from walking into the College themselves.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Drop off in Birkdale Road or in the bus stop area
- Do not double park
- Do not speed – speed limit in the grounds is 10kph.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

These will be on sale from the Music Department. Watch the Newsletter for more information

MUSIC!

COME TO THE MOVIES

Our first Concert Band fundraiser of the year is a movie at the Bridgeway. It's an advance screening of **Nowhere Boy** at 6pm on Monday 29th March. Tickets are \$15 each and we'd love to see you all there.

'Nowhere Boy' is John Lennon's story



LEARNING AND STUDY TIPS

'Learning takes time. Very few people have photographic memories. Learning requires repetition—meaningful repetition. This is why active study techniques are so vitally important. The 'recording disc' of the brain accepts new material much faster if it 'hears', 'sees', 'feels', 'tastes', and detects motion (kinetic energy) during input or recording time. Then too, the more time around the learning circuit, the longer lasting the impression. If you are able to place abstract ideas into diagrammatic form, you will remember the concept.' Ann Algier

In other words, at the end of the learning day, go over each subject, do a brief summary of exactly what was taught, putting that into your own words. Teach Mum or Dad what you have learnt, they will be interested. Draw a diagram to explain to yourself the concepts covered and how they may relate. Return to your teacher and test with them that you have the information in your head correctly. Make this daily recapping a habit, a habit generally takes seven times to instil itself - try it and see.

CAREERS—UNIVERSITY PRESENTATIONS

All presentations are open to seniors and will be held in T4 at 1.30pm. Parents are very welcome to attend. The universities will also be here for our Expo on 11th August from 7—9 pm.

Otago University — 18 March

Auckland University — 24 March

Lincoln University — 23 April



The Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre (OPC)

OPC is an Outdoor Pursuits Centre based at National Park (Turangi). Year 13 students are invited to attend a week of teambuilding exercises at the centre each year.

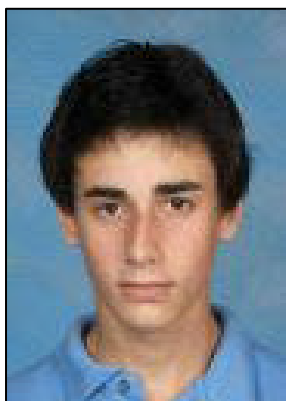
“After a long 6 hour journey down, the 20 of us were hyped to have some ‘fun in the outdoors’. Little did we know what Heidi and Julian (our instructors) had in store for us. There was no time to ease into the new routine - we were straight into it from day one. Heidi and Julian took us through various



exhilarating activities including long (loooong) bush and river hikes, caving, abseiling, high and low ropes and mountaineering to name a few. We overcame countless challenges facing us along the way including heights, cold, sleep deprivation and Robin (the fussy chef). At the end of the week we emerged different people. Equipped with new skills—not only in the outdoors, but in life skills like effective leadership and goal setting (and table tennis) which will stay with us for our lifetimes. Overall OPC was a rewarding experience which I highly recommend to the Year 13s of 2011.”

*Alex Shegay
Year 13*

CONGRATULATIONS



In addition he will make a number of educational visits. What a wonderful experience.

Micah Carston (12BG) has been chosen by the Auckland District RSA Youth Council to tour New South Wales as part of ANZAC Celebrations. He will be leaving on 17 April for 2 weeks, and will take part in both the main ANZAC parade through Sydney and a local suburban



Dragon Boating this Sunday



From 9am through to 4.30pm there will be Secondary Schools Dragon Boating competitions on Lake Pupuke. Each team has four races over the 500 metre course starting at the Rowing Club and finishing in front of the Pumphouse.

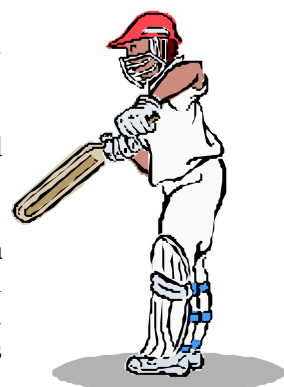
There are usually 17 mixed teams (10 girls and 10 boys) entering the competition, along with the single-sex teams, although we do not race against these teams.

This year the team has three students from year 12 to join the year 13 squad.



Girls' Cricket

Our Girls' cricket team had an excellent win against the Northcote College girls' team on Wednesday. Northcote batted first and made 81 for 5 wickets in their 20 overs. Top bowlers for us were **Rebekah Cancare** (9Wm), and **Katalina Tutaia** (13Mc). Birkenhead's fielding was excellent from all 11 players. In reply we made 82 for 3 wickets and still had 5 overs to spare when the winning runs were hit. **Rachel Curran** (10MI) top scored with 26, captain **Tayla Harding** (13Vc) made 24, and **Aysha Taylor-Elliffe** scored 10.



Board of Trustee Elections are being held this year
Election Date 7 May 2010
Nominations will be called for shortly
If you would like to know more about what
Trustees do, please phone the school, extension 832.

Lumino The Dentists

LUMINO The Dentists smile programme is at Birkenhead College. Most students from 13 years to 18 years of age are entitled to one free dental examination per year. If you haven't received an enrolment form please pop in and see either Mel or Karen on the Lumino Dental bus which is located outside the art room.

The Lumino Dental bus will be leaving BC on Friday 19th March.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

for Tall Poppies, Bright Sparks, High Flyers, Rising Stars, Creative Thinkers, Odd Bods...and all Gifted and Talented students 8-15 years old. Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th April at Selwyn College, Kohimarama, Auckland.

Topics include: Super Sleuths, Medieval Mayhem, Maths Wizardry, Art Lab, Design, Philosophy, Toybox Technology, Beginning Classics, Cartoon Idols, Strategy Games, Advanced Word Skills, Brush Up Your Shakespeare, Predict Catastrophe, Human Calculators...and more besides!

Full details are at www.holidayseminars.co.nz/next_seminar, email info@holidayseminars.co.nz, tel 09 585 0111 & 021 389448. Organised by Jean Henny-Harris for Holiday Seminars Charitable Trust.

Earth Hour 2010

is fast approaching at 8.20pm Saturday 27 March when millions of people across the globe will switch off their lights for one hour to send the message that by acting together to fight climate change we can make a difference.



Community Notices

The information given is printed as a service to parents. The school neither endorses nor recommends any offers or proposals made.

Bubble Dome

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and Games Design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop this April. Other courses in Architecture, Movie Making, Science, Inventions & Technology, Fashion Design and Photography are on offer at a venue near you. For students aged 6 to 17 years, tel 09-622 0670 or email info@bubbledome.co.nz or visit www.bubbledome.co.nz

April School Holidays: BIG! How big is 'BIG'?

We all know space is big, but what exactly does THAT mean?

Come along to Stardome this April to find out what we mean by the word 'BIG' when we talk about space! Come and see Big, our planetarium show that takes a quirky and imaginative look at the size and scale of our universe. With a light-hearted storytelling style, clay-animated characters and a surrounding musical score, this show brings a really big subject down to Earth.

Afterwards, let us inspire you as you create your very own galaxy to take home and display, as well as other 'out-of-this-world' fun art.

Stardome's holiday sessions are proving to be very popular--during January most sessions were heavily booked, if not fully.

Book your place early by calling 624 1246, or contact us should you have any questions.

Two sessions daily!

10.00am to 11.30am
1.00pm to 2.30pm

Dates:

April 6th to 9th
April 12th to 16th

Price:

\$10/child \$7/adult

