

BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents and Friends

Term 2

Issue 11

15 July 2011



Yr 13 students with our local MP, Dr Jonathan Coleman

What an action packed end of term! Visits to parliament (above), a Waitomo trip, success in Art, Basketball, Brain Bee challenge, swimming, orienteering, curling, drama. Thank you to the committed teachers and parents who are behind each of these successes.

Today we farewelled **Mr Briggs** (Technology) who started with us in 2007. He is returning to the UK (Cumbria) and we thank him for all of his good work. Also best wishes to Dominic in his new school, we will miss you both.

Have a safe holiday. Do turn off the screens and get outside, we live in a paradise!

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**.

Supportive Trusts

We are extremely grateful to Pub Charity Inc. for their generous grant of \$1 700 for 2 new data projectors for our Social Science Department.

Term 3 starts Monday 1 August (Day 4)

Cafeteria

For a trial period the school cafeteria will open early for breakfast.

As of 2nd August the cafeteria will open Tuesday to Friday at 8—8.30 am and will serve from the side window.



Mairangi Bay Arts Exhibition

Once again Birkenhead College has won one of the top prizes in the annual Mairangi Bays Art Exhibition and competition.

Deyanna

Stanaway

won 2nd place and \$250 with her photographic entry which the judge described as a skinhead meeting Francis Bacon.



The Judge was head of AUT Graphic Design **Peter Gilderdale**. He was impressed with the overall quality of work from Birkenhead College including the Year 12 Sculpture entries.

2012 Enrolments

Open enrolment - no appointment necessary
09.00 am to 07.00pm

Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th August (Term 3)

Both the student and parent(s) are required to attend an enrolment interview. Please bring a copy of recent reports and birth certificate or passport with you

J O Mathewson Principal

**WIN AN XBOX 360 -
Simply by paying your school donation**

If you have paid your school donation in full by the end of September 2011, your name will automatically go in the draw to win an Xbox 360. How good is that! (And, your school donation is tax deductible.)



Basketball update

This year with all the hard work from our Community Coaches, Staff and Student Coaches, the number of competing teams has swelled and the results to date, are outstanding.

Last year we fielded 6 teams, this year 9, which has put a lot of pressure on the use of our 2 Gyms, that we share with our 6 Netball teams, 9 Badminton teams, 3 Hockey teams, when it is too wet to use the Turf, Football teams, Junior Volleyball and Table Tennis. All this means that practices are never called off. What excellent facilities!

Four of our Basketball Teams have the chance to reach the Grand Finals. They are our **U17 A Boys team**, coached by **Nathan Saluni**, **U15 Girls team** coached by **Mrs Painting** who is also our Yr 9 Netball Development Officer, **U17 Girls team** coached by **Chanel Pompallier** and **Mr. Painting**, our U15 Boys Basketball Development Officer, and our **U19 Girls**, coached by **Ryle Dela Cruz**.

Our Senior A Boys team are at present leading the Open Division 2 championship. With 2-3 games to go it is hoped they stay in the top 4 and we have a chance to compete in the Final. Both finalists will then compete in the Auckland S/S Championships. Good luck to all teams



The Year 11 and 12 performances

The year 11 and 12 performances of **Alice in Wonderland** and **Importance of Being Earnest** were a great success last week. The acting was superb and the lovely audiences enjoyed the humour, colourful costuming and make-up. Thanks to all parents for support and students for a fine job!

Brain Bee challenge

Kaitlyn Collins and **Hamish Huggard** (year 11) competed in Round 2 of the **Auckland University Brain Bee challenge** this month. They were selected for round 2 after scoring in the top 10 percent of entrants from Australia and NZ in round 1.



Kaitlyn and Hamish spent the day at Auckland University where they competed against other students from around the country in Psychology based challenges. They were also treated to a guided tour through the University laboratories and medical school during the day.



School Ball

The school ball this year will be based on the theme of the **Roaring Twenties**, with the theme colours being red and gold. It is being held at Alexandra Park on the 13th August, from 7.30pm—midnight. Tickets will be available for Year 12 and 13 students to purchase in the first week of Term 3 only. Ball tickets cost \$75 each and bus tickets will be available at \$7 each way. Students should watch the notices on the first day back for details on how to purchase tickets.



Wet, wild and windy Waitomo

On what was possibly one of the wettest weeks of the year, 28 brave and hardy Year 13 Geography and History students along with **Mr MacFarquhar**, **Ms Morris** and the ailing **Mr Pageau** (there were rumours he had died on the second day - all greatly exaggerated), headed south to Waitomo Caves.

Fortunately all 6 history sites were visited in dry sunny weather. A few students commented on the number of graves and cemeteries visited (is history a dying subject?!).

Once in Waitomo Caves the skies opened up and



Ruakuri Cave

the rains came down. The visits to the Education Centre, Ruakuri Cave, the Ruakuri Walk, the Waitomo Caves and Grand Hotel went off splendidly. The standard of accommodation at Kiwipaka was pleasing although a few students successfully managed to lock themselves out of their rooms.

Sadly the flagship event, **black water rafting**, with the legendary Black Water Rafting Company was cancelled, but not before everyone was put in wetsuits and forced to jump into a freezing, mud coloured stream. We survived.



Luckily Billy Blacks' Kiwi Culture Show went ahead and for some it was the highpoint - all survived the black powder explosion and having chainsaws thrown at them.

Commerce Trip to Wellington



Students at the Beehive

Last week 18 Year 13 students, along with **Mr Moore** and **Ms McVeigh**, travelled to Wellington for the 4th annual Commerce Trip. It was a roaring success. Our students were fun, inquisitive, impeccably groomed and fantastic ambassadors for Birkenhead College.

We visited the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Beehive (had morning tea with Dr Coleman), and even managed a visit to John Key's office. We also went to the Reserve Bank, the Supreme Court and spent time in the Public Gallery in Parliament. Te Papa and Westpac Stadium were visited, we saw the corporate boxes and experienced the team changing rooms.

Lots of special memories of a lovely trip.

Chess Countess concert

at Birkenhead College theatre.

Saturday 16 July
at 7.30pm

Tickets at the door:
\$15 adults
\$10 students



GAMES TO SUPPORT

Week 11

Rugby Saturday	3rd Grade	vs	Westlake	9.30am Westlake
	5th Grade	vs	Rosmini College	10.40am Rosmini
Football—Boys Saturday	1st XI	vs	Western Springs	10am Home
	Year 9/10	vs	Long Bay	9am Home
Basketball Boys Friday	Sen Boys	vs	Northcote	8.30am NSEC 3
Basketball Girls Friday	U17 Girls	vs	Glenfield	4pm NSEC 3

Orienteering.

Normally Waiuku is a great forest to run in. Typically mature pine trees and fast running. On this occasion the trees were there but also head high cutty grass. This did not seem to deter our school orienteers, as they still managed to dominate their course, even though they had moved up a class. In fact the top 6 placing's in the Junior event were all from BC.

Ollie Pike, once again came in at the top of the field followed by the improving **Luca Sturny**. Ever consistent **Troy McLaren** ran into 3rd place. These 3 were followed by **Jon More**, **Frankie Sturny** and **Cyrus Raitava-Kumar**.



Oliver Pike

First girl home was again **Petra Ashcroft**, another good run followed by **Jeanne Acosta**. **Kelsi Heath** returned to top form in finishing 4th amongst the adults in an Open Grade while **Nathan Saluni** was 5th in his grade. Very good results against strong opposition.

Curling

CONGRATULATIONS to **Eleanor Adviento** and **Kelsi Heath** who have just been selected for the NZ Junior (U21) team to compete in the Pacific Junior Championships in Korea in January.



In August they will be in Naseby for the NZ Winter Games.



TOP TEAMS

Congratulations to the following teams:

Girls Basketball

U17 Girls beat Takapuna 57-25

Boys Basketball

Senior Boys beat Whangaparaoa 101-37

U19 boys beat Glenfield 43-39

U17 'blue' boys beat Rangitoto 35-23

Netball

Team 2 beat Long Bay 17-7

Year 10/1 beat Carmel 28-21

Team 10/2 beat Westlake 31-0

Year 9/1 beat Rangitoto 20-19

Year 9/2 beat Westlake 27-3

Rugby

3rd Grade beat Orewa 17-16

Football

Boys 1st XI beat Pinehurst 2-1

Junior Girls beat Kaipara 3-2

Squash

Junior Boys won the Auckland Squash Bowl

Curling

Girls team beat Epsom Girls 6-3

Swimming

Welcome to our school, **Kate Grieve**, Yr 9, a star swimmer. Kate is off to the New Zealand Swimming Champs from August 20th to 25th in Rotorua. Kate will be competing in 8 events, and that is just the heats, over the 5 days.

Kate will swim in the NZ 13 year old 50, 100, 200m Freestyle, 50 and 100m butterfly, 50 and 100m Backstroke and 200m Medley.

Next term she hopes to enter the NZ S/S Championships that will be held in Hamilton. We wish Kate all the best for the NZ Swimming Champs

