

# BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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*Dear Parents and Friends*

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On Wednesday we were delighted to host Mr Miura (International Department) and 21 students from **Ohtani High School, Osaka, Japan**. We have had links with Ohtani for some years and presently **Fuka Kasatani** (Year 12) is with us this year. Our very own **Rebekah Jensen** (Year 13) visited Ohtani during the summer holidays.

Nga Peka Hou sang beautifully to welcome them, and then they toured the school and took part in classroom activities. Thank you to **Mrs Wallace, Mrs Lauago and Mrs Ishihara** for coordinating the programme and providing a morning tea.

## Auckland Council Visitors

Two well known friends of the school, **Anne Hartley** and **George Wood**, both previous North Shore Mayors, visited us to outline the work they are doing as councillors on the new Auckland Council. They are clearly excited by the challenges and stressed the importance of getting involved with our local **Kaipatiki Community Board** which meets at 5.30pm every second Tuesday and last Wednesday of every month at the Local Board meeting rooms at 90 Bentley Ave, Glenfield.

Well done Mercia!

This week we presented **Mercia Myburgh** in 10Cb with a digital camera as a thank you for her HUGE fundraising efforts for netball. Thank you Mercia.



Monday 20 June is Day 2

Chelsea Primary PTA presents:

## What not to wear!



Style evening, hosted by Jackie O'Fee from Signature Style - a regular on TV1's 'Breakfast' and 'Does my bum look big' TV series.

At **Birkenhead College, Brian Gerrard Theatre**, on **Thursday 30th June at 7.30pm** - doors open at 6.45pm.

Tickets \$25 available from Chelsea Primary School, Ph 418 0082. Grab a group of friends ... Bring your Mum, grandma or daughter ... Join us for a fun and informative night out!



## SCHOOL DONATION

- If you pay your school donation via *payroll giving* - then you get your tax credit immediately.
- Talk to your employer about starting *payroll giving* in your workplace.
- See more info at <http://www.ocvs.govt.nz/work-programme/encouraging-participation/payroll-giving/payroll-giving.html>

## 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.)



## TRIVIAL PURSUITS NIGHT FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 7.30 PM IN THE CAFETERIA

Tickets are on sale, \$10 adults, \$5 students  
Come along and support your school on this great night out. Get a table together, or just come along and join another table.

Prizes for best dressed table etc.

Bookings can be made via email to:  
[cs.meikle@orcon.net.nz](mailto:cs.meikle@orcon.net.nz), or purchase tickets from the school office.

**Book now!**

*J O Mathewson Principal*

## NETBALL TRIP



On Sunday the top year 10 netball team got to experience first-hand some international netball brilliance when they

attended the Silver Ferns v. the Australian Diamonds game at the Vector Arena.

The showcase of the world's top netball players in their last international match prior to the world cup was awe-inspiring.

New Zealand's top players were on form and the atmosphere at the arena was full of excitement mixed with the competitive spirit resulting from long standing rivalry between the two teams.

The girls left the event with refreshed motivation and enthusiasm which will be invaluable towards helping them achieve their own netball goals.

Go the Silver Ferns!

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The Birkenhead College Model United Nations teams had an exciting conference over the weekend. They



debated issues such as the outbreak of civil wars across the Middle East, the US trade embargo on Cuba, and the dangers of nuclear power in the wake of the Fukushima

Crisis. Team Gabon (made up of **Angeline Chikomba, Dominic Coleman-Briggs** and **Rico Rey Bautista**) gave an impressive performance, being elected by their peers to be leader of the African Bloc of nations. Team Jordan (**Connor McLay, Newz Raviyan** and **Michaela Carlsen**) gave impressive and impassioned speeches on the issues, forming alliances and writing amendments. Together with their fellow delegates, who represented 100 countries, they crafted solutions to some of the world's most important problems. If only the real UN could be so creative and decisive



Blood Day at Birkenhead College is Friday 24th June 9am - 2pm

*Becoming a Blood Donor...*

**Age:** First Time Donors Existing Donors  
16 to 60 years of age. Up to 71 years of age.

**Weight:** You must be 50 kg or over.

### **Health:**

You must be in good health.

You cannot donate if you have a cold, flu, sore throat, cold sore, stomach bug or any other infection.

If you have recently had a tattoo or body piercing you cannot donate for 6 months from the date of the procedure.

If you have visited the dentist for a minor procedure you must wait 24 hours before donating; for major work wait a month.

**Travel:** You must not have lived in the United Kingdom, France or the Republic of Ireland between 1980 and 1996 for 6 months or more.

## Just Cook Competition

Year 10 food students participated in the inaugural **Just Cook competition** which was organised by the NZ Nutrition Foundation. Students worked in groups to plan, cook and serve a family meal for 5 using ingredients from a pantry list supplied by the completion organisers. They could spend up to \$5 on additional ingredients. The winning teams from each of the 3 year 10 Food classes then spent time creating a 90 second video clip which was uploaded to the Just Cook website along with their recipes for judging. There are a variety of prizes for students and the school to win so we are keeping our fingers crossed.

The students who represented their classes were:

Team A: **Stephanie Shaw, Natalie Kirk, Yasmin Schultheis** and **Rachel Shaw**

Team B: **Megan Kikuchi, Demi Fredrick, Lit Wei Chin** and **Cheyenne Tugaga**

Team C: **Liam Bradford, James Henry, Daniel Jones** and **Ciaran Sykes**.





# Des Hunt — author

## Birkenhead Book Day speaker

**Des Hunt will be the visiting author on Birkenhead Book Day, which is Thursday, (Day 5) 23 June 2011. Year 9's and 10's will pay \$1 to their form teacher to attend Des's talk in the BGT in Period 1 and 2. Year 12's will pay \$1 to their English teacher to attend a special talk for senior students in P3. All students are welcome to attend Des's 'author chat' in the library at lunchtime — for free!**

### **Here are some Questions and Answers about Des Hunt.**

*Where do you live?*

Matarangi, on the Coromandel Peninsula

*What books do you read?*

I like books with a mix of action, romance and suspense, particularly if they also teach me something.

*How do you think up your ideas?*

Lots of ideas originate from things I liked as a boy. I also use magazines to get ideas about wildlife and geology. If I read about something that I think might be suitable I will then research it in detail.

*What is the best thing about being a writer?*

I enjoy researching a new book so that I am well informed about the topic. The first draft of writing is always exciting to finish. Then there is meeting people who have read my books and want to learn more about them.

*What sort of pets do you have?*

An English Springer Spaniel called TC.

*What is your favourite game?*

I play golf. I like watching rugby.

*What is the most fun thing about being an author?*

Meeting people who have read my books.

*How do you make books?*

I think of a place, an animal, and something I would like my readers to learn. Then I try to work those three things into a story.

*What was the naughtiest thing you ever did at school?*

I made a contact explosive called nitrogen tri-iodide and put it on the floor of the school hall before a dance.

*How did you get started?*

I wrote Science textbooks for many years and wanted to be able to explore ideas without being confined by a curriculum or the need to be precisely accurate.

*Who inspired you when you were getting started?*

When I was in my twenties I read a lot of books by Howard Spring. One book in particular, *These Lovers Fled Away*, inspired me to one day be a writer of fiction.

*What advice would you give an aspiring young writer?*

Read a lot and write a lot. If possible, have some other people read your writing and listen to their comments.

*Is it difficult to make a living writing in New Zealand?*

Yes! I write children's novels that are set in New Zealand so there is a limited market.

*What were you like as a teenager?*

In today's terms I would be called a nerd or a geek. I was particularly interested in chemistry and substances you could make from chemicals bought in hardware shops. However there were plenty of others like me at our school and we had to find interesting things to do as there was no TV and home computers weren't invented for another 30 years.

*Is there anything else you could tell students about yourself?*

I was one of the first in New Zealand to have a home computer. This was called Sim1 and had 1 kbyte of ram and saved its data on a cassette tape. In the early 1980s I designed and manufactured a simple computer for use in science experiments.

# GAMES TO SUPPORT

## Week 8



<b>Rugby</b> Saturday	1st XV	vs	Kingsway	12 Noon Victor Eaves
	3rd Grade	vs	Orewa College	9.30am Orewa
	5th Grade	vs	Massey High	10.40am Massey
	6th Grade	vs	Westlake Boys	10.40am Home
<b>Hockey—Boys</b> Wednesday	1st XI	vs	Kristin	6.25pm Kristin
<b>Hockey—Girls</b> Thursday	1st XI	vs		
	2nd XI	vs		
<b>Football—Boys</b> Saturday	1st XI	vs	Sancta Maria	10am San Mar
	Year 9/10	vs	Takapuna	9am Home
<b>Football—Girls</b> Wednesday	1st XI	vs	Northcote	4pm Home
	2nd X1	vs	Takapuna	4pm Home
	Junior	vs	Northcote	4pm BirK Int.
<b>Basketball Boys</b> Friday	Sen Boys	vs	Glenfield	7.30 NSEC 4
	U19 boys	vs	Takapuna	8.30pm AUT
	U17 Blue boys	vs	Rosmini	4pm NSEC 3
		vs	Rangitoto	5.30pm NSEC 1
	U15 A boys	vs	Glenfield	5.30pm NSEC 2
	U15 B boys	vs	Rangitoto	5.30pm NSEC 3
<b>Basketball - Girls</b> Thursday	U19 Girls	vs	Mahrangi	4.45pm AUT
	U17 Girls	vs	Carmel	4pm NSEC 2
	U15 Girls	vs	Whangaparaoa	4pm NSEC 1
<b>Squash</b> Friday	Boys Snr 1	vs	Orewa	4pm Red Beach
	Girls	vs	Westlake Girls	4pm B/Haven
	Boys Jnr	vs		
<b>Netball</b> Saturday	Team 1	vs	Rangitoto	9am
	Team 2	vs	Rangitoto	11.15am
	Year 10/1	vs	Westlake Girls	12.45pm
	Year 10/2	vs	Albany JH	12 noon
	Year 9/1	vs	Long Bay	8.15am
	Year 9/2	vs	Rangitoto	9am

Special mention to the following teams who did very well this week:

### Netball

Year 9/1 beat Kaipara 23-17

Year 10/2 beat Albany 32-2

### Badminton

Birkenhead Senior C1 beat Carmel 6-3

Birkenhead Senior C2 beat Westlake 7-2

### Curling

BC Adviento beat Epsom Girls 2-0

BC Adviento beat Henderson High 9-4

*(big thanks to Jake Farrell who stepped in for injured Jed Tan and did a great job)*

BC Juniors beat AC Allen 7-2

### Girls Football

1st XI beat Westlake 5-0

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Senior 1 Netball Team who have made it into OPEN A Grade. This is the second highest grade after PREMIER - a great result.

### SQUASH COACHING

For the last 12 school weeks we have been fortunate to have Paul Cornish, a qualified squash coach, running coaching clinics for our boys and girls teams.

This has been very good for our younger players and the more senior members have benefitted as well.



At present our senior boys are undefeated in the Senior A Auckland competition. Next Tuesday and Wednesday the senior boys team of **Bruno Colantoni, Sohail Kashkari, Richard Yew, Josh Parore, Tyrone Howes-Patterson** and **Callum Hines** take on the rest of Auckland in the Team Championships. Good luck team!