

BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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Tuesday 26 October is Day 5

Dear Parents and Friends

This week, at assembly, I spoke briefly about the Chilean Mining incident, where 33 miners were trapped in a copper mine some 800 meters below ground. High temperatures, a confined space and lack of food meant huge tensions developed between the men. They only had 2 teaspoons of canned tuna, 1 biscuit and 2 sips of milk every 48 hours for 17 days. Luis Urzua (54) showed great leadership to keep them together as a team - "Iron discipline and teamwork was the key."

Exam students also need to show great discipline, and work with their support team - parents, teachers - to gain the best grades they are capable of.

NZ's Next Top Engineering Scientists

Professor Andrew Pullen, Auckland University, phoned to tell me that our team came 2nd in this challenging Nationwide competition. This is an outstanding achievement. All teams were provided online with a challenging scientific problem 'What fuel is required for a man mission to Mars', and given 1 day online to present a solution in a 10 page report.

Congratulations to their teacher, **Mr Smith**, and Year 13 students **Owen Dillion**, **Ngaio Garcia**, **Alex Shegay**, and **Tsun Hei Tai**, who have won \$500 each.

Don't forget!

Important Parent Support Group meeting on Tuesday 2nd November at 7.30pm. in the staff room. — all welcome. Details inside.

SUPPORTIVE TRUSTS

We are extremely grateful to a number of Trusts that have supported our applications for funding over the years. Recently Pub Charities approved a grant of \$2 000 for two new digital projectors for our Technology Department.

We are not funded to provide all of the equipment we believe our students deserve so it is with grateful thanks that we welcome such grants.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010

TERM 4

Week 3	25 October	Labour Day (holiday)
Week 3	28 October	Sports Prizegiving
Week 4	5 November	Whole school assembly—2011 Prefects & Council announced
Week 5	9 November	Senior Prizegiving

TOP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Ex Student - Jake Howe, Head boy in 2005 has been awarded a Royal Society of New Zealand Rutherford Foundation Cambridge PhD Scholarship to Cambridge University in England. This is a full PhD Scholarship for top New Zealand students, only two or three awards are offered annually. The Rutherford Foundation will provide three years' support for Jake, including yearly airfares to and from the UK.

This is in recognition of Jake's passion for science and technology, and the fact that he has the potential to excel in a research environment. He will be involved in an Environmental Chemistry project while at Cambridge.

Jake's huge ability was acknowledged in Year 13 when he won the Sir George Elliot Foundation Scholarship, which was presented by the Governor General.

Well done Jake, we are very proud of you.

BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE SPORTS AWARDS

THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER @ 7.30 PM



Guest Speaker : **Nikki Hamblin**
Commonwealth Games
800m & 1500m silver medalist

J O Mathewson, Principal

KnowledgeNET is a portal for parents and students to access everything from reports to assignments, from class work to attendance information. After focusing on student use of KN, we are now developing the parent portal and would like the opportunity to explain how it works.

At the next **Parents Support Group meeting on 2nd November**, there will be a presentation on KN, which will allow parents to receive their KN password (although they can email the school any time), have a look at how KN works, and ask any questions about the site that will help them to fully utilise it. We look forward to seeing you there, at **7.30pm in the Staff Room**.

MATHS HELP

Every Wednesday after school in T8, 3:15—4:15
For help with homework, studying or any maths problems.

ENGLISH HELP

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

Association is a key to memory:

- You remember approx 10% of what you read.
- You remember approx 20% of what you hear.
- You remember approx 30% of what you see.
- You remember approx 50% of what you hear and see together.
- You remember approx 70% of what you say (if you think as you are saying it).
- You remember approx 90% of what you do.

Get straight A passes for wearing dark glasses

Too much sunlight can damage both the eyes themselves and the skin around them. A close-fitting, preferably wrap-around style is best.



GATEWAY



Last Thursday Mrs Morris and Mrs Jenkin accompanied **Aleesha Winiata** and **Zakk Davies** to Glenfield Primary School where we laid on morning tea as a thank you to the staff for looking after our students for their Gateway placement.

Aleesha and **Zakk** gained so much from the experience and obviously forged strong links with the teachers as well as the pupils. Both students



addressed the staffroom with such maturity and humour. What a proud moment for us all.

VET TRAINING

Thank you to Sarah Alexander who shared her experiences and knowledge with a group of students interested in veterinary science this week. Sarah is in her 3rd year at Massey University and currently on study leave prior to end of year exams. It was good to hear the reality of the academic requirements for this course, the rigours of study required and to have an insight into the practical work involved in the course. Pregnancy testing in cows and images of poo covered students was a particular highlight! We wish Sarah success in these exams and over the next two years.



TENNIS

Term 4
Tennis got
off to a great
start last
weekend
with all 3 BC
teams
winning their
games. The
junior girls
outclassed
their
opponents, St
Mary's
College,
winning 8-1.
BCS



intermediate girls were also comfortable 8-1 victors against Takapuna Grammar, and the senior boys team easily beat Auckland Grammar 7-2. We have no games this weekend but we hope to continue our success in the next round which begins on the 30th October.



STUDY TIPS - REVIEWING WORK

INTERMEDIATE REVIEW is important when work is spread out over several months or longer. For example, when the exam is 4 months away, follow this schedule:

1. Original learning.
2. Immediate review of material same day (5-10 minutes).
3. Intermediate review of material covered so far, after 2 months.
4. Final review, before exam.

Intermediate and final reviews should stress understanding and organisation of material.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Kaze McGee** who came 4th in the U16 Boys Oceania Rock Climbing Champs held in the holidays. This is a big achievement. **Kaze** is now looking at hopefully being selected to the New Zealand team next year and taking part in international competition.



Congratulations to **David Bhana** who has made the New Zealand U17 Rugby League team due to his outstanding performance when his Auckland team played Counties Manukau in the NZ Provincial Final. Although his team (he is the captain) lost, he made 30 tackles and was responsible for setting up a try after cutting right through the opposition. **David** is only one of two Auckland players to make the U17 NZ team. This weekend **David** is travelling to Rotorua where his NZ U17 Maori team take on NSW Maori side. We wish him the best of luck.



CRICKET

Our girls' cricket team resumed competition in very un-summer like conditions on Wednesday afternoon against Takapuna. We batted first and scored 70-3 wickets in our 20 overs. **Rachel Curran** top-scoring with 20 hard hit runs.

Aysha Taylor-Eliffe

Rachel Curran Eliffe made 16 not out and **Tayla Harding** was also not out on 13. Takapuna then reached 71 in the 16th over, with **Katalina Tutaia** bowling particularly well.

Aysha Taylor-Eliffe



ARTS AWARDS 2010

