

# BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



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*Dear Parents and Friends*

Term 2

Issue 1

23 April 2010

We hope you had some relaxing family time over the holidays. Our eleven week Term 2 has started very smoothly. Please note, report evenings for Years 9—13 are being held next week, Thursday 29th April, and the week after on Tuesday 4th May. You can choose which is the better day for you. Please make every effort to attend, the goal is to lift every students' learning performance and your support is vital. Thank you.

## Winter Sports

We love our sport here and have a large number of teams competing this term. It is timely to remind everyone that we are signatories to the **Fairplay Charter** which states:

- ◆ Enjoy your sport.
- ◆ Play within the rules
- ◆ Play hard, play fair.
- ◆ Respect the referees and the opposition.
- ◆ Be gracious winners and dignified losers.

This code applies to students, teachers, coaches, managers and parents. It also includes appropriate sideline behaviour, e.g. do not sledge players or match officials or encourage illegal play

**Ex Student** - **Adrian Leat** (2005) graduated on Monday 12 April 2010, photo below taken after the ceremony at Auckland Town Hall. Adrian is currently doing his first year of a Masters degree in Architecture at Unitec.



Monday 26 April is Day 5

## We need you ...

Year 9 student, **Ciaran Sykes**, has entered a competition with Sony in the hope of winning a trip to South Africa to be a flag bearer for New Zealand in the World Cup Soccer Competition.



He has made it to the final 5 and the winner is to be chosen by the public. The finalists had to make a video of themselves and these appeared on Campbell Live last week.

Please vote for Ciaran, support your fellow BC student, the web address is [www.3news.co.nz/tabid/283/Default.aspx](http://www.3news.co.nz/tabid/283/Default.aspx). You then click on the banner at the top left "The Sony FIFA Flag Bearer Competition—Click here to vote".

## UNIFORM REMINDER!

This term— shoes and socks to be worn - black leather dress shoes with regulation socks (boys) and white socks or black pantyhose for girls.

**No black socks or track / sand shoes of any kind.**  
School jackets and jumpers only to be worn - all garments are available at Yarntons or try our secondhand uniform shop at school.

## REPORT EVENINGS

Report Evenings are being held on **Thursday 29th April** and **Tuesday 4th May** for **ALL** students. These evenings will run from 4—7.30pm and you may attend either evening. Booking forms are being sent home and your son / daughter should use these to make appointments with the teachers you wish to speak to.



Please take this important opportunity to meet your child's teachers - students achieve best when there is a good partnership between home and school. Please note that school will finish at 2.30pm on these days.

*J O Mathewson Principal*

# MUSIC!

## Concert Society

A group of keen music students have organised a concert society with the aim of obtaining group discounts to attend serious music concerts throughout the year.



Last night twelve *NZ Trio Group* students attended an exciting concert by the acclaimed NZ Trio showcasing new music by American, Australian and Spanish composers.

Thank you to Chamber Music New Zealand and a private donor who have offered free tickets to their 2010 concert season for 9 students!

Any students who wish to be involved in the concert society should contact Mr. Donaldson.

## **GODSPELL (12—15 May) the Musical at BC's new theatre!**

BC is excited to present **Godspell**, the rock musical, to open in its completely rebuilt theatre. **Godspell** is a fantastic musical based on the Parables and Community of the Gospel of Matthew. Written by Steven Swartz (author of Broadway smash 'Wicked'), it is also a hit on Broadway, and is filled with Gospel-Rock music. **Godspell** is a whimsical blend of song, dance, mime, charades, vaudeville routines and comedy. It is truly spiritual, full of joy and energy. The tickets go on sale at the school office and online on Monday 26th April. \$12 adults, \$8 students.

The Brian Gerrard Theatre (BGT) has been serving Birkenhead and the North Shore community since 1987 for theatre, concerts, dance and community events of all kinds. Its rich history will be celebrated on the opening night of **Godspell** (12th May). Please come along and enjoy the new-look theatre and join in the marvellous festivities.

## **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK**

Now on sale!!! Get yours today from the Music Department or Accounts office. Only \$65 per book. Contact Mrs Russell, rl@birkenhead.school.nz for more information.

## **FIRST FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Yesterday Year 12 students were notified of the opportunity to apply for this scholarship which provides financial support, holiday work and mentoring for four years (the final year at school and the duration of a Bachelor's degree). Birkenhead is one of only two schools on the Shore to participate in the First Foundation programme. The eligibility criteria is as follows. Applicants must:

- Be a NZ citizen or Permanent Resident or have Refugee status.
- Be intending to start a degree course at a NZ university in 2012.
- Have received a 'Merit' or 'Excellence' endorsement in Level 1 NCEA in 2009.
- And, a very important criteria imposed by First Foundation, have a household income of less than \$60,000 gross per annum. "Under exceptional circumstances, applicants not reaching eligibility criteria may be considered, taking into account special financial, academic or personal circumstances." Applicants' parents are required to complete a Declaration of Financial Status.

The First Foundation also gives priority to people who are involved in activities beyond the classroom – sporting, cultural, community, church, etc.

We are able to recommend three candidates. Our short-listing will occur in the next few weeks prior to Liz Wright from the Foundation meeting with the students, and their parents being invited to an Information Evening.

**Students who are keen to apply need to see Ms McVeigh (Year 13 Dean) by Tuesday 27 April.**

For further information about First Foundation, go to [www.firstfoundation.co.nz](http://www.firstfoundation.co.nz)

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010**

### **TERM 2**

<b>Week 2</b>	29 April	Report Evening
<b>Week 3</b>	4 May	Report Evening
<b>Week 4</b>	12 May	School Production week
<b>Week 7</b>	31 May	Senior Assessment week
<b>Week 9</b>	16 June	Geo trip to Rotorua
<b>Week 10</b>	25 June	Trivial Pursuits (PSG)
<b>Week 11</b>	2 July	Reports home
	2 July	Last day of Term 2

### **TERM 3**

<b>Week 1</b>	19 July	First day of Term 3
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