

AVONDALE COLLEGE

AVCOL

newsletter



Issue 1 > 2013

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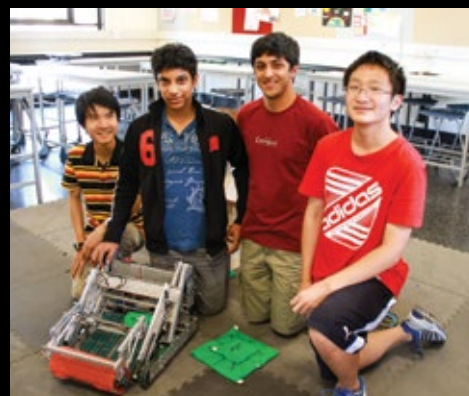
TOP SCHOLARS

First in the World
First in New Zealand

**Polyfest
Tauranga
JAZZ FESTIVAL**

**SPORTS
Highlights**

**ROBOTICS
World Champs!**



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Caregivers

The first term of 2013 has been very positive as a direct result of the hard work and careful preparation carried out by staff prior to the arrival of our students. Once again I am very appreciative of the goodwill demonstrated by the many teaching and associate staff who worked so hard during their 'holidays' to ensure a smooth beginning to all aspects of the school's operation.

We want to extend the warmest of welcomes to all families whose association with Avondale College is just beginning. We are enjoying

getting to know so many of you and, even better, involving you in the life of the college. We have a wonderful range of activities at the college and the involvement of parents in supporting this is always welcome.

The delivery of the excellent results achieved in both the NCEA and Cambridge exams by Avondale College students has given us all a great deal of pleasure and pride.

The NCEA results have continued to surge upwards for all of our students. Level 1 numeracy achievement has now reached the remarkable figure of 93% and Level 1 achievement in literacy is 96.25%. Endorsements have jumped for all year levels, with marked increases in the number of merits and excellences achieved.

The Cambridge results have been widely reported in the media, with several of our students achieving extraordinary results both nationally and internationally. The following students were honoured at the national Cambridge awards ceremony:

FIRST IN THE WORLD

A Level Psychology

Matthew Kendall

FIRST IN NEW ZEALAND

IGCSE Chemistry

Ethan Sorrell

IGCSE Physics

Jane Wang

IGCSE Biology

Ethan Sorrell

IGCSE Accounting

Jayden Cooke

Our Cambridge classes excelled academically, once again, with top results at IGCSE, AS and A Levels, including the vast majority gaining University Entrance in Year 12; a full year earlier than required. Scholarships were also achieved by both NCEA and Cambridge students, with achievements being well above the national achievements rates. Scholarships (including outstanding scholarships) were achieved in a wide range of subjects including English, the sciences, mathematics, Chinese, Samoan, dance, drama, geography, German, design, media studies, and photography.

As I advised last year the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) still appears to calculate all Cambridge students who sit one NCEA paper as 'failures' in the published numeracy, literacy, and University Entrance and Level 1, 2 and 3 data as they do not recognise these students'

success in the alternative Cambridge pathway. As both Cambridge and short stay international students enter these partial NCEA courses they counted as 'fails' in our end of year data summaries, which misrepresents our performance to a marked degree. In the case of Cambridge there is a double blow as their extraordinary Cambridge UE success is not reported but their NCEA 'non-achievement' in UE (although never attempted) is reported as a fail.

Despite repeated requests to correct this gross misrepresentation of our data, NZQA still persist in their current (and inaccurate) practices. The lack of accuracy involved is disappointing and unjust given that NZQA knows the problem exists but have yet to modify their approach or publically and explicitly acknowledge this problem in their release of the data.

While it is pleasing that this has no impact on the individual students themselves it continues to markedly distort the reporting of Avondale College's academic performance as published in the national media and in ministry reports. We continue to debate these matters with NZQA to seek to correct the release of such misinformation about a college with such strong academic outcomes in both the NCEA and Cambridge pathways.

Stage three of the Avondale College rebuild programme has now recommenced after a long delay caused by the legacy of issues created by the bankruptcy of the building contractor who was completing the preparatory work at the time. We are now looking forward to the new facilities with eager expectation.

As the term of the present Board of Trustees comes to a close I want to thank all the board members for their many contributions during another demanding period in the development of the school. Whether serving on the building, finance, discipline, policy, Maori/Pasifika or curriculum committees or addressing the many extraordinary issues and events that occupy all members over many meetings and discussions, significant contributions have been made. I want to thank Deb Collis for her generosity, stamina and good judgement on the building programme. Similarly, Kevin Glubb has made a huge commitment in terms of hours and skill in both in effectively managing the Board as well as responding to the many other issues that arise in the role of Board Chair. His stamina and goodwill toward the college are warmly appreciated by us all.

Our 2013 prefects are displaying excellent teamwork, pride, spirit and a sense of responsibility that has gained the respect of the whole school community. We are pleased to confirm that our new Head Girl is Victoria Piatov and that the Head Boy is Andrew Glubb. They are supported by a talented group of Deputy Heads including Amber Coates-Reid, Amiria Goodenough, Taupule Afamasaga, Elliot Thorp, Lolo Onesemo, and Kenji Kamimura.

All students should be receiving regular homework in all subjects. If any student suggests to family members that this is not the case, please take this as an early warning sign and contact the college. We are only too pleased to respond to any queries or concerns on any such matters. Regular meaningful homework has a significant impact on the educational outcomes of all students and we place a high value on this for all our students.

We are eagerly looking forward to the next term and the opportunity to work with you and your children to assist them to reach the highest possible levels of educational achievement possible.

Brent Lewis

Principal



School Leaders: Amiria Goodenough, Taupule Afamasaga, Amber Coates-Reid, Victoria Piatov, Andrew Glubb, Lolo Onesemo, Elliot Thorp and Kenji Kamimura



Celebrating success at the Cambridge Awards evening - Mr Nick McIvor, Matthew Kendall, Ethan Sorrell, Jane Wang, Jayden Cooke, Mr Brent Lewis and Senior Schools Development Manager, Mr Simon Higgins

TOP SCHOLARS

Four Avondale College students were recognised at the Cambridge Awards ceremony in February for their outstanding performances in the 2012 exams which resulted in four national top marks, and one international best mark.

Matthew Kendall gained the best mark in the world for his Psychology A-Level exam, and even though he suspected he had done quite well, he was still surprised when he heard he had topped the international exam.

"When my dad told me my result was top in the world I thought he was joking. I was quite shocked."

Psychology teacher Eric Wheeler was thrilled by Matthew's achievement. "I was blown away when I found out. Matthew obviously works very hard and does a lot of work outside of the classroom."

"The result has had an impact on the students already because they see that Matthew achieved that result here and realise they can as well."

This is not the first time Matthew has achieved top results – last year he was awarded the top mark in New Zealand History.

Following in Matthew's footsteps with top national marks were three Year 11 students who gained outstanding results across four Cambridge IGCSE subjects.

Ethan Sorrell gained the top marks in two subjects – Chemistry and Biology, with Jane Wang coming top in Physics, and Jayden Cooke first in Accounting.

It's a brilliant result from the three hard-working students, who all put in some serious study prior to the exams. "I worked really hard," says Jane, "so it was nice that it paid off in the end!"

Matthew, Jane, Ethan and Jayden all received certificates recognising their achievement at an awards ceremony in February.

ACADEMIC HONOUR AWARDS FOR 2012

Congratulations to the following students who achieved these outstanding results in 2012:

CIE students

Criteria: Median percentage of 90% or more from subjects studied in 2012

Student	Median %
SORRELL ETHAN	0.97
ZHANG TIANHENG	0.96
CHEN ELIZABETH	0.95
MOHINI TANMAY	0.95
SHI YE PENG (DAVID)	0.95
WANG JANE	0.95
SHAHIN OMAR	0.94
CEN LUKE	0.93
ISLAM NAAFAH	0.93
COOKE JAYDEN	0.92
KENDALL MATTHEW	0.92
LIU CRYSTAL	0.92
PHEA JANE	0.92
WHITE SOPHIE	0.915
BHATT JUGAL	0.91
MCDUGALL CRYSTAL	0.91
MISTRY VYOMA	0.91
DUNN-RUENRUAYSAB KANYARAK (AMY)	0.9
HU TIANYU (TIM)	0.9
LU DAPHNE	0.9
SHUANG LANQIAOZI (GEORGE)	0.9
ZHAO RUSIN	0.9

NCEA students

Criteria: At least 60 credits at Excellence level across subjects studied in 2012

Student	Number of credits at Excellence level
COWIE SARAH	92
PARK JI HYUN (LISA)	92
ANCHAN YASH	91
OOI KIMBERLEY	85
ROLFE PHOEBE	84
BREBNER BEN	78
LOADER ELEANOR	76
STANYER KELSEY	74
KAMIMURA KENJI	73
LOUW ELIZABETH	73
NG REUBEN	70
TAIT ASHLEIGH	70
WYATT REBECCA	70
STONEMAN THOMAS	69
PIATOV VICKY	68
DOESBURG LEX	66
MILDON MARK	66
NORGROVE DEANNA	63
ONG JASON	62
CHAND SHAVIKASH	62
ANITELEA TONI	60
STOLBERGER THOMAS	60

POLYFEST



Avondale students poured their hearts and souls into their performances at this year's ASB Polyfest. 284 students were involved in nine different cultural groups, with routines based around this year's theme: "The gifts of Papatuanuku are a koha to the people. Cherish and care for them."

Many hours of practice in the weeks leading up to the festival saw the groups achieve an outstanding level of performance across all the stages.

Performing for the first time ever on the Diversity Stage was our Avondale College Thai Group. They were joined by Chinese, Sri Lankan and Indo Fijian groups who celebrated their cultures with pride. On the competitive stages were our Samoan, Maori, Niuean, Cook Island and Tongan groups.

Avondale College picked up a number of awards from the festival:

NIUEAN GROUP:

2nd – Best Co-Ed School
1st Junior Girls Speech - Tumaitutagaloa Tuhipa Simelika
3rd Senior Girls Speech - Metalini Tauetau
3rd Kamataaga – Entrance
1st Lologo/Koli Vaha Tuai - Traditional Song & Dance
2nd Meke - Theme Dance
2nd Takalo - War Dance
3rd Fakaotiaga – Exit
2nd Tauteuteaga Tino Foou - Modern Costume
3rd Takitaki Tane - Boy Leader - Logan Misiniu

SAMOAN GROUP

3rd Overall (Co-ed School)
1st Tauluga (featuring Rachel Afamasaga)
2nd Fuataimi
2nd Maululu
3rd Pese o le Aso

COOK ISLANDS GROUP

2nd in the Pere Pere Vaine

TONGAN GROUP

2nd in the Soke

"IT WAS A FLAWLESS PERFORMANCE – THE SINGING WAS AMAZING AND THE STUDENTS REALLY GAVE IT THEIR ALL."
 – MELAINE SAGALA, TIC SAMOAN GROUP

The ASB Polyfest is the largest Maori and Pacific Island cultural festival of its kind in the world. This year approximately 9,000 students from 59 schools and 200 performing groups showcased through speech, song, and dance, their cultural experience.

Well done to all the students who were involved, and many thanks to all the staff and tutors who gave their time and expertise – without your contribution the performances would not be possible.

TALENT QUEST

Without doubt one of the highlights of Term 1 was the showcase of music, dance and entertainment at Avondale College's Talent Quest 2013.

Nineteen finalists made it through the lunchtime heats to the evening final where they performed to a packed house and celebrity guest judges Matiu Walters, lead vocalist of Six60; Aroha Hathaway, host of TV1's Good Morning; K'Lee – co-host of Mai FM's Morning Show; Mike Chunn musician and former bassist of Split Enz; and Megan Sellers and Jeziel Anderson from The Edge FM.

The night had it all: spectacular dancing, hilarious entertainment, music in a variety of genres, and a high energy item by the prefects. The judges had a tough job, but coming away with the supreme award was Year 13 musician Thomas Stoneman who wowed the crowd with his own rendition of a Kimbra song using a loop pedal on which he layered sounds and vocals, creating live, continuous playback on top.

The Prefect committee worked hard both sides of the curtain, and enjoyed seeing it all come together. Well done to all who were involved.



Thomas Stoneman also won the 'Play it Strange' competition last year, which gave him the opportunity to record his own song with fellow students Isaac Tollestrup and Antony Maday. "This Mess" by Tom Stoneman is available on iTunes – check it out!



Overall Winner

Thomas Stoneman
 2nd Place - Pork Chops
 3rd Place - Melody Martin

Dance

1st Place - Melody Martin
 2nd Place - James Grant
 3rd Place - Rachel Atkinson & Millie Burden

Music

1st Place - Thomas Stoneman
 2nd Place - Kenji Kamimura & Thomas Stoneman (Queen Medley)
 3rd Place - Jireh Lolotoa, Danielle Lesatele & Junior Soqeta

Entertainment

1st Place - Pork Chops
 2nd Place - ExOExO Dance Group
 3rd Place - Pivot

ROBOTICS

AVCOL ROBOTICS – WORLD CHAMPIONS!

Avondale College's Robotics team – Binary Blitz - are celebrating their success at the Robotics World Championships held in Los Angeles in April, having won the Arts division and gained a semi-finals placing in the Engineering division with their two robot entries. In the division play-offs for the over-all tournament trophy they then went on to beat one other division alliance, finishing fourth overall. This was a sensational result, coming out of a starting field of 420 high school teams from around the world!

This success follows months of hard work by our students, Tanmay Mohini, Varun Karkera, Songhao Zeng and David Shi, led by Teacher in Charge, Mr Bruce Tetley, with assistance by Mrs Helen Lowe and Dr Jane Berry.

Prime Minister John Key congratulated our team, noting that, once

again, their efforts have proven that New Zealand is the team to beat in this high-tec competition. Interestingly, out of the five high school divisions, New Zealand teams were in three of the winning alliances.

Our success in robotics is being closely watched by the rest of the world – our team even noticed another school using a 'copy' of the robot they had created – and won with – at the Asia Pacific Tournament in December.

The group also did well at the National Competition in March, getting themselves into the top four alliances for a semi-final placing, as well as receiving two programming awards – the Programming Skills Champion trophy, and the 'Think' award in recognition of their use of autonomous programming throughout the main competition.

For more details on the New Zealand and World Robotics Championships please visit: www.avcol.school.nz/events



TAURANGA JAZZ FESTIVAL

SILVER AWARD & BEST GUITARIST

On Good Friday, the Avondale College Big Band went to Tauranga to compete in the National Youth Jazz Competition. Despite the early start the group had a fun trip, making the most of photo ops in Paeroa before arriving in Tauranga in time to hear several of the other Big Bands who were competing as well.

Each band had to play four pieces, including a set piece, 'It Don't Mean a Thing'. We enjoyed the experience of hearing other bands playing this piece because every school had a different idea on how it should sound.

After a quick break for lunch, we went into the green room to get ready for our performance. Nerves were starting to edge their way into our brains as the minutes quickly passed by. A few last minute checks and then we were on stage, performing in front of at least 300 people



at the Founders Theatre. The pieces sounded even better than we had rehearsed and went by without any major hiccups.

At the end of our performance we were all extremely pleased with our result. Avondale College Big Band won a silver award, and guitarist Eric Chan-Foon won the award for best Jazz Guitarist. With many thanks to Mr Bolley, the 15 member band did an outstanding job!

by Natasha van Ettin

LIBRARY

The library has had a busy term, beginning with the annual 'Join in at Avcol' expo in which hundreds of students found out about and signed up for the myriad of co-curricular activities available at Avondale College.

We were fortunate to host British fantasy author Joseph Delaney, (of the 'Spooks' series) who spoke to students about his books and the process of writing and publishing fiction. 'The Seventh Son' - a film based on one of his books is due out later this year.

TERM 1 BOOK CLUB

THEME: FANTASY "AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY"

This term the theme of our Book Club was "Fantasy; an unexpected journey".

Students were invited to select their books from a wide range of Fantasy literature and then join us in Week 11 for a "second breakfast" Hobbit style. Our very own staff member Susan Eljas talked to us about her unexpected journey from English teacher to author/illustrator and creative stylist.

Susan spoke to an interested audience of readers and writers about

the publishing process, from developing an idea through to publication; and then delighted us by reading her new picture book "Dart of Castle Hill" aloud to us.

Susan's career to date has been varied and inspiring; she spoke about her journey and encouraged students to take opportunities that presented themselves and to never give up when the creativity doesn't seem to be flowing - it is often these challenges and opportunities that lead us on an unexpected journey.



ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

CLEANING UP AT ENVIROCHALLENGE!

About 60 keen students signed up to be part of the Environment group at the beginning of term. Our first event was to help the external environmental group, 'Friends of the Whau' to clean up the banks of the Whau river off Rosebank Road on Saturday 12 March. Students spent two hours of their own time helping collect rubbish along the banks of the Whau and nearby walkway. As well as the obvious bottles and cans, a car seat, corrugated sheeting and tyres were part of the hoard.

This was followed up with the promotion of 'Seaweed'. This is a national campaign to promote awareness of our oceans and waterways. Students gave away 1000 chocolate fish (thanks to Oliver Buchanan in Year 13!) as rewards for correct answers from a quiz organised by the students.

On April 18th Avondale College hosted 'Envirochallenge', a competitive event between Auckland schools to highlight environmental issues important to students in their immediate environment. The students have had a mentor, Jerome Partington from Jasmex, the architects for the school's new buildings, to help them with their vision statement and provide vital advice.

Students did a superb job in their final presentation. It was a closely fought competition but in the end Avondale were pronounced the winners - a fantastic result for all involved.

The year has started off well and we hope to continue with equal success in forthcoming months.

Teachers in Charge: Rachel Lamb and Shawn Cooper

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

AMNESTY FIRING ON ALL BARRELS

The Amnesty group has been well supported this year at all year levels. Initial campaigns have been launched on three fronts - the Arms Trade Treaty, Women's Rights, and Gay Rights issues, such as the 'Same-sex Marriage' debate currently before Parliament.

We kicked off our campaign to support the enforcement of a stricter Arms Trade Treaty (for stricter regulation of selling fire-arms) with a presentation at assembly. We had two students enact a childlike play-scene - where one person pretended to be shot - to show the consequences of having guns in anybody's hands. This was followed by a short presentation which showed how bananas are harder to export than guns.

Afterwards, many students signed postcards during lunchtime to support a stricter Arms Trade Treaty - Amnesty's first campaign of the year.

The picture shows these postcards carefully arranged to highlight the message.



HALT - "IT ALL STARTS WITH A VISION".

On 25 March, the lifestyle campaign HALT rolled out at Avondale College. Avondale students developed the comprehensive campaign last year. It has a positive focus with the aim to improve youth wellbeing. Its name HALT stands for Healthy Active Lifetime and its slogan is "It all starts with a vision".

The vision of the campaign leaders is to build a positive and holistic brand for wellbeing, which can challenge the lifestyle status quo, build a new norm, and assist youth to flourish. HALT runs throughout the whole year with different campaign components, actions, celeb ambassadors and more. The project is facilitated by PhD student Jule Kunkel.

Students can find out more at: halt.net.nz

Healthy Active Life Time

TRAVELWISE

The Travelwise programme is an innovative schools-based programme that aims to improve road safety and achieve a reduction in the number of vehicles driving to and from school at peak times. It does this through encouraging and increasing alternative modes of travel, and providing safer facilities for all road users.

Avondale College hosted a Travelwise schools summit recently in which we enjoyed interacting with the other school representatives, sharing ideas and planning for upcoming events, including a slow bike race and bikers' breakfast.

We're encouraging students to look for active and sustainable ways to travel to school - including walking, cycling, public transport, carpooling and even scooting to school.

SAFE SCHOOL LEADERS

Safe School Leaders were presented to the whole school at assembly at the start of the year. 25 senior students were chosen to be Safe School Leaders as they showed a determination to work towards creating and providing a safe school environment for all students at Avondale College. They were involved in a training programme with the Guidance Department around conflict resolution skills with the aim of supporting their fellow peers in reducing incidents of bullying.



The Safe School Leaders for 2103 are:

Nairi Nasrallah, Emily Marshall, Deanna Norgrove, Emily Johnson, Venna Patel, Saranyia Reid, Sarah Jane Moncur, Ayesha Ahmed, Maddisyn Cummane, Amy Cooper, Fa'afua Silipa, Andrew Solomon, Lio Hope, Sonny Tautua, Siuea Vetelino, Craig Igatia, Junior Soqeta, Te Manava Syme-Buchana, Anabella Fonoti, Evotia Fuimaono Alolua, Fe'ena Syme Buchanan, Julian Carter, Aaliyah Khan, Ryan Burgess, Taylor McLoon.

CAREERS DEPARTMENT

Parents, please remember we welcome enquires from you regarding your child's future direction. Careers Counsellors can be contacted on the following numbers:

Jacqui Birkhead /Jo Thomson 820 1729
Judith Johnson 828 7024 ext 556

Please visit our pages on the school intranet site where we will outline exciting upcoming career events on our noticeboard.

YEAR 13 INTERVIEWS

We see all Year 13 students at least once during the year with the aim of clarifying their future direction and goals. The interviews have already started. Other appointments can be made at the Careers room or by contacting us on the above numbers.

CAREERQUEST

Careerquest is a programme available at lunchtime in the careers room or at home on www.careers.govt.nz, designed to provide students with a range of career options to explore, based on their interests and skills. This is an excellent way to broaden their horizons and start them thinking about their future direction.

IMPORTANT DIARY NOTE!

Pathways Planning Evening

Tuesday 13 August 2013
 3.30pm – 6.30pm
 Avondale College Theatre

This is our school's annual career expo. It is an opportunity for parents and Year 9-12 students to get assistance with subject choices for 2013. Liaison staff from tertiary institutions and ITO's will be present to ensure students select the right subjects for preferred tertiary courses. Year 12 and 13 students moving on to tertiary study next year will be able to get course information to assist them in their decision making.

J. Birkhead
 Director of Careers

COMMERCE

The Commerce Department has been very busy in Term 1 with the various subjects covering accounting, business studies and economics. In Year 10 Business Studies the main focus was on looking at entrepreneurs and how they have been successful in starting up various businesses. Interestingly, many successful people did actually have some failures along the way towards achieving success, and it was important for students to see that was the case. The students learnt about the various business structures such as companies, sole traders, partnerships and franchises. They also started their share market game. In this game, each student was given \$10000 to invest in five New Zealand companies listed on the stock exchange. Every couple of weeks the students would review their shares and decide whether or not to sell and buy new shares, depending on their performance.

Now the students are studying the concepts that relate to marketing a product or service. Students will be required to use the four P's of price, product, promotion and place, and develop a product and detail their marketing plan for it to be successfully sold.

Three groups are participating in Young Enterprise. These students gain skills in communication, leadership and production as well as working as a team. Their products are in the initial stages of development so we hope for progress to continue over the coming term.

Senior students in Economics are currently working on their proposal for the Reserve Bank Challenge. They aim to produce a high quality and insightful written report about their decisions for the Official Cash Rate (OCR) and present this to the judges in Term 2.

GATEWAY

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME

Creating great Career & Learning Opportunities - 1 day a week x 10 weeks

Our 42 Gateway students are off to a great start having completed and received certificates in Intermediate First Aid and Health and Safety in the Work Place.

So far over 30 work placements and courses have been found for students in the following areas:



**Banking, Hospitality,
 IT, Journalism,
 Radio, Nursing,
 Physiotherapy, Retail,
 Teaching, Early
 Childhood, Building,
 Auto Electrical,
 Auto Mechanics
 and Mechanical
 Engineering**

Student feedback is extremely positive as they gain new skills and confidence in their chosen field of work.

The remainder of the students will be placed in Term 2.

If you want to know more about the Gateway Programme please visit www.avcol.school.nz or contact the Gateway Coordinator

– **Karen Osborne p 09 820-1724 m 021 131 9901**
e zosk@avcol.school.nz

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The International Department was very happy to welcome 40 new students in Term 1 and eight new students in Term 2. In Term 1 we had great fun at Rainbow's End, where lots of fun, laughter and a few screams were had on the rides. This term we're heading down to Wellington to soak up the capital's culture, and then we're off for an adventure weekend in Rotorua. If that wasn't enough, students can also go on camp to experience the wonders of the great Kiwi outdoors. International students will be showing off their culinary skills at our International Food Festival, and with over 20 nationalities this really is an event not to be missed. As yet, a date hasn't been set, so watch this space!



DANCE

Year 11 students have studied jazz this term and performed a jazz piece called 'Americano' for Year 12 and Year 13 Dance classes. They have just completed their own individual contemporary choreographies which will be performed at events throughout the year.

Year 12 students have been working towards their NCEA assessment in the ethnic dance style, Capoeira. The students were fortunate to learn the technique from experienced Capoeira tutor and Capoeira master, Master China.

Year 13 students are currently working on group performance in the style of hip hop dance. They have been working with Simon Watts who has danced with renowned dance crews Identity and Prestige. The students will be performing their hip hop dance to children at Rosebank Primary at the end of this term.

The Dance team auditions were held at the beginning of this year and now the team is looking forward to presenting their new dances for Basketball home games next term.

The Dance Academy has started work on NZAMD contemporary exams in Levels 2 and 4 which they will sit at the end of Term 3.

DRAMA

Year 12 Drama presented an entertaining evening of Commedia dell'Arte in the Drama Suite on Thursday, April 4. We were entertained by characters such as Pantelone, Columbina, Arlecchino, El Capitano, La Signora and Isabella. All the students made the traditional Commedia masks and they looked very professional and added to the authenticity of their performances.

Year 13 Drama presented some thought provoking dramas based on the lives of famous people in the Drama Suite on Wednesday and Thursday nights, April 10 and 11. We met, among others, Beethoven, Anne Boleyn, Sir Edmund Hillary, Bob Marley, Frida Kahlo, Marilyn Monroe, Joan of Arc, James K. Baxter, Martin Luther, Jimi Hendrix, Angelina Jolie and Ellen de Generes.

All the senior Drama students are going to attend an early evening performance of "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams at the Maidment Theatre on Monday, May 13. This is a production by the Auckland Theatre Company.

A group of senior students took part in the Sheila Win Shakespeare Festival regional competition on Friday, 19 April – the last day of Term 1 – at Western Springs College. The students presented an extract from "Much Ado About Nothing" by William Shakespeare, directed by Mr Julian Toy-Cronin.

The auditions for the school show for 2013, which is "Miss Saigon", are being held on Wednesday, May 8 in the Theatre. The show production week is September 16 to 21, which is Week 8 of Term 3.



arts performing ACADEMY

The Performing Arts Academy has had a busy start to the year with students in all four strands working well towards their competitions and assessments.

In the Dance Academy, Year 9 and 10 students are preparing for the New Zealand Association of Modern Dance Contemporary Dance exams at Levels 3 and 4. We are also delighted to welcome teacher Destiny Anderson to the classroom. Destiny has an impressive background as a contemporary dancer for Shona McCullagh (choreographer and dance filmmaker, former LIMBS dancer) and toured with her throughout Poland. Destiny has also danced with well-known choreographer, Michael Parmenter in 'Commotion' Dance Company in centres across New Zealand. She is a welcome addition to the department and the Academy.

The Jazz Academy has started well with students learning about improvisation. Students are also learning both blues and jazz standard tunes this term.

Students in the Classical Music strand of the performing Arts Academy are focusing on small group rehearsals and historical performance practice.

The Performing Arts Academy Drama students are busy preparing for their Speech New Zealand exams - Year 9 in Term 2 and Year 10 in Term 3.



ENGLISH

At the start of the year, members of the South Auckland Poets Collective came to Level 3 English classes to teach the art of spoken word poetry. The poets performed some of their work and led students through a creative process that resulted in some powerful writing being created. As a result of the positive feedback from students after these workshops, Dietrich Soakai, a South Auckland poet from the Collective will be coming to Avondale to help run a Spoken Word Poetry Group with Mrs Cope. Students will be taken through the writing and performing process and will even be encouraged to enter "Slam" competitions later in the term. The group will meet on Tuesdays after school.



Dietrich Soakai captivated students with the performance of his own poetry, even creating his own freestyle poetry on the spot from words students gave him. "Albert Wendt says we should be telling our own stories the way we want to tell them," says Dietrich. "Some of the most beautiful poems have just been truthful and honest. You be you..." - Check out more on Dietrich Soakai on www.sapcnz.com

AVONDALE SPORTS ACADEMY INTRODUCES THE SPORT
NEW ZEALAND GROWING COACHES PROGRAMME

"Leadership is a privilege and a service to others" – Growing Coaches Programme

This initiative, led by Sport New Zealand, facilitated by ourselves and supported by Sport Waitakere, will encourage student empowerment and leadership through sport.

Many of our Year 9 Sports Academy students have already demonstrated and been given the opportunity to lead within their primary and intermediate schools. It is vital that we nurture these abilities and develop these young people into the leaders of the Sports Academy and sport at Avondale College.

The aim of the Growing Leaders programme in Year 9 Sports Academy is to grow their leadership potential, exploring, discovering and navigating leadership by experiential opportunities.

In Year 10 we will facilitate the Growing Coaches programme where the coaching experiences enhance the leadership development. They will understand that coaching includes learning, programme and session planning and progression as well as constant evaluation. They will realise that these leadership qualities and coaching skills are transferable into life skills.

Other Sports Academy Highlights:

London Paralympian Bronze Medallist Fiona Southorn visited the Academy and talked about her amazing road to success at the London Games.

Double Gold Medal Olympian Danyon Loader spoke to our Sports Academy Students, approaching the session from the mental and spiritual dimensions of sports performance. He highlighted the need to really get



to know "who you are" and "what you really want in life", that if you find something you love doing and that challenges you every day, then the hard work is always worth it.

Our academy hosted a football tournament for local intermediates - with our students demonstrating superb leadership in organising, coaching and umpiring on the day.

Upcoming events:

Pero Cameron - worth his weight in gold - will visit the Sports Academy next term to share his unique view on being a successful Athlete.



VIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT

2013 started at a real gallop with three major school events occurring inside the first three full weeks of term.

The school athletics day provided its usual mix of colour and festival type activity as well as serious athletic endeavour. The Year 13's made a real splash with their enthusiastic participation and varied costumes, including spidermen, banana men, cartoon characters, and the undoubted winner of the fancy dress parade, Rebbecca Wyatt, competing in a full white bridal outfit and veil!

The swimming gala followed, with Mr Jamieson as usual producing an excellent programme which allowed for our top swimmers to have meaningful races against their peers, as well as encouraging our younger and less experienced swimmers with the chance to compete in shorter races. It was a real honour also to have Daniel Sharp, an ex Avondale College student who is a multiple Paralympic games medal winner, swim against our senior boys.

We have real quality throughout our college in swimming but the biggest splash was made by our Year 9 student Gabrielle Fa'amausili sweeping the board in all the races she competed in and setting the platform for an incredible season. She qualified for the New Zealand Age group championships, along with Caitlin Mann, Briahna Mann, Briahna Coury and Adam Milne. Gabrielle set age group national records in three separate Gold medal performances and, along with Caitlin Mann who won two National titles of her own and qualified to swim in the NZ Open Championships. Here at the very top level of New Zealand swimming Gabrielle made it into the final in her event, an outstanding achievement.

Alongside Mr Jamieson we owe a real debt of gratitude to Ms Michelle Mann who has been managing the swim team this year and has done an excellent job of ensuring our swimmers are well represented throughout the season.

We had an excellent turn out to the Western Zone athletics meet, coming away with a host of top two placings, particularly again in the middle distance races with Luke Fielding and Teklay Zinaw dominating both 1500 and 3000m races. 24 students gained places in the Greater Auckland Championships where we had a new athletics Auckland champion emerge, with Hope Curtis winning the Auckland Senior girls High Jump title. Again real thanks go to Dr Terry Brown and his team for their work throughout a very hectic first term of athletics.

Senior summer sport then flourished throughout the long first term. In volleyball our girls looked full of promise and we had two teams competing throughout the year in the Western Zone competition. Our second team gained valuable experience, while our Premier team dominated the competition and went through a long season undefeated to become Zone champions. The boys are full of promise and despite lacking consistency in the Zone meet, performed well in the Auckland championship before being beaten in the final of the Division 2 Championships by a guest team, so actually finished as the highest ranked Auckland team in that division. All players owe a real debt of thanks to the managing and coaching teams of Mr Shawn Cooper for the boys and Mr Stewart Whiting and Ms M DeLuca for the girls.

Water polo has a proud tradition at the college and that has continued

this term. The senior boys, coached by Mr Jamieson, made the final of the Auckland Division 2 Championships, losing narrowly in the final after a very strong season-long display. Ms Simons was a very enthusiastic and welcome asset to the Water Polo management team.

Our tennis programme continues to flourish again, despite being without home courts. The boys made a big leap into A2 grade this year, coming up against very strong competition but progressed well, taking some very notable scalps along the way. The girls had real success in their grade and the senior team are currently unbeaten. A massive thank you again goes to Ms Hanna and Mr Eccles who keep the tennis happening and who are no doubt looking forward eagerly to the return of our own courts.

Our touch teams again competed at zone and Auckland level, with our boys showing lots of potential and skill but unable to perform consistently well enough to qualify for the North Island Championships at the end of term. The girls were dominant in their zone competition and again made it to the championships at Avondale racecourse where injury and unavailability meant the team was short of some established players and in the end was unable to really mount a challenge in the competition. But with a very young side they look set to continue to make real progress in the near future.

Many of the girls and boys from touch also performed in our tag teams in the Auckland Championships later in the term. The boys lost just once in the round robin and unluckily missed out on a semi final place on points difference. The girls, however, completely dominated the competition with scores of 15-0 and 20-0 in pool play and came out convincing winners, beating Rangitoto 6-1 in the final. This was a terrific performance and thanks go to Mr Williams and Mr Holmes for their work with the senior boys throughout the term and to Mr Luke Shaw who managed the girls' team throughout the year. Thanks also to coach Mr J Sekene who along with Mrs Sekene have been real supporters of our programmes this year.

In the final two weeks of term we added the girls Auckland Ultimate title for the second time in three years and the sport of ultimate continues to prosper under the tutelage of our Sport Coordinator, Mr I Stewart.

So as our incredibly hectic but successful senior summer season comes to an end the winter programmes are already in overdrive preparing for the new season. We have already had the Premier Basketball boys play and win a play-off game to retain Premier League status, with a win against Glendowie. They also took part in the prestigious Western Heights pre-season tournament where the senior boys lost narrowly by one point in the semi-final but the juniors won their tournament, defeating Rosmini in the final. The other play-off game, for the 1st X1 boys football, who are aiming to gain promotion into Auckland A2, is half way through, with Avondale having a good win in the first leg 6-1 against Glenfield College.

Thank you to all staff, parents and community helpers for your time and expertise in helping the sporting programmes at Avondale College. We are also indebted to our Board of Trustees, as with their continued support and encouragement, we continue to grow in all areas.

Bring on the winter terms!

Mr C Jones
Director of Sport

ULTIMATE

To many people, summer means throwing a Frisbee with mates at the beach. To some Avondale College students though, Frisbee is a much more serious matter. Members of the Avondale College Ultimate Frisbee teams began training as soon as school started and enough interest was generated to enter two teams into the Auckland Ultimate Schools League. The Premier Girls were looking for revenge on Northcote College, who pipped them by a single point in last year's final, while the Premier Boys team was a completely new team this year.

Both teams performed extremely well in the league, with the Premier Boys exceeding even their own expectations to make the semi-finals. The Premier Girls earned a rematch with Northcote College in the final and this time came out victorious to engrave their name on the trophy for the second time in three years. The teams' opposition voted Martin En and Eunice Ng as the Most Valuable Players in their team and four girls made the Northern Under-19 Representative team: Eunice Ng, Eva Zhu, Crystal McDougall, Sam Campbell.

Avondale College's Premier Netball team played Waikato Diocesan on Monday 25 March in the first televised game of the College Sport games for 2013. The game preceded the Mystics vs Vixens ANZ Cup game held at the Trust stadium in Henderson. This is the first time that Avondale College has been involved in this competition, having qualified when the girls made Nationals last year.

The game was always going to be a hard fought one, especially with the extra pressures of television cameras and a large crowd contributing to nerves and excitement. The two teams had met for the first time at Nationals in Timaru last year, with Waikato Dio coming out on top, so Avondale felt they needed to come out strong and really stamp their mark on the game.

Unfortunately, their strong start was rattled when GK In-hae Jung came off with an injured ankle. Her replacement, Zarya Fatialofa, did not miss a beat and took the court with confidence. The player of the game and captain for Avondale, Fa'amu Ross, kept the defence dominating that end of the court, while the shooting combination of Savana Tuhega and Jahmal Beckmannflay steadily kept Avondale ahead on the scoreboard.

The midcourters: Kimberley Ooi, Lavinia Solomon and Popua Alea'motua continually worked their play, upsetting Waikato's flow and gaining turn overs to the advantage of our team.

The strong start can be attributed to the off-season training and games that Avondale has had during summer. Team coaches Chrissy Solomon and Michelle Vaeau have spent many hours with the girls keeping them fit, supported by the other management team of Audrey Ooi and Maureen Aldridge.

Thanks also to the many staff and students who came on Monday 25th to support the team, and who watched them on SKY TV. All in all, it has been a strong start and we look forward to the upcoming winter season.



CRICKET

PREMIER GIRLS

The Girls Premier Cricket team have enjoyed a fun summer season, gaining a mixture of results. Each member of the team has contributed runs and catches, and improved their skills while offering smiles and cheers of encouragement to each other – evidence of the strong bond they have quickly formed.

The team, with four strong players joining this year, look set to continue to grow in strength and results when the season recommences in Term 4.

It has been a joy and pleasure to be involved with them throughout the season, and we look forward to Term 4 for the madness and cricket to start again!



SWIMMING

Avondale College competitors have seen some great results in swimming this term. An enthusiastic and talented team represented the school at the Central West Auckland meet on April 4, with all individual swimmers finishing in the top eight of their age groups. The relay results were particularly exciting, with the girls' relay team of Brianna Coury, Briahna Mann, Caitlin Mann and Gabrielle Fa'amausili winning the OPEN butterfly race by 20 seconds as well as the Intermediate Individual Medley with a 30 second margin. The girls' Intermediate breaststroke relay (Gabrielle, Briahna M, Tayla Latu and Caitlin) also won with a great time, even beating all the boys' teams on the day.

At the subsequent Auckland Champ of Champs swim meet Gabrielle (Year 10) was a standout performer, winning first place in 50m freestyle, backstroke and butterfly, and a 2nd place in breaststroke. Gabrielle has since qualified to compete at the Junior Worlds in Dubai in August.

Our relay teams also raced well, with the team containing Gabrielle and Tayla (both only 13 years old) and Briahna and Caitlin Mann (14 years) winning the 14-15 years age group Breaststroke relay and placing 3rd in the Medley relay. And the team of Tayla, Chantelle Wolloner, Morgan Rose, and Reese Gleeson now hold the 14-15 yrs. backstroke relay title.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013

TERM 2

MAY

15	Pasifika Tertiary Careers Awareness Evening
21	NCEA Parent Information Evening 7pm-8pm
24-31	SENIOR EXAMS
28	CIE Parent Information Evening 7pm-8pm

JUNE

3	Queen's Birthday
5	Friends and Family Concert 1
15	School Ball
18	Maori Tertiary Careers Awareness Evening
20	Friends and Family Concert
25	NZQA Scholarship Evening 7pm

JULY

9-10	Year 13 Drama 7pm Drama Suite
11	REPORT EVENING – 4pm (Whole School)
12	End of Term 2

EQUESTRIAN



Indejah Young (on Casey) and Kennedy Offenbaker (on Charlie), participated well and showed great perseverance against some tough competition at the Interschool Ribbon Day in March, held at Woodhill Sands.

TAG

Our girls tag team dominated the Auckland Tag Tournament, beating last year's winners in the semis, and Rangitoto College 6-1 in the final. Our boys also did well, just missing out on the semis on points difference.



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