

AVONDALE COLLEGE

# AVCOL

*newsletter*

Issue 2 > 2011

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RAVE REVIEWS FOR

## OLIVER

**Music: KBB Festival  
Jazz&Soul CONCERT**

**SPORTING  
highlights**

**Young  
ENTERPRISE**





“  
***I want to express my appreciation for the great staff team and the work they do in serving and supporting a wonderful student community.***  
”

RECENT MONTHS HAVE BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY BUSY FOR OUR STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE MANY DIFFERENT SPORTING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO THEM. We have had students performing in sports events at regional, national and international levels and last term we had a record number of students competing successfully at the national Secondary Schools Tournament week. We have also had a school show, talent quest, drama evenings, music evenings, performance music tours, dance events and, of course, the very successful Stage Challenge entry that our students developed, produced and performed in the Auckland regional secondary school competition.

The Stage Challenge competition is now one of the largest and most important cultural activities in the school calendar. Under the care of teacher Les Hughes, our senior students provided superb leadership for the more than 100 students involved to take us on to the highest levels of achievement ever; taking the overall competition by storm and winning the Auckland competition by a considerable margin.

The recent school show “Oliver!” was another excellent production from our Director of Drama, Alison Nelson. Supported by a great team of staff and community supporters, including former Director of Art, Walter Jenks, the show ran to full houses who thoroughly appreciated the students’ polished performances.

In recent days we held the “Sell” programme for Year 10 students who wanted to develop their business and entrepreneurial skills. For three days external business facilitators worked with student groups to develop a range of strategic business plans for various distinctive products that they had to “pitch” to a special panel of guests on the final afternoon. We were delighted with the quality of work achieved by these students and were appreciative of the time and support given by the panelist group which included Nick Kearns, John Quigley, Tom Craver, Atesh Bhej and our local MP, David Shearer.

The school rebuild is now almost two thirds of the way through, with the second stage being only a matter of weeks away from completion. When students return for the 2012 school year they will be entering and enjoying the new Health and PE rooms, a new Science faculty, as well as new Social Sciences classrooms and a second dance studio. And, very importantly from a student perspective, by the end of the first term we also plan to open the new student canteen facilities.

Over the summer holidays the scale of the changes in the

school will become even more obvious as the contractors remove A and B blocks in preparation for the final and largest phase of the redevelopment. Stage 3 will include the building of the new faculties of English, Media Studies, ESOL, Commerce and Information Technology as well as a new Taurewa centre, College Shop, Student Health Centre and an entirely new reception and administration area.

It is very pleasing to report that all of the work carried out to date has been verified as being of the highest quality, as well as being on budget and on time! Meanwhile, we have actually increased expenditure on the education of our present students by a significant margin to ensure that they will be receiving the best education possible while the project is taking place.

On a personal note, I want to pay tribute to Frankie Wynne, our longstanding Deputy Principal who will be retiring at the end of this school year. 21 years ago Frankie was appointed as DP at Avondale College and prior to that taught at both Opotiki College and Kelston Boys where she was a Dean and a leader in mathematics. In earlier times she had begun her teaching in England and had also taught in Australia before coming to New Zealand.

Since being at Avondale there are very few leadership roles she has not successfully taken at one time or another; whether in curriculum, students services, broader day to day management or as Acting Principal, a role she has taken on many occasions over the years. She is an outstanding teacher and is very passionate about the welfare of the students in her care.

Frankie has been a tremendous supporter of wider student activities including, for example, all sports and took overall responsibility for our cultural groups as well as all of the performing arts in the college. She has also been a key figure in the development of our relationship with our sister school in Japan.

She has brought a wealth of wisdom and common sense, as well as an outstanding work ethic to the service of our school. She consistently shows the greatest compassion for everyone she deals with, whether they are staff or students. We have all been very happy and proud to have worked with her and regard her as both a highly valued colleague and friend whom we are all going to miss a great deal.

The changes in the New Zealand school term dates that were implemented to support the Rugby World Cup have created a unique set of circumstances for all of our students. In effect we have returned to a three term year for our seniors, who, from the very beginning of Term 4, have begun their end-of-year external examinations. Despite the changes, we are confident that they have had careful and rigorous preparation for the challenges ahead, and we wish them every success for the results to come.

Finally, I want to thank and pay tribute to all of our staff who continue to do a great job in the interests of our students. Over recent weeks the staff have spent many extra hours assisting students to optimise their results and ensure they are fully prepared for the challenges of the external examinations. I want to express my appreciation for the great staff team and the work they do in serving and supporting a wonderful student community.

In closing, may I wish everyone all the very best for the festive season with family and friends, a refreshing holiday, and an excellent New Year.

*Brent Lewis*  
Principal





## BUSINESS NZ CHALLENGE

Avondale College was privileged to have the Enterprise NZ Trust facilitate their sought-after Business NZ Challenge with 80 of our Year 10 students at the start of Term 4.

During the three days of the programme, students were immersed into the business environment, setting up their own business in groups of eight, electing a Chief Executive Officer and Directors of Marketing, Production Managers and other key personnel.

On the final day they gave a short presentation to five judges, who are business men and women from the community. The judges awarded points based on each group's ideas, the viability and credibility of their product and their business ethics.

### Judges:

David Shearer, MP for Mt Albert  
 Nick Kearns, Lecturer at UNITEC in Management and Marketing  
 John Quigley, Program leader Music and Audio institute of NZ  
 Tom Craver, SAVY Auckland University Business School  
 Atesh Bhej, Chartered Accountant at BIZ Solutions Ltd

## NEW ZEALAND ECONOMICS COMPETITION

The New Zealand Economics Competition has grown in size and reputation since its inception in 1997 and is the largest and most prestigious competition of its kind for secondary students. One of the aims of the Economics Competition is to promote the study of economics. All secondary school students are encouraged to participate in the New Zealand Economics Competition.

This year Avondale College entered 50 participants in the hope of achieving high success. The 50-minute examination paper contains 40 multiple-choice questions that test both classroom theory and general knowledge of current economic issues.

## "PHONE HOME – IT'S A HOME FOR YOUR PHONE"

This cute product – and catchy slogan – is the brainchild of Rainbow Survivors – a group of friends from Year 10 who have gone into business together as part of the Young Enterprise Scheme.

Wanting to come up with a product that would appeal to students, they began producing custom made pockets for cellphones and media players that would not only protect the device, but be eye-catching and different as well.

They were able to recycle fabric scraps from New Lynn business Nutex, and over the past few months the team members have spent many hours making, marketing and selling their product at Avondale College, and at a Young Enterprise trade fair at Lynmall.

It has been a valuable experience in more ways than one. Not only have sales have been great, with each team member earning a profit, but "we've learned more about each other," says CEO Ana Maquiso, "especially with regards to running a business, and meeting deadlines."

### The team are:

Crystal Liu, Omar Shahin, Lauren Millington, Jane Wang, Crystal McDougall, Christine Van Nooijen, Ana Maquiso, Elizabeth Chen.



# ENGLISH

## GLENN COLQUHOUN: DOING ART WITH WORDS

"Poems are like packets of two minute noodles. You have to add the water to make the flavour; you bring taste to the poem." This was the message from poet Glenn Colquhoun to three senior English classes at Avondale College on Monday 15th August.

Since we were studying his poetry at school, it was a great opportunity to gain an understanding of his life and poetry.

Out of the four poems that Glen read out to us, we liked the first poem the most, 'To the girl who stood beside me at the checkout counter of Whitcoulls bookstore in Hamilton on Tuesday.' Firstly, the long and detailed title grabbed our attention, then as he was reading the poem in a silent atmosphere, each line seemed to turn into a photograph and go inside our heads like photo slides. "Poetry is like doing art with words," he said, "Look at the poem as something that represents something. Don't take the words as black and white."

He told us "A poem is like a riddle, it hides from you, it sets out to trick you but tells you something from the trick." We learnt that we don't have to worry about fully understanding the poem because sometimes it is up to us to think about it. The time with Glenn was very memorable as he was the first poet we had met in person, and we really enjoyed listening to his poems and his stories about himself.

By Riah Yoo and Elizabeth Awheto

## OTHELLO COMES TO LIFE

On Thursday 4th August and Friday 6th several coachloads of Year 13 English and Drama students had the unique opportunity of seeing a live performance of "Othello" at the Maidment Theatre, directed by ex-Avondale College student, Jesse Peach.

Peach Productions put on a dynamic, modern version of the play including music by Gareth Farr and dance by Douglas Wright. Our students responded enthusiastically, but also critically, as some of their review comments after the show reveal:

**"The performance vastly exceeded my expectation that the show might be drawn-out and bland - it was sharp and gripping."**

**I enjoyed the play more than I thought I would. Robbie Magasiva was fully committed to his character and we could feel his emotions of explosive rage, jealousy and love.**

**The red handkerchief added to the drama as it symbolised everything the play stood for. It reminded us of love and passion but later came to symbolise blood and death.**

**The language was hard to understand at times but it was clearer than reading it, as we could see reactions and feelings come across.**

## BOOK CLUB

THE AVONDALE COLLEGE BOOK CLUB was inspired by two visiting authors recently when poet and author Paula Green and author Deborah Burnside shared their own stories with the group as part of the Storylines Festival book tour.

Paula Green shared some great tips for aspiring poets, suggesting that a poem is like a piece of music - "Let it get under your skin." She encouraged the group to play with words, letting music drive the poem with rhyme, rhythm, and tempo, and advised using a 'test pot' of similes - rather than just going for the first, most obvious one. "Getting emotion into your writing makes you a good writer," she said, "but try to let it seep into your writing, don't just write about an emotion."

After reading several of her own pieces to the group, Paula issued two challenges: to write a poem like a piece of music, and to write a poem in no more than twelve words.

Author Deborah Burnside also inspired the students with her tales of becoming a novelist. Deborah has published three books for young adults, and her fourth is due out in October. The excerpt she read from "On a Good Day" was the first piece of the book that she wrote and was triggered by a John Marsden writing exercise: "Why Not..?" From this one small piece, the whole novel was generated.

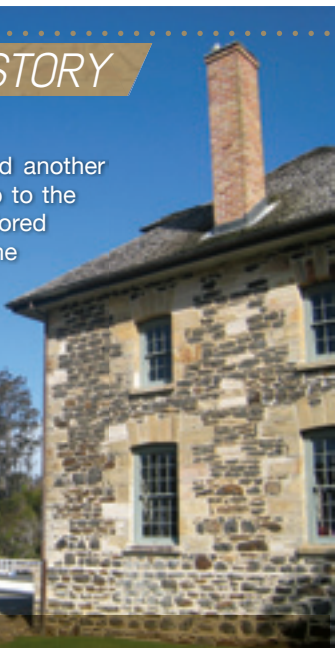
One great piece of advice Deborah passed on to the aspiring writers in the Book Club was given to her by Joy Cowley. When Deborah telephoned Joy in search of advice about becoming an author, her message was simple: "Well, you should just begin."



Paula Green performs her poetry to the Bookclub

## HISTORY

The Year 13 History classes had another educational and entertaining trip to the Bay of Islands, where they explored historical sites relevant to the period of 'contact' (1800-1840) between Maori and Pakeha, as well as New Zealand's early colonial period after the Treaty was signed.



## MEDIA STUDIES

"JUST GIVE IT A GO!" was the message from three visiting writers for Year 10 media students. Songwriter and author Mandy Patmore, music journalist Lydia Jenkin and filmmaker Zia Mandviwalla visited Avondale College as part of the Wordsmiths programme to give students an insight into their different creative industries.

A love of telling stories was a common theme for each writer. "The great thing about writing songs," said Mandy "is you don't have to be literal - be creative." She encouraged aspiring song writers to tap into strong emotion when writing. Lydia Jenkin, who writes for NZ Musician magazine outlined her process for writing a story and shared stories about some of the famous New Zealand musicians she has interviewed. Zia Mandviwalla uses film to tell her stories. Her advice to aspiring film makers: "Don't wait until you're 23 with a master's degree: Just start!"



Lydia Jenkins shares her writing tips with Media Students

## MATHS

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 10 STUDENT DAVY SHEN who has won second prize for his year group in the nationwide National Bank Junior Mathematics Competition for 2011.

Davy says he thought had had done 'okay' in the exam. He found the questions challenging but not too difficult, but had no idea he would come out with the second highest result in New Zealand.

The competition attracts over 10,000 entries from about 250 participating schools each year.





## LANGUAGES – FRENCH

### SNAILS, S'IL VOUS PLAÎT!

*French Language Students' Dinner 2011*

In Term 3 this year, as Year 10 to Year 13 students of French, we had the opportunity to taste French delicacies at St Tropez Restaurant in Parnell.

The waitress took our order in French, and this allowed us to practise speaking French in public. For the first course of our 'dégustation' (tasting) menu we all had the French delicacy, escargots au beurre rouge - which means snails. While the majority of us were disgusted at the thought of eating snails, most of us leaped right into it and enjoyed the experience. The snails, which were served in their shells, were followed by soupe à l'oignon, steak frites or poulet au vin blanc, and we finished with profiteroles or vacherin. Everything looked beautiful and tasted delicious.

The night brought with it excitement, laughs and the opportunity to speak the French language with peers. It was a night to remember, and we highly recommend this occasion to anyone who has the opportunity to experience it.

*By Omar Shahin and Madi Howard (Year 10)*



## LANGUAGES – MAORI

**NCEA TE REO MAORI STUDENTS** experienced Maori culture first-hand on a trip to Rotorua recently. We stayed at Te Roro o Te Rangi Marae where students immersed themselves in tikanga, kawa and reo.

Miss Sagala, Mr Piripi and Mrs Leauga staffed this trip and Mrs Laurenson joined us at Whakarewarewa - all students had a great time!



## CAREERS DEPARTMENT

The Pathways Planning Evening held on the 18 August was an excellent opportunity for students and their parents to get assistance with option choices and tertiary planning from departments in the school and tertiary and education providers.

Key speakers this term for Years 12 and 13 students have included Studylink and Youth Transition Services, and key tertiary providers for course planning.

A Year 9 Maori Students Career Awareness Day was run successfully by Careers NZ and our own school careers team on 8 September. A similar event is planned for Year 9 Pasifika students next year.

Gateway applications for 2011 have closed with interviews completed and places will be provisionally offered by beginning of Term 4.

Parents are reminded that career events, opportunities and information are all updated daily on the Careers pages of the school intranet.

*Careers Counsellors can be contacted on the following numbers:*

Jacqui Birkhead // Jo Thomson

820 1729

Judith Johnson

828 7024 ext 805



## GATEWAY

### GATEWAY – LIMITED PLACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2012

Gateway is a work experience programme helping students progress from school to workplace learning for Senior College Students Years 12 and 13. 'Test drive' your career choice and make informed choices about your future direction

- Creates valuable relationships with industry professionals, workplaces, apprenticeships and training organisations
- Designed to meet your specific needs
- Opportunity to gain extra credits on your NZQA record of learning

Interested? For more information collect a brochure and application form from the Gateway Office (A block), the Careers Department or visit the school website:

**[www.avcol.school.nz/learning/careers](http://www.avcol.school.nz/learning/careers)**

## KBB MUSIC FESTIVAL

Avondale College musicians competed in the KBB Music Festival in August, with superb performances given by our Orchestra, Strings Ensemble, Big Band and Concert Band. Held at the Parnell Cathedral and St Mary's church, the beautiful venues set the scene for some outstanding performances.

The Big Band, led by Mr Rowan Bolley, won a silver award, along with the prize for the Best Performance of a New Zealand work, which was 'Lucky Charms' by composer, (and Avondale College's saxophone teacher) Tim Atkinson.

Bronze awards were won by the Orchestra led by Mr Michael Bell, the Concert Band led by Mr Mathew Stenbo and the Strings Ensemble led by Mr David Snelling. Congratulations to all who took part.



Avondale's Big Band - Silver Medalists at the KBB Festival



Jazz and Soul Concert

## JAZZ AND SOUL CONCERT

An appreciative audience was once again wowed by the talent showcased at this year's Jazz and Soul concert.

The night began with an all-star guest band made up of former students, all of whom have made names for themselves in the music scene locally and internationally. The band was made up of vocalists Cherie Matheson and Yuli Quay, supported by Avondale students Priscilla Gatoloai and Robyn Lesatele, with Karika Turua on bass, Andy Smith on guitar, Lewis McCallum on sax and electro, and Cameron Sangster on drums.

Strong performances were then given by the Jazz Combo, the Jessie Booth trio, the Year 13 Music Performance class, the Big Band, and the Avondale College Soul Band and Project II - "Soul Project."

Well done to all students and staff who made the night such an entertaining one.



## INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The International Department had a very busy start to Term 3 with our biggest intake of students for this year.

Activities this term included trips to Rotorua and the skifields, with all the students who went having a great time. Some of the students also went to Taurewa where they tramped, skied and came back exhausted, having absolutely loved every second of the outdoor education experience - Avondale College style.

The interschool sports event this term was against Rangitoto College, playing football and basketball. The basketball match was very close to start with, then Avondale moved ahead convincingly to win 53 to 25 - a fantastic effort. The Avondale College International Soccer Team dominated play in both halves, and Tomas led the team to victory 3-1.

The term ended with our Big Day Out at Waiwera Hot Pools: a very relaxing day in the sun and the water for the 64 students and staff.

Term 3 is always a time to say goodbye to a number of students: we wish them well, and know that they will take home great memories of their time at Avondale College.







AVONDALE COLLEGE'S DANCE ACADEMY STUDENTS have passed their first external contemporary dance examination in superb style with all girls earning passes of 80% or higher, and Kayla Brall's distinction pass putting her in the 95-100% achievement range.

The seven Academy students bring with them a variety of dance experience outside of school. While some have been learning ballet or jazz since they were little, for three of the girls, this was their first ever dance exam. And for all of them, contemporary dance has been a new experience. "I found it difficult to begin with," says Zoe Purdon, "but it has become easier as we've gone along."

Dance Teacher Hana Tipa, a former dancer with the Royal New Zealand ballet, has been impressed with the girls' commitment. "They've been really receptive to something new. Contemporary dance has a whole new movement vocabulary, it has been a lot to take on and they've done really well."

Says 14 year old Tessa Belshaw, "The exam was a real highlight – everything we've done in the Academy was put to use."

The girls worked very hard before the exam, scheduling extra rehearsals, and dancing at the College's Open Evening. It is a commitment that is especially remarkable when you consider that their Academy classes, which run five mornings over a fortnight, begin at 7.45am – a time when many teenagers are snoozing the alarm clock.

Doing so well in the exam hasn't been the only highlight for these girls this year, though. Ask them what else they have enjoyed about being part of the Academy and they are quick to agree: Getting to know each other, establishing new friendships outside of their normal classes has been great. Would they recommend other students audition to be part of the intake next year? It's a unanimous chorus: Definitely.

*Performing Art Academy Dance students are: Kayla Brall, Danielle Hewett, Vanessa Hayes, Lucy Dawber, Zoe Purdon, Katelyn Bishop, Tessa Belshaw. Teacher: Ms Hana Tipa*



TERM 3 SAW THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE JAZZ MUSIC STRAND OF THE PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR ROWAN BOLLEY. The Classical and Jazz students have been working well both individually as well as in their respective groups, and the term culminated with a rehearsal concert to each group. In Term 4 the Academy Music students continued to work towards and sat a NZMEB examination that has been set up specifically for them.



TERM 3 BEGAN WELL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY DRAMA STUDENTS with the announcement of the results of the Oral Communication examination for Speech New Zealand that they had sat towards the end of the previous term.

All students passed the Intermediate examination, which involved giving a demonstration, reading a passage from a book chosen by the Assessor, performing a role play, and participating in a group drama.

The Assessor commented on how strong the students were as performers.

These performance skills were seen in action in Term 4 with the Drama Academy's production of "Second on the Right and then Straight on 'Til Morning" on Thursday 24 November.

## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Avondale College's Amnesty group worked hard recently to raise awareness about Amnesty International's campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

A mufti day and a bake sale gave Avondale College students the opportunity to financially support the cause, and on Friday students shared the love by creating a huge human message in the gym in support of the work Amnesty does throughout the world. Thanks go to all who were involved in making it such a successful week.





## SCHOOL SHOW – OLIVER

THE SCHOOL SHOW HAS LONG BEEN ESTABLISHED AS ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AVONDALE COLLEGE CALENDAR, and this year's production was again, an exceptional experience for everyone on both sides of the curtain.

With the cast alone numbering over 50, as well as technicians, the band, scenery makers and movers, getting to opening night after just three months of rehearsals means a huge commitment from all involved.

"We had an amazing cast," says Director Ms Alison Nelson, "Full of energy and enthusiasm, which is very motivating for the teaching and production staff."

Being part of the show is an unforgettable experience for the students. Year 9 student, Harry Casey, a drama specialist in the College's Performing Arts Academy won the lead role of Oliver. "It was an awesome experience," he says. For him, one of the highlights of being part of the show crew was meeting so many new people.

Talk to any of the other cast members and this theme of being part of the "show family" keeps emerging. "Because you work hard together you form a really tight bond," says Head Girl Rebekah Head who played Mrs Bumble.

It's a connection that obviously lays a foundation of excellence in performance. Even after the final curtain, the 'bouquets' keep coming. One audience member put pen to paper to say: "What an amazing evening's performance... The future looks bright for The Arts in New Zealand."



## TAUREWA



### TAUREWA – WINTER WONDERLAND

Touching snow for the first time ever was just one of the highlights for many of the students who went to Taurewa this term. The cold winter conditions and record snowfalls meant many groups had a magical winterland experience: making snowmen, throwing snowballs, and learning to ski on the slopes of Ruapehu.

Director Moppy Williams says August saw record levels of snow in camp, with one trip nearly not making it down – for the first time ever in Taurewa's history. Undaunted, the bus got through but the bread and milk didn't – with alternative arrangements having to be made on the way.

Nineteen Taurewa trips have been undertaken to date, and bookings for 2012 are currently underway.



## Bollywood Champions

Having won the 'Best Male' and 'Best Female' award at last year's Bollywood High School dance competition, this year the group set their sights higher, and came away with the 2011 Champions title.

Inspired by the movie 'Inception', the Avondale team put together a dance that incorporated a variety of styles including Punjabi hip hop and Bollywood freestyle. Their power-packed performance gained a great response from the audience, with the team's dedication and commitment also winning them the competition's 'Best Discipline Award'.

Well done to Teachers in Charge: Miss Katira and Ms Kumar, and the team: Roopesh, Lajja, Ishita, Arushi, Arti, Jyo, Vrushik, Aniketh, Sourmita, Jalen, Kajol and Shreshtha, and helper: Jessica.



## fantastic art for kindy kids...



Playtime just got a whole lot more interesting for the kids at Avondale Kindergarten, thanks to the efforts of Avondale College art teacher Glen Hutchins, and his small group of dedicated students.

When approached by the kindy to transform a boring section of fence and four large poles, Glen Hutchins put together a team of committed art students who worked during their lunchtimes to design artwork based around the theme of "New Zealand's natural environment."

Students researched the work of artists Paul Klee and Miro, incorporating ideas and inspiration from these works with familiar motifs from New Zealand culture such as the koru, native plants and birds.

After many hours working on the project after school and in weekends, the finished result is a spectacular combination of vibrant colour and quirky characters, that has been an instant hit with the kindy's tiny art critics.

"It's absolutely amazing," says Head Teacher Rhonda Jasper. "Children love the variety of the illustrations." She tells of children standing in front of the artwork day after day, making up different stories about the characters they find there. "It's incredibly special."

*The students involved were: Kevin Gao, Ileana Lameta, Ruth Crowe, Jessica Earnshaw, Theja Jaylath, Elysia Arnold, Jennifer Olberts, Reuben Wilson, Sarah Cowie, and Gwendolin Tang. Teacher in Charge: Mr Glen Hutchins*

# AVCOL sport



Terms 3 and 4 have been busy for the Sports Academy, with students continuing to make their mark on sport at the College, and further afield. Sports Academy rugby players Tusi Eti, Frank Tuiloma, Tyler Gутtenbeil and Alex Cortesi made the U14 Auckland Squad. All the boys have been superbly coached and supported by Mike Perez, our Sports Academy rugby coach.

Jasmine Pereira, a current Year 10 Sports Academy student made her debut for the New Zealand U17 Football team against Australia recently. In the first of a three-match series, Jasmine assisted her team to a 2-1 victory by scoring a goal with a well-taken low shot. The Young Ferns Squad went on to win the series.

A group of Year 10 Sports Academy students are currently involved in a Massey University research project looking into the effects of "intervention" or Hydration knowledge on an individual's hydration practices and perceived exertion levels. They will be undertaking both theory and practical elements to the study and will gain valuable knowledge which they can apply to their sporting performance. According to Burke & Deakin 2010, "A fluid loss of as little as 2% body weight can increase fatigue in athletes during sport and therefore decrease performance."

Finally, congratulations to the Academy students who have been selected by coaches as Term 3 INSPIRE Award winners for their Aptitude, Attitude and Effort:

## SPORTS ACADEMY

- Junior Soqeta – Basketball
- Wynand Claasens – Cricket
- Punit Prajapati – Football
- Jessica Taylor – Hockey
- Bronte Seil – Netball
- Fale Asafo – Rugby



## ROAD RACE

Congratulations to Year 9 student Luke Fielding who came first in the Junior boys division of the Auckland Secondary Schools Road Race. A sprint start saw Luke lead the field of 84 from the beginning, and he won the race six seconds ahead of the second place finisher, a fantastic effort!



## SPORTS DIRECTOR

Term 3 was a term literally like no other in the College sporting calendar as the demands of the impending Rugby World Cup had occasioned a fundamental change in the timings of major sporting events, most notably the moving of the National Sports Tournament week to week 3 of Term 3, a full five weeks earlier than normal. This put a real strain on all teams to fulfil fixtures and only the relatively kind winter meant that our major codes completed their competitions in time.

We had nine different teams at national tournaments: both boys' and girls' football, netball, boys' hockey, two bowls teams, curling, and swimmers at the national championships.

The highlight of our performances was the girls football, who despite suffering real injury problems early in the competition managed a very creditable 7th in New Zealand. Also of note was the Premier netball team who finished 10th overall but were within just one point of qualifying for the top eight - their best performance at National tournament since our halcyon days in the early part of the millennium. This achievement is a real credit to the work of coach Chrissie Solomon and especially assistant coach and Teacher in Charge of netball, Mrs Maureen Aldridge whose herculean efforts throughout the year earned her a nomination as the Volunteer Coach of the Year in the SPARC end of season awards.

There was similar success in the junior netball ranks, with the Junior Prems going through the season with only one loss, ending up convincing winners of the Grade 1 section, and the 10 A team runners up in Grade 2. All three Year 9 teams made their respective finals, with 9C being the outright winners and 9B runners up and 9A

losing a nail-biting final in extra time - their only loss of the season.

Both our Premier basketball teams played in the top Auckland division and the boys finished comfortably in mid-table. At the national tournament they had a 4 - 4 split, losing their first four matches only to come storming back with four consecutive wins in the second half of the week, finishing 17th in New Zealand. The girls, with a young team, and thanks to a real late season surge finished 7th to put them within a play-off win of retaining their place in the Premier competition next year.

In the girls sections both the Under 15 and Under 19 Open grades won through to the Greater Auckland Playoffs and both reached their respective finals, with a phenomenal comeback in the dying minutes of the semi final to win the Under 15s a place in the final, and the Under 19s comfortably easing through. Unfortunately both failed to take out the title with the Under 15's finding a MAGS side a little too strong and the Under 19 girls losing out to St Kentigern College in a game where they had most of the play for three quarters of the game but just failed to turn their superiority into points.

The boys 1st X1 football went to Tauranga to resurrect the tradition of going to national tournaments and they performed creditably well at this very demanding satellite tournament, playing eight games in five days. The experience for the many Year 10 and 11 boys should prove especially invaluable.

Our Rugby 1st XV lost in the plate final of the 1B section, just failing to cap a very strong second half of the season and our juniors have shown growing strength reflected by five of our

Under 14 and four of our Under 16 team being selected for the West Auckland Representative side.

Our underwater hockey teams both took up places in the national tournaments and continued to show our strength in this event, finishing 9th in New Zealand for the seniors and 7th in the junior sections.

Our swimmers also performed well, with Caitlin Mann winning a National title in the 50m Junior Girls Breast stroke to sit alongside two 4th places and a 7th place in other finals. Both Ezekiel Fa'amausili and Brihanna Mann also made their respective finals.

The Hockey Premier boys and girls teams both won divisional titles, with the boys having a stellar second half of the season. With the junior hockey squad beginning to compete at the very highest level there is real optimism around the hockey fraternity at school.

So this just started as a snapshot of Term 3 but you can see how vibrant the sporting programme can be at Avondale College. We are very much on the cusp of a new stage of development to sit alongside the rebuild of the rest of the school. The challenge is for both students and staff to take their own level of application and performance to a higher level and aim to be sitting amongst the elite of Senior School sport in New Zealand in the near future.

It is an exciting time ahead for all staff and students involved... don't be the one who is left behind!

To the seniors who now turn their attention to exams, the very best of luck from us at the Sports Office; we are so appreciative of all your efforts for Avondale College sport.

Mr Cliff Jones  
Director of Sport



## NETBALL

What an exciting season our netball teams have had this year. With 14 teams competing in both the netball Waitakere and Auckland competitions, we have had one of our most successful seasons ever.

The Junior Premiers, 9C and the Senior D1 teams won their grades, while the 10A, 9A, 9B, Senior A, Senior Social B1, Senior Social B2 and Senior C were runners up in their grades.

This achievement is largely due to a number of committed family members who helped our teams on their journey to success. The list is far too long to mention individually, however, the amount of work and effort that went into each of these teams has been outstanding. To all of the coaches, managers and umpires who took these teams each week, I would like to say a huge thank you. I would also like to acknowledge the teachers who helped look after the teams on Tuesdays and Saturdays: Jane Berry, Ann Ashton, and Jade Smyth. You have all helped contribute to the success of this code this year and without your help each week, many of the teams would not have been guided in such a positive manner.

The Premier Netball team must have a very special mention here as they went on to compete in the UNISS competition. This year the competition was held in Mt Maunganui and what a week it was. Under the management of Chrissy Solomon, Theresa Morgan-Norris and myself, our team played a total of 10 games over the week, with the goal of making the top six to gain a place in the National competition. The team played Massey, AGGS, Kamo, Rangitoto, Westlake, EGG's, Waikato Dio, Hillcrest, Sacred Heart and Whangarei Girls. Our results were two losses, two draws and the rest were wins. Our biggest losing margin was 4 points, placing us 10th overall - a very exciting result following an amazing effort from all of the girls. Faamu Ross was named in the tournament team, which means that she will now trial for the New Zealand Secondary Schools team.

We are very proud of the efforts of all of the girls this year and wish the girls who are moving on from Avondale every success in the future.

Again I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the wonderful people who helped make this season as successful as it was, especially the students, staff, parents, relatives and of course, the organisations who put a lot of time and effort into this code.

TIC Mrs M Aldridge



## HOCKEY



### HITTING THE MARK AT AVONDALE COLLEGE

The future of hockey at Avondale College is looking bright as the impact of the high performance Sports Academy programme begins to make itself felt.

Hockey coach and Teacher in Charge of the Sports Academy, Paul Smith, is excited about the progress being made by young hockey players at the College. He points out the Academy sets a platform for exceptional performance through a dual focus on great coaching as well as sports theory and education.

Says Smith, "In contrast to some other Academies, we don't just run the kids ragged on the field – they are doing theory as well, with Year 10 students doing NCEA credits early through the Physical Education curriculum." In addition, the students participate in motivational sessions with SPARC sports ambassadors and have the opportunity to visit and train at the Millenium Institute of Sport and Health.

It's a High Performance attitude that seems to be getting through to the students. Says Year 10 Academy student Rushlee Pearce, "I joined the Sports Academy to improve and perfect my skills. It has taught me that to be a top athlete you need hard work and dedication."

This focused approach is clearly paying off. Paul Smith's Under-15 boys hockey team, which is mostly made up of Sports Academy students, more than held their own against the other top private schools in the upper ranks of the Auckland A grade competition. Four of these junior students also played for the Premier team, and travelled to the national tournament later in the term.

One member of this junior team is Academy student, Mitchell Murray. Mitchell also played for the Auckland U15 team, and his older brother, Jake, captained the Auckland U18s to a gold medal victory in the U18 national competition. Both boys have been identified by Hockey New Zealand as future Blacksticks, and have been given specialised programme of fitness skills and nutrition to help them achieve their potential.

Jake also plays for the Avondale College Premier team. Coached by Bevan Jones, this team also did well in the Auckland competition. They were promoted to the A-Grade last year, and narrowly missed out on a top four finish this season.

With the Sports Academy hockey programme only in its second year of development, the future looks bright for Avondale hockey. Says Smith, himself a former England representative and the Assistant Coach for the North Harbour NHL women's squad, "These kids want to be there. You really push them hard and you see the positive results you get from that. I'm loving it."

Susan Elias



**WORK  
CONTINUES  
APACE ON  
THE \$35  
MILLION  
DOLLAR  
RE-BUILD  
THAT IS  
CHANGING  
THE FACE OF  
AVONDALE  
COLLEGE**

## RE-BUILDING PROGRAMME



## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012

### TERM 1

#### FEBRUARY

- 1 **9.00am** Year 13 in Theatre, **10.00am** Year 9 in Theatre, End of Day at **2.45pm**
- 2 **10.00am** Year 12 Assembly in Stadium, **11.00am** Year 11 Assembly in Theatre, **11.00 am** Year 10 in Stadium, End of day at **2.45pm**
- 3 Teacher only day
- 6 Waitangi Day
- 21 Year 9 Parents Night

#### MARCH

- 7 CIE Information Evening 7-8pm
- 14 NCEA Information Evening 7-8pm
- 27 Report Evening (Whole School)

#### APRIL

- 3-4 Year 13 Drama in the Drama Suit 7pm
- 5 Last day of term
- 6 Good Friday

### TERM DATES 2012

- Term 1 1 February - 5 April
- Term 2 23 April - 29 June
- Term 3 16 July - 28 September
- Term 4 15 October - 13 December

## DEANS CONTACT DETAILS

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Miss D Hay (Associate Dean)

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