

AVONDALE COLLEGE

# AVCOL

## newsletter



Issue 2 > 2012

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

### Stage Challenge **CHAMPIONS**



**Mountain Biking  
SUCCESS**  
**JAPAN Trip**  
**Talent Quest**  
**Pacifica Beats  
FINALISTS**



“  
**We are very proud  
of the warm and  
supportive culture  
that underpins the  
future success of all  
our students.**  
”

2012 continues to be a remarkable year for Avondale College students. The marked lift in the NCEA results prompted a congratulatory letter to the Board of Trustees from the Minister of Education, Hekia Perata, who noted the excellent results for Maori students (which are well above the national average). I am delighted to report that further analysis confirms that these improvements are matched by a similar increase in the performance of Pacifica and in fact all other ethnic groups. Early analysis of this year's student performance demonstrates these results are still lifting so we expect the 2012 results to reach even higher levels. Our Cambridge results are similarly strong which also reflects well on the work of both students and staff.

Warmest congratulations must also go to our students for their many outstanding successes in sport, performing arts and community service activities. As this newsletter and the school website will highlight ([www.avcol.school.nz](http://www.avcol.school.nz)) their ongoing achievements, fully supported by staff and family members, illustrates the rich and wide-ranging environment provided for all students.

The new school canteen provides superb facilities for the students and we are now firmly focused on the final design stage for the third and largest phase of the college rebuilding programme. This development, which will commence in December this year, connects all of the other development back to the entrance of the school, providing new teaching areas, reception, college shop, Taurewa facility, careers facility and a vast new enclosed atrium for student recreation and shelter for both summer and winter.

## BUILDING PROJECT > CANTEEN READY FOR TERM 3



The latest development in Avondale College's building programme is an especially exciting one for students: a brand new canteen opened for business at the start of Term 3.

Recently there has been publicity in The New Zealand Herald that mentions the suspension data for Avondale College amongst others. The selective presentation of data such as this is always interesting. The reality is that suspensions are rapidly reducing at Avondale College without any changes in our high standards and expectations concerning student behaviour. The first responsibility of any school is to maintain a safe and effective learning environment and we make no apology for taking this stance. We work extraordinarily hard to support our students to make positive decisions and assist them when they make mistakes. But it is equally true that all students know that if their actions put their fellow students at risk, decisive action will follow.

The Board determines whether students are to be excluded permanently and such decisions are not taken lightly. The Board goes to great pains to consider the welfare of the students who come before them but also are very mindful of the likely impact their continuing attendance will have on their fellow students and make their decisions accordingly.

It is important to emphasise that we are very proud of the warm and supportive culture that underpins the future success of all our students and we are committed to maintaining these high standards.

Term 3 has now taken on far greater importance as a result of the dates for both the Cambridge and NCEA examinations having crept closer to the beginning of the final term. We are currently emphasising the fact that student planning and preparation for the challenges of these external exams must begin from here forwards.

With examinations for senior students scheduled for Week 6 of this term, tournament week taking place in Week 7 and the school show, 'Godspell' happening in Week 8, we would encourage every student to focus their efforts in the term ahead and make the most of the opportunities for success here at Avondale College.

*Brent Lewis  
Principal*



## 25 YEARS AT AVONDALE

If you have rung or visited Avondale College sometime in the past 25 years, chances are you will have encountered our fabulous receptionist, Mrs Patricia Cornish. Congratulations, Trish, on reaching this milestone and thank you for all you do. Here's to the next 25!





## STAGE CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS



"Euphoric" is how Deputy Head Girl Janelle Moody felt when it was announced that Avondale College had won Stage Challenge – for the second year in a row.

More than 120 students were involved in the student-led performance spectacular which explored the theme of child abuse, showing the experience of a young child who creates a fantasy world to escape the brutal reality of life at home.

Rehearsals began in March, with Janelle and co-leader Joel Walsham turning a concept they have been developing over several years into a performance involving finely tuned choreography, hand made costumes, a carefully crafted set, all set to a pumping soundtrack that simply wowed the audience when they performed at the Aotea Centre on 29 June.

As well as the supreme award on the night, the Avondale crew picked up 10 other Excellence awards. Congratulations to all involved!



## STAGE CHALLENGE AWARDS

### 2012 Stage Challenge® 1ST PLACE OPEN DIVISION

Award of Excellence for **PERFORMANCE SKILL**

Award of Excellence for **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Award of Excellence for **CONCEPT**

Award of Excellence for **DRAMA**

Award of Excellence for **SET, DESIGN AND FUNCTION**

Award of Excellence for **COSTUMING CHARACTER**

Award of Excellence for **VISUAL ENHANCEMENT**

Award of Excellence for **SCHOOL INITIATIVE**

Award of Excellence for **LIGHTING DESIGN**

Award of Excellence for **STORYBOARD**

## JAPAN TRIP

Eating Japanese food, wearing traditional clothing, and being pushed into the bullet trains were just some of the cultural highlights for the 12 students and staff who visited Japan in April. The group spent time at Daito Bunka Dai-Ichi High School, Avondale's sister school in Tokyo, where they were hosted by local families. The group also travelled further afield to visit the city of Kyoto and the Peace Memorial in Hiroshima, where Enya laid a wreath that she had brought from New Zealand.

Avondale College is looking forward to reciprocating the visit when a group from Daito Bunka visit Auckland in July.



At the 'A Dome' in Hiroshima



At Daito Bunka





## AVONDALE COLLEGE BALL 2012

More than 500 students danced the night away at Avondale College's ball on Friday 8 June. Inspired by Central Park in Autumn, the Ball Committee transformed Eden Park's ASB Lounge into a fabulous venue complete with Manhattan skyline and the Statue of Liberty. General Lee got the dance floor jumping, and a spectacular lighting rig set the scene for a great night out for all. Photos of the night can be viewed at: [www.avondalecollegeball.co.nz](http://www.avondalecollegeball.co.nz)



## AVONDALE'S GOT TALENT

The annual quest for Avondale's most talented performers is always a highlight of the school year, and 2012 was no exception, with the lunchtime heats showcasing a huge variety of talent in the lead up to the grand final held on 31 May. On the night, a superb number of acts and the lively MC talents of Nathan Maskell and Briege McAteer made for a highly entertaining night. Dancer Janelle Moody won the dance section and was also overall winner with her solo performance. Tom Stoneman and Kenji Kamimura took out the Music prize with their extraordinary Michael Jackson tribute on violin and keys. Head Boy Adeel Surendran made a number of appearances, with perhaps his most memorable role ever as lead lion in the 'Adeel's Babes' entertainment piece. It was, as MC Nathan Maskell noted, "Like seeing President Obama doing the duggie..." The night concluded with the much anticipated Perfect item – a spectacular medley of dance and hilarious costuming that showed our school leaders in a never-before-seen light... Well done to all involved.

## TALENT QUEST 2012



TALENT QUEST: Janelle Moody

**OVERALL WINNER:**  
Janelle Moody

### DANCE

1st: Janelle Moody  
2nd: Byron and Anastasia  
3rd: Avondale College Dance Team

### MUSIC

1st: Tom and Kenji  
2nd: Cool Charm Boys  
3rd: Adeel and Shivana

### ENTERTAINMENT

1st: Adeel's Babes  
2nd: Change 4 Fame





## 40 HOUR FAMINE

Once again Avondale College students rose to the challenge of raising money for those less fortunate than themselves through their participation in the 40 Hour Famine. The combined efforts of those who participated in a school-wide mufti day, together with sponsorship raised by those students who chose to go without food, technology or some other comfort during the Famine weekend saw Avondale College raising over \$9,100. Congratulations to all who helped make this such a success.

*"I started the 40 Hour Famine on Friday night at 8pm and finished Sunday at 12 midday. On Saturday my sisters (7 and 10) and I went to our dairy and raised money for about four hours. In total we raised \$210. Both of my sisters did a 20 hour 'No Comfort' Famine and the older one did the real Famine for 20 hours. I learned that I'm such a lucky person, that I have food on the table every day..."*

– Sarah Gawenda



## AMNESTY PETITION FOR SYRIA

The Amnesty International group conducted a mini-campaign during Terms 1 and 2 based on a thumb-printed Syrian flag and a petition signed by students in the school, which called for an end to fighting and human rights' abuses in Syria.

Teacher in Charge, Mr A Jones took the flag and petition to the Amnesty Headquarters in Auckland.



Horror writer Gary Cross sharing his insights with the Book Club

## LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

The theme for Term 2 was horror stories - not everyone's favourite night time read!

For those with a smaller threshold for the 'gore factor' there were the suspense thrillers, and for the fearless daredevils there was plenty of blood and splatter to be read about.

Gary Cross, a New Zealand author who writes horror books came and spoke to the Book Club on Thursday 14th June. This was an entertaining and fun event. Gary shared his introduction to the horror genre as a young child, what scared him, what delighted him, and talked about how the horror genre in books and movies has developed and grown over the years.

We are grateful to the New Zealand Book Council for organising this event for Avondale College.



TALENT QUEST: Kenji & Tom, MUSIC category winners



TALENT QUEST: Prefects' Spectacular

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCHEME

This year the Year 9 Young Enterprise Group (called the Avcol Young Ones) are planning to produce a CD for the Avondale community in 2013. This CD will feature music of Avondale College for that year. At the moment they are raising capital and are planning the production of the CDs, so they can start early next year on the recording.



Enterprising youngsters: Eric Oh, Rochester Zhang, John Chong and Shalom Pinto

## VISIT BY SAVY

During Term 2 an organisation called SAVY visited the school to take an hour-long workshop with each Year 13 form class. The sessions are facilitated by students from the Auckland University Business School with the aim of instilling good financial habits in young adults.

## AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY SECONDARY SCHOOL CASE COMPETITION

This competition brings top secondary school students to the AU Business School. In competition with other schools the students have an opportunity to apply their knowledge to a real-world business situation and develop their analytical, communication, teamwork and quick thinking skills. During the term the students have been tutored by Prachi Mishra, currently at AU Business School. The competition runs in the first week of school holidays. In the competition students will be given three hours to analyse a case and develop a strategy for a real company. They are then given ten minutes to present their proposed strategy to a panel of judges, which is followed by a ten minute question and answer session. Students involved are: Gordan Chan, Matthew Kendall, Zac Penman and Peter Sefont.

## YEAR 10 BUSINESS STUDIES STUDENTS

During Term 2 the students completed a unit on marketing. In this unit they learnt about the 4 P's – product, price, promotion, place. Their major task for this unit was to come up with a new energy drink. The students had to make the product and package it, decide on a price, who they aimed to sell it to and how and where they wished to sell it. This information was given in a presentation by the group. Credit must go to the students who generally produced some interesting products for consumers. We have some budding young entrepreneurs at Avondale College.

# DANCE

Early in the term senior dance students participated in the new contemporary dance festival called 'No Left Feet', at Auckland Boys Grammar Centennial Theatre. This was the first year for the event which aims to showcase student performance and choreography work that they are learning in school for NCEA. Over 15 Auckland schools participated in the event. Our Year 13 students performed Joel Walsham's Media Merge choreography, Year 12 performed a theatrical contemporary/

jazz 'Toy Dance' and Year 11 students performed their choreography 'Waka' inspired by Maori dance and culture. It was an awesome opportunity for students to perform and also to see what students from other schools are working on in Dance.

Junior dance students performed in Week 9 in a studio dance showing. The students performed jazz, hip hop and Broadway dances they have worked on in class over the first half of the year, as well as their own choreography. Dance Academy students also performed dances they have been working for their NZAMD exam next term.

The Avondale College Dance Team competed in the Talent Quest this term, and did an outstanding performance in the heats which got them through to the finals. They performed very well at the finals, placing third in the Dance category. This group is student led, and run by four talented senior students who choreograph the dances themselves.

Year 11 Dance have been busy rehearsing a class dance that is based on *The Hunger Games* book by Suzanne Collins. Choreographed by their teacher, it includes key moments of the storyline, as well as themes of survival, overcoming the odds and relationships. They performed in the last week of term to an invited audience of English classes, and will also perform this in the end of year Dance Show.



The Avondale College Dance Team performing at the Talent Quest

# DRAMA

Year 12 Drama students presented a very entertaining evening of Commedia dell'Arte in Term 2. The Year 9 Drama Academy students successfully passed their Speech New Zealand Intermediate exam.

The senior Drama students attended two plays in Term 2: *The Dining Room* performed by the graduating drama students at Unitec and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by the Auckland Theatre Company. In Term 3, the students will attend *Awatea* by Bruce Mason at the Maidment Theatre on Thursday 2 August.

Show camp happened in the second to last week of Term 2 and the show *Godspell* is in the second to last week of Term 3, September 18 to 22.



Year 12 Drama students with their handmade masks for Commedia dell'Arte



## WRITERS AND READERS FESTIVAL

On May 10th, four Year 9 classes went to the Writers and Readers festival where we heard from Emily Rodda, Anthony McCarten, Hinemoana Baker and Fleur Beale. All four authors were very engaging as they talked about the inspirations behind their writing. Fleur Beale showed us different book covers for 'Dirt Bomb' and her reasons behind the one that was actually chosen, whilst Hinemoana Baker played some original music that compliments the poetry she writes.

- Ms L Augustus



## HAMLET WORKSHOP

"To be or not to be..." Year 13 Cambridge students had the good fortune to attend a Hamlet workshop in May, led by one of New Zealand's well-known Shakespeare 'experts', Lesley Sheppard. Having attended a workshop at the Globe theatre in London last year, Ms Sheppard was able to impart fresh, insightful ideas on one of the master's most famous works. The classes are studying this text as part of their programme, so the chance to hear these different perspectives on this tragedy was invaluable.

- Ms K Guise

## ROMEO AND JULIET TRIP

Recently two Year 11 IGCSE classes and 10ZIN English saw a performance of Romeo and Juliet, put on by Year 3 Diploma of Performance students from Unitec. It was a great opportunity for the students to see a live performance and was especially interesting because it was acted by an all-female cast. After the initial surprise of seeing Romeo and his mates being played by women, our students very quickly got used to the characters and got caught up in the action and atmosphere. Music, lighting and costume contributed to the students' enjoyment of the play.

We had the opportunity at the end to meet with the cast and the director and ask questions about the performance and how the actors approached their roles. Many students felt that Shakespeare's language, which may have been a challenge to understand on the page, had been brought to life in this live performance.

- Ms C Medland

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM TRIP

On May 17, 10ZIN attended the Auckland Theatre Company's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Maidment Theatre at the University of Auckland. The class enjoyed their first live Shakespeare production, especially the play within the play at the end. A crowd favourite was certainly Bottom!

- P Zinn

## 2012 V48 HOUR FILM FESTIVAL

A group of seven Year 13 students and five staff entered the 2012 V48 Hour Film Festival recently. At 7pm on Friday 19th August we were given our genre and other information. The genre: Fantasy Adventure; the character: Nicky Brick, the unlucky one; the prop: a leaf; the phrase: "I did that."

Friday night was a hive of activity – our film was scripted and storyboarded, props and costumes planned and sourced, and the theme song written and recorded.

6am Saturday and we are all back at Avondale College, ready to head out to Devonport's North Head where we filmed all our scenes in and around the tunnels. After a long day of filming we were back at school ready for a long evening for all, with some of us editing the footage and others writing and recording the music score. Most of us managed to stay up and get a significant amount of work done before crashing in the early hours. Sunday morning came all too soon and we were back into it, editing our footage and adding in the music.

There were, of course, the inevitable issues with rendering our project to a completed film and onto USB for the judges. It was tense for a while there, but finally it was ready for the race to Aotea Centre. It was down to the wire, but with a mad dash down the red carpet, our entry made it on time.

We are so proud of the effort of the students involved. Their enthusiasm, hard work and commitment should be commended.

Special thanks to the Walsham family for providing our meals; to Ms Connell and Mr Toy-Cronin for the much-appreciated coffee run; and to Mr Lewis for his support and permission to use Avondale College staffroom as our base for the weekend.

Fermented Films crew and cast:

Shivana Thompson, Chelsea Tobin, Joel Walsham, Jacob Nuualititia, Lila Bullen-Smith, Nathan Maskell, Elliot Melgren, Miss Apps, Mr Hughes, Mr Toy-Cronin, Mr Rae-McLaughlin, Ms Marshall



## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

### MASTERCHEFS IN THE MAKING

Budding chefs in Year 11's Food Technology classes put their talents to the test recently in a Level 1 assessment which involved making and presenting a meal of meatloaf served with mashed potato and green beans. The delicious results were tested by highly appreciative volunteers from the staff who were asked to comment on taste and presentation.



It has been a busy term for the Music Department with lots happening both in and out of the classroom. Mr Lakatani's Year 10 Music classes have been working hard in the studio, recording song writing assignments dedicated to the Christchurch earthquakes. The 13PMU class has been gaining valuable performance experience with their recent tour of Waikato primary schools and the 'dale Soul group got the crowd grooving next door with their performance at Avondale Intermediate. Students have also been involved with the Stand Up Stand Out music competition, and the nine piece 'Revived Rhythm' band have been working hard on their original compositions for the upcoming Pacifica Beats competition.

## CLASSICAL CONCERT

An appreciative audience were wowed by this year's Classical Concert which featured the very best of Avondale's musical talent. A varied programme showcased the Avondale College Choir - fresh from their performance at Auckland's Big Sing competition, the Concert Band, College Orchestra, String Group and Vocal Ensemble. For the first time students from the Classical Music Performing Arts Academy performed several pieces, with Year 10 student Melody Chen also featuring as one of the soloists with the orchestra. Amidst an evening of highlights, one of the outstanding performances was undoubtedly the trio of Sitan Ding, Lila Bullen-Smith and Kenji Kamimura performing a Shostakovich trio for piano, violin and cello. Congratulations to all students and staff who worked so hard to make the evening such a success.

## AVONDALE COLLEGE CHOIR PERFORMS AT BIG SING

On Wednesday 13th June, the Avondale College Choir performed at the final day of the NZ Choral Federation Big Sing Regional Competition, along with 61 other Auckland choirs. The choir of 45 singers sang Robert Pearsal's 16th century madrigal *Who Shall Have My Lady Fair*, Auckland composer Steven Rapana's song *Le Masina E* accompanied by Malcolm Lakatani and the inspiring gospel hymn *Take Up Your Cross* with Lauren Burgess and Ivan Fuimaono as soloists and also accompanied by Michael Bell and Malcolm Lakatani. The singers sang with energy and enthusiasm and the audience responded very positively. The choir also performed their programme at the Classical Concert.



Pacifica Beats finalists: Revived Rhythm



Ms Medland directs the choir at the Big Sing

## TCI



As senior TCI students we were fortunate to have Maru Nihoniho, founder of Metia Interactive come in to talk about the development of the recent award winning game, 'SPARX'.

SPARX is an interactive computer program designed to help teenagers suffering from depression. It won several awards, including a 2011 World Summit Award, and was also featured in the British Medical Journal, making it onto the front cover for its successful results in helping battle teenage depression.

Maru helped us gain a better understanding of game development by discussing the various stages of testing and modeling in order to create an effective and successful product. She gave a helpful insight that we can utilise and apply to our own work.

Rebecca Wyatt and Jordan Seumanutafa

## TAUREWA

“

"Probably the highlight was making it up to the Ketetahi Hut [on Mt Tongariro] – it took several hours and was hard work at times. It was really sunny at the bottom of the mountain when we started but it got really cold as we went higher – we ended up wearing all our gear – long johns, over trousers and coats. It was so exciting to reach the hut! This was a whole new experience for me. I'd definitely recommend going to Taurewa – I'll be going again in Year 12 for sure."

- Jake MacKenzie, 10BWN

”





## VIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Term 2 is probably the most frenetic time in Avondale College's sports calendar. The end of summer sport for our seniors overlaps with the start of the winter programmes that attract as many as 1000 students in one capacity or other participating in and representing the college in a myriad of different activities.

I have been delighted to see the return of our rugby league programme this year. Led by Mr Watson Pita, coached by Mr Wilson (a parent and former professional league player), and managed by Mrs Mckinnon, the 1st XIII have shown real quality and are setting a standard for others to follow. The Under 15s have real promise and are learning the discipline and application required to be successful in the sport. Both teams have had stand out performances, with the 1st XIII beating MAGS comfortably 20-10 and only losing to Kelston by a last gasp touchline conversion. Both squads have also had an insight into what they need to aspire to with losses against perennial champions St Pauls, but if the lessons from this season are absorbed by all then the future is definitely very bright.

It has also been good to see the resurgence of the girls rugby team. Winners of the Plate Competition in the early season sevens competition, the squad stayed together and was added to for the 10-a-side girls rugby season. With rugby manager Mike Perez's leadership and parental help with coaching, the girls have had a good start with just one loss so far this season, leaving them in 3rd place in the current standings.

The boys rugby 1st XV are about to embark on a game against Papatoetoe to decide which side of the draw they will play in Term 3. With the management team of Mike Perez, Wallace Muaiaava and Neil Bartlett developing a large and young squad, the boys have shown an ability to compete with the best of the teams in their division. The Junior teams have made real progress throughout the term and the immediate future of rugby at Avondale looks very promising.

Our football teams are starting to pick up some momentum with both the Year 9 and Year 10 boys sides showing promise, and it is good to see for the first time two teams at Year 9, with the B team working hard against mainly A team opposition. It is good also to see three senior teams reflecting the enthusiasm for the game in the college, with the 1st X1 starting to shrug off the disappointment of a losing their early season play-off games to

produce some encouraging performances.

Similarly the girls, with an extra junior team, look to be building depth to add to our unparalleled heritage of women's football. The 1st XI girls are currently going well with a young side, and the future looks secure in their hands with sustained progress as well as the junior development team already providing girls for the senior teams. Avondale College has lost the services of Jasmine Pereira for most of the term as she works with the New Zealand Under 17 team in preparation for the upcoming World Cup games. We wish her every success in her efforts there!

Basketball is also experiencing a boom in popularity with head coach Doe Williams creating a very competitive environment throughout the age groups to suggest real promise for the future. The Under 15 boys have shown real potential and we look forward to their progress. The girls are also looking to develop the depth of talent within the school. They secured their place in the Premier division with a comfortable play-off victory against Barradene at the beginning of the season and are currently battling gamely to hold their own at the very top level but show real promise with a young senior team.

Again with netball we have had a surge of numbers, with extra teams at all levels this year. The Premiers are looking strong and continue to progress and our extra senior and development teams are all going well and proving to be very successful. Three of the Premier netball team were selected to represent National teams in the recent trans-Tasman competition. Popua Aleamotu'a and Tylah Ikinofu-Bovaird were both selected for the New Zealand Pasifika team and Fa'amu Ross was selected for the New Zealand Secondary Schools team, a reflection of the quality of our netball programme. Our juniors are enthusiastic and talented. We have a massive student involvement in the programme as players and also as coaches, and this all augurs well for the future.

Our Premier hockey girls are looking very strong and can pose a real threat to the top teams. The premier boys are in a rebuilding phase and will benefit from the tough matches they have already experienced. Our junior boys and girls are making real headway and continue to expand the hockey programme at college, which is benefiting from the work in our Academies, as are all of our major sporting codes.

I am just as excited by the breadth of activity in the college.



We have had success in mountain biking through our talented Year 9 boy Kalen Weir. Ruth Minturn continues to win medals in wrestling, her latest being two gold medals from the Waikato championships, and we also saw our Year 9 boy Louis Chand being selected for the New Zealand Under 21 snooker team to compete in the official IBSF Under 21 world Championships in China.

Add to that our Ultimate Frisbee, badminton, rock climbing, under water hockey, lacrosse, badminton and squash, (which incidentally has received a boost with a temporary court to aid teaching of squash arriving each Thursday from Squash Auckland as well as the services of a top coach to assist our squash programme) and you can see that the development of sport in the college is in a very positive phase and one we aim to continue to drive forward.

Of course we cannot do this without the help of our Avondale community. To parent coaches, managers, assistants and supporters, we offer our sincere thanks and gratitude for your help in all we do and trust that we can continue to develop links that will be to the benefit of all.

Also, to our local business community who are becoming more a part of the college programme, typified by the sponsorship of the Under 15 Rugby team by Care Pharmacy, we extend our thanks and gratitude and hope that we can continue to develop these positive associations.

To the staff who give up so much of their time so willingly to help deliver the programme, a massive thank you and a hope that

we can continue to expand and develop our influence throughout the college and the local community.

I am confident that together as a community we can continue to make strides forward in developing the quantity and quality of our programme.

Here's to a successful Term 3!

**Mr C Jones**  
Director of Sport



## SPORTS ACADEMY

It has been a very busy term for all our Sports Academy students as they are well into their sports code competitions.

Under the guidance of Neil Sykes the Football Academy ran a very successful Intermediate School Tournament. Both boys and girls competitions were won by Blockhouse Bay School.

The Year 10SPC groups are busy, not only being coached but learning about fitness and sports performance through theory and practical sessions. Their visit to the Millennium Institute of Sport and Health on Friday 15th June was a real highlight, with students working very hard in the lab, on the rock wall, on the track and in the pool. Nbyou Gelaw achieved the highest recorded school student VO2Max test this year and he, along with Lavinia Solomon, Timotheo Isaya and Navan Lombard, all were willing lab rats who achieved excellent levels of aerobic fitness. The AUT scientist was very impressed! In the pool all our students went through a certified water and boating safety course and will receive their certificates soon. This was the most enjoyable aspect of the day for most and, for the staff, the most amusing!

2012 being an Olympic year will focus the Academy on developing positive behaviours in line with the seven Olympic/Paralympic values, through their involvement, not only in Academy but also in their Physical Education classes and school sports teams. We were fortunate to have visits from two great Olympians in Danyon Loader (double gold medal winner) and Fiona Southern.

Within the Academy itself we have had some notable performances since the start of the year, no more so than Luke Fielding, a member of the Hockey Academy doing so well in the

Auckland Cross Country Championship. Three of our Hockey Academy have made final Auckland trials. They are Jade and Madison Conlon and Rushlee Pearce.

We welcomed our new Netball Academy coach Tia Winikerei who has made an immediate impact and we wish her and the girls well.

To keep updated on our Sports Academy and news and events please go to [www.avcol.school.nz](http://www.avcol.school.nz)

**TIC Mr P Smith**



**Term 2 INSPIRE Award Winners:** Kate Hawkins, Jalbhai Patel, Kalen Weir, Adrian Liow, Karel Graham, absent: Marvel Fifita



## MOUNTAIN biking

Fresh from winning all three Junior Boys races in the Auckland Secondary Schools Mountain Biking Championships, Year 9 student Kalen Weir has a shiny new trophy to add to his growing collection.

This latest race was the third and final race of the series, involving a “10km-ish” sprint over the varied terrain of Sander’s Reserve near Albany. “It’s sort of gravelly,” explains Kalen, “like riding a gravel road in parts. Trying to get the corners right on gravel is quite tricky.”

Add to the mix a bunch of keen competitors hot on your heels, and it makes for an exhilarating race. “The starts are quite serious,” says Kalen, “but then you concentrate on riding - and you just have fun.”

It’s the kind of fun that Kalen is obviously quite good at - his performance in the New Zealand Secondary Schools championships held in Levin in March, saw him gaining an overall 5th place. As part of a team of five he was placed third in Rotorua’s twelve hour ‘Moonride’ relay. Then in Auckland, not only has he come home with the Secondary Schools’ trophy, but he is also leading his age group in the Auckland Grammar Series, having won two races so far, with two still to come.

Kalen is inspired by biker Anton Cooper, who went to the World Mountain Biking Championships when he was just 16. It’s a goal that Kalen is quietly working towards. In the meantime there are those two remaining races in the Grammar series, and a whole lot of fun to be had on the way.



Champion Mountain Biker: Kalen Weir

## HOCKEY



Avondale College has three boys and three girls teams playing in the College Sport competitions during the week in Terms 2 and 3.

The U15 boys, for the second year qualified for the A-grade, but due to injury to a few players, are struggling to get some consistency from week to week. The boys are training hard, and with Paul Smith’s guidance will do their best.

Our 2nd XI boys have a number of players with little hockey experience, but with good understanding of basic teamwork are performing well.

The only loss after six games was the first game of the season.

The 1st XI boys lost a number of key players from 2011 so we expected that this would be a year to rebuild. Academy players, now in Years 10 and 11, are stepping up well, but physically are struggling against bigger teams. Our goal this year is really to retain our A-grade status, and have a successful tournament in September.

Our U15 girls team is a big squad with a range of abilities. Coached by two of the senior students, Amber and Tori (1st XI players), the team is slowly starting to play as a unit. Playing in the B-grade, they will be competitive for the rest of the season.

The 2nd XI girls is also a big squad, and half the girls still qualify for U15, but as the number of Year 9 and 10 students was so high, we moved eight Year 10 girls into this team. We hope that the team will continue to improve, and many will be supporting the hockey teams for a few years.

We have high expectations of the 1st XI girls, only losing the goal keeper from the 2011 team that came so close to winning the B-grade competition. Things were on track for their first five games with 35 goals for and only one against, however a below par performance against a very determined Mt Roskill Grammar team resulted in a 2-1 loss, which has dashed their chances of gaining A-grade status in 2013. The season is not lost, and they will set new goals, including winning the B/C grade this year (repeating the 2011 result). They will also go to National tournament in September, which they haven’t competed in since 2006. This is still a very young team with only two Year 13 students, so will keep the flag flying high for the College for a number of years.

Many thanks, to the coaches and managers, for their continued time and effort.

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to former students **Phillip Wyatt** (Head Boy in 2011) and **Matthew Wyatt** who both collected an impressive medal tally while representing New Zealand at the recent Oceania Games in Australia. Phillip, competing in the Under 20s Division, won two Gold medals (Triple Jump and Long Jump) and a Bronze (High Jump). Matthew, competing in the Open Men’s division also won three medals: Gold in the 4x100m relay team, Silver in the Long Jump and Bronze in the 100m.

Heading to the Olympics with the New Zealand Football Ferns are four ex-Avondale students, **Betsy Hassett, Kirsty Yallop, Amber Hearn and Hayley Moorwood**. Betsy and Kirsty visited Avondale College last year to encourage and inspire our College

footballers to reach their dreams. We wish them all the best at the Olympics!

Auckland University student **Alice Wang** has beaten university students from across New Zealand and Australia to win a prestigious \$15,000 Boston Consulting Group scholarship. Alice, who studied her first paper at The University of Auckland as a 15 year old Avondale College student, is nearing the end of a conjoint Law and Arts degree majoring in Economics, and is doing an honours class in medico-legal issues with her Law degree. She says the BCG scholarship will be a big help as she finishes off her degrees and she is considering going into consulting before returning to do some postgraduate study.

## CAREERS DEPARTMENT

### 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. These interviews are in progress. Now could be a good time to discuss career goals with your child to continue this process.

### SUBJECT CHOICES FOR 2013

#### AN INVITATION TO THE

### PATHWAYS PLANNING EVENING

FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF ALL YEAR LEVELS

THURSDAY 9 AUGUST

AVONDALE COLLEGE THEATRE - 3.30 - 6.30PM

You are welcome to drop in any time during the evening. All school departments will be present to help students and their parents to plan subject choices for 2013. Liaison staff from Universities, Polytechnics and Private Training Providers will also be present to assist with planning beyond school.

This is a fantastic opportunity to ensure your child makes informed choices about their future pathways. We look forward to seeing you there.

### INFORMATION SESSIONS

Universities, Polytechnics and different private providers have started to present information sessions for parents and students on courses within their various faculties. We advise you to contact the tertiary institution your child may wish to attend to see if there is an upcoming presentation.

Every Year 12 and 13 student has been given a list of our own lunchtime career speakers for this term. There will be further speakers in Term 3, with a focus on course planning.

## GATEWAY

Terms 1 and 2 have been very busy with the Gateway programme continuing to provide our students with extremely valuable experiences as they work through possible career options. Student feedback continues to be very positive as they are enjoying their work placements (one day per week for ten weeks), whilst gaining knowledge, experience and an understanding of their chosen industry. As a result they will be in a good position to make an informed decision as to whether this is a realistic and attractive future career direction for them or not.



*"One thing I realised during the time I spent at The Aucklander was that along with the ability to produce quality work to a high standard and before a deadline, journalism also requires a strong personality. Now that I have completed my ten weeks and gained a taste of what it's like to be a journalist, I'm surer than ever that it is the career that I wish to pursue."*

*"Like most things in life, there are always many more challenges ahead which come with opportunity, but The Aucklander and Gateway have given me the basic skills and the foot in the door to help me achieve my long term life goal. And if nothing else... something to tick off my bucket list!"*

Ashleigh Tait - Year 12 Gateway Student

Demand for Gateway placements is high with only 42 places available for 2013. Interested? For more information collect a brochure and application form from the Gateway Office (behind reception) or the Careers Department or visit the school website.

**GATEWAY INFO EVENING - TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 6-7PM IN THE SCHOOL STAFFROOM.**

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012

### Term 3

#### JULY

17-18 Year 13 Drama - Drama Suite 7pm  
24 Year 12 Drama - 7pm

#### AUGUST

1 OPEN EVENING 4-7pm  
9 Pathways Planning 3.30pm - 6.30pm in PAC  
13-17 Enrolment Interviews for 2013  
(See website for details)  
24-31 SENIOR EXAMS

#### SEPTEMBER

3-7 Winter Sports Tournament Week  
5 Out of Zone Enrolment Applications close  
12 Out of Zone Enrolment Ballot  
18-22 SCHOOL SHOW: GODSPELL, 7.30pm PAC  
26 Jazz and Soul Concert 7pm PAC  
27 REPORT EVENING (Seniors only)  
28 End of Term 3

### 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

### YEAR 9

Ms H De Vries (Dean)  
Mr N Bartlett (Associate Dean)

### YEAR 10

Ms J Lee (Dean)  
Mr J Le Roux (Associate Dean)

### YEAR 11

Ms M Learmonth (Dean)  
Ms C Leyland (Associate Dean)

### YEAR 12

Ms J Smyth (Dean)  
Ms J Riley (Associate Dean)

### YEAR 13

Mr A Bannister (Dean)  
Ms V Elmes (Associate Dean)

### 820 1738

dvs@avcol.school.nz  
btt@avcol.school.nz

### 820 1706

lee@avcol.school.nz  
lrx@avcol.school.nz

### 820 1710

lth@avcol.school.nz  
lyd@avcol.school.nz

### 820 1709

smh@avcol.school.nz  
rly@avcol.school.nz

### 820 1708

bnr@avcol.school.nz  
elm@avcol.school.nz



Avondale College, Victor Street, Avondale, Auckland



09 828 7024 / admin@avcol.school.nz / www.avcol.school.nz