

AVONDALE COLLEGE

AVCOL

newsletter



Issue 2 > 2013



REVIVED RHYTHM
wins Pacifica Beats
Competition
Stage Challenge
SUCCESS
SPORTING
Highlights



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Caregivers

The second term of 2014 has flown by, with superb achievements occurring in all aspects of college life. At the beginning of the term we were delighted to celebrate the success of 89 of our most high achieving students in our Honours Assembly, which recognised excellence in academic, sporting and cultural areas. 39 students were honoured for their outstanding academic achievement in 2012; 20 of our students achieved 60 credits or more at Excellence level in their NCEA results (in Year 11 and 12), and 19 achieved a median result of 90% or more in the 2012 CIE examinations.

Students were also recognised for their high achievement in cultural and sporting events, including selection for regional and national teams, and participation in international events.

Term 2 also saw the launch of our Scholars' Academy, an exciting initiative aimed at extending and enriching our academically able students, and supporting them in their preparation for the NZQA Scholarship examination.

Our students continue to excel in the performing arts, with our student-led Stage Challenge group placing second in their Auckland heat in July. Avondale College has become the school to beat, with our group having placed in the top two for three years running now; an indication of the superb blend of creativity and professionalism that characterises our students' performances.

Also gaining well-deserved success was 'Revived Rhythm' whose winning performance at the Auckland finals of the Smokefree Pacifica Beats competition was the culmination of much hard work in the months leading up to the final. We look forward to their performance in the Auckland-wide Stand Up Stand Out competition, and the Jazz & Soul concert later this term.

Rehearsals are now well underway for 'Miss Saigon', this year's school show, which will run from 17-21 September in the College's theatre, and it promises to be a not-to-be missed event.

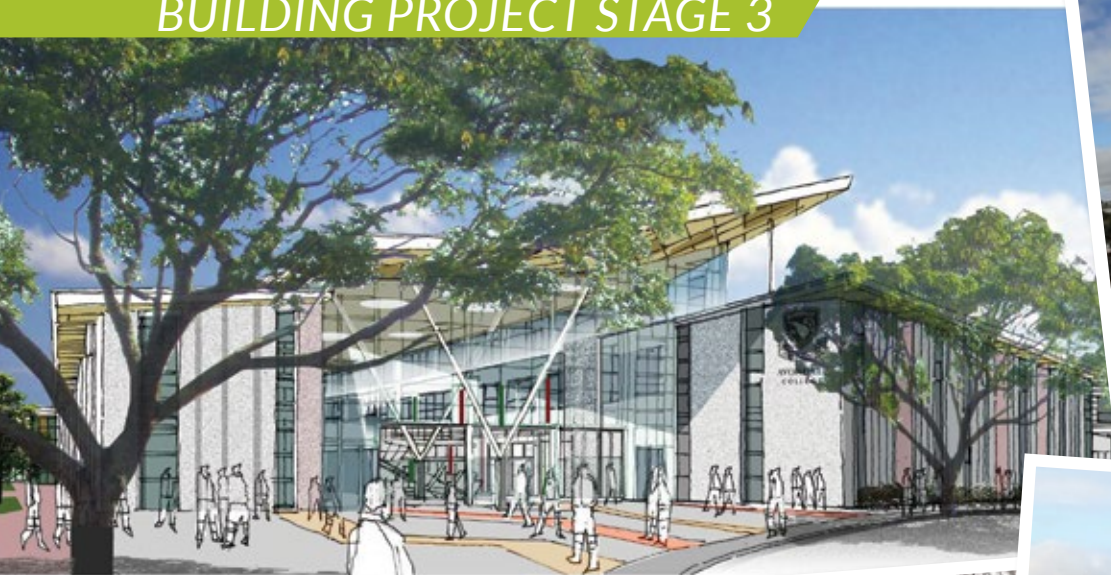
On the sporting scene our students continue to do very well in the many hundreds of sports teams that are part of our College programme. A number of these teams, in a variety of codes, (including rugby, football, netball and basketball) are looking on track to challenge for the very top honours in their competitions. We wish them all the very best, as we do all those many teams who are preparing for their national tournaments in Week 5.

Finally, as we enter a busy third term, I would like to encourage students to make the most of these crucial nine weeks. This is effectively the final term for those senior students sitting Cambridge examinations, and for our NCEA students, the external examinations occur early in Term 4. Now is the time to put good organisational and study habits in place in order to ensure pleasing results at the end of the year.

Kind regards,

Brent Lewis
Principal

BUILDING PROJECT STAGE 3



With the third stage of the Avondale College re-build well underway, watching the new classrooms being built from the ground up has been a fascinating exercise for staff and students alike.

This latest and final structure will incorporate state-of-the-art classrooms for English, Commerce, Languages, IT, and Media (including a filming studio), as well as a new administration area, Taurewa office and college shop.

Gaining a rare opportunity to actually help build their own school are Year 12 students William Scheib and Moses McGreal who have had a work placement on the building site one day a week for ten weeks through the college's Gateway programme. The buildings will be opened in 2014.



PM VISIT

"You will always take your education with you," was John Key's message for our Year 13 students at a special assembly in July during which he encouraged them to go on to tertiary study: "In modern New Zealand you need extended levels in education."

In his 45 minute visit the Prime Minister shared anecdotes from his own life, as well as lessons he has learned along the way, before opening up the floor to questions from students.

The Prime Minister spent some time chatting with our Head and Deputy Head Prefects after the assembly, and seemed to enjoy his time at Avondale College, tweeting later about his afternoon visit: "I've just visited Avondale College with Melissa Lee and met some of the senior students there."

LAUNCH OF THE SCHOLARS' ACADEMY

In Week 5 of Term 2 students were invited into our new Scholars' Academy based on their outstanding 2012 results in one or more subjects in AS/A2 CIE or Level 2 NCEA. The Avondale College Scholars' Academy has two key objectives:

- To extend and enrich our academically able students individually and collectively
- To support successful preparation for the NZQA Scholarship examinations

The Academy has initiated a new and growing online learning community and completed two workshops of the five planned for the year. The first workshop, 'Thinking about Thinking: Critical Thinking Skills', was led by Mr E. Wheeler and Mr P. Hill, followed by a focus on 'Knowledge in Theory and Practice' in a second workshop led by Mr N. McIvor. Both have been very well received by Academy members.

Another popular and engaging Academy event was the Scholars' Academy Evening on the 25th of June. This evening was dedicated to the theme: 'The Pursuit of New Knowledge and Insight'. Academy members were fortunate to participate in a panel discussion and to receive advice

from notable speakers who shared their professional and academic experiences. The four speakers were:

- Dr Keri Moyle – Lecturer at the University of Auckland School of Engineering. Former Oxford University lecturer and ex-Avondale student
- Chelsea Terei – a Barrister currently practising at Te Mata Law. A graduate of Auckland University and ex- Avondale College student
- Mr Ken Rapson – Director of the Schools Partnership Office at the University of Auckland
- Peter Sefont – a 2012 Avondale College Year 13 student who completed his studies at the College with 4 CIE A Levels (including 2 A* grades, an A, and a B) and 2 NZQA Scholarship Awards

The Academy is now looking forward to the remaining three workshops: 'Communicating and Arguing Effectively' (Week 2 Term 3), 'The Future World – Challenges and Choices' (Week 7 Term 3) and 'Top Tips for Success in Scholarship' (Term 4 Week 3). An academic quiz night is also being considered for next term to stimulate healthy cognitive competition!

PACIFICA BEATS

REVIVED RHYTHM: BEST IN AUCKLAND

It was the sweet sound of success for Avondale College's 'Revived Rhythm' on Friday 12 July when they were announced the winners of Auckland's Smokefree Pacifica Beats competition.

The eleven piece band were one of only nine groups who made it into the Auckland final, held at the Vodafone Events Centre. Playing their two original pieces – "Get Up Stand Up" and "Fakatufo – Politics", Revived Rhythm impressed the judges with their tight and energetic performance.

The band have been working hard on their pieces, spending countless hours rehearsing and perfecting their performances, under the guidance and encouragement of Avondale College music teacher, Mr Malcolm Lakatani.

"I felt a bit teary when I heard they had won," says Mr Lakatani, who has

taught many of the students since they were in his intermediate music class. "I really felt they were rightfully placed – they had worked hard last year as well. I believe in their abilities and all the kids' families are really dedicated. They really deserve it."

In 2012 Revived Rhythm came second in the Auckland heats of the Pacifica Beats competition before going on to win second place in the national finals. This year the band is an all-male group, and has grown to include a tight brass section, with a high energy routine that celebrates their Maori and Pasifika heritage through language, sound and action.

Having taken out the Auckland title, the band's focus is now on the National Final Band Camp to be held in Auckland from 26-30 September.



REVIVED RHYTHM:
Ekepati Roma, Charis Eneliko, Irae Taito, Ben Pousigano, Eric Chan Foon, Junior Soqeta, Neil Toloa, Aaron Pulemagafa, Stefan Hemana, Josh Tuitupou, Martin Moala

STAGE CHALLENGE



STAGE CHALLENGE SUCCESS

AVONDALE PLACES SECOND IN AUCKLAND HEAT

120 students, led by Thomas Stoneman and Rebecca Wyatt, put together a superb eight minute dance and drama performance centred on an idea of 'teenage insecurities' for this year's Stage Challenge in July.

As an appropriate metaphor for the insecurities we chose a spider - and one highlight of the performance was a ten metre wide 'spider' advancing downstage from under which emerged 30 'baby spiders'.

This is a collaborative show, designed and driven by the students. Students assume responsibility for all areas of the show, from the initial concept through to the choreography, set design and construction, costume creation and even the soundtrack development. As such, success depends on each student fully playing their part and again, as in previous years, there was no exception this year. We have been rewarded with success for the past three years and this year Avondale placed second on the night with Awards of Excellence in Choreography, Set and Stage Use, Soundtrack, Concept, and Design.

We would like to acknowledge the assistance of many who helped us create the outstanding performance, including the Wyatt family (months of sewing) and Jeff Smith and Simon Melgren (Lupton Carriers who transported the set for us).

PINK SHIRT DAY

AVCOL STUDENTS IN THE PINK!

Pink was the colour of choice for hundreds of students and staff on Friday May 17 as they chose to take part in Pink Shirt Day. This nationwide event aims to raise awareness about the power to prevent bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting the development of positive relationships.

Pink Shirt Day topped off a week of events, which began with Youthline representatives speaking to the whole school at assembly and culminated in the school-wide mufti day, which was organised by our Safe School Leaders. Proceeds from the mufti day were donated to Youthline. In addition there was also a bake sale at lunchtime and Youthline staff were there to hand out pamphlets and meet the students and answer any questions they had. It was a great event and day to promote the bully-free position of Avondale College.



BEING THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD

Congratulations to our Amnesty Group who were awarded the prestigious Amnesty International Dove Award for 2013 in recognition of the excellent work the group has done here at Avondale College in raising awareness about issues of human rights.

Presenting the award to the group was Amnesty International's Activism

40 HOUR FAMINE



Each year Avondale College students go all out to raise money for poor children and those living in hunger through a 40 hour challenge. This year was no exception, with students choosing to give up food, to go without the internet or cell phones or even going so far as taking a 40 hour vow of silence in order to raise money for a great cause.

In 2013 the focus of the 40 Hour Famine was on Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, where hunger leads to anaemic mums and malnourished children. Right now, Papua New Guinea has the second worst child death statistic in the Asia-Pacific region.

Avondale College students raised over \$5000 for this year's challenge - and this will make a massive difference to the lives of children in Bougainville. Congratulations to the student leaders - Victoria Piatov, Deanna Norgrove, Elliot Thorp, Anna Leys and Ellen Greenly, and to all who took part.



AMNESTY GROUP

Support Manager, Margaret Taylor, who noted that, "while 'fun' has been at the heart of what the Avondale group does, it has been the effectiveness of those actions that have mattered most. They have written letters, done sky shoots, baked, hosted mufti days and collected signatures..."

"Their actions have ended up in the Russian and American embassies in New Zealand; their petitions, postcards and banners have landed on the desks of decision makers in China, America and Zimbabwe; their solidarity messages have brought solace globally; and those efforts have been reported on by BBC World Service in Myanmar (Burma), and more humbly here at home in the Western Leader."

In response to why youth activism is vital, co-leader Omar Shahin says, "A lot of people who are older are more aware of the world but when people get older sometimes they stop trying to change the world. We still believe we can change the world."

Receiving the award for the group were co-leaders Naafia Islam, Chrystal Liu and Omar Shahin, with teacher-in-charge, Mr Alan Jones.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

During the Term 1 holidays Year 13 students Eunice Ng, Enya McPherson and Sophie White set out to do their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Qualifier at Tongariro National Park.

We spent five days doing a 'Round the Mountain' tramp totalling 72kms, and over six hours of walking each day around Mt Ruapehu, with one day consisting of 21kms which took us 11 hours. We hiked through ever-changing terrain and scenery, experiencing areas of bush, alpine landscape, rock faces, scoria and volcanic areas including lahar danger zones.

We learnt a lot about the different environments, producing route cards charting our tramp in detail and including how long each leg of the journey was, additional time that would be necessary to go up and down hills, and any important features or notes about the track. We also talked to other trampers and rangers about their experiences and knowledge of the area which allowed us to increase our appreciation of nature, and the importance of planning ahead.

The whole tramp was challenging, however pushing on through bad weather, injuries and tiredness certainly makes the completion of the award much more rewarding. This concludes our Duke of Edinburgh Experience which has lasted four years. Eunice and Enya have completed both Bronze and Silver awards and Sophie has been participating for leisure. We are the first students in the school to complete our Gold Award.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Eitan and Mr Steve Parsons. We are most grateful for your help, support and advice throughout our Duke of Edinburgh experience. We could not have accomplished all we have without the both of you. You have helped develop our love and passion for the outdoors and we have learnt so very much from you both!

Enya & Eunice



TRAVELWISE CLUB

TRAVELWISE CELEBRATION

Four senior Travelwise Club members and Miss Kim and Mr McAlpine (club teachers) attended the Travelwise Celebration event at The Cloud on 3rd July to receive a Bronze Travelwise Award for their achievements last year. The group enjoyed seeing Mayor Len Brown at the event, as well as TV personality Erin Simpson who MC'd the event.



WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2013

World Refugee Day is a day that is celebrated on the 20th of June around the world to bring attention to refugees who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, conflict and persecution. This year the combined secondary schools event in Auckland was held on Friday 21st June at a local school. This day enables secondary school students to celebrate both their cultures and their achievements since arriving in New Zealand. The theme for this year was "One refugee torn apart by war is too many."

In 2013 a group of twenty students attended from Avondale College and the Avondale College African Dance Group performed two dance routines. The first was a traditional Ethiopian dance called Eskista, a dance which is always performed at Ethiopian gatherings, and on which the dance craze, the Harlem Shake, is supposedly based! The second dance was the Wolayta. This is a fun dance which contains a lot of hip shaking and, while it is often performed by just a girl and a guy, it can also be performed in groups. Both dances were brilliantly performed by: Amanuel Yilma, Kuma Kedir, Sara Berihun, Hibest Asfaw, Eleni Zinaw, Askalu Netere and Honey Ibrahim.

Other performances on the day were Burmese songs, Karen dances, Arabic dances, speeches about life as a refugee, Burundian dances, Congolese dances and finally an English song - Heal the World.

All in all, the day was a wonderful celebration of many different cultures and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were lucky enough to attend.



LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

This term the theme for our Book Club was 'It's a Mystery!' At the beginning of Term 2 students were invited to choose a mystery book - all books were wrapped in newspaper with three descriptive words written on the front. The idea was to encourage students to not judge a book by the cover and to try something new. It was a huge success, with many students broadening their reading, discovering new genres and having fun with our mystery theme.

We were lucky to have our Mystery Guest Justin Brown entertain and inspire students in Week 9. Justin Brown is probably best known as a breakfast radio host at Classic Hits, but it was his role as best-selling author that caught the attention of our keen group of readers and writers. Students were then given a 'Mis-fortune' cookie, courtesy of Hell Pizza, to wrap up another successful Book Club event.



ART TRUCK

Avondale College students got up close and personal with a fantastic collection of New Zealand art courtesy of the Real Art Roadshow in May. Once parked in the college car park, the massive truck unfolded to form an 80 square metre mobile art gallery displaying over 60 original artworks by some of New Zealand's leading artists.

The Real Art Roadshow is the brainchild of Fiona Campbell, Rob McLeod and Gerald Barnett, three visionary art curators who had the idea of bringing real art to school students who might otherwise only encounter these pieces in books or online.

Our students really enjoyed having the opportunity to see the pieces up close - and were inspired and 'wowed' by the true scale, texture and colour of these original artworks.



CAREERS

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 2014

An invitation to the **Pathways Planning Evening** for Students and Parents of all Year Levels **Tuesday 13 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 2014. 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

GATEWAY Info Evening – Thurs 12th Sept

Applications forms for 2014 need to be in by Wed 18th September (please collect from Careers or Gateway office) or contact Karen Osborne:

zosk@avcol.school.nz



COMMERCE

Budding young entrepreneurs got to experience the highs and lows of creating a business from scratch as part of the three day BP Business Challenge in July.

Each Year 11 group had to form a virtual company, then come up with a product that would solve a problem or fill a need. They then had to research the product and develop a business plan including strategic planning, finance, sales and marketing and production elements. On the final day the groups had to give a ten minute presentation to a panel of local judges, who awarded points based on their ideas, the viability and credibility of their product and business ethics.

The organisers and judges were impressed by the variety of ideas on offer, and by the high standard of presentation shown by the students.



DANCE

This term in Dance our senior dance students have been involved in the YouDance Festival. This festival involves over 20 schools throughout Auckland in a performance over two nights at Auckland Grammar School's Centennial Theatre. Our students performed in two works – 'Settle Down' choreographed by dance teacher Mrs Destiny Anderson and 'Where Have you Been?', choreographed by Year 13 student Taria Tavai. Both works were given excellent feedback by the judging panel. At least one of our works has been selected for the public performance at Q theatre as part of Tempo Dance Festival later this year.

Students also had the opportunity to attend the dress rehearsal of 'Chicago' in Week 10 in which two previous Avondale College Dance students, Janelle Moody and Luna Oliviera were performing.

arts performing ACADEMY

DRAMA ACADEMY

Year 9 Academy students have been preparing for their Speech Board exam held in Week 9. Year 10 Academy students have been learning and perfecting theatre skills. Students are about to begin developing a scripted and a devised performance for examination.

MUSIC ACADEMY

The Music Academy has had small groups rehearsing in preparation for concerts in school and in the community. They have toured to the Auckland Public Library and to intermediate schools throughout Auckland.

DANCE ACADEMY

Academy dancers have been working on contemporary technique as well as dance history and anatomy as they prepare for their NZAMD (NZ Association of Modern Dance) Contemporary Dance exam in September this year.

DRAMA



The "Miss Saigon" show matinee is on September 16 at noon and then the show runs from Tuesday Sept 17 until Saturday Sept 21. 7.30 pm in the Theatre.

The Drama Academy Year 9 students have successfully completed their Oral Communication exam at the Intermediate level. Year 10 do their Theatre in Action examination next term during Week 5.

Year 13 have presented "Keep it Kiwi", extracts from New Zealand plays in the last week of Term 2.

Year 12 will be presenting excerpts from plays by Oscar Wilde during Week 3 of Term 3. Wednesday and Thursday, August 14 and 15 in the Drama Suite at 7pm.



48 HOUR FILM CHALLENGE

A large group of students and teachers participated in the 48 Hour Film Challenge in May this year. At 7pm Friday 22nd May we were given our genre (crime), character (Vic Meyer, the insomniac) the prop (a card) and the phrase ("Did you see that?") - then it was 48 hours of mad activity as our fantastic team scripted, storyboarded, propped and costumed, wrote music, filmed then edited our film ready for the dash to get it all to AUT by 7pm Sunday.

We are so proud of the effort, enthusiasm, hard-work and commitment of our students - and want to say special thanks to the Walsam family for providing our meals; to Ms Hunt and Ms Medland for the much-appreciated coffee and cake run; and to Mr Lewis for his support and permission to use Avondale College as our base for the weekend.

For more photos visit www.avcol.school.nz/events

GEOGRAPHY

YEAR 11 - MEASURING MOUNTAINS

Year 11 Core Geography students had a great day out on Mangere Mountain recently as part of their study of volcanic features on the landscape. Students were involved in carrying out a range of fieldwork such as measuring and sketching features of the mountain. After a lunch stop at MacDonalds, we visited the little-known Otutau Crater near the airport.

ENGLISH

On May the 16th a group of 80 students and four teachers attended the Auckland Readers and Writers Festival at the Aotea Centre. We went to a number of sessions presented by international authors. There was a great range of talented writers and readers to learn from on the day. Students' favourites included Libba Bray, a bestselling US author and remarkable human being. The audience was in stitches of laughter throughout her session as she detailed a list of life advice. It was refreshing to hear someone telling it like it is. Another favourite was Oliver Phommavanh, a Thai-Australian primary school teacher and comedian who shared his passion for writing and also engaged us with humour. We heard about how reading and writing can lead into interesting and fulfilling careers, and some practical ways of getting into such careers. It was great to know that there are people who are making a living from their creative work. Patrick Ness, yet another fantastic author that we heard speak on the day, says in his novel, 'The Knife of Never Letting Go', "We are the choices we make." The festival echoed this idea, showing that there is always a place for words and that you can choose to be in the type of job that enables you to do what you love.

GATSBY COMES ALIVE

The glitz and glamour of the latest release of The Great Gatsby drew four English classes to the premiere of the film this term. Much like the book, the film didn't fail in evoking a contrast of opinions. Who can fault Isla Fisher's depiction of Myrtle Wilson or Luhrmann's representation of the wealth and gauche actions of Jay Gatsby? This novel is a set work for both Year 13 and IGCSE and it was invaluable seeing the world of Gatsby come alive on the big screen. With a mix of accurate literary content and brash modern representation, Baz Luhrmann created a spectacle that highlights why great literature is still valuable and engaging to our students.



MEDIA STUDIES



YEAR 13 MEDIA STUDIES HOBBITON TOUR TRIP

This term the Year 13 Media Studies students visited the Hobbiton film set in Matamata as part of our New Zealand Film Industry study. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience a real film set first hand, understand how such a huge set is created and learn fascinating and important details about the filming and production of the Lord of the Rings trilogy and The Hobbit.

They were a fantastic group, and their enthusiasm and superb conduct are to be commended.



TAUREWA

Year 10 classes had a fantastic time at Taurewa camp in Term 2, with some lucky groups making the most of the winter weather to enjoy time in the snow...



LANGUAGES



A SPANISH NIGHT OUT

A Spanish guitarist, flamenco dancers and delicious tapas were all part of a fun night out for our Spanish language students recently. Twenty of our Year 10-13 students enjoyed an evening of traditional Spanish fare, ranging from breads and dips to albondigas (meatballs), and seafood and vegetarian platters at the popular Tasca restaurant in Newmarket. The students had fun chatting in Spanish to their two South American waiters, and although a vast quantity of food was consumed, most managed to squeeze in dessert: churros – a Spanish style donut dipped in melted chocolate, with cream!
¡ Delicioso!

MUSIC

COMMUNITY, CONCERTS AND COMPETITIONS...



Music students have had a busy term both in and out of the classroom, with one highlight being Revived Rhythm's winning the regional final of the Smokefree Pacifica Beats competition. The Year 13 Music Performance class also enjoyed getting out into the community, giving fundraising performances at the New Lynn night markets. The Avondale College choir sang at the Big Sing competition at the Town Hall, and a variety of groups played in short concerts at our contributing intermediate schools. Several Avondale College groups were also invited to celebrate New Zealand Music Month in May with performances at local libraries.

A number of talented music students have been working hard on their compositions and lyrics for the National Songwriter Award which will be held in August – we wish them well!

MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICIANS BUILDING BRIDGES

Seventy Year 9 and 10 students put their mathematical and engineering skills to the test recently in a fun day spent building bridges. Groups were challenged to build the best bridge possible using strict criteria and limited materials – including barbecue skewers, wood glue and tape.

The final products showed innovation and creativity – and were tested over two lunchtimes to determine who would go on to represent Avondale College at the nation-wide Aurecon School Bridge Building Competition in August.

The successful students were Asal Ali Akbari Zamani, Estella Nelson, Yati Patel, Spring Han, Zill Darji, Chang Sern Kim, Angela Zhong, Jackie Young, and Esther Kim (all from 9VAR).

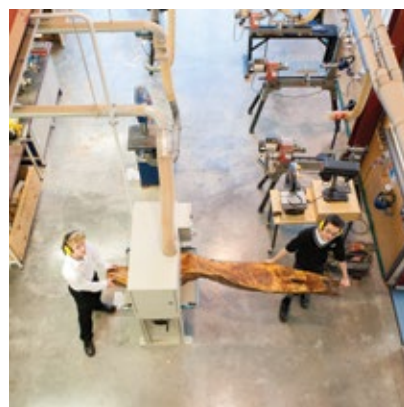
The bridge that held the most weight was designed by Asal, Estella, and Yati; it held a grand total of 13 kg, or the weight of a toddler!



TECHNOLOGY

TOP TABLE

One of the gems to come out of the Technology department this term is this superb cantilevered suspension table – the hand-crafted work of Year 12 Carpentry students Daniel Rush and Francis Middleton. Once they had the huge slab of kauri to work with, Daniel says the most challenging part was figuring out the way it would be suspended. It's a challenge they met with skill and style. This table can be viewed in its pride of place downstairs in the Fergusson Building.



PE & HEALTH

MASTERCHEF BRETT MCGREGOR, HALT AMBASSADOR, COOKS A FEAST FOR AVCOL STUDENTS

Some lucky Year 10 Health students had a treat in more ways than one recently, with a special class taught by the NZ Masterchef winner, Brett McGregor. In his role as an ambassador for HALT, Brett came in to school to promote our Health Week, which had a focus on food and nutrition. He showed our students how to make several tasty and nutritious dishes, which everyone got to sample before having their own turn at making a spicy Thai stir-fry. Brett's focus was on making healthy, nutritious meals that are affordable and easy to make.



THEY MAKE THEM TOUGH AT AVCOL...

Our Year 13 PE students proved they have what it takes in the inaugural Tough Guys and Gals challenge held at Woodhill Forest in July. A six kilometre slog across the countryside culminated in a mud slide and river scramble under camouflage netting... with our Avcol students (and Ms O'Hara) footing it amongst the best of a 1000-strong field.

Check out some of the action on our website:

www.avcol.school.nz/events

SPORTS ACADEMY

The Avondale College Sports Academy had a busy term with students benefiting from visiting speakers and events in addition to their regular coaching and theory sessions. Year 10 Sports Academy students enjoyed their visit to the AUT Millennium Institute of Sport and Health where they participated in a number of challenging activities. Champion basketballer Pero Cameron shared his insights with students about what it takes to succeed, and our senior Academy and Health students provided a much appreciated 'Body Fuel Stop' breakfast for our Year 9 Academy students after training one morning. The Growing Coaches programme is well underway, with a number of our students making great progress.

Check out the school website for more photos and videos of these events on our Sports Academy page:

www.avcol.school.nz/Learning/SportsAcademy.



VIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Term 2, in the height of winter, always presents a range of challenges that ensure the interest and excitement never wanes throughout the season. The excitement, as the major codes go through the period of trials, selections, pre-season matches and finally into the long season that spreads from May through till September, is palpable. Students in all areas get used to new sports, new coaches, new ideas, new processes and new environments. The beautiful spring weather is taken over by wintry blasts and downpours that really test our outdoor sports in a variety of real and different ways. I think the most outrageous weather in which I have watched sport this term was at the netball courts at Te Pai, with torrential rain not deterring the hundreds of junior and senior girls gamely playing on until a hooter signalled a postponement for about 10 minutes at the height of the deluge – then it was back on to complete their round of matches!

At this point I need to mention a very important group of Avondale College staff who have to deal with a particular brand of problems on a daily basis. Our ground staff, overseen by Mr Quedley and Mr Bevan Jones, do a fantastic job in preparing our pitches for the hammering they take throughout the year. They have the unenviable task of preparing, then repairing, football, rugby and lacrosse pitches for the weekly rounds of matches and also have to repair the damage done by the constant games, training PE lessons and informal play that our fields are subject to. That we are able to offer pitches in the condition that they are is a testament to their professional pride and commitment to the Sport Programme and we owe them a massive debt of thanks for all their efforts throughout the year.

With most of our winter codes at the half way point of their season, our main success this term has come from our Underwater Hockey Senior Open team. In what was, for many of the team, the culmination of five years' work they had an unbeaten regular season and then similarly went on to win the Upper North Island Regional Championships in fine style - again unbeaten - at West Wave in June. It is a great credit to the whole of the organisation; from Mrs Rosemary Rebers, the committed and passionate manager, to the student coaches and very committed group of students who have continued to compete at a very high level for the college and we congratulate them all on their deserved success.

At time of writing we are excited to see that our Rugby 1st XV have made it into the top championship rounds for their competition, comfortably making it into the top eight and we are hoping for good things for them in what has thus far been a very encouraging and positive season. Our 1st XIII league team made it into the intermediate tier of the new Warriors-sponsored collegiate trophy and are competing well at that

level. Our 1st XI boys' football are well placed in their competition, having made it into their higher division after a play-off earlier in the term.

In our other Premier teams we have a plethora of young and inexperienced teams competing at very high levels of collegiate sport. Both of our hockey teams took the decision to go into the Super City competition which pitches them against the very top teams in Auckland throughout the season. Whilst the win loss record may not be what they want, the improvement and development achieved is really encouraging and we look forward to their future performances. Similarly the girls' football and girls' basketball have very young teams playing against the very best teams in college sport and are all quickly learning what it takes to survive and to perform at that very high level, which will only serve them well as they progress through their years at college.

Our netball remains a high performing section, with the Premier girls cementing their status in the upper echelons of college sport with their appearance in the Sky Sport-sponsored, nationally televised competition. Similarly the Junior Premiers show real progress and are competing in senior leagues to try to get the level of competition that will continue to stretch them.

The netball secured two high profile sets of matches against international opposition, with the junior girls competing against the renowned Singapore Sporting School. That the Junior Premier team won their game against the top team in the age group from that school by some 20 goals shows how promising the team coached by Academy coach Tia Winikerrei is. At time of writing we are also looking forward to two matches against the highly ranked Rowville College from Melbourne and it will be very interesting to see how our top teams fare against our Australian counterparts.

I am delighted by the fact that we have continued to develop the scale of our sporting programme here at Avondale this year. Extra basketball, netball, rugby, football, lacrosse, and Ultimate teams all strengthen the level of sporting participation through the college.

Squash particularly has had a surge of enthusiasm, with extra teams reflecting the growing interest in the sport and the growing level of participation. We look forward to seeing this develop, along with other new areas such as table tennis, badminton, fencing and others, to make the sport at Avondale College even more of an inclusive vehicle, bringing all sections of the college community together to play with spirit, pride and skill.

Kohia Nga Taikaka

Mr C Jones
Director of Sport



CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Luke Fielding and Teklay Zinaw who beat an impressive field to become both the Intermediate and Senior Boys Cross Country Champions at the Western Zone Cross Country Championships.



BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL ON A HIGH

Avondale College's junior basketball programme has had fantastic results this year, with both Under 15 A teams currently being unbeaten in the Western Zone secondary schools competitions. The girls have scored a staggering 350 points and conceded just 21 in five matches, and the boys have also dominated their competition to be the stand-out team thus far.

The Boys B team are undefeated in the Development League, typically winning their games by 40 points each week. The Girls B team has also been very competitive in the Championship Division, showing improvement every week to currently sit mid-table.

The results reflect the great work going on in the Basketball Academy programme run by Doe Williams and assisted by Stewart Whiting.

The success of the Academy can be seen by the number of junior students playing for our Senior Premier teams - six Under 15 girls and two Under 15 boys are key players for these teams.

Outstanding players so far this season are:

Under 15B Girls: Rosina Manutapu and Helen Petelo. Most improved is Kalyta Carmichael

Under 15A Girls: Riana Rangi- Brown, Teneva Ropati and Roselee Dunn Wilson. Most improved is Zhinxin Cen and Cassie Mansson.

Under 15B Boys: Danny and Luda, Most improved is Peni Samu.

Under 15A Boys: Freddie Simona. Most improved is Bailey Sampson and Mikka.

Highlights coming up include play-offs, Auckland Champs and the Junior Premiers trip to Rotorua. Watch this space!

Coach Doe is also the coach of the wider Auckland team travelling to Melbourne in July – along with two of our girls: Riana Rangi Brown and Teneva Ropati. We wish them luck!



HONOURS ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to the following students and groups who received awards at our Honours Assembly held at the beginning of Term 1. These students represent an outstanding community of high achievers - from the Robotics team who competed at the World Champs, to students who achieved an average of 90% in their Cambridge exams or 60+ credits at Excellence level in NCEA, to sporting champions and national representatives in a range of sporting codes - and more. They are truly a superb bunch! For full details of their achievements visit: www.avcol.school.nz

Matheles Tuvao - Athletics
Luke Fielding - Athletics
Alisa Samountry - Athletics
Hope Curtis - Athletics
Teklay Zinaw - Athletics
Tylah Kauhiva - Athletics
Mika Seltner-Jones - Athletics
Adam Milne - Athletics
Junior Ugapo - Athletics
Ethan Sorrell - Athletics
Gabrielle Fa'amausili - Athletics
Delzea Tu'a - Athletics
Lotolua Tautua - Athletics
Jade Conlon - Athletics
Rebecca Wyatt - Athletics
Micah Stininato - Athletics
Tom Reutlinger - Swimming
Sarah-Jane Moncur - Swimming
Tayla Latu - Swimming
Briahna Mann - Swimming
Caitlin Mann - Swimming
Gabrielle Fa'amausili - Swimming
Eunice Ng - Ultimate Frisbee & St John
Eva Zhu - Ultimate Frisbee

Harshal Vyas - Cricket
Andrew Glubb - Cricket
Maity Sriskandarajah - Cricket
Liam Cornelius - Hockey
Junior Boys Basketball Team - Basketball
Premier Girls Tag Team - Tag
Premier Girls Touch Team- Touch
Premier Girls Ultimate Team - Captain
Eunice Ng - Ultimate Frisbee
Senior Girls Volleyball Team - Volleyball
Premier Boys Volleyball Team- Volleyball
Charis Eneliko - Kilikiti
Environment Group - Patricia Pillay - Environment
Omar Shahin, Crystal Liu & Naafiah Islam - Amnesty
Mitaki Tauia - Polyfest
Jamie Seu, Fa'afua Silipa & Rachel Afamasaga - Polyfest
Lole Eunini-Ilai - Polyfest
Maddisyn Cummane - Spirit of Adventure
Meera Patel - Duke of Edinburgh
Alysha Johnson - Duke of Edinburgh

Eric Chan-Foon - Music
Big Band - Leader Xandir Magele & Antony Maday - Music
Nathaniel Moody - Drama
David Shi - Robotics
Tanmay Mohini - Robotics
Songhao Zeng - Robotics
Varun Karkera - Robotics
Sarah Cowie - NCEA
Yash Anchan - NCEA
Kimberley Ooi - NCEA
Phoebe Rolfe - NCEA
Eleanor Loader - NCEA
Kelsey Stanyer - NCEA
Kenji Kamimura - NCEA
Elizabeth Lowe - NCEA
Rueben Ng - NCEA
Ashleigh Tait - NCEA
Rebecca Wyatt - NCEA
Thomas Stoneman - NCEA
Victoria Piatov - NCEA
Lex Doesburg - NCEA
Mark Mildon - NCEA
Deanna Norgrove - NCEA

Jason Ong - NCEA
Shavikash Chand - NCEA
Toni Anitelea - NCEA
Thomas Stohlberger - NCEA
Rusin Zhao - CIE
Jayden Cooke - CIE
Tianheng Zhang - CIE
Elizabeth Chen - CIE
Tanmay Mohini - CIE
Shi Ye Peng - CIE
Omar Shahin - CIE
Luke Cen - CIE
Naafiah Islam - CIE
Crystal Liu - CIE
Jugal Bhatt - CIE
Sophie White - CIE
Crystal McDougall - CIE
Vyoma Mistry - CIE
Kanyarak Dunn-Ruenruaysab - CIE
Tianyu Hu - CIE
Daphne Lu - CIE
Lanqiaozi Shuang - CIE
Ethan Sorrell - CIE
Fa'amu Ross - Netball



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013

TERM 3

AUGUST

6	Year 12 Drama 7pm Drama Suite
7	OPEN EVENING 4-7pm
8	Classical Concert
13	Pathways Planning
19-23	KBB Music Festival
23-30	SENIOR EXAMS

SEPTEMBER

2-6	Winter Sports Tournaments
12	Gateway Information Evening
17-21	School Show: Miss Saigon
24	Jazz & Soul Concert
26	REPORT EVENING (Seniors only)
27	End of Term 3

DEANS CONTACT DETAILS

YEAR 9

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YEAR 10

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