

AVONDALE COLLEGE

AVCOL

newsletter



Issue 1 > 2014

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TOP EXAM RESULTS

1st in NZ

1st in World

ROBOTICS Nationals

Sporting Success

POLYFEST





Dear Parents and Caregivers

The first part of 2014 has been an exciting time in the life of the college, commencing with the receipt of strong academic results for all students across both the NCEA and Cambridge qualification pathways.

Our NCEA results have continued to lift for all our students, with a remarkable 83% of students achieving University Entrance, and an even greater proportion achieving Level One NCEA. Endorsements have jumped for all year levels, with marked increases in the number of merits and excellences achieved.

Our Cambridge results have been widely reported in the media, with students achieving extraordinary results both nationally and internationally. Students Darius Au and Joan Lee were honoured at the national Cambridge award ceremony for their achievements: First in the World for A Level Applied ICT, and First in New Zealand for A Level Psychology.

Our Cambridge classes excelled academically, once again, with top results at IGCSE, AS and A Levels, including the vast majority gaining University Entrance in Year 12, a full year earlier than required.

Scholarships were also achieved by both NCEA and Cambridge students, with achievements being well above the national achievements rates. Scholarships (including Outstanding Scholarships) were achieved in a wide range of subjects. Even more impressively, two students were announced by NZQA as Top Scholars in the Scholarship Examination: Alexis Mergan in French, and Laura Witthoef in German. Both of these students were invited to a special ceremony at Parliament earlier this year to be honoured with the other top scholars from throughout the country.

Our Innovation Programme's new Microsoft Academy has commenced, with high levels of interest shown by students and the wider community. The students in this programme are obtaining industry-level technical

qualifications as well as linking their learning to both NCEA and Cambridge qualifications. Even more importantly, their course is relevant to the real world of IT beyond school. Students are developing "Apps" (applications) for both the commercial and service sector and are already achieving remarkable levels of success. Four students have already received an all-expenses paid trip to Silicon Valley, and others may follow. Microsoft recently sent a filmmaker to film our students and staff for wider global distribution, and with more developments in the planning stage, we hope to make further announcements in the very near future.

Stage three of the Avondale College rebuilding programme is now complete and we are now enjoying the full benefit of the new facilities. Our Open Evening will take place on 30 June and that will be a great opportunity to visit and view the newly rebuilt school.

Our 2014 prefects are an excellent senior student leadership team who are making very positive contributions to the life of the school. Our new Head Girl, Jane Wang, and our Head Boy, Ben Brebner, are supported by a very able team of Deputy Heads: Evotia Fuimaono Alolua, Mark Mildon, Robert Parsons, Pushti Shah, Ethan Sorrell and Micah Stininato.

We want to warmly welcome all families who have begun their association with Avondale College this year. We are enjoying getting to know your daughters and sons. Families become involved in a wide range of school activities whether as coaches, tutors, managers or supporters and your ongoing involvement is always welcome.

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

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

Kind regards,
Brent Lewis
Principal

OUTSTANDING EXAMINATIONS RESULTS 2013

2013 was an outstanding year for Avondale College students, with academic results in both NCEA and Cambridge International Examinations continuing to rise.

- Two CIE students were awarded top marks in their subjects – Top of the World for Applied ICT at AS Level (Darius Au), and Top in New Zealand in Psychology at AS Level (Joan Lee).
- Avondale College had two students who were the Top Scholars in their Scholarship exams for German (Laura Witthoef) and French (Alexis Mergan), making Avondale one of only four schools in New Zealand to claim two Top Scholars.
- 30 Scholarships were awarded to Avondale students, which included two Year 11 and five Year 12 students.
- Amongst NCEA students the UE pass rates rose from 67% in 2012 to 74% 2013, for those participating, with Year 13 Maori and Pasifika student UE rates at least 20 percentage points above national rates.
- For Cambridge students, the UE pass rate rose from 87% in 2012 to 92% in 2013.

After seven years of service to Avondale College's Board of Trustees, Chairperson Kevin Glubb stepped down in March, following his appointment as judge to the Waitakere District Court.

Kevin has done an outstanding job in developing the college's strategic intent and will be sorely missed. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the wider life of the school, extending his contributions beyond the boardroom to the sidelines of sporting matches and at many Avondale College cultural events. Kevin is held in very high

regard within Avondale College and the wider community, and we know that he will bring a great deal of wisdom, experience and integrity to his new role.

Stepping into the role of Chairperson, is board member Deb Collis, who brings a wealth of experience to the position. Deb has been a board member for the past eight years, and has been integral to the oversight of the College's building programme.

To contact the Board of Trustees email zchs@avcol.school.nz

FAREWELL TO B.O.T. CHAIR



Outgoing B.O.T. Chair:
Kevin Glubb



New Chair: Deb Collis



World Champions from Avondale College:
Gabrielle Fa'amausili and Sir Murray Halberg

Despite a 67 year age difference, Year 10 student Gabrielle Fa'amausili and sporting legend Sir Murray Halberg have a few things in common.

Both have beaten the world's best to gain a gold medal in their chosen sport. And both are students – current and former – of Avondale College.

Sir Murray won a gold medal at the 1960 Olympics in Rome, running in the 5000 metres event. Gabrielle won her gold medal last year in Dubai at the Junior World Swimming Championships. The two had the chance to meet, following Gabrielle's win of the Emerging Talent Award at the prestigious Halberg Awards earlier this year.

Being nominated for this award recognised the huge significance of Gabrielle's achievements in the pool last year – and despite there being stiff competition in her category, with four other – older – nominees, (including Ella Williams (surfing), Jake Lewis

(motorcycling) and Tom Murray (rowing)), on the night it was Gabrielle who got to shake Sir Murray's hand, and take home the award.

A few weeks after the red carpet event, Gabrielle had the opportunity to meet with Sir Murray personally, and we took a photo of the two Avondale College students, with the singlet Sir Murray wore when he won his Olympic medal in Rome. This framed memento is a treasured piece of Avondale College history, gifted to the school by Sir Murray some years ago.

As the two world champions talked, Sir Murray shared some advice with Gabrielle, telling her that when he was competing at the Olympics, he knew he wasn't the best runner in his competition – but in the end he just wanted that gold medal more than anyone else. It's an inspirational message of determination, tenacity and endeavour that sums up the heart of Avondale College.

MICROSOFT ACADEMY LAUNCHED...

In 2013 just half a percentage mark separated the students who came first and second in the world in the Cambridge International Examination's Applied ICT exam. These two students were Darius Au and Jayden Cooke – both from Avondale College. Both had come through an innovative ICT programme that went beyond textbook teaching to challenge students to think creatively in solving 'real world' problems in ICT, and this year, both students are part of Avondale College's inaugural Microsoft Academy.

Led by ICT specialist teacher, Mr Paul McClean, the Microsoft Academy is part of the college's Innovation Programme and aims to encourage creative system and design thinking, as well as give students 'real world' accreditation with globally-recognised industry-level qualifications. Already this year Academy students have sat their first Microsoft examinations, gaining grades more than four times the global – adult – average in the MS

Office Specialist papers. "The results were very, very pleasing," says Mr McClean.

As part of the Academy, students have access to the very top industry-level software and technology, as well technical expertise from Microsoft as they work on their own ICT projects. Year 11 student Patricia Salcedo, is designing a home budgeting solution using the latest Microsoft software development, project and design tools. Year 13 student Jayden Cooke is developing a digital system to revolutionise teaching practice with digital assessments and marking.

The MS Academy begins at 8.00am each morning, and by 7.30am students are lining up at the door, eager to get started. "It has given me a head start," says Nia Sky (15).

"This is going to make a huge difference," says Principal Mr Brent Lewis, "because this is where innovation is happening in the market place."



World Class Academy: First and Second in the World for Applied ICT, Darius Au and Jayden Cooke with teacher Mr Paul McClean

SILICON VALLEY TRIP FOR AVONDALE STUDENTS

The trip of a lifetime is in store for four of our ICT-savvy students who head to Silicon Valley in July to visit industry giants and meet with start-ups and entrepreneurs.

Jayden Cooke, Ashley Mark, Nia Sky and Patricia Salcedo are part of a 12-member group whose six day itinerary includes visits to Facebook, Apple, Microsoft, Google and Stanford University. However, they won't just be observers – the students will also have the opportunity to pitch their own ideas and innovations to venture capitalists based in Silicon Valley.

The trip, organised by RadioLIVE Business Correspondent Andrew Patterson, is being paid for by over 20 businesses and private donors who have willingly contributed to a travel fund to make the trip a reality.

The students themselves took part in a competitive pitch process to secure their places in the group. "The Silicon Four," says teacher Paul McClean, "have been phenomenal in putting together quality creative projects in a remarkably short space of time. The trip will be a huge opportunity to showcase their work."



Avondale's Silicon Four:
Ashley Mark, Patricia Salcedo, Nia Sky and Jayden Cooke

...AND THEY'RE OFF!

AVONDALE SHOWING HEART

2014 began with the promotion of Avondale College's HEART-based values system as part of the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) initiative. Each homeroom class was given the challenge of decorating their classroom in a way that reflected themselves and the school values.

Congratulations to the year level finalists: 10CPS, 11VDA, 12DCN, 13FRA, and to 9WLO, the overall winner of the competition.



Kohia Nga Taikaka

TENACITY
RESPECT
A TAWHAI
ENDEAVOUR
HONESTY

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



Our Environmental Group participated again in the regional Enviro Challenge in April. Students had to work as a team to complete a comprehensive environmental review of the College, set goals and actions related to sustainability, and create a video and art piece to reflect their vision for the school. From this event, Year 12 student Ery Zhu was selected as an Enviro Challenge Ambassador. Ery participated in a leadership training weekend in Ohakune in May with other ambassadors from around New Zealand.

PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Philosophy Club has started well with a philosophical and practical consideration of what really makes people happy by considering some key philosophies on this subject. A study from Harvard University proposes that giving away your time and money (two of our most valuable resources!) are really the things that bring intrinsic joy. We have been putting this to the test around the school with our peers and teachers. Students will be reporting back shortly on their practical findings to see if the giving away of time and/or other valuable commodities does indeed bring happiness.

48 HOUR FILM FESTIVAL

This year Avondale's 48 Hour Film Festival production group Fermented Films (consisting of a group of 17 students and five teachers) worked tirelessly to create a short film over the weekend of the 4th-6th of April.

There was little sleep to be had as we spent the Friday night writing the script and story boarding, filmed throughout Saturday and edited all day Sunday before rushing it in to the city before the 48 hour deadline.

This year the genre we were given was Rom-Com, and we needed the following elements:

- a character called Morgan Foster (who lied)
- a 'ball' as the prop
- the line of dialogue: "Not with that, you're not!"
- and an extreme close-up

What we created is a quirky wee film called "Oddball" - which came first place in its heat, winning the 'Audience Favorite' title, before going on to earn a place in the Auckland city finals.

A huge thanks to all those involved.



SPECIAL FAREWELLS

Term 1 saw Avondale College say farewell to two long-standing teachers: Mrs Moppy Williams, who retired at the end of 2013 after 28 years service to Taurewa and the PE Department; and Mr Doug Atrill who retired at the end of Term 1 2014 after 19 years with the English Department. Both have made a huge contribution to the life of the school over many years, and we wish them a long and happy retirement.



POLYFEST



Avondale College had a huge presence at this year's ASB Polyfest, with eleven different groups representing their culture with pride on the Diversity and individual competitive stages.

In total, 352 students took part, with weeks of intensive practice taking place in the lead up to the festival. Groups represented this year were: Chinese, Cook Island, Filipino [for the first time], Indian, Indo-Fijian, Maori, Niuean, Samoan, Sri Lankan, Thai and Tongan.

Avondale College's Samoan group resumed their top position this year, making it ten wins in the co-ed competition in the past thirteen years.

A huge thank you goes to all the families, tutors, staff and students who worked so hard to make this year's Polyfest such a success.

Nei ngā Pātiki tahananui o te whau Anei, ana, ina Hi! Hā!

Another year of Polyfest is completed. We started off as a group of strangers, with a passion for Kapa Haka, and ended our Polyfest journey as a whānau. Many with no or hardly any experience rose up to the level of performance expected of us on the stage. Te Rōpū o Pātiki went on stage this year with a style unique to Pātiki, with items retelling the historical

stories and events of the local area. This year's goal was to improve the language accuracy and proficiency on stage, and for this we gained the same mark as a Kura Kaupapa who placed third overall. Mei kore ko ngā mātua, ngā kaiako, ngā whānau whānui i kaha tautokongia te kaupapa, e kore ko mātou. Without the love and support of our whānau and school, we would not have qualified for Division One. - Kapa Haka Kaitiaki

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

BOOKS TO MOVIES

A red-carpet VIP event was the order of the day when the Book Club got together to explore, discuss and celebrate this term's theme: books that became movies.

The discussion was started earlier in the term when the Book Club blog was launched on Goodreads, and our 40+ members have had plenty to talk about.

We concluded our Books to Movies theme with a lunchtime event which included book reviews, prizes, a movie quiz and, of course, popcorn.

Check out the Library blog:
avcol-library.blogspot.co.nz



HISTORY CLUB

This year has seen the birth of Avondale's first ever History Club! History Club was made for students, by students, for those who want to extend their knowledge beyond the classroom.

We meet on Tuesday lunchtimes to watch videos, do quizzes and share events and concepts that we find interesting. Each month we follow a different theme: March was the Classical Period to coincide with the Ides of March and April's was WWI, in correspondence to ANZAC Day. We end each topic with a pizza and movie night to fit the theme.

Interested students are very welcome – just keep an eye on the yellow pages for upcoming events. We are looking forward to a history-filled year.

Lauren Millington
Year 13



ROBOTICS

The Avondale College Robotics teams participated in their fifth national competition at the Vodafone Events Centre on 28 Feb – 2nd March, making it through to the quarter and semi-final rounds, and winning awards for programming skills and creativity.

The game this year was called Toss-Up which required a number of skills from the robots and their drivers. This included the ability to pass under horizontal beams yet still be tall enough to score in 24" clear goals. The robots had to have the ability to drive over a bump without burning out motors. They had to handle "buckeyballs" and large balls, while also having the capacity to catapult large balls. To cap it off, robots needed to also latch on to a high horizontal bar and pull themselves up for either a 'low' or 'high' hang. Different tasks scored different amounts of points. As in all previous games the initial autonomous period was crucial since it gave a points bonus to the team which scored more points in this period.

The Avondale teams did well, though random alliance selection conspired to

push them down in the rankings before the all-important alliance selection for the elimination rounds. Nevertheless, both teams ended up together for the quarter and semi-finals in which they were eventually knocked out by other teams.

The Avondale teams were noticed though for other reasons. They won second place for programming skills, which was a separate part of the competition. This earned them a 33rd place in the world ranking, just outside the World Championship qualifying cut-off. The team also won the Create Award in recognition of robot build quality, features and ability to articulate their design to judges. James Millington and Spring Han were new students to the sport, and after only a short period in the team showed dedication and skill in competing at their first nationals.

The nationals signalled the end of the Senior team who were all Year 13 students (led by Tanmay Mohini), making way for a new junior team to be developed.

TIC: Mr Bruce Tetley



GATEWAY



**Creating great career and learning opportunities
- one day a week for 10 weeks**

Our 47 Gateway students are off to a great start having completed and received certificates in:

- Intermediate 1st Aid
- Health and Safety in the Work Place

So far over 30 work placements and courses have been found for students in the following areas: **Auto Electrical, Automotive, Building, Banking, Early Childhood, Hospitality, Lighting Technician, Nursing, Police, Radio, Retail, Teaching, Television** - and more to come!

Student feedback is extremely positive as

they gain new skills and confidence in their chosen field of work.

If you want to know more about the GATEWAY Programme please visit www.avcol.school.nz

GATEWAY INFO FILM – Now online
www.avcol.school.nz/Careers/Gateway

Or contact the GATEWAY Coordinator:

Karen Osborne Ph: 09 820 1724;

M: 021 131 9901; E: zosk@avcol.school.nz

CAREERS

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

Jacqui Birkhead Ph 820 1729

Judith Johnson Ph 828 7024 Ext 556

Jo Thomson Ph 828 7024 Ext 558

Karen Osborne, Gateway Co-ordinator Ext 509, is now also located in our new Careers Room.

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

YEAR 13 INTERVIEWS

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

PATHWAYS PLANNING EVENING

Wednesday 6 August 2014

3.30pm – 6.30pm

Avondale College Theatre

This is our school's annual career expo. It is an opportunity for parents and Year 9-12 students to get assistance with subject choices for 2014. Liaison staff from tertiary institutions and ITO's will be present to ensure students select the right subjects for preferred tertiary courses. Year 12 and 13 students moving on to tertiary study next year will be able to get course information to assist them in their decision making.

COMMERCE

YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCHEME (YES)

Five Young Enterprise teams have commenced investigations into new products that could change our lives. Of real interest is the strong drive by Year 11 students to participate, with four Year 11 teams and one Year 13 team taking part in the scheme. The teams have the challenge of coming up with an innovative product or service, then will conduct market research on a potential product, until finally attempting to bring it to market by August this year. Along the way students will be involved in a Dragon's Den competition and will need to raise finance to fund the creation of the products. It is an exciting programme that combines classwork and theory with the real world.

HEWLETT PACKARD 2014 AMBASSADORS

Three Year 13 Commerce students have been selected to participate in the Hewlett Packard Ambassador Programme for 2014. The three successful candidates were interviewed by Hewlett Packard staff and will have extensive opportunities with the company over the year, including site visits, involvement in strategy meetings, and mentoring with school work. The three Ambassadors are Alisha Chandra, Ryan Burgess and Shannon Metcalf.

"It's an exciting opportunity," says Ryan, who is looking forward to gaining real world experience in seeing how an international company like Hewlett Packard works from behind the scenes.



HP Ambassadors: Shannon Metcalf, Ryan Burgess and Alisha Chandra.

DRAMA



Year 12 Drama presented an entertaining evening of Commedia dell'Arte in the Drama Suite on Thursday 3 April. We were entertained by characters such as Pantelone, Columbina, Arlecchino, El Capitano, La Signora and Isabella. All the students made the traditional Commedia masks and they looked very professional and added to the authenticity of their performances. Year 13 Drama presented some thought provoking dramas based on the lives of famous people in the Drama Suite on 10 and 11 April. We met Coco Chanel, Adele, Sean Connery, Seth MacFarlane, Whoopi Goldberg, Leonardo DiCaprio, Princess Diana, Jackie Kennedy Onassis, Queen Victoria, Edith Piaf and Bob Dylan.

All the senior Drama students attended a matinee performance of "Paniora" by Briar Grace-Smith at the Maidment Theatre on 10 April. This was a production by the Auckland Theatre Company.

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

The auditions for the school show for 2014, which is "Fame", were held on 9 May. The show production week is September 15 to 20, which is Week 9 of Term 3.



FASHION



Students are currently working on a 'Trash to Fashion' project where they create an outfit for the Auckland Trash to Fashion competition and runway show. Christopher Davis recently did a workshop with these students where they learnt how to use common materials in unexpected ways. They also learnt more about the design process; how your materials can be the inspiration and starting point for your design and he complemented his talk with examples of his own creations.

TIC: Ms K Newman

DANCE

The Dance Department had a busy start to the year with the Year 12 and Year 13 Dance students completing their group dance "Lua Afe" which was performed at Rosebank Primary in Term 2.

Both senior and junior students auditioned for the Avondale College Dance Team. The team members were chosen and began working on their performance for the Avondale College Talent Quest.

Our school was once again selected to participate in the YouDance secondary schools

contemporary Dance festival in Week 5 of Term 2.

Both senior and junior dance students attended the Atamira Dance Company performance of MOKO at Skycity Theatre on April 11.

The Dance Academy students have been learning their syllabus work for NZAMD examinations in Level 2 and Level 3 Contemporary Dance. They are aiming to sit their exam in Term 3 this year.

ENGLISH

Bowens.

The Spoken Word group has begun with Mrs Cope and the Creative Writing club is going from strength to strength with Mrs Bowens.

Mrs V Lambert
Director of English

INTERNATIONAL

The International Department welcomed students from 23 different countries at the start of this year, with students settling in quickly, making new friends and enjoying taking up everything that Avondale College has to offer.

A group of students enjoyed a weekend away in Paihia, with one highlight being dolphin watching and staying overnight on a boat.

To contact the International Department please email intl@avcol.school.nz



INTERNATIONAL
CLASS 2014

LANGUAGES

SPANISH LANGUAGE ASSISTANT

Avondale College students of Spanish language are fortunate to have a native-speaking assistant to help them one day a week. Angel Montalvo hails from Spain and is assisting Avondale students on Tuesdays.

Angel says a highlight of his job is watching students acquiring language. "They go from not really understanding to realising what they are saying. It is exciting," he says.



What an awesome experience! We had six fantastic senior trips run in the first term, with the Year 13's enjoying white water rafting and sleeping under the stars beside the Waipakihi river. The Year 12's had their own adventures abseiling and adventure kayaking. All of the trips would not have been possible without the help of the staff involved and the adult helpers who come on the trips. A big Taurewa thanks to all of you.

Mr M Hemera
Director of Outdoor Education, Taurewa



SOCIAL SCIENCE

The Social Science department has had a productive start to the year. We have welcomed four new members of staff to the faculty who have helped to enrich the already strong team of teachers. With a department of over 20 staff we are fortunate to host teachers with a wide range of experiences that help aid the students' learning experiences.

During Term 1 the department supported student learning by offering opportunities to study outside of the normal classroom environment.

Opportunities for students to learn outside the classroom were provided by the Classics department, taking students to the Auckland Museum. Visits to the zoo provided a focus for learning for both the Psychology and the Junior Social Studies programmes, looking at

animal behaviours and endangered species respectively. The Geography department also took students into the field, visiting Mangere Mountain, the Waitakere Ranges and Muriwai Beach to undertake geographic research.

Within the school grounds opportunities to extend student learning continue. The faculty saw the launch of History Club, a student led group promoting the learning of history, through movies and other media. The Travel and Tourism department also welcomed guest speakers from the industry into the classrooms to give students an insight into what options are available for students once they finish school.

The faculty looks forward to hosting more opportunities to support student learning in the remainder of the year.



VIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT

The senior summer tournaments come and go at such a rate it is sometimes difficult to fully register the amount of effort and commitment that goes into the sporting programme at this time of year, but with a glance at our trophy cabinet we can see this hard work translated into a range of Auckland titles won throughout the season.

Our Ultimate girls came second in New Zealand in the inaugural National Championships, after winning the Auckland Championships in the Outdoor League, and the boys improved to be runners up in the Auckland League. The senior tag girls also retained the prestigious Auckland tag football title, with many of the same girls having run through the Western Zone touch season unbeaten. Their performance at the Greater Auckland Championships was not at quite the same level, coming in the same week as the demanding tag tournaments, but they still qualified as third and are in with a chance of representing the college at the National Championships in December.

In volleyball the girls again ran through the Western Zone competition without dropping a game until the very last week of games, played weeks after the real highlight of the season: the Greater Auckland Championships. At these championships our girls, seeded just outside the Premier grades, managed to win through and become Division 2 champions in Auckland.

In softball, a lack of teams in the neighbouring schools meant our girls unfortunately did not have a zone competition to compete in. Despite this, they still managed to perform well in the one day tournaments and, with a solid nucleus of girls, we look to continue to develop in the sport. The boys also have some talented performers and when at full strength were a match for most. Encouragingly, we still had three Auckland representatives in James Robinson, Leighton Taniwha and Nicole Macmillan.

Our water polo teams were probably the most active during the summer, with season-long competitions for zones and Auckland as well as the very competitive North Island Championships. The boys had a strong core of players who carried the torch for Avondale throughout the season. Coached by Mr Jamieson, they did not always have the pure swimming ability to match the very top teams but were able to come up with big performances at different times throughout

the season. The season culminated in the play-offs for the Senior Championships and although losing in the semi-final put them out of contention for the top four, they rallied to beat an Auckland Grammar School team 8-4 in the first play-off round. Then, in what was to be the final game for many of the senior boys for Avondale, they spared no effort in the pool and routed Western Springs 12-4, with the goals being shared around the team: Daniel Rastkar netting four, Adam Milne, three; Lex Doesburg, one; Matthew Vichelich, two; Cisco Van Rijk, one; and Stephen Hemara, one; to finish 5th overall.

The girls also showed real spirit in their play, which finally bore fruit at the end of the season. With, at times, a fairly small playing squad, the girls were also capable of big performances but just lacked the consistency required to cope with the very top Premier sides. In their own Senior competition the girls took the big scalp of Westlake to get into the final four. Here they met Epsom Girls whom they lost to in pool play, but when the pressure was really on in the semi-final they came up trumps and overturned the result to beat Epsom Girls 6-2, with goals from Briahna Mann (still sporting the dressings from her broken finger from the North Island Swimming Champs), Myja Gregory, Laura Evans, Maddi Amituana'i, and Te Kura Parsons. They were unable to recapture this sparking form in the Sunday night final, going down to Glendowie, but this was still a great showing from the girls who are a young side and who should only get better.

It was great to see two committed kilikiti sides ready to compete for the one day Auckland tournament for this year, and both the girls and boys teams performed at the very top level of their competition. The girls lost in the semi final in a close affair but on this occasion it was the boys who went a step further by making the final and there they defeated Southern Cross to end a long wait for a return of the trophy to Avondale.

Our tennis teams continue to battle manfully despite the lack of home courts. Our boys continue to threaten to break into the top echelons of Auckland tennis this year and the top team comfortably won their grade (Senior A3) in an unbeaten season at the Western Zone Championships. The Senior B, after a slow start, made real strides to win their last four games on the trot.

The Senior A girls also had a successful season, with just one loss in their entire season and a 2nd place finish. The Senior B and Intermediate teams were great breeding grounds for our younger, less experienced players, and I am sure they will continue to flourish once we have home courts to practise and play on.

In athletics it was Luke Fielding who again set the very high standard for our athletes to follow. His impressive win in the Greater Auckland Championships 1500 metres, where he was competing against three AGS athletes determined to take the title across the bridge, was a testament to Luke's composure and athletic ability. Our other top senior boy, Ethan Sorrel, saw injury rob him of his chance to compete in the high jump competition, having already cleared 1.95m in the high jump earlier in the season. Saane Kaufanga was also crowned Auckland champion as winner of the Senior Girls Javelin, having also taken the Western Zone title. Our juniors continued show athletic talent, with Mika Seltner-Jones a very encouraging silver medalist at the Auckland Champs, jumping 1.75m to equal the winning height in the high jump and losing only on countback. There was the emergence of Lucy Makaea winning multiple titles at the Western Zone competition and silver and bronze medals in the Auckland Championships in the 300 metres and long jump respectively. She added these achievements to a whole raft of national titles in one of her other passions, surf life saving, not to mention swimming where she is already performing at National Division 2 standard.

Our overall performance at the Western Zone level continues to improve and this growing base of athletes opens the door for continued improvement and subsequent success at Auckland and National levels. It was gratifying to see another Auckland title gained in the sprint races for orienteering, with Heidi Stolberger carrying on a proud family tradition in the event.

With the current ASB Young Sportswoman of the Year and Halberg Emerging Talent winner – Gabrielle Fa'amausili - in our swimming ranks it is no surprise that our swim team is going from strength to strength. Caitlin and Briahna Mann have been outstanding performers since their arrival at Avondale and still continue to perform at both Auckland and New Zealand age group level. Boris Gou was also Western Zone champion to register for the boys and Lucy Makaea also added New Zealand Division 2 titles to her growing CV.

Then Gabrielle Fa'amausili added to her already extraordinary achievements in swimming, winning the National Open 100m backstroke and finishing third in the 50 metres freestyle.

So this is just a look at the trophy cabinet for this term... It doesn't mention yet our cricketers who have had a very busy time in the first half of their long season. The boys' 1st XI were within a few runs of qualifying for the championships rounds of the main Auckland competition, carrying on the momentum from their successful trip to Sydney last September. Their comfortable placing in the Auckland Premier competition reflects a solid core of players at Premier level who have been joined by some very promising junior players. The girls had our most outstanding

performer in cricket thus far in Natasha van Tilburg, who scored two centuries in the season and continued her rise through the cricketing elite in Auckland. Our Year 9 boys have had a very exciting start, winning every game in the first half of the season, and our Year 10 boys continue to develop. Encouragingly, our 2nd XI (playing mainly against other schools' 1st XIs) have had a really promising season, displaying the good all-round range of skills so important for our aspiring cricketers.

So, with the summer season having drawn to a close - and with apologies to all those not mentioned here who have contributed to a major effort this summer - I must just voice my gratitude to the multitude of staff, parents,

volunteers and students who have contributed to another major sporting season. There is no doubt we are continually demanding more of all of our participants in sport and are always looking for enthusiastic assistance to enable us to offer the multitude of opportunities we promote here at Avondale. It doesn't get any easier to meet the continuing demands of the growing sporting population but it does get better! And with the continued help and cooperation of all parties, 2014 will continue to develop into another great year for our sport.

Long may it continue!

Mr C Jones
Director of Sport

Natasha van Tilburg - two centuries for Avondale College and selection for the NZ U21 team to play in the Indoor World Cup later this year...



BLUES SPOT FOR TUSI



1st XV captain Tusi Eti has been awarded a scholarship with the Blues - a dream come true for the 16 year old who two years ago was almost killed by a sudden brain bleed following a knock to the head during a school rugby game.

Emergency surgery left Tusi with 48 stitches, a long "battlescar" and a determination to continue playing his favourite sport. Two years later, Tusi has bounced back from his injury to not only lead the Avondale College 1st XV, but also to take up a position with the Blues U20 development squad.

Tusi has been part of the Avondale College Sports Academy since he was a Year 9 student, and his potential has been evident from the beginning.

"Tusi had been on our radar before the surgery," says Shane King, the schools' convenor for the Blues. "We are thrilled he has recovered and is back playing so well."

SNOOKER

Congratulations to Louis Chand (Year 11) who was selected to represent New Zealand at the World U21 IBSF Snooker Champs held in the United Arab Emirates in May.

It's not the only international competition he will participate in this year - Louis will also travel to China to represent New Zealand at the World Junior Ball Champs in November this year.

Louis is ranked No. 1 on the Men's Snooker ranking list for the U21s.

NETBALL

Five of our Premier netballers gained international experience at the International Schoolgirls Netball Challenge in Adelaide, South Australia in May. However, the Avondale teammates weren't playing alongside each other - instead each girl was playing for a different international team!

Popua Aleamotua played for NZ Secondary Schools (the eventual winners of the tournament), Brooklyn Meti for Pacific Rim, Lois Simes for Samoa, Anastasia Sekene for Aotearoa Maori, and Eliish Tamihere-Godfrey for Auckland Tonga. Congratulations to all the girls for their selection.

TAG



For the second year in a row Avondale's senior girls tag team have taken out the opposition to win the Auckland Rugby League Secondary Schools' Tag Tournament.

In the senior girls' final, Avondale played James Cook High School Puutake, coming away with a comfortable victory, 13-3.

Avondale College assistant coach, Mr Luke Shaw was full of praise for the girls. "They did really well, we didn't lose a game and in pool play we didn't have any points scored against us."

WATER POLO



Senior Girls Water Polo team after their last game of season, finishing 2nd in Auckland. Back row: left to right Maddy Amituanai, Selina Lee, Olive Schmidt, Te Kura Parsons-Grace, Myja Gregory, Laura Evans, Miss J Simon (Manager), Ross Jamieson (Coach). Front row: Briahna Mann, Morgan Rose, Phoebe Rolfe

SWIM TEAM

AKSS ZONE SWIMMING RESULTS

JUNIOR GIRLS

Lucy Makaea- 50 Free- 2nd
Lucy Makaea- 50 fly- 3rd
Maddy Amituanai- 50 back - 2nd
Jenna Mamea - 50 Breast- 3rd

JUNIOR BOYS

Boris Guo- 50 Back- 1st
Boris Guo- 50 Breast - 2nd
Boris Guo- 50 Free- 3rd

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS

Gabrielle Fa'amausili - 50 Fly- 1st
Gabrielle Fa'amausili - 50 Free- 1st
Caitlin Mann- 50 Breast- 1st
Caitlin Mann - 50 Fly- 2nd
Jackie Young - 50 Back- 2nd
Tayla Latu- 50 Fly - 3rd
Tayla Latu- 50 Breast - 3rd

INTERMEDIATE BOYS

Tyler Ambler - 50 Fly- 3rd
Adam Milne - 50 Free -3rd

RELAYS:

1st -GIRLS Open Fly Team: Caitlin Mann, Lucy Makaea, Reese Gleeson, Gabrielle Fa'amausili

1st - GIRLS Intermediate Breaststroke Team : Gabrielle Fa'amausili, Tayla Latu, Briahna Mann, Caitlin Mann

1st- GIRLS Junior Medley team: Maddy Amituanai, Caitlin Frost, Lucy Makaea, Jenna Mamea

1st -GIRLS Senior Medley Team: Gabrielle Fa'amausili, Briahna Mann, Caitlin Mann, Tayla Latu

2nd - BOYS Senior Freestyle Team: Adam Milne, Ezekiel Fa'amausili, Stephen Hemara, Reuben Goh

2nd - BOYS Intermediate Medley Team: Reuben Goh, Boris Guo, Adam Milne, Tyler Ambler

3rd - BOYS Open Fly Team : Reuben Goh, Ezekiel Fa'amausili, Tyler Ambler, Adam Milne

3rd- GIRLS Junior Breaststroke Team: Maddy Amituanai, Caitlin Frost, Natasha Latu, Jenna Mamea

3rd - GIRLS Intermediate Freestyle Team: Jackie Young, Brianna Gleeson, Kirsten Hill, Natasha Latu

3rd- GIRLS Intermediate Medley Team: Jackie Young, Kirsten Hill, Brianna Gleeson, Lucy Makaea

Gabrielle Fa'amausili and Caitlin Mann qualified to compete in the next round (AKSS Champ of Champs) in individual events, as did their relay teams, the junior girls relay teams and the boys open fly team.



UNIFORM

Avondale College has always upheld the expectation that students maintain a high standard of dress and grooming at all times. We know these characteristics are valued by our community and we appreciate and thank you for your continued support in this area.

It is a requirement of our students that the official school uniform must be worn when travelling to and from the College and whilst attending the College. It is also not permissible for our uniform to be altered in any way, this

includes the narrowing of trouser legs and the shortening of skirt lengths. Added to this, the only hat allowed is the Avondale College cap. Other caps are not to be worn whilst in uniform. As we head into the colder weather, scarves, if worn, are to be the official Avondale College scarves only and no t-shirts are to be underneath school shirts.

Recently there has been a proliferation of sports shoe manufacturers designing sports shoes in all black designs. No buckles, canvas,

rubber toed or slip-on shoes are accepted at Avondale College as part of our school uniform. The school prospectus states that the school shoe is a 'plain black regulation leather lace-up'.

As a school we will continue to uphold these standards and thank you in advance, for supporting us in ensuring the focus remains on teaching and learning and the best possible educational outcomes for your child.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES

Every day your child does not attend school they miss opportunities towards their future. Lateness every day, on certain days every week or every month are also an attendance problem and will impact on your child's learning.

Attending school every day your child will:

- **Learn every day**
- **Find help for any learning difficulties**
- **Build friendships with their peers and teachers**
- **Participate in all school activities**
- **Have good learning habits**
- **Gain the education to progress to higher learning or worthy employment opportunities**

To notify the school of your child's absence please contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs R Peteru on (09) 820 1071.

Following this phone call, if a student is absent from school, a dated letter written by the parent must be brought to the home room teacher on the day following the absence. The note should state the student's name, home room, dates of absence and the reason for the absence. When a student is likely to be away for more than two days, a message should be sent to the school, as soon as possible, by note or telephone.

If a student has a request for leave during the school term, a parent is expected to

request permission from the Principal before any arrangements are made. Requests for a student to be away from school for any period of time (e.g. overseas trips) must be made by the student's parents/caregivers in writing to the Principal.

Dental and medical appointments should be made out of school time. If this is not possible, a note or appointment card must be shown to the home room teacher and a pass will be issued. Students must sign in and out at the register at the main office.

MEET OUR PREFECTS



Rebecca Andrell, Jahmal Beckmannflay, Benedict Brebner, Ryan Burgess, Anastasia Canty, Alisha Chandra, Elizabeth Chen, Anna Chinnamallela, Jacob Deans, Baobin Deng, Carlin Diprose, Alana Douglas, Damien Ducloux, Paitusi Eti, Zarya Fatialofa, Evotia Fuimaono F. Alolua, Safia Hussein, In-Hae Jung, Hatesa Kepu, Devdass Krishnan, Anna Leys, Natasha Littler, Crystal Liu Ji Xin, Ivan Madsen, Margaret Mano, Ana Maquiso,

Crystal McDougall, Mark Mildon, Lauren Millington, Tanmay Mohini, Hiroka Morita, Emma Olphert, Shawn-Ray Pafalani, Robert Parsons, Te Kura Parsons-Grace, Ezekiel Paul, Jasmine Pereira, Stacey Purdon, Daniel Rastkar, Alisa Samountry, William Scheib, Daniel Semp, Pushti Shah, Zubayr Smith, Sorrell Ethan, Kelsey Stanyer, Micah Stininato, Stephen Sua, Leighton Taniwha, Caleb Tinielu, Dane Tracey, Frank Tuiloma,

Pim Van Den Top, Logan Van Gils, Brendan Vincent, Jane Wang, Dakota Zemke-White.

HEAD GIRL: Jane Wang

HEAD BOY: Ben Brebner

DEPUTIES (Girls): Evotia Fuimaono Alolua, Micah Stininato and Pushti Shah **(Boys):** Ethan Sorrell, Mark Mildon and Robert Parsons

DEANS CONTACT DETAILS

YEAR 9

Dean: **Mr Shao** | DDI: 820 1709 | sha@avcol.school.nz

Associate Dean: **Ms Wright** | ext 542 | wgt@avcol.school.nz

DP: **Mr Hill** | DDI: 820 1701 | hil@avcol.school.nz

YEAR 10

Dean: **Mr Dewsnap** | DDI: 820 1708 | dsp@avcol.school.nz

Associate Dean: **Mrs Patel** | ext 534 | ptl@avcol.school.nz

DP: **Mr Goold** | DDI: 820 1702 | gld@avcol.school.nz

YEAR 11

Dean: **Mr Bartlett** | DDI: 820 1738 | btt@avcol.school.nz

Associate Dean: **Mr Coop** | ext 539 | cpb@avcol.school.nz

DP: **Mrs Murphy** | DDI: 820 1700 | mhy@avcol.school.nz

YEAR 12

Dean: **Ms Donaldson** | DDI: 820 1706 | dsn@avcol.school.nz

Associate Dean: **Mr Parker** | ext 560 | pkr@avcol.school.nz

DP: **Mrs van Etten** | DDI: 820 1720 | vtn@avcol.school.nz

YEAR 13

Dean: **Ms Learmonth** | DDI: 820 1710 | lth@avcol.school.nz

Associate Dean: **Mr Timoteo** | ext 594 | tmo@avcol.school.nz

DP: **Mrs Watkinson** | DDI: 820 1707 | wtn@avcol.school.nz

AVONDALE COLLEGE

OPEN EVENING

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 4-7PM

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