

AVONDALE COLLEGE

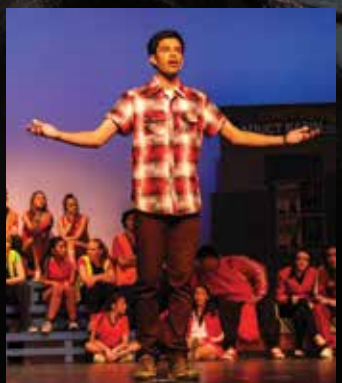
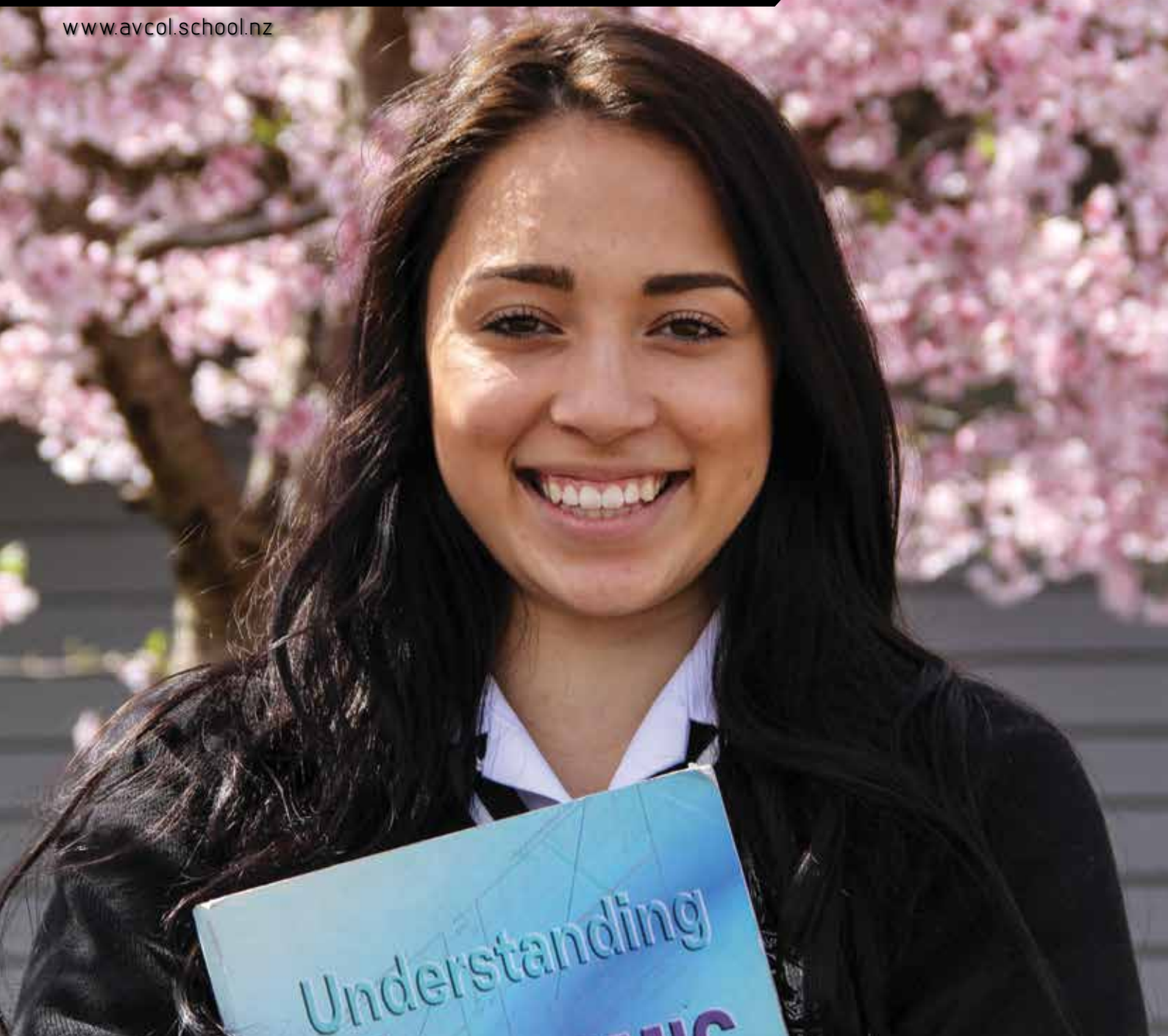
# AVCOL

## newsletter



Issue 3 > 2012

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



**HONOURS AWARDS**  
for our students  
**GODSPELL**  
**Wi-Fi goes live**  
**MUSIC Success**  
**Winter SPORTS**





## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



After the strong NCEA results of last year we are pleased to report that the internal assessments for 2012 are tracking at an even higher level so we look forward to the next round of results with considerable confidence. Similarly the Cambridge results from last year, including a Top Scholar award, are also a matter of considerable pride for students and staff alike. Ann Puntis the CEO at University of Cambridge International Examinations visited the college earlier in the year, meeting students and staff. She has been followed more recently

by other senior Cambridge University staff, all of whom have been very interested in our successful programmes and progress in providing this academic pathway.

The recent school show 'Godspell' was a superb showcase for the performance abilities of a particularly talented group of students. Whether singing, dancing, acting or participating in the many support roles required to put on a school show, our students were impressive. It takes a large and dedicated team to put on a school show and I want to highlight the director and overall driving force, Alison Nelson. She once again did a remarkable job. Walter Jenks, ably assisted by Kaye Podwin, once again did a great job on the staging and the music was handled superbly by Matt Stenbo and Michael Bell. The school show is an annual treat and this year was no exception.

Under the leadership of music teacher Malcolm Lakatani our students in the school band 'Revived Rhythm' reached the nationals in the Pacifica Beats competition. They performed at a very high level, with Geoffrey Soqeta being named best vocalist. Ambitious plans are already being hatched for the 2013 competition!

Rowan Bolley has led a strong jazz music programme this year ably supported by Director of Music Matt Stenbo. The Jazz and Soul concert attracted one of the bigger audiences in recent years and the feedback from all concerned was very positive and appreciative.

The sports programme for 2012 hit new levels of performance across many different codes, with marked lifts in netball, rugby and soccer being particular highlights. The success of former student and current New Zealand Cricketer of the Year Martin Gupthill is also a source of further pride. My warmest thanks go to all staff and community members whose contributions underpin our success. Our Sports Director Cliff Jones and his colleague Iain Stewart are to be applauded for their great work behind the scenes.

With an overwhelming vote of support from her fellow students, our new student representative on the Board of Trustees, Taupule Afamasaga, was elected to office. My warmest congratulations go to her on her success. I also want to express my appreciation for the sound work done by her predecessor Nicholas Hiku who, despite the many health challenges he faced this year, has made a very positive contribution to the work of the Board.

I am pleased to report that the final planning and preparation for the commencement of the next stage of the Avondale College rebuild has been completed and that the project is currently out to tender. Once the contract is let it is expected that the building will commence at the end of this term.

As we enter the final term I want to express my best wishes to all students who are entering their external examinations this term. A great deal of hard work and care goes into the preparation of all students in both of the academic pathways of the college and we have every confidence in their ability to succeed at the highest levels.

*Brent Lewis*  
Principal

## HONOURS ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to these students whose achievements were acknowledged in the Term 4 Honours Assembly. For a full list of names and awards please visit our website: [www.avcol.school.nz](http://www.avcol.school.nz)





After months of rehearsing and countless hours of set-making, costume designing and all those other behind-the-scenes tasks, the Avondale College school show 'Godspell' was performed from September 18-22.

Playing the lead role of Jesus was Head Boy Adeel Surendran. "It was very exciting," he says. "It was just getting past that stereotype of Jesus and putting a contemporary spin on the character. My character reflects Jesus' parables and his teachings and values."

The show was set in a contemporary Auckland, and featured the singing and dancing talents of 50 cast members, as well as Avondale College musicians in the band.

Congratulations to director Ms Nelson and all those many others who worked so hard to produce such an entertaining and professional show.

## WI-FI GOES LIVE AT AVONDALE COLLEGE

With over 1000 computers serving the school's 3000 plus students and staff, Avondale College already has the largest number of computers in any school in the country. But with the recent introduction of Wi-Fi access for all, every student with an internet-capable device is now able to access technology from wherever they are in the school. This means students' laptops, iPods, iPhones, iPads, android phones and tablets, Microsoft tablets and Nokia devices all can be used to connect to the internet without cost to the students.

"We're managing the bandwidth to ensure access for all," says Ewan Thompson, the mastermind behind Avondale's latest technology wave. This means students have unlimited access to the school intranet services – they can use their smart phones to send and receive emails from their school Gmail account at any time during the day, as well as access the school intranet for information on timetables, attendance or the latest information about NCEA or Cambridge. They also have access to the internet, though may encounter some 'lagging' when trying to download large files or streaming video.

The benefits within the classroom are far-reaching. Avondale College teachers have already been making use of the technology available within the classrooms: data projectors and screens have been installed in all the new classrooms and lessons frequently make use of interactive presentations and video clips. Now with Wi-Fi available to all, teachers can plan 'smart lessons' where students are able to use their own devices to access the internet for research purposes or to download the lesson plan, classroom notes or homework.

The new technology opens up possibilities in other areas as well. In anticipation of student demand, Avondale College Librarian

Elizabeth Atkinson has purchased an initial 243 eBook titles that are now available to students to upload to their portable devices. This means students will be able to search for and acquire an eBook, 'borrowing' it for a short-term rental period from wherever they are in school. Currently the titles are a mixture of popular fiction, non-fiction, and copyright-free classic titles made available without cost through the Gutenberg Project.

Visual texts are also on offer. Avondale College has a high speed connection to ETV – a repository of more than 11,000 documentaries on a huge number of topics. It's an amazing resource for teachers and students alike – viewers can stream live videos on topics relevant to their learning area.

With these advancements just the tip of future technological possibilities, it's an exciting time to be a student at Avondale College!





## 40 HOUR FAMINE

Raising nearly \$21,000 in the past two years for World Vision's 40 Hour Famine challenge has been a fantastic achievement for Avondale College students.

Led by Ms C Leyland and a team of willing student volunteers, this year Avondale College raised \$9,108.20. "Our school has raised so much that we can provide food to 1,518 kids in countries like Mali and Niger for a month," says Ms Leyland. "Even though hardship is all around us it is wonderful to see the students here in Avondale College still supporting such a worthwhile cause."

Year 12 committee member Vicky Piatov agrees. "It was amazing to be part of something that has enabled us to help people less fortunate than ourselves. There aren't that many things you can actually do, and this is one of them."

Well done – and thank you – to everyone involved.



## HOME - A SAFE HAVEN OR A PLACE OF DANGER?



Amnesty Group Members

## AMNESTY GROUP

The Amnesty group campaigned against the forced eviction of innocent people from their homes - a practice which still occurs in certain countries - during Freedom Challenge Week in Term 3.

Funds were raised for Amnesty International through a range of activities. First, on Monday some students were 'arrested' and removed from classes, to appear gagged and bound in Assembly, supervised by masked 'guards'. This dramatised and launched the campaign. At lunchtime students outlined the word 'HOME' on the floor of the stadium for a Sky Shoot photo. On Wednesday a successful multi day was held, as well as a bake sale at lunchtime. The delicious cookies and cakes all went down a treat. Thursday was a sausage sizzle - equally popular.

Congratulations and thanks go to all the students who helped in any way - as organisers or contributors of their time and generosity. The final amount raised over the week was \$3,919 - a fantastic total.

## DAITO BUNKA VISIT

Avondale College hosted a group of 17 students and staff from Avondale's sister school, Daito Bunka in Tokyo, Japan. During their two week stay, the group spent time in the classroom as well as taking in the sights and sounds of Auckland, experiencing attractions such as the Auckland Museum, Mission Bay, the Art Gallery, Piha, and much more. They even managed a weekend trip to Rotorua before returning to their homes in Japan. Many thanks to those families who hosted the visitors.



### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Taupule (Rachel) Afamasaga, newly elected to the Board of Trustees, is looking forward to representing the students of Avondale College.



## VISIT BY SAVY

During Term 3 an organisation called SAVY visited the school to take an hour long workshop with each Year 13 form class. Facilitated by university students from the Auckland University Business School, their aim is to instill good financial habits in young adults. They see that young people today are exposed to various financial products and often find themselves confused or unable to access information to aid decision making.

## 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, quick thinking skills, to name a few. During the term the students were 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

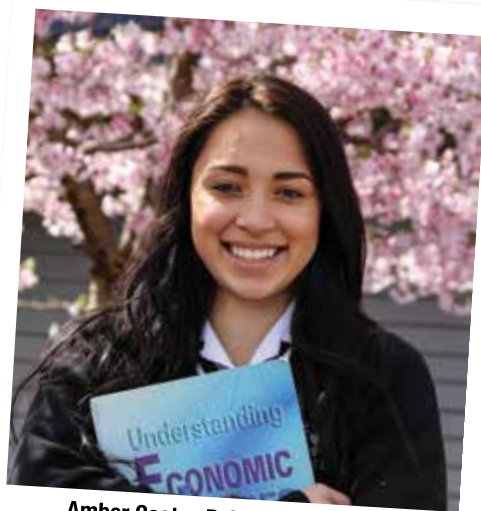
During Term 3 the students completed a unit on accounting. This part of the course requires students to learn about the different types of business organisations. They are also introduced to the processes involved in completing an income statement and balance

sheet for both a service and trading organisation. Some students have picked this part of the course up very well and I believe we have some exciting budding accountants at our school.

## NEW ZEALAND ECONOMICS COMPETITION

Five 'Distinction' and ten 'Merit' awards were presented to Avondale students who participated in the New Zealand Economics Competition this term. The competition has grown in size and reputation since its inception in 1997 and is the largest and most prestigious competition of its kind for secondary students.

Year 12 student Amber Coates Reid said the 50 minute exam was challenging as it tested both classroom theory and general knowledge of current economic issues. She was "happy and really proud" to gain a 'Distinction' award.



Amber Coates Reid: Distinction Award

## DANCE

Term 3 began with the Year 12 and 13 students' visit to see Atamira Dance Company's performance of Kaha at the Telstra Clear Events Centre in Manukau. The performance involved a range of short dance works choreographed by dancers within the company that linked contemporary dance to Maori culture and traditions. Students enjoyed seeing the range of dance styles in each piece.

The Dance Academy students sat their NZAMD contemporary dance exams and gained fantastic results across Level 2 and 3. The results ranged from 'Commended' to 'Honours' in Level 2 and 'Highly Commended' to 'Distinction' in Level 3. Their percentage grades ranged from 75% - 100%.

Earlier in the year our Year 11, 12 and 13 Dance students performed at 'No Left Feet' - a new contemporary dance festival where 15 schools around Auckland presented dance works from their NCEA assessments at an evening performance at the Centennial Theatre. From this performance, our Year 13 dance work 'Political Injustice', choreographed by Joel Walsham, was chosen to be performed at the Tempo Dance Festival in Auckland in October this year.

Our very talented Year 10 dance student Corbyn Taulealea-Huch recently competed with her hip hop dance crew 'Sorority' in the HHI (Hip Hop International) World Hip Hop Dance Championships held in Las Vegas. Her crew gained an outstanding result, coming second place in the Varsity division of this world-wide competition.

Year 12 Dance student, Taria Tavai recently competed with his hip hop dance crews in the Battlegrounds New Zealand Hip Hop competition. His dance crew 'Sample' gained third place in the adult division. He also danced in another group 'Sample Foundation' and gained first place in the 'Monsta Crew' division. His group have now qualified for the World Supremacy Battlegrounds Competition in late November, in Sydney, Australia.

Ms H Tipa

## DANCESPORT CHAMPS!

In the three months since Year 13 prefect Nick Gampell whirled his dance partner Sasha Saunders around the assembly hall, they have won ten national titles! Nick and Sasha picked up four titles in the Classical Sequence competition and six titles at the 62nd NZ National Open and Closed Dancesport Championships in October.





Could New Zealand host the 2024 Olympic games? As part of a unit of work to teach students speaking and listening skills, the whole of Year 9 designed a persuasive presentation to the International Olympic Committee to show why New Zealand could host the future event. The students were able to combine video technology when making their presentations as well as developing their own independent research skills to find out about the history of the Games and reasons why New Zealand could be good hosts. Students also had to design a new logo, motto, oath, athlete menu and mascot to accompany their bid. The four week project resulted in students making a formal presentation to their classmates to show them the ideas each group had developed. Who knows, maybe 2024 could be Auckland's turn!



## Shakespeare Off

9HNE and 9GSE took to the stage to show their talents this term. In an atmosphere of friendly rivalry the two classes participated in the first Year 9 "Shakespeare Off". Each class was divided into groups and the brief was to choose and perform an extract from Antony and Cleopatra, Macbeth or Romeo and Juliet. After much discussion and practice the final performances were held in the pavilion and judged by Ms Guise and Ms Maday. While 9GSE took the award for best performance, students from both classes showed a vast array of talent and were a pleasure to watch.



## LIBRARY



### E-BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

Students can now download eBooks to their portable devices through the College Library internet link.

This exciting new service started in August and has had a great start with 71 books being downloaded in the first few weeks.

Currently available titles are a mixture of popular fiction, non-fiction and classics.

It's a great way to have a book with you to read wherever you go - and, even better, it automatically returns itself!

## GEOGRAPHY

Geographers had a great start to Term 3 with our annual Year 13 trip to Rotorua. Students worked well over the three days and learned first-hand a great deal about tourism development in the region. They also used the opportunity to complete the data collection for their geographic research as well as making time to visit more adventurous attractions such as the Luge and Agroventures.

A large number of our Year 12 students visited the Sky Tower and Auckland CBD in order to conduct their research. High quality data was collected which students are collating in class to use for their assessments.

Year 11 Cambridge students spent a beautiful spring day in the Waitakere Ranges. They took river measurements in the Cascade Kauri Regional Park and then continued to Te Henga (Bethells Beach) to complete beach measurements.

In 2013 our Level 3 course will be changing and we are introducing a standard about planning events. Our intention is to complete a study of the Pasifika Festival. If anyone is directly involved in the organisation or planning of this event then we would love to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Watkinson: Phone 8201707 or email: wtn@avcol.school.nz



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



The International Department had a busy term with students participating in all aspects of sporting and cultural life at Avondale College. Our football and basketball teams enjoyed their sports exchange with Rangitoto College – this has become a much-anticipated event on the International calendar.

A group of students also enjoyed a trip to the Central Plateau and the snow.

We farewelled a number of students at the end of Term 3 and look forward to welcoming new arrivals in Term 4.

## SCIENCE

### SCIENCE STUDENTS AWARDED HIGH MARKS IN AUSTRALIAN EXAMS

Seven science students received awards in the recent Australian Science Examination, with one Year 9 student, Di Kun Ong, gaining a 'High Distinction' award in the international exam.

The exam is an optional one for students, and something that Di Kun has been choosing to do every year since he was at primary school. "I've done it in the past," he says, "and this year was definitely a good result - but I always want to try to get a better mark."

He says the exam had some challenges, with its all-round focus on general science and skills related questions, but its value is in more than just the good result: "You get more confident, and more relaxed in an exam environment," he says. "It's good practice for Cambridge and NCEA exams."



Di Kun Ong: High Distinction Award

## TAUREWA

Term 3 was a very successful one with six Year 10 groups making the journey to camp. Being a winter term, skiing was on the programme and all the groups enjoyed a variety of weather conditions - from brilliant snow and clear blue sky days to low cloud and slight drizzle – none of which affected the students' enjoyment of snow in Happy Valley.

The eruption on Tongariro did not affect our camps or activities in any way but did make for some memorable photos!

The Achievement Standard PE 1.7 has now been completed for the Year 10 students, with the PE staff following up the final assessments. This saw students demonstrating and showing understanding of responsible and safe behaviour in the outdoors and means students have three credits in the bank ready for next year.

We have had great parent support this term, and many thanks go to them and our wonderful staff who make the camps possible for our students.

Planning is underway for next year's senior camps. There will be seven senior camps in Term 1, starting 17 February with the first year Year 13 trip, and other Year 12 and 13 camps to follow.

The cost will be approximately \$370 for the Year 13s and \$330 for Year 12s. Consent forms are available from the Taurewa room any time – it will be first in first served so make sure you don't miss out!

Ms Williams





## KBB MUSIC FESTIVAL

Our most talented musicians performed in the annual KBB Music Festival held in August. The Orchestra, Big Band, Concert Band and String Group gave fine performances in the beautiful surroundings of the Parnell Cathedral and St Mary's church. The Orchestra took away a 'Commended' award and the Big Band, a 'Bronze'.



## STAND UP STAND OUT

It was standing room only at the Telstra Pacific Events Centre as hundreds of people packed the theatre to see the very best secondary school performers in Auckland competing at the finals of the Stand Up Stand Out competition in September. They weren't disappointed. The talent was outstanding, the competition fierce, and when the results were announced, Avondale College supporters were amongst the loudest of them all: Priscilla Gatoloai and Revived Rhythm were awarded Runners Up in the Vocal Solo and Group Band categories, winning cash prizes of \$250 and \$600.

After two rounds of competition in previous weeks, Avondale College had three entries make it through to the finals: Priscilla, Revived Rhythm and 'dale Soul all performed, with both bands getting the audience to their feet and dancing to their superb grooves.

Stand Up Stand Out is an Auckland-wide event run by Auckland Council.



## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES FOR 'REVIVED RHYTHM'

It has been a busy term for Avondale College's student band 'Revived Rhythm' as they have steadily made their way through successive heats and then into the finals of two prestigious secondary school competitions.

Lead singer Geoffrey Soqeta won 'Best Vocalist' at the national final of the Pacifica Beats Competition in September, following up on their second placing in the Auckland finals in August.

The Auckland-wide 'Stand Up Stand Out' music competition also saw the nine-member band win a second placing at the finals held at the Telstra Pacific Events centre in August.

Revived Rhythm performed two original songs: Revive the Rhythm and Hey You, which combine elements of jazz, R&B, reggae and rock with Pasifika beats and language. The group have been working hard on their music, spending countless hours writing and rehearsing after school and in the holidays.

Music teacher Malcolm Lakatani, himself a well known performer in the New Zealand music scene, has been quietly guiding the group, offering advice on bonding as a group and helping them get deeper into the details of the music.

"I'm proud of their achievements," he says, "especially their growth as a group of young musicians playing as a tight ensemble. I believe in their individual abilities, and they should do well in the future."

"They have been a pleasure to work with, they have fun but can also knuckle down to the work too."

This mixture of fun and work is evident in their performance style. Sophisticated chord structures and bass lines mix effortlessly with complicated Pasifika rhythms and language to create a unique and exuberant sound. At one point in their performance the drummer is the only musician left playing as the rest of the group perform traditional Samoan and Tongan dance moves before diving back into the song.

They have their sights set on spending some time in the college recording studio in the near future.

**Revived Rhythm:** Geoffrey Soqeta, Eric Chan Foon, Josefo McNamara Taela, Emma Tuiletufuga, Ivan Fuimaono, Tinitali Si'titia, Charis Enilliko, Ben Pousigano, Junior Soqeta  
**TIC:** Mr Malcolm Lakatani





## VIEW FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Term 3 - with the winter sports approaching their climax closely followed by Winter tournament week - is always a tremendously busy and exciting time here at Avondale College.

A relatively mild winter meant that the weather was not a great factor in the season which is always a relief with so much to cram into these weeks leading up to tournament. All of our winter codes had exciting climaxes to their seasons.

Both the Premier boys and girls basketball had positive seasons with the boys doing enough to cling on to their Premier status for next year as they build their new squad. The promise shown by the Under 15s under the auspices of Head Coach Doe Williams gives real cause for optimism.

The girls had an outstanding year. It started with a playoff game to secure their status in the Premier division but ended with qualification for the Greater Auckland finals thanks to an outstanding top three finish. With coach Dave Heli assisted by Wolley Leauanae and Stewart Whiting, the girls grew in confidence throughout the season and again the Under 15 girls qualification for the Greater Auckland finals show that the future is bright on the court.

The number of Auckland reps in our rugby programme reflects the great work that is beginning to bear fruit with our rugby players. Representatives at 14, 16 and 18 age group level gives real cause for optimism for the future.

The girls rugby also had a positive season as they re-emerged to play a significant part in the programme this year.

In football the girls finished with a strong showing at Premier Nationals, losing only to the eventual finalists Tauranga and in a close battle with Baradene. The two final wins of the tournament showcased the talents of our Head Girl Hannah Hoeksema in her final games for the college as well as heralding a host of junior girls who are all ready to begin their own chapter of Avondale girls football.

The boys football was a story of the second half of their season where a run of ten wins unbeaten took them to a last day thriller. Needing a substantial but indeterminate win against Sancta Maria the boys did all they could to make up for a slow start to the season. Their outrageous 17-0 win was based on a determination to show their improved performance and with the final goal scored literally with the final kick of the game, they secured a place in a play off for promotion for next year by just one goal!

The Under 15 boys managed to get to the semi-final of the Auckland knockout competition as well as competing with the very best teams across Auckland throughout the year, which again gives real cause for optimism for the future.

And then there is our netball... The Premier netball team is

currently preparing to go to the National tournament for the first time in 10 years. A fantastic showing in the UNISS tournament saw them lose only to the reigning national champions, finishing second and sending them on to the Nationals with a very high seeding and real optimism.

It wasn't just the Premier team who excelled; the Premier development team also won their Waitakere Premier Development division showing that we have depth as well as real strength to our netballing programme.

This season also saw the resurgence of our Rugby League programme with a 1st XIII and Under 15 XIII playing through the season in the Auckland competition. We saw the underwater hockey team continue to play amongst the leading schools in Auckland and a whole host of junior and senior girls lacrosse players forming the core of the Auckland Under 15 and 19 representative teams.

Our girls hockey continued to raise the level of their performance. With a strong contingent of junior girls alongside proven seniors it is clear that the hockey programme is continuing to improve. The boys Premier team had a tough season in the very competitive division but were game and will benefit from the experience. The junior team at Under 15 level had another strong year and will soon be adding their strength to the Premier ranks.

It is a futile exercise to try to get all aspects of Avondale College in a report, such is the range and diversity of activities. Needless to say we have achieved national representation in sports ranging from netball, lacrosse, Ultimate Frisbee, rugby league and softball. We have Auckland representatives at all ages and levels and just as importantly we are seeing large numbers actively involved in club based activities such as badminton, volleyball and squash. We have made significant progress in squash thanks to the help of Squash Auckland coach Stewart Fraser who is very keen to continue to develop our pool of talent in that particular sport.

Already we are gearing up for our summer programme with volleyball, tennis, touch and softball particularly well underway. We look forward to more outstanding performances and greater numbers becoming actively engaged in sport at Avondale College.

A final word must go to the host of staff, parents and community helpers - those coaches, managers, assistants, drivers and more who make all of this possible. It is their incredible spirit and commitment that drives the programme forward and our only responsibility is to match the enthusiasm of these people who give of their time and expertise so generously and ensure that Avondale Sport continues to prosper.

Go Dale! Enjoy your sport!

Mr C Jones  
 Director of Sport

## OUR ALL BLACKS IN THE MAKING...

Congratulations to the ten students who were selected for Auckland representative rugby teams in their various age groups: Martin Moala, Zubayr Smith, Thomas Schaumkel, Carlos Benseman, Kalen Weir, James Unu, Alex Mataia and Donald Tuimoana, as well as Milan Pickering and Lolo Onesemo (not pictured).





## NETBALL



We would like to take this opportunity to thank every parent, aunt, uncle, nana, poppa and any other supporters who managed to get to a netball match this season.

The Avondale netball teams have had a very successful season, with the top three senior teams reaching the top of their grades. This success culminated in the Premier one team qualifying to go to Nationals in Timaru these holidays.

Many people have given lots of hours coaching, managing, umpiring and supporting the girls across the grades, which has been great.

A big thank you from all of the girls.

Girls, I would like to say what a fantastic season and well done on your results this year. I am very proud that you have extended Avondale College's reputation as a strong netball school in Auckland.

Staff, I could not have completed this season without your tireless help and commitment. You have my sincerest gratitude and thanks.

Families, great work and thanks for supporting your girls. I know it is not always easy transporting and motivating your girls at times, but well done.

Mrs M Aldridge  
TIC Netball

## AVCOL NETBALLERS MAKE NATIONALS

A great performance in the Upper North Island Secondary Schools' netball tournament means Avondale College's Premier Netball team will be heading to Timaru in October to compete in the Nationals for the first time in nearly ten years.

"Elated" was how Maureen Aldridge, Teacher in Charge of Netball at Avondale College, described the mood of the girls following their success in the tournament. Avondale came away with a second placing, losing only to current national champions, MAGS, in the final.

Avondale's Premier team has been going from strength to strength, with their latest achievement following closely on their top placing in the Western Zone competition.

Coach Chrissy Solomon says she is extremely proud of the girls, and what they have achieved. "Our team unity has got us this far, and it's going to take us even further," she says.

"The girls focused really well on their games, and really appreciated the support of other teams who cheered them on – especially Saint Kentigern's College and Tauranga Girls."

Fa'amu Ross (Goal Defense) was selected for the tournament team. This is yet another recognition for the Year 12 student who travelled to Adelaide with the New Zealand Secondary Schools team in April.

Avondale College won the National title in 2002, but this is the first time they will have competed nationally since 2003.







Scholarship winners: Logan van Gills and Daniel Mettam

The sporting prowess of two of our students, Daniel Mettam (motorbike racing) and Logan van Gills (judo) was recognised at the 2012 Don Oliver Youth Sports Awards in August. The 15th annual event saw 16 young West Auckland sportsmen and sportswomen awarded scholarships to help them continue accomplishing their dreams.

Sixteen year old Daniel Mettam was one of only three recipients of the prestigious gold award, worth \$5,000 – a superb achievement for the young motorbike racer who also won a silver scholarship last year. Racing since he was 13, Daniel placed second in the New Zealand 125cc motorbike championships and third in the 250cc class this year.

Also receiving an award on the night was Year 11 student Logan van Gills, whose success in judo saw him winning a bronze scholarship worth \$2,000.

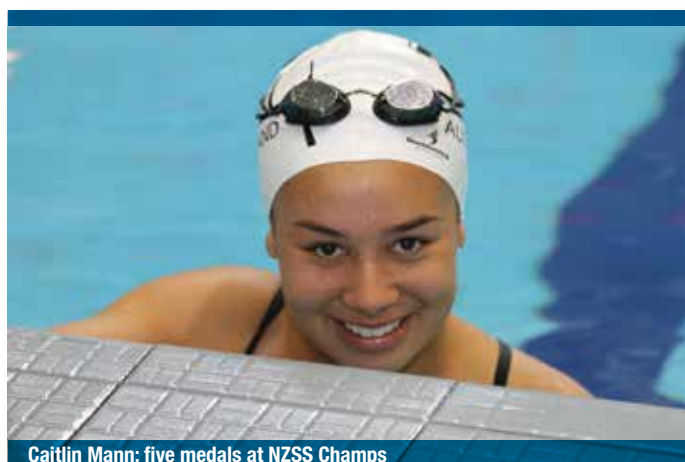
Both boys will put their scholarship prize money towards equipment that will help them further their sport.

Year 10 student Caitlin Mann has spent a lot of time in the water since her dad taught her to swim in her primary school pool. These days she's typically up at 5.00am for training before school, then back to the pool at 5.00pm for more. Spending between two to four hours training each day is no problem to Caitlyn, "I love doing it," she says. "I'm really competitive!"

It's a six day a week routine, and it's clearly working for the 14 year old, as she continues to achieve national rankings in swimming.

Most recently Caitlin won five medals (two golds and three silvers) in the New Zealand Secondary Schools competition. Her next meet happens during the holidays at the National Age Group Championships in Wellington where she has qualified for six races in her age group: 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke, and 100m, 200m and 400m individual medley.

"I'm ranked in the top 4-ish," she says, "so I'm really aiming for a medal!" She's looking forward to watching the other swimmers in the events. "It's exciting seeing the older racers – they way they get themselves ready. I like watching and learning."



Caitlin Mann: five medals at NZSS Champs

## SPORTS ACADEMY

It has been another busy term for all students and staff involved with Avondale College's Sports Academy.

We congratulate three of our hockey players, Jade Conlon, Maddison Conlon and Rushlee Pearce on their selection for U15 Auckland representative teams and wish them well in their upcoming U15 National Hockey Tournaments.

Congratulations too to the Year 9 recipients of the Term 3 Sports Academy INSPIRE Awards. They will be presented with their award in the first Year 9 assembly of Term 4.

The trial date for prospective applicants for next year's intake of the Sports Academy is Friday 9th November 2012. Contact Mr P Smith, [smp@avcol.school.nz](mailto:smp@avcol.school.nz) for more information about applications and trials.

### Term 3 INSPIRE Awards

**Karel Graham – Basketball**  
**Zac Scholes – Cricket**  
**Hamish Chand – Football**  
**Jade Conlon – Hockey**  
**Ota Akeli – Netball**  
**Andrew Drummond – Rugby**





## CAREERS DEPARTMENT

The Pathways Planning Evening held on 9 August was an excellent opportunity for students and their parents to get assistance with option choices and tertiary planning from departments in the school and tertiary and education providers.

Key speakers this term for Year 12 and 13 students have included Studylink and key tertiary providers for course planning.

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

The Gateway programme has continued to provide students with extremely valuable experiences as they have worked through their possible career options.

Congratulations to all of our successful 2012 students who have now completed their work placements so as to be able to fully concentrate on their upcoming exams in Term 4.

### GATEWAY success in 2012 includes...

- NZQA Record of Learning - Students have gained between 10 and 41 NCEA credits this year
- Part-time Work - All of our students are in a much better position to get work, with over 40% of our students having been offered part time work
- Apprenticeships - Congratulations to both Scott Dalzell and Jacob Smith who have confirmed apprenticeships for 2013, Scott at Kelvin Armstrong Auto Repairs, and Jacob at Axis Projects.

### Applications have now closed for 2013.

For more information please visit or collect a brochure from the Gateway Office (behind reception) or visit the school website.

**Karen Osborne, Gateway Coordinator**

[zosk@avcol.school.nz](mailto:zosk@avcol.school.nz)

## GATEWAY



Apprentices in the making: Jacob Smith



Scott Dalzell

Careers Counsellors can be contacted on the following numbers:

Jacqui Birkhead / Jo Thomson  
Judith Johnson

820 1729  
828 7024 ext 556

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012

### Term 4

#### OCTOBER

- 24 Year 11 Drama 7pm
- 25 Best of the Best Film Night
- 26 Sports Awards Dinner
- 31 Dance Show in Theatre

#### NOVEMBER

- 6 SENIOR PRIZEGIVING
- 7 Junior Exams (7-12 Nov)
- 10 NCEA Exams begin (10 Nov - 5 Dec)
- 21-22 Performing Arts Academy 7pm in Theatre and Drama suite

#### DECEMBER

- 3 Teacher Only Day
- 12 Big Day In (Year 9) Big Day Out (Year 10)
- 13 JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING and end of term

## 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

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