

# WENTWORTH COLLEGE

---

# BULLETIN

ISSUE 21

AUGUST 2012

Wentworth College, 65 Gulf Harbour Drive, Gulf Harbour, Whangaparaoa

Tel: 09 424 3273

Email: [enquiries@wentworth.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@wentworth.school.nz)

Website: [www.wentworth.school.nz](http://www.wentworth.school.nz)



The governance of Wentworth school by the Trust Board is encapsulated in the Wentworth Founding Document and associated Mission Statement. The focus is clear; Wentworth is first and foremost an academic school. Academic achievement based on each child's ability is central to Wentworth's school culture.

These documents have ensured that the 'Wentworth philosophy' has endured through our first ten years as members of our school community and as Board of Trustees come and go. This structure gives current parents, as well as prospective parents, certainty of the ethos, culture and quality of education at Wentworth.

Wentworth College offers the best of a traditional education with emphasis on core values and disciplines (as outlined in our school prospectus). These filter through all spheres of College life. We aim to blend proven, successful educational beliefs into an educational environment that prepares our students to be resilient, high achievers in a world that is driven by rapidly changing technologies.

The cognitive demands of the Cambridge International Examination system have indeed raised the effort and motivation of all senior students. 2011 Head Girl, Julia Tillet, visited recently during the Otago University holidays. She commented on how amazingly well prepared she was for university having studied under the Cambridge system.



"We are way ahead of students that did not study CIE; we are used to deadlines, we know how to study and are comfortable with exams."

Alongside our high academic expectations of our students is the importance we place on student involvement in co-curricular activities such as sport, music, drama and the outdoor education programme. This is an integral component of school life at Wentworth. We aim to demonstrate to our students that developing skills in many areas enhances the quality of their lives. Young people respond well to this range of challenges and in all activities, both within and outside the classroom, we expect and see in our students a high level of personal conduct, uniform presentation and behaviour. We are as proud of our students as they are of their school.

## Our Mission Statement:

*"The mission of Wentworth is to create an outstanding co-educational school where every student is educated to achieve their full potential: to create opportunities, expand horizons, reward effort, stimulate imagination, and encourage excellence in an efficient, disciplined, caring and supportive environment: to foster equity, respect, self worth and inter-personal skills, so ensuring each student makes a life long positive contribution to society."*

As I review Term 2 activities and reflect on the 2011 Cambridge examination results and the recent mid-year examinations, it is pleasing to confirm that these founding documents are indeed working. Our students are fully immersed in the academic and co-curricular facets of Wentworth.

A recent school analysis indicated that over 70% of our student body are representing Wentworth College in a sport. This is an outstanding statistic when the average number of students involved in sports across New Zealand State Schools is only 52%. On top of this operates a comprehensive and competitive inter-House sports competition that promises more exhilarating activities at lunchtime this term with Volleyball and Badminton matches planned for the next few weeks.

Our students make the most of their time on campus and I am especially pleased to acknowledge the problem we recently encountered, of ensuring that the growing number of clubs and activities that occur at lunchtime and after school did not overlap. These clubs include Debating, Drama, Spanish, Maths, Chess, Art, Homework and Science Clubs. Activities such as Orchestra, Choir, the Duke of Edinburgh programme, the Adventure Club and also our wide range of sports, offer our students and parents the chance to participate in education outside the classroom.

Wentworth College is a school that has established some very fine traditions in both the classroom and co-curricular areas. I am pleased to see that the students who are currently enrolled and studying here are making the most of the wide range of opportunities offered to them.

**Bruce Tong**  
Principal





# PRIMARY SCHOOL



This year Wentworth Primary School again hosted the Hibiscus Coast Primary Interschool Hockey Competition. Twelve primary schools took part. The day was perfect for being outdoors and the hockey was outstanding. Our Year 5 and 6 students, coached by Mr Donovan and senior students from the College, put in a very creditable performance to finish fourth overall - an outstanding achievement given our school size. Sincere thanks to Wentworth College Year 13 students, Alexandra Murden and Samantha Bishop.



This term's trip to the Museum of Transport and Technology proved very educational. All the lessons on Flight that had been carried out at school were reinforced while taking part in the MOTAT lessons and in observing the displays. Of particular interest was the wind tunnel.



## COLLEGE STUDENTS ASSIST THE PRIMARY PROGRAMME

This term Primary School pupils have again been involved in a number of activities run by senior students from the College. After the Primary trip to the Museum of Transport and Technology where they studied 'Flight', the senior Physics class visited Wentworth Primary to assist students with making model gliders. The Primary pupils were put in groups, each with a couple of physicists to help them. The task involved making a glider out of paper and cardboard. The gliders were flown in a competition held in the gymnasium.

An extension Art programme has also been in operation throughout the term. Jaimee Morley and Emma Groos have used their lunchtimes each Friday to help enthusiastic Primary School artists create magnificent three-dimensional fish. The pupils have been working with pastels, card and stencils and have thoroughly enjoyed the process.

*Georgia Nixon – Prefect in Charge of Primary Liaison*





# MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS

For IGCSE, AS and A2 classes the mid-year examinations mark the half-way point to their formal Cambridge finals. It is a chance for teachers and students to check progress and determine what may need to be done to ensure everything is on track. For the junior students the examinations are a vital experience in preparing for and sitting formal tests and also an opportunity to check what has been learned throughout the semester. Cambridge examinations vary in length from one hour to three hours, depending on the components within a subject. The school examinations often reflect this. AS Science students are also required to sit practical examinations.



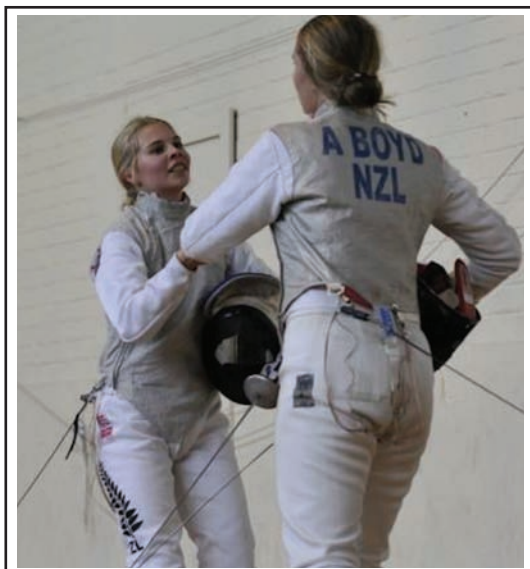


# CROSS COUNTRY 2012

This year's Cross Country Cup was again enthusiastically contested.

Results were as follows:

1st	McDonald House	762
2nd	Fleming House	716
3rd	Findlay House	432



## Fencing

The final for Auckland Secondary School Fencing Championships was held during the term. The Secondary Schools Competition was made up of several competitions where different schools fenced against each other. It was attended by Saint Kentigern College, Massey High School, Epsom Girls' Grammar School and Auckland Grammar School, to name a few. Wentworth's Natalie Dunn won Gold in the Women's Foil, while both Jurgens van Zyl and Joe Pearson made it into the final 8 for Men's Foil.

Jurgens also attended the Australian Under 17 Championships in Sydney in the first week of the holidays. He fenced with foil and epee in both individual and team events. His best results were 6th place in epee and his team won a silver medal. The competition was very well attended by about 80 fencers from Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.



## AS Economics/Business Wellington Trip

In the final week of term the Year 12 Economics and Business students travelled to Wellington to take their studies outside the classroom for a few days.

After arriving in Wellington the group went to the Weta Cave where they were shown a DVD about the growth of Weta from its humble beginnings to its present position as a world leader in movie production and special effects. After the DVD, students were able to view various props and models in the museum including Gollum from the Lord of the Rings trilogy.

Economics students visited the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) where they were given a presentation about the role of the RBNZ and then a tour of the museum featuring many interesting exhibits including:

- One million dollars worth of \$50 notes
- Samples of early currency in New Zealand
- Some counterfeit notes
- An impregnable safe door
- An interesting machine invented by famous NZ Economist Bill Philips' simulating the flow of money around an economy (using water).

After the tour the students were taken to the dealing room where they could see RBNZ currency traders trading various currencies around the world.

The economists also visited Treasury. Treasury give advice to the government on how to control its finances. They give information to the government on important policy issues such as tax changes and the partial sale of government assets.

Students were given a task where they were allocated \$500m of government funds and then had to justify where they would allocate this money.

Our Business students were given a tour of Westpac Stadium from a business perspective. Among other things, they were informed about the cost of the stadium, how it was funded, and the revenue it earns from various games, concerts and hospitality events.

Business students also visited the Supreme Court of New Zealand. They were impressed by the ultra-modern new building with its high tech acoustics and electronics systems. They had a tour of the old High Court building which was very dark and foreboding in comparison, especially down in the holding cells which still have obscene graffiti on their walls.

All students came together for a parliamentary tour. The tour guide gave a lecture on how the parliamentary system works, then it was off to observe the House in session. The students enjoyed watching the action in the debating chamber and commented that some of the behaviour was far worse than they would see in a school. Later, the Speaker of the House, Dr Lockwood Smith, entertained our group in the Speaker's Lounge which has hosted dignitaries such as Hillary Clinton and the King and Queen of Spain.

The trip was informative, educational and enjoyable and, best of all, enabled the students to see some real life examples of what they learn in class.

*Mr Paul Langdon, Teacher of Economics & Business Studies*



## International Students

A number of international students are undertaking their studies at Wentworth. Their cultural contribution to the school is appreciated and they are likewise privileged to enjoy the learning environment that is offered here. Part of the international student programme is to take ESOL (English as a Second Language) classes with Ms Pallares, Mr Ansell or Mr Wackrow.





## Duke of Edinburgh Awards

A group of seven students took part in the Silver practice trip to the Waitakeres this term. The trip involved camping out for two nights in tents. The walk along the coastline from Whatipu right up to Bethells Beach was quite interesting with a variety of terrains. The highlight of the trip for everyone was the wonderful cafe stop at Piha halfway through. It was hard to remember that we were supposed to be on a rugged tramping trip!



## Staff vs Students Basketball

The large audience turnout for the annual Staff versus Students Basketball Exchange generated an exciting atmosphere. With equally strong teams the competition was fierce. Congratulations to the staff – once again experience overcame the exuberance of youth.



## Modern Pentathlon World Championships

Rome, May 2012

I really enjoyed the Pentathlon MMXII World Champs in Rome. The competition was really great and I learnt a lot about the level of training and skill that the athletes have in other countries. It was a fantastic opportunity to be able to both watch and compete and it was a great learning experience for me to go. I was also surprised at how friendly, generous and tolerant all the athletes and other people associated with Pentathlon were. The city of Rome itself is a very beautiful and incredibly interesting place. I was fortunate enough to do some sight-seeing. We went on three different tours in Rome and visited (amongst other places) the Colosseum and Vatican City. I threw a coin over my shoulder into the Trevi Fountain, just to make sure that I will return to Rome one day!

*Jurgens van Zyl, Year 12*





## Wentworth Fundraising for Charities

The following are the results of student initiatives this term:

### World Vision

Along with the famine activity, a multi-day was held. So far the school has raised \$900.00. Brianna Stockhausen raised \$219.40 with her 40 hour famine.

### Birdwing

David, Abbey and Nicole organised this fundraiser. Over \$300 was raised from a bake sale. They also collected food. Birdwing Rescue is run by Bronwyn, who cares for injured birds.

### Pink Ribbon Day

Alana, Olivia and Sarah made over 120 scones and other items for the Pink Ribbon "High Tea" held at the Gulf Harbour Yacht Club. Four thousand dollars was raised for the cause. The girls also served the guests and were excellent ambassadors for Wentworth.

The Peter Blake Leadership Charity is being considered for fundraising efforts next term.



### FOODS TEST

An interesting test in Food Studies required the Year 7 and 8 students to try and identify 40 different vegetables and then indicate if they could be frozen or not. The top student got 34 correct.







## Rowing

The winter rowing programme is under way with the successful three-day camp held on the Weiti River during the recent school holidays.



## Sailing

The Wentworth Sailing Team was one of 28 school teams who took part in the 2012 Secondary Schools Team Sailing Nationals held at Algies Bay. Schools from all around the country travelled to take part in this event - 28 teams, 200 students.

The teams sailed 3 round-robin events and a finals series over the 5 days of the regatta. Wentworth was placed 14th overall. This was an extremely successful regatta considering it is only our 2nd year competing.

### The team consisted of:

Boat 1 - Matthew Hughes (captain) and Mollie Durey

Boat 2 - Cameron Hughes and Rachael McFarlane

Boat 3 - Liam Herbert and Will Taylor

Matthew Hughes also competed in the Starling Nationals held at the Murrays Bay Sailing Club on the North Shore.

The fleet was the largest this event has attracted in many years with over 120 sailors taking part. Matthew was leading the regatta at the half way stage and so won the cup for the qualifying series. He won 4 of his 12 races over the 4 day regatta and finished in 4th place. He also won the Starling Travellers Series where points from 9 regattas sailed throughout the season are accumulated.



## Transit of Venus

During the term Mr Muller, Head of Science, managed to photograph the Transit of Venus. He used special light filters and took the photograph from outside the Science Laboratory. Co-incidentally, the Year 7 Social Studies class had been discussing Captain Cook's visit to the South Pacific in order to observe this transit in 1769.

This term three of our music students, Oliver Down, Daniel Lindsay and Keegan Panckhurst, together with Matt McClusky from Orewa College, formed the heavy metal rock group 'Anastasis.' They entered the Smokefree Rockquest Competition and did exceptionally well. After battling against 60 other bands, they made it into the top 12 and then competed in the Regional Finals at the Bruce Mason Centre on June 23rd.

## Music

