

WENTWORTH College & Primary School

BULLETIN

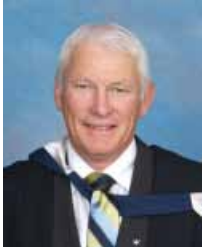


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We expect a great deal of our students at Wentworth and it is always exciting to see young people rise to a challenge and succeed. Student learning is at the forefront of our full and vibrant College programme but we also want our students to learn to enjoy and manage the demands of school activities such as debating, music, Stage Challenge, Duke of Edinburgh trips, the

winter sports programme, inter-House competitions, school trips and camps. There is no doubt that the academic work load and expectations are significant for our students and this requires careful management of time. However, subject teachers, Deans and tutor teachers give guidance to students, working with them to assist each child to ensure that these skills are developed and the work load is manageable and, most importantly, that the student achieves her/his best results.

The recent mid-year examinations and school report portrays a clear picture for students and parents of academic performance and achievement. The feedback gained from these "check points" provides valuable information to help set a pathway forward for the second semester. To best assist students we encourage frequent communication between home and school. Our teachers are available to meet with parents and communicate with them to help ensure we provide the most appropriate educational service possible.

The Wentworth Trust Board's founding document focusses on a philosophy of providing a quality traditional education, with a school culture that promotes excellence in academic education for all our students no matter their academic ability and potential. We aim to blend proven, successful educational beliefs and practices where teachers develop positive learning relationships with their students.

Term 3 is the start of the second semester and is an important time in the school year. It needs to be a positive and productive time for all students and their teachers. Our senior students have to focus on working towards completing their academic courses and preparing for their Cambridge examinations that commence at the start of Term 4. Our junior students are in the midst of their academic programmes as well as some exciting opportunities with the AIMS and Zone sports tournaments as well as enrichment activities like the Library Roadshow.

Variety in Cambridge International Examinations

Although Cambridge International Examinations usually involve students sitting challenging written examinations

at the end of the year, many courses include a range of assessments that contribute to the student's overall result.

Using a variety of assessment types helps students recognise their learning style and best reach their potential. Many students like the rigour of an external examination written in our College Hall and marked in England at Cambridge University. However, some subjects also have practical assessments as well that form part of the student's final grade: Besides the written papers, AS Biology, AS Chemistry and AS Physics have timed practical experiments the students complete in the laboratories.

The AS and A Level Physical Education courses include challenging examination papers as well as videoed practical performances. Our students use a number of sports of their choice, as well as everyone completing a snowboarding assessment in Queenstown.

IGCSE and A2 English use writing portfolios as part of their assessments, as well as many hours of externally marked examinations.

30% of the AS Tourism course involves the students applying their learning by planning a tourist excursion, completing all the documentation and then taking peers as "tourists" on the journey. Students enrolled in Cambridge Music courses have to video their musical performances so that these can be graded in England, as well as sit examinations on theory and listening to set music pieces. At A Level they also compose music which is marked at Cambridge University.



Of course, the practical Art subjects have boards of creative work which the students produce during the year as well as further examination boards prepared under timed conditions. This can mean some students will produce up to 10 large boards of their own work by the end of the year, as well as a written folio explaining their work.

The Cambridge International Examinations offer a range of assessment options for our students in their different subjects. However, no-matter how the course is assessed, what each subject has in common, is that everything is marked by impartial examiners at Cambridge University who compare the performance of our students against those candidates from the rest of the world – the 160 countries and 10,000 schools that use this renowned system.

Primary School Highlights

Years 1-3 Intensive Swim Programme

The Years 1-3 students attended a 6 day intensive swim training programme held at the Stanmore Bay Leisure Centre. All students developed water confidence and made excellent progress in developing their water skills.

Years 5/6 Interschool Hockey

Wentworth Primary hosted the Years 5/6 Annual Interschool Hockey Tournament for 12 of the local primary schools. The day showcased a stunning display of hockey skills, great sportsmanship and everyone had fun.

School Disco

The annual school disco is a fund raiser for the Wentworth Primary World Vision Sponsorship of Sindy who lives in Honduras. Students and parents boogied and danced the night away. Items kindly donated by local businesses were raffled which all helped to raise \$1400.00 for Sindy.

Museum Visit

The whole school visited the Auckland Museum as part of their Social Science topic of New Zealand's involvement in World Wars One and Two. The visit saw students dressing up in costume, using trench periscopes and listening to recounts of soldiers who served in these wars.

Wellington Trip

The Year 6 students visited Wellington for a busy and exciting two days. Their trip included visiting Parliament, watching the presentation of the 2014 Budget, lunching in the Caucus room, meeting local MP Mark Mitchell, as well as visiting Te Papa, the National Library and Weta Workshop. A fantastic time was had by all.

Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Challenge

The whole school became involved in Jamie Oliver's "Food Revolution Day". This provided opportunities for our student's to expand their cooking skills so that they may lead healthier, fuller lives, and unite with the world so that everyone can see the joy in cooking. It was delicious!



AS Travel and Tourism Trip to Eden Park

On Friday June 20th fifteen Year 13 students and three teachers went to Eden Park to watch the 3rd – 4th playoff and final of the Junior Rugby World Cup. The trip was fully organised and run by three Year 13 students from the AS Travel and Tourism class as part of their course work project. The trip provided some of the students with a new experience as they had never been to Eden Park and many had never been to a live rugby game.

The group departed school at 2.30pm to go to Burger Fuel in Albany for lunch before getting on one of the buses supplied specifically to transport people to and from Eden Park to watch the games.

On arrival at the venue front row seats were acquired and the group watched the playoff where New Zealand won against Ireland. They then stayed on for the final where England beat South Africa. The atmosphere in the stadium was contagious.

Overall it was a thoroughly enjoyable trip, especially because of the camaraderie amongst the Wentworth students.

Rachael, Chris, and Cullen.



Fabric Design

A fashion icon, the Tee-shirt with an applied design, was the brief for the Year 9 Fabrics students in Term 2. Students rose well to this challenge and completed some colourful, abstract and topical designs on their shirts. Their inspirations were fuelled by fashion, hobbies, movies, sports, and creative ability. The students felt very proud of their results.

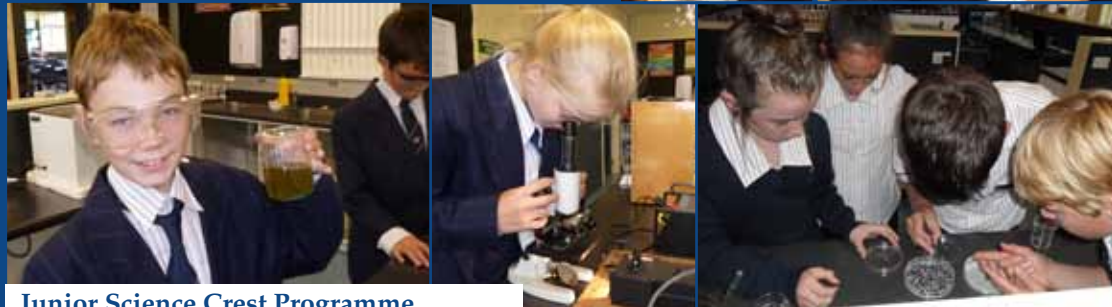


Students attending the NZSO concert on Friday, 20 June, 2014 in the Auckland Town Hall

“Brilliant!” “Awesome.” “An evening to remember.” “Phenomenal.” “Erudite.”

This was the response of a group of senior students that Dr Ferreira took to the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra’s performance of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 4 and No. 5. The concert formed part of a special series in which all nine symphonies by Beethoven were performed on four consecutive days.

Hearing such an admired work performed live in concert by an orchestra as skilled as the NZSO is an experience beyond description. In the words of NZSO Music Director, Pietari Inkinen: “Music transforms our minds and heightens our emotions. It takes us to unique and extraordinary places.” Certainly our students concurred with this viewpoint.



Junior Science Crest Programme

Some of the junior school budding scientists have been involved in the CREST Award over Term 2 which has involved growing crystals. They have been experimenting with different surfaces, different chemicals and different growing conditions to create a range of crystals. Several students have almost completed their Bronze Crest Award and are working hard to achieve this.

It is exciting to see the Years 7 and 8 students enjoying quality time in the laboratories with senior students and a teacher assisting them to develop an interest in the sciences.





STAGE CHALLENGE



Video

Our Stage Challenge entry was bigger and better this year. Unlike other schools' focus, our students chose the ANZAC theme to commemorate 100 years since the start of World War One. The dances were centred round families farewelling their fathers and husbands who left for the front. Soldiers marched in heavy woollen authentic military uniforms and later returned wounded without one of their number who had been killed in action. Then vibrant red poppies danced to console his family and the moving spectacle ended with a sombre remembrance of all who sacrificed their lives for their families and us. Wentworth College's entry was highly praised, including a special mention from our local MP Mark Mitchell because we were by far the smallest school competing. Interestingly Wentworth had nearly 50% of its students involved in Stage Challenge in some role and 55 of them danced on the stage.

- The group was awarded:
- Excellence in Choreography
 - Excellence in Stage Use
 - Excellence in Soundtrack

The choreographers were Jayde Kelly, Olivia Harter and Sarah Haggerty who had been working on the dances since the summer holidays and practising with all the students since the first few weeks of Term 1. Ingrid Boot, whose daughter – Mia - was in the Challenge, spent hours painting the dramatic set, other mothers helped with make-up and costumes, Mrs Gamble assisted in developing the drama and Mrs Elliott was, once again, the overall teacher in charge of making the props, organising everyone and everything in this wonderful event. Wentworth ended the night exhausted but well pleased with their performance.



YEAR 7-8 CAMP

Wentworth College Years 7 and 8 students spent a week 'overseas' on Motutapu Island for a winter camp. After the students unloaded a mountain of luggage from the ferry they walked 1.5 hours to the campsite. The weather was wet and windy with sometimes torrential rain but, when the sun came out, it was just lovely.

Students undertook a wide range of activities that pushed them to their limits and beyond. They explored gun emplacements and tunnels, climbed high ropes and low ropes in harnesses, played Frisbee golf and took on the challenging confidence course. 3 groups successfully made rafts and paddled across the duck pond. There were lots of team building scenarios, building skills in leadership and communication. However, by far the favourite activity was the 'Flying Kiwi' where a student is put in a harness with a rope attached to their back while a team of their peers on the other end of the rope hauls them high into the air in a big swing.

Who said camp cannot be fun in the cold of winter?



ECONOMICS WELLINGTON TRIP

At the end of Term 2 the senior Economics students flew to Wellington to take their studies outside the classroom for a few days.

At Weta Cave they were shown a DVD about the growth of Weta from its humble beginnings to its present day position as a world leader in movie production and special effects. After the DVD, students were given a "Window into the Workshop" tour showing how various props were made for a range of movies.

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

- A million dollars 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 dealing in various currencies around the world.

At Treasury the students were given insight into its role in informing the government on important policy issues such as tax changes and the partial sale of government assets. It was interesting when the students were given a task where they had \$500m of government funds and had to justify where they would allocate this money.

Later the students toured Westpac Stadium, looking at it 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. They also visited the Supreme Court of New Zealand and were impressed by the ultra-modern new building with its high-tech acoustics and electronics systems. In contrast the tour of the old High Court building was very dark and foreboding, especially down in the holding cells which still had obscene graffiti.

The highlight for some was the tour of Parliament. The guide gave a mini-lecture on how the parliamentary system works before the students observed the House in session. Although enjoying watching the action in the debating chamber, most commented that some of the behaviour was far worse than they would see in a school!

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



HOCKEY ON THE RISE

Wentworth's hockey teams continue to grow in numbers and performance in 2014. We have fielded four teams this season, the most we have ever had.

The 2nd XI teams consist predominantly of younger players and are in a developmental year. Coached by senior students they are putting in some hard and promising matches.

The girls 1st XI are now playing up in grade 2 and holding their own against bigger North Shore teams. The boys 1st XI are now in grade 1A, the highest grade ever for Wentworth teams. Games have been tough and sometimes challenging against these well drilled and larger schools but the boys are playing as best that they can.

Overall it's been a great season of hockey so far.



CROSS COUNTRY

Once again the challenging Shakespear Park with its high hills and spectacular views was chosen for the annual Cross Country. Final results were extremely close with only 6 House points separating first and second place. Fleming House won. The highlight of the day was complete when Cullen Rhind and McKenzie Wilton both broke school records.



Check out the Video



NETBALL

A big thank you to all of our coaches, managers and parents for all of the help they have put into our netball girls. A special thanks to everyone involved in Teams' 1 and 2 fundraising for their fabulous new Netball dresses, including all the parents who came to the Hypnotist Show towards the end of last term. The girls look fantastic, very professional and are very proud of their new uniforms. THANKYOU



SOCIAL AWARENESS.

Some people are quick to label "Generation Y" as self-centred but the students at Wentworth have shown that they have an eye out for others in need. During each term one of the College Houses chooses a charity to support. In Term 1 McDonald House chose Ronald McDonald House because of their work for unwell young people. The students also liked the similarity with their name. In Term 2 Findlay House sold food at school and at the Cross Country to raise money for Kids Canteen. In Term 3, Fleming House will select their charity – yet to be announced. Being a small school the sums raised have been around \$300 for each cause, but as anyone involved in charity work knows, anything is helpful and appreciated.

Prefect Madeline Woodd has co-ordinated larger social awareness amongst the student body and run a spectacular Shave for a Cure lunchtime event where over a thousand dollars was raised for Leukaemia Awareness. This was followed by the selling of ANZAC poppies, a wear RED mufti-day for Westpac Helicopter Rescue, and then the Forty Hour Famine. Term 3 will see the students being informed of another cause to learn about and support.

At the local level, Head Girl – Sarah Haggerty – and Deputy Head Girl – Lucy Murden – have assisted with the Weiti River planting and recruited other seniors to assist. Prefects Anna Riksen and Madeline Wood also had a number of senior girls model clothes in a Hospice Fundraiser.

It is pleasing to see young people acknowledging that they are fortunate in comparison to others, and being keen to take responsibility and assist in whatever way they can.

WESTPAC RESCUE

Thank you to all the students who participated in the fundraising for Westpac Rescue Helicopters. \$294 was raised through last week's whole school mufti day.



HOSPICE FASHION SHOW

Four of our students who volunteered their time to help raise funds for Hospice. Hospice are very grateful for your effort and support.



AQUATICS RIBBON DAY

Six Wentworth students are to be commended for giving up their time recently on a Saturday afternoon to help out with the Aquatics Ribbon Day for the Paralympics at the Leisure Centre: Olivia Harter, Corne Hendricks, Krista Fortzer-Bezar, Emma Ryder, Samuel Clarke & Kip Simpson. Over 100 students from all over Auckland as well as Waikato and Whangarei participated in the event and our Wentworth students helped out with time keeping and results. The organisers were most appreciative of the students being such a positive help and their willingness to help out the community.



WEITI WILDLINK PROJECT

Wentworth Senior College students have gone above and beyond as they generously gave up their free time on Saturday mornings to help out with others in the community to plant over 13,000 native trees to enhance the Weiti river banks.

