

WENTWORTH COLLEGE BULLETIN

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Wentworth College, 65 Gulf Harbour Drive, Gulf Harbour, Whangaparaoa
Tel: 09 424 3273 Email: enquiries@wentworthcollege.school.nz Website: www.wentworthcollege.school.nz

From the Principal

During Term 3, colleges throughout New Zealand will commence their enrolment process for the 2009 academic year. Parents, particularly with children at the Years 6 and 8 levels, are looking for an educational environment that will best suit their child's needs. Wentworth College certainly offers the Rodney community an educational alternative offering a high quality education.



Within the current challenging economic environment we continually strive to provide the best possible educational package for students. To this end teachers individually and collectively review, reflect and strive to provide that "point of difference".

The opportunity for parents to communicate with all staff at Wentworth is strongly encouraged. It is very important that students and parents can discuss with the school their child's academic and social development - an open environment that is not encouraged in all schools.

As we commence the 2009 recruitment process at Wentworth, it is important that we retain current students as well as continue to grow the school roll. As our numbers increase we have the ability to further develop our campus and increase our teaching faculty and further enhancing our curriculum opportunities. The next phase of facilities development will be the construction of an administration block which will allow the fit-out of four science laboratories, two further classrooms and a second art room. It is planned that this major development will be initiated when our roll reaches 300 students.

The Board are confident that parents will continue to select Wentworth as their preferred school of choice. We are committed to providing the highest possible quality of education within a sound traditional educational framework and we appreciate the continued support of parents in their commitment to Wentworth Primary and College.

B.P. Tong
Principal

Wentworth has experienced positive growth throughout the five years we have been open. Undoubtedly 'word of mouth' is our most successful recruitment tool. We receive many very positive comments from parents on how coming to Wentworth has significantly improved their child's attitude toward school and their academic performance. The last two ERO reports certainly reinforce these types of comments as well as highlighting the quality and academic success of the school.

Wentworth College's founding document identifies three main aspects of our philosophy:

- The delivery of a high quality education based on a rigorous and challenging curriculum.
- Student commitment and involvement in co-curricular activities, including sports and the arts.
- A traditional values system centred on excellent behaviour, incorporating high standards in all aspects of school life.

To achieve our goals we need to deliver quality teaching and learning. Wentworth's small class sizes, associated with specialist teachers, enable us to recognise and address the needs of individual students while providing an exciting curriculum with on-task and engaged students.

Cambridge Programme in Full Swing



From the commencement of Term 3 all Year 10 students will begin their IGCSE (Year 11) courses. This brings to fruition the Trust Board's plan that Wentworth College will offer Cambridge as a viable alternative to NCEA. The students in Year 10 will be studying English, Mathematics and Science as compulsory subjects and then have a choice to study three further subjects from Geography, Economics, Physical Education, Art, Music and Design Technology. Current students who are engaged in NCEA will continue through to gain their Level 3 certificate and University Entrance.



Drama

Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Drama Performance

Following our Sheilah Winn Shakespeare performance the judges' comments were full of glowing adjectives: Excellent, wonderful, powerful, fantastic, great, moving. We actually wondered how it was that we didn't win. It was pretty obvious, from their comments, that our whole cast has every reason to be proud of their performance on the day.



Debating

Wentworth prefect Sam Horner has continued his debating success as part of the Auckland Secondary Schools Representative Debating Team. Competing against Northland, Waikato, Canterbury and Wellington, his team defeated all except Waikato and Sam received a 'Highly Commended' at the prizegiving. This award was only given to three speakers nationally. Brad Ward, the President of the University of Auckland Debating Society described Sam as displaying 'a level of maturity and integrity rare for his age' and having an attitude that helped ensure his team was one of the most cohesive in the competition.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Chelsea Pratt following her trip to Sydney to compete in the Winter Solstice International Irish Dancing Championship. She placed 6th out of 50 boys and girls in her age group. She was the also the top NZ dancer in her age group. This was the top Australian competition for the year and Chelsea was up there with the three top Australian girls. She is now in training for the Auckland Championship in September and Nationals in Christchurch in October.

Junior Science

Ms Worthy's Science class have been studying chemical separation techniques and their intense experimentation with chromatography has produced some wonderful results.



Year 7 Social Studies

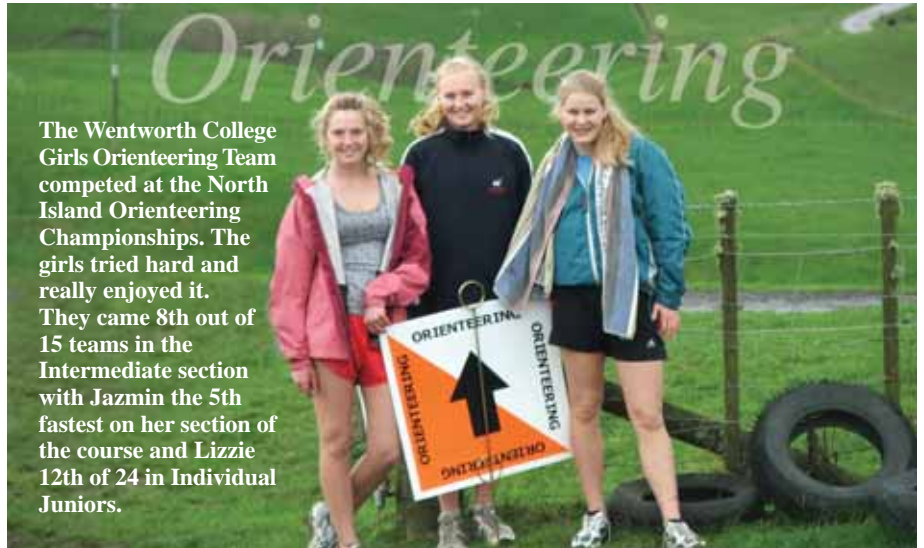
Year 7 students have been studying Ancient Egypt as part of their Social Studies course. Some wonderful tombs were created by the students and were displayed to the rest of the school at assembly.





Wentworth Lucca Leadership Course Italy 2008

Sam Horner and Freya Fortzer, our two scholarship winners for the Lucca Leadership course in Tuscany, have now returned to New Zealand. Sam reports that travelling to Lucca and attending the course was the best experience of his life. Sam spent some time in Milan after the course and Freya travelled to Holland to visit two past pupils of Wentworth, Lotje and Eefje van Schie who are completing their schooling in their home town.



The Wentworth College Girls Orienteering Team competed at the North Island Orienteering Championships. The girls tried hard and really enjoyed it. They came 8th out of 15 teams in the Intermediate section with Jazmin the 5th fastest on her section of the course and Lizzie 12th of 24 in Individual Juniors.

Mystery Creek Field Day

Year 11 Geography students spent a day in Hamilton last month attending the annual Mystery Creek Agricultural and Pastoral event. The weather was spectacular and the class were able to complete all their geography tasks and then enjoy the wonderful displays and events.



Year 12 Physical Education and Health Camp

Y12 PE and Health students undertook a three day camp during June last term. The camp involved tramping and camping overnight in the Waitakere Ranges. Both Mr Thompson and Mr Harris confirmed that the camp was a most successful event. Special awards for camp activities were presented at assembly.



Three athletes from Wentworth College fenced the National Championships in Epee and one for the foil competition. All three, Jazmin Hopper, Felix Mann and Gideon van Zyl fenced exceptionally well and did us proud.

Fencing

It was Jazmin and Felix's first national tournament and they gained a lot of valuable experience. Gideon won gold in Epee and silver in Foil. Gideon will participate in the Asian U/17 championships in October this year and also the Commonwealth Championships in January 2009.



Swimming Success for Bianca Rowley

Following Bianca's success in Melbourne where she won Bronze in the 14year old girls' 400 Individual Medley and 5th in the 200 Backstroke, she was chosen to represent New Zealand in a Trans Tasman Tri-Series competition in Australia. Only 20 swimmers were selected from New Zealand to attend.



Primary Sports Day

As part of Senior PE and Health, a junior sports programme was run by senior students in the College gymnasium. Sam Horner and Tim Wackrow organised and ran the primary programme that involved games and activities for a full morning of sport. This was thoroughly enjoyed by the primary students and we congratulate Sam and Tim for organising such a successful programme."

Teacher/Parent/Student Soccer Match

Final score, Teachers & Parents - 6, Students - 4.

Soccer



Pentathlon

Gideon van Zyl, Amanda van Zyl and Jazmin Hopper attended the Australian Championships for Modern Pentathlon on 21 June in Melbourne Victoria. This was the first full event of show-jumping, swimming, pistol shooting, fencing and running to be attempted by New Zealand Pentathlon athletes. These athletes have been training for approximately six months and gave the Australian athletes a run for their money bringing home 1st in Youth Men's for Gideon, 3rd in Youth Women for Jazmin and 3rd in the Senior Woman's section for Amanda. These were amazingly close results against well-seasoned athletes with the girls only just missing out on 2nd position and all New Zealand athletes winning some individual sections outright in horse-riding, fencing and running.



Year 13 Triathlon

Jin Bang - I am loving being in the Wentworth Junior Basketball team. I have scored goals for my team, so I am proud of myself. I am learning electric guitar and it is really cool! I am making good friends and learning lots of English. ESOL class is lots of fun. I love the All Black Team and the New Zealand landscape.

Cecelia Jung - I am missing being in Korea with my family, but I like learning at Wentworth College, especially studying Fabrics with Mrs Cowie. We are making a tie dyed bag, and it is really fun!

Alice Park - I like making a tie-dyed bag in Fabrics and learning the Cello with my tutor teacher. I am learning to speak English, but I found the exams a little difficult. ESOL class is fun and we are writing lots of stories and reading lots of cool books.

ESOL Class

Our Experiences so far!



Peer Support

Senior students undertook a holiday course in Peer Support organised and run by Mrs Davies. The course enables seniors to recognise and assist younger students who may be having trouble with their work or facing problems with other members of their peer group.



Year 9 Electronics

Mrs Beetham's Year 9 electronics class used their newly acquired electronics knowledge to adapt soft toys. Electronic components were surgically added to soft toys to enhance them in various ways!!



Wonderful cooking smells have been drifting from the Foods Room the entire term. Mrs Cowie and the Year 11 Foods class have been concocting healthy and tasty recipes as part of the NCEA standards requirement.



Foods

Wentworth Presents ...

Special thanks go to Head Girl Bridget Busfield and Prefect Ryan Garnett for organising this year's talent show "Wentworth Presents". There was strong competition particularly in the musical talent dimension. The Primary and College students were entertained with wonderful singing, comedy skits and skilful activities. The show concluded with a "Quiz" Competition presented by some brave Year 11 students.



Bridge Building

Model bridge building proved a popular activity this term with our Year 8 students. Various equipment was used to construct different bridges to span specified gaps. The students enjoyed testing the strength of their constructions.



Music News



On Thursday May 8th the Junior Choir participated in the Suzanne Prentice 'Kids for Kids' Concert at the Bruce Mason Centre. There were 43 Wentworth students involved which comprised of the primary school and students from years 7 to 9. Our students sang with over 500 other students from the Auckland north area. The theme of the show was 'Shake Rattle and Roll' and students thoroughly enjoyed singing the songs which included Spoonful of Sugar, Beach Boys Medley, Elvis Medley and Can You Feel The Love Tonight. The Junior Choir did exceptionally well and we were particularly proud of Scott Purdy who was selected as a soloist for the song Don't Rubbish the Children. The Junior Choir has since risen in numbers to 65! We are now preparing for the Combined Schools Christmas Concert in December.

Advanced Choir

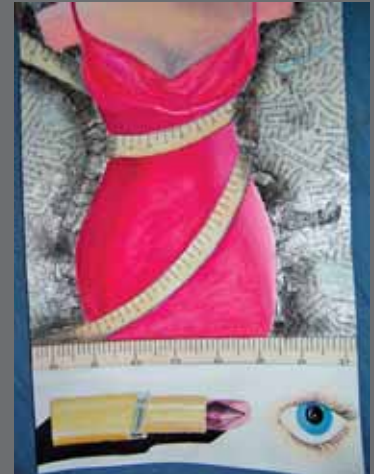
The Advanced Choir recently attended a day of auditions for "The Big Sing" at The Auckland Town Hall. This is a competition run by the NZ Choral Society which sees all the top secondary school choirs from around NZ compete for the coveted prize. We had decided that we would not enter this year, but work towards it for 2009. We did sneak along though to have a look at the competition and get an idea of the standard expected of us.

We were amazed by some of the talent on display, but were also encouraged that we will be able to meet the required standard by next year. The day was fantastic. Highlights included the incredible sound quality of some of the choirs, and the remarkably unusual 'Bird Man' in Aotea Square during our lunch break who decided to come and join us for photos and a chat.

Upcoming 'Music Festival'

On Friday September 5th music students will be putting on a concert in the school hall. The Orchestra, Beginner Band, Rock Groups, Advanced Choir, various soloists and small ensembles will all be performing. It should be a wonderful evening with a wide range of music being performed from beginners to advanced pupils. There will be one show beginning at 7:00 pm and finishing at approximately 9:15 pm. After the concert, parents and guests will enjoy some wine and cheese while the students enjoy a sausage sizzle. Tickets for the show will become available closer to the date at \$8.00 per ticket. We look forward to seeing you there!

ART



On Wednesday 18th June Local Artist Valerie Cuthbert visited the Art Department. Valerie has held exhibitions of her work locally including the Pump House Gallery, Takapuna where she had a series of works entitled 'Roses'. Valerie works in a variety of media including, textiles, watercolour, acrylic and printing. She has painted extensively from the local environment. Students in Years 10, 11, 12 were able to see examples of Valerie's work and talk to her about her ideas, inspiration and the techniques she uses. They enjoyed the experience and Valerie's visit will help them develop their own work.