

WENTWORTH College & Primary School BULLETIN

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Mid-year examinations for all Year levels were the central focus for teachers and students during Term 2. School reports and teacher-parent interviews provided an excellent "check point" of achievement and classroom progress. All teachers and students can now prepare an action plan for the second semester. This is especially important for senior students as they lead into their Cambridge examinations that are sat throughout Term 4. Formal examinations, assessment data and reporting are important functions of Wentworth College's academic year and provide valuable feedback regarding student academic development to students, teachers and parents.

Wentworth students manage to balance academic work with the many sporting and cultural events and programmes that operate during the Term. The winter sports programme has been particularly successful this year with many teams leading their competitions. An update of results and progress of sports team was published in the 1st July e-newsletter which is on our website. Many teams have produced outstanding performances, demonstrating excellent skill levels and a positive competitive spirit. This is a credit to their coaches, managers and, of course, the athletes.

Term 2 finished on a "cultural" high with our entry and performance in the Auckland Secondary Schools' Stage Challenge which was performed in the Aotea Centre. Over 50 of our students were involved in creating a four-minute dance extravaganza. Our group was warmly received by a full house.

We also enjoyed a superb music concert which celebrated the wonderful musical talent of our students. Twenty-nine groups and soloists performed. The highlight was an outstanding performance by Year 12 student Matthias Balzat and his trio (the Sollertinsky Trio). Matthias's trio won the Auckland final of the NZCT Chamber Music Contest playing Shostakovich's Piano Trio No 2. Matthias playing cello, accompanied by piano and violin, performed outstandingly well with the audience "spell bound" and showing their appreciation with a much deserved standing ovation.

The Term 3 school calendar is already full of many exciting events. The first is the School Ball, held very early in the Term. This is a major highlight for our 'seniors'. The ball is being held at the Stamford Plaza Hotel in the city and I am sure our students will have a wonderful time. The School calendar is published on our website, www.wentworth.school.nz, and is frequently updated with information concerning upcoming events.

A major highlight of this year occurs over the weekend of the 30th and 31st of August when Wentworth will celebrate its 10th year of operation with a number of special events. We welcome all Wentworth alumni and their parents, as well as our current Wentworth community, to actively participate and help us celebrate this important milestone of the school. We have also launched a fund-raising programme towards the building of a "10th anniversary fence" to commemorate the occasion. We trust that the community will be supportive of our project. I am looking forward to reminiscing over past experiences with our current students and alumni, and discussing our exciting plans for the future.

Bruce Tong
Principal

Golden Success



Jaimee Morley, Dion Morley, Jessica Michael, Ms Worthy
Paris Theodosiou (not pictured)

On Sunday, 12th May, four ex-Wentworth pupils visited Government House in Auckland to be presented with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Challenge awards by New Zealand Governor General, Lt Gen Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae. Three of these students had undertaken the whole programme - Bronze, Silver and Gold - through Wentworth under the very capable guidance of teacher Cathy Worthy, while the other recipient had worked through Bronze and Silver at Wentworth and went on to complete his Gold overseas.

Jaimee Morley, 2012 Deputy Head Girl of Wentworth, said "Participating in the award programme challenged me in ways I had not considered. It has built a large base of skills that I will use throughout my life." Her brother, Dion Morley, believes the programme "taught me the value of service, not only to the community but to myself."



Primary School highlights Term 2

Undoubtedly the highlight for the term was the Year 6 trip to Wellington.

The itinerary was very tight and included a tour through Weta Workshop, the National Library and Te Papa Museum. Then a trip to Parliament, observing Parliament sitting, followed by a meeting with Rodney MP, Mark Mitchell.

There was a science excursion to the zoo that involved studying skeletal systems, vertebrates and invertebrates. Harold the Giraffe and Life Education visited the school and supported our science topic of the body, nutrition and body systems.

Interschool sports this term involved Wentworth Primary hosting the annual Years 5/6 Interschool Hockey Tournament. It was a wonderful day of hockey and competition. Wentworth came a creditable second in their division.

The Years 1-3 also participated in an intensive swimming programme hosted by the Leisure Centre. This programme was held over 6 days and helped the children develop better water skills and water confidence. The Leisure Centre staff were wonderful and cajoled the children along.

In May the Years 4, 5 and 6 students gave a musical recital during the College and Primary Assembly. Some of the College Prefects also helped organise a wonderful Teddy Bears' picnic that everyone enjoyed.



Hockey

For the third year running Wentworth Primary hosted the Year 5/6 Interschool Hockey Tournament. A total of 12 primary schools attended the tournament. Wentworth Primary students once again showed that they are more than capable of matching it with the numerically larger schools.



Wentworth Junior College

As Years 7, 8 and 9 are a time of enormous change for young people, being in a small school and kept busy with a range of worthwhile activities enables students to develop socially, physically, emotionally and intellectually.

Here's what has been happening this term:

- ✓ French classes began. Now students have the opportunity to learn both Spanish and French.
- ✓ Students completed their first half of the year specialist Technology classes in Food and Fabrics, Hard Technology and Art, and now begin their next course.
- ✓ All students sat examinations in each of their subjects; they learnt how to study and discovered how well they knew all that they had been taught.
- ✓ 50 students performed in Stage Challenge at the Aotea Centre in Auckland, dancing a storyline about a girl being accepted into a new school and uniting the different groups of "Dumb Blondes", "Geeks", "Sporty Types" and "Punks".
- ✓ Many of the junior students performed solo items or as members of groups, singing or playing an instrument in the College Music concert.
- ✓ Dance classes began for Years 7 and 8.
- ✓ Years 7 and 8 visited the Science Road Show, building on the lessons they already have in the laboratories at Wentworth.
- ✓ Winter sports started and most students were involved in our major teams in Netball, Basketball and Hockey.
- ✓ Inter-House sports continued at lunchtime with Netball and Volleyball tournaments.

"It was a fun term. We learnt a lot and the teachers really took care of us,"
says Keagan Modlin.



History Movie Club

History Movie Club has students heading to the welcoming warmth of C2 every lunch time. The club, which offers movies and TV shows with historical links, is run by Mrs Bell. Under her guidance, students get to choose what they want to watch from her vast collection of historically based movies and TV shows.

"Good Morning Vietnam" was the first movie of the term. It proved very popular as its excellent soundtrack and comic dialogue, coupled with the very serious events of the Vietnam War, had students transfixed. Other screenings have included "The Killing Fields" about Cambodia and, "M.A.S.H." based around the Korean War, as well as "Black Adder", "Australia", "Bugsy Malone" and "Hogan's Heroes".

The launch of the Movie Club marks the fact that Wentworth now offers History at both IGCSE and A.S Level. Mrs Bell said, "While some of the movies have direct links with the History curriculum, the main aim is to educate students about a range of historical events, while also fostering an enthusiasm and interest for studying History."

Movie Club will run throughout Term 3. New movies will start every Monday at lunch-time.

Curriculum Vitae Writing Course

The Whangaparaoa Rotary Club trialled a Curriculum Vitae writing and interview course with our Year 13 students. Initially the students learnt what to include in a good CV and then they each had a thirty minute mock interview with two or three Rotarians. Oral and written feedback was given to the students about how well they performed and what to do in order to improve. We are pleased that this will become an annual programme in the College.



Universities Visit

The Year 13 students have had the chance to meet with a number of university Liaison Officers this term to help them choose the right place to study in 2014. Auckland and Otago Universities have visited, as well as AUT and, for the first time, Monash University in Melbourne chose to come here because of the quality of our graduates. We look forward to seeing where the students choose and what degrees they enrol to study.



Musical Treat

On a cold June night there was welcome warmth in the College Hall for the Music Concert. We were able to enjoy the wide range of talent of our music students in the Primary school as well as the College. There were choral arrangements, musical groups as well as individual items on many instruments – piano being the most popular but also the trombone, clarinet, guitar and of course the drums. The skill level was high and this was especially evident with those students who were enrolled in the Cambridge International Examination classes. The proficiency of the performances showed what much practice and good tuition can achieve. The evening ended with a special performance from one of our students - Matthias Balzat - and his trio, the *Sollertinsky Trio*, playing Shostakovich's *Piano Trio No. 2*.



Stage Challenge

Almost one quarter of the College students danced in our Stage Challenge entry this year. Mrs Elliott and a team of student choreographers - Olivia Harter, Paige Skinner and Sarah Haggerty – drilled girls from Years 7 to 13 in a dance story-line about a new girl initially being rejected and then accepted into a school. The dancers were organised in groups of stereotypes: Geeks, Dumb Blondes, Sporty-types and Punks who each pushed Nadija Rowley (our Year 8 lead dancer) away until she managed to dance them all together into a united student body. Dramatic make-up, flamboyant costumes and memorable music added to the performance at Aotea Centre in Auckland. There was no doubt that it was an enjoyable activity and already there is talk of what will be the theme for our 2014 entry.



International Students' visit to Auckland Museum

Wentworth international students enjoyed a trip to the Auckland Museum on Wednesday, 24th May. Organised by International Prefect, Jerry Ren, the purpose of the outing was to give our international students an insight into New Zealand history. All enjoyed a walk through 1866 Auckland, the exhibition celebrating Sir Edmund Hillary's ascent of Mt Everest and, of course, the ever popular Weird and Wonderful exhibits. It was a great opportunity for the students to get to know each other better, practise their English and enjoy each other's cultures and interests. Thank you to Jerry for doing an excellent job of organising the trip.



Netball Fundraiser

Teams 1 and 2 Netballers have undertaken a fundraising drive to provide new netball dresses.

Recently they held a Chefs Toolbox evening. The fundraiser involved a Master-class cooking demonstration - A Risotto cooked in a Pressure Cooker, along with a stove top Pizza cooked in a Sauté pan. The Netballers then participated in cup-cake decorating showing off their creative flair. There was a lot of fun and participation from the audience on the night, with lots of give-aways and prizes donated by the Chefs Toolbox. As a result of ticket sales, product sales, commission and party bookings, over \$900 was raised.



Navquest 2013

A mixed Wentworth team braved the freezing (if dry) conditions at Tawharanui Regional Park in June to take part in Navquest - a series of outdoor adventure events organised by the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre. The students faced a 3 hour time challenge that saw them running to a series of marked co-ordinates over 1400 hectares of reserve. Our students performed well with their sportsmanship and team spirit.



Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze Waitakere Tramp

As we headed out on a two day tramp our packs were more discreet for this trip as everyone knew they had tents and cookers to carry this time. The weather wasn't looking quite so good for the weekend but it managed to stay cloudy with a few patches of light rain and lightning strikes all through the night. The campsite we stayed at was really nice; we had a river flowing right beside where we pitched our tents, a beach no more than 1km away and a little wooden hut up the hill to cook in. We were surrounded with lush green foliage covering the rocky hills.

I think a lot of us found the tramp a really good opportunity to get to know each other better. Many of us also had to face our fears like walking through a swamp knee deep for an hour, or going to the toilet in the bush for the first time. Altogether I thoroughly enjoyed the tramp and the other students just made it so much better.

Ashleigh Hyland (Year 10)



Students Commissioned for Mural

Wentworth College Art students were commissioned by the New Zealand Police to paint a mural on the Hibiscus Coast Soccer clubrooms at Stanmore Bay as part of 'anti vandalism' initiative.





Golf Academy winners....

Congratulations to the Wentworth Golf Academy students: Sam Yoshifuji, Shani White and Jerry Ren. All 3 students placed top in their division in a recent competition at the Gulf Harbour Country Club, with Sam winning the Intermediate Division, Shani the Ladies' Silver Division, and Jerry the Senior Division.



A Weekend at Canterbury University

Out of 700 applicants only 100 students were chosen to spend a fully funded weekend at Canterbury University.

Nicole Rosewarne in Year 13 was chosen on the basis of her good AS Cambridge results. Nicole says "it was one of the best 48 hours of my life to date. I met so many awesome people and experienced so much in those two days."

The students had many tours around the campus and lecture rooms, around the halls of residence and around Christchurch itself. They were taken jet boating and on a high ropes course to show them how exciting it can be to study in Christchurch. However, one of the most sobering memories for her was when the students were driven past where the old CTV building stood. On the site, there were 185 different white chairs each representing one of the 185 people who lost their life in the 2011 earthquake.

Nicole has decided to study at Canterbury University. Her weekend away convinced her that this is the place for her.



Year 8 Art and Technology

During Term 2, Year 8 Art students designed and created their own teapots made of clay, which are currently being dried prior to firing. At the same time, Year 8 Technology students were making interconnecting wooden puzzles, working within a 1mm tolerance. Based on the number of puzzles that were successfully put together at the end of the project, the level of skill displayed by the students was very high.



On the Road after exams.

The A2 Geography class travelled to Rotorua on Saturday 9th June, immediately following their mid-year examinations.

"As part of the curriculum we have to study tourism development and Rotorua was our selected case study. Despite the heavy rainfall on our first day we set off to see as many natural and cultural attractions as possible: Ohinemutu, the Buried Village, Okere Falls and Hamarara Springs. That evening we had a cultural experience at Tamaki Maori Village. We received a traditional welcome, wandered through the forest to view early village skills, watched Maori singing and dancing and then enjoyed a Hangi. The following day we spent the morning at the old Bath House, which is now Rotorua's museum. Here we were given a talk by the education officer and a tour of the displays. It was then off to see geothermal activity at Kuria Park and a trip on the gondolas and luge before heading home on Monday to receive our examination results!"



AS Travel and Tourism trip to Puhoi

On Friday 21st June the AS Travel and Tourism class took a trip to the Puhoi cheese factory and café. This was part of their study on the delivery of customer service. This could not have been a better example of excellent customer service. The students were given a talk by the manager on how cheese was made at Puhoi, and they sampled several cheeses. The students then conducted a survey and were treated to free ice creams!



Shadows of Shoah Trip

To supplement our History studies on the Holocaust and Nazi Germany, Wentworth's History students visited the Shadows of Shoah exhibition at AUT in Auckland. Senior Photography and Design Students also came to experience the multi-media nature of this very emotionally shocking exhibition.

The Shadows of Shoah uses words, music and images to tell the stories of loss, suffering and survival during the Holocaust. The people featured in the exhibition come from around the world, including Germany, Slovakia, Poland, Holland and Serbia. Some have since emigrated to New Zealand, Australia, America or Israel.

The stories, which make up the exhibition, go back to pre-war Germany when civil servants lost their jobs if they were Jewish and Jewish businesses were boycotted until they went bankrupt. All the stories inspired a deep sadness among all of us at the exhibition.

The exhibition is the work of artist, photographer and musician, Perry Trotter. He tracked down some of the survivors of the Holocaust and this exhibition is the result of his interviews with them and photographs of them. He also composed the very moving piano music which accompanied the exhibition and created an almost haunting atmosphere for it.

