

WENTWORTH COLLEGE BULLETIN

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From the Principal



The Parents and Friends Association plays a vital role in all aspects of Wentworth school life. The Wentworth College Board of Trustees values participation and communication from parents; in its foundation

document the Board clearly outlined the importance of parent contribution and involvement.

The main aim of this association is to provide support and assist with the successful operation of school life. Activities such as providing transport to sports events, parent help on field trips, attending school camps, assisting with drama and music productions, and coaching and managing sports teams, all help to make these events possible. Social networking of parents and the opportunity to give feedback to the Board through the Principal at these meetings are also important aspects of this organisation.

Unlike many other independent schools, the Board does not view fund raising as the Parents and Friends primary responsibility. The fund raising activities that are often associated with social events has, however, certainly assisted the school; these have included the purchase of library books, shade cloth outside the canteen, an asphalt area and sound and lighting equipment for the hall.

Term 3 brings to conclusion another very successful season of winter sports competitions. The Board and School express their appreciation to all parents for their contribution as well as the wonderful vocal support from the sideline.

The Board also appreciates the contribution of parents who, without teacher representation, organise and conduct trips and events for Wentworth students. Such events include the "Get to Go" training days and the inter-school competition and orienteering events.

Many schools are finding it increasingly difficult to engage teacher involvement

in co-curricula activities. The Wentworth teaching faculty is committed to contributing to the philosophy of valuing the educational and social advantages of co-curricula activities and education in the outdoors.

Education outside the classroom is deemed an essential component of our philosophy and is seen as complementary to our rigorous academic curriculum. As other schools scale down their camps and sporting commitments, Wentworth continues to grow and foster ours.

Wentworth College is a member of the Independent Schools of New Zealand Association. There are 43 member schools within this group incorporating the mainstream independent schools of New Zealand. 24,876 students are educated in the 43 schools, accounting for just over 4% of the total students enrolled in schools in New Zealand.

The current political climate does not support the growth and development of the independent sector of education. The autonomy held by independent schools philosophically clashes with the control and bureaucracy that exists within the State educational environment. Within an environment of limited governmental support, independent education continued to grow with a 1.4% increase in roll numbers in 2007. The traditional philosophy, international qualifications and the "point of difference" that each independent school offers continues to be highly valued by parents.

Congratulations to Head of Wentworth Primary School, Ms Lynda Knight-de Blois and her team as the primary school's roll has grown from 15 students at the start of the year to 32 at the beginning of Term 4.

As the external examinations approach, I encourage all students to focus on their preparation. Plan your busy lives carefully in order that you perform to the best of your ability.

Bruce Tong
Principal.



Mathematics

Maths week ran from 11th to 15th August. It was a very successful week where all pupils from Year 7 to Year 13 got involved. Students were given daily challenges which were worth house points. The results were McDonald 249, Fleming 197, and Findlay 175. Everyone enjoyed trying to guess the weight and the number of jelly beans in the Jar. Hannah Parker won the Jelly beans; her guess was only 25 out and Anna Woodd guessed the correct weight. Mathex went very well on Wednesday with Fleming house winning the trophy. The "Weekly Challenge 2008" was very popular and really got the students' brains going. Felix Mann won the senior division, Sam Pearson and Robert Pascoe won the Year 9 and 10 section and Matina Blackley won the Year 7 and 8 section.





Music News

The highlight of Music in Term 3 would definitely be the 'The Music Extravaganza' which was held in the school hall on Friday September 12th. It was a wonderful evening with performances from the Orchestra, Beginner Band, Jazz Band, and various soloists and small ensembles. The evening was topped off with a sausage sizzle for the students and wine and cheese for the parents. We look forward to next year's show which will be even bigger!

The Combined Schools Christmas Concert is quickly approaching! That will be held on December 4th and 5th. The Junior Choir, Orchestra, Beginner Band, Jazz Band and various soloists will all be performing on the night. Tickets for this show will be available in the last week of November at \$8.00 per ticket. We look forward to seeing you there!



Primary School News

It has been a great season of sport in the Primary School this term.

We entered lots of enthusiastic competitors in the Inter-school Cross-Country day at Shakespear Park. All Year 4-6 students had the opportunity to compete in the race against competitors from across the region. All our runners completed the challenging course and Katerina Kovalenko came third in the Year 5 girls' race.

We enjoyed several sessions of swimming instruction at The Leisure Centre and, in the last week of term, we hosted Sunderland Primary School for a sports exchange day. Sunderland School is our "sister school" in West Auckland and it opened two years ago. Despite only a few practices our soccer, netball and chess teams were an even

match for Sunderland and we ended the day winning the netball and chess competitions.

A trip to the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) was another highlight of the term. The children enjoyed dressing up and taking part in a role-play classroom experience which took them back to 1900. Slideshows of the day were presented to the parents in a special assembly led by Year 6 students. The assembly was also an opportunity for the children to share some of their work and learning from the term.

We are pleased to be able to provide our students with exciting opportunities outside the classroom which enhance the great learning happening inside the classroom.



Sports and Outdoor Pursuits

This term students have participated in and enjoyed a wide range of sporting and outdoor activities. As well as the regular winter sports of netball, soccer, hockey, basketball, rugby, volleyball and fencing, enthusiastic students tramped and camped as part of their activities for The Duke of Edinburgh programme, went caving

as part of the Carpe Diem Club adventures, competed in orienteering, visited Rotorua on a geographical field trip, skied in the South Island to gain credits in Physical Education, trained and competed for the Get 2 Go programme and took part in the North Island Championships for skiing and snowboarding.

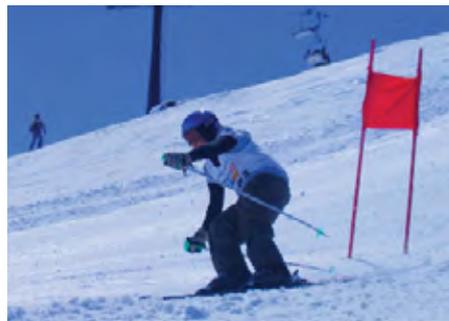




Snowboarding

In the last week of term, Ben MacKay, Jesse Kay and Frazer Bond competed in the North Island secondary schools snowboarding championships along with 61 other schools comprising about 360 competitors. The trip was organised by Dave MacKay, who accompanied Mr Muller and the team

down to Ohakune under the slopes of Turoa Snow Resort on Mount Ruapehu. The team took part in two competitions; "slope style" and "dual giant slalom". Unfortunately the third competition "boarder cross" was cancelled due to bad weather.



Sunderland Sport Exchange

Late this term Wentworth played our sister school Sunderland College in a sports exchange. A great day was had by all competitors with Wentworth taking out the overall spoils, winning all sports of touch, netball, volleyball, soccer and basketball. Next year we are planning on travelling to their school for another sports day.

12PE Queenstown Trip

The year 12 PE class travelled to Queenstown this term for a week of fantastic skiing and snow boarding. The weather was outstanding and it treated us to a fresh dumping of snow on the last day. All students passed their NCEA achievement standards and the memories should linger on.

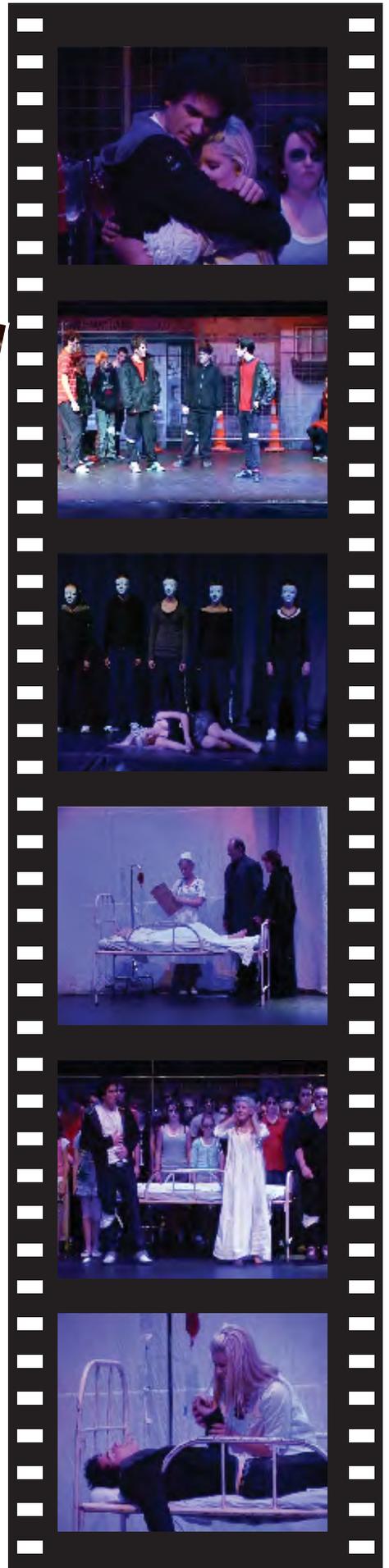
Volleyball Zone Day

The PE department and selected students organised and ran a very successful volleyball zone day for all North Harbour Intermediate Schools. In total we had 29 teams visit the school over 2 days to participate and our students were a credit to themselves and the school for the way they helped the tournament run smoothly.

Drama Production 2008

This year's school production directed by Ms Jillian Gamble was a huge success. Over seventy students took part in the show; acting, dancing, singing, playing instruments or assisting in various ways. The story was written and co-produced by students from Ms Gamble's drama class.

Next year's drama productions are already in the planning phase. Ms Gamble is considering an outdoor production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition and a Stage Challenge Showcase organised by the students.





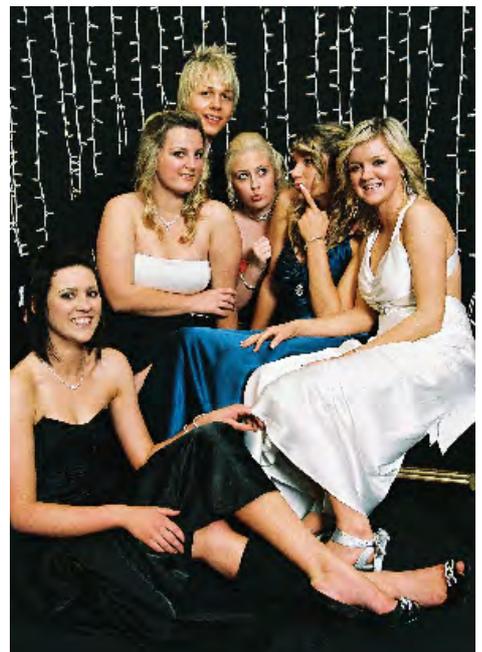
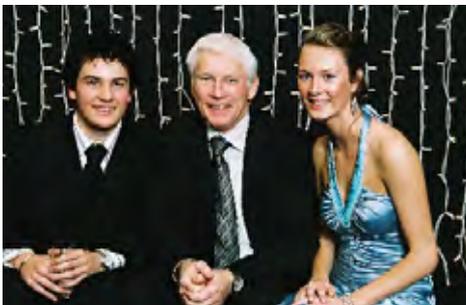
School Ball

A hugely successful Wentworth College Ball was held on The Floating Restaurant at the Viaduct Basin. The evening's weather was beautiful, the scenery spectacular, the music brilliant, the food outstanding and the atmosphere wonderful.

King and Queen of the Ball (picked by the teachers) went to Corinne Ash and Ryan Garnett.

Best Dressed Girl went to Charlotte Milne and Best Dressed Boy went to Chris Pratt. The Best Couple of the ball went to Danielle Maddock and Matt Koenen.

A massive vote of thanks goes to the Ball Organising Committee of Bridget Busfield, Tim Wackrow, Corinne Ash and Ryan Garnett.



Congratulations

Congratulations to:

Rory Donovan

Rory was captain of the Raiders Under 15/16 Restricted Rugby League Team that won the Grand Final against Howick at Mt Smart.

Chelsea Pratt

Chelsea has won some major NZ Irish Dancing competitions recently and has been awarded a scholarship to travel to Ireland in February 2009.

Levi Patel

Levi won an Ipod Nano in "The Small Business Game" held on line.

Taylor King

Taylor won the "Bolle Young Gun Award" at the NZ Freeski Open at Wanaka recently.

Bianca Rowley

Bianca has been having huge success with her swimming this year and has been selected for the New Zealand team to attend the Australian Youth Olympics in Sydney in January 2009.

Important Dates

IGCSE Examinations
November 5 and 10

AS Examinations
October 15 and 31

NCEA starts
November 17

Junior Examinations
November 19 - 21

Photo Day
October 17

Year 9 Camp
October 29 - 31

Year 8 Camp
November 3 - 7

Christmas Festival
December 4 and 5

Sports Awards
November 6

Y10 OPC
November 24 - 28

Prizegiving
December 9



Art



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