



PAKURANGA COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER 15
Weekend Friday 23 September 2011



Dear Parents / Caregivers

The final progress reports have been issued to students today and the parents report evening is scheduled for Wednesday 28 September (4.00 – 8.00pm), hopefully you have already been onto the website to book interview times with the staff. This is a critical time of the year for all senior students who are fast approaching the final external NCEA examinations and juniors who need to assess how the year is progressing and identify what needs to be pruned from now on to ensure continual success.

It is important that parents use the progress report to have a conversation with their children about the next steps and what steps need to be taken. It is never too late to put new strategies into place. A tremendous amount can be achieved between now and the final exam at the end of the year.

This week we had our term three achievers breakfast. This event was an opportunity to take a moment out of the hectic school schedule and say 'well done' to some students. The staff nominate students for their achievement in class, sport, cultural or service activities.

Many students, all of whom deserve praise and recognition, are nominated; unfortunately I can only select a few across a wide range of endeavours.

Our head boy and schools top swimmer **Alex Hancock** has recently competed in the Youth Commonwealth Games in the Isle of White. Alex performed incredibly well throughout the meet and came away with a gold and 3 bronze medals. This is an outstanding achievement, well done Alex and we wish you all the best for your future swimming career.

Gold – 200m Butterfly

Bronze – 100m Butterfly

Bronze – 50m Butterfly

Bronze – 200m Freestyle Relay

Keep up the hard work; parents, keep encouraging and supporting your children. With you behind them they will achieve their goals. Remember the wise words of our Academic Council from the basics of the learning poster -

- Learning happens when we
- strive for our personal best
 - make connections
 - build positive respectful relationships
 - reflect and think

Michael Williams
Principal

Traffic

Please ensure that if you are picking up or dropping off your child before or after school, do not drive into or through the staff carpark. It is very busy at these times and the extra traffic risks the chances of someone being hurt. Similarly please do not park in or drive through the Palmers carpark. It is private property from which they run a business. Some parents have done so recently and nearly caused accidents. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Verbal Report Evening

The final parents' evening for 2011 takes place on Wednesday 28th September from 4.00 - 8.00pm at the college. This evening is for parents of students at all levels.

You can book interviews with your child's teacher online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. To access bookings, type in the code **YTYSP**.

Former Students of Riverina Primary School

Former students of Riverina Primary School who may need support in furthering their educational or career opportunities, are invited to apply for funds from the Riverina School Charitable Trust for 2012. Funds of varying amounts are available. The application form is available on www.riverina.school.nz or Phone (09) 527 7377 or email admin@riverina.school.nz All applicants will be considered.



FREE INFORMATION EVENING IN Auckland - 27th October, 2011

Last one for 2011

- Come and meet our staff
- Hear comprehensive information on all aspects of exchange
- Ask questions
- Listen to questions asked by other students and parents
- Meet other students who are considering going on exchange
- Learn about our discounts & scholarships on offer!

7:30pm
Thursday, 27th October
Cophorne Hotel Harbour City
196-200 Quay Street
Auckland
<http://studentexchange.org.nz>
0800 440 079 (free call)

Fashion Show

Our annual school fashion show takes place on Wednesday 5 of October 2011 at 7:30pm and should finish around 9:30pm. We have about 80 students from the technology department participating in this event. These include the students that are modelling some of the fantastic garments that our prospective designers have created in the Fashion and Design department. Students from the Catering and Hospitality department will be hosting a pre-show coffee/tea and dessert. Please come and support our students that will be showcasing their creative talents during the evening.

Health Education Programme

You may be aware of the recent articles in the NZ Herald about sex education in schools. Many of the comments and descriptions are very far from our programme which has been developed in consultation with our parents. Please contact us if you would like more information about our junior health programme.

B Merchant

HOF: Health and Physical Education

Languages Faculty

Recently, the languages department took part in an online vocabulary competition called the Language Perfect World Championships. The competition was held from Friday 9 September – Friday 16 September and challenged students to learn vocabulary from a range of different languages to earn points. More than 900 schools from around the world took part in the competition. Pakuranga College was placed 4th overall in the world, and 1st in New Zealand. We also placed 1st in the world in the Japanese language section. In addition to this, out of the 75,000 students participating, Pakuranga College had 5 students place in the top 30 in the world. The top student in our school was Jason Wu (year 11), who placed 3rd in the world. All the language students that participated in the Language Perfect World Championships should be very proud of their achievements! Well done!

Congratulations go to **Sarah-Jane Monaghan** and **Brandon O'Neill**, both studying year 11 Japanese, who have been awarded fully funded JENESYS scholarships to travel to Japan for two weeks in December. Each year the Japanese government invites teenagers from around Asia and Oceania to visit Japan and experience a week long homestay, a few days high school experience and a study tour around Japan in order to promote mutual understanding through youth exchange in the Asia region. We are sure that Sarah-Jane and Brandon will gain a lot from this intercultural exchange and we look forward to hearing about their experiences on their return to school.

ARTS NEWS

Vocal Tour

Week 8 saw a very successful tour for 46 students from the Gaudeamus Choir and the R'n'B Choir. Four performances were well received by a variety of schools, stretching from Bombay to Tauranga. The two choirs (and some high-calibre soloists within) performed a diverse range of repertoire, with nine or ten items making up each concert. The high levels of audience attention, appreciation and enthusiasm were a clear indication of the quality of the presentation.

Spring Concert

On Monday 3 October at 6.30pm in the school hall, the Music department will present their annual Spring Concert. The concert will feature over 100 performers from all of the large instrumental and vocal ensembles at Pakuranga College. Door sales \$3.00.

Dance Performance

On Wednesday 5 October Level 1, 2 and 3 Dance students will be performing at the school Fashion Show as part of their assessment. The students will be performing a combined group dance called *Bright Lights* choreographed by Level 3 Dance student Thomas Veloso, with help from the rest of the class. Two other dance works choreographed by Katrina Earl and Thomas Veloso will also be performed. Thomas' piece '*Sides of One Story*' focuses on teenage issues of peer pressure, loneliness and alcohol, while Katrina's piece '*Life after Death*' is a tribute to Glenn Prattley who lost his wife and daughter in the Christchurch 22nd February earthquake. The fashion show takes place in the school hall from 7.30pm-9.30pm.

Folio Shows

At the beginning of next term the Visual Art department will hold their annual folio show, where senior visual art student's work will be exhibited. The year 13 folio show will take place on Monday 31 October. Year 11 and 12 folios will be displayed on Tuesday 1 November. Both folio shows are in the art block and are open to the public from 4pm-7pm.

SPORTS

Basketball

This year our Open U19 Boys Basketball Team finished on top of the table in their Counties Manukau Competition, this then qualified them to compete in the Greater Auckland Basketball Tournament. In the pool play they had 2 great wins, which meant they made it through to the semi finals. Unfortunately they went down to Rosmini College who were this year's National Champions however they executed themselves well and played some fantastic basketball right throughout the tournament. Congratulations to all the boys and their coach Mr Tutagalevao on a great season.

Lloyd Elsmore Badminton Club U17 Open Badminton Tournament.

Congratulations to Lilian Shih

- Winner - Girls Singles
- Winner - Girls Doubles
- Winner - Doubles

Sarah Childs has been target shooting for 5 years and recently was the best Junior in the Auckland Deerstalkers Prize Shoot. 1 target was at 25metres and the other 2 at 100metres. Well done Sarah.

Coming Attractions!

Sept.	26	Scholarship Day
	27	Scholarship Day
	28	All levels verbal report evening
Oct	3	Spring Concert
	5	Fashion Show
	7	End of Term 3
	24	Labour Day
	25	Start of Term 4