

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



Year 11 students commenced the Cambridge IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) syllabus in June 2008 and are now fully immersed and well through their course of study. Most students will be sitting their examinations in October and November, with the exception of Drama and Music students who will be examined in June. It is interesting to see the renewed focus that students at Year 11 are having with the Cambridge qualification compared to NCEA assessments. The accumulation of credits through internal assessment and reassessment for NCEA can create a relaxed attitude from students towards their school work. The urgency of Cambridge examinations certainly sharpens students' work output throughout the year.

There is no one educational curriculum and assessment process that fits all students. At Wentworth we are developing the Cambridge framework but elements of NCEA will be attached for some students in Year 12 from 2010. I believe this gives our students the very best opportunity to succeed academically, ensuring individuals reach their potential. At Wentworth we aim to create an educational environment where individual progress and achievements are optimised through close attention to students' needs. As students move through the school, teachers develop an excellent understanding of their educational requirements, identifying strengths and weaknesses. Many hours are spent working with individual students, tracking progress, reinforcing expectations, giving academic assistance and catering for remedial or extension needs. Historically the academic results achieved by our students in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 support this claim. The 2008 pass rate results are Level 1- 95%, Level 2- 91% and Level 3- 85%. Cambridge Maths at Year 11 IGCSE pass rate was 100%.

I am impressed with the preparation undertaken by our Drama students in scheduling a very full programme of performances throughout Term 2. Wentworth has a number of short performances in the annual Sheilah Winn Shakespeare festival, where secondary schools

throughout the North Shore and Rodney compete. This is followed closely by our main production of Shakespeare's "A Mid Summer Night's Dream" scheduled for May 19th and 20th. Wentworth students are also enthusiastically rehearsing for our inaugural entry into the secondary schools' "Stage Challenge" competition which incorporates music, lighting, dance and drama. Further information concerning all these events will be published in our weekly e-newsletter.

I recently previewed the Winter Sports Programme, comprised to date of 4 soccer teams, 3 hockey teams, 6 netball teams, 3 basketball teams and a rugby team. For a school of just over 200, our students are fully engaged and proudly represent their school. Few schools could match Wentworth's students' involvement in co-curricular activities for its roll size. The contribution from the teaching faculty and, just as importantly, from parents is the foundation that ensures our students have these opportunities. As you read this Bulletin I hope you gauge a sense of the fullness of Wentworth school life.

The relationship between school work, co-curricular activities and the cohesive family atmosphere we foster at Wentworth creates confident young adults who enthusiastically contribute to school life. This confidence is also often reflected outside of the school environment. We certainly have a positive challenge, trying to report weekly on the many successes of Wentworth students competing at individual or club level in a range of activities outside the school.

Being an all-round school means truly educating a child for life and developing their 'intelligences' in the broadest way, preparing them to be successful and leaders for life based on the values, experiences and education Wentworth has given them.

I am sure you will enjoy reading this Bulletin: we certainly encourage feedback and welcome suggestions. I am also available for interview through contacting Gail Clews in the school office.

Bruce Tong
Principal.



Congratulations to Cullen Wooller who received a certificate and medal for being first in New Zealand in the New South Wales Writing Competition for Year 10 students. Cullen received his medal at a special prize-giving at Te Papa in Wellington.

Orientation Programme



The Orientation Days at the beginning of the term provided the opportunity for new students to get to know each other and for tutor groups to compete in activities that built team spirit. The programme concluded with a major quiz competition in the gymnasium. McDonald House was this year's winner of the Orientation Cup.

Orchestra and Band



Band classes for Years 4-6 got off to a great start in Term 1. Students in these year levels were offered a choice of orchestral instruments to learn which included the clarinet, flute, saxophone and trumpet. This programme has proven to be very successful with students already playing recognisable tunes.

We look forward to the Music Festival which will be held early in Term 3, where the Junior and Senior Choirs will be performing along with the Orchestra and Beginner Band.

Peer Support

The Peer Support Programme is designed to build strong relationships between senior and junior students and impart a sense of belonging and security for new pupils. This year our entire Year 13 cohort volunteered to be Peer Support leaders. The programme ran each Tuesday morning and concluded in the last week of term with a shared morning tea.



Visiting Musicians

This term Wentworth was fortunate to have "Island Dreaming" and "Citipointe Live" visit and perform for the students.



Kite flying

We had to design and make a kite that was strong and light with a long tail. We made our kites out of bamboo, plastic bags, string, tape, and tissue paper. Ms Yock showed us how to cut the bamboo, and then tie it together to make a cross. We then had to put the plastic around the cross to make a diamond shape. We tied a tail on the bottom of the kite and then

made our handles. We all went outside on to the field to fly our kites. The wind was not very strong, so it was very difficult to make our kites fly.

We ran very fast, but still our kites would not fly. Although our kites did not fly high, we had a good time making them and trying to fly them. The solution would be to make sure you fly your kites on a windy day or else you get very tired trying.

ESOL children Term 1, 2009



Earthrace

Head Prefects Morgan Browne and Chris Watts had the privilege of accompanying the Coast Guard out to meet Earthrace the bio-fuelled, wave piercing vessel that has circumnavigated the world using fuel made from plants or animal fat. Morgan and Chris then brought Pete Bethune who is the skipper and owner of Earthrace to Wentworth where he spoke to the students about some of the highlights of his voyaging.



ESOL Students

This term our ESOL students have been involved in many school activities including the Swimming and Athletics School Competitions, the Yr 7 camp with Ms Worthy and Mr Muller and enjoyed a wonderful day out being part of the pit crew for the Soapbox Derby team.

Most recently the children, combined with the Year 5 and 6 primary students, designed and created their own mosaic tile to add as stepping stones in the Wentworth Primary School garden. This was a very successful day and I was very proud of the all the children's efforts, patience and their ability to listen and follow instructions.

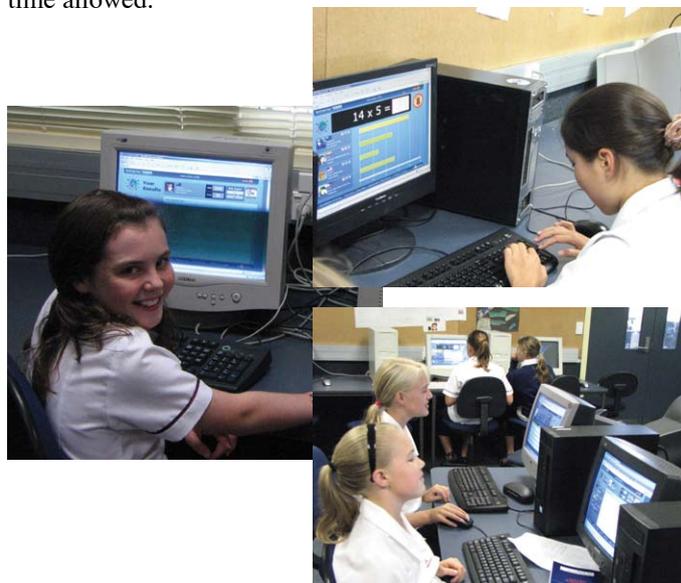
All the children have made a great start to the year, making lots of Kiwi friends and enjoying our sunny weather.

Ms Yock
ESOL Teacher



International Mathematics Week

A large number of Wentworth students took part in the online International Mathematics Competition. The students raced to complete as many mathematical equations as possible in the time allowed.



ROWING

Commences at Wentworth

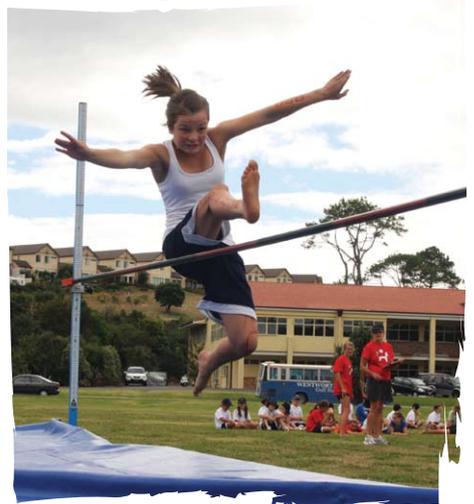
Wentworth's inaugural rowing teams performed exceptionally well at their first series of national regatta's earlier this year. The group of 14 enthusiastic Year 10 to 13 students trained up to eight times a week in preparation for their events and all Wentworth teams performed beyond expectation, with the highlight being the girls' Under 15 Rowing 4's reaching the semi-finals. For a college to go from beginner rowers to attending North Island and NZSSR Championships (the Maadi Cup) in one season is an impressive feat and has created a real buzz at Wentworth, with many new students showing an interest in the sport.

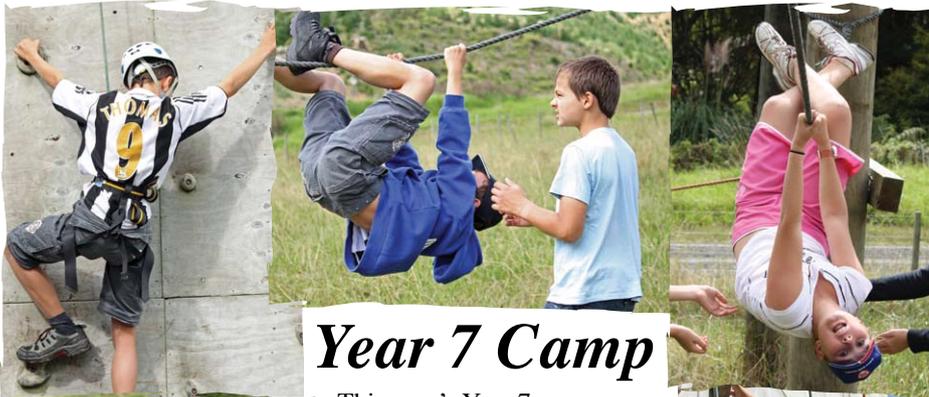
Like many sports rowing highlights all that the Wentworth philosophy embodies: teamwork, application, determination, skill, the sharing of experiences and expertise, support and dedication.

Thank you to students, parents and coaches for making this a successful first year of rowing at Wentworth.









Year 7 Camp

This year's Year 7 camp was held at Ahuroa. The students were challenged in a wide variety of activities including climbing, confidence course, tramping and bivouac construction and use.



Pistol Shooting

The NZ National Pistol Shooting Championships took place in Hamilton in March. Gideon van Zyl won the silver medal in the junior men category. Jazmin Hopper added another medal to the Wentworth tally by winning the silver medal in the junior women competition.

Wentworth College won three of the six medals in the junior category which

proves that we are starting to dominate junior shooting in NZ. We are determined to do even better next year at the national championships and will hopefully take a bigger shooting contingent from Wentworth to the competition.

Our next goal is to again win the Secondary Schools Pistol Shooting Competition this year in order to keep the MacMillan Trophy at Wentworth College and to prove that Wentworth College is tops in pistol shooting!

Primary School News

It has been a term of sports and the arts in the Primary school this term. We visited Sunderland Primary School for a Sports Exchange, took part in the interschool softball competition and attained second place in the interschool swimming sports.

Some wonderful artworks have been produced in art workshops. Michele Yock from the College taught our senior students how to make mosaic tiles which we will now place into our thriving vegetable garden. Several students

also had the opportunity to work with Mary Morgan, a local artist who led a six hour art course from which the children produced some stunning canvas collages.

Our World Vision fundraising programme has continued this term with a picnic tea and games evening for families. The spirit of inter-house competition was more alive than ever as our Mums and Dads joined in with a fun evening of games and races.

New Zealand Modern Pentathlon Results

Congratulations to the following students:

Under 18 Men
2nd Gideon van Zyl

Under 18 Women
1st Louisa Mann

Under 16 Men
1st Harry Charles

Under 16 Women
1st Jazmin Hopper
2nd Lizzie Morse

Under 14 Men
1st Jurgen van Zyl



Geography



Year 11 students spent a day this term at Tawharanui learning about landform structures and landscape processes. They spent time measuring wave action and studying the effects of coastal erosion, visiting the cave formations and studying how the beach zones are created.

2009 Trolley Derby

Wentworth's entry in the 2009 Trolley Derby met with great success. Special thanks to the drivers, pit crew and supporters. Well done team!



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Phone: (09) 424 3273
Website www.wentworthcollege.school.nz