



BOTANY DOWNS
Secondary College

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**BOTANY
BULLETIN**
Edition 7/2011

17 June

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Reports for students will be distributed by 7 July. It should be a formative report that outlines how students are progressing and what they can do to improve. The students in years 11, 12 and 13 have been setting goals based around their achievements to date and how they will improve, especially aiming for Merit and Excellence.

I hope that each parent takes the time to sit with their child and understand their goals and perhaps help focus them on the critical learning and assessment expectations. All students and results can be viewed on the LMS (Learning Management System) page or parents can access through the Parent Portal <http://intranet.bdsc.school.nz>

Some critical factors impact on student success and none more than "the more time spent on learning the better the achievements". This means students need to have better than 90% attendance and in their spare time try new assessments or summarizing their notes or representing ideas in a different format or creating study exemplars.

We hope to see all parents at the upcoming report evenings on 7th July (Juniors) and 12th July (Seniors) respectively.

Mike Leach, Principal

STUDENT / PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

EARLY CLOSING

Thursday, 7 July & Tuesday, 12 July

SCHEDULED CLASSES FINISH 1:30 p.m.

School will close at 1:30 p.m. on the above days to accommodate Junior and Senior Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews. Students can stay at school if you wish them to study. The Library will be available.

MID-YEAR REPORTS 2011 - KEY DATES

The College encourages all parents and students to attend the Junior and Senior School interviews between Students, Parents and Teachers on **7th** and **12th July** respectively.

Junior Students :

Thursday, 30 June : Year 9 to 10 Junior Mid Year Reports e-mailed to parents

Thursday 7 July : Year 9 & 10 Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews
3 :30 to 5 :30 p.m. and 6 :15 to 8 :00 p.m.

The College Guidance Counsellor, **Mrs B Divehall** will also be available for meetings by appointment only. These should be made on the same website as for teacher bookings.

To book appointments with teachers or the above please go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and follow the instructions.

To book an appointment for a **Junior student** (Years 9 & 10) please enter the following code: **R72GG**

To book an appointment for a **Senior student** (Year 11-13) please enter the following code: **TBXX2**

Senior Students :

Wednesday, 6 July : Year 11 to 13 Senior Mid Year Reports e-mailed to parents

Tuesday 12 July : Year 11 – 13 Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews
3 :30 to 5 :30 p.m. and 6 :15 to 8 :00 p.m.

from the Music Department

The Auckland District Chamber Music Contest was held last week from 8 -12 June at Dilworth School. Eleven students from BDSC participated in the contest which included 118 groups. They all found the experience challenging and rewarding. Congratulations to **Davin Shin** whose group, **Blitz 5** made it through to the finals, which were the top 8 groups.

The Smokefree Rockquest will be held this weekend past at the Logan Campbell events centre.

The finals are on Sunday at 8:00 p.m. – tickets are \$20.00.

There are 13 students participating in the following session times:

Saturday 12pm-2.30pm: 25th Parallel

Saturday 3pm-5.30pm: Running With Scissors and White Noise

Sunday 12pm-2.30pm: Phantom

Sunday 3pm-5.30pm: Supernaut and Triple Helpings

Also, the Auckland University Songwriter of the Year final is being held on **Saturday 18 June** at the Kenneth Myers Centre. **Emmeline Lee** has been selected to participate in the final for the second time.

We wish the students all the best with their performances after many hours of rehearsal and preparation.

2012 ENROLMENT PROCESS



On Wednesday, 15th June the 2012 Year 9 enrolment information evening was held in the Panasonic Performing Arts Centre with over 500 family members and prospective students attending. This was a very successful evening with addresses by three of our senior students, **Jane Cha, Head Girl**, **Alex Soh, Board of Trustees Student representative**, and **Michael Dickason, Senior Lead Student**. Visitors were then taken on guided tours of the College by our Year 9 and 10 student guides.

Those who were unable to attend can obtain **enrolment packs for 2012** from the Enrolments Officer, **Mrs Nicola Gillson**, 273 2310 Extension 246. Please note the closing date for 2012 applications for in-zone applicants is **25th August**, and for out of zone applications is **1st September 2011**. The Ballot for out of zone applications will be conducted on **8th September** in line with Ministry of Education instructions.

Gateway

In Term Two the BDSC Gateway Office is busy sending many senior students out of school, on various work experience and training courses.

Our Gateway Early Childhood Education students are by now, coming to the end of their work experience. The Plunket courses we ran have been of immense help to the students, in understanding the needs of infants through to pre-schoolers.

Students are currently being hosted by The Warehouse, 'Red Shirts in Schools' programme. Others are currently on work placement at The National Bank. We also have students training and working in Hairdressing, Food and Hospitality, and Travel and Tourism industries.

Courses that are coming up shortly are in Logistics and the Motor Trade industries.

We are also excited to be included in the pilot ETCO (Electrical Training) camp, being held over the next school holidays. The first of its kind in New Zealand.

All of this could not have been achieved without the goodwill of all our staff, parents, community; and the excellent citizenship of our students.

Ms Gillies, Gateway Coordinator

Botany Downs College student success at The Lions International Speechmaker's Competition

Priya Sharma, a year 13 student at Botany Downs secondary College was sponsored by the Lions Club of Howick to enter *The Lions International Speechmaker's Competition* held for the Auckland District with Students from schools throughout Auckland entered. The event took place in a community hall in Papakura. The prize was either \$500 or a place at the Lions International Youth camp in January.

Priya gave a speech on the subject of people in Harmony, winning the competition. She will be flown to Napier in August to enter the National Finals. This is the second year running that Priya will be representing BDSC at this competition. If she wins, she will gain the opportunity to experience a six week trip to Canada and the USA to represent the Lions in an exchange programme.. Priya is the second Botany Downs College student to be successful as Daniel Cullum won the event in a previous year.

<http://www.howicklions.org.nz/>



BDSC SPORT

The following Sports articles are written by our very own 2011 BDSC Sports Council.

Netball



Premier

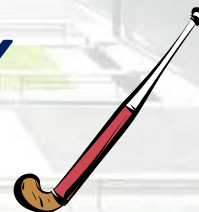
This season of netball has started with a BANG! The Premier netball team entered a couple of pre-season tournaments where they came up against tough competition like Westlake girls, who they beat by 4 goals. The Premier team was also one out of 4 teams who made it into the Premier Competition. All this year's netball teams are entered in the Auckland Competition which means their games are on Saturday mornings. The girls have been playing their best and training hard! We have a couple of girls that made representative teams as follows:

Mongelique Bohm	Reserve Counties Manukau Under 21
Samantha Reynolds	Howick Pakuranga Under 19 (Reserve for CM Under 19)
Jessica Mahar	Howick Pakuranga Under 17
Stephanie Collins	Counties Manukau Under 17
Hannah Blackburn	Howick Pakuranga Under 15
Lauren Meale	Howick Pakuranga Under 15
Haley Fakua	Howick Pakuranga Year 9

Stephanie Collins also made the Pacific Rim team for Secondary Schools where they came up against the New-Zealand Maori team battling for 3rd and 4th. After an intense game the Pacific Rim team came up with 4th place.

By Mongelique Bohm

HOCKEY



1st XI Girls

The 1st XI hockey girls didn't have the best start to the season but picked up their game quickly. After being moved up a grade this year the competition is tough. We have recovered from losing our first game to Diocesan one draw and two substantial wins. We have a hopeful rest of the season ahead and the girls are working well together despite the many new additions this year

By Karenza Yates



Basketball

Open Boys

This year at BDSC we have had a solid start to the year in all grades of basketball. The Open Boys have started well, winning their first 3 games with strong performances by [Mason Kinney](#) and [Hayder Yagot](#). They have had great victories against teams like Papakura and Saint Kent's.

U19 Girls Basketball

The U19 girls have also had a great start to the season with a number of wins as well.

Under 17 Girls

The U17 Girls have had great wins thus far, with an outstanding win over Auckland 7th Day Adventist 60-12.

Under 17 Boys

The U17 boys have won their last 2 out of 3 games as well as U15 Girls winning 3 out of 4 games.

BDSC basketball teams are currently well placed on all tables and look good to finish at the top of all grades. Overall BDSC has had a strong start to the season and look forward to a successful season.

Under 15 Boys

The U15 boys have also had outstanding performances so far this year with huge victories of 68-4 against both Pakuranga and Saint Kent's.

Under 15 Girls

The winning just doesn't stop! The girls are 2nd equal on the table with outstanding performances from Ashlee and Madison Hill.

By James Easton



Rugby

At BDSC, rugby is one of the main winter sports that are played. The school consists of four teams who play in the 6th, 5th, 4th and 1st XV grades. The school's 5th grade team has done very well in the past few weeks, winning all 3 games in their 5B pool division. The 1st XV team have been both mentally and physically challenged by the opposition in 1B division. We have had some very close games and had a successful win against Avondale College. So far, rugby at BDSC has been very good and will continue to improve as the weeks pass.

By Joel Witten

Auckland Blues U18 Trials

On Monday June 6th, Tone Ng Shiu and Brandon Bryant, both 2010 Auckland representatives, were placed to trial for the 2011 Auckland Blues U18 squad. The trial process involved a number of drills which were specific to forwards and backs, common defensive patterns and attacking skills. The skill sessions all played a key point into the final stage of full scenario and contact sessions. Both boys agreed that the day was very full on and a new level of rugby was brought forward. BDSC encourages rugby talent and for future purposes hope to get more boys involved in the rep trials.

By Brandon Bryant



WATERPOLO

After water polo not being played at Botany Downs Secondary College since 2008, there was a lot of interest to enter a team to play in the 2011 season. The team was entered into the Senior B grade to play between the months of February through till the end of May, at pools all over Auckland on Friday and Sunday nights. The team had a mix of junior and senior students that bonded well and played well together. The season got off to an average start with grading and a few wins. The competition grade started well and the grade we were put into was very competitive. The team did well to get into the semi-finals and went on to win the final of the grade 5-4. Many thanks to the outside coach David Payne who put a lot of time and effort into the team, and thanks to all the parents that took the time to travel to the games and support the team. Last but not least I would like to thank the players who played week in and week out and attending trainings. I hope that water polo will continue in the years to come at BDSC.

By Michael Dickason

Volleyball

Girls Team

Volleyball this year has been a blast and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time coaching and playing for the senior team. The volleyball girls this year have come so far, with the Senior A team coming 2nd overall. Our B and C team did extremely well representing our school. We learned a lot of new skills during training and tried our best to achieve all our goals. We are hopeful for an even better team next year to get to #1.

By Chelley Tautua



FOOTBALL

1st XI Boys Football

The first XI boys have started off the season better than expected. We are in a higher grade this year (A2) and have lost many key players due to them graduating. This year's team has a lot of new faces but doesn't mean the way the team efforts change.

We have started off the season with wins against Avondale, Glenfield, Long Bay College a draw with Mt Roskill College and just recently losing this weekend to Papatoetoe High School, a game in which we controlled but could not put away our chances.

We were also sadly knocked out of the 'knockout cup' near the start of the season, we as a team were shattered but we all took it in and it ended up being a learning experience for us. All in all with a different looking team, we are looking to repeat what we did last year in A3 and win the league.

By Praneesh Prasad

2ND XI Girls Football

The 2nd XI Girls Football team for 2011 went off to a shaky start this season.

6 players from last year are back again which gives a team a good foundation, and 9 new faces in the team. Majority of the team never played with each other before. Playing the first game against Pakuranga College with only 10 players, we lost 4-0, but with that said, we had no coaches, no previous training sessions and no manager. But the next week, we were appointed with coaches and a manager, and this sparked our team. Our next match against Macleans was much improved. It was our first game playing as a team and we went off to a good start leading 1-0, but ended up losing 2-1. Our team culture had started to develop and everyone was enjoying everyone's company. The third game that we played was against Edgewater and we got outplayed and ran off our feet with a loss of 5-0. With only 4 games remaining, the goal of our team is to win at least one of those, and to get 2nd XI girls first win in two seasons.

by Tracy Foo (Striker for 2nd XI)

EQUESTRIAN



Equestrian at Botany Downs Secondary College gives individuals with an interest in horses the opportunity to compete in events and represent BDSC in competitions. "In 2011, we competed in both cross Country and Dressage events, including a one day national event at Woodhill" says Stephanie Collins, a member of the team.

The BDSC Equestrian team consists of Captain Devon Raos (12B7), Stephanie Collins (11D3), Katie Brickwell (10S4), and Laura Smith (10D3) who are currently doing off season training with their horses and early preparation for next season as most events are at the beginning of the year in term 1 and start of term 2.

The team are always looking for new members to join the BDSC equestrian team. We compete in various activities around Auckland; you need to have your own horse and transport to events. If you are interested please see Ms Joyce in the HPE department.

An event the team took part in this year was 'The One Day Event' that was held for the first time at Clevedon Pony Clubs Showgrounds and was attended by many other schools in the Auckland area.

Devon and Stephanie placed in top 6 for their dressage and the Teams Show jumping went well.

The two junior students Katie and Laura were able to enjoy the experience of school competition and were great addition to the team.

It was a great day however Cross Country proved to have a few challenges with temperamental horses but all riders handled the hiccups with great control and finished the day on a high note.

Parents offered fantastic support and encouragement to the throughout the day.

By Stephanie Feagan

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Ekiden Day-1.30pm, Thursday 11 August 2011

Sports Awards Night 29th Sept 2011

BDSC LIBRARY

Open from 8:00am, open during interval and lunch time, our closing times are Mon, Wed, Fri until 4:00pm; Tue, Thu until 4:30pm.

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Year 10 Investigative Geography Field Trip Review

On Thursday 2nd, June two classes of Investigative Geography students gathered outside Reception eager to go into Auckland City for an action packed day. We were each given a booklet to fill in with a map leading to thirty different locations where we were required to answer questions relating to the history of the site and the city.

On the trip into Auckland City we were looking out for all the different types of land uses, e.g. recreational, residential, industrial and retail. We were also quizzed on our knowledge of key landmarks throughout Auckland e.g. Mount Wellington, Rangitoto, and Browns Island.

We were then dropped off outside the Auckland Town Hall and set off using our map reading and navigational skills that we had learnt earlier in the year. In teams of 3 – 5 we travelled around Auckland City hunting for the answers to the questions. We learnt many interesting facts about Auckland City including that most of the city is built on reclaimed land and that Kelly Tarlton's was once a sewage storage tank. We visited Auckland University, Albert Park, Party Central, the oldest house in the city and many more places.

It was a very enjoyable day for all involved and on behalf of all the students that took part we would like to thank [Miss Brodie](#) and [Mr Van Kralingen](#) for organizing it.

By Joshua McDonald and Brad Ross



2011 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
Monday 20 th - Friday 24 th June	Cultural Week
Friday 24 th June	Cultural Mufti Day
Wednesday, 22nd June 7:00 p.m.	BDSC Speech Competition Panasonic Performing Arts Centre
Monday, 27th June 5:30 p.m.	BDSC Board of Trustees Meeting Boardroom
Tuesday, 5th July	"Revolution" tour lunchtime Concert
Wednesday, 6 th July	Senior reports e-mailed to parents
Thursday, 7 th July 3:30 – 5:30 6:15 – 8:00 p.m.	Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews Junior Students Years 9 & 10
Tuesday, 12 th July 3:30 – 5:30 6:15 – 8:00 p.m.	Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews Senior Students Years 11, 12 and 13
TERM 3	Monday, 1 August to Friday, 7 October
Thursday, 11 th August	EKIDEN Day
Saturday, 13 th August Albany Campus	Massey University Open Day
29 th September	Sports Awards Dinner
TERM 4	Tuesday, 25 October to Friday, 9 December



Students supporting and helping out with our new paper recycling venture

BDSC gratefully acknowledges the support of the following business partners

