

## NEWSLETTER NUMBER 4 WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2010

Dear Families

On Friday 2 July (last day of term) all students will receive a full written report detailing their progress in each subject including their achievement, both school-based (for junior students) and NCEA. These written reports will be followed up by parent-teacher interviews in the second week of term 3 on Tuesday 27 July and appointment booking sheets will be distributed with the reports. These interviews are useful to inform you about how your son/daughter is coping with their studies and will also advise about suitable subject choices for 2011.

I extend my thanks to those of you who voted in the recent board of trustees election. The newly elected board is: Ben Taufua (re-elected as chairperson), Nera Hicks, Dean Brown, Paul Maguire, Paul Perez, Stephen Renouf (staff trustee), Takeshi Faamasino (student trustee) and Mrs Gita Kumar has been co-opted as an additional parent representative. At its first meeting our new board acknowledged the excellent contribution of Fiona August and Gavin Hunter who stepped down as trustees.

At the end of this term we will be farewelling some of our teaching staff as follows:

- Mr Chan Chui (teaching position in Vietnam)
- Mr Gunn (moving to Masterton)
- Mrs Petersen (going on maternity leave)
- Miss Sturdevant (full-time study toward a doctoral degree)

New and returning staff are:

- Mrs Roberts (returning from maternity leave)
- Mr Thurlow (Physical Education)
- Miss Devi (Maths)
- Mrs Hutchison (Spanish)
- Mr Heughan (Physics and Science)
- Mr Matete (Gardener/Groundsman)

From time to time we hear of, and witness, violent episodes involving school students. Like most schools we are not immune from these incidents and when they occur they are dealt with seriously (often involving the police who are very supportive of the school). Earlier this term there was a serious incident involving some of our students and the police were notified. Four students were stood down from school and were involved in a number of other interventions. I am aware of some exaggerated rumours in the community suggesting that we were in lockdown mode – that was not the case and the matter was dealt with swiftly and expertly by the senior leadership and pastoral care teams.

Our winter sports programme is well advanced and a number of our teams are enjoying excellent results. My thanks go out to the many parents and other family members who support our sports teams and assist with transport.



P.R. Gall  
PRINCIPAL

**CONTACT DETAILS:** The school is progressing with electronic notification (via text and email) of student absences and we need to ensure contact details are kept up-to-date. If you change address, phone or email please advise the school office. A contact details check sheet will be issued with progress reports on 2 July.

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri 2 July	.....	Last day of term 2. Reports issued. Students released at 12:45pm to either go home or attend talent quest finals.
Mon 19 Jul	.....	First day of term 3.
26-30 Jul	.....	NZQA fees collection
Tues 27 Jul	.....	Parent/teacher interviews.
Fri 30 July	.....	PaPF Trivial Pursuits evening
Tues 17 Aug	.....	Pukekohe exchange
Wed 26 Aug	.....	Open day
Wed 1 Sept	.....	Music evening
		Out-of-zone applications close.
8-17 Sept	.....	Senior exams.
Fri 24 Sept	.....	Last day of term 3.

**A** BIG SING CHOIR FESTIVAL: Congratulations to Miss Bhana and the choir who received a commended award in this nationwide event. Thanks to Shrutika Gunanayagam for her superb piano accompaniment.

**r** BRING IT ON: 55 students represented our school in this competition. The crew rehearsed four times a week for the last term and the final performance was outstanding. Thanks to parents and caregivers for all their support. Well done to Losalini Pickering, Andrew Kopelani and Shaquille Leu'u for leading the group.

**t** MUSIC EVENING: Last night senior music students performed a wide variety of repertoire to a large and supportive audience at our second music evening for 2010. All performers are to be commended.

**s** APO WORKSHOP: Next Monday forty Y10 music students will participate in a workshop with professional violinist, Mark Bennett, from the APO and next term they will attend an APO concert. This is a great opportunity for our young musicians to hear about life as a professional musician and gain valuable insight into performing classical music.

**a** ROCKQUEST: Congratulations to our successful year 13 band 'Fingers' who won the APRA Lyrics Award at the Manukau regional finals on Friday 11 June. Band members are Delaney Watene-Taie, Ashleigh Reeves, Jack Stewart, Sebastian Tohovaka and Matthew Smith.

**n** PACIFICA BEATS: Well done to 'Noise' who competed in the Auckland heats of Pacifica Beats last Saturday at Avondale. Support the band (Krystal Arona, Vivien Lane, Isini Kaitu'u, Sophia Ale, Eddie Iva, Michael Ki, James Faiva, Ezra Togiama and Esther McCarthy) at the regional finals 7pm, Friday 2 July. Venue: TelstraClear Pacific Events Centre (\$10 entry).

**d** EXCEL SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT: On Wednesday 16 June Excel held a lunchtime concert in the hall featuring past pupil Rasela Sosoli. Students enjoyed the music and the opportunity to see what the performing arts school offers as a tertiary study option.

**c** SCHOOL CD – Deja Riginal vol.5: Work is well underway for the much anticipated release of our 5<sup>th</sup> CD of original student music on 15 October 2010. All songs are written by students, all art work and photography is by students and all recording is done in the school recording studio by our top recording students under the guidance of Mr Marcel Bellve, the recording teacher, as well as all the music teachers. CDs will be \$20 each.

**u** JUNIOR SOCIAL: The Y13 Bring It On team and 1<sup>st</sup> XI girls soccer organized refreshments and the arts and culture committee were in charge of music, glow items and planning for this successful event. Photos will be posted on the Arts and Culture web page for students to enjoy.

**i** BOLLYWOOD EVENING: This annual event will be held next term. Any parents or families that would like to help with this event please contact Mrs Woods at the school.

**e**

**PRINCIPAL'S AND PARENTS' FORUM (PaPF):** This group continues to work with the principal to engage parents within the school community. Any support that you can give us would be greatly appreciated – you may be able to attend one of our functions or you may have goods that you are able to donate which we can use to assist us in fundraising for prize giving books. We have two fundraising events on our calendar for the year:

**Trivial Pursuits Night** 30 July in the hall. Tickets are \$10 per head. Why not get a group of 10 together and join us? For further details please contact the school office.

**Christmas Heirloom Night** 22 September. Tickets are \$10 and available from the main office closer to the night.

**THE SCHOOL'S UNIFORM SHOP** opens 9-10am Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Students can purchase new house t-shirts \$10, PE shorts \$32 and jackets \$95. Also for sale are second-hand uniform items (polo tops, boys' shorts, skirts and jerseys).

**JACKET SPECIAL --- \$10 OFF --- 29 JUNE-29 JULY.**

**FABRIC TECHNOLOGY:** T4 will be open every Wednesday afternoon 3.15-4.15pm for students to make something creative or to simply catch up on work. Join Mrs Lei or Miss Illingworth and create something fun in fabric; make a teddy bear, learn to knit, get help on current technology projects.

**HOMESTAYS NEEDED:** Our international student department is seeking families to host students coming from overseas. Email [visandiego@papatoetoehigh.school.nz](mailto:visandiego@papatoetoehigh.school.nz) or telephone 278 4086 ext 814.

**GATEWAY** has successfully placed 55 students this year in building, aviation engineering, retail, hospitality, optometry, digital printing, automotive, warehousing, hairdressing and early childhood. There are still options available for students interested in electrical and teaching. If there is something else of interest for your career choice please see the Gateway staff in R13.

**CORRECT PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM** is required for each PE lesson – plain t-shirt (in either the student's house colour or plain white) and plain black shorts or the school PE shorts (black with red trim). These can be purchased from the school uniform shop or various local retailers. If your son or daughter is at school they are expected to participate at a level to which they are capable.

**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL STUDENT ENTERPRISE LEARNING LINK (SELL) Programme** was held at the school during June. This 3-day workshop involves students forming 'virtual' companies, researching and deciding on a product or service, writing up a business plan and then pitching it to a panel of judges from outside of the school – sort of like a Dragons Den! This year we had 10 teams of approx 7 students each competing. There was lots of energy, lots of noise and lots of learning! A comment overheard from one participating student was that this was the most that they had learnt ALL year!!! The winning team's product was a breathalyser for your steering wheel that prohibits driving when drunk.

Thanks to our judges: Paul Perez (one of our board of trustee members), Nick Kearns (business lecturer at Unitec), Paul Garnham (owner of Easy Track Ltd), Katherine Thomas (YMCA youth coordinator and ex-head girl), Andrew Bramston (a training business teacher at Auckland University) and two students from last year's winning team, Isaac Tekai and Cameron Barber.

## NZQA

Shortly your son/daughter will receive their Candidate NSN card. This card contains their NZQA identity and can be used to access their personal page on the NZQA web site. Go to [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz) and follow the link for the Learner Log-in.

NZQA fees will be collected during week 2 of next term (26-30 July). A student entry and NZQA fee invoice will be issued with your son/daughter's school progress report on the last day of term 2. Information for fees and financial assistance was given in the candidate information sheet issued to all students in term 2. Generally, the maximum cost to students is \$75.00 (\$20.00 for those who apply for financial assistance/have a community services card). Application forms for financial assistance can be collected from student reception.

## CHOOSING COURSES FOR 2011

From the beginning of next term (term 3) students in years 10, 11 and 12 will have access through their form teachers to a copy of the 2011 Senior Curriculum Guide. In addition students and their families will be able to read a copy online. This booklet contains details about all the subjects we offer in the senior school and some very important information to help students make sensible choices for their senior schooling. Please look through the booklet with your son/daughter and discuss this very important decision with them. In particular look closely at the diagram of PATHWAYS which helps make the connection between subjects chosen at school and opportunities after school.

Year 11 students take English, maths, gym/health and choose three other subjects.

Year 12 students take English and choose 5 other subjects.

Year 13 students do one option of independent learning and choose 5 subjects.

Over the first month of term 3 there will be a lot of discussion with form teachers, subject teachers and deans to help students come to a good decision about their options. Your input as a family is important too. Please take the time to read our Senior Curriculum Guide for 2011. If you would like any further information about courses please contact your son/daughter's dean or the deputy principal in charge of curriculum, Lindy Smith.

**1ST XV RUGBY:** The Auckland Secondary School 1B rugby competition moved into the championship round this week with Papatoetoe hosting Mangere College. Papatoetoe have only lost once at home in the last two years and they continued this form with a well deserved 29-5 win on Saturday. There are still many things to work on in the coming weeks if the team is to reach the final on 14<sup>th</sup> August. Player of the day was Takeshi Fa'amasino who put in an outstanding performance and showed that his hard work and perseverance is really starting to pay off. This week the team travel to Mt Roskill before heading to Onehunga on the 24<sup>th</sup> and then welcome Macleans at home on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**SPORTS**

Congratulations to Ish Sodhi who was asked by Auckland Cricket and New Zealand Cricket to fly to Brisbane on 19 June to participate in a week's training with the New Zealand cricket team's batsmen. The Black Caps are touring the sub-continent later in the year and want to improve on their ability to play spin bowling. This is an amazing opportunity for Ish to rub shoulders with some of the current Black Caps and he is looking forward to learning as much as he can over the week.

Entertainment Books contain hundreds of discounts and two-for-one offers from popular restaurants, cinemas, hotel accommodation, the arts, and sporting events. Gateway Ministries is raising funds by selling the 2010/2011 Entertainment Book. Selling for \$65, a portion of the proceeds will help fund airfares to Cairns for the youth group's mission trip in September this year. The team was recently in Samoa assisting with tsunami relief. To purchase a copy of the Entertainment Book email Yolanda Morisa at [ebookfundraiser@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:ebookfundraiser@hotmail.co.nz) or text/phone 0210610503.