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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Graduates,

As the school year ends, it is a great time to reflect on the year behind us as we look to the year ahead. We continue to offer excellent learning experiences through personalised learning supported by our dedicated staff. It has been a very busy and successful year with our students and staff gaining recognition both locally and nationally with their endeavours.

Last week at the Graduation Dinner for our departing Year 13s, I shared with the audience ten things that will make a difference in your life, with all of them requiring zero talent!

1. Being on Time
2. Work Ethic
3. Effort
4. Body Language
5. Energy
6. Attitude
7. Passion
8. Being Coachable
9. Doing Extra
10. Being Prepared

The key to happiness is having dreams and the key to success is making those dreams come true.

We look forward to hearing from our graduates and alumni about their achievements in the future.

I would like to end the year by congratulating staff for their commitment and passion, and students for their contribution to the college and their successes throughout this year.

To one and all, have a safe and relaxing break over the holiday season.

Warm regards  
Karen Brinsden  
Principal



# OUR SCHOOL

## HAKA TO FAREWELL DEPARTING STAFF MEMBER, MRS MARY ANNE AUGER

In Week Three a large group of students from all year levels performed the school haka, Tuu Kotahi, as a show of respect for a long-serving member of the support staff, Mrs Mary Anne Auger.

Mrs Auger had been with the college since before it officially opened in 2004, filling roles in the uniform shop and cafe. During her fourteen years with the school, Mrs Auger came in to contact with hundreds of hungry Botany students.

The haka boys were led by Alex Hill (12E8), and the girls by Ngahuia Booker-Taylor (9J5) and Isobelle Little (10K6). Lead students also spoke on behalf of the student body in appreciation of Mrs Auger's years of service to the BDSC community.

Mrs Robyn Newman-Hall



## YOUR SCHOOL DONATION

The school donation for 2018 will remain at \$275.00 per student. For families with three or more students, the third and consecutive student will be free.

### DISCOUNTS:

We offer discounts to families who pay the donation early, detailed below are the discounts:

- 15% discount if the 2018 donation is paid in full by 15 December 2017
- 10% discount if the 2018 donation is paid in full by the end of Term 1 2018
- Families who pay the donation receive a free copy of the school magazine.

### PAYMENTS:

We offer the following payment options to families:

- Cheque
- Credit card
- Eftpos
- Automatic payments:

If you require a form for automatic payments please email [jjohnston@bdsc.school.nz](mailto:jjohnston@bdsc.school.nz) or [a.seekup@bdsc.school.nz](mailto:a.seekup@bdsc.school.nz).

- Internet banking:

Bank account number 12-3040-0700750-01, Botany Downs Secondary College. It is important with this option to record the family and first name of the student, the item you are paying for i.e. donation, school trip etc. as reference information to appear on our bank statement.

With any of the above payment options we are willing to accept payment in instalments for the parent donation, camp and fees.

Remember you can claim part of your school donation as a rebate from Inland Revenue.

The Finance Officer

## GROWTH MINDSET

A growth mindset is the understanding that abilities and intelligence can be developed.

Dr Carol Dweck, professor of Psychology at Stanford University, first coined the term 'growth mindset' after researching the behaviour of children and their beliefs about learning and intelligence. Growth mindset closely aligns with the high expectations principle in The New Zealand Curriculum.

"The curriculum supports and empowers all students to learn and achieve personal excellence, regardless of their individual circumstances."

View this [TED talk](#) where Dr Carol Dweck describes two ways to think about a problem that is slightly too hard for you to solve. Are you not smart enough to solve it ... or have you just not solved it yet?

"There is a really damaging myth that pervades in the world – the idea that some people are born with a "math brain" and some are not. This has been resoundingly disproved by research but many students and parents believe this. It is really important to communicate "growth mindset" messages to students. Help them know that everyone is a math person and that the latest research is telling us that students can reach any levels in math because of the incredible plasticity of the brain."

Dr Jo Boaler, Professor of Mathematics Education at Stanford University, and the Co-Founder of [youcubed](#).

You might like to take the [mindset assessment](#) to learn more about your mindset. This assessment is useful for students, parents and teachers.

Ko te pae tawhiti, whāia kia tata; ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tina  
Seek out distant horizons and cherish those you attain.

Compiled by Prasad Patchigalla, Head of Digital Technologies, with the resources provided by NZ Curriculum Spotlight [Webpage](#).

# OUR SCHOOL

## THE ITINERANT MUSIC PROGRAMME 2018

The Ministry of Education fund a small number of hours for the tuition of instrumental music. This involves specialist teachers coming to the school to give small group tuition to selected students. The students are timetables to have their lessons during school hours.

Applications for the Itinerant Music Programme for 2018 are open. If you would like to learn a musical instrument next year, please log on to our website and complete an application form, and return it to the Music Department by Tuesday 5 December.

Those students who are learning an instrument this year, and wish to continue with lessons next year, also need to complete a form. The Application Form is also available on Office 365 - Music page. This is an excellent opportunity to learn an instrument.



### RONISCH PIANO COMPETITION

The first round of the Ronisch Piano Competition was held on Saturday 21 October. Only one entry per school is permitted and Derek Long (12E8) was our representative. He performed a challenging 20 minute programme from memory and was selected as one of the top 6 students to compete in the final which was held on Sunday 22 October. The level of performance was outstanding and Derek represented the school extremely well.

## SPELLING BEE FINALISTS 2017

In the weeks after the junior exams the English department held its annual Spelling Bee. All students in Years 9 and 10 competed in Round One, a smaller number competed in the semi-finals and two dozen students made it through to the finals, which were held on Monday 27th November.

In the Year 9 Final, the winners were:

- 1st Jennifer Ham 9J11
- 2nd Vaishnavi Pillay 9K6
- 3rd = Shanice Tan 9J11 and Sara Ng 9D9

In the Year 10 final the winners were:

- 1st Vivienne Tam 10B7
- 2nd Natalie Lau 10B7
- 3rd Diya Chottera 10J11



# OUR SCHOOL

## PASSCHENDAELE

World War One: The Battle of Passchendaele - 100 years ago

In order to gain some understanding about World War One, a topic that was part of our Social Studies course, 9J11 had to work in groups to produce children's books about the experience of soldiers in the Battle of Passchendaele that took place 100 years ago. We did this to create an understanding of the struggles that the soldiers withstood in this dreadful battle. We researched the battle before writing the story as rhyming couplets. We drew all our own illustrations. Turning what we had learned into a book that a six year old could understand and was appropriate for that age, was a challenge.

Our group's book was titled "Passchendaele Pony", and told the tale of Grandpa's Horse "Patch" and how he saved Grandpa's life during the battle. We decided to base our story around a grandfather who lied about his age in order to go to war. The story unfolds in his backyard when he tells his grandchildren the meaning behind the poppy he is wearing. He tells them how he lied about his age, about how his pony saved him and about how eight hundred and forty three soldiers died in the Battle of Passchendaele.

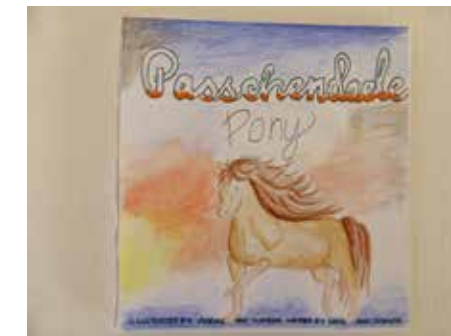
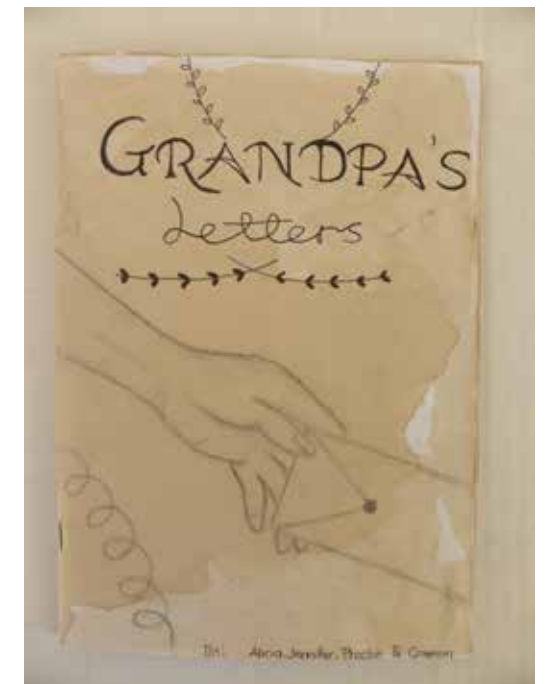
The books that 9J11 created were all given to six year old Harry Muir to read and assess. Harry then visited us during a Social Studies lesson to tell each group what he thought of their book and to ask questions about the stories.

Harry seemed really interested in our story and he was amazed at how many people died in that one battle. He even asked us "did that really happen?" Harry seemed to have learned a lot and was surprisingly interested considering he is only six. We also learned a lot about the Battle of Passchendaele, an event we did not know about before this study, but that is an important part of New Zealand's history.

This is an extract from our book:

On the 12th of October early in the morning we landed far from the beach,  
We couldn't get there, mud was in the way, and the solid ground was far from our reach,  
Our biggest weapons were left on the ship,  
And as we trudged through the mud we began to slip,  
We reached the sand, and our troops were surrounded,  
I was scared for my life and for those whose heart's pounded,  
For the man by my side and 842 others,  
Would never again go home to their mothers.  
"This day in History, was quite a suffer." Grandpa Said,  
Of the men in New Zealand, who witnessed this dread."

Dani King, Simran Singh, Jasmine Goodwin and Aarohi Karandikar  
9J11



# OUR SCHOOL

## FIELD TRIP TO WAITOMO

Investigative Geography

As part of our study of karst landscapes, the two Year 10 IGEO classes recently went on an overnight field trip to Waitomo where we had the opportunity to visit many of the stunning karst landscapes that Waitomo has to offer. This included discovering the Marokopa Falls, the Mangapohue Natural Bridge, the Waitomo Glowworm Caves and the Ruakuri Reserve. This was a new and exciting experience for all the students on the trip as most of us had never been to the Waitomo area before. We also all got to know each other so much better on this trip, making many new friends from both the classes.

We climbed onto the Pacific Tourways bus and travelled to the Waikato Region, enjoying the scenery as we went. Heading out west to the Mangapohue Natural Bridge, we were all in awe of this amazing natural structure and were fascinated learning about how it had been formed over thousands of years. We then hopped back on the bus and travelled to the Marokopa Falls. After a quick walk through the lush native bush where we saw evidence of vegetation succession and stratification, we reached the breathtaking falls where we all took many photos to remember the stunning scenery and amazing experience.

The adventure continued on the second day, with an early wake up before setting out to visit the Waitomo Glowworm Caves. This was my favourite part of the trip as the caves were so remarkable and it was very interesting to learn about the way in which they were formed and the history of them. The boat tour at the end was especially magical as we saw thousands of glowworms hanging above us. The Caves staff taught us a lot about the caves and the glowworms living there and also made the tour very engaging! Later that day we hopped back onto the bus and travelled to the Ruakuri Bush Reserve, where we identified even more amazing limestone structures and their features.

This concluded our incredible trip and all the geographers left with lots of new knowledge about the Waitomo Region and limestone rock, although we were all very tired and we ready to get home for a big sleep! Overall it was a great trip. I am sure all of us made new friends as we interacted with people from both classes. I would definitely recommend this trip to any Year Tens next year as it was an incredible experience! Thank you to Mr Sequeira, Mr Trevelyan, Miss Bruce and Miss Brodie for organising and taking us on this field trip.

Deema Alasadi 10J5



# OUR SCHOOL

## MAATANGI WHENUA GEOGRAPHY QUIZ

On Monday 14 August, a group of six Year 11 students took part in the Maatangi Whenua Geography Quiz at Saint Cuthbert's College.

In total, there were twenty-five teams competing in the competition. The BDSC A team, consisted of Donovan Mclean, Kiara Garrow and Madison Bond. The BDSC B team was made up of Codie Lockie, Abi Low and Cassie Vickers. The competition required us to go around six different stations, each of which had to be completed in ten minutes.

We had to complete various challenges related to geographical topics, as well as having two current events quizzes in between for extra points. The challenges required us to make geographical features out of playdough, locate places in New Zealand, identify places with facts related to them, and doing various activities involving map work. After each activity, all the points were totalled up for each team competing.

In the end, the BDSC B team placed amazingly 5th with a total of 121 points out of 178. Our BDSC A team ended up 19th with 84 points.

Throughout the competition, we learnt a variety of things related to Geography and left the event with a much wider range of knowledge about different aspects of Geography. We all got super competitive throughout the night and had heaps of fun with it (considering we didn't know a lot of the answers). It was a great event to participate in and everyone enjoyed the concept of it and the challenges given to us. We would recommend the 2018 year 11's take part in the competition next year.

Written by Madison Bond (11S10) and Kiara Garrow (11K6)

## Junior Science GATE (Biology)

Biology teachers Mrs Darby, Mrs Husted, Ms Leilua and Mr Gilbertson accompanied 46 students from Year 9 and 10 to Auckland Zoo on the Science (Biology) Gifted And Talented Enrichment trip.



The focus of our trip this year was to cover the basic ideas of Speciation, Adaptation and Conservation. These fundamental concepts form the basis of study for students who carry on to study Biology at NCEA Level 2 and Level 3.



The unique and diverse native and endemic species and the impact of introduced pest species were explained to our students by explaining the geographical history of New Zealand and through seeing the wonderful collection of native and endemic New Zealand Species at the zoo. Students were also able to look at adaptations for survival of not only our own species but interesting species from around the world when they visited Africa, South America and Australia. Methods employed to conserve our unique kiwi bird were also described to the students. The weather was fabulous and it certainly enhanced the learning opportunity that a trip to the zoo presented to our gifted and talented junior students.



Here is what some of them had to say about their day:

I thoroughly enjoyed the Science Biology GATE trip. The Information that I received on this trip was enriching to my learning. It further extended my understanding of the traits and adaptations of New Zealand's wildlife. Now I can identify adaptations and determine their importance and contribution to survival of the organism. I recommend this trip to any enthusiastic Biology and science student.

Graeme Gobey 10E8



# OUR SCHOOL

## Junior Science GATE (Biology) CONTINUED



I enjoyed the science biology trip it was a lot of fun. We learnt about New Zealand and its species of plants and reptiles and its one endemic mammal the New Zealand lesser short-tailed bat. We were taught about Gondwana (the super continent). I enjoyed the guided tour around the New Zealand parts of the zoo as I learnt some cool things like how the kea is the only mountain parrot in the world. I also enjoyed the walk around the zoo that we got to do by ourselves.

Matthew Carson 10D3



On the 16th of November, four Y9 and Y10 gifted and talented students from each whanau went on a trip to the Auckland Zoo. The students who went on the trip got the privilege to learn about Biology that Y12 and Y13 students learn if we choose that subject. When we all arrived at the Zoo, we met one of the staff. She led all the students and teachers to a room inside of the New Zealand animals' area. We were shown a slideshow of how New Zealand got its animals and why Auckland Zoo is so unique to other Zoo's around the world. We then split into 2 groups and were guided around the New Zealand Native animals area. Each group got its own staff member who gave us a tour showing us animals that are native to New Zealand. The zoo educator told us about how the animals had evolved, the environment the animals live in, how they survive and their adaptations. The talk was really interesting and we all enjoyed answering the questions we were asked. After that tour, all the students had morning tea. Before the trip, all the students got handed booklets to fill in at the zoo. We had to fill in structural and behavioural features of different types of animals and how that helps them survive in the wild. After morning tea, all the students split into little groups to go around the New Zealand native animals areas to fill in everything in the booklet. We had to look at animals that live in areas like the forest, the wetlands, the coast, the islands and the high country. After that activity, we all gathered back together to go to a café in the Zoo to have lunch. After lunch, we went into groups to look at animals that live around the world. My group went to Africa, we saw zebras, giraffes, pink flamingos and many other animals. My favourite part of the whole trip was going to see the kiwis and learning about the structural and behavioural features of animals that help them survive in the environment they live in. My least favourite part was not seeing where I was walking in the kiwi enclosure because the kiwis had to be in the dark for them to come out because they are nocturnal. Overall, the trip was a great experience for us Year 9 and 10 students. We got to see what Year 12 and 13 students learn if they choose biology. We saw many animals but the best part was learning about them.

Sean Feldman 10E2

Having a day at Auckland Zoo was a nice experience. My highlight of the day was visiting the Africa section of the zoo. I saw the giraffes eating leaves, it was really cool. I also enjoyed watching the zebra. Overall the day was a good combination of study and having fun.

Jennifer Cao 9E2



# OUR SCHOOL

## YEAR 10 My Future AUT

On Wednesday 22 November, Mrs Drum, Careers Advisor, took a small group of students to Year 10 My Future AUT at the South Campus, 640 Great South Road, Manukau. The Year 10 My Future programme is an exciting, fun-filled day where students team up with students from other schools; receive guidance about career planning and future choices, with a focus on leadership and teamwork. This programme continues into Year 11, 12 and 13.

Botany Downs Secondary College was represented by Alex Ferreira 10E8, Manjot Mann 10J5 and Cam Clark 10D3. Our initial group of 10 students decreased in size due to nominees' participation in other exciting ventures on offer to junior students at this time of the year, and the occasional assessment to be completed.

Other schools in attendance were Elim Christian College, Tangaroa College, Manurewa High School, De la Salle College and Otahuhu College. The organisers skilfully put the initially shy students into mixed teams and by the end of the afternoon, the team members were firm friends. Students also had an opportunity to bond over a great morning tea and lunch, and touch and volleyball games during the breaks.

Cam Clark's team won a prize for placing first in one of the events and Alex Ferreira won the best BDSC participant award.



## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS

We celebrated the fourth annual Visual & Performing arts Awards on Thursday, 26 October 2017. Uxbridge Arts Centre was a lovely venue and set a delightful atmosphere to celebrate and acknowledge the depth of talent at our school.



# OUR SCHOOL

## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS CONTINUED



# OUR SCHOOL

## HIGH PERFORMANCE ATHLETIC PROGRAMME

We need to acknowledge all the students who are new to the programme who have committed to attend 300 sessions with the High Performance Athletic Programme here at BDSC.

The Programme is looking at the long time development of its emerging athletes and is structured to avoid the issues of “burn out”, early peaking and “stress injuries” where secondary school sports programmes have received so much negative press.

Recently articles have mentioned that “core functional movement patterns” are the way of the future in New Zealand, however this strategy has been regarded as best practice internationally for some time. As far as we are aware no other school in New Zealand undertakes analysis and rehabilitation so that athletes can set themselves goals beyond their current posture and current movement ability.

Started in 2013, a number of emerging athletes have completed over 450 training sessions, remained injury free and have set themselves up with movement patterns which should ensure longevity in their sporting careers beyond college.

Nutrition and visualisation are both integral parts of the programme, as is the emphasis on recovery so that these emerging athletes can not only increase the quality of each training session but also the volume for a positive outcome.

Currently, we have mostly juniors and the intensity of the sessions is not as high as in the past but this will increase as they become more familiar with the routines and the levels of effort required.

Holiday training times, will vary from the past and we may be forced to institute a break over the Christmas period. Details of this will be emailed out shortly.



# OUR SCHOOL

## BASEBALL

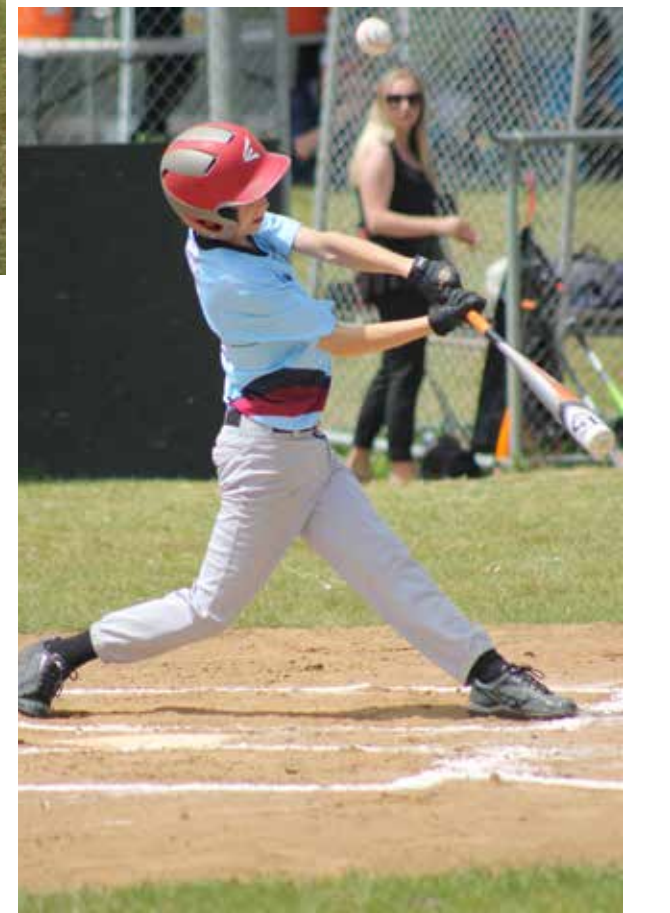
The school baseball team recently took part in the Junior College National Competition, against Auckland Grammar School, One Tree Hill College and Glendowie College.

Botany started off with a big win against Auckland Grammar and then another big win again One Tree Hill. The next day we played Glendowie, in the final pool play game, and beat them by a huge score of 10-0. We then played the semi final against Glendowie and beat them 14-0 advancing to the final on Wednesday.

We arrived ready on Wednesday, for the final against One Tree Hill. The first two innings were close, keeping the scores to 0-0. One Tree Hill score the first run, but Botany came back and scored 4. Botany then kept the lead and mercied them 12-2 in the 5th innings. Botany took out first place, national champions again! Congratulations to Taylor Irwin, 9J5, and Brent Mouat, 10K6, for being named in the All-Tournament Team, and to Tui Amosa, 9B7, receiving batter of the tournament, and Taylor Irwin, receiving best pitcher and MVP.

The whole team played really well over the 3 days, including some players new to baseball, and we all can't wait for the season to start up again next year.

Taylor Irwin, 9J5



# OUR SCHOOL

## SPORTS

### QUINNLAN TUPOU

Quinnlan Tupou (11D3) has had a very successful year representing and being selected for various Rugby League teams.

Here is a list below of his achievements this year. We are excited to see what else Quinnlan will achieve in years to come.

January 22nd 2017 – Signed a 3 year contract with the NZ Vodafone Warriors Trained 3 days a week at Mt Smart Stadium.

Made and captained the Auckland Vulcans U16's Team for the Ruben Wiki Cup.

Selected in the NZ Rugby League U16's Camp – Cambridge (The only Manurewa Marlins representative and the youngest player in camp)

Made the Tonga U15's team for the National Pacific Cup – (lost in final to Samoa)

Played and captained the Manurewa Marlins U15's SHARKS team – (lost in the final 8-6)

Represented Counties Stingrays U15's for the Nationals in Rotorua – (placed 3rd)

Received the Passionate Award for the NZ Junior Vodafone Warriors Awards 2017

Selected to train and be part of the NYC U20's NZ Vodafone Warriors – (1 of 8 Juniors to be selected to go up and train with the Under 20's)

Quinnlan is 1 of 2 15 year olds to be part of the U20's training squad.



### TOUCH REPRESENTATIVES

With the competitive Touch season approaching, we would like to acknowledge the following for making the respective Touch Rugby Representative teams for the 2017/2018 season. All of these students will be attending NZ Touch Nationals in early 2018.

Quinnlan Tupou (11D3) and Malachi Te Haki (10B7) – Counties Manukau U16 Mixed Team

Jayde McDowall (9S10) – Counties Manukau U16 Girls Red Team

Kaitlyn Apaipora (11B7), Hanro Botha (10B1) and Riley Campbell (10J11) – Auckland U16 Mixed Team

Eliza Hay (12S4) – Auckland U18 Girls Squad

Caitlin Nauer (11J5), Alijah George (12J11), Lantze Davids (12D3) and Caleb Nyantachi (12B7) – Auckland U18 Mixed Team

Taylor Kennard (12D3), Nathan Clark (13D9) and Corne Ludick (13S4) – Auckland U21 Mixed Team

### BASKETBALL REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following who have made the Counties Manukau Representative Programme for the 2018 season:

Tyler Hing (12D3) and Sheamus Power (12D3) – Counties Manukau U19 Team

Guy Burden (10S4), Alec Fenning (10K6) and Ezekiel Ng (10E2) – Counties Manukau U17 Team

Shravan Dayal (9S4) and Ezra Bond (9S10) – Counties Manukau U15 Team

### FOOTBALL REPRESENTATIVES

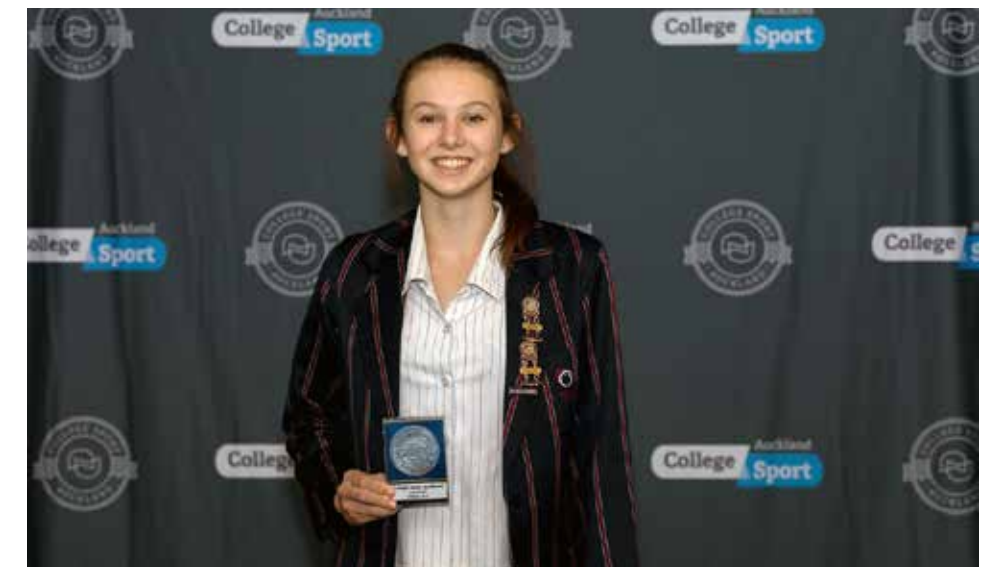
Congratulations to the following who have made Auckland representative teams for Football. They will be travelling to Wellington in December to represent Auckland Football at the National Age Group Tournament.

Tayla Hawes (10B1) and Rebecca Blakeman (11E8) – Auckland U16 Girls

Elise Whickman-Walker (10J11) – Auckland U14 Girls

COLLEGE SPORT YOUNG SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS  
BDSC had three finalists attend the College Sport Young Sportsperson of the Year awards on November 23 for 2017. To be named as a finalist at this event is very prestigious and means the athlete is one of the top three individuals in their nominated sport.

Brooke Davies (11J5) was a finalist for Gymsports, Sophie Skelton (13K6) a finalist for Triathlon and Mr Alan Taylor who was recognised for his Service to Secondary School Sport.



# OUR SCHOOL

## 2017 ANNUAL SPORTS AWARDS

Congratulations to the recipients of the MVP and Major Awards at the recent Sports Awards dinner.

### MAJOR AWARDS

The Mekellan Naidoo Memorial Trophy, Dedication to Football: Arjun Thakur (13S4)

The Kyle Heath Memorial Cup, Dedication to Rugby: Nathaniel Fatupaito (13E8)

Team of the Year: Rugby 1st XV

Captain of the Year: Ngapipi Herewini (12K6) and Armani Wright (13S4)

Coach of the Year: Mr Alan Taylor and Peter Samuel

Manager of the Year: Melissa Burnett

Supporter of the Year: Phillipa Samuel

Student Volunteer of the Year: Jerecho Rivera (11E2)

Personality of the Year: Mr Nicholas Cull

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS

All Rounder, Male: Ruben Van der Merwe (12K12)

All Rounder, Female: Ngapipi Herewini (12K6)

Archery: Isaac Ellery (13B7)

Athletics: Tafto Lafaele (12S10)

Badminton Boy: Jayvin Ang (12K6) and Kelvin Ang (12K6)

Badminton Girl: Ashley Tan (9J11)

Baseball: Aaron Mouat (13K6) and Harry Valk (13J11)

Basketball Boy: Kyle Cole (13B1)

Basketball Girl: Sophia Herewini (11K12)

Cricket Boy: Rihan Sayed (11D3)

Cricket Girl: Rachel Kilgour (13K6)

Cross Country: Monique Prime (10D9)

Football Boy: Joshua Carson (12S4)

Football Girl: Hayley Miller (12J11)

Golf: Jay-Michael Lindsay (11S4)

Hockey Boy: Oliver Burnett (12S10)

Hockey Girl: Jessica Chittenden (13J5)

Lacrosse: Mica Ogle (12K12)

Netball: Leianne Tufuga (11B7)

Orienteering: Anna Twyman (10B7)

Rugby: Otto Sanft (13E2) and Isikeli Vite (12B7)

Squash: Ruby Saies (10S4)

Swimming: Holly Ancliffe (12E8)

Table Tennis: Tianyu Zhang (13S4)

Tennis Boy: Matt Shearer (10E8)

Tennis Girl: Courtney Huff (12B1)

Touch Boy: Lantze Davids (12D3)

Touch Girl: Caitlin Nauer (11J5)

Volleyball: Tafto Lafaele (12S10)



### JUNIOR TOUCH

BDSC had one girls and one boys team entered into the Eastern Zone Junior Touch competition for Term 4. Both teams represented BDSC exceptionally well. The Girls finished in 5th position in the Eastern Zones Girls A grade and the Boys finished in 3rd place in the Eastern Zone Boys A grade and as a result have been invited to take part in the Greater Auckland Touch Championships.



# OUR SCHOOL

## BIZTECH LABS 2017 RESULTS

On Tuesday 28 November 2017, we sponsored and hosted an interschool competition for Year 9 and Year 10 students named BizTech Labs.

BizTech is designed to create a collaborative space to design digital technology solutions to modern-day issues. It is a cross-curricular activity utilising the subjects of Business, Design and Technology.

Approximately 14 teams from 7 schools from across the Auckland region took part, and we are hoping it will grow with more teams taking part in 2018.

With external judges, and each team in unidentifiable team names, the results were as follows:

- 3rd Place: Botany Downs Secondary College
- 2nd Place: Mission Heights Junior College
- 1st Place: Botany Downs Secondary College



## ALUMNI NEWS. FORMER BDSC STUDENT IS THE 2017 EAGLE TECHNOLOGY YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR:

At the recent New Zealand Spatial Excellence Awards, Kate Waterhouse (Year 13 2009) was announced as the Young Professional of the Year.

At BDSC Kate took Geography and then majored in the subject at Otago University where she specialised in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) before gaining a position at the Western Bay of Plenty Council as a GIS analyst. This involves working in a team, collecting data out in the field and then creating maps from the data for analysis and which communicate information to the community.

Kate who has been working for the Council for the past four and a half years, won her award for her work in the Civil Defence emergency team that responded to the Edgecumbe floods earlier this year. This work also led to Kate being the co-founder of the NZGIS4EM group. The group is currently working with local, regional and central government groups aligning data within the emergency management sector.

In July, Kate represented the Western Bay of Plenty Council at the ESRI User Conference in San Diego, the world's largest GIS conference. She is also very involved in with the New Zealand GIS Users Group

In December Kate begins a new job at the Bay of Plenty Regional Council where she will be doing more work in the Civil Defence area.

For more about Kate's career and careers in GIS see <https://www.futureintech.org.nz/1211/6/quals/215/kate-waterhouse>





# KEY DATES 2018

Thursday 25 January	Senior Course Confirmation
Monday 29 January	Auckland Anniversary Day [Public Holiday]
Wednesday 31 January	Term 1 Starts Year 9 Students ONLY and all new students to the school starting in Year 10 to Year 13
Thursday 1 February	College starts on full timetable for ALL year levels. Arrive at 08:30am for an 08:40am start.
Tuesday 6 February	Waitangi Day
Friday 30 March	Good Friday
Monday 2 April	Easter Monday
Tuesday 3 April	Easter Tuesday
Friday 13 April	Term 1 Ends
Wednesday 25 April	ANZAC Day
Monday 30 April	Term 2 Starts
Monday 4 June	Queen's Birthday
Friday 6 July	Term 2 Ends
Monday 23 July	Term 3 Starts
Friday 28 September	Term 3 Ends
Monday 15 October	Term 4 Starts
Monday 22 October	Labour Day
Friday 14 December	Term 4 Ends
Tuesday 25 December	Christmas Day
Wednesday 26 December	Boxing Day