



Principal, Vicki Barrie BSocSci Dip Tchg

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Ut Prosim Aliis - That I may be of benefit to others

Principal's Comment

Welcome to the 2007 academic year. A new school year like a new calendar year is a time to reflect on the triumphs and challenges of the previous year and to set goals for the future.

2006 NCEA results arrived in late January and compare very favourably with previous years' results and with other schools. There were some outstanding individual performances in both NCEA and Scholarship. Congratulations to all students on their success.

Particular congratulations go to the students featured later in this newsletter who succeeded in the 2006 Scholarship Examination. Scholarship is recognised as the ultimate national academic achievement for secondary students in New Zealand. Success in this significant and highly competitive academic award is proof of outstanding commitment and drive.

We have welcomed the following new staff to Northcote College in 2007:

Susan Henshall - Spanish;
Melissa Beaumont - Chemistry;
Helen Guise - Special Needs;
Tim Overton - HOD History;
Rebecca Kay - English;
Simon Condon - HOD Economics;
Kate Hamilton - Mathematics;
Theresa Guarino - Chemistry;
Belinda Develter - English.

Successful learning is the goal for all Northcote College students. Teachers are committed to student learning. They deliver the lessons and give the guidance and the best assistance they can to help students learn. For students to get the full benefit of their teachers' help and the most out of their lessons they need to pay attention, work hard and learn as much as they can in class. In addition students should commit themselves to spending time after school each day to complete any unfinished class work, complete homework tasks and assignments, organise and review the day's school work and note any work they don't understand so they can get help. This

disciplined approach to study helps students learn to work independently and establish the excellent work habits they will need to succeed in the senior school and learning beyond school.

This is a message reinforced by teachers in class and that I have addressed in assembly. It is an area where support from parents plays an important part.

To demonstrate to your child the interest you have and the importance you place on their education I urge you to ensure that your child attends regularly, is punctual, has the right equipment, wears the uniform well, obeys school rules, and meets all of their obligations. Please also attend school events and contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

"Affair of the Heart" Art Exhibition

I encourage you to attend the 3rd Annual Northcote College "Affair of the Heart" Art Exhibition to be held at the School over the first weekend in March (Friday 2nd March-Sunday 4th March). The exhibition is our major fundraiser for the year and promises to be very enjoyable.

Tickets for the very popular gala opening on Friday the 2nd of March are available from the School Office. Entrance to the exhibition on Saturday and Sunday is free.

Northcote College has an enduring and enviable reputation for the teaching and learning of visual arts. This exhibition reflects the importance of visual arts and highlights the depth of artistic talent within the School and our community.

We are delighted to be exhibiting the art works of more than 100 artists including the work of both current and former students of the School.

The proceeds from the event will be used to improve performing arts facilities at the School.

I wish all Northcote College families the very best for a successful 2007 school year.

Ms Vicki Barrie
Principal

Scholarship Examination Results

New Zealand Scholarship is designed to be highly demanding and only for the very top students at secondary level. The aim is to assess a student's ability to synthesise and integrate concepts - to apply higher-level thinking based on in-school and independent learning.

Northcote College students gained an exceptional 26 Scholarship Awards in 2006 including six Outstanding Scholarships. Congratulations to the following students for their success in the 2006 Scholarship Examination:

Ivan Barczak	Classical Studies, History
Elliot Christensen-Yule	Drama*
Eleanor Cooper	Visual Arts*, Japanese, Statistics
Min-ah Ha	Japanese
Elizabeth Haynes	Classical Studies, English
Daniel Koh	Chemistry
Zachary Langdon-Pole	Visual Arts*, Art History
Christopher Myers	Technology
Leo Pardon	History
Richard Stebbing	Chemistry*, Calculus*, Physics and Statistics
Cameron Taylor	Economics
Mei Yen Tan	Japanese
Rebecca Turner	Chemistry, Calculus, Statistics
Nicola Walsh	Visual Arts*
Owen Woodhouse	Chemistry, Classical Studies

**Denotes an Outstanding Scholarship Award*

Board of Trustee Elections 2007

Nominations for Parent Representative

Nominations are invited for the election of five parent representatives on the Northcote College Board of Trustees for a three year term.

A nomination form is available by contacting the school office.

Nominations close at noon on 15th March, 2007

Polls close / Election Day – 29th March, 2007

If you would like further information about becoming a Trustee at Northcote College, please contact me through the school office 481 0141 or call the School Trustees Association Advisory line on 0800 782 435.

Ms V Barrie
Principal



**PROFESSIONAL AND EMERGING ARTISTS
ART EXHIBITION & SALE**

Gala Opening - Friday 2nd March, 7.00pm - 9.00pm.
Art Exhibition and Sale
Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th March, 10.00 am - 4.00pm.
Northcote College, Kauri Glen Road, Northcote.

Tickets for the Friday night gala opening \$10 per head.
Available from the school office and 'The Embroiderer'
140 Invermay Street, Invermay

For more information please
09 481 0141 EXT.818
www.northcote.school.nz

Maori & Pacific Island Festival

We have entered two groups in the Maori & Pacific Island Festival this year.

Pacific Island Group

Talofa, Ki orana, malo e lelei, Ni Sani, Bula and warm Pacific greetings to you all.

This year the Northcote Pasifika Group will perform on the Niuean stage in the non-competitive section. We are fortunate to have Brad Etuata as our Niuean tutor from Mt Roskill. Brad has been involved in the Maori & Pacific Island Festival for the last 10 years.

It was exciting to see many students from diverse backgrounds attend our first practice this week. If you would like your child to participate, help or support the group, please contact Tofia Taufalele 481 0141 ext 731.



Year 10 Camp

12-16 February 2007

The year got off to a sunny start for Year 10 students. One hundred and ninety students, fourteen staff, twelve parents, six instructors and thirteen senior student helpers made for a hugely successful



outdoor education camp on Motutapu Island. During a week of fantastic weather students experienced ten activities including sailing, waka paddling, kayaking, swimming, raft building, orienteering, high ropes and the very popular survivor challenge.

We re-established the Home Bay camping experience (last done in 2001) for up to 50 students on a daily rotation. This part of the camp was managed by Mr Conrad and Ms Hoyes who were assisted by Year 13 students Jeremy Lydiard and Josh Jones.



Many thanks to all involved in making this such a valuable experience and especially to parent volunteers and to Year 10 students for their willing cooperation and exemplary behaviour.



Past Pupils Reunion

Dont forget the 130 Year Reunion Celebrations will be held 21st-23rd September 2007. Information about events, activities and registration for this weekend will be available shortly on the college website www.northcote.school.nz.

Education for Life

Community Education at Northcote College

www.learn4life.co.nz

email: learn4life@xtra.co.nz ph: 481 0144

Careers 2007

Another busy year is already underway in the Careers area of the school with lunchtime presentations for students at school from universities and other tertiary providers.

	Date	Venue
Pacific International Hotel		
Management School	26 February	Careers Room
University of Auckland	20 March	Lecture Theatre
Massey University	3 April	Lecture Theatre
University of Otago	26 April	Lecture Theatre
AUT	1 May	Lecture Theatre
Waikato University	3 May	Lecture Theatre
Unitec	10 May	Lecture Theatre

Information Evenings

A Careers Evening will be held for Maori students on June 12th and a further evening for Pacifika students on July 24th.

The Pathways Evening is a careers event for all students held on September 13th. Guest speakers will speak about their jobs and their own pathways to success. Universities will be in attendance with their own displays, giving students the chance to ask questions about subject requirements for courses. Parents are invited to be involved. If you would be happy to speak about your industry please contact me for further information.

Ongoing Advice

A noticeboard is located in Support Services providing up to date information on part-time and full-time jobs. The Careers Room provides information from all the tertiary institutes and is open at interval and lunchtime.

Students wanting to discuss their subjects, possible career pathways or obtain assistance with making decisions about their future are able to make an appointment to see me in Support Services. In addition parents are welcome to telephone to arrange an appointment.

Gateway Programme

This programme is offered at Northcote College for the first time in 2007. Gateway provides senior students with valuable learning opportunities within a workplace environment. Students complete a work placement and have their learning assessed against unit and/or achievement standards on the National Qualification Framework and integrated into their current programme of study.

Employers benefit from involvement with the programme through improved public relations and supporting the students from their community. If you are an employer who would like to learn more about the programme or would like to be involved please contact me.

*Rachael Laurenson ~ Careers Advisor
ph 481 0141 ext 712*

2007 Key Dates

Term 1	7 February - 5 April
Term 2	23 April - 29 June
Term 3	16 July - 21 September
Term 4	8 October - 14 December

Important Dates to Diary:

Feb 27	Athletics Day
Mar 2-4	Affair of the Heart Art Exhibition
Mar 4-6	Year 13 Camp
Mar 12	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Mar 14-17	Whanau Group Camp
Mar 21-24	Maori & PI Festival
Mar 29	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Apr 2	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Apr 3	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Apr 6	Good Friday (during school holidays)
Apr 9	Easter Monday (during school holidays)
Apr 25	Anzac Day (school closed)
May 7	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
May 21-25	Senior Exam Week
June 4	Queens Birthday (school closed)
June 6-8	Stage Challenge
June 7	Team Photos
June 11	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
June 16	School Ball
July 16	Teacher Only Day Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Aug 6	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Aug 27	Mid Term Break (school closed)
Aug 27-31	Tournament Week
Aug 28	Teacher Only Day
Sep 3	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Sep 3-7	Senior Exam Week
Sep 19	Senior French (New Caledonia) & Senior Classics (Europe) trips depart
Sep 21-23	130yr Reunion Celebrations
Oct 8	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Oct 22	Labour Day (school closed)
Nov 5	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Nov 15	Senior Prizegiving
Nov 19	NZQA Exams begin
Nov 26-30	Junior Exam Week
Dec 10	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
Dec 14	Junior Prizegiving

Sports Staff Changes

We farewelled Mr Aik Ho (Sports Co-ordinator) on the 2nd of February. As a result of Mr Ho's resignation Mr van der Zwan will take responsibility for both Sport and PE. His new title is Director of Sport, Health and Physical Education. We have a temporary Sports Co-ordinator while we advertise for a permanent replacement for Mr Ho.

Year 9 Parent Handbook

Copies of the Year 9 Parent Handbook are available from the Main Office ph 481 0141.

Prefects 2007

Earlier this month the 2007 Prefects attended a leadership training programme that was offered in partnership with AUT. The three day programme based at the AUT Campus included workshops on team building, goal setting, business planning and public speaking. A highlight for many was the morning spent at the Auckland Domain being put through their paces in a police physical training session.

Stage Challenge 2007

The excitement of last year's success in the Stage Challenge Competition had barely faded before planning started for Northcote's 2007 entry. More than 100 students are involved in this drama and dance spectacle held at the Aotea Centre in early June. Rehearsals will soon be underway and we are seeking willing parents and family members to help with set construction, costumes and props. If you are prepared to assist please contact Karen Russell by e-mail: karenr@northcote.school.nz

Senior Course Assessment Information

Every senior student should have received a Course Outline in each of their subjects providing information about the scheduled assessments this year. NCEA involves school-based assessments in each subject and external examinations in most subjects. Year 11 students will be given information explaining the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) shortly. Detailed information about this national qualification is accessible online: www.nzqa.govt.nz

Within the next few weeks we will be posting an assessment calendar home to parents along with a tracking sheet to enable you to record your child's progress as they complete each assessment task and a copy of the Northcote College Assessment Policy in Practice. If you have any questions about NCEA assessments please feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.

Karen Russell ~ Deputy Principal