



# BREAM BAY COLLEGE

Peter Snell Road, P O Box 111, Ruakaka, NZ  
Ph: 09) 4328226 Fax: 09) 4328228  
Email: [admin@breambaycollege.school.nz](mailto:admin@breambaycollege.school.nz)  
Principal: W.R. Buckland



Newsletter Information: 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2008

## From the Principal

He mihi nui kia koutou katoa

Term 2 has started well. The college issued its half year reports on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of August. A copy was also emailed to all parents who had a current email address. Reading the reports gives a good indication of how the school is going. The reports show that there are a group of outstanding students in all ways, a large group of students who are doing very well in all subjects, a group who is doing well in more than half of their subjects and a very small group who are not achieving. The challenge for the college and parents is to help lift up the students from one group to the next. We hope all parents have taken advantage of the Report Day on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of August to discuss how this can happen. All Heads of Departments have analysed the achievement data of their subject areas and are working on how it can be improved. We will keep you all posted on the outcomes.



Over ninety entries were received for the Bream bay College Science Fair. All students who entered aboard are to be congratulated on their efforts. The calibre of the entries was high again this year.



Bream Bay College's sister school Higashi Senior High School from Osaka city in Japan visited the College from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of July. The link between the two schools is very strong. We will be looking to send a group of year 10 to 13 students to Japan in 2009 to visit the school.

The cost will be approximately \$3500. Details will be given to students shortly. The trip is an experience of a lifetime.





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Peace Week is from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of August. The college wishes its students to be aware of those around them and their needs. Peace week is an ideal opportunity to focus on the many cultures of the world and the conflicts of the past in such a way that the students gain greater understanding of difference, develop their tolerance and act in a way that we can all be proud of. This topic would make a very good dinner table discussion.

**Planning for 2009** has started in earnest. All students in year 8 to 12 will have received Option Choice sheets. The Future Planning Night is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of August from 7pm in the Auditorium. The first half hour will be a chance to learn about the Junior Diploma. There will be some Careers' information for 15 minutes and then students and parents will be able to talk to Heads of Department about the subjects that they are considering for 2009.

**Northland's Mathex competition** will be held at Bream Bay College on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. This is the second time that Bream Bay College has hosted this truly amazing event. Mr Hooper has added a new competition for Primary schools to the start of the programme. We can expect over 1000 Mathematicians participating in this event.

**Buildings update:** The tender for the Performing Arts Block will have been let at the time of you reading this article. The 11 classroom upgrade in the Library block is within budget and should start shortly. The sealing of the Whare car park will happen as soon as the weather allows. The Caretaker's shed extension is nearly finished and the main car park has had wooden fences added to its perimeter so that the front chains are no longer required. Special thanks to Rick Stolwerk, Stuart Abercrombie for organising this and making it happen on behalf of the PTA.



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ERO will visit the College from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of August to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of August. As a result the College has decided to move the Te Tuinga concert from the Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to the Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August. There will be an 11am matinee session for the 3 local primary schools and a 7pm evening performance for the students/parents/community. The reason for the change is that we did not want to have a large number of students out of class while ERO are doing class visits.

## Junior House Volleyball



Bream Bay College has just completed the inter school Junior House Volleyball. There was an awesome turnout from all houses. There is always great rivalry between the houses with each trying to knotch up a win. At the end of the competition Sutherland came in 1<sup>st</sup> with three wins, Inverness came in 2<sup>nd</sup> with two wins, 3<sup>rd</sup> was Argyll with one win and 4<sup>th</sup> was Ross. Well done to all those that participated. In week 4 it will be the seniors turn to give it a go.

## Maths Department News

I have recently had several parents and students ask "*what is the purpose of the Maths Homework books in Years 9 to 12, when the teachers are not regularly setting homework from them?*" Regular homework from these books would not be fair to all students as we make the purchasing of homework books voluntary. Regular homework should be set by the Maths teachers from different sources.

The homework books should be used as a supplement to the classroom learning, and are particularly useful when revising for tests and in the case of the Year 9's and 10's for the End of Year exam mid way through Term 4.

The use of the homework books is largely the student's responsibility. We've encouraged the students this year to do something about their learning if they do not feel completely happy with the classroom learning. Specifically here is how it could work with the Maths Homework books. Ask your child at the end of the week what have they been learning about in Maths. You will quickly be able to gauge their levels of understanding. If they still feel they could learn more then that is when the homework books become useful. Find a page of examples in the homework book



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related to that learning. Much of the time, simple practice with parental support, works wonders.

Obviously, at any time, myself and my colleagues are available to provide extra help with your child's Maths learning.

### ***Great offer....!!!***

For Years 11, 12 and 13 the Maths Study Passes are now available to order. These are wonderful revision pamphlets which fold out to a full colour sheet summarising all the key aspects of the course. Additionally this year, full colour booklets of **ALL** the previous NCEA Exam questions, with solutions, is available. Revising from past exam papers is very useful, especially now that NCEA has been around for several years and the style of questions firmly established. If you go to their website you will find out more information

[www.studypass.co.nz](http://www.studypass.co.nz)

You will also notice the price for the Study Pass and Exam Revision Guide together is \$27.90. However, if you order through school it will cost \$18. If your child would like one please pay into the office as usual, saying the \$18 is for a Maths Study Pass.

### **Website Corner**

Each newsletter we will be publishing several websites which you may find useful to improve learning at home.

<http://www.nzamt.org.nz/sites/cms/>

New Zealand Maths Week, now a national institution, is from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August. Keep an eye on the above website for further updates. There are daily updates, competitions, puzzles and fun for the whole family.

[www.studyit.org.nz](http://www.studyit.org.nz)

Seniors students should always be focussed towards doing well in the end of year NZQA exams. A good website to help revision with plenty of other good links.

### Texting or phoning absences to Bream Bay College

Bream Bay College would like to make parents/caregivers aware that you can text your child/ren's absence to the school office on (027)3602793 or by ringing (09)4328226. The office would like to remind parents of the process for ringing or texting absences:-

- Absences must be registered **every day** with the school; and
- Please state the reason for the absence



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## UP AND COMING EVENTS

### Term 3 - 21 July -26 September 2008

#### August

- 1 Reports issued with interview appointment sheets  
Yr 7&8 Peace Week Training
- 4-8 Peace Week
- 6 Parent/Student Report Day - 10am-6pm - **School closed for tuition**
- 8 Mufti Day
- 11 Drug & Alcohol Awareness Week
- 12 Future Planning night - Auditorium  
7pm- Junior Diploma/Option Choice evening
- 15 Mathex - All welcome  
Principal and Deans to Waipu Primary with Head Prefects
- 18-21 Education Review Office visit
- 19 BOT Meeting, 7pm
- 22 Te Tuinga Matinee performance 11am
- 22 Te Tuinga evening performance 7pm
- 26 Principal and Deans to One Tree Point Primary with Head Prefects
- 26-29 Yr 7&8 Camp to Shakespear Lodge
- 27 PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
- 28 Principal and Deans to Ruakaka Primary with Head Prefects

#### September

- 1-5 Tournament Week  
Gateway Work Experience Week
- 2-5 Yr 7&8 Camp to Shakespear Lodge
- 7 Mana Tu Day
- 10 PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
- 15 Ski Trip - NCEA Level 1,2,&3
- 16 BOT Meeting, 7pm
- 19 Mufti Day/School Social
- 24 Music Night
- 26 Term 3 ends



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## UP & COMING SPORTING EVENTS

August

- 5 'Get to Go' OPC Challenge
- 6 Greenwood Shield - Hockey North Harbour  
Clay Target, Dargaville
- 13 Netball Tournament - Seniors
- 20 Yr 7&8 Sports Exchange - Pompallier College
- 27 First XV Rugby Match - Dargaville High School



### FREE language games for you at home!

Christine Birss and Peter Hope of Bayleys, Northland have partnered with New Beginnings Educational Resources and kindly donated a subscription to our school valued at \$600 + GST.

All of the staff and students at Bream Bay College can access these games and activities in French, Spanish, German, Italian and English at school and at home. The student's websites are Linguastars, Linguascope and Linguaprime and can be found at:

[www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com)

You can get your password from the Languages Department or you can email [info@newbeginnings.co.nz](mailto:info@newbeginnings.co.nz).

Thanks again to:

Christine Birss (027) 2354323 and  
Peter Hope (021) 536222. Kauri Realty Ltd MREINZ.

