# Te Kura o Kaipatiki

# **School Newsletter**

10 May 2012

# Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers Tena Koutou Katoa



Mr E A Bento Principal

# Building a Future

Another Anzac Day came and went and we all enjoyed the day off but I count myself as fortunate that for the last 18 years at least, I have attended a service and had time to think and reflect. As a Principal, I have attended these services with students and since I have been at Glenfield College, I have been proud to attend with our student leaders. At these services I have often been asked to speak and I keep coming back to a familiar theme. I ask each one of us to honestly evaluate how we are preserving all those qualities and characteristics of New Zealand society that so many of our young men and women died to save. Are we the fair, just, equitable and caring society that they gave their lives for? Are we a land of freedom and opportunity, a land where hard work is rewarded? Is this us or have we lost our way? I use the occasion to

challenge our students to ask themselves if they are making the most of the opportunities that our school provides. When more than half the teenagers in the world do not get a secondary education at all, we are fortunate to live in a lucky country and sadly when things come easy some do not appreciate their value. I tell the students that we owe it to those who died to preserve our way of life, to use all our talents, to work hard to make the most of the opportunities that a relatively free education provides. To muck around at school and waste the opportunity to better themselves and gain good qualifications is a slap in the face to those who fought for something better. Perhaps we can both push that message.

Term 2 is now well underway and senior students are facing a schedule of regular internal assessments from now on. To simply not do assignment work and hand it in on time or to not revise and prepare for an internal assessment is not good enough. In partnership with us, please take a keen interest in your child's education, whether they have homework or not and when their assessments are and their plans to prepare for them. The life of X-Box, Facebook and the local shopping mall is too comfortable for too many but it is not real and does not build a future. We want all our students to work hard to maximise their potential in their time with us and we need your help. Together we can do it!

#### Parent Portal

Don't forget that you can keep up-to-date with your child's achievement, attendance and pastoral record through our Parent Portal. To receive your log-in information, please email to reply@gc.ac.nz and type in the subject 'PARENT PORTAL — CHILD'S NAME'.

#### Sports Season Opens

The winter sports season is now underway so the usual reminders are appropriate. Students who have signed up for teams and are training and playing with them must continue to do so all season. This is the commitment that we expect. If they are sick or injured, they let the coach know, otherwise they are at every practice and game. This is what being part of a team is all about.

Please support your child's team but always be good role models. Encourage and applaud good play but leave the refereeing to the referee.

#### Term Calendar - Month of June

I need to draw your attention to the following dates on which the school is closed for classes:

Friday June 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-Term Break
Monday June 4<sup>th</sup> Queen's Birthday
Wednesday June 13<sup>th</sup> Teacher Only Day

# International Week Food Fiesta

Can you help by hosting a stall? Phone Ms Ferguson on 444 9066 or email <a href="mailto:g.ferguson@gc.ac.nz">g.ferguson@gc.ac.nz</a> immediately!

### **ABSENCES**

Please phone the Student Centre on 441-9773 or 444-9066 ext 813 or email the attendance administrator on <a href="mailto:absences@gc.ac.nz">absences@gc.ac.nz</a> to report your child's absence. This email address is now available on the school website for your convenience.

## What you need to know about the Student Centre?

- Entry through the door on the left side of the Administration Block.
- · Payment Centre is there.
- Services provided for parents and students:
  - · Late sign-in to school
  - · Early sign-out from school
  - Lost property
  - Information to reach your child
  - Pick up your child during school hours (eg when your child is sick)

# Important Dates

May 28<sup>th</sup> International Week begins

Jun 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-term break

Jun 4<sup>th</sup> Queen's birthday

Jun 13<sup>th</sup> Teacher Only Day

Jun 29<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 2

July 16<sup>th</sup> First day of Term 3



You can now view courses available and enrol online at http://www.gcc.co.nz/

For more information, contact Nadine Hoskins on 444-1353 or email glenced@ihug.co.nz

#### Choi Kwang Do Martial Art North Harbour



Our Teen/Adult classes provide a safe non-competitive and non-contact environment to learn a self defence martial art. Have some fun, grow in confidence and keep active while learning a valuable life skill. There is no sparring as we prefer defensive drills and no locking out of joints to maintain health and wellbeing. All fitness and ability levels are welcome to this family martial art.

Contact Tracey on 027 408 6839 or visit www.choinorthharbour.co.nz for more information.



# GLENFIELD HAS TALENT

9<sup>th</sup> August 2012
Bruce Mason Theatre
Takapuna

A night not to be missed as students from eight schools within Glenfield show case their fabulous talent

Tickets will be on sale soon















