

Auckland International College Newsletter

May 2015

this issue

Student receives offer from world's top university

Essay competition winner

Year 12 student represents NZ in weightlifting

AIC students selected for Maths and Biology Olympiad teams

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award



Coming Events

Friday 15 May

- Yonsei University visit
Lunchtime

Monday 18 May

- Teacher Only Day for university reference and letters of recommendation writing
- No classes
- Buses running as usual for IBDP History exams

Tuesday 19 May – Friday 29 May

- Year 12 exams

Friday 22 May

- AIC Graduation ceremony, 11:45am seated for midday start at the Tabernacle, 429 Queen Street.
- Year 13 Graduation dinner 6:30-10:30pm Alexandra Park Greenlane West, Epsom

Saturday 23 May

- AIC seminar for interested prospective parents and students 2pm in College Hall
- Tuesday 2 June – Friday 5 June
Year 11 exams

Saturday 6 June

- SAT Subject tests at AIC

Friday 12 June

- Oxford University skype session 8:50am for interested Year 12 with AIC graduate, Young Lu (studying Economics and Management at St Hugh's College)

Saturday 13 June

- ACT (With Writing) at AIC

Friday 26 June

- AIC Prize giving 10am in the Performing Arts Centre, Blockhouse Bay Primary School
- School reports
- School finishes 1:35pm

Dear Parents

I am pleased to report that all of Year 13 have university offers well matched to their individual talents and many top ranked. Among the offers are the following reputable universities: world no. 1 ranked university, California Institute of Technology, Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, Dartmouth, University of California Berkeley, Johns Hopkins, Duke, University of Chicago, University of California Los Angeles, University of Chicago, Toronto, University of British Columbia, University of Hong Kong, University of Tokyo, Seoul National University, Oxford, and an impressive 26 students received offers from the no.9 ranked Imperial College London.

Based on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, AIC has a proud history of achieving offers from all of the top 10 universities. The College's clear focus, internationally experienced, supportive and committed teachers, strong university guidance programme, consistently strong IB Diploma results and students with high aspirations - all combine to create an outstanding track record. Congratulations to students and teachers and thank you to you, our parents, for your support of the College ethos.

We look forward to seeing those of you able to attend our Graduation Ceremony at midday Friday 22 May at the Tabernacle, 429 Queen Street, as we celebrate the success of our graduating class. We will watch with interest, as they continue with their lives at universities and on to the world of work beyond. Just as they have been supported by our alumni it is hoped that they, too, will continue as AIC alumni to support their College and its students.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Solomon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carolyn Solomon
Principal

AIC Stars

Congratulations to Cherie Jia, accepted for California Institute of Technology, ranked no. 1 in the world. This is an outstanding achievement. Cherie has an impressive profile. She has been selected for the New Zealand International Biology Olympiad team, received an offer also from Oxford University and established a charity which fundraised for computers for the Auckland Cerebral Palsy School.

She was selected to represent NZ youth as a member of the International Cerebral Palsy Society, and her charity, Pegasus' Wings of Friendship, was selected by Auckland City Council for their Youth Changemaker programme.

Cherie (right) plans to study chemical engineering at Caltech.



Congratulations to Sean Hong (left) for his silver medal in the Princeton University 2015 Youth & Spotlighting North Korean Human Rights Multi-Media Contest. His essay was entitled "The Darkness and Light in the Peninsula."

Congratulations to Miles Lee (right) who will represent New Zealand at the 2015 International Mathematical Olympiad in Thailand in July.



Congratulations to Amy Chen who has been selected to represent New Zealand for weightlifting at the Oceania Games this July in the youth 53kg class.



Amy lifts 81 kg at the Auckland championships

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

Congratulations to Theo Kim who has achieved the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. His qualifying expedition was on the challenging Hillary Trail on Auckland's west coast. An excerpt from Theo's expedition report and a picture from the Trail below:

"I think life is similar to the Hillary Trail; there will always be another hill waiting one after another, and we will always feel a mixture of surprise, disappointment and joy. We just have to push on and appreciate the beauty of moving through each process, even if it means just appreciating that there will always be difficulties we have to face. What I learnt most from this expedition was that I need to stop being so stubborn and appreciate the surroundings a bit more; for example, my cramps were gone after my body adapted to the effort required to walk the Hillary Trail. My headache was gone after I just took more sips of water and fastened my waist belt tighter so that my pack weight was transferred from my shoulders. And next time, I will listen to my teammates and my parents to always wear sunscreen when tramping, so that I don't get sunburn and blisters. Even the seemingly most difficult problems can be solved by simple changes of action."



Year 13's final challenge—another IB Diploma exam about to start

AIC Credo: "If I am not for myself, who is for me? If I care only for myself, who am I?"



From the AIC Librarian—Michelle Goodall

A few years ago I opened a fortune cookie and found this statement - “Others will be astonished by your success.” Even though it came from a cookie (and so is probably not worth taking *too* seriously), I feel that it summed up a fundamental aspiration for my life and work. We all have the ability to be successful, as long as the conditions are right. So when I came to AIC, the first thing I thought was “How successful is this library at serving its community? How can this library directly contribute to the success of every student?”

My first thought was to find out what the students and teachers wanted and needed from a library. I used their ideas to make the library more focused on the AIC community.

I believe the library should be somewhere you *want* to visit. We are very lucky to have a fantastic team of student librarians who are always coming up with new ideas. I continually ask students and staff for feedback and purchasing suggestions. I also try to make the library welcoming and interesting by displaying student projects.

I am constantly working on developing the collection, the space and ways to assist staff and students. To encourage students I sometimes visit classes to talk about new books, referencing or research using electronic databases. I’m always extending the range of study guides, textbooks and university resources. We also have specially selected non-fiction, magazines, award winning novels and books by popular authors. The new library catalogue is available through the AIC website. If you’re at school please feel free to come in and say hello.



Michelle Goodall in the AIC Library

Term Dates 2015—2016

Term 1	Thursday 23 July 2015	Friday 25 September 2015
Term 2	Monday 12 October 2015	Friday 18 December 2015
Term 3	Thursday 28 January 2016	Friday 8 April 2016
Term 4	Tuesday 26 April 2016	Tuesday 28 June 2016