

# Berkley Normal Middle School

## Looking to the future - 2012

### Berkley goes for International Baccalaureate (IB)

Berkley is in the process of applying to become a member of the IB community. The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end IB works with schools to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, life long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The programme was created by a group of international school educators in the 60's, who wished to create a non-national based "best practice" educational framework for international schools.

Any school wishing to offer the Primary Years' Programme and attain IB World School status must first go through the authorisation process. The process is designed to ensure schools are well prepared to implement the programme successfully.

This is a challenging programme that demands the best from both motivated students and teachers. Teams from the organisation visit IB World Schools from time to time in order to support an ongoing process of review and development, using standards and practices that apply to all IB World Schools.

IB works with 3,285 schools in 141 countries to offer the three IB programmes to approximately 958,000 students. The IB offers three programmes for students aged 3 - 19 years. The (PYP) Primary Years' Programme ([www.ibo.org/pyp](http://www.ibo.org/pyp)) for students aged 3 to 12 started in 1997 and is now offered by 819 IB World Schools.

The (MYP) Middle Years' Programme ([www.ibo.org/myp](http://www.ibo.org/myp)) for students aged 11 - 16 started in 1994 and is now offered by 912 IB World Schools.

The Diploma Programme for students aged 16-19 started in 1968 with first examinations in 1970 and is now offered by 2,305 IB World Schools.

## Upcoming Events

15 July	Focus - Storytelling End of Term 2
17 July	Smokefree Rockquest
01 August	Term 3 starts
02 August	ICAS English BOT Meeting 6.00pm
04 August	School Science Fair Focus - Kapa Haka
08 August	Focus - Manawanui
11 August	SS7 X Country Next Korero home
12 August	Pulse - 7.00pm
15 August	Early finish - 2.45pm
16 August	ICAS Mathematics Interschool Badminton and Gymnastics Yr 9 Get 2 Go Challenge
18 August	Open Evening
19 August	Mufti Day
22 August	Focus - Kia Kaha
23 August	Interschool X Country
24 August	Berkley Spelling Bee
1 September	Social Dance

**The following is a cut and paste from the IB website:**

***"The IB is unique.***

- *We offer a **continuum of education**, consisting of three individual programmes. We span the years from kindergarten to a pre-university diploma. While we are traditionally known for the Diploma Programme, IB World Schools increasingly offer all three programmes.*
- *We are proud of our reputation for **high quality education** sustained for*

- *over 35 years. Our curriculum represents the best of many different countries rather than the exported national system of any one. The world's leading universities recognize our challenging Diploma Programme assessment. We maintain our high standards by actively training and supporting teachers, and by authorizing and evaluating IB World Schools.*
- *We encourage **international-mindedness** in IB students. To do this, we believe that students must first develop an understanding of their own cultural and national identity. All IB students learn a second language and the skills to live and work with others internationally—essential for life in the 21st century.*
- *We encourage a **positive attitude to learning** by encouraging students to ask challenging questions, to reflect critically, to develop research skills, and to learn how to learn. We encourage community service because we believe that there is more to learning than academic studies alone.*
- *We ensure that our programmes are **accessible** to students in a wide variety of schools—national, international, public and private—in 141 countries. These IB World Schools form a worldwide community in which there is no such thing as a “typical” school (more than 50% of IB students are in state-funded schools). IB World Schools cooperate in curriculum development, student assessment and the governance of the IB, making this a unique international collaboration.”*

As part of our application to become a candidate school there is to be a consultation evening next term for parents/caregivers. In attendance will be staff from an authorized IB school.

In the meantime I invite you to visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) for more information.

## Information Evening

Our school is “in action” on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August. I would like to thank in advance, students and families for their support on this evening. Parents and students looking at schooling options for 2012 get real value out of seeing our school in action. There will also be a meeting for all those families who are considering the Year 9 option. This will be held in Room 8A at 7.30pm.

Berkley students are great ambassadors. Their understanding of our school and the enthusiastic manner in which they share the way they are meeting our “take up the challenge” motto is valuable information for decision-making. Many students see Berkley as their school of choice after engaging with our learning community on this night.

## Berkley Enrolment

Enrolments for 2012 close on Friday 2nd September. The enrolment ballot will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

Prospectus is available at the school office from Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2011, or visit our website – [www.berkley.school.nz](http://www.berkley.school.nz)

## Open Season

Many high schools will be holding Open Days early in Term 3. If students are attending any of these, they must inform us in writing of their plans. No student will be allowed to leave our school unless picked up by a parent/caregiver. It is important for safety reasons we know where our students are at all times.

The following are Information Evenings and Open Days as supplied to us:

### Information Evenings:

Hamilton Girls' High - Tuesday 9 August  
Hillcrest High School - Wednesday 10 August  
Cambridge High School– Tuesday 16 August

### Open Days

Hillcrest High School - Wednesday 10 August  
Hamilton Girls' High - Tuesday 16 August  
Hamilton Boys' High - Tuesday 16 August

**Year 9 Enrolments for 2012**

When considering placement for next year we wish to signal that Berkley be a serious consideration. For the past 14 years, approximately 550 students have chosen to be a senior (Yr 9) in our school. There are 53 students this year.

When looking at learning and extra curricula opportunities, most are surprised just how much is on offer for our senior students. Often the question is asked "How do they find transition to high school a year later?" This is most effectively answered by the performance of those who have taken this path. There are many success stories academically, in sport, cultural and in leadership roles.

**Year 9 Meeting**

During our Open Evening (**18th August at 7.30pm**) there will be a meeting in Room 8A where we present our Year 9 programme and respond to questions. We require an enrolment form to be completed for Year 9 placements.

**Hillcrest High School 2012****Year 10 Enrolment Details for Berkley Year 9 students.**

The transition process for our Year 9 students will begin term 4, with the Berkley staff meeting with Hillcrest High teachers to discuss student placement. In addition, Berkley Year 9 students wishing to enrol at Hillcrest High School next year will need to note the following dates.

**Open Day/ Information Evening** - Wednesday 10th August.

**Year 10 - In Zone Enrolment** - applications must be received by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**Year 10 - Out of Zone Enrolment** - applications must be received by Tuesday 25th October.

**Year 10 Orientation** will take place on Thursday **2nd February 2012**, which is also the day Year 9 students start at the school. All new students will be welcomed at a Powhiri and then the new Year 10's will spend the morning at the school for Orientation.

**Music****Big Night In**

Congratulations to the students who performed in Big Night In. We were privileged to enjoy a variety of performances and extremely proud of the high standard of musicianship. Video footage will be available via ultranet by the end of the week.

**Smokefree Rockquest**

Our Big Night In band competition winners will represent us at the 'Smokefree Rockquest' on Sunday 17 July. This event is held at the Founders Theatre. Tickets are available at the door. Our students will perform at approximately 3.00pm.

**Pulse**

Pulse is an inter-intermediate Rock Band Competition and will be held at the Gateway Christian Centre on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, from 7.00 – 9.15pm. We are pleased to have two of our school bands performing on this night. Come along and support this fun and entertaining evening. Tickets are purchased at the door.

**Extra Curricular Opportunities**

Planning is now well advanced for our cultural trips to Makuhari (4 students) and Noumea (11 students). In ten weeks we are on our way to Japan. The Noumea group will start their weekly French lessons next term with Britta Frogley in preparation for their November trip.

**NZAIMS** - We have over 70 students participating in this annual event. Badminton, Netball, Water Polo and a Boys Soccer team are participating. Also many individual sports such as Golf, Badminton, Indoor Bowls, Cross Country, Tennis and Swimming.

**Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre** Thirty students, two adults and one teacher will be on this week-long adventure during the last week of Term Three.

**Dental Treatment for Berkley Students**

Recently Berkley students had a dental examination with the Dental Therapist at our school.

Students who require further treatment will be notified about an appointment time later next term. This will now take place at the new Dental Centre which has just opened up at Peachgrove Intermediate School.

