

## From the teachers

In English, verbs may be **active** or **passive**. In sentences with **active** verbs, the subject performs ("does") the action. In sentences with **passive** verbs, the subject **receives** the action. (That is, someone or something other than the actual subject grammatically performs the action.)

Passive verbs always have at least two parts: a form of **be** and a **past participle**. In the simple present and simple past tenses, only these two parts are used:

### Simple Present

A saw **is used** to cut wood.

This newsletter **is written** on a PC.



### Simple Past

This house **was built** in 1930.

New Zealand's first beer **was brewed** in 1773.



Taupo Trip 3-5 August 2007



## From the Principal's Desk

There are some big changes at FIS this month as we introduce our full-time IELTS preparation course. In the morning students will learn advanced grammar and practise IELTS reading and listening, while in the afternoon they will concentrate on speaking and writing. This course is already proving very popular, but I need to remind you that you must be upper intermediate level or above to join it.

Please don't forget about Homework Club: Mondays and Wednesdays 3.10pm to 4.10pm. The teachers do this for free, so please take advantage of the opportunity.

It sounds like everyone had a great time on the Taupo trip. We will be organising another trip away for you in October. This month we feature some writing by students about the trip and other FIS activities.

In September we celebrate Auckland's "birthday" and there is plenty to see and do in Auckland City's Heritage Festival. There are lots of tours and opportunities to see inside buildings that are not normally open to the public. You can find more details in the brochures in the student common area (where we have assembly). I encourage you all to take part in this great event.

Regards

Peter

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# September 2007

SUN	MON	TUESDAY	WED	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
						1
2	3 HW Club	4 Tutorial: Reading <b>Two minute stories</b>	5 HW Club	6 Tutorial: Grammar <b>So / neither</b>	7 Activity: <b>Mini Golf</b>	8
9	10 HW Club	11 Tutorial: Grammar <b>Reported speech</b>	12 HW Club	13 Tutorial: Writing <b>Writing home</b>	14 Activity: <b>Auckland Zoo</b>	15
16	17 HW Club	18 Tutorial: Vocabulary <b>How do you feel?</b>	19 HW Club	20 Tutorial: Grammar <b>Pres perfect simple / cont</b>	21 Activity: <b>Picnic at One Tree Hill</b>	22
23	24 HW Club	25 Tutorial: <b>Test Preparation</b>	26 <b>TEST</b>	27 Tutorial: <b>Test Review</b>	28 Activity: <b>Library Tour</b>	29



### **Schooltrip - TAUPO (Kim from Korea)**

I have very good memories of the Taupo trip my schoolfriends and I did with FIS. After arriving in Taupo in the afternoon, we unpacked our suitcases in the different rooms. After that, we watched the Maori Culture Show. It was a very special experience for me. At night, after dinner I had a talk with my schoolmates while drinking beers. On the second day in the early morning we went to a ski field, it was snowy. For the first time in New Zealand I saw snow, so I felt like I was in Korea. We rented snowboard equipment and learned how to snowboard from an expert. Finally we had time to snowboard by ourselves and I felt down a lot. At night we had a BBQ buffet dinner. After dinner we used a "Hot Spa Pool" at Wairakei Terraces. Afterwards I was so tired, because from snowboarding. However the Hot Pool made me relaxed. On the last day in the morning we went to do Bungy Jumping. When I looked down I was terrified. Although a few students and one teacher did the Bungy Jumping. Next we visited the famous Huka Falls. When I saw the waterfall I was full of admiration. The nature there is gorgeous. Then we visited a geothermal powerstation. The powerstation is using the earth's heat to generate power. On the way back to Auckland we went to Rotorua. In Rotorua we visited the governmental gardens and the museum. The museum building was gorgeous as well. The gardens were decorated beautifully too. We arrived back in Auckland at about 6 pm. I had a pleasant time during the Taupo trip.

### **Friday Activity – KARAOKE (Mirai from Japan)**

One of the Friday school activities I really enjoyed was singing Karaoke with many schoolmates. First of all, I heard a lot of Korean songs from Korean who are good at singing. Next I sang two Japanese songs with my Japanese friend. It was the first time since I have come to New Zealand, I was so happy to sing Japanese Songs after such a long time. In addition thanks to singing I got rid of stress. After that our teachers Julian and Steve sang a song of the Beatles, a duet. They also have great voices. Similarly my voice is good too. Finally one of my best friends at school John and a female student danced strangely to the music that they were singing. It made me really laugh. As a result I really enjoyed Karaoke with them. Even though I didn't have a lot of friends at school, after Karaoke I had a lot. Moreover I have good memories thanks to school activities such as Karaoke.

### **Friday Activity – DEVONPORT (Paan from Thailand)**

Last month we went to Devonport for our Friday Activities. It was a lovely trip. First we came to meet my friends at school. When I arrived at school after lunch there were four fire engines in front of the school building because a fire alarm in the building had gone off. But it was just an alarm there was nothing damaged. Then we went to the ferry port to cross the sea to Devonport. When we were on the ferry the view of the city from the ferry was beautiful, it looked like a toy model city. Fifteen minutes later we arrived at Devonport and started to walk to Mt. Victoria. On the way there were lots of restaurants and cafes which looked very classy. While we were walking we sometimes stopped to take photos of nice sceneries. Later we arrived at the top of Mt. Victoria where we could see both the city and Devonport. At the Devonport side it was very beautiful; the sky was bright blue in contrast to the colour of the houses, so we took lots of pictures there. After that we went down Mt. Victoria and went back to the city. On my way back home I was still thinking of Devonport. Hopefully I will have a chance to go to that beautiful place again.