



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This week we have had the full school Athletics Day, replete with house-based competition and all the while our fingers crossed that the remnants of Cyclone Gita would not visit upon us. It was a fun, energetic and extremely tiring day, and one well worth the great deal of planning and work that went into it from the Sports Department and Physical Education Learning Area staff. Our entire staff were over at the Hutt Rec on the day, and I do want to thank them for getting into the spirit of the dress-up and rah rah day that it is, even while it encompasses the efforts of serious athletes competing to lay down bids to be in the Zone team for further competition. Thanks to all involved.

Last week we published the names of scholarship winners from the 2017 cohort. One additional award we did not know of at the time was Chenchen Huang's overall New Zealand Outstanding Scholar Award, one of 49 awarded in the country and gaining for Chenchen a \$5000 per year study award. That's an exceptional achievement and we congratulate him.

The entire result from last year merits some unpacking. Ours students gained 39 scholarships in total. Each one means the student is in the top 3 to 3.5% of the country in that subject. For ten of those scholarships the award was at Outstanding level, placing the individual in the top 0.3% of the country for the subject. The total number of scholarships ranked us 19th in New Zealand's 547 secondary and composite schools. It ranked us second in the Greater Wellington area. Both of those are bests for the school. While normally it would be bad form to single out a particular area of the school - as many teachers in a wide range of subjects are tutoring students for these examinations - it would also be wrong not to note the English Learning Area's excellent results. As an individual subject area their total (17 scholarships including 10 Outstanding) is the sixth best English total in the country. The number of Outstanding English results is first equal. By any measure, 2017 was a highly successful one for the school in this, the most demanding examination available to Year 13 students. And that raises the final point; eight

of our students enjoying this success did so as Year 12 students competing against a cohort one year older. Congratulations to all the students from 2017 scholarship examinations and to their tutors and teachers for the hours put in to make that success happen.

I also want to recognise Victoria Hunt's success in Year 13 Art last year. Her folio has been selected as one of 60 to tour the country in the Top Art Exhibition, a very clear recognition of the strength and impact of her work.

The last area I want to mention this week is the two assemblies held yesterday. Each was organised by students of the year level involved; Year 9 and Year 10. In the Year 10 assembly, the students were led by the organisers and by the Year 10 Maori class in learning the school's new waiata. The Dean Mr Harrison spoke on the broad topic of wellbeing, and a visitor from "Shift" spoke to girls (as she did also with Year 9) offering them the chance to take part in an after school programme ranging across physical activity, self-defence, yoga, relationships and friendships. The total range was a powerful message about good will, high spirits and strengthening our community. In the Year 9 assembly - their first - 9HAVY bravely stepped up to run a series of parts that included a Year 9 singer, outlines of the achievements of five ex-students of the school who were all very recognisable successes, promotions of forthcoming events, and the school motto Ad Alta was unpacked and the qualities bound in those words were highlighted. This, too, was an assembly that reflected really well on the students. It's a significant thing when strongly positive citizenship values are actively promoted to students by their peers. I came away, as I'm sure many did, thinking we're in for a great year.

Ross Sinclair
Principal

Looking Ahead

February

26-28	International Orientation Camp
27	ID Photo Catch Up Day
27	Year 11 Geography Trip
27	Year 11 PE Activity Day
27	Whanau Hui, 6.00 pm
28	Year 11 Art Trip to Petone
28-1 Mar	Gateway Health and Safety Course
28	Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm

March

1	Year 11 PE Activity Day
1-2	Student Mediator Training
2	Year 11 History Trip
2	Year 13 Canterbury University Visit
4-7	Year 12 Tongariro Trip
5	Civil Defence Training Day
6	Gateway Site Safe Course
7	Wanderers Cricket Match
7	Drama Trip to Massey University
8	Hutt Zone Athletics
13-16	Gateway First Aid Courses
15	School Cross Country
18-23	Year 12 PE Catchpool Camps
19-23	Summer Sports Tournament Week
20-23	Employment Ready First Aid Courses
21	Year 9 Social, 7.00 pm
21-28	Suginami High School Visit

Whanau Hui

Ngā mihi o te tau hou! Welcome back to all our whānau Māori at Hutt Valley High School - and to our new whānau, nau mai haere mai!

Let's start the school year off on a positive note....and with a kai. All Māori students and their families are invited to a BBQ at Hotuwaipara, the HVHS marae, on Tuesday 27 February at 6.00 pm. Bring something to throw on the bar-b and be ready to meet some friends, new and old, and talk about Māori achievement at HVHS. See you there!

Snapper Cards - please register

If your child uses a snapper card, please go online to register it: <https://www.snapper.co.nz/create-account/>

If a lost card is registered we can contact Snapper and then return to the student.

Congratulations to:

- ★ Congratulations to **Sam Zhu** 13LB who has been selected for the 2018 New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra.
- ★ Congratulations to **Leroy Paton-Goldsbury** 11RI one of 12 regionally selected students to be an Arts Ambassador to the New Zealand Festival of the Arts 2018.

HVHS Facebook Page

Here is the link to our school facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hvhs.school.nz/> or go to the school website and click on the FB link <http://www.hvhs.school.nz/about-us/student-online-services/>

Boys Football Notices

Boys Football pre-season sessions for HVHS will be held at Petone Memorial Park on the following days: 22, 27 February, 5 and 7 March - 4.00-5.30 pm

Boys Football Trials for HVHS will be held at Petone Memorial Park on the following days: 12, 14 and 19 March - 4.00-5.00 pm

All registered Football Boys are welcome at pre-season and trials. The teams will be selected after the trials and will start practicing after that.

School Uniforms

Every two years the school reviews its uniform agreements with suppliers to ensure that it is obtaining value for money, quality and high levels of customer service. This review occurred in the later half of 2017 and the following items were tested in the market; ties, trousers, shirts/blouses, and hats. In October 2017 our uniform prices were benchmarked against Chilton, Naenae, St Bernards, Sacred Heart, Wainuiomata, Upper Hutt, Newlands and Wellington Girls' colleges. After careful consideration of this market appraisal, the school chose exclusive arrangements with Argyle Schoolwear, Get Tied, The Wright Stuff (sports uniform), NZ Knit and Sock Makers. The school continues to use both Langford Graphics and Muzzy Print for embroidering of the school logo onto items of uniform. The school considers that it remains in the best interests of students and their whānua/family to provide uniform on an exclusive supplier basis using an in-house uniform shop which also provides all student payment services, textbook allocations and basic stationery sales.