



# Hutt Valley High School News

## Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

For many students the next two weeks are the culmination of their winter sports season, with the knock-out phase well under way. Details of semi-finals and finals are on the Sports Department page and on the school app. Best wishes to all those who are involved in the play-off stages of their competitions.

Last week we received the good news from Victoria University that 106 of our former students will graduate this year with degrees or diplomas. It's great to see such a large number continuing into a tertiary setting and meeting success. Victoria is, of course, only one of several tertiary institutions in the greater Wellington area, and the various institutions will hold open days on 26 August. That will provide an opportunity for Year 13 students to visit the providers in which they are interested, and both familiarise themselves with their settings and with programmes they offer. As our seniors prepare for next year, one abiding issue is the cost of the next steps in their education. The school subscribes to a database of awards and scholarships to help with this process and Ms Clarke spends lunchtimes on Tuesday and Thursday in C17 helping students find awards for which they might be eligible. In some instances the results make a substantial impact on students' tertiary education costs.

Last weekend was the Past Pupils and Friends' 90<sup>th</sup> Celebration here at school, and the event was clearly appreciated by the attendees. Those present included Eileen Smeaton, who at 102 years of age is our oldest ex-student. A recorded interview she has done discussing her school days was played, to the considerable interest of all. In a glimpse of the paucity of resources back then, she told of her Typing class of 30 students for which there were 3 typewriters available. That's some step from the modern Bring Your Own Device environment of a fully broadband wireless campus of today. Outside the technological changes, much of what was discussed was very much the stuff of today. Memories centred around teachers who could make subjects come alive, who paid individual attention to their students, who challenged them to thrive and to strive, and who helped them to believe in themselves so they could take the risks of potential failure in order to learn how to succeed. Great teachers of the past had changed individuals' lives. Nothing changes.

I do want to thank Christine Barnett and staff member Katriona MacDonald, of the Past Pupils and Friends' Association for the many hours they put in to make the event happen. Staff member Judith Gardiner, Colleen Cresswell and ex student Jean Bowden are the three archives enthusiasts whose work made a compelling display in the Student Centre, providing

material that the guests spent a lot of time reading and commenting on. The day also illuminated just how important the various display boards are around the school. The lists of head prefects, duxes, scholarship winners, award winners and the named photographs of sports teams through the years all registered very strongly with the past pupils, either in recognising their own names or those of siblings, friends or acquaintances. The archival work in behind those items is purely voluntary, and it was great to see the reward for our busy archivists that the visitors' clear fascination and reminiscing indicated. Thanks also goes to Grace Davey, Gary Wilby and Katriona MacDonald whose musical concert entertained the community and reunion goers on Saturday afternoon. The concert was shifted from its usual evening slot so that it was available for the ex-students who greatly appreciate both the range and quality of the music provided.

The weekend also saw several groups of ex-students meeting around the Valley to renew their links. As we build on those meetings by sharing databases we will be able to develop our alumni contacts further, and that is a project that the Board of Trustees has already begun work on in conjunction with the Campus of the Future project. The Campus project, which is in its final drafting stages, will guide the path we take in developing the school and the site. Alongside that work a database is being prepared listing every single student who has ever attended the school, along with the staff over 90 years. It's a big job, and it will ensure a core record exists from which we will then build contact details of individual or their families, anecdotes etc. Our aim with the Campus of the Future plan is to ensure that the school's future site developments are part of an overall integrated plan. Meanwhile the archival and alumni work will provide a strong connection with the past of the school and the personalities and events that have shaped it over the years. I'm hopeful that last weekend celebrates the past while providing the springboard and impetus for the next phase of the school's connections with its community. By building those connections we make ourselves a stronger entity well placed to develop our role a major driver of the heart of the Hutt Valley.

Ross Sinclair  
Principal



## Congratulations to:

- ★ The group of 20 students who took part in the Tough Guy/Girl mud run challenge. In freezing conditions the students ran the 6km track superbly and **Brayan Heredia Santamaria** 11MO managed to come in at second place in his division out of 260 students from around the North Island. **Amy Francois** also came 1st in the female teachers category.
- ★ To those students who competed in the Lower Hutt Zone Scouts Winter camping competition last weekend in challenging conditions. The following students of patrol leaders:  
**Todd Wellwood** 10WDST - placed 1st  
**Ellie Pennington** 10BEPA - placed 4th  
**Jackson Taylor** 9HLYN - placed 5th.
- ★ **Honestly Morete** 12CV who has been selected as a model for NZ Fashion Week. Read about her here :  
<http://www.viva.co.nz/article/fashion/models-to-watch-at-nzfw-2016/>
- ★ Congratulations to the **Girls First XI Football Team** who won the final last night against St Marys College 1-0.
- ★ The **Girls Second XI Football Team** also won their final yesterday and will play a Wellington North team for the zone final.
- ★ The **Boys First XI Football Team** won 3-0 in a friendly/preparation game against Palmerston North Boys High School yesterday

**Noeline Hannan** (longest current serving staff member), **Christine Barnett** (past pupil and PPFA member), **Katriona MacDonald** (current staff member and PPFA Committee) and **Eileen Smeaton** (oldest past pupil 102 years old).



## Looking Ahead

### August

- 22-26 Year 13 Drama Production
- 22-23 Year 12 Sport and Outdoor Ed Trip**
- 23 Year 12 Geography Trip
- 24 Year 12 Hands on Georgraphy Trip**
- 24 Winter Sports Photos
- 24 Mathswell Competition—Year 10**
- 26 Tertiary Institutions Open Day
- 28-2 Sept Winter Sports Tournament Week**
- 29 Mid Term Break - school closed
- 30 Mathswell Competition Year 9**
- 31 Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm

### September

- 1 Mathswell Competition Year 11**
- 1-2 All Blacks Trophy Tournament
- 6-10 Year 12 Fashion Exhibition - Dowse**
- 7 Year 13 Tough Guy and Girl Challenge

## Rugby Semi Finals Weekend

**HVHS First XV vs Onslow**  
**Saturday 20 August, 1.00 pm, Onslow College**

**HVHS Under 55s vs St Patricks College**  
**Saturday 20 August, 11.30 pm, home game**

Support welcomed - good luck boys!

## Car Wash and Bake Sale

**Saturday 20 August, 9.00 am - 3.00 pm at HVHS**  
**\$5 car wash, and home baking for sale**

Please come and support this Fundraiser for the HVHS Los Angeles Dance Tour Team trip.



## Winter Sports Photos

Winter Sport photos are this Wednesday (24 August) in the school hall. The schedule for Winter Sport photo's are up around the school and on our HVHS Sport Facebook page.