



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I start this week's newsletter by reminding everyone that tomorrow (Friday) is Pink Shirt Day. It's an important day to show by wearing items of pink clothing that we support the intention of a visual display of our rejection of bullying. I explained the origins of Pink Shirt Day in last week's newsletter, and remind everyone that it does not act as a fund-raiser here; it is the idea that is the key.

Thank you to the 508 respondents to our survey on the service supplied by the front of house at the school. There were some useful suggestions some of which we have already implemented. Thank you for taking the trouble to help us work to do what we do better, in every part of the school.

Within the next week or so, I shall be visited by staff from the Greater Wellington Regional Council who are seeking our feedback on the bus service. I asked them to hold off that meeting from this week, in order to seek comment from our community. If you have comments/views that you would like me to pass on to the Council re buses, please send an email to principal@hvhs.school.nz. I'm happy to pass on views at a meeting that is likely to occur in the next ten days.

Next week is the final meeting of our current Board of Trustees. Some of our current members have watched their children finish their time at secondary school and so will not be standing again. Former Chair Peter Stevens who has already stood down from the Board at the end of last year, was farewelled at the Year 13 Graduation Prizegiving and thanked at that point. Next week, James Stratford (two terms) and Steve Bielby (one term) finish their terms and will not seek another. On behalf of the school I thank them for the many hours of service they have given to the school community, for their sustained interest in seeing the school develop and for their insight and professionalism in serving always with an eye on what is best for every student here.

This meeting will also see the end of the co-option periods for Peter Clinton Foase, Melissa Denzler and Sheri Buckland. Each has allowed themselves to be co-opted in order to round out the wider skills set of our current Board and we are grateful for them being willing

to serve in that way. Thank you to you all.

As this newsletter is prepared, we are less than a day to the noon cut-off for BOT nominations for the next Board. Thank you to those who have offered their services, and we still would like more people involved so if that is you, please ensure that nomination forms are in as soon as possible.

One unpalatable truth that the Board always faces is the tension around finance. I have provided figures before to show the extent to which we rely on "local income" – donations and receipts – in order to offer the broad range of what we do. When 40% of New Zealand schools ran a deficit last year, there is a clear message about funding levels. Put simply, our current programmes can only survive because of continuing parental and caregiver support. Thank you to the families that have seen fit to support the school by making donations. We are currently tracking slightly below last year's level, and that is a real financial risk for us. It's an ongoing challenge, and makes us all the more grateful for the community whose support we enjoy.

Ross Sinclair
Principal



Congratulations to:

- ★ Congratulations to **James Sales** 12HF who has been selected for the Mens Under 18 Wellington Hockey Squad.
- ★ Well done to all our runners in the Cross Country relays held at Ian Galloway last week:
Phoebe McKnight 10BEPA ran the fastest overall female lap, beating the fastest Senior girls runner!
Macey Caughley HLYN was 3rd fastest Year 9 Girls Runner
 HVHS came second in the U16 Girls race and HVHS came 3rd in the Senior Boys behind Wellington College and St Patrick's Wellington.
- ★ **Jaimee Beal** 10GEKL for selection in the Hutt Valley U15 Netball Team,
- ★ **Jemima Jansen** 11LO, **Olivia Thompson** 11RE, **Jaime Belsham** 12OC and **Ruby Rangitaawa** 11VY for selection in the Hutt Valley U17 Netball Team.
- ★ **Nicholas Henderson** 13KN competed in Fencing Central Regional Champs last Sunday and placed 2nd in the Open Mens Foil.

Full-time Student Receptionist

Do you have excellent customer service experience and enjoy working with young people?

We are looking to appoint a permanent Student Receptionist to work 5 days (37.5 hours per week) term-time only.

You'll be someone who has excellent customer service, a flair for systems, enjoys solving problems, being part of a team, is patient, kind, likes detail and skilled at explaining things clearly.

If you are looking for a supportive environment which is highly focused in the provision of a wide range of learning pathways, then you are the sort of person who is likely to thrive in this role.

If this role sounds like you or someone you may know, please contact Jodie Murden, Principal's Assistant on 566 4584 or email jodie.murden@hvhs.school.nz. A Job Description and application form are available on our website www.hvhs.school.nz. Applications close 27 May 2016.

Looking Ahead

May

- 25 **Year 13 Business Studies Dragons Den**
- 25 **Chamber Music Ensemble Day**
- 25 Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm
- 26 **Year 13 Sport Trip**

June

- 2-3 Stage Challenge
- 3 **Staff Only Day - no classes**
- 6 Queens Birthday holiday
- 6-9 **Year 13 Geography Trip**
- 8 Year 12 and 13 Art Design Trip
- 8, 10 **The Jazz Project**
- 9 The Big Sing
- 9 **Open Evening, 6.00 pm**
- 12 Chamber Music Districts
- 12 **Rockquest**
- 13-17 Year 11 Drama Production
- 19 **Pacifica Beats Finals**

Kamar Parent Portal Payments

This is also an easy way to pay for fees and donations using a credit card. You can select exactly how much you want to pay against each charge.

If you did not receive the email with your username and password, please email principal@hvhs.school.nz.

Hutt STEM Festival returns for 2016!

Returning after its debut last year, Hutt STEM Festival is back and bigger than before. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Manufacturing and the festival celebrates all of the great work happening in these fields, right here in Lower Hutt.

The festival runs from 4-12 June, and there are heaps of free events including many for families, kids and students. You can see the full listing at huttstemm.nz or the programme available in the Science Department.

A few highlights include learning to set up a Vex Robotics team at WelTec Petone, and touring local industries and labs like AROTEC Diagnostics. There you can learn how pure proteins are produced from human blood, and at Opus Research you can see NZ's only wind tunnel.