



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

With the approach of the last days of summer sports competitions, we near the changeover of seasons. Thank you to all those who have helped with summer sports codes; whether as managers, coaches, “taxi” drivers, side-line enthusiasts or morale boosters and celebrators of the many small triumphs that mark a full season’s play. As you all know, we have a huge sports event here, as does the greater Wellington region. Nationally, Greater Wellington has the highest student sports participation rate at 60% - our school is a little above that level – and while it is great that so many students are out having fun and enjoying both friendship and competition, the success in numbers also creates a huge job to cover the coaching/ managing. Each year over 200 volunteers help us with that, and not only do they offer their time but they also agree to be police vetted to make sure students are safe, and very often they spend their own cash to cover small moments, or take leave to coach in national tournaments or those more local. A few weeks ago I attended workshops held in Wellington with a group of over 20 UK principals from Hull and they could not believe the size and complexity of voluntary sports participation and voluntary coaching/ managing. This aspect of education is simply not present in their schools. What an enormous loss it would be to live and work in such a narrow view of what education truly is about. For us, it’s a normal thing, but we must never take it for granted. It’s precious, and those who volunteer their time undertake for all of us a labour that is a gift to our children and to our society. Thank you for what you do for us all.

I thought I’d mention this week another thing much on my mind. Yesterday I was in Palmerston North as a representative of the greater Wellington area secondary school principals (GWSSPA) at a Ministry of Education Cross-Sector Property Forum. This is a meeting between MOE property staff and principals (mainly) from schools across the whole range from Early Childhood onwards, held to discuss school property issues, funding, maintenance and so on. It doesn’t sound like a barrel of laughs but increasingly it is core business for principals. For our school

the Campus of the Future Plan is right in this space, and we are one of only two schools, I’m told, to have a professionally designed plan intended to guide the next 20 or 30 years of future development. It’s one thing to have a plan and another thing altogether to be able to enact it, and we are rather more interested in the next five years than further out. In that space, we are very keen to see major work under way.

We are currently commissioning design work to advance the early phases of the plan, the details of which can be seen on our website. Those who have contributed to the Infrastructure Donation have helped to get us this far, and along the way we have worked with Ministry staff so they know what we are trying to do. The fact they know of the plan and are supportive of it is not a complete guarantee that everything falls into place; there is a lot to do. We are working alongside a background that is funnelling a huge building spend towards Christchurch (earthquake rebuild) and Auckland (roll growth), and it was a telling moment yesterday when the MOE property people asked the principals who represented Manawatu, greater Wellington, Wairarapa, Horowhenua, Taranaki and Hawkes Bay who was currently working with a new build and nobody put up their hand. That made clear how tricky this moment is in respect of buildings. We will need to help ourselves, using Ministry funding and some of our own to ensure we can achieve what we need for our students. That’s a challenge. In these next weeks the Board is excited to see the preliminary work needed to begin turning the Campus of the Future Plan from document to reality.

Ross Sinclair
Principal

Congratulations to:

★ **The Strikers Cheerleading Squad** were invited to perform at the TSB Arena at the Saints basketball game on 17 March. This is a real honour and they have deserved it after working really hard.



Equestrian Team Fundraiser

Hutt Valley High School has an equestrian team for the first time for many years. We are starting from

scratch to buy matching saddle blankets for the horses and uniforms for the riders so we can proudly represent the school at events around the North Island.

You can help by purchasing an Entertainment Book from one of the team members. Please click on the link to purchase - free delivery around the Wellington Region.

Follow this link or order:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nzorderbooks/9a27709>

Tuesday 11 April 2017

On Tuesday 11 April the school will be holding Year 9 and Year 10 learning conversations. All Year 9 and 10 students and their mentors will be involved in learning conversations with students', parents and caregivers. Students in Years 9 and 10 will come into school for their learning conversation, but will not be required for the rest of the day. The day is very much part of the students' programme and school uniform should be worn as usual.

Students in Year 11, 12 and 13 will opt for workshops running here at school or for independent study at home, working on NCEA internal assignments. Morning sessions run from 10.00 am -12.00 pm; afternoon session run from 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm (unless advised otherwise). Each student is required to sign up for a morning and an afternoon option. More information will be out on email shortly.

Summer Sports, Groups and Club Photos

5 March 2017
School Hall

Timetable will be posted at the Sports Office

Looking Ahead

April

- 3 Civil Defence Team Training
- 4-7 **Year 12 Outdoor Education Camps**
- 5 Junior Mathematics Competiton
- 5 **Summer Sports Team Photos**
- 11 Year 9 and 10 Learning Conversations
- 13 **Last day of Term 1**

May

- 1 **First Day of Term 2**
- 3 Senior Parent Teacher Interviews A-M
- 3 **Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm**
- 9 Senior Parent Teacher Interviews N-Z
- 10-12 **Class Photos**
- 15-19 Year 12 CPR Week
- 22-26 **Cultural Week**
- 22 Civil Defence Team Training
- 23 **Multi-Cultural Evening Celebration**
- 26 Pink Shirt Day
- 26 **Year 11 and 13 Tough Guy Challenge**

Attitude to Learning Reports

Reports were emailed home yesterday 29 March for all students. They will also be available on the Kamar Parent Portal next week.

If you do not have an email contact, a printed copy will be available next week.

HVHS APP

HVHS have a Mobile App for notices, events and other important school messages.

To download the app for free on iPhone or Android click this link. <http://onelink.to/w5btqp>



Health Consultation Evening 2017

Invitation for Year 9 and 10 parents and caregivers

We welcome you to attend our consultation evening outlining our Junior Health Curriculum. This includes information on our Sexuality and Relationships Unit along with Food and Nutrition, Mental Health and Decision Making around Drugs and Alcohol.

It will be held in the Student Centre on Thursday 6 April at 6.00 pm. If you intend on coming along please could you email amanda.wilson@hvhs.school.nz

JACQUELINE VALENTINE-RAMSDEN Head Girl 2017



Hi I'm Jacqueline Valentine-Ramsden and it's truly an honour to be representing our school and students as Head Girl.

Hutt Valley High is where I've learned a lot about myself, discovered my interests and what I enjoy the most. It was through football that I

made my first friendships and in the classroom where I uncovered my love for social sciences.

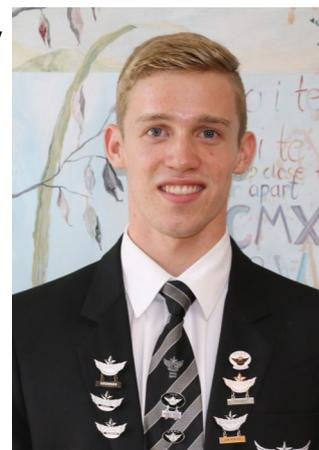
Being a large school brings an incredible diversity that we should celebrate. With a range of interests, hobbies and ideas coming from all backgrounds our clubs, societies and sports flourish. Personally, this is one of my favourite aspects of Hutt High. Being involved helped me form connections with friends as well as a strong school spirit. This school spirit is what myself and the leadership team want to promote as something to knit the student body together and instil a sense of school pride.

2017 is well underway and already I've seen many impressive achievements from this years student body, right from Year 9 through to us Year 13s. For us, the realisation that we have less than a year of high school left can be daunting. However, I'm sure my peers would agree that with this realisation comes an eagerness and excitement to start the next chapter of our lives. For me, 2018 is work and life experience that I want to gain before heading into university in my chosen field. However, there is plenty more on offer before the year is through and I intend to make the most of it, as should every student.

PATRICK LANGLEY - Head Boy 2017

Kia Ora students, staff and whanau of Hutt Valley High.

My name is Patrick Langley and I am incredibly humbled to be the Head Boy of our school for 2017. This role presents a new challenge and experience that I have never faced before, but it is something I am willing to work hard for. I believe life for all students



at Hutt Valley High presents challenges of all kinds, and it is up to us as individuals to decide if we will take them on. I encourage you all to put yourself out there, try something new, get involved and be the best you can be and more. I know from my own experience that school life can be tough, but you're not alone. Don't be afraid to ask questions, seek out help from friends, family and teachers.

Already this year our school has broken records from our number of sports registrations to fundraising an all time record amount for the cancer society at Relay for Life. I love that as a school we are becoming more and more involved in all manner of school activities as it is something that is truly important to me. Along with the rest of the strong and enthusiastic leadership team I hope to continue to break records and promote new ideas and events for the school to use now and in the future.

Personally, I also have a strong interest in the sports that I play both for the school and locally outside of school. I have represented Wellington in hockey and have competed at an international level in swimming. I thoroughly enjoy playing both of these sports and they have both provided huge learning opportunities for me. Academically this year I hope to achieve an overall excellence endorsement to give me the best chance of going to university and finding potential jobs later on in life.

I look forward to the year ahead and hope to see my fellow students at Hutt Valley High challenging themselves and enjoying their time at the school as much as I do.

Term dates - 2017

- Term 1** Monday 30 January - Thursday 13 April
- Term 2** Monday 1 May - Friday 7 July
- Term 3** Monday 24 July - Friday 29 September
- Term 4** Monday 16 October - Tuesday 12 December