



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The week's major events end today with the regional Nga Manu Korero. This is an event of real significance; for the competitors and their whanau, for the school and especially for our Maori whanau. Guests from across the region will be present in our hall to listen to speeches delivered by students from a variety of schools. It's an honour for us to host the day, and we'll be welcoming many visitors who will be here to celebrate New Zealand's culture, its languages and expression. Thank you to the 33 students and 6 staff who have been planning and preparing for the day. It should be a great deal of fun - serious fun to be sure - and it's lovely to host an event that sits us so firmly within the matrix of our local area.

Luckily, as a school we do enjoy enormous good will from our staff just as we do from our community. That leads to a huge amount of additional effort that is the foundation for the range of activities that occur here. Wednesday evening's Multicultural Evening was a classic example. It was one of the most varied I have experienced in terms of the range of cultures represented in song, drama or dance. We have some incredible talent in the school and much of it was on show. It was a really enjoyable evening with a good audience turn-out. Thank you to the performers and to the many in behind the scenes who helped to produce the night. On a personal note I enjoyed the staff/student debate. It was the first debate I've done for at least 10 years. Great fun! Lisa Philipson and Ben Hubmann, the Cultural Captains, have done a great job of putting the entire range of Cultural Week activities together, including mounting what was a really strong Multicultural Evening this week. It's been a crazy busy week, a terrific effort....and Ben and Lisa are still smiling.

This week has been an unusual one with the cessation of scheduled classes for the purpose of the Paid Union Meeting which is provided for in the Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement. I don't plan to use this newsletter as a political or industrial tool, but it would be odd if I didn't comment. I can certainly confirm that the recruitment and retention problems being covered in the media are real. We are fortunate in the urban setting to

be able to appoint specialist staff, but even in the city this is getting harder, and the rewards for taking on additional responsibility are currently too poor. I am told that two major Learning Area Head roles advertised this year at other schools in greater Wellington had no applicants whatsoever. That's a reflection of high workload, large responsibility, high compliance demands, a time allowance that is pitiful and payment that is poor. Really, it's the same for the teacher who has a full teaching load; the same sorts of factors are in play. It's time something concrete was done, as platitudes do little when weighed against conditions elsewhere. Teaching is an incredibly rewarding profession, but it is also very demanding. Money, as they say, is not everything and every teacher knows that by their fortnightly Novopay experience. At the same time, salary does count and it does reflect how society views educating its children. In a 2017 survey by the (UK) Economist Intelligence Unit of OECD education systems which looked at 35 countries, New Zealand was judged best in the world in terms of how it is positioned to educate for the future. That's great. There were six measures looked at in the survey and we were first or second in each except one. We were 19th of 35 for teacher salaries.

Ross Sinclair, Principal

HUTT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

2018 DANCE BENEFIT

FEATURING THE HVHS DANCE DEPARTMENT & ACADEMY

13 & 14 JUNE - HVHS SCHOOL HALL - 7PM

ADULTS \$15.00
12 YRS & UNDER \$7.00

TICKETS ON SALE FROM 1 JUNE @ THE HVHS RESOURCE CENTRE - NO DOOR SALES



Looking Ahead

May

28–1 Jun Drama Production
29-30 Year 13 PE Trips

June

1 Teacher Only Day - school closed
4 Queens Birthday Holiday
 6 Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm
7 Open Evening, 6.00 pm
 8 Jazz Festival
9-10 Chamber Music Festival
 13-14 Dance Benefit, 7.00 pm
18-22 Year 11 Production
 18 Big Sing
19 Wanganui Sports Exchange
 22 Maori Leadership Day 2
22 Rockquest Regional Finals
 22 Japanese Schools Trivia Quiz
23 Chamber Music Centrals
 25-29 Year 11 Production
25-29 Year 13 PE Camps
 27 St Marks Lunchtime Concert

MOE Advice re 13 Reasons Why

The Ministry of Education has asked schools to contact parents and whanau regarding the R18 Netflix show "13 Reasons Why". The second season was released on Friday 18 May online.

A new resource hub is now live on the Mental Health Foundation's website. It includes an episode guide developed by the Foundation and the Office of Film and Literature Classification. The episode guide covers off key themes in each episode and has links to resources to support safe conversations with young people about issues raised by the show. There are also details of where to go for help for vulnerable people who are affected after viewing these scenes.

13 Reasons Why is not the only challenging series young people are watching, but it is one of the most talked about. The Chief Censor has released a guide for parents: Guide for parents: Talking with young people about what they're watching . If staff, parents or whānau are concerned about a young person please seek help by contacting the school guidance staff. The Mental Health Foundation website has a list of contacts, Mental Health Foundation's hub of resources or phone your local DHB's Mental Health Crisis Team (CATT Team.) Support is also available from a trained counsellor anytime by calling or texting 1737.

Congratulations to:

- ★ Congratulations to the following bands who performed at Rockquest and are through to the Regionals on Friday 22 June. Each band will perform 7 minutes of original music.
Speaking to Houses - **Daniel Maslen** 13BR, **Patrick Maslen** 10KIPA
By Friday - **Helena Cvitanovich** 11TS, **Caleb Griffen** 11NB, **Samuel Fowler** 13DE, **Leroy Paton-Goldsbury** 11RI, **Rose Stratford** 11SP
JetFuel - **Benjamin Doornbos** 13WH, **Zane Green** 13KO, **William Thompson** 13SR, **Thomas Mingins** 13KO
Smokey Blokes - **Simon Buxton** 13BT, **Oscar Hazlewood** 12BE
Alexis Texas - **Alexander Scott-Billing** 13JD, **Sarah Benge** 13SR, **Luca Crampton** 13RS, **Dillon Nickel** 13NI
Violet - **Luciana Hughes** 12SK, **Hamza Chaudhry** 12RG, **Asia Ali** 12TJ
- ★ Congratulations to **Hannah Moffat** 12BE who has been accepted as NZ Opera Ambassador for 2018.
- ★ Congratulations to **Tessa Buchanan** 12NE who has been included in the NZ women's U20 Ultimate Frisbee team to play at the World Junior Championships in Canada. She joins other HVHS players already included in the team: Hillary Sheridan, Georgia Taylor, Helena Cvitanovich and Bridget Forsyth.



Hutt Valley School Bus Service Changes

From Sunday 17 June 2018, we've got some changes coming to your school and public bus services, including timetables and routes.

Metlink lime and yellow buses are also on their way, but not all at once, so it's important that students check the number and destination of the bus – rather than the colour.

Follow this link for more information on changes to routes and times: <https://www.metlink.org.nz/on-our-way/hutt-valley/hutt-valley-school-services/>