



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This week's newsletter is one of those where I wonder where to begin. As ever, there is plenty happening.

First, the Board of Trustees' Strategic Plan for 2019 and beyond. Consultation is currently under way, with this week's consultation cafe being in Hotuwaipara on Thursday at 6.00 pm. Concurrent with the cafes is the release of a digital survey that has been sent to all homes and to all students' school email addresses, as well as being posted on the school website and the school's Facebook page. The survey is separate from the cafe consultations, and is now - with some minor changes recognising different aspects of school - in its third iteration, allowing a view over time to be considered along with the more immediate feedback gained from the cafes. The digital survey will close on 14 August. The Board is grateful to the community for taking the time to offer views in this major exercise to determine the school's future.

Notices have been sent home (so this is a reminder) to advise that tonight is the NCEA Subject Selection Evening, where parents, caregivers and whanau can discuss courses and course directions with subject specialists as well as gain a wider view of the NCEA qualification. The evening begins at 6.00 pm and is in the school hall.

In student service to the community, on the last Sunday of the holidays, 28 students volunteered to help Te Omanga Hospice with their annual Vintner's Lunch fundraiser, with another group supplying music for the event. This annual event is a great example of the school's students offering practical support to their local community and we're grateful to Mr Fox for co-ordinating the day. Te Omanga tell us they raised \$126,259 on the day, and it's great that our students could assist in that excellent result.

The next service-related event coming up is "Shave for a Cure", Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand's major annual fund-raiser. Those involved are actively signing up support and the shave itself happens on Friday week (10 August). It's always a popular event, so thank you to the people who have pledged sponsorship support to the participants.

Another group of students is involved in an in-house service event, in support of wider Te ao Maori work in the school. The Te Kauhanganui Team - the Maori student leadership group - members are promoting a wider understanding of Matariki by visiting mentor classes and speaking to a short presentation ([Presentation](#)) on the traditions associated with Matariki. It's a topical area for New Zealand society with increasing calls for Matariki to be adopted as a formal part of our national holidays, so the initiative is a useful one in helping us all to be informed of its origins. There is also a small Kahoots quiz that classes can do as a follow-up.

And then we move on to celebrating successes! I have mentioned in previous newsletters that performing arts here at the school are having a golden year. The news keeps coming. "Royal Blue" (Simon Buxton, Leroy Paton-Goldsbury, and long-time HVHS collaborator Grace Ashworth-Lawson of St Oran's) won first prize and \$5000 in the DisCOVERed National Competition for street music performances. If you missed it when I sent it out in a previous newsletter, check out their winning version of "It Don't Mean a Thing", while busking on Cuba Street. The link is elsewhere in the newsletter.

And then there's Rockquest. Rockquest is an all-original music national competition for school bands. It goes through several stages. The regional heats require one song. The Regional Finals need two songs. Finalists then record video submissions of four songs from which the top 20 bands in the country are named. Two of those top 20 are ours (with some help along the way). That's very impressive. Congratulations to "Alexis Texas" members Sarah Bengé, Luca Crampton, Dillon Nickel and Alex Scott-Billing for being in the top 20 of New Zealand's high school bands producing original material.

Congratulations, too, to "Smokey Blokes" who have also been named in the top 20 and have then been named as one of the top six bands to go through to the Rockquest National Finals in Auckland in late September. The band members are Simon Buxton, Oscar Hazlewood, with Grace Ashworth-Lawson (St Oran's) and Yuwei Shen (Chilton). Head of Arts Grace Davey says, "They are a very talented synth pop group with loads of energy and superb musicianship." This is a huge opportunity for these very committed musicians. We congratulate them and wish them the best for the finals to come.

Meanwhile, in dance our students competed with great success at a variety of events during the recent holidays. Details are in the newsletter main panel. In other performance work, the touring show "Two Nights" went over to the Wairarapa to present their performance and workshop at Makoura College in Masterton. Makoura Principal Paul Green was glowing in his praise of the show's cast, and of the staff and cast's commitment to performing drama with strongly positive social intent. Together, our performing arts people are having an incredible year.

It's not just the students who are excelling. The school has just been awarded \$52,000 from the Teacher innovation Fund for SNAP - Sustained Networks and Pathways. This programme takes students from Tautoko, our Supported Learning Centre, from two years before they leave and sets up strong links with local business, teachers, agencies so that all teaching is directed towards their interests leading to a clear pathway post-school. The programme has strong support from the Hutt City Council and local MPs, and offers a much
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stronger next step to students for whom that can be a very difficult process. Thanks to Heather Lear of Tautoko and Assistant Principal Nick Larkin for the major work that went into designing the programme and securing the funding to make it happen. This will be life-changing for some of our students.

Finally, congratulations to Assistant Head of Mathematics Bernie Wills for being one of five national winners of the inaugural Bright Spots Awards 2018 for innovation in teaching. The award is for the flipped learning in our Mathematics programme and comes as a result of a presentation made to the Assessment Institute. Bernie is the first to acknowledge that the work has been done by the Mathematics Department as a whole. The award provides that "The winners receive funding and a two year professional development programme funded by NEXT Foundation. This will support teachers to develop the initiatives and, where appropriate, share them beyond the school." That sharing has already been occurring during the course of this year, with the Mathematics Department of another Wellington school confirming they are using the model in their 2019 programme.

Ross Sinclair
Principal

More congratulations:

- ★ Congratulations to **Safari Hynes** 13JD who umpired at the Netball NZ Under 17 National Champs last week in Palmerston North and gained his NZ C umpiring qualification.
- ★ Winners of the DisCOVERed National Grand Prize of \$5000 - Royal Blue. **Leroy Paton-Goldsbury** 11RI, **Simon Buxton** 12BT and long time HVHS collaborator Grace Ashworth -Lawson from St Oran's College. Watch their version of It Don't Mean a Thing, while busking on Cuba Street - <https://youtu.be/V3Oe7FkXiBA>
- ★ Congratulations to **William Follett** 12RG and **Adam Bruce** 12OA who represented Wellington in the National U18 Men's Hockey Tournament in North Harbour in the first week of the holidays. They beat Canterbury 1-0 in the final.
- ★ Congratulations to **Emily Jones** 9TADN who rode with her English pair in Copenhagen, Denmark over the holidays, in the World Pairs Equestrian Mounted Games Championships coming in fourth place.

Congratulations to:

- ★ Congratulations to **Caitlyn Lewin** 12OA who travelled to Canada to play with her sister for the NZ Junior White Sox's at an international event, called the Canada Cup. She's already competed in X3 NZ National tournaments, becoming National Champions for the Hutt Valley U19 and NFC Hutt Valley Women's.
- ★ **Charlotte Wilson** 12RG and **Zoe Houston** 12CR were selected to play in the NZ U18 Womens Under Water Hockey team to play in Trans-Tasmans tournament in Rotorua later this year.
- ★ **Ariana Gray** 10WSWG, **Eleanor Humphries** 11TS and **Macey Caughey** 11HL - and 1st XI football player (**Nea Blackham** from Wa Ora Montessori) were part of the championship winning Capital Futsal Under 16 Girls team. They played 7 games over the holidays, beating Canterbury in a nail-biting final 3-2. A fantastic achievement - the first girls Capital Futsal side to win a national title.
- ★ **Caleb Taylor** 11MS has spent the holidays competing in an International Baseball Tournament in Taiwan for the NZ U16 Team. The Tournament has 62 teams and is comprised of the best High School and age grade International Teams in Asia (mostly Taiwan/China). Congratulations Caleb.
- ★ **Caitlin Thomas-Riley** 13BR shot a personal best and won two bronze medals for New Zealand in the U21 Junior Women's division at the World Archery Oceania Championships in New Caledonia in July.
- ★ Congratulations to our Dance groups who competed at the Kapiti Dance Championships. Results:
Not About Angels - Lyrical Dance troupe - 2nd Place
Ellie Cotton 11BA - 1st Place in Restricted Jazz & 2nd Place in 13 - 15 Years Jazz division.
Ella Leitner 12BT - Very Highly Commended
Rosie Simmons 11NB - Very Highly Commended
Angela Magno 10KIPA and **Molly Fairfield** 10ROMR - Jazz Duet - Highly Commended
Molly Fairfield - Commended and Highly Commended

Strategic Planning Consultation Cafes

The school has started its three yearly strategic planning. We will be facilitating a series of consultation cafes over the next 4 weeks.

You are invited to be part of the conversation and to share your thinking about the sort of school you want Hutt Valley High School to be.

Below are flyer indicating when and where the cafes will be held. Here is the link to the online sign up form - <https://goo.gl/forms/ZbkpxJ8hvUJvfaw>

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CAFE #1 Staff
Thursday 26th July - 1pm
School Hall

CAFE #2 Whanau
Thursday 2nd August 6:30pm
Hotuwaipara
Thursday 9th August 6:30pm
Staffroom HVHS
Thursday 23rd August 12:30 to 2pm
Matauranga House, 33 Bowen St,
Wellington CBD

CAFE #3 Business Community
Thursday August 16th 7:30am to 9am
Staffroom, HVHS

CAFE #4 Students
Tuesday 21st August
Juniors 9:30am/Seniors 1:30pm
Student Centre

RSVP
<https://preview.tinyurl.com/hvhscafe>
Phone 04 566 4584

Year 13 University Visits in Term 3

Otago University Course Planning (Heath Sciences First Year - Thursday 2 August, 11.30 am - 1.30 pm in the Library Seminar Room

Otago University Course Planning 'Other' courses - Tuesday 28 August 8.45 - 9.45 am

Tertiary Open Day - Friday 31 August, all day

Office and Resource Centre closures

The Office and Resource Centre will be closed on Wednesday 1 August, 15 August, 12 September and 26 September, between 8.30 and 9.30 am due to professional development.

Looking Ahead

July

31 NCEA and Subject Selection Evening, 6.00 pm

August

1 Board of Trustees Meeting, 5.30 pm
 2 **Year 13 Otago University Visit**
 3 CSW Table Tennis Individual Champs
 6-10 **Service Week**
 6-10 Year 12 Production
 7 **Show Quest Dance Competition**
 9 Australian Mathematics Competition
 9 **Mufti Day - Cancer Society**
 10 CSW Table Tennis Team Champs
 10 **Shave for a Cure**
 20 Year 12 Geography Trip
 20 **Annual Music Concert, 7.00 pm**
 27-31 Year 13 Production
 28 **Year 13 Otago University Visit**

HVHS Past Pupils Movie Fundraiser

Tuesday 14 August 2018 @ 8:30pm
Lighthouse Cinema, Petone

Fundraising for PPFA Student Scholarships
Tickets \$20
Includes movie entry and small goodie bag

Tickets available from the School Office
 Shona or Rachel 5664584
 email alumni@hvhs.school.nz

To Year 10, 11 and 12 Students, Parents and Caregivers

We are holding a Subject Selection and NCEA Information evening tonight, 31 July, 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm in the school hall.

During the evening there will be:

- An introduction to the NCEA system and how it works
- Information about our subject selection process and timeline
- An opportunity to talk briefly with relevant Heads of Department about the courses they offer.