



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

On Wednesday night we held the final meeting of the current Board of Trustees. I have thanked, on behalf of the school community, the retiring Board members. Most no longer have children attending this school and so they now wish to move aside for others. Nicholette Pomanu, Ron Soper, Mary Bruce and Susan Pilbrow (Chair) have dedicated a huge number of hours to the school and I want to repeat my appreciation of their energy, wisdom and commitment.

The school has also been fortunate to have attracted a high calibre of candidates for the incoming Board. Information about the candidates and the voting papers should have reached parents by mail. On Monday evening there will be opportunity to meet the candidates at 7pm in the Student Centre.

Last Thursday and on Tuesday of this week, we held parent-teacher evenings for Year 11, 12 and 13. For both staff and parents these evenings make for a long day, but typically they are very positive times, and result in a curious kind of energising as information about successes is registered and also suggestions about areas that can be improved and strategies that can be used to ensure even greater chances of success. Thanks to staff and parents/caregivers for making the time available for that process. Thanks too to our lovely senior students who work to supply biscuits and drinks to staff involved in the conversations. That service is incredibly helpful and greatly appreciated.

Student initiative of that type is always welcome. This week I have been pleased to receive material written by 9LW in which the students discuss their reactions to the level of litter around the school. The students are researching litter in New Zealand in general – 3.6 million tonnes of rubbish each year – and around Hutt Valley High School in particular. “It is embarrassing, especially when we have a guest come to our school,” says one.

“We would love to help the issue and we have come up with ideas that could help.” The students make a range of suggestions. Fundamental to their case is the core statement that “we do not wish to live in disgusting environment.” While the students make suggestions about the placement of bins and the type of bins, the key is in not dropping litter in the first place. To hear 9LW making such a clear commitment to improving our school environment is brilliant. Their message needs to be taken up by their peers in Year 9 and the rest of the school. Then we will have the environment we all want.

Ross Sinclair
Principal

Board of Trustees Election Meet the Candidates Evening

Parents and Caregivers are invited to meet the candidates on

Monday 3 May at 7.00 pm

In the HVHS Students Centre
(on the right hand side of the main office)

Voting papers and candidate profiles have been mailed this week.

Please return your votes by 7 May

Year 9 Enrichment Programme

Anne Hubbard and Joel Green are putting together an enrichment programme for talented and/or gifted Year 9 students. This term, the programme will most likely focus on Philosophy for Kids. If you would like your child to be considered, please contact either of the Year 9 Deans by Wednesday 5 May.



Congratulations to:

- ★ Congratulations to Brian Ng 11PN, who has made it through to the next stage of the NZ Brain Bee Challenge. He will be flying to Auckland for the next round of the competition.
- ★ Congratulations to Euan Wong 12GM, who has earned himself a trip to Dunedin in December this year by qualifying for the NZ Secondary Schools Nationals Competition in Lawn Bowls. Euan also WON the Wellington Secondary School Champs recently and RUNNER UP in the Central Region Sec School Champs.
- ★ The HVHS Premier Boys Bowls Team won the Wellington Secondary Schools Championship – so congratulations to Barry Wong 9FD, David Goldsbury 9MI, and Euan Wong 12GM.
- ★ Congratulations to Jack Newton 10EG, who recently won the junior section of the New Zealand International Arts Festival's review competition. Jack's review of *The Arrival* won because of its flair and was considered "well researched" by the judges. It can be read on-line at <http://www.nzfestival.nzpost.co.nz/schoolfest/read-reviews/the-arrival/8>.
- ★ **Tennis Successes**
 NATIONALS - towards the end of Term 1, HVHS competed in the Mixed Teams section of the Nationals in Christchurch. Our team (Thomas McCabe 13ED, Marc Scheper, Mac Leesburg 13VY, Rebecca Clarke 12GM, Haley Pllu 11TH and Mia Korpela 10CR) competed well and finished a creditable 6th in the tournament.
 REGIONAL PREMIER - Both our Senior Boys' and Senior Girls' Premier Teams made the finals of their Regional competitions for the Onny Parun Cup and Belinda Cordwell Cup respectively. Both teams finished runners-up and played strongly and consistently throughout the season.
 Senior boys: Mac Leesburg 13VY, Thomas McCabe 13ED, Marc Scheper, Simon Boedeker 12TF, Kieran Casbolt 11SA. Senior Girls: Rebecca Clarke 12GM, Haley Pllu 11TH, Mia Korpela 10CR, Jasmin Maaka 12KE, Laura Hood 12TF.
 Junior Boys - congratulations to the Junior Boys #1 team who have qualified for the Regional Competition in Term 4. Team: David Silcock 9EE, Luke Falvey 10RP, Matt Fyfe 9IC, Hamish MacLennan 9SO, Jordan Musgrave 9LW

Looking Ahead

May

- 4 Otago University Visit
- 5 **BOT Candidate Meeting**
- 7 BOT Elections
- 13 **Yr 13 Biology Zoo Trip**
- 14 Multicultural Evening
- 18 **Work Choice Day**
- 23-26 Yr 13 Geography Trip
- 27 **Civil Defence Training Day 3**
- 27-28 Stage Challenge

June

- 3 **Civil Defence Awards**
- 7 Queen's Birthday Holiday - school closed
- 9 **Second Gardasil Immunisation (day 1)**
- 10 School Swimming Sports
- 10 **Open Evening for 2011 enrolments**
- 15 Year 12 Tourism Day
- 16 **Horowhenua Sports Exchange**
- 17-18 Winter Sport Photos

Subjects involved in the Year 9 and 10 Parent-Teacher evening on 27 July include

- Year 9: English, Maths, Science, Social Studies only
- Year 10: All subjects

Scholarship Exams

Entry forms can be obtained from subject teachers. All entries must be into Mr Larkin by Friday 18 June. NCEA fees include the ability to sit up to three scholarship subjects.

NCEA Fees

An invoice and letter will be posted home over the next few weeks explaining how to pay your \$75 NCEA fees. If you do not receive a letter/invoice by 7 May please see Mr Larkin.

College Herald Competition

Students who enjoy writing should enter the *College Herald* competition which runs this term and next term, and offers prizes to students whose work is published. Details are available at <http://www.collegeherald.co.nz/weekly-themes/>. English teachers are also able to provide extra information.