



# Hutt Valley High School News

## Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last week's MidWinter Festival – while slightly early due to Rugby World Cup term date changes - provided a great deal of fun. It culminated in the Genie Day, part of the school's tradition, whereby Year 9 students buy the services of a Year 13 Genie, dressed in various and often outrageous attire, with the proceeds going to charity. The Christchurch Earthquake Appeal was a worthy cause, and gave a serious focus to a day of fun. One parent of a student in the Learning Support Unit captured the spirit of the day: "After learning that they had been purchased to throw a party in the LSU, not only did all five of the Dragonball Z team turn up - they did an absolutely first class job. The LSU students had a long wish list - the Genies were required to help create a giant mural with cut-out portraits of the Dragonball Z characters, take the LSU soccer team out for a much needed practice, barbecue everyone sausages for lunch and spend Spell 5 playing party games including musical chairs and what may have been the world's longest game of Pass the Parcel (30 layers with wrapped chocolates in between). I joined the fun for Spell 5 and speaking as the mother of one of the boys in the LSU, I can tell you that the Genies made Friday a really special day for the LSU students. It was tremendous to see the good humour, enthusiasm and positive role modelling of the Genies, who mixed and mingled with the LSU students and willingly participated in everything that was asked of them. It's great to see this kind of leadership from a group of Year 13 students". Thank you to the senior students who organised events over the week.

That leadership is not confined only to Year 13 of course, and next week we will be hosting an EnviroForum event organised by a group of Year 12 students. The students have invited other students from around the greater Wellington region's schools to attend workshop sessions which will include an address from Green MP Holly Walker. I have admired the students' calm and organised work as they have put together the day and wish them well for the event.

In the wider school, we continue to adapt our systems to improve what we do. This week, the Code of Conduct has gone out to all students, to provide a clear statement of core school expectations. The Code is also posted on the school website.

A link to the school uniform survey is also posted on the website and students, parents/caregivers, staff and the wider community are invited to take the time to offer views on the review committee's recommendations. Respondents are asked to offer a 1 (strongly oppose) to 10 (strongly support) view on each component part of the uniform. The survey will remain open until 5.00 pm on Friday week, 8 July.

On another development note, last week the Minister of Education Anne Tolley announced that schools would be given two teacher-only days for NCEA support. The minister has recognised that the revisions of the NCEA standards offered across the levels is imposing huge stresses on teaching staff as they develop, teach and grade new assessment material for Level 1 courses, while also completing training for the revisions to Level 2 to be introduced in 2012. The two days will count as official school days, and are to be taken at schools' discretion. We will be taking the first of our days on Friday 12 August, Week two of Term 3. The Victoria University planning day for Year 13 scheduled for that day will now occur one week earlier, on Friday 5 August. The day will be spent working in concert with other Hutt Valley Schools in some instances, and on site-specific work in others. Regular classes for all year levels will not be held on 12 August. The second day will be taken in Term 4 at a date to be advised, but after senior students have gone on examination leave.

Ross Sinclair  
Principal



## Congratulations to:

- ★ **Tahmia Gerrard** 10ST and **Madison Hunt** 9RP who have both been named in the Hutt Valley Under-15 Girls Basketball Team.
- ★ **Dayna Moeahu** 9TT, **Brea Rolton** 9GN, **Caitlin Ross** 9RE and **Trinity Masoe** 9EE have all been named in the Hutt Valley Under-15 Development Basketball Team.
- ★ Four HVHS students competed at the recent inaugural College Sport Wellington Individual Swimming Championships. Congratulations to the following:

### Alex Pampalone 9OW

- 1<sup>st</sup> 100m Freestyle (Girls 14)
- 1<sup>st</sup> 50m Backstroke
- 1<sup>st</sup> 100m Backstroke
- 1<sup>st</sup> 200m Freestyle
- 4<sup>th</sup> 100m Individual Medley

### Kahu Salzmann 9GN

- 8<sup>th</sup> 50m Breaststroke (Girls U14)
- 8<sup>th</sup> 100m Backstroke
- 12<sup>th</sup> Individual Medley
- 12<sup>th</sup> 200m Freestyle

### Patrick Shepherd 10KE

- 12<sup>th</sup> 100m Individual Medley (Boys U14)
- 10<sup>th</sup> 100m Freestyle
- 6<sup>th</sup> 200m Freestyle
- 6<sup>th</sup> 100m Backstroke

### Emma Brigden 11HK

- 4<sup>th</sup> 100m Freestyle (Girls U15)
- 6<sup>th</sup> 200m Freestyle
- 7<sup>th</sup> 100m Backstroke
- 6<sup>th</sup> 50m Freestyle

In the team rankings our girls results gave the school a Team Ranking of 5<sup>th</sup> equal overall – well done girls!!

- ★ The New Zealand Secondary School Gym Sports were held on 25 and 26 June. Two of our students attended the above event this year. Well done to **Michaela Wilkinson** 13BT and **Tamzin Connolly** 9UN for the following results:  
In the Women's Artistic Club A grade Tamzin finished 12th, with a best placing 4<sup>th</sup> on beam.  
In Women's Artistic Club B grade Michaela finished a VERY close 4<sup>th</sup>, with 1<sup>st</sup> on floor and bar and would have won the competition if she had got her back somersault on beam.

## Looking Ahead

### July

- 4-8 **Maori Language Week**
- 5 Environment Forum
- 8 **Awhina trip to Victoria University**
- 8 Year 12 Sport Trip
- 13, 14 **Dance Benefit Show**
- 14 Year 12 Tourism Trip
- 15 **Last day of Term 2**
- 16-31 School Holidays

### August

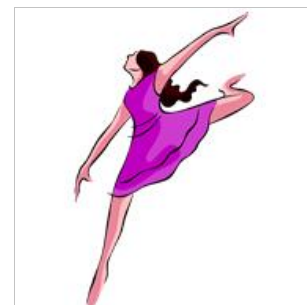
- 1 **First day for Term 3**
- 4 Year 10 Parents Evening
- 5 **UNSW Maths Competitions**
- 9 Wairarapa Sports Exchange - home
- 10 **Year 9 Parents Evening**
- 11 Year 12 Geography Trip
- 12 **NCEA Support Teacher Only Day**

## DANCE BENEFIT SHOW

Wednesday 13 July and Thursday 14 July  
7.30 pm - Little Theatre

Tickets for the Dance Benefit Show have gone on sale! Purchase tickets from the Resource Centre - \$15 adult and \$10 for 12 years and under.

Get in quick – they do sell out!



## HVHS Environment Group

Enviro Youth Leaders Forum for secondary school students in the Greater Wellington region here at Hutt Valley High School.



5 July 2011  
9.30 am to 2.30 pm  
See your science teacher for more details or see Miss Gibbs in A1

