



# Hutt Valley High School News

## Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

This week is Maori language week and we are keen to get all the students and teachers involved and enjoying celebrating the language. The Cultural Committee have responded to the challenge by organising poi and flax flower making in the hall today lunchtime, and a Year 9 and 10 form competition in the notices throughout the week.

Meanwhile, there is a swirl of other activity in the school. The EnviroForum organised by our EnviroGroup on Tuesday went off really well. There was a large group of visiting students who enjoyed the wide-ranging discussion on environmental issues around their schools, as well as a leadership workshop that offered fun and stimulating material. The presenters were highly impressed that the event was totally student-organised. So was I. It said a great deal about the talent of our students.

Another side of that talent will be seen next week, when the Dance Benefit performances occur in the Lower Hutt Little Theatre. There are 111 students involved in what will be a great entertainment, boosted by a few guest appearances.

It was lovely to see artistic talent and creativity recognised when Lucas Donnell 13RK won the Best Lyric Writer Award at Wellington Regional Rockquest. In a school that works hard on promoting academic success, it is important to also promote outright creativity, and Lucas's success is an important reminder of the need for a breadth in excellence.

This year has seen a range of fund-raising projects here at school, and next term there will be another. This is an attempt to assist the work of Professor Swee Tan. Professor Tan is a world-renowned

plastic surgeon operating here in Lower Hutt. His specialty area is strawberry birthmarks, and his latest research has been in the use of genetic treatment rather than surgery, and he has had stunning results. The ability to manipulate "rogue" cells is hinting at huge possibilities, including the potential to have implications for some forms of cancer research. It's a great area of work and it is occurring right here in the Hutt, but money is needed. The Hutt Hospital has a vacant ward that could be developed as a dedicated research institute to further Professor Tan's work, and there are significant costs associated with that. We have been asked to assist in a street collection on Thursday 11 August, so that volunteer senior students can collect in support of the establishment of the Gillies McIndoe Research Institute. Professor Tan will speak to a Year 13 assembly next term to explain his work and to ask for the students' very practical support. The Board of Trustees has given its assent for students – with their parents'/caregivers' permission – to support the project. More details will be supplied next term. To see an interview on the subject, check "Aimee Cornish and Professor Swee Tan" on You Tube.

Finally, I remind all in our community of the uniform survey accessible through a link on the website. Thank you to all who have responded. If you haven't yet done so, do please let us know your views. The survey ends at 5.00 pm tomorrow.

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.
- ★ **Jason Reder** 12CK competed in the Wellington Smoke-free Rockquest with three friends from Naenae College. Their band called 'The Velvet Regime' won the 2011 Wellington Smoke-Free Rockquest. They will now compete in the Rockquest nationals in Hamilton.
- ★ Congratulations to **Elliot Pike** 12JS who last week won the College Sport Badminton Championships in an outstanding match. Two other players also did well - **Yao Lik Chun** 12HA who reached the semi finals only narrowly losing this match and **Calvina Deng** who reached the quarter finals.

## Music Notes

Well done to all those students who performed last weekend in the regional Wellington Rockquest. Congratulations particularly to **Jason Reder** 12CK, the drummer of Velvet Regime, the winning band and to **Lucas Donnell** 13RK, from MAN!Woman who won the Lyrics Writer's Award.

HVHS Music Festival is coming up Monday 19 September, 7.00 pm in the School Hall. The Music Department will showcase groups and is looking forward to seeing you there.

## Do you have teenagers in your life?

Parents Inc. have some great tips and resources for you. Visit [www.TheParentingPlace.com](http://www.TheParentingPlace.com) before 2 August and you will find FREE parenting webinars on a range of topics.

You can also download Hot Tips brochures anytime from our 'advice' section.

### Tweens & Teens Toolbox - How to stay onside (and slightly ahead!) of your teenager.

We will show you that although these years can be challenging, they can actually be some of the best years of your life - and theirs!

Next Tween & Teen Toolbox in Lower Hutt runs for 6 consecutive Tuesday evenings from 9 August, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

For more details visit [www.TheParentingPlace.com](http://www.TheParentingPlace.com) or contact Natalie ph 934 8483

## Looking Ahead

### July

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

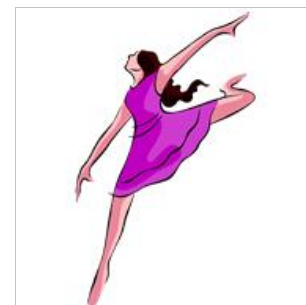
### August

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

## 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 85th Celebration Dinner For Past Pupils and Staff

A celebration dinner is to be held at the Petone Workingmen's Club on Friday 11 November 2011. If you attended Hutt Valley High School at any time we would love to see you there.

Register your interest as soon as possible to: Betty Hennes on 563 6040 or email [henhouse23@xtra.co.nz](mailto:henhouse23@xtra.co.nz).