



# Hutt Valley High School News

## Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

Careers Week last week was an interesting exercise intended to widen students' thinking about their possible futures. Individual year group assemblies were addressed by a range of different speakers, most of whom were organised by Chris Bagley of the BNZ. We thank Chris for his ability to assemble the many interesting speakers. They ranged through the fields of engineering, personnel, law, architecture, accountancy, building, developing, entrepreneurial work, teaching and many others. A couple of highlights were at the Year 9 assembly where the students were told about a two Rolls Royce-engined land speed record attempt car being built right here in the Hutt and where Terry Serepisos spoke and then presented tickets to last weekend's Phoenix football match to the entire year group. That was a wonderfully generous thing to do and many grateful students were present at the game.

Thanks to Mrs House and her team for the effort and presentation involved in Careers Week. It is a significant exercise, with five assemblies, plus the evening presentation, to which 96 people came. The whole week leads in to students' option selections, done via interviews with their year level deans, in a major exercise that seeks to ensure that every single one of our students has had an individual discussion about their career plans and the best combination of subjects to take in order that those plans are followed, but so that alternative subject pathways are also preserved as much as possible.

Another event last week was the first of a series of Year 9 Enrichment sessions. Staff were asked to nominate Year 9 students for these extension opportunities focusing on a range of classes that commence with a series on philosophy. Fifty students have been invited for one hour classes that will occur every two to three weeks. The classes will engage closely with the key competencies of the

new curriculum (Thinking; Using Language, Symbols and Texts; Managing Self; Relating to Others; and Participating and Contributing) in a manner that is intended to stretch and challenge the students who are taking part.

This week has seen the school finish regular classes early on Tuesday as the regional PPTA meetings were held to discuss the Ministry of Education response to the claim for a renewed Collective Agreement. It is disappointing to see the good will of earlier years becoming eroded as we move into an industrial process that is making little headway. There are several sticking points in these talks, of which finance is only one. Nobody wants to see industrial action in schools, not least because it impacts upon attitudes that need to be positive and expansive in order for students to thrive. Having seen the very negative consequences of work to rule practices in the English education system when I taught there some years ago, I can only hope that the Ministry and the PPTA can find common ground in an approach that seeks to work towards solutions to the current impasse.

Meanwhile, school life goes on and it thrives. Just last night, three of our teams competed in finals for their regional competitions in basketball, with two titles won, by the Senior Girls and the Senior B Boys. As we approach the end of the winter sports season, it is great to see the level of commitment and effort being put in by our athletes. We look forward to this weekend's further events and to next week's Winter Tournament competition.

Ross Sinclair  
**Principal**

Congratulations to:

**WELLINGTON SECONDARY SCHOOLS TABLE  
TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
AT EMPIRE STADIUM 13 AUGUST 2010**

The Championships were well attended with over 40 teams from 17 different schools competing. Hutt Valley High School fielded 5 boys teams and 1 girls team. The students representing the school were:-

- Boys A** Matt Sheppard 11GI, Delano Lam 11SA, Luke Falvey 10RP
- Boys B** Callum Gates 10RP, Ian Wang 9MM, Craig Morgan 11SA, Jacob Gates 13BT
- Boys C** Stefan Vrecic 10CR, Gareth Telfer 9FD, Garrett Fitzgerald 12HA, Yao Chun 11PN
- Boys D** Matiu Chase 10RP, Jono Webb 10CR, Nitish Tailor 11SA, Umaiyan Haran 9MM
- Boys E** Rob Salisbury 10RP, Donald Tang 11MT, Louie Thie 9SK, Brandon Ngan 9SK
- Girls A** Helen Wu 13GU, Rebecca Allen 12TJ, Ellen Xiong 10UN, Philippa Morris 9SO

Our Girls Team won the Girls First Division. Both Helen and Ellen played with determination, while being supported ably by Rebecca and Philippa.

The Boys A team eventually finished fourth in Division 1. Our Boys B team won what was a well contested Division 2. All in all it was a rewarding day with our students proving to be fine ambassadors for the school.



## Year 9-11 Science Awhina Blog

Check out the Year 9-11 Science Awhina blog on:  
<http://www.hvhsawhina.blogspot.com/>

Great photos and details of the Y9 and 10 trip to Te Papa and Y11 to Victoria University.

## Tournament Week Photo Competition

Tourny Week: Week 7

Email in photos to: [sport@hvhs.school.nz](mailto:sport@hvhs.school.nz) by **17 September** and be in to win some *great prizes!* Winning photos will also be published by the school, giving publicity to you, the photographer and your sports team.

**\*All round Best Action Shot**

**\*Best Facials**

**\*Best Dive, Slide or Jump**

## Looking Ahead

### August

- 27 Victoria University Open Day
- 28-5 Sept Winter Sports Tournament Week**

### September

- 1-3 Year 10 History Trip**
- 7 Canterbury University Y13 Visit
- 8 Third Gardasil Immunisation (Day 2)**
- 9-17 Senior Exams
- 19-2 Oct Japan Trip**
- 21 Film Screening at Paramount Theatre
- 23 School Triathlon**
- 24 Last Day of Term 3
- 25-10 Oct School Holidays**

### October

- 11 First day for Term 4

## Feeling Unwell?

If you are feeling unwell and wish to go home you need to come and see the nurse before you text to be picked up. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, as there are a large number of students at HVHS it sometimes gets confusing and takes time to find you. Secondly, you may be more unwell than you realise and seeing the nurse may mean that you are treated correctly sooner.

## Year 12 Science: Nano Camp 2011

A week on hands on Science @ Massey University in January. All your expenses will be covered by the MacDiarmid Institute. See your Science teacher, Ms Gibbs or <http://www.macdiarmid.sc.nz/nanocamp> for more details.

## School Office Holiday Hours

The school office will be closed for the first week of the holidays.

We will reopen on Monday 4 October with reduced hours of 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. Normal office hours will resume on Monday 11 October.

## Victoria University Enrolments for 2011

The Enrolment time is between 1 October and 10 December 2010.

You must have enrolled for your courses by 10 December or you risk missing out on your chosen subjects.