



# Hutt Valley High School News

## Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last week I signalled that a collection would be taken in the hall during the Group Expose, to help Christchurch. That raised \$601.90, a good total for a quick door collection. This week, our school council is mounting a full fund-raiser on Friday, collecting from all classes to try to raise a substantial amount as part of the wider national fund-raising. Along with that collection, there will be a feature band playing by the pavilion at lunchtime, with an obstacle course activity nearby, plus a sausage sizzle. All funds raised will go to Christchurch. Please note that this is not a mufti day; full uniform is required as usual

This week, in a sense, Christchurch has come to us. We are host to 10 international students from around Christchurch. They are our guests for the period they need while they work through their experiences and make decisions about their future. Thank you to the host families who have agreed to care for them, the "buddies" helping them by taking them to their classes, and the guidance team for the work they will be doing with them in the next few days. We also have another Year 9 student who has joined us for what will probably be several months, plus another couple of enquiries from people moving into the area from Christchurch.

It is hard for those in Christchurch. The initial adrenalin-fuelled days have passed and now there is a long hard slog, while people still have to work through grief as further names of victims are announced. One Christchurch principal says, "We can deal with the loss of property and even the loss of life, but it is the loss of optimism that is the hardest to bear." It is a reminder that we in the rest of the country have to help by showing that the people in Christchurch are not alone and that we will offer not just our cash and compassion, but our continuing support and motivation as they struggle to deal with such a huge blow to their city.

We have a further duty, of course, and that is to ourselves. The Christchurch experience has shown us all how fragile is the line that divides our daily lives

from the forces of nature. There are lessons to be learned in terms of preparedness, and we are already doing a major re-think of how we as a school will respond to a range of civil defence scenarios. Christchurch schools have found that communication has been a huge challenge, and we need to ensure that our contact details are kept current. We will be asking parents and caregivers to confirm and update such details.

There is much to do as we absorb the lessons of Christchurch. For now, there is much to do for the people down south. I ask that all those families that are in a position to do so support the Council's appeal on Friday so that we are able as a community to make a difference. Thank you for your support, and if you do have friends in Christchurch, my own experience suggests that they really do appreciate a call that says to them that we care.

Ross Sinclair  
Principal

### Health Notice

We are seeing a number of students with the following symptoms: nausea, stomach pains, headaches and temperatures. Less frequent symptoms are vomiting and diarrhoea. Please keep your child at home if they complain of any of the above symptoms and have a temperature. The absence line is 560 1568.



Students will not be kept at school if a temperature is present with any of the other symptoms.

This is travelling quickly through the school and we would like to reduce its spread. Please encourage hand washing.

## Congratulations to:

★ Congratulations to **Mikaela Burton** 10KE, who has been selected as a member of the Demonstration Team to perform at the Opening Ceremony of the ITF Taekwon-Do World Championships in Wellington. She will also be a flagbearer leading in one of the attending countries.

## Senior Touch

On Friday 25 February our three senior touch teams represented HVHS at the annual qualifying tournament at Fraser Park. The day was a full day where all teams played at least four games. The Senior A Girls finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall, with convincing wins over St Catherine's, Onslow and St Mary's. The girls worked really well as a team and showed impressive athleticism.

The senior A Boys ended up coming 11<sup>th</sup> and the Senior B boys finished 8<sup>th</sup> overall, a special thank you to Mr Mitchell for coaching the team.

All three teams have been playing in the weekly competition at Fraser Park, which finished on Tuesday. Well done to all the players this term. Junior touch begins next Tuesday and HVHS will be fielding four teams, two boys and two girls teams.



## Seaweed

The Island Bay Marine Education Centre's Bait House Aquarium will be open to the public during Seaweed 2011 on Sunday 6 March from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

They will be hosting two guest lecturers at "Octopus Headquarters" on Sunday 6 March who will give talks on "Spearfishing and Conservation" (12 noon) and "When seaweeds go wrong; seaweed blooms and their connection to pollution" (2.00 pm).

For more information on other Seaweed events in Wellington visit: <http://www.seaweed.org.nz/>

## Looking Ahead

### March

4 Year 12 Biology Trip  
**9, 10 School class photos**  
 13-16 Year 12 Geography Trip  
**17-18 Year 13 Tourism Trip**  
 17 Year 9 Social  
**18 Otago University Visit, 8.45 am**  
 24-25 Year 11 Geography Trip  
**29-30 Year 12 Tramping Trip**  
 31 Year 9 Parents Evening

### April

5 Year 10 Parents Evening

## Student ID Cards

ID cards assist us in the safe and efficient running of the school. Students will need to have their cards with them at school every day. They are used by the school library to issue books and the Resource Centre to issue textbooks. We also use them to maintain security around the school and establish quickly whether someone has the right to be here.

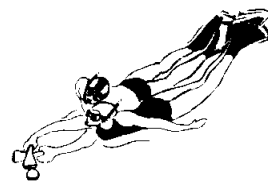
ID cards are valid for one year only. **ALL** students are issued with a student ID card from school

**Replacement cards, where the original is lost or unusable, will cost \$6.**

## Underwater Hockey Notice

Want to join a group of people and have fun in the water? Then give Underwater Hockey a go! Players meet each Sunday night at Huia Pool for training from 6.30-8.00 pm.

All years welcome to come along and try out. For more information contact Andrea on 971 9571.



## Wanted!

Lemons for the Canteen for their famous lemonade.

If you have extra lemons please drop them to the canteen or the school office.

