



Hamilton Girls' High School

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Hamilton Girls' High Bulletin Number 2

Feb 24 2010

In this issue:

From the Principal

What's happened so far:

Kia ora tatou to all our parents and wider community.

Meet the Teachers

What's happened this fortnight Feb 11-24?

Athletics

Thank you to all the Y9 parents and Y9 students, Y13s, our Kapa Haka girls and all our staff who made last Tuesday evening's "**Meet the Teachers**" evening such a resounding success. We saw very quickly the power of the new relationships we are having as mentors. Phoning every Y9 home and seeing you all responding so positively was the best of all responses we could have hoped for! All families will have had a call from your daughter's mentor by the end of February. Wherever possible we will then keep in regular contact with you via e-mail. Remember also to discuss your daughter's self assessment of her progress to date, outlined in her diary. This is how

Safety Issues

What's coming up

2009 Scholarships

regular the reporting cycle is going to be – with your daughter taking a very active role in determining and managing her future in realistic relevant chunks – fortnight by fortnight.

We are delighted with the settled atmosphere in class overall and the positive attitude to the privileges the girls are earning. We have a small group of **new students**, - our international girls join us for half or a full year from many different parts of the world. We will introduce them in our Term newsletters.

Our **Athletics at Porritt Stadium** were just the best ever! Our student senior leaders excelled themselves and set such a superb tone all day. Our numbers were very much better. Great to see girls who in the past absented themselves are now participating. They are really enjoying this very special day full of school spirit. We are also seeing that our expected 100% attendance with the 90% bottom line "zero tolerance" re losing privileges is having the desired effect. It is making the girls take responsibility for their own behaviour! - This important focus and goal is being achieved!

Thank you too for your support of another dimension of "managing self" and school spirit – the **wearing of our uniform with pride** everywhere – inside and outside our school. The school just hums when we are all rowing together in the same waka. We have members of our community popping in to commend us – it is a very visible and positive tone! We are respecting expectations, and we are able to focus on our primary task – learning and teaching. Well done to all our girls – and thanks to all our families!

Safety issues around arriving and exiting our school: We have an agreement with the police and the City Council that in the interests of safety, **all girls must** leave via the Hill Street entrances at all times **unless** they catch the buses which come to our Ward St bus bay area. Please do not drop your daughters off here or wait here after school. Cars parked here will be towed away as they are a safety hazard. Could you also help by staggering the time you pick up your daughter? We would have less of a bottleneck in Hill St if some came say at 3.20pm, some at 3.25pm, and others at 3.30pm. We'd appreciate you thinking about doing this to help.

What's coming up? Do diary the following and join us!

- All week:** Enrolments for sports teams and cultural/arts groups: we so want to see all participating!
- Mon 1 March:** Interviews: Student mediators (after school)
- Mon 1 March: Staff room:** NCEA question and answer session for first time parents, 7.00-8.30pm
- Wed 3 March:** Swimming Sports all day at HGHS: all welcome
- Thurs 4 March:** HBHS Social: Privileges earned here - only able to attend so long as 90+% attendance
- Friday 5 March (after school) – 7 March:** Y10-13 Student Mediation Training
- NB Change of date: First HGHS Social – now 18 March** (not 11 March as in diary) - "privileges" again
- Thurs 25 March: (pm)** Paid union meeting: The school is open with staff cover for girls who cannot go home
- Board of Trustees elections – May 2010 – watch this space.** We enjoy a very special relationship with our Board of Trustees. Parents are invited to consider standing for this important governance role. Any queries –contact administration@hghs.school.nz

Congratulations: Academic successes: 2009 NCEA interim results: Scholarships:

As well as the interim NCEA results published in Bulletin 1 we are delighted to say we have had students awarded Scholarships in a very wide range of subjects - Biology, Japanese, Mathematics with Statistics, Media Studies, Physical Education and Spanish. As with the NCEA results reported in our first Bulletin on 10 February, several students are asking for scripts to be re-marked and we are hopeful we will have even more Scholarships after this.

Mary Ann Baxter