



HENDERSON HIGHLIGHTS

March 2010



2010 PREFECTS

Head Boy: Sean Turner,
Head Girl: Bianca Schouten,
Deputy Head Boy: Colin Nankivell,
Deputy Head Girl: Diamond Aolele



Prefects:

Toby Agbede, Andrew Boere, Jamie-Leigh Hill, Brenda Kelly, Bernadine Kruger, Denise Lio, Victoria Methven, Peter Milani, Daniel Moore, Quentin Motofua, Phoebe Munro, Jade O'Shea, Jared Partridge, Ashleigh Reekie, Benta Singh, Rachel Suk, Krystal Sutton, Brittany Taylor, Sarah Thompson.



Congratulations to Mrs Ruth Ballard, Head of HHS English, who once again, entered the Stratford Shakespeare Society annual Sonnet competition which, this year, had the theme of 'Shakespeare's Birthplace'.

She says: "This time, I was placed second in the senior division. Apparently, the judge was very impressed with the standard of entries. In particular, the judge noted, 'I liked the touch of humour in the third quatrain, along with the topic Kiwi references ... This sonnet flows, has a clear structure, and moves to a strong conclusion. Nicely done.' "

I have no idea what the winning sonnet is like. For my efforts I received a certificate and a \$50 book voucher."

SONNET: *Stratford-upon-Avon*

Who knew a humble shire in rural England
 Would come to boast an undisputed claim?
 The nest that cradled Shakespeare as an infant
 Begat a legacy of lit'rary fame.

A poet bloomed, like roses on the bowers,
 Inventing words till language was his art.
 He delighted in the woods and fields and flowers
 While exposing foibles of the human heart.

Imagine if the Bard was born a kiwi –
 His plays would feature fantails, ferns and flax.
 He might be writing soap operas for TV!
 But Destiny's too serious for that.

Was birth in Stratford conjured by a spell?
 Methinks the heavens planned it very well!

- Ruth Ballard, January 2010

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Nominations are invited for the Election of 7 Parent Representatives (3 year Term) to the Board Of Trustees. A nomination form will be posted out to all eligible voters.

Nominations close 23rd April 2010.

VOTING: Schools across New Zealand will be electing new Board of Trustee Representatives this year. Parents of all students are eligible to vote, even if that parent does not live at the same address as the student. A caregiver over the age of 20 responsible for the day-to-day care of the student living at the same address of the student (eg step-parent) may also vote.

Please do not hesitate to contact Nadine Partridge, Returning Officer (838-9085 ext 720) if you wish to discuss eligibility.

Voting Closes 7 May 2010 (noon)

EARLY FINISH MONDAYS TERM 2

At the last meeting the Board agreed to school finishing at 2.15pm on Mondays for Term 2. This will allow staff time for professional development, including training in teaching techniques, new curriculum and pastoral care. The programme will run for term 2 only and school will return to normal times for term 3 and 4. Students will receive instruction in all their Monday classes but the time allocated will be shortened from 60 to 50 minutes. We are not able to change bus times but the school library will be open for students to study.

JUNIOR DIPLOMA

This year we are starting a new initiative in our junior years, Year Nine and Ten.

At the end of the year students will "graduate" the year with a Junior Diploma if they fulfil the requirements in their subjects. Each subject has a level of attainment that they want each student to meet. At the end of the year if they have reached this level in all of their classes they will be awarded a Junior Diploma endorsed in the level of greatest attainment. The three levels are bronze, silver and gold. Each subject will inform their students what they need to do to attain each level.

The purpose of this diploma is threefold: to encourage academic performance, to prepare students for senior academic success and to encourage excellence.

NCEA for Students with Special Assessment Requirements

At this time of year we need to apply to NZQA for permission to offer special assessment conditions. This is for students who might require reader-writer assistance, enlarged text exams and extra time, for example.

NZQA has a lengthy and detailed process for application so the school needs to begin this as soon as possible.

If you think your student may require special assistance please send a letter to Mr Dennon at the school stating what type of assistance might be needed so that we can begin the process.

Alpha Students Tackle Technology



Year 9 students in the Alpha class are making great progress with their laptops. Their portable computers connect to the internet through our new wireless system and they are able to do classwork and homework with up to date technology.

Alpha students are also able to access their daily lessons at home via the Ultranet. The Ultranet system allows students to do tests and submit assignments electronically.



It is great to have this modern learning facility.

UNION MEETING

The teachers union, the PPTA, have given notice that they will be holding a meeting to discuss their pay claim on Thursday 25th March at 1.00pm. A large number of Henderson High School staff are PPTA members.

This means that **students will be sent home at 12.15 pm on Thursday 25th March.** We will be able to provide supervision for students who are unable to get home.

STAGE CHALLENGE GARAGE SALE

We are looking for any used goods to sell again at this years fundraiser. Any donations can be dropped off at the Parekura Centre in the mornings.

Please contact Miss Gray for more information.

Save the date:

**Saturday 1st May 2010 in the School Hall
7am onwards**

BASKETBALL

Basketball Waitakere have kindly offered to help coach Henderson Basketball this season, which we think is a fantastic opportunity. We also need the help of Basketball Managers to be at trainings session to help encourage our teams to practice and play. Basketball Waitakere have also offered to run Coaching, Managerial and Refereeing Courses to anyone who can help this year.

If you feel you could give some time to Basketball within a managerial role, could you please contact Erica Forbes, Sports Coordinator 838905 x765. Your time and help would be much appreciated.

ADVERTISERS WANTED!

Past and present pupils, staff and community are contributing to a HHS Recipe Book to be sold as a fundraising venture for our Japanese Department trip to Japan.

If you would like to have your business advertised in this book please contact 8389085 ext 720 (Gillian Hill) before 25th March 2010 for more information.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

On Friday 12th March we will be joining forces with the local Police to host a sausage sizzle at school. The cost is 50c per sausage and funds raised will be put toward youth activities in Waitakere City.



PTA CAR BOOT SALES

This year, the PTA are running a Car Boot Sale every second Saturday, in the school carpark, 9 am to 1 pm.

Dates: 20th March, 3rd April, 17th April, 1st May, 15th May, 5th June, 19th June, 3rd July, 17th July.

Please come along and support them.