

Hewett House Newsletter

12th June 2009

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Due to a technical hitch some parents did not receive last weeks newsletter, I have included some of the relevant details:

Friday bus bookings are processed by the Hostel on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning of each week. Once your Friday bus booking has been processed if you cancel the booking you will still be charged. Bus bookings made on Sunday can be cancelled before noon on Sunday without incurring a charge. Cancellations received after noon on Sunday will be charged.

The regional schools Orienteering Competition was held in the Waikato over the Queens Birthday weekend. The Hawkes Bay team won. Hostel girls who were part of the winning team were Georgia Wedd, Rebecca Manson, Emma Pullen and Briana Massie. A fantastic result.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Stevenson and Mr and Mrs Thomas for hosting two of our internationals boarders over the Queens Birthday weekend. They both had a wonderful time and gained more insight into how we live in New Zealand.

Now this weeks news:

All reports were posted out today and you should receive them early next week. Any parent who does not receive their reports by Wednesday of next week contact me and I can organize to email you a copy.

On Friday the 19th of June there will be parent teacher interviews. Your daughter should be organizing appointments with their teachers, if you want to meet with them on that day. Talk to your daughters about interview times.

The blessing held for Stella Handley today was very moving and I would like to thank the girls who spoke at the event. A rose was planted by the front door of the Hostel in her memory and a small brass plaque erected.

The Parent Forum was very productive with lots of details being discussed. I will briefly outline some key points and you will receive more comprehensive minutes from the Forum members.

Personal items going missing –

Mrs Biss stressed the need to name items so we can get them back to the girls. Girls must tell staff as soon as an item goes missing so we can act. I will produce a form the girls can fill in so we can track the disappearance. There is a form by the dryer for girls to note down details of their items being dried so we can track these also.

Girls are urged to look at the school lost property as there is a mountain of lost clothes and belongings at the school office.

The school Ball –

Parents of Year 12 and 13 girls attending the Ball must ensure they organize supervised accommodation for their daughters. Most motels will not take bookings from girls who are not going to be accompanied by parents.

All girls going to the Ball and their parents are invited up to the hostel on that evening from 7pm onwards. It is a wonderful pre ball occasion and a good opportunity to take photos.

Internet access –

All girls at the Hostel have access to computers, the internet and printers. Any sites currently not available, if suitable, can be accessed by seeing Mr Harty at school.

The school library is open at lunch time and after school. Tutorials are run every lunchtime for a variety of subjects. The public library is open seven days a week and is only a short walk away.

Girls missing out on vegetables at dinner-

Two very large buckets of vegetables go to the pig man every evening after dinner. Any girl who is not served enough vegetables must tell Mrs Biss so she can dish them up some more. Any parents concerned speak to Mrs Biss and she can make sure that their daughters get sufficient. There is always leftover vegetables.

Hostess list –

This is a list where parents put the names of people that girls are allowed to go out with for the day or on tea leave. In all cases if your daughter is going over night to a place we need you to ring us to give permission.

Absences –

If your child is sick, bereaved or has appointment you must ring the Hostel and we will notify the school. Other leave must be approved by the school so you must notify the school in writing. Please give the school plenty of notice.

Sunday Activities –

The girls will be asked what they would like organized and we can progress.

Taxi cards –

Any girl who loses their taxi card must report this immediately to Mrs Larder and it will be cancelled. Girls must sign the back of their cards for security reasons. The cards can only be used by Napier taxis.

Communication between school and isolated Hostel parents –

Parents who have a communication problem with the school - please ring the school and organize for newsletters to be posted or emailed.

Should uniform be worn between home and Hostel –

Most parents agreed that mufti was fine but parents must make sure that daughters do not return to the Hostel in their pajamas, revealing clothes or clothes unsuitable for the weather conditions. Footwear must be worn.

Finally, congratulations to Briar Riddell who came first in the NZ Junior Ladies Motorbike Cross Country competitions. Briar battled some tough conditions and fierce competition to take out this prestigious title, well done Briar.

Kind regards,

Varinia Larder
Hostel Manager

