

Hewett House Newsletter

19th February 2010

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Unfortunately, due to the weather, the athletic sports were cancelled this morning. The girls have put in so much effort making their costumes for today it is a little disappointing. However, they now have a few more days to add those final touches as the athletic sports will now be held on Wednesday 24 February. I hope that this has not inconvenienced too many parents who had made plans to come.

The girls have settled into the routines of both the Hostel and school and as always the first term is full of summer sport and activities. Just a reminder to families that if your daughter has signed up for an after school activity, she will be unable to attend if we have not received permission from you for her to do so. Just a phone call is usually sufficient. Permission from last year will not suffice for activities this year.

The District Health Nurse met with all girls at school earlier this week to discuss the Cervical Cancer Vaccination Programme. All girls were given a consent form for their parents to sign. The girls were told that the consent form needed to be returned by Friday. However, in order to make an informed decision this did not allow Hostel parents the time to read the information given to their girls. I have since spoken to the Nurse about this. Most girls will bring their forms home this weekend for you to sign, either to consent or not. If you do not feel that the information you have been given is sufficient to make this decision please visit the following website:
www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz Parents of 7 day girls can give their consent in writing either by email, fax or post (it does not need to be on the official consent form).

This week the school prefects were announced at our Founder's Day assembly. We were very proud to see that four Hostel girls were given the responsibility of prefect in the school. Our Head of Hostel is Lucy Pullen. Deputy Head of Hostel is Pip Beachen. Brooke McFall is Head of Sports and Soraya Kamau is Manu Taki. Congratulations to the girls, I know they will take their roles very seriously and they will work hard to bring their very best to their roles.

This week we also introduced our Hostel Houses. House Leaders were selected after submitting their applications for the position. The Hostel House system will provide a platform for activities and friendly competition within the Hostel. It is our hope that the House system will provide opportunities for all year groups to be more involved with each other as they offer each other support and encouragement. Girls will have opportunities to earn points for their houses individually and as a team.

Our Hostel Houses are Shakespeare House, Clyde House, Fitzroy House and Onslow House. (Named after the streets that surrounds our hostel)

The Leaders and deputies of each house are:

Shakespeare: Laura Brown-Thomas (leader) and Fenn Read (deputy)

Clyde: Annika James (leader) and Charli Hawkins (deputy)

Fitzroy: Georgia Wedd (leader) and Briar Riddell (deputy)

Onslow: Rosie Livesay (leader) and Jelly Foote (deputy)

Well done to all the girls! We met this week to discuss responsibilities and we are looking forward to planning our first house activities later in the term.

As you are all aware, our Hostel girls are very busy girls and many of them are involved in a variety of co-curricular activities. We are always proud to recognise their achievements. I would like to offer CONGRATULATIONS to Kirsten Tahau. Kirsten has been in the South Island competing on the Rodeo Circuit. She has gained a place for herself in the NZ High School Under 17 – Trans Tasman Barrel Racing Team. Well done Kirsten!

Due to the fact that our sports were supposed to be today, yesterday was our 'Art Deco dress up' day at school and in the Hostel. A few Year 13 girls got right into the spirit of it all and looked fantastic. The staff at school and the hostel discovered the pit falls of a feather boa on a hot day. This weekend is jammed full of Art Deco activities and I hope that our 7 day girls will be able to soak up the spirit in town this weekend.

It looks like it is going to be both a busy and a hot weekend. I hope you all have an enjoyable one.

Kind regards

Lianne Parkinson
Hostel Manager