

Hewett House Newsletter

26th February 2010

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Well, another week has just flown by – hard to believe that next week is week five, we are half way through term one already!

This week we had the school athletic sports at Marewa Park. What a wonderful display of house spirit! The hostel girls had been requesting town leave for days, to go down and purchase various items in their house colours. It was great to see parcels arrive from home containing colourful bits and pieces as well. The Hostel girls looked awesome and we have some fabulous photographic evidence of their creativity. In fact the Hostel pretty much cleaned up the prizes for House Costumes! The Hostel was also well represented in the actual athletic events as well. It was a great day – sunburn and all!

Actually, the hot weather has caught us all out. This week Mr Woolley had to purchase 6 pedestal fans in an effort to keep the dorms cool at night. The pool has been in high demand after school and it has been great to see girls across all year groups making the most of it. The Hostel cell phone even took a dip this week.

Our House Leaders conducted their first house meetings on Wednesday night and our first points are on the graph! Girls can earn points for participation and effort in school sports, competing in friendly activities and competitions within the Hostel (we will try and organize these each term), exceptionally tidy rooms and for service to others within the Hostel. So far the Houses are pretty close but Shakespeare House is edging slightly ahead.

We have just purchased new furniture for the rec room. The first installment was delivered today and it looks fantastic. Next time you are at the Hostel have a look at our rec room as it is starting to look really good. We have taken the old box seating out of the walkway and we intend to give them a coat of paint to use as coffee tables. Hopefully we will have the girls input and help with that as the rec room is really their space and it should reflect that. Any 'art work donations' from the girls would be greatly appreciated. We have the space and the hooks on the walls ready and waiting!

Next week will be the last week of work for our night and evening supervisor Linda Henderson. She is leaving to take up a business opportunity in Australia with her son. We wish Linda all the best with her new venture and thank her for all her hard work here at the Hostel. Her replacement (who is also Linda) will start here on Monday and will spend a week with Linda 'learning the ropes'.

Linda Hikaka comes from a farming background, she has raised her family and had many years experience owning a motel and managing various venues in the hospitality industry.

Can I please remind all families that overnight leave during the week should be an extremely rare request and should only be for exceptional circumstances. The girls are only at prep 4 nights of the week and this is vital to the academic success Napier Girls High School places such high value on. Likewise with Tea Leave, while we encourage girls to go out with family and friends for special occasions, it is less disruptive if your daughter returns in time for prep or alternatively, makes arrangements to catch up the time lost. Thanks for your consideration.

We had a small visitor to the Hostel today; my daughter's 8 week old puppy came to work with me. He has had a blast but is now asleep at my feet under the desk completely tuckered out. Thank you to all the girls who took turns looking after him today – you are all awesome!

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend and return ready for another busy week and swimming sports on Wednesday.

Kind regards

Lianne Parkinson
Hostel Manager