



Houghton Valley School
INSPIRATION, CHALLENGE and ACHIEVEMENT
HIRINGA, WERO, WHAKATUTUKITANGA

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 24th February 2016

Week 4 of Term 1

Term 1 Calendar			
Week 4	Fri 26 th Feb	2:15pm	Assembly
	Sunday 28 th Feb	2-4pm Walkathon	Home and School Walkathon and Picnic (pp Sun 13 th March)
Week 5	Fri 4 th March	2:15pm	Assembly
	Fri 4 th March	3pm	Bake and Craft Sale (fundraise for Fiji Cyclone outside Karaka)
Week 8	Fri 25 th March		Public Holiday - Good Friday
Week 9	Mon 28 th March		Public Holiday – Easter Monday
	Tues 29 th March		School Holiday – Easter Tuesday – NO SCHOOL
Week 11	Fri 15 th April		Last Day of Term 1 2016
HV School Fair – Saturday 29th October 2016			
ASB Banking days are Thursdays			
Sushi available Thursdays – go online to www.wrapitup.co.nz before 9am on Thursday to order			
Kelly Club After School Care – Adam Cell 022 010 9981 or email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz			

Kia ora koutou, ngā mihi o te tau hou,

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children



Hopefully you're busy gathering sponsors for the Walk-a-thon coming up on Sunday. This new event in the Home and School calendar is a fun event, this year fundraising for the bike track. The annual school picnic follows so hopefully you'll pack up your picnic and socialise with fellow school whānau. Sadly I may not be able to attend as I have a weekend of activities for a family reunion. My father's family are gathering so my numerous cousins and I are looking forward to reuniting after many years.



Playground development is progressing well with three of the slides almost ready for use. An area has been mapped out and holes drilled for the surround of new playground equipment being installed this week. Next there'll be some building of the retaining wall to enclose the bark, matting to be installed under the ends of the slides and landscaping around the whole area. We've had a couple of offers of help which is really appreciated. Let Dave or me know if you can help out.

Nga mihi nui

Raewyn Watson, Principal/Tumaki

A BIG WELCOME in NGAIO CLASS TO:

😊 **Sven-Aksel Mikkelsen** 😊 **Zac Brister**



Invitation to Whero Whanau Group Families
PRINCIPAL'S BREAKFAST Thursday 3 March 8am



Hopefully you received your e-mailed invitation to this last week and can join Lara, Whero Whānau group's Leader tea/coffee/juice and muffins - or similar.

I'd really appreciate your RSVP by Monday 29 February for catering purposes. Please indicate number of adults and children attending and any dietary restrictions to principal@houghton.school.nz



DO NOT ENTER!

Please note, the school car park is reserved for staff use only. It is not safe to be used in the mornings or at the end of the school day for dropping off or picking up your children. Children are often walking across the area and visibility is not ideal at the entrance which is both on a hill and a corner. Please park safely on the street.



Message from the BoT

We are only a few weeks into the new year and as we all know time goes by quickly...before long it will be the time to elect a new BoT for the school. BoT elections are in June this year. Being a trustee is a great way to contribute to the school, a great way to help shape the direction the school takes, it is very interesting and rewarding too! Some examples of the initiatives that the Houghton School BoT have undertaken over the years include:

1. Creating a new charter with a large focus on student confidence, collaboration, learning for life and improved measurement of student achievement.
2. Ensuring the school has a model of teaching (Inquiry learning) consistently applied across all ages.....
3. Investing in ICT developments to support learning
4. Recruiting staff
5. Ensuring the school is on a sound financial footing with improved financial systems

So, if you are thinking of becoming a Trustee you can; contact Kevin Hales who is the current Chair (email: kevin@administar.co.nz), talk to Raewyn, come to any of the BoT meetings to see what its like or if you see any of the current Trustees have a chat. It really is a great way to contribute to school life and we encourage everyone thinking about it to put their name forward in June.

Home and School Information

Walk-a-thon this Sunday

The Walk-a-thon and the Home and School picnic are **this Sunday** 28th February. In the case of rain the event will be postponed and a message will be on the **school website**. (Rain day Sun 13th March)

When: Sunday 28th February 2- 4pm

Where: School field

What: Walkathon, around the marked 1km course



Encourage your friends, neighbours, overseas relatives etc to sponsor you to walk a number of laps or per lap, whatever you feel like! We will record the total distance of everyone and chart how far we got - let's see if we can walk to Auckland!

After the event: Sponsor money can be put in an envelope clearly marked with your name and left in the container in Denise's office or internet banked to the **Home and School Account** 12-3481-0049991-00 with Walk-a-thon and name in reference. All money raised will be put towards the development of the bike track.



After the finish of the walkathon families are encouraged to be part of the Annual Home and School picnic, from 4.00pm, bring your own food, buy a sausage, (or baking see below!) have a picnic on the field and enjoy the evening sunshine! Bring a ball to kick, cricket stumps to bowl at or take part in the Houghton Valley Tug of War championship!

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help, more would be appreciated so let me know. Also to raise more funds we will be selling baking, so if people could bring something we could sell at the picnic that would be awesome. You can leave it at school on the Friday, at my house on the Saturday or bring it with you on Sunday. Thank you, for more information contact me : sarahduncan99@hotmail.com or 021 0227 3490



Bake Stall and Craft Stall for FIJI - Friday 4th March at 3pm outside Karaka Class

We would like to have a bake stall and craft stall (children's craft) on Friday 4th March at 3pm to raise funds for the devastation in Fiji after the terrible cyclone that happened over the weekend. Maartje (Milla and Isaac's Mum) said she would kindly coordinate these stalls. Please contact her on Cell 021611472 or email: maartjekiwi@hotmail.com or just bring in some baking on Friday and leave in the school library on the tables before or during school – please indicate if there are any nuts in the produce. Thanks.



Community News

Junior Squash Coaching – all ages and abilities welcome. Coaching by NZ representative, Scott Galloway and top Wellington junior Tohe Wanoa. Thursdays 4-5pm (2 The Parade, Island Bay). Come along and give squash a try for a couple of no obligation sessions. Queries to Warren Hall (squash@islandbaytsc.org.nz)

INSTEP DANCE STUDIO - Taking new enrollments now for ages 3yrs +. We offer dance classes in ballet, jazz and contemporary, based at the Houghton Bay hall. New adult class starting this Thursday 8-9pm. For a free no obligation trial class or to get more information contact Lesley on 973-STEP or email instepdance@hotmail.com. To view more info visit www.instepdancestudio.co.nz

School Contact Details: Phone: 939-3318 **Office Email:** admin@houghton.school.nz
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