



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

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 10th August 2016

Week 3 of Term 3

Term 3 Calendar			
Week 3	Thurs 11 th Aug	7pm	Home & School Meeting in the staffroom
	Fri 12 th Aug	8am	Principal's Breakfast in the Library – MA Whanau
	Fri 12 th Aug	2:15pm	Assembly – Classes Presenting 1, 3 & 5
Week 4	Mon 15 th Aug		ICAS Maths
	Tues 16 th Aug	All day	Regional SportFest - Year 5/6
	Tues 16 th Aug	6pm	Board Meeting - <i>Everyone is welcome to attend Board Meetings. At this meeting the Trustees will decide to co-opt Anna Ririnui onto the board for a specific period to manage the bike track project</i>
	Wed 17 th Aug		Scholastic Book ONLINE ordering CLOSES
Week 5	Wed 24 th Aug		Parent Information Evening
Week 6	Thurs 1 st Sept	7:45pm	DanceSplash at MFC (rehearsal at 11am at MFC)
Week 9	Thurs 22 nd Sept		School DISCO
ASB Banking days is Thursday • Bee Healthy Dental – 0800 825 583			
Sushi available Thursdays – go online to www.wrapitup.co.nz before 9am on Thursday to order			
Kelly Club After School Care – Phillipa - Cell 022 010 9981 or email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz			
HVS SWIMMING will be Term 3 Week 2-9 on Mondays			
HV School Fair - Term 4 2016 – Saturday 29 th October 2016			

Kia ora koutou,

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Short and sweet from me this week as I know there's a big item from Home and School. Please support us by engaging with our important Home & School committee. There is a core group who work really hard on your behalf and I know they love everyone's input. Remember your contributions are ultimately for the children and there are lots of ways you can contribute. The group would really appreciate more faces at their meetings so I hope to see you there this Thursday night.

Swimming has got off to a good start. Thanks for all the prompt payments and for helping your children remember their togs each week. We believe swimming is an important life skill so we really appreciate your support to make these lessons happen.



TARGETED LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Parent Information Evening Week 5 - Wednesday 24 August
Put this date into your calendar now.

There'll be more information regarding the format of the evening soon.



You are invited to our information evening to tell you about some of the special programmes we run at Houghton Valley School.

You may have heard your children (Yr 3-6) mention **Banks**. This is your chance to learn more about this programme targeted to children's mathematical knowledge needs. Gabrielle and Stephanie will lead this workshop.

Matt and Joe will lead a workshop about the **Joy Allcock spelling programme** run across the middle/senior classes.

Nicola, Monnie and the rest of the Junior Team will share the **Yolanda Soryl Junior Phonological Awareness programme**.

We also run the Learning Support programmes **Spring into Maths** and **Rainbow Reading** for some children depending on need and Lara and Jo Graham will talk about these in their presentation.

Nga mihi nui

Raewyn Watson, Tumuaki

☺ **Welcome to Delmaza Hall, teacher trainee working in Pohutukawa class for the remainder of term 3.**



Friday 12 August at 8am in the school library.

You will have received this invitation by e-mail if you have a child in **Ma Whanau Group**. Thank you for the RSVPs received so far. If you haven't already replied, please let me know by tomorrow night if you're able to

make it, however your last minute decision on Friday morning is also fine – just turn up.

These breakfast get-togethers are intended to give families the opportunity for an informal chat with me and to meet other whanau. I will provide a light breakfast of tea/coffee and muffins - or similar (and something suitable for the children to drink as well!).

Enviroschool Update Week 3 Term 3



Ngā mihi nui, Many thanks for helping at the Second Forest Clearing Working Bee.

Many thanks to the parents who helped last Sunday with clearing the blackberry roots and vines in the forest. Siobahn Isles, Richard Scott, Phil (Stevie/Nico), Jenny (Henri), Tamati (Manawa, Te Maihi) and Dave. The weather kept us all cool while we were hard at work. The trees have been released from being suffocated by vines and we have uncovered rich soil for tree planting next autumn.



SUSHI RUBBISH & YOGURT POTTLES

The class with responsibility for recycling are having a hard time coping with the sushi packaging/soy sauce plastic containers and yogurt pots as these items need washing before they are put into the recycling bins. Our solution is for children to take these items home.



From TOMORROW, all children will be required to take home their sushi rubbish and yogurt pottles, please.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE ENVIRO INITIATIVES.

New Outdoor Games. Everyone is enjoying having a range of equipment to play with in the breaks. We now have skipping ropes and various ball games and these have proved very popular. Several of our students noticed where balls could roll down into the drainage spaces. We worked out how to solve this problem in the short term by placing a plastic lid over until a permanent cover would prevent the balls from rolling away or worse still, block our drainage system.



Empowered Enviroschool students Congratulations to Jelle, Izzy P. and Ramona who found a dead bird and wondered about the tag on it's leg. Jelle tried phoning to find out what we should do with the bird and the tag. A former student Kate Pickard who is now at College, came to the rescue by reading the tag information and measuring the male sparrow to add to the records. She was able to give the information to the staff at the Department of Conservation. We found that the sparrow was banded by Peter Reese who shared his expertise with many students and staff to help understand the bird populations in our valley.

Species: House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - Banded on: 16/01/2014 - At: Wellington, Sinclair Park, Houghton Bay - Age when banded and sex: Juvenile, Male - Banded by: Peter Reese -Time between banding and recovery: 2 years 6 months 9 days.
Thanks again, Jill Holmstead, Enviroschool Leader

Ordering: mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz



Library News....

Scholastic Book Club ONLINE – Issue 5 – A new way to buy great books!

Flyers for the Book Club are going home today. You have until **Wednesday 17th August 2016** to order and pay for your books **ONLINE** at mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz – sign up to club “Register” then choose Houghton Valley School and your appropriate classroom and enter the book code off the catalog. Any queries about the online book call 0800 266 525. Orders will be delivered to HVS and then we will distribute the books to the children approximately two weeks after the orders close. The school receives 20% in reward points to purchase library books for Houghton Valley School.

SPORTS NEWS



Please remember your SWIMMING Togs every MONDAY until the end of term.

Southern Zone Swimming:

Next Friday 19th August Houghton Valley will be sending a squad of our best year 4 -6 swimmers to compete against other schools in our zone.

Last Monday and at next Mondays swimming lessons I have been running trials for the children to get into the teams. They need to be able to swim 25 metres in the 2 metre pool without assistance. I would love to get enough swimmers to enter a 4 person relay team in each year group.

Regional Sports Fest:

Help still needed- I require a parent to help with next weeks Netball Tournament.

A very exciting event is taking place next week for primary schools in the lower north island. 10 different sports will hold Tournaments on Tuesday the 16th August in the Wellington area. HVS is so lucky to get one of the few spaces available in MiniPolo and Netball for this exciting initiative.

Sports Dates to diary for Term Three

- Tuesday 16 August PSW Sports Fest Year 5/6
- We are competing in MiniPolo at the WRAC
Netball at the Haitaitai Courts
- Friday 19 August Southern Zone Swimming WRAC
- Friday 16 September Interzone Swimming WRAC

If you take any stories or photos at sports-related events that we can use in the newsletters and are happy to share them with everyone else, please e-mail me on matt@houghton.school.nz.



\$3 Healthy BBQ Burgers - Fridays \$3

Ordering: Between 8:30am and 9am, children to line-up outside the Library with cash to place their burger orders. Cash only.



TERM 3 BURGER Roster

Thanks to the people who have signed up to help so far. Weeks 7, 8 and 9 still need parent volunteers. Please add your name to the list in the foyer.

School Fair Update – Saturday 29th October 2016



Drop in Craft Evening – TONIGHT in the school Library

Tonight, Wednesday August 10th. You can help the Fair and learn how to make cool crafty items like decorative birds and bunting. Materials and refreshments provided, no skill required. Session runs from **7pm to 9pm**, but just drop by when it suits you. School library. Friends and relatives also welcome.



For fair-related enquiries, you can contact any of the coordinators or contact Karen on 027 209 4832 or parr.karen@gmail.com

Home and School Information

Greetings all,

Apart from not appreciating the current state of Antarctica, a few thoughts from Home and School Chair,

Home and School Events 2016

Here we are in Week 3 of term 3 already, just over half way through the 2016 year, and half way through the planned events organised through Home and School.

At this midpoint looking back to the first half of the year, we've had 3 successful events, the first ever Walkathon and Family Picnic in Term 1, and more recently the Flying Fox School Quiz at the end of Term 2.

This term we are gearing up for the School Disco (more information on this below), and then we will be working up to the main event, the 2016 Houghton Valley School Fair in Term 4.

None of these events would be possible without the continued support of the HVS School community, so again, a big thanks to all those who have helped out so far this year, and a big thank you in advance to all those volunteers who will be answering future calls for time and help requests for upcoming events.

Home and School Monthly Meetings - We Need More Support

To make decisions at Home and School meetings, and keep projects ticking over we need to achieve a quorum of minimum 1 officer and 4 other members, 5 people basically.

At the last Home and School meeting at the end of Term 2, we did not have enough members to achieve Quorum, resulting in the meeting being cancelled.

For a school with a roll of over 200 pupils we can do better!

We need more more support with more members turning up to keep the meetings moving, and (don't panic, you won't walk out of your first ever meeting organising the 2017 School Fair!).

Big Flying Fox Thanks

I just wanted to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to those who organised the School Quiz last term at the Pines, so, thanks to:

Ande Spencer for organising the quiz,
Aaron McKirdy for being MC this year,
Michael Restieux for running the evening's auctions,
and all others who helped out.

A great night was had by all, and the average yearly maintenance costs for the flying fox are in the bag. Fantastic job and huge thanks again from all flying foxers past, present and future.

Save the date: Thursday 22 September HVS Children's Disco!

This term's Home and School extravaganza is the annual Disco - the theme will be announced soon. Put the date in your diary now!

If you can help out on the night - on the door, the BBQ, selling glow-in-the-dark items or any other jobs that need doing please let Sarah Duncan know: sarahduncan99@hotmail.com

The next **Home and School meeting is this Thursday 11th August 7.00pm in the staff room.**

Everyone is part of home and school if they have a child at HVS, so come along, hear what is going on and what you can do to support your child and be part of the community!

Coming up on this weeks agenda:

- School Disco - Planning.
- Fair 2016 - Updates & planning.
- Kapahaka uniforms update.
- School Property Report - Update on upcoming classroom upgrades.

Contact

Drop us a line if you have any fundraising ideas you want to share, questions about Home and School, or you want to help out with anything.

Home and School Chairperson - Chris Taylor - homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz

Home and School Secretary - Sarah Duncan - homeandschoolsecretary@houghton.school.nz

Home and School Treasurer - Monique McDougall- homeandschooltreasurer@houghton.school.nz

Cheers, Chris Taylor, Chairperson
Houghton Valley Home and School Association

**Reminder: The next Home and School meeting is on
Thursday 11th August 7.00pm in the staff room.**

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