



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

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 31st August 2016

Week 6 of Term 3

Term 3 Calendar			
Week 6	Thurs 1 st Sept	7:45pm	DanceSplash at MFC (rehearsal at 10:50am at MFC)
	Friday 2 nd Sept	2:15pm	Assembly – Classes Presenting 1,3 & 5
Week 7	Mon 5 th Sept	7-9pm	H&S Craft Night
	Tues 6 th Sept	12:15pm	<i>Paid School Staff NZEI Union Meeting at MFC</i>
	Wed 7 th Sept		Ngati Toa School to visit Houghton Valley School
	Wed 7 th Sept	7pm	Year 6 Camp meeting in school Library
	Fri 9 th Sept	8am	Principal Breakfast – Kahurangi in the library
Week 8	Tues 13 th Sept	6pm	HVS BOT Meeting in the Library
	Wed/Thurs 14-15 Sept		Noho Marae Overnighter Year 5/6 at Orongomai Marae
	Fri 16 th Sept		SWIS Open Morning – Year 6's
Week 9	Thurs 22 nd Sept		<i>School DISCO</i>
	Fri 23 rd Sept		Last day of Term 3
Term 4	Mon 10 th Oct		First Day of Term 4
	Fri 16 th Dec		Last day of Term 4
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 29th October 2016			

Kia ora koutou, Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

We have the Education Review Office (ERO) visiting the school in week one of term 4. An ERO review looks at how an early learning service or school reaches positive learning outcomes - knowledge, skills, attitude and habits - for all children and young people. They're interested in what's working well and where improvements can be made. The review process works with a school's own evaluation processes. It also supports a culture of on-going improvement. The review team will spend a few days at the school. They'll talk to the board of trustees, senior leaders, teachers and support staff. They may speak to children, parents and the wider community too. They also look at documents provided and look for evidence that show the practices in place are working.



We've received the news that a tender has been accepted for the upgrade of Pohutukawa and Kowhai classrooms. We're still hoping for the work to begin in the holiday break. The project includes a robust safety process for renovating the south wall due to asbestos cladding that will be disturbed during the installation of the double glazed windows. They've also included the possibility of complications if they find any rotten areas of timber that may extend the need for cladding replacement. I've been assured we're in safe hands and all precautions will be taken during their work. Once we meet with the builders and have a better timeline and more information, I'll keep you posted.

We'd really appreciate receiving a response from everyone regarding the Joint union meeting next Tuesday. All union members are entitled to attend the meeting and because this also includes principals, teachers and support staff, organising supervision is going to be more problematic than usual. Once we have the number of children requiring supervision we can make plans.

Nga mihi nui

Raewyn Watson, Tumuaki

PRINCIPAL'S BREAKFAST - **Kahurangi** Whanau Group

If you have a child in **KAHURANGI** Whanau Group, you and your children are invited to join me on Friday 9 September at 8am in the school library. I'll provide a light breakfast of tea/coffee and muffins - or similar (and something suitable for the children to drink as well!). Please RSVP indicating the number of adults and children attending and any dietary restrictions.
principal@houghton.school.nz

ICAS WRITING RESULTS

Congratulations to these students who sat the **ICAS Writing Assessment** last term:



Year 4: Tessa George and Lily Scott; **Year 5:** Laetitia Bachler, Maaike Day, Lucy Downes, Marceline Holden, Suavek Goodfellow, Fenn Restieaux; **Year 6:** Holly Bowman; Niamh Fyfe and Rosa O'Donnell and Bessie Martin.

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Writing assesses students' ability to write an extended response to a given task. Two forms of writing, narrative and persuasive, are assessed in alternating years. In 2016 the narrative writing task required students to write one or two of the following aspects or stages of a narrative. These included writing the beginning of a narrative, the complication or event in a narrative, a description of a setting, a description of a character and the conclusion of a narrative.

A special mention and congratulations to the follow students who gained awards in the Writing Assessment:

Distinction: Maaike Day, Lucy Downes, Marceline Holden and Holly Bowman.

Credit: Lily Scott, Laetitia Bachler and Rosa O'Donnell.

Note: Awards are granted as follows for each year level in each participating country: High Distinction – the top 1% of participants, Distinction the next 10% of participants, Credit - the next 25% of participants, Merit - the next 10% of participants. Participation - all remaining participants.

DanceSplash Houghton Valley School will be performing in the dance category at the **Michael Fowler Centre this Thursday 1 September at 7.45pm**. Our dance is inspired

ARTSPASH

by the Olympic rings. There will be a combination of 5 cultural dances which will represent the 5 continents of the world that participate in the Olympics. There will be plenty of tickets available at the door from 4pm at the Michael Fowler Centre.

Gabrielle Harvey

Library News....



Scholastic Book Orders Thank you to everyone who has ordered books through Scholastic. We've been assured that the books will be delivered to school next week, and I will make sure they're sent home promptly.

Joanna



Home and School Information



School Fair Update – Saturday 29th October 2016

NEXT CRAFT NIGHT - Monday September 5th - 7pm - 9pm (drop in/leave when you want)

Come and help us make funky fridge magnets and hair accessories for the craft stall at the Fair. No experience or skill required. Bring craft scissors and glue guns please if you have them.

We have been donated some material which would make great halloween cloaks. If anyone has a sewing machine and could make up a cloak or two at home, please let us know. We have several projects like this that could be done at home if you have spare time.



BOOKS UPDATE - Sarah Duncan, Joanna from the library and helpers braved Westpac traffic and picked up many boxes of great books from the DCM Bookfair on Saturday night. In return, DCM were really thrilled with the donation from the bake sale, so thank you to all who helped in various ways.

If you can offer help for the fair in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us. parr.karen@gmail.com 027 209 4832



\$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 FULL – thanks to all the parent volunteers each week!



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

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

NZEI PAID UNION MEETING - TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2016

PERMISSION SLIP MUST BE RETURNED

On Tuesday 6 September School Staff will be attending a Joint NZEI/PPTA paid union meeting from 1pm

The education unions - NZEI Te Riu Roa and PPTA, are calling joint whole-of-sector paid union meetings to get informed about the proposals and decide on next steps.

The bulk funding "Global Budget" proposal is being described as the single biggest threat to quality teaching in many years. The concern is that it could drive schools to hire fewer teachers, increase class sizes, narrow the curriculum and casualise the teaching workforce. The Government are calling it a global budget, but NZEI Te Riu Roa and PPTA believe it's just bulk funding under a different name. Teachers and parents rejected this years ago, and we still don't want it today.

NZEI and PPTA believe both teachers and parents have a shared interest in rejecting this proposal and are strongly encouraging all NZEI members to attend the meetings and to communicate the significance of them to parents.

Normal classroom instruction will not be continuing during the half-day of the paid union meetings as all NZEI members have an entitlement to attend them. In order to meet the requirements of the Act, the school will remain "open" for the afternoon with supervision provided for children who have no other choice than to be at school. You have received a separate newsletter explaining this further and asking for an indication of whether your children will be at school for the afternoon so we can organise supervision. Unfortunately we indicated on the letter 'if we don't receive.....'

However, we realise we can't assume you've seen the notice and therefore ask, if you haven't already replied, to please return the slip on the reminder notice by this Friday so we can organise supervision.

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NZEI PAID UNION MEETING - TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2016

This form MUST be completed for each family and returned to the *class teacher* ASAP (or by Friday 2nd September at the latest)

If your have different arrangements for different children please just make a note this on the form.

Child's name: _____ Room (name or number): _____

Child's name: _____ Room (name or number): _____

Child's name: _____ Room (name or number): _____

Please TICK one of the options below:

My child/ren will be collected at 12.15pm by (adult) _____

I give my child/ren permission to be released from school at 12.15pm.

(This is for children who either walk or scooter or bike home)

My child/ren will require supervision at school until 2.55pm (normal closing)

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____ Signature: _____

