



NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 14th December 2016

Week 10 of Term 4

Term 4 Calendar			
Week 10	Wed 14 th Dec	6pm-7:00pm	End of Year Assembly and Poroporoaki - Year 6 celebration
	Fri 16 th Dec	Pickup 1:30pm	Last Day of Term 4 2016 (Note: No afternoon bus)
Term 1 Calendar			
Week 1	Thurs 2 nd Feb	9am	First Day of Term 1 2017
	Mon 6 th Feb	No School	Waitangi Day – Public Holiday
Week 11	Thurs 13 th April		Last Day of Term 1 2016
ASB Banking days are FRIDAYS • Bee Healthy Dental Clinic – 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			

Kia ora koutou, ngā mihi kia koutou katoa, Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

So here we all are, in the middle of the final week of the 2016 school year! It has certainly been a full-on year with lots of progress across a range of areas. Starting next year with 10 classes is a milestone of sorts, as we don't have the classroom space for cater for this many. This has meant some big decisions and an outcome that means our library will be used differently in 2017. Stephanie Bosch will have a year 3 and 4 class in the library, Rimu Class/Room 10, which will be transformed into an exciting classroom space while still allowing access to our precious library books. The picture book collection will be rotated around classrooms and Joanna will continue to display specific collections relating to our topics over the years. There'll be easy access to the quick read collection and Joanna will still have her work area to manage loans and returns. We're a creative lot so think you'll be impressed by our plan. I envy the children going into this space, with their own collection of books and even a sunny courtyard!



Included in this newsletter is the breakdown of classes for 2017 with the teachers and class numbers. You'll see that, as always, Ngaio starts very small so Jos and Nicola will be working together with a shared group that will grow over the year. We've planned it so unless there is a surprise influx of New Entrant children, we won't need to open yet another class.

We're very excited about the bike track which will be able to open properly at the beginning of the year. We'd love to get the grass really established around the pump and skills tracks so please let us know if you'd be willing to be on a roster to water this area even once in the holidays.



As we look back on another outstanding school year at Houghton Valley School I'd like to thank you all for your amazing support this year. There have been many highlights and we have had a great time together. I never cease to be amazed by the energy and commitment of everyone who makes up our school community, and feel fortunate to be working alongside you all. Thanks you for all your support this year. I have a lot of other people to thank too. Our teachers and support staff here at HVS have worked extremely hard to deliver classroom programmes that are engaging and suited to the needs of all the children in their care. Our staff team has also been committed to providing a range of experiences outside the classroom, including visitors, outings, sports events and kapahaka. These all add richness to what we do and are much appreciated by all. A special thank you to all our support staff, Denise, in the office, Joanna in the library, our teacher aides Jo, Jasmine, Julia, Tania, Megan and Debbie; and Dave our cleaner, caretaker. We farewell Kylie McArthur, who has been with us this year working in Rata Class, and prior to that as a floating release teacher. We thank Kylie for her contributions to HVS and wish her all the best for her future teaching.

Lara Nemet and Monica Mercury, our amazing Deputy Principals have worked really hard supporting me as leaders in the school. I really appreciate their support. Thank you also to Stephanie and Matt who have worked with our year 5/6 students this year. You were a great team who will be an asset to the year 3/4 teaching team.

Thank you to the Board of trustees, both outgoing and new. You're an important group of people who help realise the potential of this place. I'm looking forward to more exciting progress next year. I have also appreciated all the work of our Home and School team and thank you for your support of their projects. I urge new parents to join this group in 2017. It's a great way to get to know other parents and the staff.

Meri Kirihimete me Hari Tau Hou!

Raewyn Watson, Principal/Tumaki

CLASSES FOR 2107			
Classroom	Room/s	Year Group/s	Teacher/s
Ngaio	8	New entrants/Yr 1	Jos Abernethy (Mel Bierne alternate Fridays)
Mahoe	7	Year 1	Nicola O'Halloran
Harakeke	5	Year 1-2	Jill Holmstead Mary Smith (Reading Recovery Release)
Ti Kouka	6	Year 2	Monica Mercury Mon, Tues & Fri (Rekha Tiwari Wed & Thurs)
Rata	9	Year 3/4	Gabrielle Harvey (Mon-Wed) Lara Nemet (Thurs-Friday)
Pohutukawa	1	Year 3/4	Matt Titcombe
Kowhai	2	Year 3/4	Joe Ready
Rimu -Library	10	Year 3/4	Stephanie Bosch
Nikau	3	Year 5/6	Louise Conwell
Karaka	4	Year 5/6	Peter Holmstead
Jenny Cossey, Marilyn Bondy and Michelle Pontifex will continue to provide our regular classroom release across the school.			

Last Day of School - Friday 16th December

12 :30pm to 1pm Lunchtime (A quick lunch and final play)

1:30pm please pick up children from their classrooms

1 :30pm till 6pm Kelly Club available www.kellyclub.co.nz

(Note: no afternoon bus service)

Kelly Club Holiday Program available @ HVS from
19th Dec - 22nd Dec to book go to www.kellyclub.co.nz



SPORTS

We are coming to another busy year at the sports desk. Houghton Valley School grows every year and so does the amount of activities and sports we participate in. We have Touch, Floorball, Miniball, and Flippaball teams playing around the year. Our children are really lucky to get the opportunities to be involved in so much. Physical Education offers our children the chance to grow resilience, learn about winning and losing, but most of it's about giving it a go and taking that risks in learning new skills and facing challenges.

"Risk it; go for it. Life always gives you another chance, another go at it. "Mary Quant"

I would like to offer some big thanks:

1. To all the children that got involved.
2. The parents who organised, helped and volunteered, because without you we can't do all the things we do.
3. The weather for showing up on our sports days
4. Those of you who ate the fruit that raised \$941.00 of yummy sticker money to buy sports equipment.
5. Once again all the wonderful parents who helped and enabled the children to take part in out of school events.



Dates to Diary for Term Four

- Looking forward to term 1 2017

If you have 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.

Deb Tapp: The HVS Warriors finished the touch season on a high note last week, by winning their division. A great send-off for the year 6s!

HOUSE WANTED FOR HOUSESITTING EARLY NEXT YEAR The Restieaux family is looking for a house to sit from 20 Feb until 31 March 2017. Ideally within the HVS catchment but maybe further away. Any opportunities please contact us. ciandra_michael@paradise.net.nz Michael 029 248 0824