



## NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Week 10 of Term 3

**Houghton Valley School Website: [www.houghton.school.nz](http://www.houghton.school.nz)**

### Term 3 Calendar

*Last Swimming Lessons this Monday for the term @ Kilbirnie Pool: Reminder bring togs*

Week 10	Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	3-5pm 1:45pm 2:55pm	Tremendous Working Bee After School <b>Principal Farewell Assembly and Afternoon Tea</b> Last Day of Term 3
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### Term 4 Calendar

Week 1	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9am 6pm 7pm	First Day of Term 4 Board of Trustees Meeting Home and School Meeting @ 7pm
Week 2	Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	No School All Day	Labour Day – Public Holiday Class Photo Day
Week 3	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov		HVS Athletics (pp Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov)
Week 4	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Southern Zone Athletics Newtown Stadium (pp Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov) Discovery/Inquiry Parent Information Evening

### **HVS School FAIR – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 10am-2pm**

Week 10	Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	1:30pm	Last Day of School for 2017
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- ASB Banking days are FRIDAYS
- Bee Healthy Dental Clinic – 0800 825 583

Sushi available Thursdays – go online to [www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz) before 9am on Thursday to order

Kelly Club After School Care – Helen Cell 022 010 9981 or email [houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz](mailto:houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz)

**2018 Term 1 start – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

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



My time at Houghton Valley School has almost come to a close and it is with mixed emotions that I write my last principal's message. While I am very excited about my move on to Ngaio School and the new challenges that will come with it, as well as significantly reducing my travel time, it is very difficult to leave such a wonderful school community.

I would like to thank everyone for the support I have received over the past 5 years. It is the people – the students, parents, staff, and community who make Houghton Valley School such a very special place. One of our real strengths at Houghton Valley School is our staff - teachers and support staff. They are experienced, professional and caring and I thank them for their support and ongoing commitment to learning and change for the benefit of your tamariki. The students never cease to amaze me! They are creative, energetic, thoughtful, kind and resilient. I am going to miss them but I know they are in a wonderful situation and are very fortunate to be part of such a fantastic school!

I have really enjoyed working with all the committed members of the Board of Trustees and appreciate the support and trust they have given me as I have strived to make significant improvements to support teaching and learning for the benefit of the students and staff. We now have a comprehensive Governance model, have updated the school charter and continue to work as a team to make ongoing improvements for the benefit of the students and their learning journey and well-being. They've been open to new ideas and opportunities and know they'll make an excellent appointment decision to keep moving the school forward.



I've worked closely with the Home and School team and am amazed at the commitment they make to supporting the school. With your support of their ventures they truly do a lot to provide opportunities for all of our students at school. I urge you to give them your ongoing support and remember you too are part of this important group!

Together, we have all made tremendous progress in a variety of areas since 2013 and I feel very proud to have been able to make a positive contribution to such a special place. I have seen the roll grow to our current capacity of ten classes and have worked extremely hard to secure the current and pending remodels and roll-growth classroom build. I'm sad not to be able to see these all through to completion but know the hardest part is done – someone else can carry on with the fun part!



We have continued to develop our local curriculum and I'm sure you'll enjoy learning more about the HVS student inquiry model at the planned term four parent education session. We've continued to call this Discovery and have benefitted from the input of various professionals as we have developed our model. We've made gains in understanding and encouraging student agency, supporting students as they 'learn to learn' and I know this is important for them as they live in an ever changing world. Our recent work focus on writing has seen huge gains in the children's understanding and commitment to their writing journey and the learning maps have helped them start to understand how they learn and can get support.

I am honoured and feel so fortunate to have been given the opportunity to be part of the HVS Community. I want to thank each and every one of you for all your support and for entrusting me with your children. I have so many wonderful memories of my time at HVS. I have fostered relationships with many of you and I will cherish the memories and friendships I've made during my time. HVS has been a very special place for me and I will miss everyone. Thank you for letting me serve as your principal!

Nga mihi nui

Raewyn Watson Principal/Tumaki

#### PROPERTY UPDATE

We're feeling very frustrated at the further holdups on the completion of Kowhai and Pohutukawa classrooms. They're so close but still need a good portion of roofing and internal guttering to be completed before being signed off. If you've had a chance to have a peak in the windows you'll know why we're excited to be able to get the classes in there! At this stage we're still optimistic of being in for the beginning of term 4.

I had a meeting with the Project Delivery Manager from the Ministry of Education and the architect yesterday to get an update on the Block G remodel (Nikau/Karaka). They've evaluated the tenders and have made their recommendation which we'll be pleased to announce once acceptance is confirmed. The next step once the preferred Contractor is notified is to arrange Contract execution between contractor and Ministry of Education then arrange the pre-start meeting with the school, contractor and MOE. Start date is likely to be the Monday after the school fair – beginning of week 5. Although the project is significantly later than planned, with a 6-8 week planned timeframe, we are confident of this being completed for the beginning of the 2018 year.

Monica Mercury is picking up the property portfolio for term 4 so she will keep you updated on these projects and any further updates regarding the new classroom build.

#### PRINCIPAL FAREWELL



The HVS STAFF and BOT would like to invite you all to a special afternoon tea to farewell and thank our amazing Principal Raewyn Watson for her commitment and dedication to our school over the past 5 years. Raewyn has been an integral part of Houghton Valley School and will be remembered in many ways by us all. Our school Farewell assembly for Raewyn will take place on Friday 29th of September, the last day of term starting at 1.45pm followed by afternoon tea. **We ask all families to bring a plate to share.** Thanks Lara Nemet & Monica Mercury

#### TREEMENDOUS PLANTING WORKING BEE TODAY WED 27TH SEPT 3PM-5PM



We have having a working bee this Wednesday after school to plant Oioi swamp plants in the swale/ditch area and Rengarenga lillies on the banks. This is great opportunity for parents who were unable to come on our Makeover day. Children can continue playing on the playground or possibly help out with parents.

Gumboots and old clothes will be needed for the swamp planting as there is a chance of slipping in the water which has run off from the banks. With all the rain we've been having the swamp plants will thrive and take up the water to reduce the water collecting on the field. Please RSVP to [jill@houghton.school.nz](mailto:jill@houghton.school.nz)

## ICAS ENGLISH RESULTS



Congratulations to the following students who sat the ICAS English assessment this year.

**From year 4** – Isabel Barr, Sean Carroll, Will Cleaver-Paris, Emily Cregeen, Hannah Cregeen, Felix Hansen, Louis Joli, Nynke Keizer, Ruby Leemen-Berkahn, Siofra Long, Annie McKirdy, Nienke Mebus, Solomon Prebble, Paige Sullivan, Rakau Tamaira, Clodagh Valins, Holly Walker and Samuel Young. **From year 5** – Gus Cenac, Noa Ellis, Isabella Fitzsimons, Ollie Hunt, Xander McMinn, Fraser O'Regan Smith, Lily Scott. **From year 6** – Laetitia Bachler, Betsy Bond, Ewan Brighton-Mills, Hayley Burns, Harry Cregeen, Lucy Downes, Amelie Guelland, Marceline Holden, Rohan McCarthy, Bruno McGovern, Jimmy McKirdy, Manawa Mitcalfe-Matthews, Fenn Restieaux, Sofia Riddell-Garner and Alexia Stanton-Barnett.

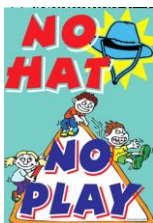
*ICAS English ICAS – English assesses reading and language skills in a range of contexts. The following aspects of texts are assessed and reported: text comprehension—reading for meaning—in literary and factual texts; the writer's craft in selecting particular text types, vocabulary and techniques; syntax; and vocabulary. The questions require students to locate, identify, sequence, explain, interpret, analyse and infer information in and about texts.*

*Students will read a variety of texts which narrate, describe, explain, argue, persuade and review. The types of texts include extracts from picture books, short stories, novels, poems, play scripts, transcripts of interviews, letters, diary entries, advertisements, webpages, feature articles, opinion pieces and comic strips. These texts may include tables, diagrams, maps and other visual information.*

**Following are the special awards for this year's assessments:**

**Distinction** - Nienke Mebus, Lucy Downes and Jimmy McKirdy; **Credit** - Isabel Barr, Felix Hansen, Ruby Leemen-Berkahn, Solomon Prebble, Clodagh Valins, Holly Walker, Xander McMinn, Laetitia Bachler, Amelie Guelland, Marceline Holden, Fenn Restieaux and Alexia Stanton-Barnett; **Merit** - Will Cleaver-Paris, Louis Joli, Samuel Young, Manawa Mitcalfe-Matthews and Sofia Riddell-Garner. **WELL DONE to you all!**

## REMINDER SUNHATS IN TERM 4



As always during the summer terms, we implement a **'No Hat, No Play'** rule at school.

**This year all children are required to wear a brimmed hat.**

(no caps unless they're legionnaire style). We'd really appreciate your support with this important health measure. Most junior children and lots of older children already wear brimmed hats so we'd now like to see them on everyone. Children without hats will be required to spend their breaks on the decks in the shade. HVS hats \$18. THANKS.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS – FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

This year the photographs will be taken by PhotoLife Studios Limited and will be available for you to **view and order online**. There are a range of options available for purchase from the website.

- Every child will be photographed then class and individual photos will be on their online system in around three weeks from photo day.
- Once they are online your son or daughter will bring home an ONLINE slip with their unique SHOOT KEY detailed on it. This Shoot Key will display all the photographs of your child. It is then an easy process for you to shop on-line and see all the packages and prices and purchase the photographs you want.



Orders placed within three weeks of receiving your Shoot Key will be despatched to school. After this time, orders can still be placed but will be sent directly to your specified delivery address and will incur a \$6.00 Postage & Packing charge. You will see this message when you go online to view and order your photographs.

### **Important: Sibling Photos/Pack**

**Flyer needs to be filled in and returned to the school office before Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Oct at the latest!**

Please note, there is a different system for sibling photographs. The cost for a sibling pack is \$30 and the FLYER needs to be returned before Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. Flyers will be sent home to all second children. Extra flyers are available for the school office. After photo day you will receive a SHOOT KEY to view and purchase your Sibling Photo Pack ONLINE.

There are 12 items in the sibling pack: 1 x Large 20 x 25cm with mount- 2 x Medium 13 x 18 cm with mounts - 2x Medium 13 x 18cm black and white - 2 x Postcards 9 x 13cm - 4 x Small 6.4 x 9cm - 1 x Calendar 18 x 13cm

## SPORTS INFO



### Yummy Stickers

We have until Friday 29th September to collect as many yummy stickers as possible. Remember bring fruit for your fruit break! Last year we collected over 10,000 stickers. Every year Yummy! Fruit Company offers a fruit sticker/labels for Sports Equipment promotion. This enables Houghton Valley School to provide PE equipment for each classroom. All you have to do is eat fruit and collect the Yummy Stickers. You can find the sticker sheets in front of the school office

### Sports Dates to diary for Term Four

- Houghton Valley School Athletics Celebration Tuesday 1st November (PP Thursday 4th Nov)
- Southern Zone Athletics Newtown Stadium Tuesday 7th Nov (PP Tuesday 14th Nov)
- Interzone Athletics Newtown Stadium Tuesday 21st November (PP Thursday 23rd Nov)
- Regional Athletics Newtown Stadium Tuesday 5th December (PP Thursday 7th Dec)

If you have any stories or photos of 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](mailto:matt@houghton.school.nz).

## HOME AND SCHOOL INFO

### **Home & School - next meeting Thursday 19 October, 7pm staffroom**

Home and School meetings are open to all parents. They are a great opportunity to find out what is going on in the community, and we would love to see you there!



### HVS SCHOOL FAIR – SAT 11 NOVEMBER 2017 - 10AM TO 2PM

**Fair sign up sheet:** Thanks to those of you who have already put your names on the fair sign up sheet (on the H&S notice board outside Denise's office). The fair works best when as many families as possible help out to share the load. It would be great if you could contribute couple of hours on the day to help cook sausages, sell books or run a bouncy castle. Please do sign up!

**Marquee** - We still need one or two marquees for the fair?! Space is going to be cramped this year ... we are looking for good sized marquees to help make up for the classrooms that will be under renovation. If you have any contacts who might be able to help, or ideas for making more space, please get in contact! Thank you! (Susan - [homeandschoolsecretary@houghton.school.nz](mailto:homeandschoolsecretary@houghton.school.nz))



**Crafts** - Please do get in contact if you can make something for the craft stall at the fair. Craft items sell really well and we are really keen to hear from people who can help us get together a bit of stock for the craft stall ... happy for all ideas ... think Christmas, decorations, cards ...?!

**Plants, seedlings, cuttings?** Can you provide seedlings to be ready for the fair? Heirloom and heritage vegetables are always popular especially tomatoes and zucchinis + native and ornamental seedlings.

**Lemons/jams/chutneys?** We have a couple of people who have volunteered to preserve lemons for the Deli counter at the fair. If anyone has access to a lemon tree or the lemons themselves can they let me know please? Also, if anyone has any excess fruit suitable for making jams, chutneys etc please also let me know!

Finally if you or someone you know is able to make something in large quantities suitable for a food stall please let me know - we are always keen to offer something new, and have a bit of extra space this year. Thanks [sarahduncan99@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahduncan99@hotmail.com)

**Clothes/toys/books:** Reminder that we are happy to start receiving clothes, toys and books for the fair, do if you are having a clean out keep the fair in mind!

**Important note re. clothes ...** *In previous years we have had a problem with dirty and damaged clothes being donated. This has added to the amount of time spent preparing for fair day, and can make the job unpleasant. Please if you are donating clothes, only drop off washed, decent quality clothes. Thank you!*

## SOUTH COAST CLEAN UP THANKS

A huge thank you to the Houghton Valley team who came to help clean up Houghton Bay for the annual Southcoast Clean-up. We have so many photos of unusual items it is going to be hard to chose winners for the photo competition. Check out the Facebook page for more photos see <https://www.facebook.com/Wellington-South-Coast-Clean-up-189965687735595/>

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