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

Friday night was amazing! The beautiful weather along with the friendly and relaxed atmosphere was a great way to start the new school year. It was a lovely opportunity for new whanau and staff to meet our school community. We thank you all for taking the time to come along. Events like this enable us to build strong effective partnerships between home and school. Our tamariki are fortunate to have a supportive and committed school community.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Sunday at the Move-a-thon. We would like to thank the Home and School team for organising this fun event for our children and the upkeep of our bikes. It starts at 12pm!

**Communication:**
We have started to make some changes to the way we communicate with you. We are striving to be more effective and timely with our communication.

1. Termly calendar in the newsletter of key events for the term
2. The introduction of a texting service which we will use for emergencies and reminders
3. Putting all notices on the website and key information on the front page of the website

To make this as effective as possible we need you to ensure we have your:

1. Address
2. Email
3. Home number
4. Mobile number
5. Work number

If any of these have changes please email (admin@houghton.school.nz) or pop in and see Denise so we can update these asap.

**A BIG WELCOME IN NGAIO CLASS (RM8) TO:**

😊 Santi Vasquez
PB4L School-Wide at Houghton Valley School

Over the last few weeks we have been focusing on being happy and engaged as we move around the school. It has been awesome to see how all of us learning and thinking about this is having an impact school-wide.

So far this year we have given out over 200 HAEWAI cards. There is a pile of postcards on Miss Carroll’s desk waiting to be sent out to the students who have already got 5! Ka rawe!!

Parent Information Evening – Tuesday 6th March
Come and find out more about how the classes work. There will be three combined class meetings.

- 5.30pm-6pm Year 1-3 classes- Ngaio, Mahoe, Ti Kouka, Rimu and Harakeke (Jos Abernethy, Nicola O’Halloran, Michelle Pontifex, Rekha Tiwari, Jill Holmstead and Monica Mercury)
- 6.10pm-6:30pm Year 4 classes – Pohutukawa and Kowhai (Sophia Bridgewater and Stephanie Bosch)
- 6:40pm-7pm Year 5 & 6 classes - Rata, Nikau and Rata (Lara Nemet, Matt Titcombe, Louise Conwell and Peter Holmstead)

Property Update:
The progress continues... It is exciting to see the autex go up and the installation of the new sinks and whiteboard units. Let’s hope the painters can get outside today to start the exterior painting!

Beach Trip
Pick up from the Beach is at 2:15pm
If you have informed us that you are taking your children home from Lyall Bay Beach, you must inform the teacher(s) in charge at the beach, so they can be marked off the class lists. Children can be picked up from school at the normal time. To ensure the safety of our children we will: - have teachers and parents in the water with the children to ensure they stay in shallow water - make sure children are wearing sunblock - request that parents who accompany us to the beach help by supervising children both in and out of the water

Children need to wear a sun hat and good footwear for walking. They must bring, a nourishing lunch, a drink and warm clothes to wear after swimming.

Note: WrapitUp Pita Pit will be delivered to Lyall Bay Beach
Parking
Please take special care with your driving and parking at the beginning and end of the school day, especially on wet days.

We have already had concerns raised and really don’t want an accident. We have precious children and whanau crossing the road and getting in and out of vehicles so extra care is needed. Please do not park on the bus stop as this is a particular danger spot once the bus arrives. We really appreciate your special care and patience to keep everyone safe.

Ngā mihi kia koutou katoa

Luana Carroll, Te Tumuaki – Principal

TERM EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 19th-25th February</td>
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<td>BOT meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom</td>
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<td>Beach trip to Lyall Bay</td>
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<td>Week 4 26th-4th March</td>
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<td>Year 5 and 6 Trip to Waka Odyssey</td>
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<td>Year 4 Trip to Museum of City and Sea</td>
<td>Home and School Meeting 7pm in the staffroom</td>
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<td>Week 5 5th-2nd March</td>
<td>Meet the teacher meetings in Syndicates/Year groups- Years 1-3 - 5.30-6.00pm Year 4 - 6.10-6.30pm Years 5-6 6.40-7.00pm</td>
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<td>Powhiri for new tamariki and tumuaki at 11.30am</td>
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<td>Week 6 12th-16th March</td>
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<td>Week 7 19th-23rd March</td>
<td>BOT meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom</td>
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<td>Union meetings for teachers - school will be open as normal</td>
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<td>Week 8 26th-30th March</td>
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<td>Easter Holidays</td>
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<td>Week 9 2nd-6th April</td>
<td>Easter Holidays</td>
<td>Easter Holidays</td>
<td>Goal Setting</td>
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<td>Week 10 9th-13th April</td>
<td>BOT meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom</td>
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<td>End of term 1 Performance Assembly</td>
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LIBRARY

Scholastic Book Club Orders
Orders close on Sunday 25 February.
Please go to www.scholastic.co.nz/LOOP and pay on line by credit card.
Books should be at school in Wk 6 (w/c 12 March). If you don't want your child to receive the order, please email me (joanna@houghton.school.nz) and I can hold the books for you to collect. Thank you.

Joanna Librarian
A big thank you to all the families who looked after the chickens in the holidays.

Are you interested in collecting fresh eggs on the weekend? Would you like to be able to spend time relaxing with our feathered friends on a Saturday and Sunday?

We need help with feeding and watering the chickens during the weekends - if you are able to take a weekend please email Louise with the weekend you are able to do. This would involve popping down to school Saturday and Sunday to check their water and food situation and hopefully collect any eggs 😊

We also have eggs to sell, so if you would like to go on the list to buy a dozen for $8 email Louise. louise@houghton.school.nz

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**HOME AND SCHOOL INFO**

**Home & School - First Meeting of 2018 - Thursday 01 March**

Home and School meetings are open to all parents. Meetings are generally scheduled for the first Thursday of the month during term time. The next meeting is Thursday 01 March, 7pm in the staffroom. It is the first meeting of the year, so there will be cheese and wine to celebrate the beginning of a new year and entice you along!

The meetings are a great opportunity to find out more about what is going on in the community, and how you can get involved if you wish - we would love to see you there!

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**HVS Move-a-thon /Picnic 2018 25 February 12pm to 3pm**

Only four days to go! - Keep filling up the sponsor sheets to help raise the funds to keep the bikes in great working order for another year.

**Music & Food**

We’ve got some Music, the BBQ will be fired up for the sausage sizzle, ice cream and watermelon is also going to be on sale so bring plenty of gold coins!

**Prizes**

We’ve got some great prizes that have been donated by Bicycle Junction, Avanti, Micro Scooter, and Bike Barn - Big thanks to these guys and girls for their donations.

Prizes will be for the most unique mode of transport, the biggest distance travelled by age group and most money raised, the current record is at a whopping $433.72!

**Games**

There are a few games in the planning stages - the famous ‘tug of war’ is highly likely to make an appearance, and if anyone wants to bring down a cricket set that would be grand!

If you have any other ideas for games let us know - suggestions welcome.

**Volunteers**

We still need some help on the day for the set up & take down, BBQ/food, at the start line with water and marking down the number of laps completed by the participants and other general help.

If you can give some time, let us know & contact Karen Parr parr.karen@gmail.com who is chief volunteer coordinator.

We would love to hear from you if you have a gazebo or two we could borrow. - So far we’ve got one, a couple more would be great.

We are also on the lookout for a day loan of any outdoor bean bags / outdoor furniture the day If you have any that you could spare for the day let us know or just bring them down - contact Chris Taylor homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz
Photographs
We will be taking a few pictures on the day to use for celebrating the event and for its future promotion. A few images may be used in the school Newsletter or on the Home and School facebook page. Please let Chris Taylor homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz know if you do not want you or your children to appear in any of these publications!

We’re really looking forward to the event! - keep signing up those sponsors, get in touch if you can help out with any of the above.

HVS Home and School Association

**SPORTS UPDATE**

Well done to the HVS students who completed the 2017/2018 junior surf season. Dylan Taylor, Louis Taylor, Frankie Taylor, Henri Miller and Jackson Hill had their final carnival in Foxton competing challenging surf against all of the Surf Life Saving Clubs in the Wellington Region. Jackson Hill from Maranui Surf Life Saving Club finished the season in overall first place in U10 male. Henri Miller from Lyall Bay Surf Life Saving Club was second overall in U8 male. Huge achievements - well done all!

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**COMMUNITY NOTICE**

**A Waka Odyssey:** As dusk falls, join a cast of thousands on Wellington’s stunning waterfront for the once-in-a-lifetime 2018 New Zealand Festival opening night event, Kupe.

Inspired by the arrival in Aotearoa of great navigator and explorer Kupe, this free, whānau-friendly spectacular is part one of A Waka Odyssey and a landmark celebration of our shared voyaging history. Be a part of history in the making, welcoming a majestic fleet of waka hourua (traditional double-hulled sailing canoes) and their fearless crew, as they sail across the waters of Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Wellington Harbour – a moving finale to their months-long journey from Samoa, the Cook Islands and around New Zealand.

Then let the sounds of the Pacific surround you in this theatrical extravaganza featuring performers, a mass choir, a thousand-strong haka and a musical score by Warren Maxwell (Trinity Roots, Little Bushman).

Kupe sparks a celebration of our place in the Pacific, including Kupe Landing: Petone Family Day, a fun beach party for all the whānau, and the Kupe Dreaming series of waka-themed community events and activities. Download the A Waka Odyssey flyer to plan your journey.

This fits appropriately with our Discovery topic this term: He Aha to Waka? What is your Waka? Who are you and where are you from? We strongly recommend whānau attend if they can get down there.

Kupe Opening Night: Friday, Feb 23rd, Wellington Waterfront 7.00 pm
**Pippins** Join the fun...at Pippins - Being a Pippin with GirlGuiding NZ is a very popular choice for 5 and 6 year old girls and it is great to be able to offer the opportunity to more girls to join our unit in Island Bay at St Hilda’s Church from 6-7pm on a Tuesday night. If you have a 5 or 6 year old daughter who likes to have fun then contact Dianna on ph: 383 7518 or email meates21@gmail.com or see Denise in the school office.

**Island Bay Scouts** - Cubs now have spaces for 8 to 10 year old girls and boys. They meet Thursday evenings at 6.30pm for exploration, adventure and learning! There are already both boys and girls going from HVS. Contact Paul Weston (leader) for more info: pweston@outlook.co.nz.

**INSTEP DANCE STUDIO** Dance classes in Island Bay & Houghton Bay. Offering ballet, jazz and contemporary classes for ages 3-18 years. Qualified and experienced teachers. I.S.T.D registered dance school. To enrol or book a FREE TRIAL class please contact Lesley instepdance@hotmail.com or 021 202 7750 For more information visit our website: www.instepdancestudio.co.nz

**Capital Trout Centre Open Day** - Sunday 4th March 2018 - SPECIAL OPEN DAY  Children must have a licence to fish for trout and free licences/tickets are available from  Monday 19th February 2018 at the following stores:- Steve’s Fishing Shop, 49 Ghuznee Street (off Cuba Mall)  Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing, 444 Cuba Street, Lower Hutt  The Centre is located behind the WCC Administration buildings on the way to the Wellington City Council Southern Landfill, on Landfill Road, Happy Valley, Wellington and is open to the public on specific days. Children do not have to bring any gear as Club members will assist children to catch a trout on fly fishing tackle. As the Centre is manned and maintained by volunteers we rely on donations to cover our expenses of purchasing the fish from the hatcheries, fish food and general maintenance. Contact: Strato 387 7878 (wk) 386 3740 (hm)

**Sunglasses** "Visique is giving away free sunglasses to new entrant students for the 14th year in a row. We have been given vouchers for these free sunglasses. Simply take the voucher with your child to Visique Manners Street to be fitted. Visique also looks after the eye health and vision of older students, visit Visique 55 Manners Street to find out more."

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**SCHOOL ABSENCES**

If your child will be late or not attending school for any reason please let the school know by the following options:

- Logon to HVS website [www.houghton.school.nz](http://www.houghton.school.nz) – click “Contacts” then “Report an Absence” enter data and give a reason.
- Call the school and leave a message and reason on the school answerphone 939-3318
- Or email admin@houghton.school.nz and teacher with a reason.

We keep track of all children and if they are not accounted for, then we ring the parent/caregivers. A reason for absence is helpful.

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

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<th>Bee Healthy Dental Clinic</th>
<th>0800 825 583</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ezlunch.co.nz</td>
<td><strong>Thursdays</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fridays</strong></td>
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**Kelly Club After School Care** | Helen - Cell 022 010 9981 or email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz |

**Houghton Valley School Contact Details:** Phone: 939-3318

**Office Email:** admin@houghton.school.nz  **Principal Email:** principal@houghton.school.nz