



Houghton Valley School

110 Houghton Bay Road, Houghton Bay, Wellington.

Newsletter Term 1, 2019

Tena koutou katoa,

Mihi atu ki a Hari Tau Hou! Nau mai, hoki mai! We hope you have had a wonderful holiday break. We have had a fantastic first couple of weeks back at school and we have been enjoying getting to know each other. We are excited about the year ahead!

There are three classes in the senior syndicate this year. The teachers are:

Karaka - Room 4: Briar Prestidge

Rata - Room 9: Miriam Gaynor

Rimu - Room 10: Fiona Crossett

We will share our learning each week via our blogs. Our syndicate blog can be accessed from the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/houghton.school.nz/senior2019/class-blogs>

Focus for the Year

Our focus for 2019 is kaitiakitanga (guardianship). This focus will be strongly connected to themes of sustainability and leadership. We will be exploring this focus through social sciences, technology, science, and the arts throughout the year. Our literacy programme will be linked to our inquiry themes. Please see our Term 1 plan attached.

Reminders

Please remind your child to bring a drink bottle, a piece of fruit or some vegetables for fruit break, and a brimmed hat to school every day. Also, we will be starting each morning with a great fitness rotation as a syndicate. We ask that you please support your child to wear clothing that they can run, jump and be active in.

Homework

Homework this year will consist of three main parts:

- Firstly we will set a weekly writing task. We write daily in the classroom as part of our formal literacy programme. The aim of setting writing as a homework task is to support students in their writing mileage, and to support the writing lessons being done daily at school
- Secondly, students are expected to read each day. They will bring home a reading log to record their daily reading in.

- Thirdly, we have set a Homework Challenge. This will be given to students in Week 4 of Term 1, and will go until the middle of Term 4. The Homework Challenge requires students to select and carry out 8 challenges across the year, such as participating in a sports team for a season, carrying out a science experiment, or cooking a meal for their family. The Homework Challenge has been designed to include after school activities and interests, and provide a children with a platform for sharing these.

If you need to contact us via email, please see the addresses below.

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briar@houghton.school.nz

We are looking forwards to the year ahead!

Kind regards,
Miriam, Briar and Fiona