

Houghton Valley School

Junior Syndicate Newsletter

Term 1 2020



Kia Ora and Welcome Parents, Caregivers and Whānau to the Junior Syndicate for 2020,

We have thoroughly enjoyed the first week back at school and getting to know all the children as learners. The children have been establishing a class culture in each classroom. They have been participating in exciting activities to get to know each other, creating a class treaty, learning the expectations and daily routines. We are looking forward to meeting you all, so please come and introduce yourself if you haven't already and let us know if you have any questions. Our door is always open.

Our Team - Morgan Jones

Kia ora everyone,

I am originally from Timaru. Last year, I made the move to Wellington after returning from teaching in London. I will be leading the junior team for the year. I am excited to meet all the parents and whānau of the Houghton Valley school community. As well as getting to know all the amazing students and guiding them to grow into confident learners. Please feel free to come and introduce yourself.

Morgan Jones

What's Happening This Term?

This term, our overarching focus for the term is 'Our People.' We will be encouraging the children to share their interests, strengths and cultural background with the other members of their class. This will then lead into the children taking ownership and coming up with a way that we can work together to show the school values.

The children are excited to begin the day with learning through play this term.

For those parents new to learning through play, it is a pedagogical approach where play is the valued mode of learning – where children can explore, experiment, discover, and solve problems in imaginative and playful ways. If you have any further questions around this please ask your classroom teacher.

Our Team - Jos

Kia ora I te whanau,

I was born in the Netherlands and came to New Zealand in 1986. I am married to Andrew and we have three children, Luuk 24, Kate 23 and Els 21. I have been working as the New Entrants teacher for the last 4 years. I am looking forward to get to know you and your child and form a close relationship. I have an open door policy and am always available before school.

Ngā mihi nui
Jos Abernethy

Our Team - Ashleigh

Kia ora e te whanau,

I am originally from Auckland and made the move to Wellington two years ago to begin my teaching study.

2020 is my second year at Houghton Valley, and my second year as a teacher. I feel very lucky to have started my teaching career at a school with such a great environment & community.

I'm looking forward to continue getting to know all of the HVS family this year. Please come and introduce yourself if you see me!

Learning at Home

Once reading assessment are updated, reading books will be sent home. It is important for the children to be reading the readers sent home for around 10 -15 minutes, which could be after school or in the morning before school.

Library Books

The children will be visiting the library with their class once a week on the following days:

Room 5 - Tuesday

Room 6 - Monday

Room 8 - Wednesday

Please ensure books are brought back each week so new books can be issued.

Physical Education

The junior syndicate will have a PE rotation focusing on the foundation skills on Wednesday afternoons, begin in week 3. Could you please ensure your child/children are wearing the appropriate footwear on Wednesdays. Thank you.

Biking

Every class has biking sessions during the week and there are also designated lunchtime sessions for the whole-school. They can bring their own bikes, scooters and skateboards to school on Wheels Wednesdays. All children must have a helmet to wear.

Hui

Hui are conducted by buddy classes every fortnight, beginning week 4. They are held on a Friday at 9am in the hall. Every opposite week the junior team will have a hui to celebrate the students' successes and sing songs together. These will be held on Friday at 9am in Room 8. Parents are welcome to attend.

Reminders

The children need to arrive at school between the times of 8:30am – 8:50am. The children need to come to school and unpack their own bags to build independence. They will need to bring in their water bottle and book bag into the classroom.

The children are all working on greeting each other when someone arrives in the classroom by saying good morning, morena and kia ora.

As the weather is beginning to get warmer, all children need to have a sun hat at school, water bottles and sun screen applied before school. We also have sunscreen available at school.

Up and Coming Events:

School Powhiri – 2:15pm Friday 14th February

Junior Syndicate Meet the Teachers - 5pm Thursday 20th February

School evening picnic - 6pm Thursday 20th February

Beach day – Friday 21st February

School Hui – 9am Friday 28th February

Junior Hui – 9am Friday 6th March

Please refer to the school newsletter for further details.

*Ngā mihi nui,
The Junior Syndicate*