



Houghton Valley School

Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together

Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou

Important Update and Invite

Wednesday, 26th August 2020

Week 6 of Term 3

Kia ora te whanau,

Rainbow - Pride Week: Invitation

Two weeks ago we asked our school community to provide us with some ideas and suggestions on how we could celebrate 'Pride Week' here at HVS. The purpose of celebrating Pride week is to celebrate our diversity and to build understanding of one another. As we have received a range of responses to this, some positive and others raising concerns. We have contacted Inside Out (organisers of Pride Week) to ask them to help facilitate a school community hui on **Tuesday 1st September at 6.00pm** for those interested in being part of this conversation.

Please NOTE:

We ask that if you are attending then you RSVP - admin@houghton.school.nz as we are still under level 2 so we can't have more than 100. If we get more than 100 we will defer the hui until we are back at level 1. We will also practice social distancing, ask that you sign in at the gate with the QR or by using the paper copy available.

COVID-19

We have heard that we will be in Level 2 until 6th September. Please don't underestimate the toll that the COVID experience this year has had on us all. We all weathered this extraordinary experience over many months, staying positive, being kind and getting through. We have now been thrown back to level two, with the uncertainty of how this will play out over the coming days, weeks and months. We are 'COVID-weary'; outwardly putting on the energetic, brave face in front of our children, whanau, workmates and friends. Underneath we are weary, and a certain amount of anxiety is bubbling beneath the surface. Digging deep is harder than it was. So again, be kind to yourself and be aware we are all feeling this in our own way. Humans are fragile and a little TLC goes a long way right now.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns - principal@houghton.school.nz

[Tips for whanau](#) to support your child/ren (Ministry of Education)

Changes at Level 2:

- All children using the bus will need to wear a mask from *Monday 31st August* at level 2 (*children need to bring their own mask*)

What does that mean for school events:

At this Stage we have Cancelled:

- School hui for this week - 28th August
- School annual quiz evening - 3rd September. Home and School have had to make the difficult decision to cancel due to Level 2 restrictions but the Quiz will be back in 2021!

Events we are Monitoring:

- Production on Thursday 24th September. We are preparing for this so hope we can do it this term and not in term 4
- Hui - 11th September
- Class trips
- Year 5/6 camp - can go ahead at level 2

Things that we are still Doing:

- Gate duty before and after school. If you don't need to come in then we encourage you not to
- Hand washing and sanitising
- Cleaning rooms thoroughly
- School Photos on Thursday 3rd Sept
- Teacher Only Day - Friday 23rd October (term 4)



Ngā manaakitanga
Luana Carroll

School Board Trustees Needed

The school board would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in being a board member in the near future. Being on the board allows you to contribute to the school direction and be a part of decisions that underlie key aspects of how our school runs. Any parent with an interest in the school can contribute substantially, and you don't need to have any particular professional skills or previous board experience. It's very rewarding and I would encourage anyone who feels they might be interested to contact either me or another board member to chat further. Please feel free to come along to a board meeting or two if you like to get a better feel as to what being a board member involves. Our next meeting is on **Monday 21st September at 7.00pm.**

Best wishes Richard Carroll

Houghton Valley School Ph: 939-3318 Website: www.houghton.school.nz Principal Email: principal@houghton.school.nz	HVS Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/houghton.school.nz/ School Office Email: admin@houghton.school.nz
Healthline or COVID-19 Info - 0800 611 116	
Bee Healthy Dental Clinic • 0800 825 583	Ezlunch.co.nz • Thursdays • Sushi • Fridays • Pita Pit go online www.ezlunch.co.nz before 9am to order.
Kelly Club After School Care - www.kellyclub.co.nz Cell 022 010 9981 email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz	
HVS School Fair ~ SUNDAY 1st November 2020	