



Houghton Valley School

Newsletter

Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together

Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou

Thursday, 8th June 2023

Week 7 of Term 2

HVS Reminders

- Mon 12th June – BOT Meeting 7pm
- Tues 13th June – Interzone Cross Country
PP Thurs 15th June
- Fri 16th June - Hui/Assembly 9:15am
Ngaio and Rimu
- Fri 30th June –Last of Term 2 2023 2:55pm

Kia Ora koutou e te whānau,

A horse goes into a bar..... barman says “Why the long face.”

Big thumbs up to the H.V.S. Staff

Since the last newsletter, staff have had a lot to put up with a lot, over and above what would normally happen in a school day. Apart from the on – going building noise, we have had a number of commercial driers in the hall for almost a week, dealing with the sodden carpets that resulted from the biblical downpours visited upon us recently.

We suffered what has affectionately been called the “Poonami.” An increasingly pungent smell began emanating from the area outside the hall as a result of a major build-up of sewage, unable to complete its journey because of a blockage in the pipe. We had an industrial scale sewage removal operation for a couple of mornings which brought its own cadence to add to the cacophony of sound. Good on our site foreman Milo though for swiftly arranging the removal of a millennia of waste without any serious disruption to the school.

Our community has been beset by a virus that has swept through the south coast, with an average of thirty tamariki away each day. Relievers have been very hard to come by so on several occasions, when teachers have been sick we have had to split classes, which is undeniably disruptive for tamariki and their teachers. Then there are the contingent extra playground duties necessary to keep our children safe. Despite all of this, there has been no complaint nor grumble, our teachers just get on with it and deal with whatever situation is in front of them.

Miriam has done an outstanding job – on top of all the other tasks of a teaching DP - in managing relievers (when we can get them) and ensuring that despite the barriers, staff still get their entitlement release days. Denise has done great work checking on leaks, organising remediation of flood damage and a variety of other tasks, even donning overalls to unblock a toilet. All this speaks of great resilience and team spirit.

Milo (site foreman) has ensured that building work has not been held up and to date – this term – there have been no hold ups. With the roof trusses going up it is easy to get some visual perspective on what the new building will look like.

Positive Environment at Houghton Valley School

We hear a lot about bullying and the aspects of isolation, exclusion, humiliation and physical or emotional harassment that some, in schools or the workplace experience. Throw in the impact of negative social media and it can be a minefield of varying degrees of oppression. Schools are a microcosm of society, particularly the communities they serve. No school is a Utopia and there are times when issues have to be dealt with. But all schools recognise that bullying is abhorrent and work tirelessly to create environments that uphold the rights of the individual to be emotionally and physically safe. Resilience is not a synonym for an uncomplaining victim. Resilience is certainly about bouncing back from disappointment and accepting an old fashioned, empathetic tune up if its needed. Resilience is also about self-care and telling someone, immediately, if you have been the subject of inappropriate behaviour.

To date I have been highly impressed by the supportive environment at HVS. Tamariki and staff actively live by the values of Kaitiakitanga, Hauora, and Ako as expressed in the school charter:

- We manaaki each other
- We are kind and think of others
- Everyone feels safe and looked after

Settlement of the Teachers Award

I suspect there will be a collective (pun unintentional) sigh of relief across the sector with the settlement of the primary teacher wages and conditions claim. This thing could have dragged on with no resolution and the prospect of further disruption, which no one really wanted. Anyway the people have spoken and the offer from the government deemed good enough to accept.

Pithy Thoughts

- “Keep your words soft and sweet just in case you have to eat them”
- “Life is uncertain, eat dessert first.”

No reira, kia kaha ra,
Ngā Mihi Nui,
John Wootton (Acting Principal)



Ranfurly Shield and NPC Cup

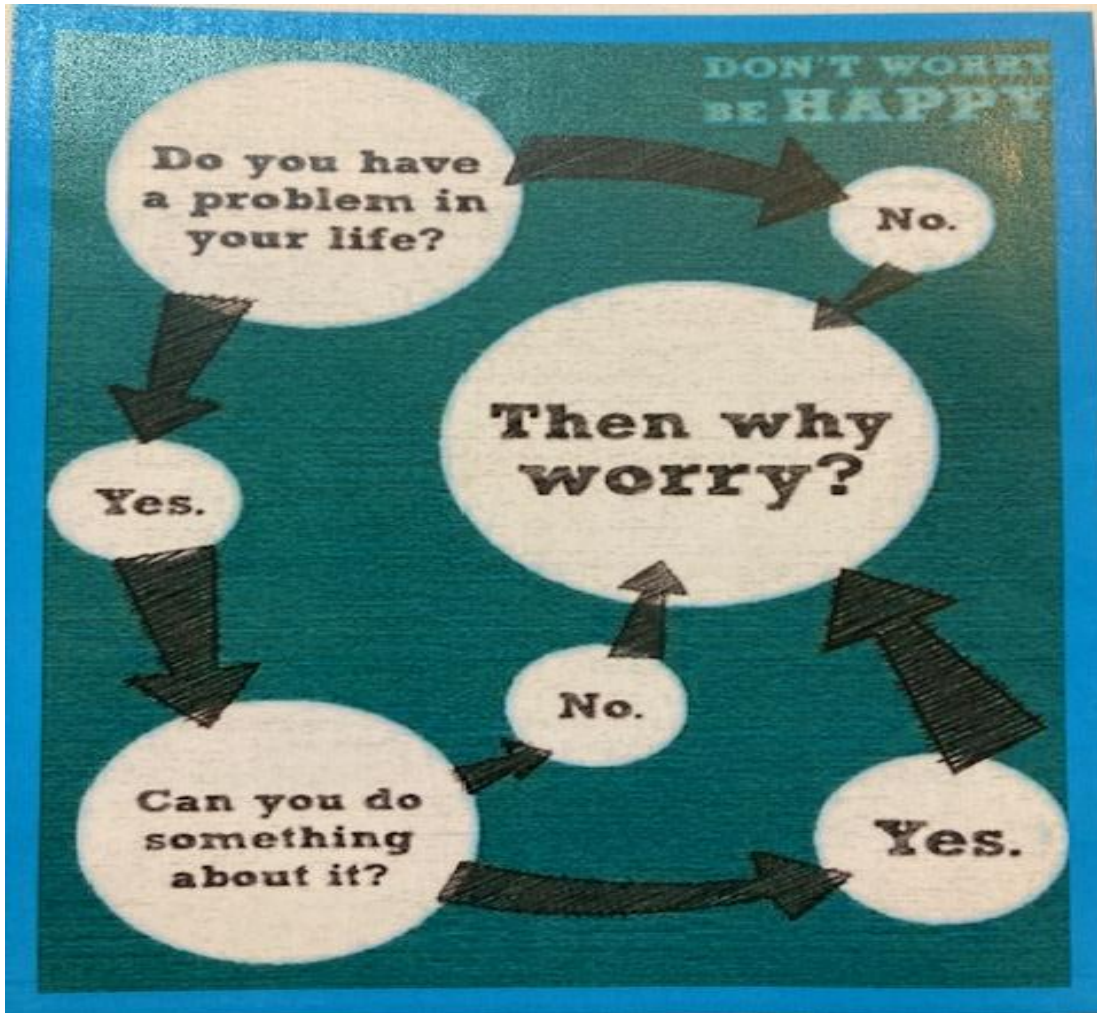
Charles organised the Wellington Rugby Union to display the Ranfurly Shield and NPC cup – both of which the current Wellington team hold – at the bake sale. It’s fair to say that these once revered trophies held much less interest for the gathered throng than the bake sale itself. Sign of the times I guess. In a shameless bit of self-promotion, I was able to tell anyone who would listen that I was in the team of 1981 that also won both of these trophies. Annabel and Maddie were prepared to listen and take the photo opportunity as a reward.

Bake Sale



The bake sale was very successful. The weather was kind and we had a good turnout of parents able to oversee our tamariki purchase and consume the delicious fare on offer. There was a large variety of baked goodies on sale and it all went. I think the sugar levels would have gone through the roof, making the Friday night at home interesting. Many thanks to all the people who supported and contributed to this event.

Don't Worry Be Happy



MATARIKI EVENING

We are very much looking forward to our Matariki celebration on Thursday 29th June at 5pm!

On Wednesday 28th June (the day before), some of our Year 6 senior tamariki will start to prepare Harvest vegetable soup for our whānau to enjoy.

We ask each whānau to please donate **one vegetable** for the soup during the week 19-23 June e.g. kumara, leek, carrots, pumpkin, potatoes etc. There will be a box outside the office to collect these.



We know that kai is expensive at the moment so please only give what you can. We will also need at least 10 **slow cookers** so if you could bring them in on Friday 23rd or Monday 26 June we would appreciate that very much. Email Denise admin@houghton.school.nz if you can assist with a slow cooker. – Miriam Gaynor

A BIG WELCOME IN HARAKEKE CLASS TO:



Ula Christie

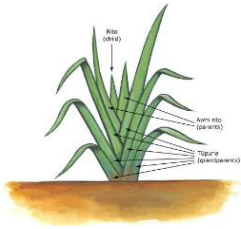


Theo Strik

SUSTAINABILITY

Matariki Tremendous Working Bee - Sunday 23 July (Term 3)

The ground is very wet at the moment, so we will have our next Tremendous Working Bee later in July. We will be giving the Tremendous area a good tidy up by weeding, trimming, planting and mulching. Please save the working bee date Sunday 23 July 10am -12pm.



Raranga with Harakeke: The harakeke is looking very lush and we have had some helpers trimming back the outer leaves. Our students will be using some harakeke for 'exploring' their own creations and making some easier woven items. If you have skills to share with us and have some time to help our students with weaving, please let your class teachers or Jill know. Please email Jill if you can help out jill@houghton.school.nz

HVS EGGS FOR SALE - \$10 A DOZEN



HVS school EGGS for SALE. Yes, we have new chickens and lots of fresh eggs.



Please contact our chicken farmer Jill Holmstead jill@houghton.school.nz if you would like to order our school eggs.

Due to the increased cost of chicken feed, the cost of eggs will increase to \$10 a dozen.

When your order is available your child will bring the eggs home or you can collect them from the office.

Then please pay online HVS BOT account:

Houghton Valley School Board of Trustees ASB 12-3481-0045763-00 with your child's name and reference **EGGS**. Thanks Jill Holmstead

TEACHER JOB VACANCY AT HVS - TERM 3 2023

We have a have a fixed term teaching position in Ti Kouka, room 6, a year 1/2 composite class, for term three 2023. The job has been advertised in the NZ Education Gazette but it is quite possible that a community member who is a New Zealand trained and registered teacher, may be interested. If so, please contact the school office by Wednesday 28th June 2023.



Houghton
Valley
School
Te Kura o Haewai

HVS Home & School Association pānui

The Term 2, Week 7 news:

Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou
Seek after learning for the sake of your wellbeing

- **BAKE SALES**

Thanks to our **Rata** and **Harakeke** bakers, to all our helpers, and to everyone who came along to the bake sale on 26th May. Together we raised **\$616.50** for the school 😊 The next bake sale will be hosted by Kōwhai & Rimu on Friday 23rd June.

- **MATARIKI**

Calling all BBQers and sausage sizzlers!

Home & School is delighted to support the school's **Matariki** celebration by preparing and selling kai. It's a hit with everyone each year and a wonderful way to reconnect with school whānau and friends.

We are looking for 6 helpers to run the BBQ and sell sausages between 3/4-6pm on **Thursday 29th June**. Can you help? Or do you have a grandparent or neighbour who'd be keen to chip in?

Please get in touch with Home and School at homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz or check in with your class reps.

What is the Home & School Association?

Our Home & School Association is a collective of HVS parents and caregivers. Our purpose is to support the school by connecting the community and raising funds. Everyone who is part of the HVS community is part of the Home & School Association. Yes, you are already a member :)

Save the date this term

Bake Sale (Kōwhai & Rimu) - Friday 23rd June
Matariki evening - Thursday 29th June

Events later in the year

HVS Quiz - Term 3, *Date tbc*
HVS Disco - Term 4, Week 1
HVS Fair - Saturday 28th October, 10-2pm

There's ALWAYS a chance to join in. Here's how you can help...

Just an hour of your time can make a real difference to our community. The events above all rely on volunteers. Volunteering is easy - *no experience necessary* - and you'll get to meet a bunch of other volunteers in the process. If you're interested to know more about how you can help at one of our events, please email us at homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz.

Events for Term 2 2023

Term 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 7 5-9 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday	LGBTQIA+ Hui 6:30pm-7:30pm			
Week 8 12-16 June	BOT Meeting 7pm	Interzone Cross Country		Interzone Cross Country Postponement	Hui/Assembly 9:15am-Ngaio Rm8 & Rimu R10
Week 9 19-23 June					Bake Sale 3pm Kowhai & Rimu Rm2 & Rm 10
Week 10 26-30 June			School Reports Shared	Matariki Evening 5:30pm	Last Day of Term 2 pickup 2:55pm
Term 3 starts Monday 17 th July 2023 9am					
Tremendous Working Bee - Sunday 23rd July 10-12pm (Term 3)					

KELLY CLUB HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



Kelly Club Island Bay Holiday Programmes focus on giving children aged between 5 and 13 the opportunity to do things they enjoy in a safe, supportive, and encouraging environment.

The July Holiday Programme is full of exciting activities and trips that will guarantee your children have a great time including:

Artic Explorers Day, Find the Golden Ticket Day, Medieval Madness Day, Mid Winter Xmas, Topsy Turvy Tuesday, Matariki Celebrations plus trips to: The Lanes for Ten Pin Bowling then to Te Papa, Laserforce and we are off to the movies to see Elemental!

to Enrol go to www.kellyclub.co.nz



HOMESTAY HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Wellington East Girls' College is needing new host families for some of our international students. These students come from many different countries and stay for varying lengths of time - from one term to a full year.

Each host family is paid for the care they provide. The 2023 hosting fee is \$320 per week and \$340 per week in 2024.

In exchange for the hosting fee a family will provide:

- A warm and comfortable bedroom
- Three meals a day
- Kind and friendly family engagement

Wellington East Girls' College has ultimate responsibility for each student with a department of three staff who ensure each student is motivated and well supported at school. We provide a great level of care for each host family with information, guidance and ongoing communication.

We are very happy to provide all of the information you may need in order to make a decision about hosting a Wellington East Girls' College international student.

Please email international@wegc.school.nz - we check this email everyday.



Houghton Valley School Information	
Houghton Valley School Ph: 939-3318 Website: www.houghton.school.nz PrincipalEmail: principal@houghton.school.nz	HVS Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/houghton.school.nz/ School Office Email: admin@houghton.school.nz
Healthline 0800 611 116 OR COVID-19 Info 0800 358 5453	
<u>Bee Healthy Dental Clinic</u> • 0800 825 583	<u>Ezlunch.co.nz</u> • Thursdays • Sushi • Fridays • Pita Pit - go online to www.ezlunch.co.nz please order before 8:30am
<u>Kelly Club After School Care</u> - www.kellyclub.co.nz Cell 022 010 9981 Eden – Co-ordinator Email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz	
HVS School Fair – Saturday 28th October 2023 – Put this date in your DIARY	