



Houghton Valley School

Newsletter

Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together

Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou

Thursday, 1st February 2024

Week 1 of Term 1

HVS Reminders

- Mon 5th Feb – Whole School Beach trip
- Wed 7th Feb – Meet the teacher:
 - 5pm Big Picture BOT
 - 5:30pm & 6pm Kakano Team in Nikau
 - 5:30pm & 6pm Rakua Team in Rata
- Thurs 8th Feb – Swimming every week
- Fri 9th Feb – 5pm Home & School Picnic

Kia Ora Whānau,

Ngā mihi o te tau hou! There is plenty to be excited about, especially our new people joining HVS.

It has been a joy seeing all our new tamariki start their school journey! New whānau – thank you for taking time to say hello. We are pleased to have you join our school community. If I have not met you yet, feel free to come on in for a chat.

We have also welcomed our three new teachers, Nina Hornell, Felix Cullen and Claire Keys, as well as our new Sign Language Assistant Bibi Grainer.

Later today, we will be emailing out all the beginning of year documents – donations, Activity fee, permission slip, and swimming.

The key one we need back by Monday at the latest is the signed permission slip for trips – **2024 Annual Permission Slip, Activity Fee** as we are off to the beach on Monday. We don't need the money, just your signature!

With the implementation of our new Strategic Plan, we have been looking at how we bring this to life.

Goal 2 is about utilising the outdoors and our local community more into our learning programmes so have been looking at ways to do this more for 2024. We have our first trip organised and planned for Monday 5 February to head over to Lyall Bay beach. To do this we require all whanau to sign and return the permission slip this week, so this has come home in your child's bag today. You may need to search for it.

Beach Trip – Helpers Needed!

We are heading to Lyall Beach on Monday 5 February to have some fun and to make the most of our local places.

Our tamariki are encouraged to bring togs, towels, change of clothes and buckets and spades. They will also need a sun hat, sunscreen and extra food as they often get really hungry after a sea swim.

We will have time to swim (optional) and make sand sculptures. As this is a big day out, whanau can choose to meet us at the beach at 2.00pm to pick up their child and take them home so they don't need to walk back to school. If you are planning to do this then you need to have told their classroom teacher before we leave on Monday morning.

We also require helpers. Please email – your child's teacher or Luana on – principal@houghton.school.nz if you can walk with us and stay to supervise. We will leave school at 9.30 and return about 2.15pm.



Meet the Teachers

We are holding our annual Meet the Teachers sessions next week, on Wednesday 7 February. This year we are going to start with a whole school session so that we can share the big picture (Strategic Plan and direction) and what we are working on for 2024. We will then split into the teams so that you can hear what is happening at class and team level.

Whole School - Big picture (BoT and Home and School) 5.00pm in the Library.

Kākano Team - Years 1-2 will be at 5.30pm and 6.00pm in Nikau

Rākau Team - Years 3-6 will be at 5.30pm and 6.00pm in Rata



Whānau Picnic

We always host a School/Whanau picnic at the start of the year to have a casual get together and to celebrate the beginning of a new school year. This is held down on the school field on Friday 9 February from 5pm. Bring you kai, rugs and activities.

As this is a school event with children there is no alcohol or dogs. We hope you can join us there!

Swimming



We start swimming on Thursday 8 February, week 2 for all children (unless you have contacted us). This year the pool has reduced the number of swimmers per group to make the lessons more effective and the cost of entry to the pool has increased so you may notice an increase in cost. This year we have been able to extend the amount of lessons compared to the previous year.

This year all Year 5 and 6's will participate in a water safety programme for 2 weeks as part of the learn to swim programme.

- Years 1/2 leave at 9.00am
- Years 3/4 leave at 10.00am
- Years 5/6 leave at 11.00am.

It is important that they bring their own towels, goggles and togs. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or things for the teacher to know to support your child.

Road Patrol

We are looking at starting our Road Patrol in Week 2. The current Year 6s were trained last year by Constable Aaron Dann and we will need some whānau support. Students will

be out at 8:30am and 2:45pm, so we need support for 10 slots across the week. It is a great way to get to know the community and support children getting to school safely. If

you are able to support, please let Nina know via email: nina@houghton.school.nz

Nga mihi nui

Library Issuing Desk

A huge thank you to Kirsten Podmore for transforming our issuing desk in the library into a bespoke piece of art. We are very grateful for the mahi you have done and the thoughtfulness that has gone into it.

It is worth popping in to see.



Nga manaakitanga

Luana Carroll

Tumuaki, Houghton Valley School

A BIG WELCOME IN HARAKEKE CLASS TO:

😊 Augusta 😊 Fenja 😊 Felix

😊 Bella 😊 Ida 😊 Billie

😊 Shiva 😊 Alice

and in Ti Kouka 😊 Anya plus in Kowhai 😊 Corné

EZLUNCH ORDERS START NEXT WEEK

Ezlunch starts again next week – checkout the website www.ezlunch.co.nz – we will still get Sushi on the Thursday, swimming day this term.

Thursdays Sushi and **Fridays Pita Pit** – place your order online before 8:30am.

[EzLunch Menu for Term 1 2024](#)



Houghton
Valley
School
Te Kura o Haewai

HVS Home & School Association pānui

The Term 1, Week 1 H&S news:

Wiki tuatahi - Wāhanga tuatahi
Week One - Term one

• **SCHOOL PICNIC - NEXT FRIDAY**

Kick off the year, revitalise connections with old friends, and meet some new ones. Join us at the school from **5pm Friday 9th February**. Bring your family, and food, non-alcoholic drinks only, and picnic blankets.

• **FIRST BAKE SALE - FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY**

Join us after school on Friday 23rd February for community fun and yummy homemade baking.

• **WHĀNAU REPS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON**

Thanks to all our whānau reps from 2023. Whānau reps play a crucial role in coordinating events, communications, and nurturing community spirit for each class. We look forward to announcing the reps for all classes soon.

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 in the HVS community is part of the Home & School Association. Yes, you are already a member :)

Save the date - Term 1

Bake Sale 1: Friday 23rd February

Bake Sale 2: TBD

Term 1 Home & School Meeting (**ALL ARE WELCOME**): TBD day in 4th week of February

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.

HVS JUNIOR NETBALL TERM 1 2024

HVS Junior Netball - Summer League Year 1-4 –Register by Monday 12th Feb

The summer season is upon us, and we are preparing for junior netball. Motu Kairangi Netball is now accepting registrations for the ANZ futureFERNs Netball Programme for children (boys and girls) in Year 1 to Year 4, in term 1, 2024. The summer season begins on Saturday, 17 February for both year groups and runs for 9 weeks at Evans Bay Intermediate School Kilbirnie (EBIS).

To find out more information go to <https://www.mknetball.co.nz/Junior-Netball-Y14/game-rules-and-information#> then Junior Netball (Year 1-4) tab “Junior Netball (Y1-Y4)”

Year 1 & 2 team/s Coaches/Star Helpers for, whānau are needed as Star Helpers to assist with the skills sessions and games. This group have 4 players on court at a time, so 4vs4 (minimum players 5 in a team).

Year 3 & 4 team/s need a coach who will also control the game on Saturdays (there is no umpire as such). This group have 5 players on court, so 5vs5 (minimum players 6 in a team).

If not enough for teams, we can register you as an individual players.

Cost per player is \$40 per player for Term 1 2024. ***The registration deadline for “school teams” and “individual players” and is Monday, 12th February 2024. This deadline must be kept as we need to know at HVS how many teams to register in the league.***

Please register your child with **Denise** in the school office admin@houghton.school.nz Thanks Denise

COMMUNITY NEWS

Instep Dance Studio - based in Houghton Bay, we offer dance classes for children aged 3-18years in ballet, jazz & contemporary. Free trial classes available. Contact Lesley at instepdance@hotmail.com for more information or to book a trial class.

Full timetable at www.instepdancestudio.co.nz

Marrzipan Drama Classes: "Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need 45 minutes a week to take part in organised craziness?! Come and join Marrzipan! We run awesome drama classes which focus on key life skills in the Houghton Valley Hall on Thursday Mornings! We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. All parents receive weekly class reports too to keep them up to date on their child's development. Give me a call to come along for a free trial, or just a chat to discuss how our classes can benefit your child's development. You can sign your child up for a Trial Lesson via our website www.marrzipandrama.co.nz (we have contact numbers on there too, should you prefer to talk to a human!)"

Houghton Valley School Dates for 2024

	Start	End	Exceptions
Term 1 (11 weeks)	Thursday 1 February	Friday 12 April 24	Waitangi Day Tues 6 Feb 24 Easter Good Friday 29 March, Easter Monday 1 April and Easter Tuesday 2 April 2024
Term 2 (10 weeks)	Monday 29 April	Friday 5 July 24	King's Birthday Mon 3 June 24 Teacher Only Day Tues 4 June 24 Matariki Day Fri 28 June 24
Term 3 (10 weeks)	Monday 22 July	Friday 27 September 24	
Term 4 (10 weeks)	Monday 14 October	Tuesday 17 December 24	Labour Day Mon 28 Oct 24 Teacher Only Day Tues 29 Oct 24

Term 1 Events for 2024

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 29-2 Feb				School Starts ===== Newsletter	
Week 2 5-9 Feb	HVS Whole School Lyllall Bay Beach Trip 9:30am – 2pm	Waitangi Day – Public Holiday	Meet the Teacher 5pm Big Picture 5.30pm & 6pm Kākano - Years 1–2 5.30pm & 6pm Rākau - Years 3-6	Swimming starts Bus leaves 9am -Yr 1/2 10am – Yr 3/4 11am – Yr 5/6	HVS School Community Picnic starts at 5pm on the school field
Week 3 12-16 Feb				Swimming ===== Newsletter	
Week 4 19-23 Feb				Swimming	Bake Sale – Rimu and Ngaio 2:55pm
Week 5 26- 1 March				Swimming ===== Newsletter	
Week 6 4-8 March				Swimming <i>FYI: No Seniors Swimming today</i>	
Week 7 11-15 March				Swimming ===== Newsletter	
Week 8 18-22 March				Swimming	
Week 9 25-29 March				Swimming ===== Newsletter	Easter Holidays – Public Holiday
Week 10 1-5 April	Easter Holidays – Public Holiday	Easter Holidays – Public Holiday		Swimming	
Week 11 8-12 April				Swimming ===== Newsletter	Last Day of School 2:55pm

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 Phoebe – Co-ordinator Book before 4pm the day before or Email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz	