



# Houghton Valley School

## Newsletter

*Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together*

*Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou*

Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Week 3 of Term 1 2023

### HVS Reminders

- Thursdays – Swimming DAY every Week
- Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb – Home & School Meeting  
7:30pm
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb – 3pm Working Bee

Kia ora Whānau,

It was wonderful to see so many whānau at our School Picnic on Friday afternoon. The weather was perfect! Ngā mihi Home and School for the sausage sizzle and roti. It is great to be able to connect and welcome new whānau!



### Creatives In School - He Kōrero Haewai

Last year, we applied for a grant from the Ministry of Education in partnership with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage Te Manatū Taonga and Creative New Zealand, to create a mural for our front entrance. We wanted to link this into our inquiry on Aotearoa NZ Histories - Turangawaewae by telling the Te hitori o Haewai/History of Houghton Valley.

### **He Kōrero Haewai**

Kate Te Ao is an artist who is working alongside each class this term, to create a series of murals on the fence panels. These panels will tell stories of our rohe from the beginning of time and towards our dreams of the future.

We are expecting to have a dawn blessing for our new fence on Wednesday 5 April.



### School Community Working Bee

Over the next term we have a number of school projects planned and we would like your help with them if you are available. We know people have different skills so might pick one project to support. If you are available please email - [principal@houghton.school.nz](mailto:principal@houghton.school.nz)

1. Bark - spreading the bark under the Flying Fox (depends on how dry the grass is)
2. Building and designing the seat area outside Ti kouka/6- Mahoe 7 classrooms
3. Weeding in the Tremendous area
4. Sensory Walk area - laying more pathways, quick concrete in sensory objects and chopping trees

We were also wonder if someone has a high powered water blaster to borrow for a week to clean some of our paths and decks

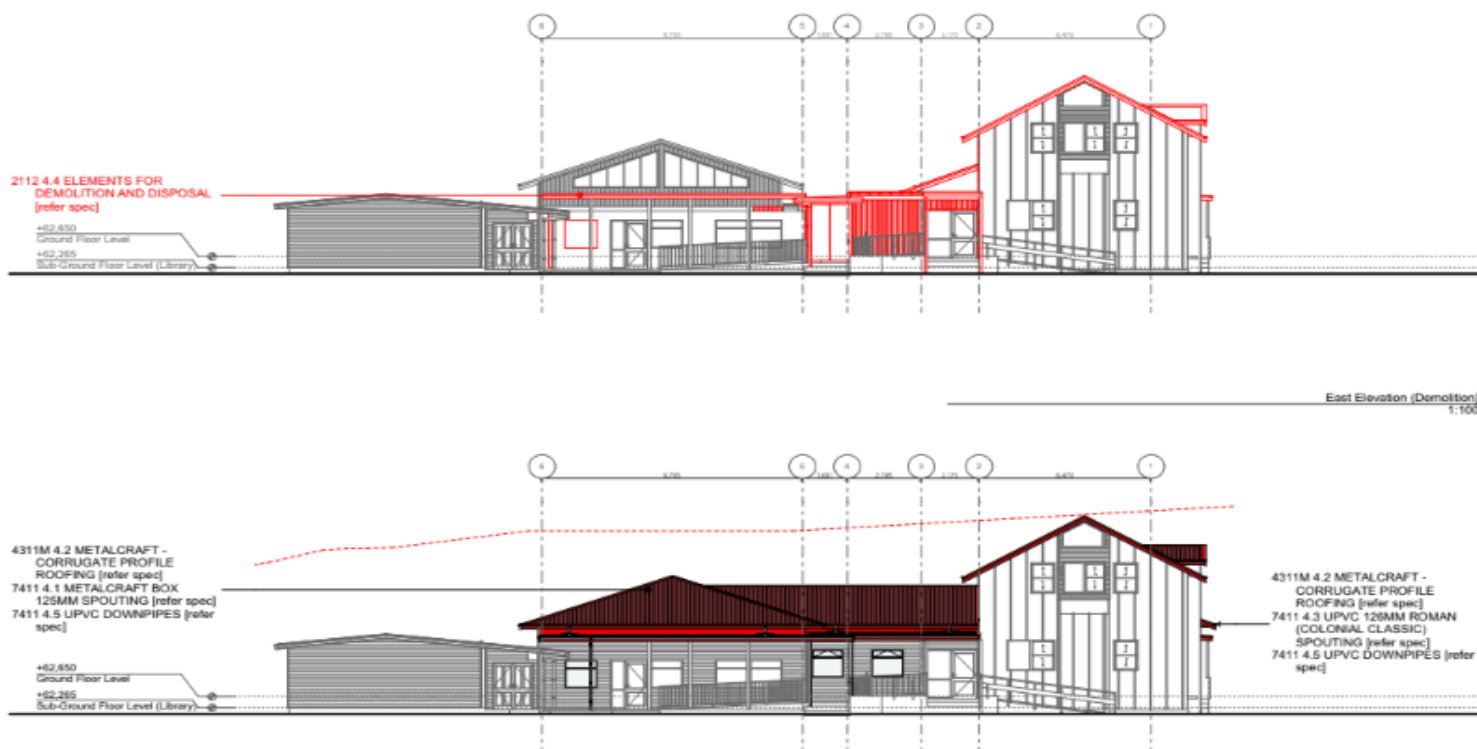
### Proposed Calendar Dates

Date	Project	Equipment
Fri 24 February from 3pm	Spreading bark	Wheelbarrows, spades, shovels
Sun 26 February 10.00-12.30pm	Sensory Walkway	Spades, shovels, wheelbarrows
Sun 12 March 10.00-12.00pm	Weeding in the Tremendous area	Gloves, forks, shovels
Sat 25 March 9.30-1.30pm	Outdoor seating area	Hammers, saws, drills

### Property Update

Work has begun to re-roofing our library and adjacent areas to make this space watertight. As most of you are aware, the flat butynol roof has been leaking for a number of years so we need to replace damaged roofing, walls and windows. This means new areas will now be enclosed to create the pitched roof.

Here is a picture of the new roof design. This work is expected to be completed by the end of term 2 – June 2023.



### NZEI Te Riu Roa (Teachers Union) 1 March - School will be OPEN

NZEI Te Riu Roa leaders are calling paid union meetings for members to discuss and consider important issues including:

- Ensuring pay and working conditions are sufficient to attract and keep people in teaching.
- Advocating to effectively improve support for children's teaching and learning, including increasing staffing, learning support specialists and reducing class size.
- Make school leadership roles manageable and desirable.

The meetings will include voting on the outcome of negotiations between NZEI Te Riu Roa and the Ministry of Education for the renewal of members' collective agreements.

Houghton Valley School will remain open but we will be merging classrooms from 1.30pm on 1 March so teachers can attend the meeting. You will need to collect your child from different learning spaces on that day - **Years 1-2 from Harakeke, Years 3-4 from Pohutukawa and Years 5-6 from Rata at 2.55pm**

### Medical Information, Emergency Contacts and Emergency Food Kits

Medical Information and/or Emergency Contacts may have changed for whanau during the holiday season so we ask that you update these as soon as possible by contacting the school office - [admin@houghton.school.nz](mailto:admin@houghton.school.nz) or 939 3318.

At the beginning of every school year, we ask that every child bring an emergency kit of food for themselves to have in case of an emergency. As we do not store food here on site. We hand these back at the end of the year so that the food can be eaten and nothing gets wasted if they have not been used.



Nga manaakitanga  
Luana Carroll  
Tumuaki, Houghton Valley School

A BIG WELCOME IN HARAKEKE CLASS TO:

☺ Janvi Vivek



Reminder Swimming every Thursday including 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB - ONLINE

SCHOLASTIC

We have sent home the latest Issue 1 of the Scholastic Book Club.

All orders should be placed online via their website [scholastic.co.nz/loop](http://scholastic.co.nz/loop) or the app.



*ONLINE Orders CLOSE by FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023*

### HVS EGGS FOR SALE - \$8 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](mailto:jill@houghton.school.nz) if you would like to order our school eggs. **Cost is \$8 for a dozen eggs.** When your order is available your child will bring the eggs home or you can collect them. 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





## LET'S GET MOVIN' IN MARCH!



We're a Movin'March school and counting down to Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> March when we'll start stamping passports in classes as part of the [Walk or Wheel Passport Challenge](#) all through March. Walking or wheeling to school is a great way to get active, know your neighbourhood, kick start learning for the day AND take care of the environment. Remember students don't have to complete their passports to go in the draw to win a \$400 [MYRIDE](#) voucher at the end of March!

Fancy going in the draw to win a scooter? Parents who take part in our [Whānau photo](#) competition on Facebook or Instagram will be in to win 1 of 5 adult or child Micro Scooters or a Family Pass to [Staglands](#) or [Zealandia](#). Check out the Movin'March [website](#) for more on these competitions and how you can take part.

### Park & Stride

If you live 'too far away' why not try a [Park and Stride](#)? You can still get your passport stamped in classes! It helps reduce congestion around the school gate, gives tamariki exercise and whānau get to share precious moments on the way to or from school. You might walk from the Kids Play area south of Houghton Valley School or walk down from Buckley Road on the Southern walkway we call the 'Gut Buster'.

This year there is also a fridge calendar to put up somewhere at home to remind whānau that Movin'March is happening and to walk or wheel the trip to school. We know lots of our whānau walk and wheel already but it's great to share this experience with others and to think of the many benefits for ourselves and the planet.

Mā raro, mā wira		Walk or wheel					Greater Wellington Te Pane Matua Taiao	
Theme	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Week 1 I walk or wheel for my well-being!			1	2	3	4	5	
Week 2 I walk or wheel because it makes me feel connected!	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Week 3 I walk or wheel because it's kinder on the planet!	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Week 4 I walk or wheel because it builds confidence!	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Week 5 I walk or wheel because it's an adventure!	27	28	29	30	31	QR Code		

Ask your whānau to post photos and comments on how walking or wheeling fits this week's theme during Movin'March.  
[facebook.com/movinmarch](https://facebook.com/movinmarch) [movinmarch.com](https://movinmarch.com)

## ROAD PATROL – HELP PLEASE



We are looking at starting our Road Patrol in Week 4. 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 Charles know via email: [charles@houghton.school.nz](mailto:charles@houghton.school.nz) Many thanks!

# HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY, CONNECTION, CONTRIBUTION

## Home & School Association

Everyone who is part of the HVS community is part of the Home & School Association. WE MEET ONCE A TERM - COME AND JOIN US OVER KAI, GREAT COMPANY AND HELP BUILD OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.



**Welcome Picnic:** Ngā mihi nui to all those who helped cook and eat the sausages at the welcome picnic last Friday. Connecting with the community feels so great!



## Home & School Meeting

We have our first meeting for 2023 on **MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY, 7:30pm - 9pm** (at the latest) in the **HVS staffroom**.

It's a chance to connect with other HVS families as well as:

- Hear from the school and the board about what's going on behind the scaffolding, and the projects and plans for the year.
- Officially welcome our new H&S Treasurer, Luke Cartmell-Gollan (Louis's C-G's adult) and H&S Secretary, Ian Vanstone (Wynne's adult). Piki mai kake mai, welcome aboard. We'd love to see you all there. There'll be baking.



## Whānau Representatives - Creating Connection for our Class Communities

Home and School supports a range of ways that people can connect with the school community. One of the ways we can build connections within the classroom whānau and the wider school is through **Whānau representatives**. These people can help arrange get togethers, pass on school information and welcome new families to HVS. WhatsApp groups have been set up for each class to stay connected. You may have already been joined to one! If not, please contact Nicola or Fen (details below) to be added OR if you could consider being the whānau rep for Rātā, Kōwhai or Tī Kōuka.

Nicola Du Toit ([nicolastanbridge@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolastanbridge@hotmail.com), 0211 559 653, Teigan and Talia's mum)

Fenella Rich ([fennyrich@yahoo.com.au](mailto:fennyrich@yahoo.com.au), 021 217 8439, Lyra's mum)

Your excellent Whānau Reps for 2023 are:

Rātā (Charles's Class)	TBC
Karaka (Nicola's class)	Fenella (Lyra's mum)
Rimu (Abby's class)	Janine (Evie's mum)
Kōwhai (Fiona's class)	TBC
Pōhutukawa (Molly's class)	Emily (Isobel's mum)
Ngaio (Miriam's class)	Kirsten (Sylvie's mum)
Tī Kōuka (Stephanie's class)	TBC
Harakeke (Charlotte's class)	Carlie (Otto's mum)

Ngā mihi nui

Ronja levers (Bo's adult) and Flic Morris (Amaia's adult)

Co-chairs of HVS H&S Association.

[homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz](mailto:homeandschoolchair@houghton.school.nz)

## HVS SPORTS

### Junior Tough Person Challenge

This was a really successful and fun event for our tamariki last year. It is back this year and is taking place on two days, 24 May and 25 of May. The entry fee is \$30 per athlete if you register beforehand and \$35 on the day. Children will need parent support as we will not be able to send a staff member. If you would like more information the link to the website is below:

<https://eventpromotions.co.nz/junior-tough-guy-and-gal-challenge/#wj>

To help with carpooling, we might it could be good to decide on a day and have the HVS students work together on that day.

Please let me know if you have any questions and if you plan on having your child attend. We can then put all the whanua in touch with each other to help with transportation. Cheers, Charles

## GREEN GECKOS KAITIAKI CLUB



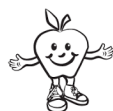
This is a lunchtime sustainability club for students of all ages to help with caring for our kura. We meet together each Friday and will be weeding, planting and composting in the school vegetable garden. Sometimes we will work in other garden areas around the school when we have good weather for planting or sweeping up leaves.



### Events for Term 1 2023

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
Week 3 13-17 Feb				Swimming		
Week 4 20-24 Feb	Home & School Meeting 7:30pm-9pm			Swimming <u>Working Bee 3pm onwards</u>		Working Bee 10am-12:30pm
Week 5 27-3 March			Paid Union Meetings for Teacher 1:30pm-3.00pm	Swimming <u>Scholastic Book Club Closed today</u>		Working Bee 10am-12pm
Week 6 6-10 March	<i>Life Education van at school</i>			Swimming		
Week 7 13-17 March				Swimming		
Week 8 20-24 March				Swimming		<u>SATURDAY</u> Working Bee 9:30am-1:30pm
Week 9 27-31 March				Swimming		
Week 10 3-6 April			Last Day of Term 1 pickup 2:55pm	<b>Teacher Only Day - School is closed</b>	<b>Easter &amp; Term 1 Holidays</b>	<b>Easter Holiday</b>

## COMMUNITY NEWS



**Pippins**  
5 - 6 years

Join in the fun at Island Bay Pippins. Being a Pippin with GirlGuiding NZ is a very popular choice for 5 and 6 year old girls. We welcome all girls interested to join our Unit in Island Bay at St Hilida's Church from 6-7pm on a Tuesday night during the school term. If you have a 5 or 6 year old daughter would like to have fun then contact Dianna on phone: 04 3837518 or email meates21@gmail.com or Denise in the HVS office.



### Suzanne Aubert Scout Group

Located at: St Anne's Hall, 22 Emmett St Newtown

Scouts have restarted for 2023! Our focus is fun and adventure in the outdoors: camping, cooking on open fires, tramping, biking, rock climbing, kayaking, archery – are just some of the activities that we do. If this interests you – give Scouting a go! Come and join us on Monday nights:

- Keas (5 to 8 year olds) 6.30 – 7.30pm
- Cubs (8 to 11 year olds) 6.30 – 8pm
- Scouts (11 to 14 year olds) 6.30 – 8pm

For more details either email [SuzanneAubert@group.scouts.nz](mailto:SuzanneAubert@group.scouts.nz) or contact Rob McCullough on 0221771007.

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/aubertscouts/](http://www.facebook.com/aubertscouts/)

The **Maranui Swimming Club** provides swimming tuition and coaching in a fun and non-competitive environment for children aged 5 to 14. Maranui Swimming Club is looking for new members. Their Club Night is every Friday (excluding school holidays!) from 7pm to 8pm at the Aquadome which is located at the rear of Wellington East Girls College.

The Club operates in the middle ground between school swimming and commercial learn to swim classes. There is a family atmosphere and a low-cost approach (\$85 per year, free parking, no weekly entry fees) supported by the great contribution of committed volunteer coaches.

For more detailed information, please refer to website '[www.maranuiswimming.co.nz](http://www.maranuiswimming.co.nz)'. Alternatively, email '[maranuiswim@gmail.com](mailto:maranuiswim@gmail.com)' or come along for a free trial on a Friday night (new members / trialists will need to complete a safety/application form before being able to swim).

## HVS SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2023

	Start	End	Exceptions
<b>Term 1</b> (10 weeks)	Tuesday 31 January	Thursday 6 April 23	<b>Waitangi Day Mon 6 Feb 23</b> <b>Teacher Only Day Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Easter in the School Holidays</b>
<b>Term 2</b> (10 weeks)	Monday 24 April	Friday 30 June 23	<b>Teacher Only Day Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Anzac Day Tues 25 April 23</b> <b>Queen's Birthday Mon 5 June 23</b> <b>Matariki Day Fri 14 July 23</b>
<b>Term 3</b> (10 weeks)	Monday 17 July	Friday 22 September 23	
<b>Term 4</b> (10 weeks)	Monday 9 October	Friday 15 December 23	<b>Labour Day Mon 23 Oct 23</b>
<i>Note: 2023 Teacher Only Days</i>			

### Houghton Valley School Information

<b>Houghton Valley School Ph: 939-3318</b> Website: <a href="http://www.houghton.school.nz">www.houghton.school.nz</a> PrincipalEmail: <a href="mailto:principal@houghton.school.nz">principal@houghton.school.nz</a>	<b>HVS Facebook page</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghton.school.nz/">https://www.facebook.com/houghton.school.nz/</a> <b>School Office Email: <a href="mailto:admin@houghton.school.nz">admin@houghton.school.nz</a></b>
<b>Healthline 0800 611 116 OR COVID-19 Info 0800 358 5453</b>	
<b><u>Bee Healthy Dental Clinic</u></b> • 0800 825 583	<b><u>Ezlunch.co.nz</u> • Thursdays • Sushi</b> • <b>Fridays • Pita Pit</b> - go online to <a href="http://www.ezlunch.co.nz">www.ezlunch.co.nz</a> please order before <b>8:30am</b>
<b><u>Kelly Club After School Care</u> - <a href="http://www.kellyclub.co.nz">www.kellyclub.co.nz</a> Cell 022 010 9981</b> Anderley – Co-ordinator Email <a href="mailto:houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz">houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz</a>	