



# Houghton Valley School

110 Houghton Bay Road, Houghton Bay, Wellington.

## NEWSLETTER

*Houghton Valley School Mission Statement*

**INSPIRATION, CHALLENGE, ACHIEVEMENT**

**TE HIRINGA, TE WEROHIA, TE WHAKATUTUKITANGA**

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011

Week 8 of Term 3

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. Practises for the school production ('Celebrate Good Times with Mavis and Arthur') have been taking up a large part of the day for classes. There have been whole school singing sessions, production 'walk throughs', actors rehearsing, bands playing, props being made and classes walking up to the community hall to practise their items. It all looks like it's coming together really well and I am sure you will enjoy the performance. On Sunday, teachers will take a convoy of cars over to South Wellington Intermediate to transport props, sound gear etc, ready for the whole school to bus over on Monday for a practice in the SWIS hall. It has been great to see the children working hard to perfect their class items and we have been proud of their energy and enthusiasm. See you on Wednesday or Thursday evening.

### Houghton Valley School Production 2011

#### "Celebrate Good Times with Mavis and Arthur"

- Wednesday 28 September and Thursday 29 September
- South Wellington Intermediate School Hall
- Gold coin donation
- HVS children there by 6.05pm
- Performance starts 6.30pm
- It is important that HVS children are at both performances as they are all an important part of their class's items.
- In order to avoid overcrowding we would prefer it if adults only attend one performance although families may want to spread their attendance over both nights.



#### DRESS REHEARSAL

*Please Note: It is essential that all children get to school on time on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September as buses will leave promptly for South Wellington Intermediate.*

### **BLACK OUT DAY TOMORROW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

As a celebration of Rugby World Cup 2011, (and in advance of the All Blacks beating France on Saturday) we will be dressing in black tomorrow. So if you have black clothes or a black hat, wear them. If you have a flag bring it along (but make sure it is named) for our parade and singing of the national anthem. Go the All Blacks!



#### ROAD PATROL HELP STILL NEEDED

Our Road Patrol Team will be responsible for the safety of children using the crossing by the Houghton Bay Rd/View Rd intersection. They will be on duty from 8.30am each morning and until 3.15pm each afternoon. To make this work we need adults to act as crossing supervisors. Staff have volunteered to do the morning shift but we require a group of parents to supervise from 2.50pm – 3.15pm each afternoon; and so far I have had only 3 parent volunteers. If you would like to be involved, please contact me by phone (9393318) or email [principal@houghton.school.nz](mailto:principal@houghton.school.nz)

### **ROOM 1 and 2 UPDATE**

The recent seismic structural engineering report on the room 1 and 2 block identified two types of building defects:

- 1) Defects that make it 'earthquake prone' e.g. floor not adequately fixed to foundations
- 2) 'Gravity defects' that make it unsafe in other ways e.g. missing floor joists, rotten flooring

### **The Good News**

The Ministry of Education has commissioned a design to fix the gravity defects. When we receive the design the MOE will allow us to organise a project manager, building consents and builder to fix these defects.

### **The Bad News**

The Ministry of Education has not given approval to fix the earthquake prone defects at the same time as fixing the gravity defects. They have been unable to give us any indication of when the earthquake prone repairs are likely to be actioned.

### **Next Steps**

While happy that some progress has been made, our Board of Trustees does not want our staff and children to move back in to rooms 1 and 2 until both the gravity and earthquake prone defects are remedied. The board is currently considering a change of approach in dealing with this situation and they appreciate the patience and flexibility shown by all staff and children.

### **ASSEMBLY TOMORROW 2pm**

Assembly is on tomorrow, Friday 23 September, 2pm in the hall.

Ka kite kua nei.

*Barry Schon*

**Principal/Tumuaki**



### **What needs to be done in The Rainforest?**

It has been fantastic to have so many parents come along and help out on Whanau Forest Days. A number of people have said that they are keen to help out in The Rainforest at other times. There is now a yellow book on the noticeboard which includes details of what needs to be done. This will be updated by Dave as new jobs turn up. Don't worry if you don't have all the tools or the experience, there is plenty to do for everyone!



### **Yummy Cakes And Biscuits For Sale!**

On Friday there will be a cake stall after school, prices from 50c to \$1.50. We are raising money to attend to a Girl Guide Jamboree in the Christmas holidays. Please support us!  
Rachel, Jean, Samantha and Meghan



### **HVS Netball Team**

Thanks to all the coaches, managers, umpires, first aiders, parents, helpers and children for another fantastic season of netball. I watched both the Diamonds - Year 6 and Crackers - Year 5 games on Saturday and I was very impressed by the progress the teams had made, and both teams had a win on the day. Denise



**\$2.50**

**Healthy BBQ Burgers - this Friday**

**\$2.50**





## HV School Fair Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011

**Coordinators needed:** We still need someone (or two people) to be the coordinator for **Games**. This is a really important part of the Fair as kids love the games/activities, and as a result, adults get to stay longer at the Fair (and spend money...!). It is a busy but fun job, so put your hand up!

We also need a **Shed Wrangler** - to manage the storage of donations in the weeks before the Fair. This should be easier than in previous years as we have more storage space available.

Contact Sarah FQ (contact details below) if you want to know more!

**We need YOUR help:** Please put your name down to help with the Fair – look for the orange sign-up sheets outside Denise's office. The more people sign up, the easier it is for everyone. We need lots of people on the day of the Fair, as well as people to help before and after.

**Donations:** Spring is here, so if you are clearing out your house, don't forget we need donations of books, toys and clean clothes. We aren't doing White Elephant this year, but would love donations of interesting items to put into the Silent Auction. Please put any donations in plastic bags on the deck outside Room 4.

**Band:** Are you in a band? Do you know anyone in a band? We would love to have a couple of bands to play during the Fair (Sat 12 Nov, 10am-2pm)

**Plants needed** - Are you working in your garden now it is spring? We need plants to sell at the Fair plant stall, so it would be great if you could put any seedlings that you don't want in wee pots and hang on to them until the Fair. If you need pots, contact Sarah FQ (see below).

Questions or suggestions? Contact Sarah FQ (Molly and Ned's mum) on 387 2799 or 0274 399 090 or [doddsfq@paradise.net.nz](mailto:doddsfq@paradise.net.nz)

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**Cancellation of home and school meeting** on 4 October - there is NO meeting but watch this space for any forthcoming date.

**Fish and Chip evening** - have you and your children recently joined the school? Do you know anyone at school other than Barry and the teachers and your children? Would you like to catch up for a chin-wag with other parents? Well make sure you mark Wednesday 5 October, 5:30pm onwards in your diary for a BYO fish and chip evening. So pack up your children, picnic blankets, chairs, rugs, beanies, and refreshments and head to the school courtyard. The BBQ will also be available if you would like to cook your own food. No need to RSVP. Obvious postponement will be if it snows, rains, or other non-friendly weather elements occur on the day. If in doubt please phone the school.

**Walking School Bus** - This is a fantastic example of parents of the school who cannot make our Home and School meetings but are keen to lend their support in other ways. We strongly encourage you to get involved if it's applicable to you. Stephen Day and his family live along Buckley Road and wondered if there was any interest for anyone keen on a school walking bus for children who live along Buckley Road and other nearby streets? Currently his son Jelle is probably a little too young to cross the roads by himself, but it seems a waste (of both his energy and our petrol) to drive him to and from school. Stephen is keen to help establish a walking bus if there is interest. Here are some links on extra information on walking school buses - <http://www.walkingschoolbus.org/> and <http://www.feetfirst.govt.nz/walking-school-bus>. If you are interested in getting this started, contact Stephen on 383 7330 or 021 290 0734. Thanks Stephen and family!

For any comments, ideas, or contributions to the Home and School section of the newsletter, email [homeandschool@houghton.school.nz](mailto:homeandschool@houghton.school.nz). Nga mihi ki a koutou na Home and School team.

# Community Notices

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## **ART OF THIS WORLD ..... Art Education**

Two day holiday workshop. Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th of October. Having 2 full days to indulge in art, we will design sculpt and create our own working clocks - using the skills of construction, sculpture, design, paper mache and painting. All materials provided. Spaces are limited, so booking is best. \$35 per day, bring your lunch and creativity.

Venue: Houghton Valley School - 10am to 3pm

Phone: Brenda (06) 364 3565 or 021 1789153. brosenberg@ihug.co.nz

**Eastern Suburbs Junior Cricket** - Registration Day: 24th Sept 2011, Venue: Wellington Indoor Sports Centre (above Junglerama), Time: 10:00am to 12:30pm, Payment: NO EFTPOS – cash and cheques only. Cost: Year 1 cricket \$25 (formerly Milo Cricket –for 4, 5 and 6 year olds playing their first season). Single child \$50, Two Children \$80, Family \$100, Year 8 – full season \$50 half season (up until Christmas) \$25

**Wellington Diving Club** Would you like to learn to dive? Springboard and Platform diving improves confidence, co-ordination, agility and its great fun! We are running an introduction session on Saturday 24th September 11am-12, at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie. Cost \$5 + pool entry. Numbers are limited, please contact me for expressions of interest by email [wellingtondiving@gmail.com](mailto:wellingtondiving@gmail.com) or phone 9732874.

**Island Bay Kindergarten Gala** - Saturday 1st October, 10am - 1pm at 100 Melbourne Road, Island Bay (enter off Avon Street). Zappo the Magician will hold 2 shows (11am and 12.30), there will be games and activities, cakes, food, nursery, books and kid's clothes, great prizes in the silent auction and rapid raffle. Fun for the whole family, don't miss it!"

**School Holiday Program** - St Hilda's Church (311 The Parade Island Bay) will run a half day School Holiday Program in the second week of the holidays from 17th October to 21st October. The cost is \$8 per morning per child. Registrations can be made at the church office 3838547 or by e-mail to [officesthildas@paradise.net.nz](mailto:officesthildas@paradise.net.nz) We are looking forward to seeing you there for some fun games, crafts and learning together.

## **A Whanau Forest Project**

The HVS Rainforest is a special part of Houghton Valley. Recently, we received a donation of trees from the council to encourage the growth of our forest. To make sure these trees find their way into the soil and are looked after properly for future generations we are setting up the Whanau Forest Project.



Dates	Time	Whanau Groups	
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	9:15am- 10:30am	Kiwikiwi – Gillian	Pango – Mrs McLean
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	9:15am- 10:30am	Paraone – Mrs Mercury	Whero – Miss Nemet

Any questions, please see Miss Grinsted. This is a community event and the success of this project depends on everyone getting involved. See you there!