



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, 29th September 2011

Week 9 of Term 3

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children



Tēnā koutou katoa. What a great show we had last night! I was very proud of our children. The many weeks of preparation and practice resulted in a slick, entertaining performance. The band, the singing, the dancing and the acting were all outstanding. My thanks go to our staff for their leadership and collaboration. Our teachers worked hard with their classes to compose original items that included everybody, as at HVS we think it is important for all 195 children to experience the stage. They did a fantastic job. I would also like to acknowledge the work of our production lead teachers, Peter and Jill. It is a big responsibility to organise a whole school performance and we are fortunate to have such talent on our team. Thanks too to the many parents who helped with preparations and on the night. We look forward to another great performance this evening. Doors open at 6.05pm. **Children do not have to be at school until 10am tomorrow**, although the school will open at the usual time of 8.30am.

BLACK OUT DAY THANKS

I would like to thank children and staff for the way they embraced last Friday's Rugby World Cup 'Black Out Day'. It was great to see everyone dressed in black and I'm sure the All Blacks played well due to our efforts! We sang the national anthem, had our faces painted, had whole school chanting and drew pictures and messages of support all over the playground with chalk. Tu meke!

ICAS WRITING

Congratulations to all of our entrants in the recent ICAS writing competition. We were particularly proud of the children who received special awards:

Distinction Award – Emma Bridges, Aria Brighton-Mills, Meghan Valins

Credit Award – Samantha Graham, Lily Warnock, Florence Ferguson, Imogen Kilioni, Thomasin McKenzie

ROAD PATROL GOING WELL

Our road patrollers and parent supervisors have been on duty this week and they have done an excellent job. When using the crossing, please do not begin to cross until the patroller says. 'Cross now!' Thanks.

CHARTER 2011-2015

Our 2011-2015 Houghton Valley School Charter is now complete. A copy is available in the office foyer and it will be on our website next week. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the content of this new charter.

SOUTH WELLINGTON SCHOOLS COLLABORATE

One of the many positive things about working in a school in South Wellington is the spirit of collaboration and co-operation that exists between our (SWELL) schools. An example of this is the fact that South Wellington Intermediate lets us use their hall for our school production free of charge. We in turn are letting St Francis de Sales School, Island Bay School and Berhampore School use our field for their athletic sports. In the holidays our ten schools will be getting together for our third annual SWELL Learning Carnival. This will feature keynote speakers and action research projects by teachers from each school, including presentations from our own teachers, Lara Nemet and Katie Grinsted. This event receives no funding and is run entirely by teachers and principals who feel that collaboration between schools will benefit everyone.

NO ASSEMBLY TOMORROW The next assembly is on Friday 7 October, 2pm, in the hall.

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) 'Gravity defects' that make it unsafe in other ways e.g. missing floor joists, rotten flooring

This week we received an engineering design to fix these 'gravity defects'. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am meeting a project manager on Monday to kick off the process of getting the necessary work done. This is good news and our board is grateful to the Ministry of Education for arranging this design.

- 2) Defects that make it 'earthquake prone' e.g. floor not adequately fixed to foundations

I have also been told by the Ministry of Education that, by the end of October, we will receive an engineering design to fix the 'earthquake prone' defects. Unlike the 'gravity defects' however, the board is not permitted to employ a project manager and get the necessary work done. The Ministry of Education has made it very clear that they alone will run the 'earthquake defects' project.

Our board's view is that it would be sensible to treat both projects as one project, and do them at the same time, as they involve similar parts of the same building. The ministry does not agree. They have advised us to fix the 'gravity defects' then move the children and staff back in to the rooms, even though they remain earthquake prone.

Our board does not want to follow this advice, as we think it too risky to move children and staff back into a building that sits on 5m poles that are not adequately attached to the building's floor. Due to our difference of opinion and the ministry's unwillingness to let our board take charge of the repair process, we envisage rooms 1 and 2 being empty for some time.

The Board of Trustees will keep working alongside the Ministry of Education on this issue, on your behalf.

Ka kite kua nei.

Barry Schon

Principal/Tumuaki



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.

NOTE CHANGE OF TIME

Dates	Time	Whanau Groups	
Friday 30 th September	11am -12pm	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!

FINAL Yummy Sticker Collection



Please have all your yummy stickers into the school office by Monday 3rd October 2011. Sticker sheets available at the school office or check their website www.yummyfruit.co.nz. Thanks

JEWELLERY SALES FOR SPCA

A group of our year 4 and 5 children have been hard at work making jewellery that they will be selling, starting tomorrow. Their stall will be on the top court, during lunchtimes on Fri 30 Sept, Mon 3 Oct, Tues 4 Oct. Prices start at 70 cents and all profits go to the SPCA.

Home & School News

**Together
We Can Do It!**



HV School Fair Saturday 12th November 2011

We need your help! We need **lots** more people to sign up to be on stalls etc on Fair day. Please could you put your name up on the list on the noticeboard next to Denise's office, or put your name down on the clipboard that will be circulated tonight at the school production.

Donations needed Don't forget we need donations of books, clothes and toys for the Fair. Please put donations on the deck outside Room 4.

Band wanted We need one more band/musician to play at the Fair - do you know anyone that might be interested?

Plants wanted We also need donations of plants for the Fair - if you have green fingers, please be on the lookout for seedlings etc in your garden. If you need pots, contact Sarah FQ

Contact Sarah FQ on doddsfq@paradise.net.nz or 0274 399 090 or 387 2799

REMINDER ABOUT FISH N CHIPS

Fish and Chip evening - come along on **Wednesday 5 October, 5:30pm onwards** for a fish and chip evening. Pack up your children, picnic blankets, chairs, rugs, beanies, and refreshments and head to the school courtyard (and if we're not there, follow the noise down to the field). 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.

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



\$2.50

Healthy BBQ Burgers - this Friday

\$2.50



Community Notices

HVS Rogaine – Tuesday 8th November - HVS annual rogaine, stretching from the South Coast to Point Jerringham. This family fun amazing race style adventure has two options both starting at 5:30pm with maps being distributed. 6.00pm start for 2 hour (daylight only) and 3 hour (day & night option). The aim of the game is to collect as many controls and return to HVS before the ending time. Bring torches, a water bottle and good running shoes. \$5 entry fee per person for maps and pizza, to the office by Friday 4th November, Week 2 of Term 4. More info on school noticeboard checkout www.mapsort.co.nz Have fun getting lost and found, discovering new places and have a wild urban adventure.

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

PONEKE DOJO HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday (13th/14th/15th oct). Book by emailing info@thedojo.org.nz for three full days of fun and karate training mixed with art work and bush walks (weather permitting). Includes lunch 9 - 3pm \$50 per day 10 % discount for siblings. Call chris on 027 4444 194 for info.

Island Bay Kindergarten Gala - This 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 pm - entry by gold coin donation), there will be games and activities, cakes, plants, 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!

Artrageous kids - Art and Creativity Sessions

Term 4 starting Thursday 3rd November (wk 2) till 8th December (wk8) Thursday afternoons 3.30-5pm
Venue: Houghton Valley School, RM: 3 Our aim at Artrageous Kids is to allow your child to explore what excites them! To encourage the process of exploration rather than a desired outcome and most of all to have fun and follow their creativity. We will be exploring many media including paint, clay, print making, construction, deconstruction and casting. The sessions will allow your child the freedom and time to explore what excites them. Developing their creative ideas, having fun and building self esteem. All materials provided. We have limited spaces so get in quick. Contact: Caroline on 04 389 3534 or 02374986393 or email artrageouskids@gmail.com We are more than happy to supervise your child from 3pm to 3.30 while they have afternoon tea and a play before the session starts.

School Contact Details: Phone: 939-3318 Fax: 939-3317 Email: admin@houghton.school.nz

Website: www.houghton.school.nz Principal Email: principal@houghton.school.nz