



# 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, 1 December 2011

Week 6 of Term 4

### Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. I have just returned from spending a night at the year 6 camp. The weather over in the Wairarapa was stunning and the campers were having a great time. When I arrived they were swimming in the river (freezing!) after a day spent at the Mt Bruce Bird Reserve, where they saw the white kiwi. Today they were off for a tramp through the hills followed by fire lighting and cooking sausages. I was really impressed by the way the children were working together and generally helping out, so that everything was running smoothly. We are fortunate to be working with such great kids!

On Tuesday night I really enjoyed the Home and School Xmas get together. We had a good chat about the year and especially the school fair. I would like to thank all of those involved with Home and School for the huge amount of effort they put into connecting with our wider school community. It has been great to see our HVS children directly benefitting from funds raised by Home and School. These funds allow us to provide things that our government funding is unable to cover. A special thanks goes to Jane Dunbier for chairing the Home and School this year.

### **WAINUI POOL Tomorrow**

Tomorrow, Friday, our whole school (apart from year 6 students) will be travelling to Wainuiomata to spend the day at the local outdoor pool. All whanau are welcome to join us there.

Reminders:

- Children should bring enough food and drink for the day (although the Home and School parents are running a free sausage sizzle at lunchtime).
- Sunblock is essential, as it's looking like tomorrow will be fine and warm.
- Bring warm clothes to change in to after swimming – the pools are quite cold so it's important to keep warm.
- Sunhats are essential.
- We recommend that children wear a rash top (or light wetsuit) to help protect them from the sun.
- Get to school on time.
- Have fun and enjoy each other's company!

### **NO ASSEMBLY TOMORROW**

There will be no assembly tomorrow, as we will be at Wainuiomata Pool for the day.

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

Tenders for the repair work and earthquake strengthening of rooms one and two are due to us tomorrow, as is the building consent. The only thing that now stands in the way of getting this long overdue work done is approval (of the best tender) from the Ministry of Education. Yesterday Sarah FQ (BOT rep) and I met with ministry officials and stressed the urgency of the situation. Early next week we should know whether or not the work will be completed in time for the new school year.

**SUSHI** Thursday 8th Dec is the last day of sushi this year. It'll resume again in the second week of the 1st term.

**REPORTS HOME NEXT FRIDAY**

Your child's end of year report will come home next Friday. Included with the report will be a slip explaining how the report links to the National Standards. The report will also have your child's class for next year.

**FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER IS WHEELS DAY**

On Friday 9 December children are permitted to bring scooters, skates, bikes and skateboards to school for a wheels day.

**END OF YEAR FAREWELL and YEAR 6 POROPOROAKI**

On Thursday 15 December, from 6pm, we invite families to join us for an end of year farewell.

Ka kite kua nei.

*Barry Schon*

**Principal/Tumuaki**

**FROM THE LIBRARY....**

Many thanks for your co-operation with the return of library books. I've had a great response. However, there are still a few out-standing, and it's never too late to return them! There will be no more library books coming home this year, but each class has books for students to read in school time.

Joanna

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## Community Notices



"The Music Learning Centre is now accepting enrolments for 2012. Please email [info@musiclearning.co.nz](mailto:info@musiclearning.co.nz) or call 232-1231 to organise lesson times or to arrange an audition for the choir or string orchestra".

"**Harbour City GymSports**, situated in Haitatai Park, is having a holiday programme in week upcoming to Christmas (Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December). Each session runs from 9am – 1pm, and costs \$25.00. Please check out our website [www.hcg.org.nz](http://www.hcg.org.nz) to view our flyer and download a registration form, alternatively email us on [office@hcg.org.nz](mailto:office@hcg.org.nz) or phone 386 4443 for more information."

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