



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, 14th April 2011

Week 11 of Term 1

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. We all enjoyed last Thursdays' 'Bangers and Maths' session. Despite the freezing conditions we had a good turnout and plenty of maths fun. If you couldn't make it, but want a copy of the games we played, then pick up a copy from the office foyer. Last Friday we gathered at the northern end of the field for the opening of the forest tracks and new information signs. Our year 5 children (who worked on establishing the tracks last year) spoke to us before leading groups along the tracks. They now have fitting names, which were suggested by our students – including 'Green Tunnel Track' and 'High Hill Track'. If you haven't walked the tracks or seen the new info panels, you may want to do so in the holidays. I would like to thank Caretaker Dave and Katie Grinsted for their work with the children, and the Wellington Zoo Bush Builders for providing the info panels. On Friday we also had this term's performance assembly. There were around 14 quality acts and we were truly entertained. Tu meke to those children who performed for us. The week finished with the Home and School Car Boot Sale on Sunday. The field was abuzz with buying and selling, and although it was a fundraiser, it also turned out to be a great community occasion. My thanks go to Sarah Francis and her helpers for their expert organisation. On Tuesday 3 teams of senior football players went to a local football tournament. They won a few and lost a few and had a great time. Our thanks go to the parents who transported, supervised and refereed. We appreciated it!

FAREWELL TO FIONA BROWN TOMORROW 1.45pm



We are having a farewell assembly and afternoon tea for Fiona Brown tomorrow, with the assembly beginning at 1.45pm in the hall. Nearly every child in our school has been taught by Fiona so she is very special to us all. Come along tomorrow and join us in saying goodbye to Fiona. There will be a chance for you to say a few words if you wish to. All welcome.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

The local Police have informed me that recently a man was observed acting suspiciously near Northland School. He was described as a male European, early 60s, bald with small glasses and rugged skin. He had a very large camera and camera bag. Anyone seeing such a person acting suspiciously should ring 111 immediately. It is also a good idea to chat to your children about what to do if they are ever approached by a stranger.



INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY

HVS year 3-6 children will be performing at the opening powhiri for 'International Dance Day' at Te Whaea National Dance and Drama Centre in Newtown on Sunday 1 May 10.45am. During the day there will also be free dance workshops including zumba, tango, rock n' roll and hip hop followed by a free performance by local dance groups from 3pm – 4.30pm.

The CHARTER and YOU

In the next few newsletters I will be including information about our current charter, leading up to a mid term evening session where you will be able to help guide the direction of our new charter. We're looking forward to reflecting on how we are going and thinking about where we want to go.

With the first term ending tomorrow, I would like to thank you all for another great start to the year. I have now been principal of HVS for 6 years and I still absolutely love coming to work each day. This is largely due to the people that make the place tick – the children, staff, parents and families. Have an enjoyable break and a happy Easter.

Barry Schon

Principal/Tumuaki

A BIG WELCOME in POHUTUKAWA TO: ☺ Hamish Williams

TERM DATES

Fri 15 April	- Fiona Brown Farewell assembly and afternoon tea 1:45pm
Fri 15 April	- last day of term 1
Mon 2 May	- first day of term 2

Home & School

A GREAT CAR BOOT SALE



The car boot sale was a great event with lots of community spirit. The weather was calm and dry and people were in good cheer. There were 32 carboots full of interesting items and children selling their wares. The sausages sold out and the baking and hot drinks were delicious. One family raised over \$100 for Christchurch. All the kids with stalls were inspirational – designing t-shirts, painting rocks, creatively marketing and selling their toys and learning about the finer points of business.

Thanks to all the people who baked, delivered flyers, got the sale on the internet and round town, copied and cut posters, helped sell food, carried trestle tables, picked up the coffee, came with boots full of treasures and rolled up on the day to have a good time. Thanks to all of you - we raised over \$1,000 for the school.

Vanya leaves two great new events in place as she steps down as chairperson – the family picnic and the car boot sale. I had a ball organising this year's event and it looks like the car boot sale will be an annual event on the Houghton Valley School calendar. Sarah Francis

Accountant Wanted

The Home & School Association is looking for an accountant who could do an end of year Review of our accounts and financial statements. Are you, or do you know an accountant who would be willing to do the Review in exchange for a modest fee? Please contact James Harris on james@harris.net or 389 1195.

Community Notices

ART OF THIS WORLD Art Education

Note correct dates: Two day holiday workshop. Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th of April

We will cover: **THE FACE**

- Creating your own mask and moulding it into your own creation.
- With reference to the stylized work of Picasso, we will use mixed media and positive / negative spaces to create a face
- Revisit the fundamental skills of observational drawing, using charcoal and chalk

All materials provided. Spaces are limited, so booking is best. \$35 per day, bring your lunch and creativity. Venue: Houghton Valley school Phone: Brenda (06) 364 3565 or 021 1789 153. brosenberg@ihug.co.nz

Holiday Program - April 2011 (Term One Holidays)

The Poneke Karate Dojo Holiday program is up and running again for week one - April 18th to 21st (Monday through Thursday). This open to any junior age child. They get lots of physical activity. Go to: <http://www.thedojo.org.nz/school-holiday-program/> Chris Gower 027 4444194.

Fundraiser for Child Cancer

Flynn and Eli Cuming's mum Kathleen Farrelly will be shaving her head for child cancer on Friday 29 April. If you would like to donate to help children with cancer and their families she has a website <http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/KathleenFarrelly/> or you can email Kathleen.Farrelly@mfat.govt.nz Any support will be wonderful! Thank you.