



# 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, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

Week 9 of Term 1

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. Our classes have had a lot of trips lately, with many of you coming along to help transport and/or supervise the children. Our teachers have asked me to pass on their thanks for your assistance, as without it, many of these trips would not be possible. We appreciate your continued support.

### **FIONA BROWN LEAVING**

At the end of term, we will be saying goodbye to Fiona Brown. Fiona has been our new entrants' teacher at Houghton Valley School for over 10 years, teaching virtually all of the children who are currently in the school. We will be having a goodbye assembly for Fiona on the last day of term (Fri 15 April) at 1.45pm, followed by afternoon tea for parents and friends in the library. All welcome. Next week I will put a book in the office foyer for anyone who would like to write farewell messages to Fiona. We'll miss her!

### **FOREST TRACK OPENING FRIDAY 8 APRIL 12pm**

After a huge amount of work, the HVS forest tracks are ready to be officially opened. We plan to gather at the northern end of the field at 12pm. After a couple of short speeches, our year 5 students will take classes and families on a track tour – as they were the children who worked with caretaker Dave and Katie Grinsted on this project last year. After a tour classes will sit together and eat lunch. All whanau and friends welcome.

### **SCHOOL OPENS 8.30am**

Just a reminder – school isn't open until 8.30am – we are unable to guarantee supervision before that.



### **SOUTHERN ZONE CROSS COUNTRY A SUCCESS**

I was very proud of all of our runners in this week's Southern Zone Cross Country. They represented our school magnificently. Tino pai! These runners have qualified for the Wellington Interzone finals on Tuesday, 5 July (pp Thursday 7 July).

**Year 4** – 8<sup>th</sup> Bella Snow,  
– 1<sup>st</sup> Nathan Simes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lukas Schoeler

**Year 5** – 8<sup>th</sup> Connie Langbrown,  
– 6<sup>th</sup> Satish Cussins, 8<sup>th</sup> Rubin Gower, 10<sup>th</sup> Tristan Harris,

**Year 6** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Imogen Kilioni, 4<sup>th</sup> Yulia Tarrant-Hill

### **PERFORMANCE ASSEMBLY NEXT WEEK**

Our term one performance assembly is next week – Friday 8 April at 1.45pm. Children are invited to audition on Wednesday 6 April in the hall, at lunchtime. These assemblies give our children the chance to perform, sing, dance, tell jokes, act, play instruments etc.

### **TELEPHONE TREE**

We sent a note home last week asking for details for our telephone trees – these trees make it easier for parents to contact each other to arrange children's play dates etc. If you want to be included in your class telephone tree please return the slip as soon as possible or contact the office for another one, or check on the website under newsletter option.



**WOOD NEEDED!**

The HVS kids love building forts and bases around the school field during lunch breaks. I see this as a good thing as it encourages creativity, co-operation and imaginative play. Up until now, the building resources (i.e. Caretaker Dave’s wood off-cuts) have been limited. While this usually isn’t an issue, it does sometimes lead to a bit of conflict, especially when building is extra popular or the children are tired. When this happens I tend to encourage the children to do other things. One way to solve this would be to have more wood and a fair system for sharing/using it. If you have any wood off-cuts at home that the children could use for building, it would be great if you could drop them off at school (on the deck outside the library) – or I could call round and pick them up with my station wagon. Any wood would need to be untreated, between ½ m and 1 m in length, in good condition, without nails. Thanks!  
(principal@houghton.school.nz)

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**BANGERS AND MATHS PART 2 – THURSDAY- 7 APRIL 5.30pm**

Next Thursday we will be holding our second ‘Bangers and Maths’ parent evening. Teachers will be introducing more maths games that you can play at home with your children. The programme is....

5.30pm	free sausages!
6pm	welcome to parents (hall); children go to library (stories or dvd)
6.10pm	parents play maths games in classrooms
7.10pm	finish

Participants will receive a pack of games to use at home. We are looking for volunteers to help with the following:

- picking up sausages and bread
- cooking and serving sausages
- photocopying game packs early next week

Please phone or email the school office if you are able to assist.

So that we know how many sausages to buy and how many game packs to make up, we need to know who’s coming. Please fill out and return the form below and return it to school; or email admin@houghton.school.nz or phone 939 3318 (by Monday).

**PLEASE PUT YOGHURT IN CONTAINERS**

Yoghurt is a tasty and nutritious food, but it makes a mess of the inside of our rubbish bins. Instead of just emptying the bins, Caretaker Dave regularly has to clean maggots out of the bins that have had yoghurt pottles put in them. I am requesting that any yoghurt that comes to school is put in a reusable container that can be brought back home by your child. Your support with this is much appreciated.

**GOOD LUCK ADELE and WELCOME BACK GILLIAN**

We wish teacher Adele Murray all the best as she starts her parental leave next week. While we will all miss her, we’re sure that she and partner Rob will be awesome parents and we look forward to meeting Murray junior! We’re pleased that Gillian Menaker will be joining us again. Gillian will be working in R7 (Mahoe) for the remainder of the year.

Enjoy the sunny weekend. Ka kite kua nei.

*Barry Schon*

**Principal/Tumuaki**

**A BIG WELCOME IN HARAKEKE TO:**  
☺ Santana Rose Green

**The Great Postcard Project** 

The great “Postcard Project” is happening again – students at HVS will be writing and sending postcards to other schools around Wellington telling them about all the great things we do for the HVS environment. Stamps for postcards cost 60¢. If you can donate a stamp of 60¢ to the cause that would be great! Place donations in the box outside the office. Thanks Katie.

# Home & School

## **YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS - GETTING READY FOR CAR BOOT SALE**

The excitement is building as kids sort out their toys and come up with creative ideas about what to sell from their car boot. You can come as a family with your car boot (\$15 a car) and go all out or kids can sell their things for free on a small towel – they must have adult supervision.



What: Car Boot Sale

When: Sunday April 10th, 10am - 1pm

Where: Houghton Valley School

Cost: \$15 a car boot



### **TELL YOUR FRIENDS**

Our Car Boot Sale is open to everyone or the South Coast and beyond. If you know anyone who has lots of junk tell them to call Sarah on 387 2227 or email [caroline.sarah@xtra.co.nz](mailto:caroline.sarah@xtra.co.nz) or just turn up before 9.30am on Sunday 10 April.

### **A GREAT FAMILY EVENT**

Next week's activity is dropping flyers in neighbourhood mailboxes. If you can help pick up some flyers from Denise in the office.

### **HELP!**

At the moment we only have one person to cook sausages & man(woman) the food & drinks stall...we need at least 3 more people to be able to do it! Please contact Sarah or Vanya ASAP.

# Home & School Continued.....

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**Burgers**...I can almost smell 'em! Now all we need are parent helpers to cook them. Please check your diaries and sign up on the sheet near the office. The job comes with burn by burn instructions and really is quite fun.

The next Home & School meeting will be what's called a "special meeting" as we still need to get 2010's financial reviewed & passed, nominate a chairperson and look at some of our existing rules. Please come if you have time as we need a quorum. That's on **Tuesday 5th April at 7.30pm** in the staffroom.

If anyone has any suggestions or queries, give me a tinkle on 021 911 307 or email: [vanya.schoeler@paradise.net.nz](mailto:vanya.schoeler@paradise.net.nz)

## TERM DATES

Tues 5 April	- Home and School Special Meeting 7:30pm
Wed 6 April	- puppet show
Thu 7 April	- maths hour for parents 5:30pm to 7.10pm
Fri 8 April	- performance assembly 1.45pm
Sun 10 April	- Car Boot Sale
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



## Community Notices

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### International Dance Day – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011

Free dance workshops at Te Whaea: National Dance & Drama Centre Newtown from 11am-3pm. For more information visit [idanceday.blogspot.com](http://idanceday.blogspot.com).

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**School Contact Details:** Phone: 939-3318 Fax: 939-3317 Email: [admin@houghton.school.nz](mailto:admin@houghton.school.nz)  
Website: [www.houghton.school.nz](http://www.houghton.school.nz) Principal Email: [principal@houghton.school.nz](mailto:principal@houghton.school.nz)



## **BANGERS and MATHS - Thursday 7 April 5:30pm**

There will be \_\_\_\_\_ adults and \_\_\_\_\_ children attending Bangers and Maths on Thursday 7 April.

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

tick if vegetarian

Please return this by **MONDAY 4 April.**

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