



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, 5th May 2011

Week 1 of Term 2

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. Welcome back to term 2! We've had a great start, despite the weather, and we are looking forward to lots of learning and fun at school this term. Major events include our charter review, children's art exhibition and the children's disco. I hope your holidays went well and that you and your whanau enjoyed time together. Each holidays our teachers gather on the last day for training. This time we worked on improving our understanding of the teaching of proportions and ratios. It was very interesting!

NEW ATTENDANCE SYSTEM

This term we have changed our way of recording children's attendance. We have replaced our antiquated paper rolls with an on-line electronic version. This new system is more efficient and allows easy analysis of absence and lateness trends. Teachers check attendance and record any absences soon after the 9am bell, with the office then following up any unexplained absences with a phone call. To avoid unnecessary phone calls, any late children should always go to the office first to let Denise or I know that they have arrived at school. Thanks.

CHARTER REVIEW 2011 (part 1)

This term the Board of Trustees is looking forward to working with parents, staff and children to renew the school's charter.

What is the purpose of the charter?

The charter is a Houghton Valley School's guiding document. It expresses the school's vision, values and big picture goals. It shows others what is important to us here at HVS.

How does it drive what we do at our school?

The current charter has seven strategic goals. These are closely related to teaching, learning and everyday experiences here at HVS. They also form the basis of the principal's reporting to the Board of Trustees.

Why renew the charter?

The current charter was written in 2006. The Board of Trustees has decided it's time to have a fresh look at things. They see reviewing the charter as being a way of finding out what's important to you, our school's community and staff.

How will the Board of Trustees consult with its community?

Each week I will be including charter related background information in the newsletter. This will be followed by a whanau hui for Maori parents on Wednesday 1 June; meetings with teachers, support staff and children; and a meeting for all parents on 8 June.

View the current charter on the school's website www.houghton.school.nz in the 'Resources for Parents and Teachers' section.

WELCOME BACK JILL

We are pleased to welcome Jill Holmstead to our teaching team. Jill worked as our new entrant teacher during 2010 and it's great to have her back permanently.



WELL DONE ADELE MURRAY

Adele's son, Caleb, was born during the holidays. Congratulations to Adele and Rob! We know they will be fantastic parents.

SPECIALIST ART TEACHER

This term Caroline McGlinchy will be working with our teachers and classes on a variety of art projects. We are very pleased to have her working with us and we thank the Home and School Team for funding this initiative.

DIVIDERS NEEDED

We are currently planning a whole school art exhibition for the end of the term. We envisage the hall being set up as the HVS art gallery and are currently looking for stand up dividers/display boards to use to display our children's artworks. If you know where we could borrow or hire these from, please contact me - principal@houghton.school.nz

YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP TEAM Term One

Last term's year 6 leadership team organised a trip, a coin trail for Christchurch, lunchtime football for juniors and t-ball with room 2. They also supervised the flying fox at lunchtime. I would like to thank them for their contribution to running our great school.



Term One Year 6 Leaders

TERM DATES

I will put a list of term dates on the website soon.

Have a good week and well done to the NZ Breakers basketball team!

Barry Schon

Principal/Tumuaki

**A BIG WELCOME in POHUTUKAWA to: ☺ Lola Crocker
plus ☺ Isaya Beri-Timo in Ti Kouka**

Author Visit – Juliette MacIver



On Thursday, 12 May at 9.30am Juliette MacIver, author of "Marmaduke Duck and the marmalade jam", a Picture Book finalist in the NZ Post Children's Book Awards, will visit school to talk with students in Years 2 & 3. The book will be on sale, and Juliette is happy to sign any copies that children bring along. Parents are also welcome to attend. Thanks to the Children's Bookshop Kilbirnie for this great opportunity. NZ Post winners will be announced on 18 May. Joanna, Librarian



Wrap it Up Sushi

Thanks to all of those who bought Sushi from Wrap it Up last term. It's been a great success and we're looking forward to continuing it this term. Five percent of sushi sales are donated back to the school and last term this equated to just over \$90.18 for Houghton Valley School. Thanks for your ongoing custom. Any queries call – Jane & Rachel on 022081 0781

For pre-pay orders for the whole term email: wrapitupsushi@gmail.com

Reminder: Orders in by Wednesday 9am – Sushi delivered Thursday 12:30pm

Senior Swimming

The seniors – Ngaio (Rm 8), Ti Kouka (Rm 7) and Harakeke (Rm 5) will be swimming every Tuesday of this term (except 21/6). Please ensure your child brings their togs each week, if they are unable to swim please send a note to the class teacher. The cost is \$55 for the lessons, bus and pool entry. If you have not paid please send in the money by cash/chq or internet banking. The Junior school will be swimming in Term 3.

Houghton Valley School After School Care Supervisor (Part-Time)

We are looking for a responsible person who has good rapport with children. This position is for the primary school terms only 2:30pm – 5:45pm weekdays. Starting later in the term.

Phone Denise Forrester – 939-3318 or email: admin@houghton.school.nz

Home & School News

New Chair

Jane Dunbier (Leo's mum) has put her hand up to be Chair of Home and School for this term. Thanks Jane! Thanks again to Vanya for doing such a great job for the last 4 terms.

Next meeting: The next Home and School meeting is next Tuesday - 10th May, 7.30pm in the staffroom. Everybody is welcome - the more the merrier! It has been great seeing all the new faces at the last few meetings. If you are free on Tuesday, come and enjoy some wine and nibbles and get to know other parents and hear about what is happening at school and what social and fundraising events are being planned.



BURGERS

Burgers start this Friday lunchtime! **\$2.50 each**. Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to help out, nearly all the weeks are taken! For our newer families, we offer burgers in the two winter terms so children have the option of having something fresh & warm at lunchtime. To place your burger order, line-up outside the library before school with your money.



\$2.50 Healthy BBQ Burgers - this Friday \$2.50



Rainforest Opening Last Term





Community Notices

Artrageous Kids



Fun – Expression – Creativity - Exploration and Freedom. Our sessions are fun and exciting we will be exploring many media, for example 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 and building self esteem. Art and creativity sessions 3.30 – 5pm - Thursday afternoons, Term 2 - Houghton Valley School – Nikau Room 3. 8 weeks, Starting 12th May finishing on 30th June. Cost is \$120. Places are limited to 10 kids. To reserve a place and find out more. Contact Caroline on 389 3534 or Aleksandra on 971 5179 or email us at artrageouskids@gmail.com

Kelly Sport



Kelly Sports is back this term with even more fun! This term we are offering Autumn Antics a 10 week multisport programme featuring rippa rugby, football, t-ball, netball and fitness fun. We run fun exercises, drills and games to improve co-ordination confidence and spatial awareness. It's a great way to try new things or improve old skills. Classes run Fridays 3-4pm starting in week 1, (wk bg 2nd May). There are still a few places but space is limited so get in now. To enrol, email adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz, check out the website www.ksports.co.nz, or call the office on 04 972 7201.

All Star Cheerleaders



We have recreational classes that are available to anyone no matter their age; shape or size and you don't need to have any previous experience!! If your child would like to come along for a FREE trial lesson and see what the sport of cheerleading is all about, please call the office on 0800 cheerleader (0800 243375) or email: office@allstarcheerleaders.co.nz to find out when classes are!! Term Begins: 9th May (Free trials are any time that classes are held.) Classes are held at the National Dance & Drama Centre, 11 Hutchinson St, Newtown. We hope to have you along soon!

Ballet - Hip Hop - Jazz Classes – Instep Dance Studio

Instep Dance Studio are based in Houghton Valley, with classes available in Lyall Bay and Island Bay also. Now taking enrolments for term two for the following classes: 3 year Ballet, 4 year Ballet, 5 year Ballet, 6 year Ballet. All ages Hip Hop from 5 years to 13 years. 6 year Jazz. All inquiries to Lesley or Matt 973 7837.