



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, 16th September 2010

Week 9 of Term 3

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. The great turnout for last weekend's working bee once again made me feel extremely fortunate to be working in a school with such a high level of parent support. Despite the wet weather we managed to make a good start with building a storage shed, repairing the sandpit, improving our compost system, as well as many other things. My thanks go to Caretaker Dave and all of the parents who gave up time to assist us. Dave is keen to carry on this Sunday, for those who are able to spare an hour or two – please see the note below.

WORKING BEE Part 2

Caretaker Dave will be at school on Sunday, 19 September from 11am to continue building the shed and tidying the school grounds. All help appreciated. I will leave a message on the school phone if the weather is wet or marginal. Ph 9393318



THANKS TO COACHES

In last week's assembly I had the pleasure of presenting certificates to some of the school's netball teams. Our school is very lucky to have had 4 netball teams on court each weekend. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the coaches of these teams – Adele Murray, Ruth Morrish, Kirstie Cleary, Joanna Tennent, Tanea Chapman, Susan Langston, Liz Sayers, Catherine Beard; and the efforts of our umpires along with the co-ordinator role that Denise Forrester carried out with help from Stephanie Houpt. We appreciate your work! Thanks also to Mairanga White, coach of our miniball team and to other parents who help keep the HVS children involved in sport by coaching/managing club teams each Saturday or turning up to cheer them on. You do a great job!

CONSERVATION WEEK CLEAN UP

We had a good group of parents and children at Tuesday's Conservation Week forest track clean up. Under the direction of Katie Grinsted we gather a truckload of rubbish from the hillside above the HVS rainforest. Tino pai!



PERFORMANCE ASSEMBLY TOMORROW 9.30am

This term's performance assembly is tomorrow, Friday 17 Sept at 9.30am. This assembly gives our children the opportunity to share their talents with the rest of the school. My thanks go to all of the children who auditioned – if you didn't make it into the performance assembly this time please keep practising – we'd be keen to see you up there in the future.

INTERZONE SWIMMING RESULTS

Congratulations to the HVS children who represented our Southern Zone schools at the interzone swimming competition last week. Special mention goes to..

- Macy Burns – first placings in year 5 breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle
- Keeti Rawiri – second in year 4 freestyle
- Tobey Keddy – second in year 5 freestyle
- Sampson Mollan – third in year 5 backstroke

HOMEWORK SURVEY RETURNS – thank you

We have had a good response to our homework survey, with 107 responses from our 156 families. Over the next few weeks we will process the replies and summarise the feedback. Thanks for taking the time to share your ideas and points of view.

ICAS RESULTS

Congratulations to all of the children who entered the ICAS science and writing competitions. In these competitions children essentially 'sit an exam'.

'Tu meke' to those who achieved special awards in ICAS science:

Distinction Daisy Abraham, Cassandra Bahr, Romy Tennent, Sampson Mollan, Tristan Harris

Credit Emma Bridges, Macy Burns, Rachel Gibson, Imogen Kilioni, Jackie Lamb, Samantha Graham, Kate Pickard

We were rapt to achieve the following awards in the ICAS writing competition. They are the best results we have had in the last 5 years for any ICAS competition:

High Distinction Jackie Lamb, Imogen Kilioni, Daisy Abraham

Distinction Emma Bridges, Chenoa Vorster, Tom Stanton-Barnett, Molly Dodds, Jennifer Birse, Nina Clearly, Romy Tennent

Credit Rachel Gibson, Teal Missen, Ruby Prescott-Mason



MINUTES on WEBSITE

The minutes of Board of Trustees meetings and Home and School Team meetings are now on our school's website. The Board of Trustees' meeting schedule is also there, and meeting agendas will be added before each meeting. To view this go to www.houghton.school.nz and click on 'our people'.

JUNIOR WEARABLE ARTS TONIGHT!

Our 6 junior syndicate classes have been busy preparing and practising for their 'World of Wearable Arts' performance 5.30pm -6:30pm in our school hall. All families are invited and we're looking forward to an entertaining show. See you there!

Thanks for a great week.

Barry Schon

Principal/Tumuaki

Yummy Apples Stickers

Every year we collect stickers from Yummy brand apples which we redeem for sports gear. Bagged Yummy apples have a label on the bag which can be cut off and returned to school. Each bag label is worth 10 individual stickers. Stickers and labels need to be into school by Monday 20th September 2010 for collation.



Building the hall storage shed



Improving the compost system

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

HVS Fair 2010 Notices

Volunteers needed:

Yay - we now have coordinators for:

- the Silent Auction - Caroline McGlinchy (Billy's mum) and Sarah Duncan (Cathryn's mum)
- Games - Jane Dunbier and Bruce Hay-Chapman (Angus and Leo's parents)

BUT we still need people to go on stalls etc! Thank you to all of those who have hurried to sign up already - much appreciated. Look out for the orange sign up sheets in your child's classroom or on the noticeboard outside Denise's office. Don't forget **we need at least 130 people** to make the Fair work... so don't be shy - sign up and be part of this fantastic community event.



Donations needed:

- Donations of good quality clothes, books, toys can be left on the Room 4 deck. To make it easier for Vanya who is organising the shed, please bag them up separately - thank you!

- No White Elephant stall this year, but we still need crockery for the china smash stall, so if you have any chipped or cracked plates, cups etc, please bring them in.

- **LEMONS PLEASE** - What we need is lots of lemons for the great homemade lemonade stall.... So if you have a supply of lemons or would like to help make some lemonade, let Pippa know. It's easy and fun and we have the recipe! Contact Pippa Lee on 971 7299 or piptim@clear.net.nz

Questions about the Fair, offers of help etc - Contact Sarah FQ on 387 2799; 0274 399 090 or doddsfq@paradise.net.nz



Silent Auction at the School fair

We know there are many seriously talented and or well connected HVS parents out there. We are beginning to gather donations for the auction. Please consider whether YOU could donate something. Things that sell particularly well are, Original art works of painting sculpture photos etc, interesting artifacts, gastronomic experiences and the list goes onPlease if you feel you might have something suitable or even unsuitable to offer. Please contact Caroline McGlinchy (Billy's Mum) on 389 3534 or Sarah Duncan (Cathryn's Mum) on 387 7345 You can also find us most afternoons outside Mahoe classroom.



Craft Stall

Although there is **NO white elephant** stall this year, if you have any fabulous retro, vintage (or just fabulous) things that you would like to donate and think will sell well – PLEASE DO. Examples could be great lamps / lampshades, lovely old crockery, old linen – eg tablecloths, napkins, embroidery etc - picture frames, mirrors, tapestries, vases etc. We can put these things in with the craft stall or the art auction.

You can put any of these items in the shed or if you would like to check, please call Anne (971 3817) or Vicky (383 5560) – coordinators for the craft stall.



Rubbish from our Conservation Week forest clean up

Community Notices

ART OF THIS WORLD Art Education



Two day holiday workshop. Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th of September. We will cover: - Creating your own kowhaiwhai pattern. Looking at symbols and using the stylized methods of Reuben Paterson - Layered art. Understanding transparency, and planning to create your own masterpiece by building up and layering - Do you have a special book to use for your creative thoughts? We will look at the art of book binding, and create our own book - Revisit the fundamental skills of observational drawing. This time we will look at the eye. 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 1789153. brosenberg@ihug.co.nz

Houghton Valley Community Garden



Locals continue to meet every Sunday at 2pm to garden. The land is now pretty much cleared, ready for you to establish a family plot or help plant out the communal area. Donations of vegetable and fruit seedlings, seeds and plants gratefully received - just bring them to the school and Dave will happily take care of them.

Visiting Author – Andy Griffiths



Andy Griffiths, the Australian author of the "Just" series, and many other humorous books for children, will be at The Children's Bookshop, Kilbirnie Plaza on Tuesday October 19th from 4pm to 4.30 pm to meet his readers and to sign books. There is no charge, and all are welcome. Andy will also be speaking the same evening at Evans Bay Intermediate School Hall at 6pm. Tickets for this are \$5 each, (adults and children) with proceeds going to the Pakistan Flood Relief Fund, and are available from The Children's Bookshop, phone 3873905 or email books@thechildrensbookshop.co.nz. Numbers for this event will be limited and will sell out fast, so booking is recommended.

Commonsense Organic

On Saturday 18th September Commonsense Organics Kilbirnie are holding a Community Support Day for Lyall Bay Kindergarten. This means they will donate 5% of their net takings that day to Lyall Bay Kindergarten...and donate 5% of what you spend toward the HVS Organic Garden Project.



YOUR HELP NEEDED FOR CONSERVATION! - Blue cod tagging study

From September 2010 I will be conducting a tagging study to determine the movement patterns of blue cod at several sites along the Wellington south coast. I will be using standard T-bar anchor tags that will be inserted in the base of the dorsal fin. In order to recover the tags and also the recovery information (site where the fish was captured) I would really appreciate if you would contact me if you catch a tagged fish. Each tag has been marked with a unique number (between 0001-1200) and also with my name and contact details. If you catch a tagged fish please call the number on the tag. If there is no answer please leave a message and I will get back to you.

Daniela Diaz Guisado
PhD Candidate - School of Biological Sciences - Victoria University of Wellington - PO Box 600 Wellington 6140 - Ph. 4709255 / 021021263.

Otari-Wilton's Bush Annual Open Day

I would like to invite you all to come and explore beautiful Otari-Wilton's Bush this Saturday, 18th September, at our annual Open Day. The highlight for adults is usually the plant sale, and this year there will be heaps of great activities for children, too. Among other things, there will be a Pacific Spring Children's Trail running throughout the day (9am - 3 pm - with prizes!), and a Create-a-Weta-Motel workshop at 11 a.m. (make and take home your very own weta motel!). Both of these will be run by the one and only Tiff Stewart. Also there will be the usual delicious baking, coffee, and brilliant guided walks to help you explore the wonderful forest. Looking forward to seeing some of you there, Tiff!

