



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 March 2009

Week 5 of Term 1

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Tēnā koutou katoa. It was great to see such a big turnout for the parent/teacher conferences this week. We see the home-school connection as being a key part of our work with your children and appreciate the effort made to meet with teachers. If you haven't been able to meet with your child's teacher yet, please contact them (via the office or email) to arrange a time. Thank you to staff, children and whanau for making last Friday's whole school trip to Lyall Bay such a success. The water was rather refreshing and the sandcastles were works of art!

PARENT HELP PAMPHLET

At the parent/teacher conferences you should have been given a pamphlet called 'We Want You To Be Part Of our School 2009'. The purpose of this is for us to assemble a database of people in our community who may be able to share skills or interests with our students, and in doing so, add richness to our classroom learning. Having you in the school also strengthens the home/school connection. So if you have any skills, jobs, hobbies or interests that you may be willing to share with our children some time in the future, please let us know by filling out the form and returning it to the office. Spare copies of the pamphlet are available in the office foyer. Much appreciated.

ELECTIVES

We plan to run an electives programme next term for children from rooms 1, 2, 3 and 7. A specific notice about this will come home this week.



TURNING IN NEIGHBOUR'S DRIVEWAY

Recently one of our children was nearly hit by a car that had turned into the neighbour's driveway next to the bus stop. Please do not use this driveway as a place to drop off your children as there tends to be a stream of children walking along the footpath to school and they may be difficult to see. Thanks.

CROSS COUNTRY

We look forward to next week's cross country races on Wednesday 11th March.



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50

WORD STORMERS (\$9)

We have additional copies of our 'Word Stormer' spell checker books for sale. We have found these to be easy-to-use tools for editing spelling. Children from year 3 upwards have copies in their classrooms, but a copy at home may also be handy. They are available from the office for \$9.00.

WORKING BEE

Grounds tidy up

Sunday 15 March, from 1pm – 5pm (then barbecue)

(Postponement Sunday 22 March)



This is a great opportunity to get some exercise, meet other parents and help make the school look its best. Last May we had a very successful working bee. One suggestion at the time was to have the next working bee in summer, and give families the opportunity to bring food stay and for a barbecue afterwards. So that's what we plan to do!

All offers of help accepted and appreciated

Even if you can't stay the whole time, you may be able to give us an hour's labour. To help us run the working bee efficiently, please email admin@houghton.school.nz or phone Denise on 9393318 to confirm that you will be helping out on the day. Thanks.

We will also need gas barbecues for cooking. If you are able to bring one along, please let us know.

HVS KC Card!

- Managing Self
- Thinking
- Participating and Contributing

'KC cards' are used to encourage children to use skills that are part of the 'key competencies' in our new NZ Curriculum. If a child receives one of these cards, they go in the draw to win a prize at assembly. The cards are a vehicle for gaining an understanding of actions that promote self management, thinking and participation. We feel that these are essential citizenship skills.

Managing self may include...

- Taking turns
- Being reliable
- Working as part of a group
- Setting and striving for personal goals
- Having a 'can do' attitude

Thinking may include...

- Asking questions
- Suggesting alternatives
- Using past experience to help learn new things
- Using 'thinking tools'
- Problem solving
- Making sensible decisions

Participating and contributing may include...

- Taking a role in a group
- Sharing ideas and opinions
- Doing jobs around the school
- Caring for the environment
- Sharing learning with those beyond our school

Further info about the key competencies from the new NZ Curriculum can be found on-line:
http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/the_new_zealand_curriculum/key_competencies

Have a good week. Ka kite a kua nei.

BARRY SCHON

Principal/Tumuaki

A BIG WELCOME IN POHUTUKAWA TO:

☺ Ella Wood

☺ Zachary Taylor

☺ Leo Alagh

Houghton Valley School Netball

Meeting on Monday, 9th March at 3:10pm



If you have a Year 4, 5, or 6 child interested in playing netball on Saturdays at Evans Bay Intermediate in Term 2 & 3. You are invited to a Netball info meeting on Monday, 9th March at 3:10pm in the school hall to discuss netball players, teams, coaching, managing and umpires for this year.

We need to organise teams by Monday 16th March 2009. We already have volunteer coaches for a Year 6 and a Year 5 team. So please come along or email admin@houghton.school.nz if you wish to help and are unable to attend meeting. Thanks. Denise

Home & School



Food Funanza - Friday 27 March – your help needed!

Can you make fried rice, Thai or Malaysian-style noodles or curry? If yes, we'd love it if you could make some for the upcoming Food Funanza.

Don't feel like doing the cooking but want to be part of the scene on the night? Well, we need people to be on the stalls and sell the food, so step on up!



Lemons – Has anyone got lemons that they could donate for the home-made lemonade for the Food Funanza?
Contact Sarah FQ on 387 2799 or doddsfq@paradise.net.nz

DATES FOR THIS TERM



10 March – Junior syndicate visits Capital E Room 1,7, 2,3 9- 12:45pm	10 March – Matui/Somes Island Trip for Room 4,5 & 6 9:15am -2:30pm
11 March – Houghton Valley School Cross Country 11-12:30pm	12 March – HVS Cross Country postponement date
15 March Sunday – Working Bee 1-5pm	
17 March – Southern Zone Cross Country	19 March – Southern Zone Cross Country postponement date
23 March – Year 6 to sports at Westpac Stadium	25 March – Board of Trustees, 7.30pm, staffroom
27th March – Friday – Food Funanza	
2 April – Wheels Day – bring bikes, roller blades, skateboards, uincycles, scooters	9 April – Performance assembly
9 April – Last Day Term 1	27 th April – First Day Term 2



Community News

COMPREHENSIVE AND REFRESHER FIRST AID COURSE

COMING UP at Houghton Valley Playcentre

Houghton Valley Playcentre has got Kate Nickson at First Aid Consultant coming in for 4 Mondays to run a First Aid course for anyone who is keen. The dates are: Monday the 16th, 23rd, 30th of March and the 6th April. Time is from 7pm to approx. 10pm. Venue: Houghton Valley School Hall - Cost: \$98.00 plus GST for the full Comprehensive course. If your current First Aid Certificate has expired no more than three months ago, you may then be able to do a 'Refresher' course for the last two sessions - 30th March and the 6th April. Please let Rekha(Ravi/Satish) mum know if your keen or e-mail me on rcussins@slingshot.co.nz or ring me on 3834909.

Harbour City Junior Hockey Club Registration Day



Sunday 22nd March 2.30pm – 4.30pm National Hockey Stadium Mt Albert Road Newtown
We warmly welcome all returning and new players. Players from the senior club and some of our junior coaches will be on the turf from 3pm – 4pm to give you a run around. If you have never played hockey before then come along and give it a go! (Sticks will be available to borrow) For more information on junior hockey at Harbour City check out our website www.harbourcityhockey.org.nz or call Prue Isaacs (04) 973 5852.

School Trip to the Beach



Pictures from last week's trip to Lyall Bay. We enjoyed walking down the steps, swimming and making sand sculptures. What an awesome day we had! Tu meke!