

DISCUSSION with CHILDREN re SCHOOL
For CHARTER REVIEW
June 2011

Barry Schon, Principal, met with a selection of 20 year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children and lead a discussion, centred round the following questions:

1) What makes a good teacher?

- pays attention to everyone
- is strict when he or she needs to be
- not too strict
- a bit strict
- teaches useful stuff
- doesn't shout all of the time
- smart – good at maths, reading, spelling, writing
- creative
- sporty
- kind
- knows how to make things fun
- likes the outdoors
- nice
- helpful
- active
- be able to read
- needs a qualification
- common sense
- fun to be with
- humorous
- reliable
- relaxed
- brainy
- friendly
- knows what to do

2) What makes a good student?

- a listener and a thinker
- doesn't play around
- isn't distracting
- knows what to ignore
- doesn't lie/tells truth
- tells a new teacher if they do something wrong
- helpful
- hands up to talk
- doesn't interrupt
- focussed
- good attitude
- not smart to the teacher
- smart
- gives things a go
- loyal
- tries hard to learn
- nice kind
- has certain strengths
- creative
- funny
- loyal
- doesn't give up
- trustworthy

3) What should you learn at school?

- the things you need to improve
- how to do PE/sport
- history
- about countries
- learn the more important subjects before others
- maths
- manners
- topics e.g. the body
- grammar
- English
- science
- writing

- manners
- reading
- art
- enterprise
- the environment
- to be flexible
- working stuff out
- strategies
- handwriting

4) What could we do better or improve at Houghton Valley School?

- improve on littering and writing naughty notes
- sharing
- listening
- have a pet day
- more fitness
- movie day at end of term
- 14 mediators
- longer morning teas
- more quiet
- more tidy around the school
- less distraction
- more PE
- more rooms
- water slide in each class
- an Ipad that's yours
- automatic doors
- Iphone each
- Ipod each
- brushes for each girl
- flat screens and MySky HDI
- security cameras and a machine gun
- children get to sit on seats in assembly
- more free time
- pogosticks
- art day more often
- pool

5) What job would you like to do one day?

- movie star
- comedian
- photographer
- actress
- vet
- pro swimmer
- writer
- Lego designer
- moviemaker
- famous dancer
- firefighter
- civil engineer in navy
- hairdresser
- electrician
- judge
- lawyer
- astronaut
- blacksmith
- singer
- architect
- famous
- awesome
- sailor
- deep sea diver
- horse rider
- farmer
- pilot
- guitarist
- netball player
- news broadcaster