Houghton Valley School

Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou

Newsletter

Thursday, 16th September 2021

Week 8 of Term 3

HVS Reminders

- Mon 20th September BOT Meeting 7pm
- Thurs 23rd September School Photos
- Fri 1st Oct Last Day of Term 3 2:55pm
- Mon 18th Oct First Day of Term 4
- Tues 25th Oct Teacher Only Day

Please bring a drink bottle for your child/ren.

Kia ora te whānau,

This week is Māori Language Week has been celebrated each year since 1975. September 14 and commemorates the presentation of the 1972 Māori language petition to parliament.

Kia kaha te reo Māori 'Kia kaha' is well understood in New Zealand English with its meaning of 'be strong'. We often talk about languages as if they are people – talking about language health, strength and revitalisation. So when we say 'Kia kaha te reo Māori' we're saying - 'Let's make the Māori language strong'



Level 4 Feedback Survey

After every Learning from Home (levels 3 and 4) we are keen to get feedback on what has worked, things that were challenging and suggestions for the future. We have a short survey that you can complete to assist us in our future planning.

Survey link

School Photos - 23rd September

We will have our annual photo session on *Thursday 23rd September*. Please find the information in the attachment. There will be class photo, individual photos and sibling photos. Unfortunately no pre-schoolers or parents this year due to Level 2 Covid unless there is a level change.

Year 6s

It's that time of year already and teachers are starting to fill in different information profiles about our tamariki to pass onto the intermediates in the area. If your child is NOT going to SWIS or EBIS, can you please let their teacher know and we can touch base with whichever school you are choosing to help with the transition. Many thanks. Charles

EBIS - Year 6 Students

Due to the restrictions at Alert Level 2 we are currently unable to reschedule our Open Evening. We will be looking at alternatives if the alert level restrictions continue to prevent us running an open evening. We have also made the difficult decision to cancel the enrolment interviews for 2021. There will still be the opportunity to have an interview with the classroom teacher at the start of 2022 before your child begins at Evans Bay Intermediate School.

If you do wish to make a time to talk to someone at the school we are still happy to have parents contact the school. Please do so by emailing office@ebis.school.nz

New Enrolments

We are in the process of planning our classes for 2022. If you have a child who will be turning 5 shortly, or in 2022, can you let us know. This information allows us to accurately plan our classes. You can email Denise - admin@houghton.school.nz



Learning at School

It has been an amazingly smooth and happy transition back to school for our tamariki last week on Thursday and Friday.

Monday's weather did nothing to deter our gorgeous tamariki from skipping through the gates and to be greeted by their wonderful classroom teachers receiving their smiling faces. It has been an absolute joy seeing the tamariki reconnect with their friends and getting back to some normality.

At the moment we are not able to have our whanau onsite so we thought we would show you what we have been doing here at school this week.

Reminder - Teacher Only Day Tuesday 25th October (Labour Weekend)

No reira, kia kaha ra, Ngā Mihi Nui,

Luana and the whole team at HVS

Āwhinatia ētahi atu - Help others *Kia atawhai* - Be Kind *Me toro ki ētahi atu* - Check-in on others



Did you know that Kibbits are a cross between a rabbit and a kitten? Well, they are very rare so you probably have never seen one in your life! Kibbits are mammals. The Kibbit is 40.5cm long. It has big ears, claws and fur. It comes in a variety of colours, the most common colour is white.

Pohutukawa has been writing Hybrid Animal reports. Izzie has created a 'Kibbit' - a kitten/rabbit!



Mernando - Messi Cherigrine - Cheetah x x Ronaldo by Max Peregrine Falcon by Kiaan

Koaleal – Koala x

The same

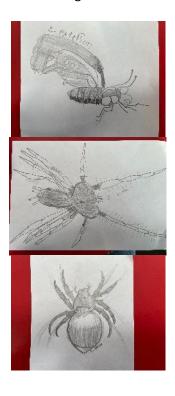
Legur - Lemur x
Seal by Hermione Tiger by Joe

Here are some more of Pohutukawa's Hybrid Animals.

Karaka has been working hard this week trying different experiments. We have started an experiment looking at how to grow crystals in a Jar. We also looked at how to model the process of a cloud with shaving foam, water and food colouring.



Ngaio have been artists and scientists! Have a look at our scientific drawings of insects



Beach Clean-ups are important because...

The locals want a clean beach that they can swim in. They don't want an ugly beach with lots of rubbish and barely any sea life.

Marine creatures need a healthy environment to live, because many eat the plastic and die. Sea life can't live in filthy waters or they might get caught in old nets. The plastic that is in the ocean is extremely high. And if it gets too high, most plants, animals and humans will die. There are 5 different clumps of rubbish in the ocean, which are as big as 3 times the size of France. These clumps are called gyres.

When plastic gets left in the sun and waves, it breaks into microplastics which small plankton eat, which get eaten by small fishes, which get eaten by large fishes until humans eats it and eats the micro-plastic!

By Renee - Rimu

We are having a beach clean-up this Saturday. At this school we think cleanups are important because we care about our sea life.

All our sea life is disappearing fast, with just one problem...plastic!

Plastic is a threat to our environment, all that waste people think just decomposes. It does, in about 1 thousand years! In that time, the plastic blows all that way from the landfill to our oceans.

In some garbage patches, there are around 80,000 tonnes of plastic. That could be twice the size of Texas or even three times the size of France.

Some sea life's diet is around 74% plastic. The plastic (including microplastic) get into plankton's or smaller fishes diet and these fish get eaten by bigger and bigger fish, until it appears on our dinner plate! Yuck!

By Te Maihi - Rimu

This week we are doing a beach clean-up. Do you like the beach? If you like the beach, you should help clean it up. You can do that by not using plastic.

If you use plastic, it could go into the sea by the wind. When it does go into the sea, the fish might eat it. If they don't eat the plastic, it will dissolve into micro-plastic over hundreds of years. When it eventually turns into micro-plastic, the little fish will eat it then the big fish eat the little fish. Then we will catch and eat the fish and the micro-plastics will be in our body and we may get sick!

By Otto I. - Rimu

Beach Clean-ups are important because it's good for fish and unique sea creatures. It's good for surface creatures (it's probably the best for them).

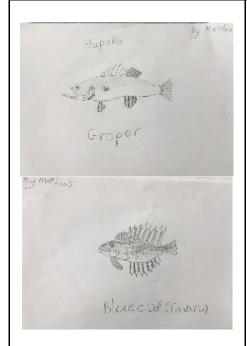
When supermarkets stopped using plastic bags, the most it probably did, was saving hundreds of turtles. Even though that isn't much, it still makes a difference.

By Felix - Rimu

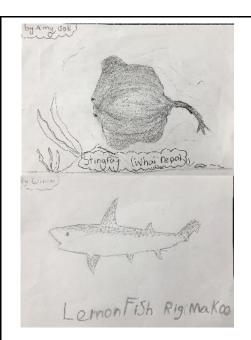




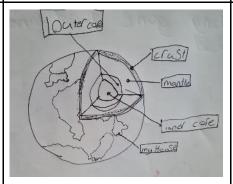
Ngaio have been artists and scientists! Have a look at our scientific drawings of insects















Continuing with our science focus, we have made plenty of new discoveries in Rata class.

We have been researching the different layers of the earth. We also have been looking at Continental Drift, which is all about Pangea, Laurasia and Gondwana.

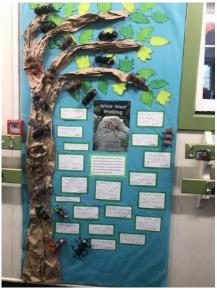
Finally, we have done a couple experiments and one of the highlights is using cabbage juice as an *indicator* to see if something is acidic or alkaline.

Ask your lovely students to explain it to you if you are unsure of anything:)





Harakeke has been learning about length. We sequenced photos of insects from biggest to smallest and measured their length using blocks.



For conservation week, Harakeke read the book "Weta Went Walking." The tamariki made a weta out of egg cartons, googly eyes and pipe cleaners. They also wrote about the weta in the story. Tino pai Harakeke!

Ngaio class have been looking at being scientists. We know that scientists follow a process, and that if the experiment is unsuccessful we can change something and try it again. We have been exploring ice and the different ways we can get string to stick to it. We had some good success!







Kowhai have been learning to read calendars. To help us, we decided to map out the terms of our year.





To get ourselves back into science, Kowhai has been completing some experiments, hypothesising what might happen and then concluding what happened in the end.



Nikau have worked together to create a beautiful bunch of flowers for our classroom walls.

Mahoe created butterfly wings by putting paint splodges on the paper, folding it half and then squashing it down. We were very excited to see what it would look like when we opened the paper!







Ti Kouka's back together mural was inspired by reading the picture book, Cork on the Ocean, by Mark Sommerset. We repurposed corks and Wynne's big piece of plastic from home to make our mural.



Ti Kouka

Ti Kouka These are some of our Te Reo Charts to help us with our learning.

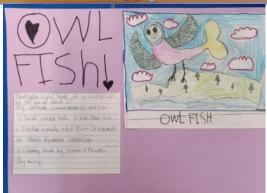
Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori 2021. Ti Kouka has been learning more about Te Reo. We are learning to write more kupu words that we want to use in our writing. We greet and farewell our friends

in Ti Kouka, using different phrases and try M3, Māori yoga.

Nikau have been creating their own Hybrid animals







HVS SPORT

Basketball

The remainder of the Term 3 season will now be played in Term 4. There is a discussion about a change in the evenings but nothing is confirmed yet. More information to follow but the good news is that basketball will be returning next spring. Woohoo!

Winter Netball

Mk Netball will be running for the next three Saturdays under strict guidelines. Sorry no spectators at the courts due to limited numbers. Enjoy your last three games.

YEAR 5/6 NOHO MARAE FUNDRAISER

We are fundraising for the Year 5/6 Noho Marae trip in Term 4. If any families would like to order some of the famous Jesse's Roti's – 10 roti for \$18 please email debtapp@gmail.com Deb Tapp with your order (Roti in subject line/child's name and Room number). Thanks Year 5/6 children please order as per your teachers instruction.

Pay direct to the HVS BOT bank account ASB 12-3481-0045763-00 with same reference ROTI and name. Orders close by Tuesday 28th September and deliver will be in early Term 4 2021 which starts on Monday 18th October 2021.



SOUTHCOAST CLEAN-UP

Kia ora koutou

Our annual Southcoast Clean-up is planned for Sat 18 Sept (pp Sun 19 Sept) and we can still go ahead with this at Level 2. Houghton Valley School has been hosting the Houghton Bay Beach site and hope many of our families come again this year. QR codes will be made so everyone can track the event, and on the beach we can socially distance ourselves. Please bring your own gardening gloves if you have them to prevent disposable gloves going into landfill. Looking forward to this wonderful community event. Ngā mih nui Jill Holmstead





HVS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Community, Connection, Contribution

Home and School - What's it all about?

Building our Community

Home and School is the HVS whānau association. Everyone is a part of Home and School. The purpose of Home and School is to build connections, improve communication and raise funds. Home and School organises fun events like the quiz, the fair, the school disco and more. Home and School also supports the whānau class reps to help grow a stronger, more connected school community. There are a couple of Home and School meetings each term where you can meet other parents, help to plan school events, decide how fundraising money will be spent and hear from the principal, teaching staff and the Board of Trustees about what's coming up at school. **Everyone is welcome!**

Contributing to our School

Home and School is a super-fundraising-machine. Each year the events organised by Home and School raise over \$30,000 to support our tamariki and improve the school environment. In the past Home and School has contributed to the school's annual fun day, school bikes, swings, year 6 leavers snapfish books, the flying fox, senior camp costs, sports equipment, school BBQ, kapa haka uniforms and more. Home and School gives the bulk of the fundraising money to the Board of Trustees so that the school can put this towards priority items that are not covered by the Ministry of Education funding. At our last meeting we increased this contribution to 85% of our annual fundraising. Home and School decides what to spend the remaining amount on.

What shall we spend our fundraising money on this year?

Home and School had a Zoom meeting at the end of lockdown. There were some great ideas about how Home and School could spend its fundraising money this year such as: ** contributing to the senior school's noho marae trip ** a mural and playground markings on the top court ** a new entrants' welcome pack ** a family-friendly social event ** friendship bench ** year 6 leavers books ... to name a few.

Come along to our next Home and School meeting in term 4 and help us make some decisions about what to support at school. Watch the newsletter for details. We'd love to see you there.



Early Term 4 - Home and School meeting - all welcome Friday 12 November - School Disco Sunday 28 November - school fair (finger's crossed for level 1)

HVS School Fair - Sunday 28th November



The fair is our biggest fundraiser, raising around \$30k each year! The event needs the support of our school community..particularly parents to make it all happen!

Please get in touch if you can help and if you are new to the school or haven't been involved with the fair before, I'd love to hear from you.

Help can range from sorting clothes, to erecting signage, making lemonade, helping with games... Thanks,

Sarah Wylie (Fair Co Ordinator & Mum to Hunter & Willow). 027 210 1925. hvsfair@gmail.com



EZLUNCH ORDERS

Orders for lunches — Thursday — Sushi and Friday — Pita Pit Please order online at ezlunch orders or go to ezlunch.co.nz



KELLY HOLIDAY PROGRAM & TEACHER ONLY DAY PROGRAM





BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz



COMMUNITY NEWS

Summer Cricket

Cricket enrolments are open, and our senses yearn for sun, green baize, and the sound of leather on willow! Registrations are now open through Brooklyn Junior Cricket Club, and games start Nov 6. This year- we hope to have a Houghton Valley year 3-4 team playing the soft ball version, and a year 5-6 team playing hard ball. \$85 for the season. All gear provided. Games are Saturday mornings.

The link is https://bjcc.co.nz/registration/

Any queries, please feel free to contact Tim Jefferies (William Jefferies Dad) 021458963, email t jefferies@yahoo.com

Wellington Harrier Children's Athletics Program

Our children's athletics club day starts Saturday 9th October, we meet at Newtown Park at 11.30 am. Registrations are open please click on the link below.

https://memberdesq.onesporttechnology.com/3217/reg/subs

New members are welcome to come along and give it a go.

For more information please contact:

Julie Richards juliemaerdy@yahoo.co.uk 0212959026

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Houghton Valley School Ph: 939-3318		

Website: <u>www.houghton.school.nz</u>

<u>Principal Email</u>: principal@houghton.school.nz

HVS Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/houghton.school.nz/
School Office Email: admin@houghton.school.nz

Healthline or COVID-19 Info - 0800 611 116

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Bee Healthy Dental Clinic • 0800 825 583

<u>Ezlunch.co.nz</u> • Thursdays • Sushi • Fridays • Pita Pit go online <u>www.ezlunch.co.nz</u> before 9am to order.

Kelly Club After School Care - www.kellyclub.co.nz Cell 022 010 9981

email houghtonvalley@kellyclub.co.nz

HVS School Fair ~ Sunday 28th November 2021