



AWAHOU SCHOOL

POHANGINA VALLEY.

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"To meet the educational needs of the Pohangina Valley community by fostering individual excellence in a dynamic and caring environment."

EXCELLENT LEARNING FOR A GLOBAL FUTURE

Week 2, Term 1, 2017

8 February, 2017

Respect Whakaute - Honesty Matatika - Effort Ngaki

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia Ora Awahou Community,
As normal, I only have one word to say really....WOW! Our kids have all come back so positive and focused and there is just an amazingly happy vibe around our school at present. Our new students have settled in quickly and it feels like they've been here for years already. I look forward to catching up with those of you I haven't seen (or met) yet this year at our 'Meet the Teacher' bbq evening tonight from 5.30. This is a great way for our community to mix and mingle, whilst also getting a clearer picture of our plans for the year.

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, we're implementing a lot of positive changes this year, all aimed at preparing our kids for the future world they will live in, and developing questioning and self-regulation skills, whilst also focusing on the important traits of being a 'good person' and having well formed personal philosophies and belief systems.. There's been a lot of focus globally of late on how we treat we each other as human beings, often sparked by the actions of one person, but we won't get into that! However, at the heart of it I truly believe that the majority of society are good people who want to help each other succeed. In school singing last week we started learning a new song – "Scare Away The Dark" by Passenger. The chorus says "Sing, sing at the top of your voice. Love without fear in your heart. Feel, feel like you still have a choice. If we all light up we can scare away the dark."

To me this was very relevant to us as a school and the approaches we are taking to focus on the needs of our students and community in a positive way that is beneficial to **our** values and beliefs. Personally, at times, I can get pretty down and dark about society and the way civilization seems to be heading, however I can tell you this – it only takes one day back out at school with our amazing kids to make me realise hope is far from lost! *Arohanui, Matt Schmidt – Principal*



After School Discovery rocking!

Virtue of the week:

TOLERANCE

To be tolerant is to accept differences. You don't expect others to think, look, speak or act just like you. Tolerance is being free of prejudice, knowing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes and dreams.

"We may have come here on different ships, but we're all in the same boat."

Dr Martin Luther King Jr

SCHOOL NOTICES

Meet the Teacher Evening

Don't forget our Meet the Teacher bbq and community get together tonight. Doors open at 5.15pm, hear from the staff from 5.30pm – 6.10pm and then we'll crank the barby and have a decent catch up with everybody!

After School Programme

Our After School Discovery Learning programme is in full swing. If you're interested in utilising this opportunity to fit in with your busy lifestyles, contact the school asap for an enrolment form. Casual bookings are fine, just ring us before 2.30 on the day.

Building update

The asbestos is a distant memory and the builders are back on site hammering and sawing away, much to the excitement of many small eyes trying to sneak peeks through the window. We'll let you know when it's all finished so you can come and have a look. We also plan to have an official opening of the new space. We'll keep you posted!

Welcome Louise!

A slight correction from last week's newsletter. Louise Bowe has taken on the cleaning position, alongside working in the After School Programme. Louise is already doing a wonderful job of keeping our learning spaces immaculate each day. Welcome aboard!

P4C

One of our exciting new developments we will be implementing this year is P4C, or "Philosophy For Children". This is a programme that taps children's natural curiosity and sense of wonder and is dedicated to empowering them to make sense of themselves, and the world around them, through philosophical inquiry. You'll hear more soon, but check out www.p4c.org.nz for more information.

Congratulations Miss Barr

In what seems to have become Pohangina's worst kept secret, I am very excited to let you know that Miss Barr is doing her bit for future enrolments at our school by pre-booking a 5 year old to start in 2022....I'll let you wait for the penny to drop on this post, but I'm sure you'll join me in congratulating Toni on this fantastic news!

Of course, this means there will be some temporary changes to our staff for some of Term 2 and all of Term 3. Watch this space for further updates.

Litterless Lunchboxes

A friendly reminder that any non-food waste created from lunches (wrappers, containers, plastic wrap etc) is to come home in children's lunchboxes please.

LOOKING AHEAD



Wednesday February 8th – Meet the teacher evening at school. 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Thursday February 9th – Technology @ Monrad Intermediate (Y7/8 students)

Friday February 17th – Bush School

Wednesday March 1st – HPV vaccinations (Year 8 students)

Friday March 3rd / 17th / 24th / 31st – Bush School

Thursday March 2 – Awahou Swimming Sports

Wednesday March 8 – Junior Tabloids (Mt Biggs)

Friday March 10 – Kainui Senior Swimming Sports (Lido)

Tuesday March 21 – Weetbix Tryathlon

Friday April 7 – Year 8 Art Extension (Newbury)

Thursday April 13th – Last day of term

Friday April 14th – Good Friday

STUDENT ACHIEVERS



Congratulations to:

Miss Edmond: Alfie Price, for great contributions, active thinking and positive role modelling

Miss Barr: Evie Price, for a positive start to Awahou School and great leadership skills.

Mr Schmidt: Alex Osto & Narnia Williams, for a positive and confident start to the year.



- * Bring your togs to school every day!
- * School uniforms will be issued this week. These are yours to keep at home and wear to school events, to be returned at the end of the year. A uniform levy of \$20 per child is requested to cover any uniform replacements needed due to damage or wear and tear.
School hats are available for purchase for \$10 each (to keep). **Please name your hats!**
- * Don't forget to check us out on Facebook to keep up date with everything happening at school
- * Every Friday is 'Wheels Day' at school – all sorts of wheels welcomed – bikes, scooters, skateboards, even unicycles! Riders **must** have a helmet on.

Please remember the legal speed limit around school buses!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Awahou School Playgroup

Our awesome Playgroup is ready to hit the ground running again this year on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9.30am – 12pm. Come along and join in with our wonderful community and **extremely** well resourced group. We'd love to see you there!

AWAHOU MUSIQHUB LESSONS 2017

Want to learn: guitar, ukulele, drums or how to sing this year ?

Develop new skills, confidence, AND have fun with friends. Performance and recording opportunities provided. Nervous beginners welcome! Call/Text Craig on (027) 7722877. Find us on FaceBook under Musiqhub Manawatu or go to www.musiqhub.co.nz

Weetbix Tryathlon

This year's Weetbix triathlon is happening at Ongley Park on Tuesday. Mach 21st. Last year we had a strong school contingent and despite sub-zero temperatures and monsoon season arriving, it was a fun day! If you are entering and want to be part of our school team, let us know and we'll send you an entry form. Alternatively you can enter online and register with our school there.

Tough Guy / Gal Challenge

2017 is well underway and it is time to start planning for the ITM Junior Tough Guy and Gal events! Event Promotions is extremely excited to have these events back again for another year. Children have the choice to either enter through their school or they can enter individually via the link below. This event is a great opportunity for kids to push themselves out of their comfort zones in a control and safe environment. The Junior Tough Guy and Gal events are just like the adult Tough Guy and Gal events just tailored for children at primary and intermediate school. Check out the link below for more details:

<http://www.eventpromotions.co.nz/events/junior-tough-guy-and-gal-challenge/event-information/>

We would love to enter school teams again this year. If you're interested, please email Matt at awahouprincipal@awaho.school.nz

Newspaper wanted

We need lots of newspaper at school for Art this year. Once you've read your newspapers (not the glossy brochures), please send them into school so we can stockpile.

Children's After School Art Programme

Apiti artist, Katie Wilson-Bryant

Term 1, 2017

7-9yrs - 3.30 to 4.30pm on Wednesdays

10-12yrs – 5.00 – 6.00pm on Wednesdays

Vacancies in both classes. \$80 per child, beginning February 15th. All materials are provided.

Held at the Feilding and District Art Centre, 104 Manchester Street, Feilding.

Phone 323 2323 for more information.

Ashhurst Community Market

When: Second Saturday of every month, Oct-Jun

Where: Ashhurst Village Green

What: food, crafts and entertainment.

Cash or LOAVES only!

Valentines Day at County Fayre

Sunday 12th February at 14:00–16:30

"Love is in the air ... scones are everywhere!

Hearts, flowers, scones with a quiet friendly atmosphere".

Bring your loved ones for a lovely afternoon tea.

You will be welcomed by a friendly smile, a warm scone and a hot drink, hearts, flowers and maybe CHOCOLATE. Please join us to help make this Valentine's Day one to remember.

Only \$4.50 per person.

