



# 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 3, Term 2, 2017**

**17 May, 2017**

### **Respect Whakaute - Honesty Matatika - Effort Ngaki**

#### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Kia Ora Awahou Community,  
Touch wood, it's been a relatively normal week so far this week with all of our teaching staff on board.....though I probably just jinxed that! In saying that, there are still a few nasty bugs doing the rounds, so please keep warm and dry as best as possible. We wouldn't want the kids missing Cross Country practice! ;-)  
In the past week, we have entered some very interesting territory in the education landscape under our new Minister of Education, Nikki Kaye. Last week, Minister Kaye released public information regarding changes to the Education Act via social media networks Twitter and Facebook, before schools and school leaders had been made aware of some of them. I found this to be an interesting approach to such major changes around legislation, and worry if this is to become the norm. Among these amendments to the act were: the much-discussed changes to enrolment age, where children can start school at age 4 in the term closest to their birthday (despite hoards of research showing the detrimental effects this could have); the government having the ability to enforce closure of schools whereas currently the request must come from the BOT; the government removing the National Education Guidelines and replacing them with NELPs (National Education & Learning Priorities), where schools will be told what to focus on / consult on by the MoE and plan strategic to this, rather than solely focusing on identified needs specific to our local community; and the government changing how schools report to include 'a small number of national performance measures' related to government identified NELPS. There is a definite air of concern and unease around some of these changes and the end point to why the changes have been made, however we will see how they develop and continue doing what we do to provide the best outcomes possible for our kids first and foremost! **Matt Schmidt**



*Save the Date – big announcement to come!!*

### **Virtue of the week:**

#### **Self-Discipline**

Self-discipline means self-control. It is doing what you really want to do, rather than being tossed around by your feelings like a leaf in the wind. You act instead of react. You get things done in an orderly and efficient way. With self-discipline, you take charge of yourself.

*"Self-discipline is the ability to make yourself do what you should do, when you should do it, whether you feel like it or not." – Elbert Hubbard*

## SCHOOL NOTICES

### Fish in Schools

Yesterday we set up our fish tanks again, ready to participate in the 'Fish in Schools' programme to breed trout, ready for release at the end of the year. This year we have set up in the multi-purpose room, with the eggs due to arrive next week. Watch this space for updates in their progress!

### Lost Property

Whilst tempting to open a children's second hand store with the amount of clothing we have accumulated this year, we'd probably prefer it if you could check out our lost property bin next time you're at school. Surely somebody is missing all of those clothes!

### Baby Shower

See the attached flyer. If you're free this Friday afternoon we'd love you to join us in celebrating Miss Barr's upcoming special arrival with an afternoon tea and some fun baby based games. Join us from 2pm – 3pm and bring along a plate of finger food to share. If possible, we'd love some baby photos of students (or staff!) from our school to have some 'Guess the Baby' competitions. Send them in and we can photocopy them (we promise to take care of them), or you can email / scan them through to me at [awahouprincipal@awahou.school.nz](mailto:awahouprincipal@awahou.school.nz)

### 'BIG KIDS GOOGLE CLASS'

On Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> (Week 5) from 6pm to 7.30pm, I will be running a 'Big Kids Google Class' for parents / adults who want to learn a bit more about the basics of how to use Google applications, how we use them here at school, how you can contribute to your child's Learning as Inquiry Plan, and any other Google questions you may have. We will have a few more of these throughout the year as we all learn more as well.

**You are also more than welcome** to come in at anytime or any afternoon to log into one of our Chromebooks to access your child's work, leave feedback etc if you do not have internet at home or cannot access the internet for any reason.

### Cross Country

Cross Country training is in full swing and this week we have started heading up the dreaded hill! A HUGE well done to our kids for the effort and commitment they are showing – very impressive!

### Glad Rag Grab – change of date

A reminder that there has been a change of date for the Glad Rag Grab – this will now be **Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 2pm**. Don't forget to give your wardrobes a good clean out and send us in your clean, unwanted clothes. We have a pretty healthy pile of clothes now!

## LOOKING AHEAD



### Baby

**Odd week Thursdays – Year 8s to Tech @ Monrad Intermediate**

**Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> – BOT meeting, 7pm @ school**

**Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> – Mr Schmidt @ Rural Principal Conference**

**Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> – Miss Barr on maternity leave (if she lasts until then!)**

**Monday May 29<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Mrs Young!**

**Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> – Big Kids Google Class at school – 6pm – 7.30pm.**

**Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup> – School X-Country**

**Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> – Kainui X-Country**

**Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> - BOT meeting, 7pm @ school**

**Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> – Glad Rag Grab (2pm)**

**Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> – Kainui Hockey**

**Friday July 7<sup>th</sup> – Last day of term**

## STUDENT ACHIEVERS



### Congratulations to:

**Miss Edmond – Cayenne Ngatai**, showing leadership and initiative during Foundation skills

**Miss Barr – Kaelyn Swanson**, for strong determination to overcome obstacles and achieve her goals

**Mrs Young – Narnia Williams**, for great focus and self-management.

**Mr Schmidt - Devarney Jaggard**, Welcome to Awahou School!

**Gemma Passey**, for great improvements in self-confidence and self-belief!



**\* Bring your running shoes and clothes suitable for running in every day this term.**

**\* Unwanted cushions, fabric and empty tin cans for Wharite please**

**\* Baby shower Toni this Friday, 2pm – 3pm. Baby photos please!**

**\* Clear out your wardrobes for the Glad Rag Grab.**

### Pohangina Valley Emergency Management

In February this year Sonya Stevens was appointed by the Pohangina Valley Community Committee as the lead to the Pohangina Valley Emergency Management group.

Sonya works at the District Council and lives along Pohangina Road just 1km from the village. In the past 3 or so years of working at Council she has undergone Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) training specifically in CDEM Welfare. She has also attended a number of exercises in the area and continues to be a part of the various CDEM meeting groups for the Manawatu region.

One of the most important tasks Sonya has is to source a project team to help plan and implement emergency management for Pohangina Valley. Awahou School is a potential CDEM civil defence centre so it seems sensible to have someone from the school community to volunteer to be part of the project team. There is one position available.

The position outline is as follows:

- \* 18 years of age or older
- \* Live close to the school (within Pohangina or Awahou area)
- \* Familiarity with email, mobile phone, facebook or other social network tools
- \* Available to attend training and meetings throughout the 2 year period (June 2017 to May 2019)
- \* Agree to undergo the Police vetting process.

This person would essentially be the 'go-to' person for the school, and as such we would organise keys, access etc.

**What's on offer?** Professional development specific to civil defence welfare which would occur over a period of a year. Exposure to civil defence emergency exercises. Enhancing relationships with Pohangina community / residents. Nurturing a project team that can meet the emergency management needs of Pohangina.

The end of June is when Sonya will meet with the complete team but she would like to meet with individuals by mid June. If you're interested, please contact Sonya on 021971153 or [stevenssonya@gmail.com](mailto:stevenssonya@gmail.com)



# COMMUNITY & SPORT NOTICES

## AWAHOU SPORT

### HOCKEY

Wow! What an awesome start for our Hockey team, with an impressive 5-0 win. By all accounts the team showed amazing skill and picked up where they've left off in previous years. Player of the day was Charlie Scott. This Saturday's game is at 10am on Field 14 vs Whakarongo Redsticks.

### NETBALL

Congratulation on the following results I have received this week:

**Y7/8** – The mixed Awahou / Colyton Year 8 team had a great win, 32-13 over Linton. Our very own Morgan was named Player of the Day!

**Y5/6** – McKenzie's Awahou/Colyton team had two tough games, playing against Year 7/8 teams who outsized them significantly. They improved greatly between games, figuring out effective strategies for dealing with the size difference.

**Y3/4** – Despite the cold, wet weather out Year 3 / 4 Future Ferns girls battled it out on Thursday evening with their combined Hiwinui teams. Results still to come!

**Y1/2** – Our Y1/2 girls started their netball experience at CET Arena last night. They had plenty of fun and showed some great skill.

### 5-ASIDE SOCCER

The 'Awahou Crystal Palace' 5-aside soccer team had an epic battle in the mud on Monday, coming away with a 3-3 draw against Hiwinu Stoke City. Player of the day was Nathan McGeorge-Drury for picking up a hat-trick of goals.

### SATURDAY MORNING RUGBY

I have not received any official results from our boys playing Saturday morning rugby, however I have it on good authority that Alfie continued his great start in Manawatu rugby, picking up SEVEN tries for his team on Saturday morning. I think we should start checking All Blacks eligibility over his Scottish roots asap!



MDHB is committed to well communities. We want to better understand your community's priority health needs and work out local solutions to local issues.

So, we're interested in hearing what works well in your community, and what are the challenges affecting the health and wellbeing in the Manawatu district.

A workshop to discuss your ideas will be held at the Feilding Civic Centre, concert chamber, on Monday 22 May, from 5.30pm to 6.30pm. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome.