



# AWAHOU SCHOOL

## POHANGINA VALLEY.

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RD 14, Ashhurst.

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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 4, 2017**

**1 November, 2017**

### Respect Whakautē - Honesty Matatika - Effort Ngaki

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia Ora Awahou Community,  
Week 3 of Term 3 already, and that means after this week there is only 6 weeks left in the school year. We still have plenty OF AMAZING opportunities, activities and learning happening right up until the end of the year, as the 'Looking Ahead' section below shows. Please take note of all of the dates for these events and ensure you are checking your child's bag regularly for information. If you do not already, I would strongly recommend following our school Facebook page for up to date information and highlights about what is happening at school.  
With the recent announcement of our coalition government, we are about to enter another significant period of change in education and one that I believe will greatly benefit our children and teachers moving forward. Our new Education Minister, Chris Hipkins, has signalled an end to National Standards along with other changes around focuses on children needing extra support, and school support services to come. Whilst at Awahou School we do not solely define our successes and achievements on National Standards results, personally I am excited and hopeful around the new direction education is heading in, as it seems a lot more aligned with our philosophies about the importance of education and nurturing the **whole** child – academically, physically, mentally and emotionally and a return to a focus on our world renowned curriculum document rather than narrow, short sighted 'standards' than limit and label children unfairly at times. Rest assured, as these changes take place we will continue to share this information with you, our parents and community, to ensure you are well informed and educated on what is happening in education. Some of the media driven hype I have read a lot about this change is 'how are we going to report on achievement now?'. Please be assured – we assessed and reported on student progress and achievement effectively long before the standards were introduced and will continue to do so. I think our current reporting and assessment method using individualised learning programmes shared on Google docs is a great example of how this can be achieved and shows once again that we are ahead of the game in this respect. I'm still proud to be at the helm of such a great school, leading the way in education! Arohanui, Matt Schmidt – Principal.



*'Boo booters' looking scary!*

#### Virtue of the week:

##### Idealism

When you have ideals, you really care about what is right and meaningful in life. You follow your beliefs. You don't just accept things the way they are, you make a difference. Idealists dare to have big dreams and then act as if they are possible.

*"Mix idealism with realism and add hard work. This will often bring much more than you had ever hoped for."* – John Wooden

## SCHOOL NOTICES

### Trophies

It's that time of year again where we start to look ahead to Prizegiving. If you have a trophy from last year, can you please return this to school asap so we can get these polished and off to the engravers for this year.

### Term 4 SunSmart

As we are a SunSmart school, a reminder that Term 4 = sunhats (school issue) at all times when outside please. We also highly recommend water bottles with your children every day to stay hydrated, and smart clothing choices (not shoestring strapped singlets etc)....

Thanks to Paul and Jed Jackson we also have a very impressive supply of SPF 30 Invisible Zinc, gifted to us by none other than Matt Watson from 'The Fishing Show'. We have placed tubes of these by every external door leading outside to remind our children to Slip Slop Slap. Thanks Paul & Jed!

### Family Photo Opportunity

Check out the awesome offer from Helen at Valley Studios in the community notices below. A great idea for xmas! Book now!

### Pet Day

Information regarding Pet Day entries and help was sent home last week. If you haven't seen it yet, please check your child's bag, Please get entries back in asap so we can organise judges / garden visits etc.

Also sent home was information regarding the grocery raffle and mystery tin raffles. Your support is greatly appreciated. Each family has been issued one page of raffle tickets to sell. Any questions – give us a call or flick me an email.

### Athletics

We are well underway with practising for Athletics while the sun is shining. Many thanks to Sally and Steve Hocken who sourced us some sawdust so we can use the longjump pit / swamp!

### Maharahara Camp

Next week the school will be a lot quieter as Maharahara head off to camp at Camp Kaitoke in Upper Hutt. School / buses will run as normal for Wharite students. Feel free to pop in and say to Ms Edmond during the week – she may be a bit lonely!

### 2018 Start Date

I know some people like to know the start dates for the following year by now to enable summer holidays to be planned. While we haven't confirmed this yet, it is likely to be Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Hopefully this helps with your summer plans. ☺

## LOOKING AHEAD



**Monday November 6<sup>th</sup> – Thursday  
November 9<sup>th</sup> – Maharahara Camp**

**Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> – Pet Day**

**Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> –  
Life Education Trust Truck at school**

**Wednesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Awahou  
School Athletics**

**Friday November 24<sup>th</sup> – Kainui Cluster  
Athletics (Maharahara)**

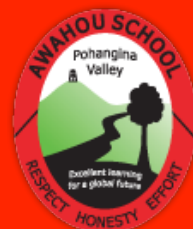
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Bush School**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Whole School day out  
(tbc)**

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – Prizegiving**

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – School picnic /  
Water Fight!**

**Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> – Last day of school  
year**



## STUDENT ACHIEVERS



Congratulations to this week's student achievers!

**Remember!**

\* Pet Day / Garden entry forms to the office asap please

\* Term 4 = Sunhats (school issue), sunblock, water bottles and Sun Smart clothing

Wow! What a great evening we had at the Feilding Civic Centre on Monday. Our very own Mogan Cameron was nominated in the Manawatu Young Leaders award in the 'Leading Change & Innovation' category and came away as the winner!! Great stuff Morgan - we are very proud!





## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Puppies for Sale

8 HeadingxHuntaway puppies looking for awesome new homes. 3 girls, 5 boys currently available. Well socialised with kids, cats, and other dogs. This breed requires an active family or lifestyle block environment. Mum and dad are rescue dogs, so not working farm dogs and are available to view. If you want them for a working farm dog there are no guarantees on quality of work. Have been wormed and defleaed but not vaccinated. Asking price is \$100 each, but if you want them vaccinated the cost will be \$150. Expressions of genuine interest please call Victoria on 027 4640577 to arrange to meet the pups.



### AWESOME FAMILY PHOTO OPPORTUNITY!



Add a child/children  
portrait for \$10

Date: Thursday 16th November

Time: 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Location: Old church room  
at the school

### CHRISTMAS SPECIAL



Family  
christmas portrait  
ONLY  
\$35

\$5 per family portrait booked  
will be donated back to your  
school!



Add a child/children  
portrait for \$10

All bookings receive a high res.  
digital file to download via a private  
gallery the following week.

To book: email  
helen@valleystudios.co.nz

NB: Payment is required at time  
of booking please

### County Fayre AGM

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

### County Fayre Downhill Walk

This event is now all sold out sorry!

### Ashhurst Community Market