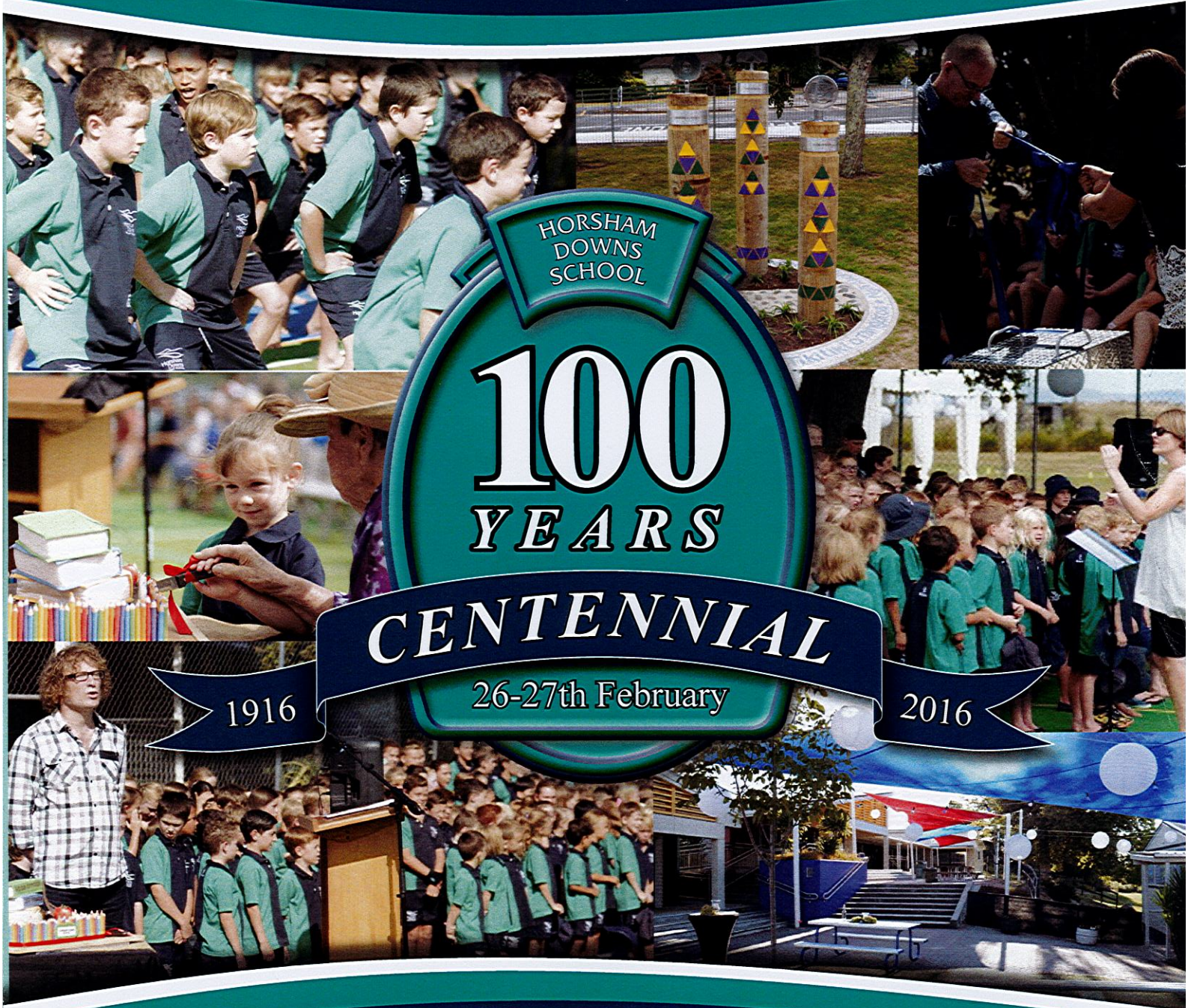




# Horsham Downs

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*building pathways for success*



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19 May	Sharing Assembly	Tima Toru—Rooms 9-13
25 May	School Cross Country	Ages 5-8
26 May	Sharing Assembly	Tima Rua—Rooms 5-8
29 May	Yr 7 Immunisations	
31 May	Maths Information Evening	
2 June	Teacher Only Day	School Closed
5 June	Queens Birthday Weekend	
6 June	EWCS Cross Country	Ages 9—13

## A View From The Top...

### Teacher Only Day 2 June.

On Friday 2 June, our school will be closed for a Teacher Only Day. This is an opportunity for the whole teaching staff to come together for professional development. In this case, we have engaged a facilitator from the University of Waikato to work across the school to enhance our ability to address issues of Digital Citizenship and Digital Fluency. We realise that this will be an inconvenience to some families, so we have planned the day to coincide with Queen's Birthday weekend for those of you planning an 'early getaway'.

The students will not be disadvantaged in any way by *missing* a day at school. The total number of days per year at school takes into account days such as this, where Horsham Downs School is officially 'closed for instruction'.

### Maths Information Evening

We are running an information evening on **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March from 6.30pm – 7.45pm**. Information evenings we have run in the past have been highly valued by parents, so mark this date in your diary / on your calendar as an opportunity not to be missed.

See attachment for further details and confirmation of your attendance. We would love to see you there.

### Still Time to Learn Those Tables!

Attached to this week's newsletter is a flyer from Claire Howarth from Mindfull Tutoring. Claire provides some practical tips to help you help your children learn this vital maths-skill. Don't panic if your six-year-old hasn't memorised the 12 times table yet! It is a developmental concept for children as well as a maths skill. Start slowly, make it fun! If you have any concerns have a quick chat with your class teachers.

### School Cross Country

This year, we are a little land-locked by the ongoing work on the SH1 rebuild and restrictions to our use of land around the school. Despite our best efforts, it has not been possible to gain access to the paddocks we would like to have used. We have had generous offers for the use of other land close to the school but this would have meant crossing roads, limiting access for spectators, and moving finishing lines etc.

A better solution this year is to hold a school based event for the shorter races within the school grounds for 5-8 year olds as planned on the 25<sup>th</sup> May. All 9-13 year olds will be given the opportunity to compete at the EWCSA event at Porritt Stadium on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June if they wish to, in lieu of a school event. Certificates for the top 3 placed HDS students in each age group will still be awarded by our school, together with any EWCSA inter-school certificates.

We will be on the lookout for a dozen or so hay-bales (small rectangular variety!) to create some obstacles for the school based event. Please contact Mike Thompson [michaelt@horshamdowns.school.nz](mailto:michaelt@horshamdowns.school.nz) if you are able to assist – they will be returned after the event!

### Winter Illnesses

Illness is on the rise with this cooler weather. Please remember to ring or e-mail the school ([office@horshamdowns.school.nz](mailto:office@horshamdowns.school.nz)) if your child/ren are sick to save the office staff chasing missing children! Please also remember to come to the office to sign children in and out if you are picking up or dropping off during the day. We have to keep track of who is supposed to be here.

Many thanks for your cooperation.  
Steve Dunsmore  
Principal

## EWCS TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

Last Wednesday, 10 May, we hosted the EWCS Technology Challenge. Teams from Whitikahu, Gordonton, Ohinewai and Puketaha schools joined us for a day of technological thinking, challenge and fun. The students were challenged to come up with solutions to problems, using only a limited range of resources. This year, these problems included how to protect an egg when it is dropped from a height of 4 metres, how to separate a mixture of rice and sand, and how to get the tallest tower using only 15 pipecleaners.

The Horsham Downs teams were a credit to our school and can be proud of their efforts. A special congratulations to:

**Year 4 team #1** (Amy Sexton, Cooper Vanderpoel, Cash Filipo, Brenna Sammons)- 2nd place in the Anzac Poppy Challenge.

**Year 4 team #2** (William Aitken, Mason Jones, Katia Daly, Samuel Williams) - 3rd place in the PipeCleaner Tower Challenge.

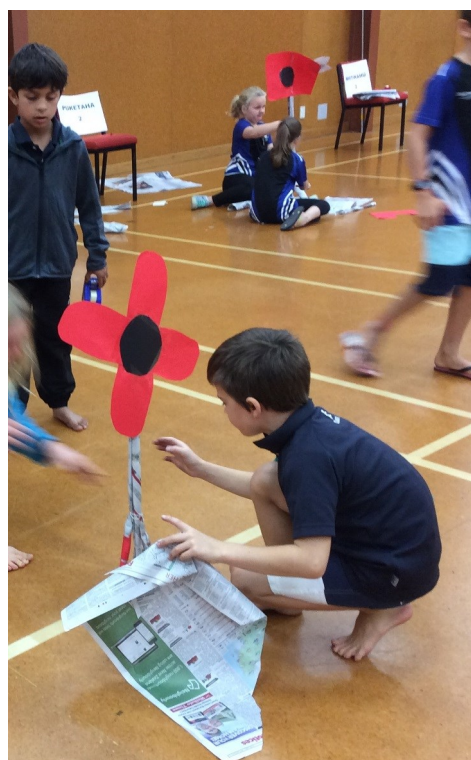
**Year 5-6 team #1** (Isla Green, Lewis Bennett, Sarita Williams, Oliver Swney )- Highly Commended in the Emergency Backpack challenge.

**Year 7-8 team #1** (Daniel Williams, Olivia Ham, Felix Wood, Yanni Emerson-Rae, Paige Vanderpoel) - 1st place in the Egg Drop challenge, 3rd place in the Separating Rice/Sand challenge.

**Year 7-8 team #2** (Reuben Fraser, Braden Campbell, Shontal Tunnicliffe, Alexis Daly, Cameron White) - 3rd place in the Egg Drop challenge, 2nd place in the Separating Rice/Sand challenge.

Thank you to:

- Tryphina Watson for her invaluable help on the day.
- Trevor Fawdray and Jack Godfrey for judging.
- All those who donated newspaper – we sure went through a lot!



# Parent Information Evening about Mathematics

**Wednesday 31 May 6.30 – 7.45 pm**

We encourage you to come along to this information evening to find out about current teaching methods, equipment used to support learning, and ways in which you can support your child's development in mathematics. **Information evenings we have run in the past have been highly valued by parents attending, so mark this date in your diary / on your calendar as an opportunity not to be missed!**



Find out about the ways we are endeavouring to produce a generation of "smart mathematical thinkers," rather than children who can just follow set methods.

The format of the evening will involve a short introductory session, then you will have the opportunity to attend two different workshops, where staff will demonstrate typical lessons, so you can get a taste of what happens from day to day in your child's class. We'd love to see you there!

To assist our planning and preparation, please notify us of your intention to attend this evening by:

- Completing the slip at the end of this letter and returning this to the school office by **this Friday (19 May)**.

OR by emailing me to confirm your attendance, with names and year levels of your children.

Fiona Asplin (Lead Teacher of Mathematics) [fionaa@horshamdowns.school.nz](mailto:fionaa@horshamdowns.school.nz)

(Note 2 a's together in email address!)



## **Parents Information Evening about Mathematics Wednesday 31 May 6.30 – 7.45 pm.**

I/we confirm that we will be attending the Maths Information Evening.

My child/children is/are:

\_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HORSHAM DOWNS LEARNERS

Room	Good Citizen	Self Manager	Thinking Learner
14	Maddison Nicholson	Finn Ganley	Aroha Glew
1	Fletcher Harnett	Jasmine Hill	Jonah Howland
2			
3	Ryan Phillips	Callum Wilson	Isabella Marshall
4	Doha Yu	Riley Bourton	Cassie Clark
5			
6	Daniyal Phee	Ella Dol	Yousif Humadi
7	Serena Junge	Chloe Butler	Mitchell Rickman
8	Holly Porter	Gemma Beveridge	Liam Forster-Smith
9	Jorja Wilson	Luca Davidson	Kaden Ashton
10	Cameron Verhoeven	Vann Parry	Isaac Jeffery
11	Jake White	Georgia Pollard	Aria Rameka

### Horsham Downs School Sports Results

#### Netball

HDS Dynamites won 31-6 against Karioi Orcas. Player of the day—Jordan Pycraft and Addison Townsend

#### Hockey

HDS Flames drew 0-0 against Glenview Flyers

HDS Flames won 1-0 against Hukanui Trappers. Player of the day—Zac Kovaleski

HDS Flames won 2-0 against Glenview Allrounders. Player of the day—Charlie Hooker

HDS Steelstix lost 0-3. Player of the day—Daniel Hooker

HDS Steelstix won 5-0 against Southwell. Player of the Day—Madalyn Davies

HDS Strikers lost 3-4 against Silverdale. Player of the day—Jake White

HDS Strikers won 7-0 against Te Totara Shooters. Player of the day—Caitlin Wright

HDS Warriors won 3-0 against Rototuna Yellow. Player of the day—Dan Sayer

HDS Sneaky Sticks won 3-0 against HNS Hitters. Player of the day—Jahdae Rameka

HDS Force drew 3-3 against tge Kowhai 3. Players of the day—Danica Newport and Sammie Driscoll

#### Can you help

Room 1 is looking for some old T-shirts for weaving for our Elective programme. If you can help please drop them into Room 1

Thank you  
Linza Wolmarans

## COMMUNITY CORNER—COMMUNITY BASED EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

### HOUSE TO RENT HORSHAM DOWNS

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Victoria Jane hood from Mindful Mum Aotearoa will lead the workshop.

Tickets are \$35.00 which includes a gift on arrival, morning tea. Tickets are limited so please be in quick.

To book email [taupiri@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:taupiri@playcentre.org.nz) with your name and number of tickets you require.

Any questions email Michelle Gaskell on [quinlanfamily@xtra.co.nz](mailto:quinlanfamily@xtra.co.nz)



## Why are multiplication tables so important and how can you help at home?

Grab a coffee and some m&m's to help you read this article.

Once your child is learning their doubles to twenty you can begin to introduce the idea of multiplication. As they learn what  $6 + 6$  is they can also be told to think of this as 2 'groups of' 6. Get hold of some household items. Chocolate always holds children's attention. Who doesn't like doing mathematics with food?!

Ask them to make two groups with six m&m's in each group. Say this is  $6 + 6$  or we can also say this is 2 'groups of' 6. Show them that we record this as  $6 + 6 = 12$  and  $2 \times 6 = 12$ . Do it with  $7 + 7 = 14$  and  $2 \times 7 = 14$ . Talk about how the multiplication symbol 'x' is just a fast way to write 'groups of,' like a secret code.

Once you have made your way through the two times tables, look at how we can use our halves to 20 to help us with our division facts. Grab that bag of m&m's (if you haven't already eaten them) and make a pile of 12. Ask your child to make it into two even groups; one for you and one for them. Saying 'What is half of 12?' Once they have done this, if they haven't already made the connection to  $6 + 6 = 12$ , say with surprise 'Hey that's looks like  $6 + 6$ , so I can just think what plus what equals 12?' That's the answer! Talk about how we can write this as 'half of 12' or ' $12 \div 2$ '. The division sign is just a fast way to tell us to share.

Next, look at the five times tables. By now the m&m's are getting expensive. Stickers can be a good source to show groups and even better, five-dollar Monopoly notes. I don't know anyone who doesn't like money! Ask them to make 3 'groups of' 5 with the stickers or money. Then ask, 'How many are there altogether?' Encourage them to count in 5s. Show them how we write this as  $3 \times 5 = 15$ . Do it with the other five times tables. Always change the first number but leave it as  $\_\_\_ \times 5$ , as this allows them to count in 5s. Remember to look at those division facts next! If they know  $3 \times 5 = 15$  then link it to  $15 \div 3 = 5$ . There's no sense in doing a job twice.

Now that you have a child prodigy on your hands talk to them about how every single time you make  $3 \times 5$  or  $2 \times 9$  the answer will stay the same. Once they believe you, make some flashcards with these facts on them. Pop the question on one side and the answer on the other. That way you can be cooking dinner and they can test themselves while you can see the answers.

Make your way through the other tables and their division facts as follows:

Learn the 4s next by doubling the answer to the 2x tables. That is if  $2 \times 6 = 12$  then  $4 \times 6 = 24$ , because  $12 + 12 = 24$ .

Now do the 8s. They are double the 4s.

Next do the 3s. They are the doubles plus one more group. For example, if  $2 \times 6$  is 12 then  $3 \times 6$  is simply  $12 + 6$  more, therefore it's 18.

Then it's the 6s. They are double the 3s. For example, if  $3 \times 3 = 9$  then  $6 \times 3$  is twice as big, making it 18.

Now you are up to your 7 times tables. Really you only need to cover  $7 \times 7$  and  $7 \times 9$  as all of the others can be turned around. For example, if I know  $7 \times 3 = 21$  then  $3 \times 7$  is also 21. Remember, they look very different and you should pull out those stickers to show this again.

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**7 x 3 =**

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3x7

Finally do the 9s. All you should need to do is go over  $9 \times 9$ , thanks to the reversibility of tables. Now if I'm not wrong,  $9 \times 9$  rhymes with wine. Your job here is done, well except for the regular practise.

So why are multiplication tables so important? Well, without their times tables students will find secondary mathematics very challenging especially when they begin work on algebra. Without algebra, the path they can take through mathematics is limited. This will affect their future career choices.

I believe that whenever possible it is best to give students as many options for their future as you can.

Get those m&m's ready and have some fun while doing maths with your kids. Yes, it really is possible! Your brains and stomachs will thank you for it!

Claire Howarth

BSocSci, GradDip (Mrkt), GDipTchg (Primary), MEd



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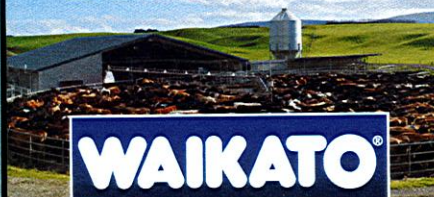
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