

Newsletter Week 1 Term 1

7 Feb 2019

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Dear parents, carers and whānau,

Welcome back to a hot and sticky start to the year for Term 1 at Horsham Downs School.

We were delighted to see so many familiar, smiling faces on Monday morning and we also welcome new families and our 3 new teachers into our school community. Term 1 is always busy as we get ready for school camps and summer sports. Please take note of our timetable of dates on the school web-site carefully as they arise, but of course more notice will be given regarding upcoming events nearer the time.

http://www.horshamdowns.school.nz/1/embedded_items/1-calendar-of-events



By starting a few days later than some other schools this year, we will finish that much close to Christmas. Our planned finish date is this year Thursday 19th December, allowing for a teacher-only day on the Friday prior to Queen's Birthday Weekend. Term Dates are on our school website:

<http://www.horshamdowns.school.nz/1/pages/17-term-dates>

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the whole school staff, welcome back! We look forward to your continued support of your children and the wider aspects of making our school a successful, vibrant learning environment.

New Staff

Welcome Anna Woolston, Amy Halliday and Sammy Madden to our teaching staff.

Before and After School Reminders.

Children are not allowed into classes prior to 8:30am. They should remain on the deck outside Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) and not play around the school for safety reasons. YMCA supervision provided from 7:30am-8.30am and 3:00pm-6:00pm.

Contact: y-kids.hamilton@ymcahamilton.org.nz or drop in and chat to the team.

At the end of the school day, children should be picked up before 3:15pm. If you have been delayed for any reason children will be sent to the deck outside MPR. Children should wait to be picked up by parents and are not allowed to play unsupervised on the playgrounds after school.

Summer Sports

Thanks to all the students who have returned their Touch and Cricket Forms so promptly. Mr McLeod is organising the teams today.

Parents' Association Update

Our committed and vibrant Parents 'Association (PA) raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for our school and organises social events for our school community. Their efforts are visible all over our lovely school.

The first meeting of the year is next Tuesday, 12 February at 7:00pm in the multi-purpose room. It would be wonderful if we could get a parent representative from each class on the PA this year – don't be 'backwards at coming forwards'! Any help you can offer is gratefully received.

Complaints and Compliments Procedure

We work very hard to ensure the success of every child at school but sometimes things don't go quite right. If you have any concerns please ensure you contact their classroom teacher in the first instance. Often a problem is just a simple miss-communication or misunderstanding and is easily rectified. We take all parental concerns seriously – but we also love positive feedback. Teachers at Horsham Downs always go the 'extra mile' for the children and, if you have been really pleased about some aspect of their efforts, it's OK to let them know this too!

Trips/Permissions

We are a busy school with over 400 students. In order to streamline routine administrative tasks, we implemented a system last year whereby we notify families of an up-coming event (such as a sports trip) and assume everyone in class going unless they opt out. Often e-mail and paper permission slips disappear and this causes us endless chasing around accounting for names on lists on the day of events. Our intention is to assume a school trip or event is for everyone in the appropriate class, unless you specifically 'opt-out' and are therefore not charged for the event or your child does not attend. You will be notified of up-coming events through classes in the usual ways.

A major exception to this rule is school camp which requires a specific set of permissions and contribution towards the costs of camp before a child can attend.

School/Student Accounts

This year we will be adding all 'incidental' school costs incurred by students such as pieces of uniform (usually hats...), stationery from the school office, small shows or events and trips etc. to your school accounts, which will be sent home regularly for payment.

This will vastly reduce the demands you get for \$2 here and \$5 there and will allow you to settle your school account more regularly. When paying your school account please also indicate what the payment is for e.g. school account, School Camp and so on.

School camp payment contributions must be made PRIOR to your children attending camp, or by arrangement with the school office.

School Rubbish

In 2017 our Enviro Group carried out a rubbish survey with X-Man as part of our move towards reducing waste. We were shocked at the amount of rubbish and food thrown away every day at school. As part of our move to become a Para Kore (Zero Waste) school we removed the bins from around the school. This has vastly reduced the amount of food waste and rubbish around our school. Children **take home** the remains of everything they bring to school; the aims of this are to reduce the waste input into school lunches etc, reduce the output to landfill, and highlight to families what is left over in the lunchboxes. A positive side effect is to enhance the environment in our school with less chance of leftovers and plastic being left around the eating areas. Please note, if you order a bought-in lunch at school, the wrapping and any food waste will be coming home too. Para Kore!



Lost Property

PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING AT SCHOOL SO IT CAN BE IDENTIFIED.

The withdrawal of the lost property box last year to encouraged students to self-manage their own belongings. We saw a huge reduction in the amount of 'lost property' left strewn around our school but there is still some way to go. Ensuring ALL clothing is named (especially towels and togs) helps us reunite items with their owners.

Please encourage your children to look after their stuff, keep our school environment tidy and reduce waste and cost to parents.

School Donation

Our Board of Trustees has agreed to hold our school donation to \$190 per pupil this year, in addition to a \$10 photocopy donation and a \$10 classroom consumables donation. These voluntary donations help us offset the increasingly expensive costs of running our school and allow us to provide the extras we wish our children to have that are not covered by our Operations Grant. We remain very grateful for your generous support to our school and interest in your children's learning.

Hats + Sunscreen = Sunsmart



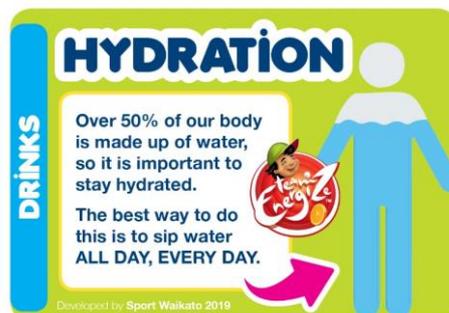
As part of our aspiration to remain Sunsmart, we encourage the wearing of appropriate clothing to school in this very hot and sunny weather. Whilst we require the wearing of a school hat outside, please also make sure children dress to the conditions, especially in summer. Loose fitting shirts that cover the shoulder areas are a very wise choice during this hot weather and **we also encourage the use of self-administered and self-supplied sunscreen across the school.** We suggest sunscreen is applied prior to school and that children bring a small, named tube for reapplication as necessary on very hot and sunny days.

Our Value of the Term

Our school value for Term 1 is Kotahitanga. This Māori word is rich with meaning and classes will be exploring this early this term. Put simply, Kotahitanga means **unity**; our students, staff and wider community working together to ensure the success of our school.

Your School Account

We will add all usual incidental expenses incurred at school to your school account. This will be emailed to you for payment regularly. Parents agree to have charges added to their account and settle the account upon request. School camp and some other events are exempt from this procedure and special arrangements to assist with payments can be made by contacting the school office. **Donations to school should be annotated separately on your payment.**



Your Y7/8s started the year by attending Technology at Ngaruawahia Primary School.

They were welcomed with a powhiri on Tuesday. Isaac and Leah recited their mihi and spoke for the students. This was very well received by the staff and students of the school. The whole HDS group then sang a lovely waiata in response to the Ngaruawahia students' song.

Well done to our student leaders for making a positive start to the year at Tech.



Your Contact Details

Communication is very important to us – we rely heavily on electronic forms of communication. The official ‘voice’ of the school is the school newsletter which is usually sent out every 2 weeks. We also use Facebook and SeeSaw from classes to communicate with our school community. All school newsletters can also be found on our website.

Please update any e-mail address/es by e-mailing your classroom teachers and the school office office@horshamdowns.school.nz so you can more easily be added to the appropriate distribution lists.

This newsletter has been e-mailed out using our current address list – please let the school office know if you have not received an electronic copy.

“Accelerate your Child's learning with expert coaching for beginner and advanced students, Gymnastic Academy Programmes every Tuesday lunchtime in community hall, Book via our website www.thegymnasticacademy.com”



The Gymnastics Academy

Accelerate your child's learning with expert coaching at convenient locations

Book Now by contacting
Marie 0211705426
or online
www.thegymnasticacademy.com



ADAM THOMAS FOOTBALL

Olympic Football Coaching Term 1

SCHOOL
Horsham Downs

DATE
Thursday afternoons

TIME
3.15pm - 4.30pm

HOCKEY 2019 NEWSLETTER #1

Welcome back everyone, and I hope you all had refreshing and relaxing holidays. Here is the latest information from Waikato Hockey to prepare you for the beginning of the season:

2019 TERM SUMMER LEAGUE KIDS (pre-SEASON):

Dates: (5 weeks)

Tuesdays

12th March - 9th April

Grade: Social

Umpires: Self-umpired.

Purposes: Fun, game time, prepare for season

Formats: Mixed Teams

Tuesday: Years 3-5, 13min halves \$210, 12 Team limit.

Tuesday: Years 4-6, 13min halves \$210, 12 Team limit.

Tuesday: Years 7-8, 13min halves \$210, 12 Team limit.

AS THERE ARE LIMITED ENTRIES AVAILABLE, PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO TEAMS THAT REGISTER AND PAY FIRST.

Entries close: 28th February

Register online: Waikato Hockey->Registrations -> 2019 Summer League Kids [Pre Season]

The school will not be organising teams for this, but we have made the information available for anyone who did wish to make up a team for 5 weeks (no coaching or practices involved).

Please ring Waikato Hockey for any other details.

2019 TERM 1 PRE-SEASON TRAINING CAMP:

(Blurb from Waikato Hockey)

The programmes main goal as always is to upskill our players, in particular preparing them for the 2018 season and giving them a head start going into school and rep trials.

The trainings will be coached by an experienced team of current rep coaches and senior

Waikato and Midlands representative players. There will be an emphasis on physical fitness and mobility as this is one of the areas our rep coaches have noted as needing improvement.

It is understood that many of our players will still be involved in summer sport and they are encouraged to continue their sporting diversity as it is beneficial to the overall development of the athlete. Because of this we will offer the option of attending one day of the training a week if there are clashes with other commitments. The programme is designed for participants to attend all 18 sessions so players that only attended one session a week will miss out on some of the content.

If you have any questions about the programme please contact: stuart@waikatohockey.org.nz

When: Monday, 11th Feb - Friday 12th Apr

Who: Years 5-13

- Year 5 - 8, 4:00pm - 5:30pm
- Year 9-13, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

What: 9 week Camp

- Attend Monday ONLY \$175
- Attend Friday ONLY \$175
- Attend Monday and Friday \$300

Register on the Waikato Hockey Website -> Registrations -> 2019 Term 1 Pre-Season Training Camp

UMPIRING WORKSHOP:

For all interested umpires, coaches, managers, parents there will be a workshop TBC to cover

- Briefing including intro to umpiring
- New rules
- Umpiring pathways

SEASON DATES:

See below for the following start dates for each level:

- Primary : Saturday 11th May
- Intermediate : Friday 10th May
- Secondary : Mon – Wed 6th -8th May

Exact format will be defined at a later date once entries are known. Registrations will open 15 th Mar on the WHA Website.

Kind Regards,

Christine Hommel, Linza Wolmarans, Anna Woolston

HOCKEY COMMITTEE