

Wednesday 29 November 2017
Week 7, Term 4
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QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

**“The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled.”
— Plutarch.**

From the Principal

Camps

The Year 5/6 camp is underway, the group headed off this morning. Yesterday the Student Council headed off to Waitangi as part of their leadership camp. Busy days at Ham West.

Christmas on the field

Christmas on the field - starting 5.30 pm on Thursday 7th December

Entertainment - Kapa Haka, Band,, Ukulele Group, Hankins Family, Angela Sullivan, Choirs and more

Activities: Face Painting, Christmas Photo booths, Water Fun, Icing Biscuits and gingerbread men, Making Christmas decorations, Treasure hunt

Games - sack races, egg and spoon, three legged, cricket ball throw

Food: Sausage sizzle, Bacon Butties, Drinks, Ice Blocks / Ice Creams, Curry - Indian Social Group

If you would like to help with activities please email me

Transition

On Thursday 14th December students will head off to their new classroom for 2018 and spend some introductory time with their new teacher.

Fence / Gates

As a response to information provided in last weeks newsletter I have had a couple of questions which I will answer for everyone's information:

Will those attending Before School Care have access via Fow Street - the answer is yes, I have a meeting with the YMCA this week to work out how this can best operate.

Will gates be open to allow parent access on sports days and special activities - the answer is yes.

Will sports teams still be able to practice on the field after 4 pm - again the answer is yes, a system will be developed to facilitate this.

Latest update regarding the completion of the fence / gate project - all done by Monday except Fow Street Gate

Keep the inquiries rolling.

Athletic Sports

The annual teachers versus students relay was held last Friday, unfortunately I missed selection for the teachers team again this year. The teachers appeared to be winners but after I celebrated it was confirmed Mr K failed to cross the finish line so I am bound to call the relay a tie. In the photo Mr Gardner appears to be moving quite quickly.



Hats

Our Indian Social Club have donated money to the school from their samosa sales. Reeta has agreed that it would be a good idea to purchase some spare hats on those days when kids forget to bring their hats to school. These will be available at the school office.

Inter School Athletics Sports (Year 4 - 6)

On Tuesday, some of the Ham West students from years 4-6 went to Melville High School to compete in our Interschools athletics. A successful and enjoyable day was had by all and we saw many pleasing results. Not only did we see successes in the events, but in the student's behaviour and constant display of the school values was very evident. A big thank you goes to Mr Seator and Nicola Campbell for their great work on the track events. Well done to everyone involved!

Swimming Pool

Great to have the pool operation, in the 9 years I have been at the school this is the earliest we have had it opened. Usually we only get a few days at the end of the term but this years weather has promoted us to get the pool operational.

Swimming pool keys are available from the office. Those people wanting to hire a key are required to have a brief meeting with me to discuss the agreement they are signing.

Road Patrol Fun Day

Yesterday our 2017 Road Patrol team spent the day at Water World to thank them for their service to the school and community throughout the year. Thank you for helping to keep our roads safe!

Parents, please remember to use the Hammond Street Crossing and to keep off the yellow lines. We want all of our children to remain safe during this busy season.

Stories from our students

Should Room 13 have a class puppy?

Since Lily Houben brought her puppies to school, there has been much discussion about whether or not Room 13 should have a class puppy. This crucial debate is of vital importance because a class pet could teach children how to care for animals, but this could go horribly wrong.

Lily, a student from Hamilton West School, has frankly said that having a class puppy will teach students how to take responsibility for animals (puppy) and how to share things with others. Furthermore, the statistics show that 26 out of 27 students in Room 13 like puppies (the one student who does not is a cat loving person). Also,

having a puppy in the class will relieve children from stress. Moreover, having a puppy in the class will help the children to show the core values of Hamilton West, namely Manaakitanga and Whanaungatanga as the students will need to care and look after the growing animal.

Alternatively, there are some cons to having a class puppy. The majority of people have said that a puppy could choke or die if pens, pencils, rubber or other classroom objects were lying around on the ground. Also, who would look after the puppy at night time? Furthermore, work levels will drop dramatically with the puppy distracting everybody (except for the cat lover). A cluster of people will say "none of that will ever happen", well what would happen if the puppy doesn't have a microchip and gets lost?

Having considered the arguments from both sides, we believe that Room 13 should not have a class puppy as the risk is too great. While Lily is usually right and has been a dog owner for many years, we have concluded that perhaps she has been influenced by these mammals and forgot about the responsibilities of having a puppy. **Paalav Naicker Year 6**



Stories from our students contd

Should Room 13 have a class puppy?

Since Lily brought her absolutely adorable puppies into school almost everybody in Room 13 wants a puppy. This crucial debate is of vital importance because many students will never be able to experience having a pet and they could learn to look after one. Maybe it will encourage some of them to get a pet at home.

Lily Houben, the famous puppy owner in Room 13 has argued that puppies are adorable little pets that should be loved and cared for. Lily has suggested that having a class puppy, would be beneficial to the children by making them learn even more about Hamilton West School values like kaitiakitanga. This is because the children would have to take more care of their class environment so we that we do not leave anything around that could harm the puppies health. Also, if we had a class puppy it would promote a healthy lifestyle as the children would get very fit by taking the puppy for loads of runs to make sure it isn't a lazy puppy. Additionally, I am sure that if someone isn't having the best of days a puppy will surely cheer them up.

However, puppies would also not be the greatest and some people do not think it is a good idea to have a puppy in the class. First of all, they point to the fact that it would poop a lot and smell really bad. Furthermore, some people just won't be able to handle the cuteness of it and they will just stare at it for ages. Moreover, if we have to put it in a cage inside it would take up a lot of space in the class.

Having considered the arguments from both sides, we believe that having a puppy would be great for learning and using the school values more often. So - we believe that Lily is correct in that Room 13 having a puppy would be beneficial for the class and its students. **Toby Edwards Year 6**

School Notices/BOT/PTA Notices

The next PTA meeting will be held on Monday 4th December, 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Lost Property

The Lost Property will be outside the office/library area during school time over the last few weeks of term. Could students/parents/caregivers please have a look and claim any outstanding clothing. On the final day of term any leftover clothing will either be used for second hand clothing or donated.

Scholastic/Lucky Book Club

Last day for orders **Wednesday 29th November**. Please make cheques payable to scholastic NOT Hamilton West School.

Dental Caravan

The Dental Caravan is currently at school and will be here for until the end of the week.

Sports Draws/Notices/Reports

Cricket Results.

The Ham West Heroes had a tough match against Marian School who won comfortably. The team did well however and learnt lots. Player of the day was Archie Joll who got 2 wickets bowling and also did a good job wicket-keeping.

Cricket Draw for Friday 1 December 2017

Southwell White Caps vs Ham West Blackcaps @ Southwell School

Ham West knights vs Tamahere Smashers @ Ham West School

Cricket Draw for Saturday 2 December 2017

Cambridge Sixers vs Ham West Hardball Heroes @ Leamington Domain

Touch Rugby Draw Thursday 30th November

Yr 3/4

3.45pm Field 9 Pukete Jaguars V'S Ham West Green

Yr 5/6

No touch this week due to camp.

Basketball Draw for Wednesday 29th November

Ham West Shooters vs Glenview Hawks 6.00pm YMCA Court 1

Basketball Draw for Friday 1st December

Ham West Stars vs Bankwood Breakers 5.30pm YMCA Court 2

Ham West Reds vs Kohe Crushers 5.00pm Hamilton Fraser High School Court 3

Important dates for Term 4

Calendar Dates for Term 4 - 2017

22/11/2017 Board of Trustees Meeting
22/11/2017 Yr 3 / 4 Athletics - field events - morning/middle block
23/11/2017 Yr 7 / 8 Athletics - morning/middle block
24/11/2017 Yr 5 / 6 Athletics - no time set as yet
28/11/2017 Yr 4 - 6 Interschool Athletics
29/11/2017 Year 8 Dinner
29/11/2017 Year 7 / 8 Interschool Athletics
29/11 - 1/12/2017 Year 5 & 6 Camp to Mt Maunganui
6 & 7/12/2017 Year 3 & 4 Te Aroha Trip
7/12/2017 Junior Athletics - Middle Block
7/12/2017 @ 5.30 pm Christmas on the Field
12/12/2017 @ 9.15am Senior Final Assembly
13/12/2017 Board of Trustees Meeting
13/12/2017 @ 9.30am Junior Final Assembly
14/12/2017 Reports and Classes for 2018, Stationery lists sent home
15/12/2017 @12.00 pm School closes for 2017

Community Notices/Advertising

Affordable swimming lessons from expert instructors

HOLIDAY BOOSTER COURSES - DOLPHNZ SWIM SCHOOL

January 15th – 19th. January 22nd – 26th

5 daily lessons. Enquire now. Teaching Hamilton children for 20years

P:07 8433380. E: swimming@orcon.net.nz

www.dolphnzwimsschool.co.nz

YMCA Holiday Programmes

Our friendly, staff can't wait to have your child on board with our MSD approved holiday programs these holidays. These holidays we will be busy with something different to do every day! We have activities ranging from science experiments, cooking, dance and gymnastics lessons. We will be going on exciting excursions over the holidays, to Water World Pools, Raglan Estuary, the Hamilton Gardens & Minigolf! For those parents and caregivers that have busy schedules, our programs run from 7:30am - 5:30pm at several convenient locations across Hamilton. Programme dates are; December; 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd (Hukanui & YMCA Stadium only). January; 3rd 4th 5th (Hukanui & YMCA Stadium only). January; 8th – 30th – all programs open!! For more information check us out at www.ymcahamilton.org.nz or call our friendly admin team on 07 838 2529.

