



Kia Manawanui

Newsletter No 01 / 5th February, 2015

Te Rā Waldorf School, Te Rāwhiti Kindergarten, Nursery and Playgroups

89 Poplar Avenue

Raumati South

Phone: 04 299 0812 Mobile: 021 2958618

e-mail: office@tera.school.nz www.tera.school.nz

162 Wellington Road

Paekakariki

Phone: 04 292 7072

Kia ora koutou, dear Parents, Whānau, and Friends,

Haere mai, welcome to the brand-new 2015 school year. Everyone seems to have arrived back with renewed energy, and there's a whole new cohort of children who are now taller than me!

It was a privilege to welcome into the school our Class 1 children and their whānau. They all came from our Kindergartens, bursting with excitement and well and truly ready to learn.

We were also honoured to welcome a number of older children and their whānau to Te Rā:

Connor (Class 6), Caelie (Class 4) and Fergus (Class 2) McDonald and their parents Shelley Wrigley and Ryan McDonald; Jacob (Class 6) and Maya (Class 3) Callwood and their parents Brenda Rosenberg and Joe Callwood; and Abe (Class 5) and Daisy (Class 2) Calder and their parents Jodie and Phil Calder – *Nau mai, haere mai ki Te Rā.*

There have been some additions and changes to the staff as well. Marianna Luketina wants to spend more time with her mokopuna and is teaching the Ruru kindergarten group one day less, from Monday to Wednesday. Olivia Chubb is going to teach the group on Thursdays, and also the Nursery class on Fridays.

Sharon Wilmshurst was appointed as the Class 1 Support Teacher. She brings a wealth of experience, and will be a wonderful Class 1 Teacher on Fridays.

Jill Duncan has been appointed as the Operations Coordinator and is taking on some of the administrative tasks of the principal role, which in turn allows me to fully concentrate on teaching Class 1 this year.

Jill's role includes financial monitoring and reporting, work with parent liaisons, marketing and outreach. However, I remain the principal of Te Rā in all aspects, including the above. Nothing changes about my open-door policy – I am as keen as ever to hear from you, bouquets or brickbats. As I am not in my office so much, though, I ask you to see Maxine for an available time.

The Board is putting the finishing touches to a flowchart which illustrates how our new complaints procedure works for you. We will publish this on our website and in the updated Parent Handbook which will come out soon. This year we are aiming to establish a journey folder for whānau which can be updated with relevant information and communication as the year goes on.

Also new this year is a comprehensive calendar which gives an overview of all events, festivals, parent evenings, sports days, etc. throughout the year, for school and Kindergarten. We will also post this on the website, and it will hopefully allow you to plan in advance the arrangements you need to make in order to be able to attend Parent Evenings and other important events.

Finally, please remember also that our new Special Character Guidelines are available on our website www.tera.school.nz

Nga mihi mahana,

Andrea Sorger, on behalf of the College of Teachers
(Sue Hurst, Jutta Kress, Elien Hoffmans, and Andrea Sorger)

Diary of Dates

Friday 6 February	School Closed – Waitangi Day
Monday 9 February	Playgroups Commence
Wednesday 11 February	School Lunches Commence
Wednesday 11 February	School Bee Group Meet at Beehives 3.05pm
Wednesday 11 February	Class 6 Parent Evening 7pm
Thursday 12 February	BOT Meeting 6.30pm
Tuesday 17 February	Kitchen Club 10.00am-12noon
Wednesday 18 February	Interschool Triathlon Classes 5/6/7
Wednesday 18 February	Class 7 Parent Hui 6.30pm
Wednesday 18 February	Discussion about Waldorf Upper School Education with visitors Caroline Gray and David Stephenson from Raphael House 7.30pm (talk will be held in Class 7 after the C7 Parent Hui)
	All Welcome.
23-27 February	Class 6 Camp
Friday 27 February	Information Afternoon 2.30pm
Wednesday 4 March	Class 5 Parent Evening 6.30pm
Friday 27 March	Information Afternoon 2.30pm
Saturday 28 March	Working Bee
Thursday 2 April	Last Day Term 1
Monday 20 April	First Day Term 2
Monday 27 April	Anzac Day Holiday
Sunday 3 May	Harvest Fair

Tuesday 5 May	Interschool Mountain Biking
Wednesday 27 May	Interschool Orienteering
Monday 1 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 2 June	Teacher Development Day – No school or kindergarten
Thursday 11 June	Class 4 to Wgtn Zoo
Wednesday 17 June	Interschool Cross-country
Friday 3 July	Last Day Term 2
Monday 20 July	First Day Term 3
Tuesday 11 August	Interschool Junior Sports Tournament
Friday 28 August	Mid-term Break – No School or Kindergarten
Wednesday 9 September	Interschool Senior Sports Tournament
Friday 25 September	Last Day Term 3
Monday 12 October	First Day Term 4
Thursday 15 October	School and Kindergarten Photos
Monday 26 October	Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 27 October	Teacher Development Day – No School or Kindergarten
7-8 December	Class 4 Camp

From the Office

Special Character Pledge 2015 and Disbursement Commitment

We are still waiting for 35% of our families to pledge their Special Character contribution for this year. This is now nearly three months overdue and the school simply can't form a realistic budget without this essential support from the parent body. Many reminders via the newsletter, by email and three times by snail mail have gone unanswered; the latest reminder with the form was posted a week ago.

PLEASE fill in your Special Character pledge / Disbursement promise form and return to Ralph in the office immediately.

Thank you again to those of you who have returned their pledge forms. Please ensure you have begun your automatic payment online if this is your preferred method of payment. From the school and kindergarten point of view, this works best and our experience is that families manage their gifting of funds most effectively this way. The bank account number for the Trust to receive your pledge is 03 0732 0293275 01 and the bank account number for the School to receive your disbursement payment is 03 0732 0443499 00 – please take particular care to get the right account number for the appropriate payment.

Thank you.

Transport Assistance

Students might be eligible for this assistance if

- they are under age 10 and live more than 3.2 km from Te Ra, or
- they are aged 10 or older and live more than 4.8 km from Te Ra, and
- they do not have access to public passenger transport.

Please see Ralph in the office for an application form.

Bus Payments

Bus payments can be made to account 03 0732 0293275 01; please put your name and the word "bus" in one of the reference fields. For those without the transport subsidy the cost is \$300 per child per term. If you are in doubt as to how much to pay, please contact Ralph in the office.

Weekly School Lunches

These will commence from next Wednesday (11 Feb). Current cost/menu is \$3.00 per lunch for either a lasagne or samosa. We will be reviewing the menu options in the next few weeks, so you may wish to hold off paying for the full term until it has been finalised. Please place your order and hand in payment to the school office.

Wanted for School Gardening Projects

Please contact Mark, our school gardening teacher, or the school office if you have;

1. A source of natural clay that can be dug for a gardening project with Class 7
2. Terracotta Pots of any size, the bigger the better for another gardening project.

Te Ra Community Events

School Bee Group

The School Bee Group will be meeting at the Beehives after school (3.05pm) next Wednesday the 11th February. All Welcome!!

Kitchen Club

First gathering for 2015!! ALL WELCOME to join us for a grand ZUCCHINI FEST on TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY, 10am - 12noon in the Te Ra school kitchen.....We'll share ideas and recipes and get a feel for the character and qualities of this "fruit" vegetable (and its friends and relations)! And needless to say we'll whip up a feast of zucchini deliciousness to share! Cost: \$5, plus \$5 for ingredients. To RSVP for this occasion or to find out more about the Kitchen Club please contact Debbie ter Borg (04 565 1780 or debyterborg@hotmail.com)

Te Wānanga Kaupapa Steiner

In the summer school holidays, some teachers are a bit like their students: we go to bed a bit too late, we sleep in, we swim in the sea and eat lots of ice cream when it's hot, or even when it's not so hot, we go on holiday with our families and we walk barefoot on the beach. And like our students we try not to think too much about school and spelling and math and all that. So when the last few precious weeks of the holidays come round, we try to make the best of it. But for some of us this year, making "the best" of our last teaching free days had less to do with ice cream and sleeping in, and more with getting up early to get to class on time. That was because we spent three full days in the company of several dozen Waldorf colleagues from around the country at a wānanga held at the Taruna College in Havelock. Instead of standing in front of a class, we enjoyed being students again!



For three days, Kaiako Māori from Taikura Rudolf Steiner School (Hastings) and from Waikato Waldorf School (Hamilton) shared waiata, stories, games and other activities that connected us not only with te reo, but also with the many other areas where our Waldorf curriculum has so much potential to meet Te Ao Māori – in subjects like form drawing or handwork as much as during many main lessons and in the "Waldorf way" of teaching in itself.

One of the most memorable experiences for me was to paddle a waka ama up and down a part of Clive River with my colleagues one very (!) early morning. Equally inspiring, though not through personal experience (not yet, anyway!), was learning about Whakatere Waka, the celestial navigation used by the Māori ancestors for their journeys throughout the vast ocean that is Te Moananui-a-Kiwa, which eventually led them to discover and settle in Aotearoa. I am already looking forward to sharing this with my students next year in Class 7 as part of two main lessons (Science: Astronomy; and History: The Great Voyages of Exploration).

Other than that, I particularly enjoyed learning more about, and practising, raranga harakeke. I can't say I have turned out an expert flax weaver quite yet, but I have been supplying harakeke bracelets for all my family members and several friends in the last two weeks!



Kerstin Wagner

Harvest Fair

Planning for the Harvest Fair has begun. We are keen to hear from anyone who is willing to join the Fair Core Group. Please contact the office if you are keen, willing and able.

Ashton Scholastic Book Club

Our School has now registered with Ashton Scholastic Book Club so discounted books for your family can now be purchased via our school office. We have catalogues available in the school office if you didn't receive one with the school newsletter this week. Order forms need to be completed and returned to the office with money/credit card details by the 24th February. Parents will be notified when the books have arrived.

Māori Language Week

Tēnā koutou katoa, ngā mihi nui kia koutou ki te hou - 2015!



Te kupu o tēnei wiki: **manuhiri**
(*visitor*)

Kua tae mai ngā **manuhiri**.
(*The visitors have arrived.*)

If you are keen to support te reo at our kura, please share your enthusiasm with your family and friends, and of course with us! Your suggestions, ideas and contributions are welcome!

More information, and a link to the list of all kupu, can be found on this website: <http://www.korerero.maori.nz/news/mlw>

If one new kupu per week is not enough for you and you would like to receive a new word daily by email, have a peek at <http://kupu.maori.nz/> and sign up. Ka mau te wehi!

Community Notices and Advertising

Kids Summer Hockey - Give hockey Go 2015 for years 5-8

at Kapiti Hockey Turf 10 Scaife Drive, Paraparaumu. **STARTS MONDAY 16th February – Monday 16th March between 4-5**

Registrations close: Weds 11th Feb 2015 \$25pp to sign up online go to: <http://www.kapitihockey.org.nz/primary> Or simply turn up 3.45pm on the day. You Must have a mouthguard & shin pads but a stick can be provided if necessary. Thanks Sue Spellacey 0297774822

Waikanae Football Registrations Open

We are now taking registrations for Junior footballers, you can register online or come to our Registration Day, Sunday 22 February 10am-1pm, Jim Cooke Park, Waikanae. See our website for more information, www.waikanaefootball.com or email wfa.jnr@gmail.com. Registrations close 28 February.

Kapiti Coast United Football

If you would like to play football on the Kapiti Coast, please visit kcu.co.nz or refer to the poster on our school noticeboard.

Hoop Club Kapiti – Junior Basketball Coaching Programme

Restarts for Term 1, 2015 Sunday 15 February and runs through to Sunday 29 March

KCDC Sports hall, Paraparaumu College, Mazengarb Road

9.30 to 10.30am 5 to 8 year olds

10.30 to 11.30am 9 to 13 year olds

11.30 to 12.30pm 13 to 17 year olds

ALL NEW PLAYERS MOST WELCOME

Contact: Angelo Robinson 9040142

Email: contactus.kba@gmail.com Website: WWW.KBA.CO.NZ

The Kapiti Music Centre

The Kapiti Music Centre is an out of hours Ministry of Education and Charitable Trust Music School which offers very affordable group music tuition in 15 different instruments for students from 4 years of age to adults. The Centre employs professional Tutors who have many years of teaching experience. Our 2015 enrolment evenings are on Tuesday 10 February 5.00 – 7.30pm and Thursday 12 February 5.00 – 7.30pm at St Patricks Primary School, Tongariro St, Paraparaumu. For more information about the Music Centre visit our Website www.kapitimusiccentre.org.nz If you are interested in enrolling but are unable to come to our enrolment evenings please contact the Manager on 021 297 1413 or email us at admin@kapitimusiccentre.org.nz

Drama Classes

Tuesdays 4.00 - 5.00 at Raumati South Memorial Hall, starting Feb 10th and Wednesdays 3.45 - 5.00 at Scout Hall, Paekakariki. Fees \$70 per term. Come and have heaps of fun while learning valuable skills in communication, presentation and much more. Our classes are mostly project based so far we have done street theatre, written and produced a radio play and a film and performed a play for local children. Please email Julia for more details or come along for a free session. thepineappleproject@gmail.com or 027 6888 292/292 8667.

Vegetarian Cooking Workshop

Sunday 22 February 9.30am – 2pm

Learn the art of seasonal vegetarian cooking following Ayurvedic principles. This is an informative, fun, hands on workshop that culminates in a delightful feast of summer treats.

Cost: \$60 incl an organic vegetarian lunch and a recipe booklet

Location: 28 Te Miti St, Paekakariki. Booking essential. 5 places left

Beautiful house to rent in Paekakariki

3 bedrooms, for 9 months (8 April 2015 to 1 January 2016)

Sunny warm modern home. Heat pump and fireplace in an open plan lounge and kitchen. All 3 bedrooms have panel heaters and plenty of light. Large fenced back garden with vege patch, fruit trees, outdoor bath, climbing wall, trampoline and lily pond. There is the option of having it fully furnished, partially furnished or unfurnished. 5 minutes walk to the beach, Queen Elizabeth Park and Paekak Kindy. All for \$415 per week. Interested? Call Anja on 905 8865 or 021 023 50601





**SELF, NATURE AND
SOCIETY:
AWAKENING THE EYE
OF THE
IMAGINATION**

**AN INTERNATIONAL 30 WEEK (MIN.)
PART-TIME DISTANCE COURSE**

**COMMENCE ANYTIME AND WORK AT
YOUR OWN PACE**

**EXPLORING THE WORLDS OF
NATURE AND THE HUMAN BEING
THROUGH IMAGINATIVE COGNITION**

*‘If we want to attain a living
understanding of nature, we
must become as flexible and
mobile as nature herself’*

Goethe

**For more information please go to:
www.ateliersocialquest.com**

Waldorf Education on the Kapiti Coast

- ❖ How can we help young people develop a lifelong enthusiasm for learning and work?
- ❖ How can the way in which children are educated foster a healthy self-awareness?
- ❖ How can education help them understand the needs of peoples of all cultures and the needs of the environment?

All prospective School and Kindergarten parents
are warmly invited to our

Information Afternoons 2.30pm

Friday, 27th February
Friday, 27th March

at Te Ra Waldorf School, 89 Poplar Ave, Raumati South

There will be plenty of opportunity for questions.
Or phone the office on 04 299-0812 for an information pack.

