

Diary Dates

Coming Up . . .

- Monday 21st May BoT/Council Meeting 7.30pm Tawhai Class
- Wednesday 23rd May 2nd Instalment of School Accounts due
- Wednesday 23rd May Preschool Parents Morning Tea 9am California Garden Centre Cafe
- Wednesday 23rd May Tāwari Performance Evening 7pm High School
- Thursday 24th May Technology Year 7
- Friday 25th May Whānau Hui 5.30pm Tōtara Class
- Friday 25th May 6-9 Autumn Astronomy Night 7pm
- Monday 28th May Swimming Sports (Y4->) 12pm Stokes Valley Pool
- Monday 28th May Kapa Haka 3.40pm
- Tuesday 29th May PTA AGM 7pm
- Thursday 31st May Technology Year 7

Your Montessori Baby Series



Would you like to learn how to introduce Montessori elements into your parenting of your baby or toddler? Our 4-week series of talks (adults only) shows how simple it is to bring Montessori into your home and the care of your little ones. This series begins on Wednesday, 30th May from 10.30am to 12noon. The cost is \$50 for the 4 weeks with small numbers to ensure a personal and friendly environment with time for questions and answers. To reserve your place please email [danielle](mailto:danielle@waora.school.nz).

This Week

Multi-age Groupings

By Jackie Kirk – Kauri Teacher - Primary

Montessori environments are prepared for multi-age groupings of children. These groupings encourage children to aspire to the achievements of older peers. New (younger) students enter an established and mature environment with effective models of both work and social interaction and in turn, the older children learn to treat younger ones with care and respect, providing them with opportunities to reinforce their own learning and understanding through 'peer teaching'. Children are also able to work through the curriculum at their own pace without being limited to one year of the curriculum only.

At Wā Ora Montessori all our environments are prepared for multi-age groupings - playgroup (for children from 0 to 3 years), preschool (for children from 3 to 6 years), primary school (classrooms for children aged from 6 to 9 years and for children aged 9 to 12 years) and secondary school (a learning environment for students aged 12 to 15 and one for students aged 15 to 18 years).

The advantages of multi-age grouping include the following:

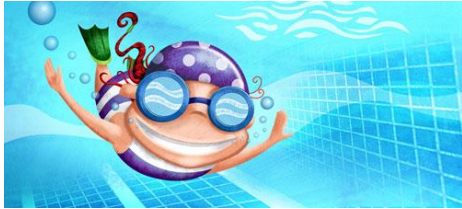
- the opportunity to experience three roles i.e. being the youngest, in the middle and the oldest and the time to develop appropriate behaviours for all three roles.
- experiences that stimulate a sense of caring and responsibility for others and the continuation from year to year of the culture of the class as a caring community.
- experience of social cohesion and a sense of place gained from being in the same environment for three years.
- exposure to a diversity of talents, aptitudes and interests and a wide curriculum beyond a single year.
- participation in peer teaching.
- experience of appropriate behaviour and teaching and learning modelled from a broad age range of their peers.
- development of self-esteem and a greater understanding of community responsibility from roles as leaders in the group.
- groupings of similar interests and learning needs from across the age groups working together at their own pace.
- experience of stability and social cohesion with the same teacher within a stable community for three years.
- the teacher is able to build a solid relationship with each new student.
- individual learning is more effectively supported because there is more opportunity for teachers to know the students well.

If you get the opportunity to observe in a Montessori environment, then consider the essential element of multi-age grouping and see for yourself how it works and allows children to develop socially, emotionally and intellectually at their individual pace.



Jackie joined the Wā Ora Montessori community in 2017. Her teaching career has spanned various locations and covered various aspects of the educational spectrum. She embarked on her professional Montessori journey in 2009 when she undertook her AMI 6-12 Diploma in Sydney. Following this she has taught primary Montessori classes in Australia and New Zealand. Outside of school Jackie enjoys spending time with whānau and friend and exploring the outdoors.

Wā Ora Swimming Sports



These will be held next Monday 28th May, at Stokes Valley Pool from 12noon - 3pm for year 4-13 students (attendance is optional for Kawakawa and Tawari).

Students will travel by bus to the pool, leaving school at 11.30am. They will need togs, goggles, a towel, a water bottle and a snack.

Parents are welcome – as time keepers, results recorders or as spectators. If you would like more information, please email sarahjane@waora.school.nz.

Sports Results

Wā Ora Badminton

Junior Girls vs Sacred Heart 10 4-3

Wā Ora Basketball

Seniors (Year 11-13s) vs Kapiti 4 44-72

Juniors (Year 9-10s) vs Heretaunga

College 68-32

Wā Ora Netball

Grading matches continued this weekend.

Tui (Year 9s & up) vs Sacred Heart 21 5-7

Tui (Year 9s & up) vs Naenae 5 5-13

Miromiro (Year 7-8s) vs NIS 24-0

Miromiro (Year 7-8s) vs WIS 3 15-1

Congratulations

Well done to Nea Blackham, who has been selected for the Capital U16 Girls Futsal team to play in the NZ Nationals in July.

PTA AGM - Rescheduled

Our PTA Annual General Meeting has been rescheduled next Tuesday 29th May, from 7pm in the staff room. We will be electing two positions at the AGM – Chairperson and Secretary. If you would like to join this fantastic group of parents, who have a lot of fun, whilst helping the Wā Ora community, please come along – we'd love to see you there.



Entertainment Books

Payment for Entertainment books or return of them to the office is now overdue. Please either pay for them or return them to the office ASAP.

Yarn needed!

Wā Ora children are doing so much knitting, crochet and weaving that they are running out of yarn! If you have any odd balls of any type of yarn that you could donate, we would love to turn them into wonderful creations! Please drop them into the office or the fabulous new Tawhai building (come and have a look!) anytime. Thanks so much.

Tāwari Performance Night

Every year since 2016 Tāwari students put together a Performance Evening. It is a chance for students with performance-based talents, such as playing an instrument, dancing or singing, to showcase their skills in front of an audience. The performance evening is this Wednesday, 23rd May 7pm - 8.30pm in T2 (also known as the old high school gym). We have ten or so performances for you and a huge amount of effort has gone into each one. A bring-a-plate style snack bar will be available throughout the night.

Playgroup Parents Morning Tea



Playgroup parents are invited to come along for a relaxed chat and a catch up this Wednesday, 23rd May at 9am after drop off at The Blue Orange Café, California Garden Centre, 316 Waiwhetu Road, Fairfield. These morning teas are very relaxed affairs. Stay for as long or as short as you can manage. Little ones are welcome 😊

Lost Property Rack Full

Please check the lost property rack for your child/ren's clothes, located in the hall past the office (next to the fish tank) as it is filling up already this term.

Lost Glasses

If you have seen or come across a pair of black and blue framed glasses in a case, please get in touch with Connie Webster (021 537 169), as these belong to her daughter Psalms-Rangimarie and have been missing since last week.

Restore Your Core Course

We have 2 courses coming up located in Lower Hutt. RYC™ 6-Week Course Mums and Bubs and RYC™ 6-Week Course. Both run on Thursdays from 21st June – 26th July. Mums and bubs at 10:30am - 11:45am at BodyMana Pilates Studio, Level 1, 6 Margaret Street and the regular RYC™ Course at 6pm - 7:15pm at Hutt Physio, 50 Bloomfield Terrace. The cost of \$140 includes a 15minute Skype troubleshooting session. Book at shelleymccarten.com/onlineshop.

STEMM Festival Activities

Science Starters

Experiment, explore, and engage at this hands-on science session at Lower Hutt Library on Thursday 24th May at 3.45pm. This session is for ages 5-12. Spaces are limited. Please arrive early to get a spot.

3D Printing - Youth Drop-In

Curious about 3D printers? Come and see one in action at the Lower Hutt War Memorial Library this Saturday 26th May between 2pm and 4pm! This event is for youth, aged 13-18 and is free to attend. There will be a small fee (\$2-3 to cover the cost of materials) if you'd like to take a 3D printed object home.

Stop Motion Animation Workshop

Learn how to make a simple stop-motion animation and create their own short movie at the Petone Library on Saturday 26th May from 1.30pm – 3.30pm. For ages 5+ and free admission. Spaces are limited, so please register by emailing LibrariesEvents@huttcity.govt.nz.

Taita Community Yoga

Ever wanted to try yoga? Come along to this beginner-friendly class at Walter Nash Centre on Thursdays at 6.15pm. \$5 at the door. Your first class is free for those who want to have-a-go and try it out first. Spaces for this class are limited. Mats are provided and you are welcome to bring your own mat. Suitable for all ages and levels of experience. Call 04 560 0305 for more information.