

## Diary Dates

### Coming Up . . .

- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June Kapa Haka 3.40pm Tōtara
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June BoT/Council Meeting 7.30pm staffroom
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June Technology Year 7
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June Tāwari to Wellington Careers Expo
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June Kapa Haka 3.40pm Tōtara
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June Technology Year 7
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June Launch of 'Work of Wool' War Memorial Library 6pm
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July Working Bee 9am – 12 noon
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July Kapa Haka 3.40pm Tōtara
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July Technology Year 7
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July Kawakawa Coffeehouse 7pm

### Working Bee



Please check below for your eldest child's name to attend this working bee. Contact the office with any queries.

#### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June

9am – 12noon

Keilan Cross	Asher Emmanuel
Dilynn Atkins	Madeleine Bailey
Jack Carras	Catherine Harrison
Oliver Harrison	Ava Hunt-Ingledew
Mitchell Jellicoe	Anya Joseph
Jesse Karl	Eva Lamb
Logan McShane	Angus Newlands
Eulie Norton	Toni Partridge
Michael Owen	Eli Shearer
Vanisha Tandon	
Tully Whittington- Werry	

## This Week

### Science at Wā Ora - Primary Learning Supports NCEA Success

By Stuart Mason – Chemistry Teacher, High School

I have already mentioned in this space how easy it is to become trapped in one's own high school silo and not realise the great things going on not far away. Through recent conversations with my colleagues in the primary school, I have been prompted to think more about the experiences of our students in the sciences in the primary school and high school at Wā Ora.

Working as we do under Maria Montessori's guidance, one might expect that learning in science had been very deeply considered and that is indeed the case. In other primary schools the quality of the science learning experience for young people can be determined by whether there is a teacher present in the school, who feels confident about teaching science. There is nothing haphazard about the strategy for a Montessori student's science learning from 6-12 years. They are offered the entire universe as their domain of exploration, then provided with materials that deal with everything from atomic structure, properties of materials and hands-on chemical experiments to key developmental concepts in biology, geology, astronomy and more.

But then, about that bomb-proof age of 12, bodies and minds start to change radically. Suddenly things aren't so certain. The learning domain is no longer the universe, but the world of social discovery. A key Montessori concept now is the 'hands in the soil' experience of the history of human cooperation. Other schools have tended to call this social learning the 'hidden curriculum' and in the worst examples, it is side-lined or suppressed. But actually it is the day job of the adolescent. So, what science learning is appropriate? In the Kawakawa class, 'occupations' is the name of an activity in which students work on projects with a community orientation and learn the scientific knowledge they need to complete the project 'knowledgeably'. This is just-in-time learning, not just-in-case learning. Richard has worked with the occupations teachers in the past year to add some science experiences that cover aspects of the curriculum that don't arise quite so automatically in occupations. In Kawakawa the net effect is students with real, practical experience of science-related community activities.

At 15 years, the focus shifts again in preparation for 'social life', the adult world. This will include formal academic learning and assessments that might open doors into that world. And so the much-anticipated NCEA appears over the horizon. Are our students well-prepared by their past science experiences? Consensus amongst the Tāwari science teachers has been 'yes'. All the absorbed experiences of the young mind, that well thought-out plan from the Second Plane, the practical experiences of Kawakawa upon which formal learning can be based and what I am convinced is the encouragement of natural curiosity that happens right from the start in families that choose Montessori education for their children, all work together. The result is, our NCEA students are succeeding in the sciences and our graduates are too.



Stuart has taught chemistry, mathematics, occupations and micro economy in the high school since 2013. Prior to this he taught in other schools in New Zealand and the UK. Stuart loves working with the 12-18 age group because it is a fascinating part of life's journey and it is a joy to see just how much can be achieved by the extraordinary adolescent mind when it is given the opportunities of independent thought and collaborative work offered in a Montessori environment.

## Sports Results

**Wā Ora Badminton**

Div 3 Junior Boys vs HIBS 7 1-5.  
Div 4 Junior Girls vs Chilton 3 6-0.  
Senior Mixed vs HVHS 7 2-4.

**Wā Ora Basketball**

Seniors (Year 11-13s) vs Tawa 90-20.  
Juniors (Year 9-10s) vs Onslow 3 76-33.  
Miniball (Year 5-6s) vs Waterloo Knights 18-2.  
Tiniball (Year 3-4s) vs Epuni Thunder 20-10.

**Wā Ora Netball**

Tui (Year 9s & up) vs SHC 19 16-2.  
Miromiro (Year 7-8s) vs NIS 2 32-19.

**Well Done to . . .**

Cecily Holland and Nea Blackham, who have been selected to play for the HVHS Girls Football 1st XI team in the Whanganui High School Exchange Tournament on Tuesday. Go well girls, and good luck!

**Basketball Coaching**

A great opportunity for parents and senior students thinking of getting involved in coaching primary/intermediate level basketball is the free Kiwi Hoops Foundation Course being offered by Capital Basketball. Register at [capitalbasketball.org](http://capitalbasketball.org).

**FREE COACH EDUCATION**

**KIWI HOOPS COACH FOUNDATION COURSES**

- BENZ accredited entry level coaching course teaching best practice methods for coaching basketball to 5-13 year olds.
- Learn 'WHAT' to coach' and 'HOW' to coach' 2 hours long, theory and practical teaching

**COURSES AVAILABLE**

SUNDAY 24 JUNE, 1:30PM, PARAPARAUMU COLLEGE COMMUNITY GYM  
SUNDAY 1 JULY, 10AM, RONGOTAI COLLEGE GYM  
WEDNESDAY 4 JULY, 6:30PM, TUI GLEN SCHOOL (HALL), STOKES VALLEY

ALL COURSES ARE FREE  
Register at [capitalbasketball.org](http://capitalbasketball.org)

**Sports Uniforms Amnesty - Check your Drawers!**

A number of our school sports uniforms are missing in action. If you have been issued a basketball or netball uniform in the past couple of years and didn't get around to returning it, please return it to the school office - no questions asked!! :-)

**Wā Ora has a Communication App**

Our new communication app will launch next Monday! This will make it easier for caregivers/whānau to keep up to date with school news and to notify the office of absences. You will also be able to book after school care, check the blogs, read the newsletter, link to our facebook, website and much more, all via the app. Best of all you can sign up for alerts relevant to your child's class/activities/sports, etc. Details of how to download the app will be texted out next Monday as well as on posters around the school and our facebook page.

**Thank You To . . .**

A big acknowledgement goes out to Dean Humphries, dad of Poppy-Jane and Florentine, who kindly supplies our preschool with rabbit food for snuggles☺.

And still on the theme of Snuggles, a big thank you to the family of Colton Barnes in Rewarewa, who have donated a brand new rabbit hutch. It is now in the outdoor environment and Snuggles is installed!

**Playgroup Coffee Group Starts T3 0-18 months**

Our Wā Ora Montessori Coffee Group for parents and their babies/toddlers aged new-born to 18 months old is starting up in week 1, Term 3. The coffee group will run every Wednesday morning from 9am - 10.30am during term time in our playgroup room. Tea and coffee will be provided (parents, please feel free to bring food for your little one if they will need a snack).

Come along for a free initial visit and spend some relaxed time in our playgroup environment, set up with Montessori materials specifically designed for the 0-18 month age group. Each week Dannielle, our playgroup coordinator, will lead a discussion on a different aspect of Montessori that you might like to use with your little one. If you have any questions, please email [dannielle@waora.school.nz](mailto:dannielle@waora.school.nz). We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Casual Walking Netball**

Walking netball is regular netball, but with a low impact twist - no running or jumping allowed - one foot needs to stay on the ground at all times. All adults of all ages are welcome, just turn up on the night. \$5 per player. Teams are made up on the night. Lots of fun and ideal for anyone who loves netball but perhaps can't run or jump like they used to. At Walter Nash Stadium, Fridays in June, 6.30pm - 8pm.

**National War Memorial Carillon Winter Recital Series**

To celebrate the completion of a four-year restoration of the National War Memorial Carillon, we invite you to Pukeahu to hear national carillonist, Timothy Hurd QSM, playing the carillon bells at a series of free recitals at Pukeahu, Buckle St, Mt Cook, Wellington. Visitors will also have the opportunity to take an in-depth look around the stories behind five of the carillon bells, dedicated by Wellingtonians in memory of those who died in the Great War. For days and times throughout the rest of June, please go to [Eventfinda](http://Eventfinda).

**Puppet Show: Puppets in the Portrait Gallery @ Te Papa**

Bring your little ones along to this captivating puppet show, inspired by portraits in Toi Art. Puppeteer Anna Bailey of String Bean Puppets performs three shows based on artworks displayed on the portrait wall in Toi Art, Te Papa's brand new art gallery. School holiday sessions are on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am - 10.50am and 11.30am - 11.50am, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am - 10.50am and 11.30am - 11.50am and - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am - 10.50am and 11.30am - 11.50am.

**Mud Hub Day**

Get outside, release your inner child and bring your family along to our Mud Hub at Tunnel Gully Recreation Area, Pakuratahi Forest, Upper Hutt, on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June 12noon - 2pm! There will be something for everyone - a mud slide, a mud kitchen, a tug of war, a muddy paws walk and giveaways from Ecostore! There will be Coffee and Food Trucks on site - Cash Only. Brought to you by Activation, GWRC and UHCC.