

## Diary Dates

### Coming up . . .

- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December **Tāwari activities day** 8.30 am
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December **end of year school concert** 11 am
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December **SCHOOL CLOSSES 1 pm**
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>–Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December **preschool and afterschool care open**
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January **first day back 2019 high school**
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January **first day back 2019 preschool and primary school**

### Christmas gift donations



This year we're collecting Christmas gifts for Angel Tree Aotearoa. Thank you to those whānau who have already donated a gift and if you would still like to leave something under the tree, it's not too late! Contributions can be made at either the office or the high school until Friday. Please wrap your gift if possible and label with the suitable age and gender. If you would like to donate cash instead, please give to the ladies in the office.

### Wishing you all happy holidays!



A reminder to stay safe these holidays if you're travelling on the roads, at the beaches or just generally out and about! Have fun recharging your batteries for more great times in 2019!

## This Week

### 2018 recap

*By Ava Szabo–Principal*

Kia ora whānau

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year and what a year we have had! So many exciting moments—it's difficult to know where to begin, so I have chosen just a few highlights to reflect on.

Matariki—What a day and evening it was! We had it all - excitement, adventure, a great story with an amazing storyteller and a whole school performance that allowed us to come together as a community to celebrate a very important and special part of our year. Matariki is a time to remember those who have gone before us, a time to celebrate the present and look forward to the future.



were kept entertained.

And not to forget the PTA quiz night. What an event! A huge undertaking by a dedicated few meant that we could all enjoy a fabulous night. I can't wait to be part of this again next year.



Organised largely by our year 13 students, this is a celebration shared with teachers and whānau where our leavers take centre stage, making speeches and acknowledging their families and teachers for the contributions they make.

These are just a few of the many fabulous occasions large and small, that were hosted at Wā Ora this year. I know many of you have been part of them and I wish I had time to mention them all. They say a picture paints a thousand words.....

Another highlight was our new whole-school event, an opportunity for us to gather as a community and just be. This year it was appropriate to use this occasion to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was a time for the whole family to be part of the school's festivities that began with speeches and cake cutting along with time to meet up with friends and chat while our tamariki



The leavers dinner is an annual affair that I had the privilege to attend on Friday, our 5<sup>th</sup> for Wā Ora. This is an acknowledgment and celebration of our senior ākonga as they prepare to leave school and step out into the next phase of their lives; it is such an exciting time. This is not a whole community event, but it is very special and important in its own right.

## Sport

### Touch results

Our final games were on Thursday (unfortunately results are not yet available) finishing out another great season that involved 27 kids over 4 teams. Big thanks to Ike Tapine, Sharon Udy and Ben Love for coaching the teams.

### Futsal results

Senior Mixed v HVHS Brown, 6-3.  
Junior Girls v HVHS Pink, we defaulted.  
Junior Mixed v Upper Hutt Green, 2-7.  
Junior Mixed v Heretaunga 2, win by default.

## After School Care Supervisor (maternity leave cover)

We are looking for someone to cover for our ASC Supervisor whilst she is on maternity leave. This is a fixed term position for term 1 and 2, with a start date late January 2019. Hours are Monday–Friday (during term time) 2.45 pm–6 pm. For an application pack and further information, please see Jo in the office or email [joanne@waora.school.nz](mailto:joanne@waora.school.nz). Applications close 5 pm next Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## Preschool parents signing

If you are a parent of a preschooler, please drop into the office this week to get your signing up to date. This is a Ministry requirement and it's important you are up-to-date before the end of the school year.

## 2019 donations increase reminder

A reminder to parents of preschool and high school students that fees and donations will be adjusted upwards at the start of term 1 2019 to \$880 and \$850 respectively per term. Primary donations stay the same as current. If you have any queries regarding how this will affect payment amounts, please contact Donna.

## Te reo Māori classes



Well done to the mātua (parents) and kaiako (teachers) who completed the te reo Māori classes held at Wā Ora and run by Whitireia Polytechnic. Ka pai! Watch this space. We're going to try running another class next year!

## End of year concert



This Wednesday's end of year concert starts at 11 am at the high school. Parents may arrive from 10.40 am.

### Parking

Parking will only be available on Rata Street, as the high school front concrete area is now fenced off for the renovation work. If you have either preschool or primary children, it would be best to park at the main school (parking will be available on the court also) and walk up/back as children will need to be picked up from their class afterwards unless there is a prior arrangement with a teacher.

THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE ON WEDNESDAY.

### Timetable

**10.40 am Parents start arriving**

**11 am Opening address**

**11.05 am Scott Champion, BoT chair**

**11.10 am Andrea Thompson, PTA chair**

**11.15 am Class items (Nīkau, Rewarewa, Pōhutukawa, Kōwhai, Rātā, Pūriri, Kauri, Tōtara, Tawhai, Kawakawa, Tāwari)**

**12.10pm Leavers Ceremony**

**12.20pm Ava Szabo, Principal**

**12.25pm Staff leaving the school**

**12.30 pm Staff item**

**12.35 pm Concert finished**

**1 pm SCHOOL CLOSED**

## Newsletter moving to the app

From next year our weekly school newsletter will be available via the school communications app but will no longer be emailed. We will still have hard copies available from the counter at the school office should you prefer this and remember that the newsletter is also able to be viewed on the login part of the school website if you wish to read on a larger screen than your phone. If you have not yet downloaded our app, here is the [link](#) to do so.

## Fun Christmas present idea



Tōtara students, Alvin, Edmund and Toby participated in a Stokes Valley craft fair in term 3. "The Armoury" got busy making helmets, axes and various weapons as a fundraiser for the library. They have several helmets available for sale for \$10, in the school office.

## Help needed for school drop offs

If anyone based in the Avalon/Naenae/Wainui areas can help with before school care for Esra in Nīkau, from 7.30 am and then drop her to school, this is needed from next year, please contact Batool on 021 642 041 or by emailing [b.ghashi@gmail.com](mailto:b.ghashi@gmail.com). Thanks from Batool.

## Can you help Lillian raise funds?



Wā Ora parent Lillian Pak has been chosen to be an ambassador for the charity Mothers Helpers and is aiming to raise \$10k to help the amazing work they do. If you would like to find out more about what Lillian is doing and may be able to help her achieve her fundraising goal, please click [here](#) to help.

## CodeCamp

CodeCamp allows kids from the ages of 7–12 to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in a fun and action packed environment. Develop confidence and initiative through design, creativity, solving problems and collaboration. Create games, apps and work with robots and electronic building blocks. For more info and to book visit <http://codecamp.co.nz/holiday-codecamp/>.