

## Diary Dates

### Coming Up . . .

- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February **Your Montessori Baby parent education series** 9 am–10.30 am
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February **Playgroup open morning** 9 am–11.30 am
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February **Scholastics orders due**
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February **year 7 technology**
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February **school accounts 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment due**
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February **year 7 technology**
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February **PTA twilight picnic** 5 pm

### Welcome to the following children and their families...

- Kōwhai**–Karin Sologar
- Pōhutukawa**–Tony Nguyen
- Rewarewa**–Amelia Conza and Quynh-Ahn Ho
- Nīkau**–Abi Manalo

### Congratulations to...

. . . siblings Charlie, Lana and Jensen and their whānau on the safe arrival of their new baby, Avery, born during the summer holidays. Everyone is doing well☺.

### Your Montessori baby parent education series



*If you would like to learn how to use Montessori elements in your parenting of your baby or toddler, come along to our 4-week series of talks starting THIS Wednesday 9 am–10.30 am. Cost is \$50. For more info/to book, email Danielle King at [danielle@waora.school.nz](mailto:danielle@waora.school.nz).*

## This Week

### Tomorrow's Schools Review

By Ava Szabo – Principal

Returning to school this year, I found a copy of 'Tomorrow's Schools Review Document' *Our Schooling Futures: Stronger Together Whiria Ngā Kura Tūātinitini* on my desk.

The review has the potential to facilitate large changes to the educational landscape of NZ, not seen since the 'Tomorrow's Schools' reforms of the late 1980's. As such, I thought it important to offer a brief introduction to what the report covers.

The Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce was set up by the Minister of Education Hon Chris Hipkins in April 2018, to establish if there was a case for change in NZ schools.

The taskforce was asked to review the provision of compulsory schooling in Aotearoa New Zealand, with a focus on achieving a system that promotes equity and excellence for all children and young people. This includes giving active expression to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the ability of the governance, management and administration of the schooling system to respond to education needs in the future.

The taskforce findings have identified and analysed eight key issues and made detailed recommendations on each.

1. Governance–the Board of Trustees self-governing model is not working consistently well across the country.
2. Schooling Provision–the nature, type, provision and accessibility of meaningful schooling for all New Zealanders is inadequate.
3. Competition and Choice–unhealthy competition between schools has significantly increased as a result of the self-governing school model. It has also impacted the ability of some students and whānau to exercise choice.
4. Disability and Learning Support–students with learning support requirements should have the same access to schooling as other students and it is clear that currently they don't.
5. Teaching–the quality of teaching is the major 'in school' influence on student success, but our teacher workforce strategies lack the necessary support, coherence and coordination.
6. School Leadership–leadership is central to school improvement and yet there are few formal and planned structures to develop and sustain school leaders. In this section the focus is the role of the Principal/tumuaki due to its vital importance in schooling success.
7. School Resourcing–the overall resourcing for the compulsory schooling sector is currently inadequate to meet the needs of many ākonga and those who work in it.
8. Central Education Agencies–a number of significant structural issues and policy settings make it difficult for the agencies to be as effective as they might be.

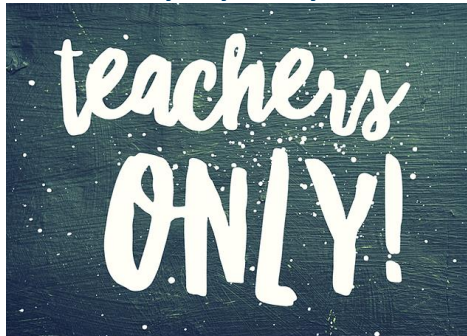
More detail on each area mentioned above and report recommendations can be read [here](#).

The consultation process closes on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. If you would like to make a submission, please click on this [link](#).

**Production volunteers sought**

If you are able to help out with our term 3 production, Panto Pandemonium, then please get in touch with either Drama teacher Gary ([gary@waora.school.nz](mailto:gary@waora.school.nz)) or the office ([office@waora.school.nz](mailto:office@waora.school.nz)) as soon as possible. Specifically, we would love to hear from anyone who can design/make costumes or can spare time to come into school on Thursday afternoons to work with students on props/set items/costumes, etc. As little as an hour or as much as a day—any help would be greatly appreciated☺

**Teacher only day Friday March 1<sup>st</sup>**



There will be **NO SCHOOL** on Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> (week 5 term 1) as Wā Ora will be closed for a teacher only day. This applies to all sectors of the school—preschool, primary and high school.

**School Photos**



School photos will be happening at Wā Ora on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Order envelopes will be coming home next week and will need to be returned to the office with payment prior to photo day.

**Preschool parents signing**



Please ensure you sign your preschool child's attendance on a weekly basis on the clipboard in the school office as this is a Ministry requirement. There are many parents outstanding from last year still, so please pop into the temporary office (old staffroom) as soon as possible to sign.

**PTA Twilight School Picnic**



The Wā Ora PTA will be hosting its annual Twilight Picnic in week 4 on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February from 5–7 pm in the primary playground. Mark your diaries now and we'll look forward to seeing you along with your picnic hamper for a catch up with friends and activities for the kids!

**Scholastics**

Scholastics brochures have been sent home last week and online orders are due Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**Playgroup open morning**



We are excited to be holding an open morning for new and interested parents of toddlers aged 18-months to 3 years at the Wā Ora Montessori Playgroup this Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> February. Share the [facebook event](#) or pass this info on to any interested friends and encourage them to pop in and visit us and see our Montessori playgroup environment, share a bite of morning tea and chat with our co-ordinator and other playgroup parents.

**Donna's hours have changed**

If you need to see Donna regarding payments/invoicing of school accounts, please catch her before school. Alternatively, she is contactable on her email [donna@waora.school.nz](mailto:donna@waora.school.nz). From now on Donna will work 8 am–12 pm Monday to Friday.

**Movie screening 28<sup>th</sup> February**



*Celia* is returning to Wellington cinemas on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February following sell-out sessions at the 2018 NZ International Film Festival. For more info about venues and to book click [here](#) or visit [www.facebook.com/CeliaMovie](http://www.facebook.com/CeliaMovie).

**Petone beach clean up**



Eulie in Kauri class is inviting all children and their whānau to help clean up Petone Beach on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February, from 10–11:30 am. The clean-up is focused on the western end of Petone Beach because it is a catchment area for plastic washed up on the beach by the tides. Every piece of plastic collected is one less piece to endanger marine life. We will meet in front of the (blue) Wellington water ski clubrooms at the motorway end of Petone beach. Enter at Honiana Te Puni Reserve and turn right. There is a large carpark to the right of the clubrooms. Latex gloves will be provided, but bring your garden gloves to wear over these if you have them. Buckets are also ideal to bring along to collect the small pieces of plastic in, and these can then be emptied into the large coffee sacks. See you on Sunday☺.

