

## Diary Dates

This Week

### Coming up . . .

- 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**
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February **NCEA info evening 7.30 pm**
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March **Teacher only day– SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March **Working bee 9 am–12 noon**

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

- Kōwhai**–Darcy McNatty
- Pōhutukawa**–Lucy Tregaskis
- Rewarewa**–Aria Landall

### Working bee



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

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
**9am – 12noon**

Esra Alsadah	Nitya Amaravathi
Finn Anquetil	Evan Atkinson
Theresa Ashley	Oliver Aukett-Ascoli
Colton Barnes	Madeleine Bailey
Abi Begbie	James Anderson
Lauren Bennett	Miguel Barretto
Tyrei Berney	Graydon Barstow
Nea Blackham	Isabelle Bradshaw-Ross
Sian Campbell	Aotea Bramley-Owens
Max Beck	Liana Bauckham-Taylor
Mischa Blake	Samuel Anderton-Gough

### “Where has my sweet child gone?”

By Robin Wilkins–Pūriri teacher–primary

Parents often ask this question after their child has moved to primary. They feel despondent and wonder where their adorable, well-mannered child has gone. Be assured, this is perfectly natural; the child has entered a new stage of development, one that is loud, messy and rude–what Montessori called the ‘age of rudeness’.

Dr. Montessori identified four major planes of development through which humans grow and mature. She observed common developmental characteristics within roughly six-year increments, which she referred to as the planes of development.

As the first plane child approaches three, they are ready for a prepared environment that serves as a bridge to the outside world. Learning materials are for individual use and encourage the child to sensorially explore the real world. At approximately six however, startling changes begin to happen indicating a new direction in their development, as they move towards the second plane.

At this stage, children become intensely social. Lessons are now given in groups, whereas in preschool, they were one-on-one for the most part, and group work is the norm. The classroom becomes a dynamic, vibrant, sometimes chaotic and messy environment through which the children move.

They develop a new physical strength and stability giving them great stamina and energy. They are adventuresome, ‘rough and tough’ and they enjoy overcoming obstacles and facing challenges.

Imagination develops, as does the reasoning mind and the ability to think abstractly. They begin to question how and why things happen and begin to wrestle with moral questions and making judgements. This is the age that the concept of justice is born. They not only want to discern just from unjust acts, but they want to fight injustice whenever they become aware of it. ‘Tattling’ is a result of this and they will continually report on the behaviour of other children even though they may not be doing the right thing themselves.

Behavioural changes are also evident with the second plane child becoming more extroverted–they want to be with other children and be like them. They play social games and establish groups with new rules. These often involve secret languages, passwords, hidden treasures, hideouts and bizarre rituals.

Kids will be mean to other kids because they are establishing a place in this new social grouping which is so key at this age. At this age they are still somewhat ego-centric, seeing everything in terms of how someone else hurt or embarrassed them; rarely do they see their own part in it. When talking through issues that arise, their stories are often told with glaring omissions which only come to light with deeper investigations.

Every day we help ākonga navigate their social journey and support them in making decisions that positively impact their social relationships.



*Robin has worked at Wā Ora since 1999. She believes Wā Ora reactivates the vision of education as an “aid to life”. Robin holds a Bachelor of Education, a Diploma of Teaching and Montessori 3-6 training from the London Montessori Centre and various Montessori 6-12 trainings. Aside from being passionate about Montessori she enjoys music, art, reading, learning and gardening.*

## Sport

### Futsal results

The futsal season kicked off on Friday with great results for both our high school teams:

Junior Girls v HVHS Silver, 5–5.

Senior Mixed v HVHS, 7–2.

### Weetbix TRYathlon registrations

Weet-bix TRYathlon registrations are now open for kids aged 7–15 years. For complete details please check out [here](#). A school group has been created for the Hutt City event on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. To be included in the school group, click [here](#). We'll organise a marquee for the day so we have a place to sit together—you are responsible for your child(ren), as this is not a school trip. Any queries, please e-mail Anna on [tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com](mailto:tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com).

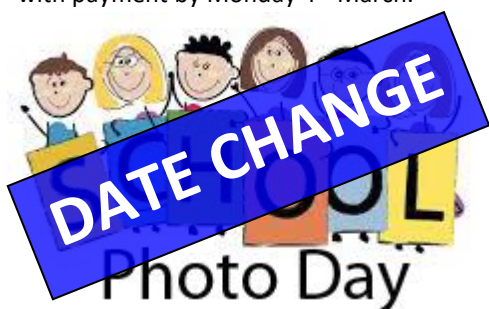
### Production volunteers sought



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☺.

### School Photos

School photos will be happening at Wā Ora on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**. Order envelopes went home with children today and will need to be returned to the office with payment by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.



### Free to a good home

The office reception counter and blue cupboard are retiring and no longer required in the new office configuration and are offered free to Wā Ora community members (or people you know) who could use them.



Both items need to be removed by this Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February or next week at the latest. Items can be viewed and measured in the temporary school office (staffroom/old Tawhai prefab) this week.



### PTA Twilight School Picnic

Come along to the annual  
PTA school picnic!

Friday, 22 February  
5–7pm

Grab a blanket, pack a picnic hamper and meet up with other families on the school field.

Bring some cash to buy a sausage



We are adding to the fun this year with a Bouncy Castle, along with the normal games and lolly scramble!



The Wā Ora PTA will be hosting its annual Twilight Picnic this 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!

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

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

### Mum and daughter yoga retreat



Kula Yoga is once again offering their special mum and daughter yoga retreat

weekend including yoga, meditation, yoga nidra, partner yoga, spa day, crafts and vegetarian catered meals! Suitable for tweens and teens (ages 10+). First weekend of the April school holidays, 12<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> April. For more info click [here](#). No experience necessary!

### Weekly Computer Skills Classes

Grand Training runs fun weekly computer classes. Sessions are based on what interests you. Tell us what you want to learn about, and we'll make it happen. These classes are a great way to improve your skills. Both after school and weekend options are available. Check out [www.grandtraining.co.nz](http://www.grandtraining.co.nz) or ring Wanda on 04 499 2211 for more details. We also run sessions for adults and school holiday programmes.

### Kids Go Free at Staglands on Children's Day



Staglands Wildlife Reserve will be celebrating Children's Day on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March by offering **FREE ENTRY** into The Reserve for **ALL CHILDREN**. In addition to their usual attractions visitors can enjoy free off-road tractor-trailer rides. So if you are looking for a fun Children's day outing for the whole family; meet at Staglands and Connect with Nature. \*Offer is not available with any other offer. Children (0-16 years) must be accompanied by paying adult. For more information visit [www.staglands.co.nz](http://www.staglands.co.nz).

### Kids Gaelic football

Gaelic Football, the most popular sport in Ireland, combines the best of netball, soccer and basketball. Bring your kids aged 4–12 along on Sundays at 10.30 am. All boys and girls will be warmly welcomed, especially beginners!