

Diary Dates

Coming up . . .

–Wednesday 27th February **NCEA info evening** 7.30 pm, Tāwari

–Friday 1st March **Teacher only day– SCHOOL CLOSED**

–Saturday 2nd March **Working bee** 9 am–12 noon

–Wednesday 6th March **Kōwhai parents catch up evening** 6.30 pm

–Thursday 7th March **School Photos**

–Friday 8th March **year 7 technology**

–Friday 8th March **PTA twilight picnic 5 pm**

Welcome to the following children and their families...

Rewarewa–Farren McClelland

Congratulations to...

. . . our afterschool care supervisor, Thilini, and her family Ishan and Diyan who have welcomed Dylan Jayamanne into the world on the 15th February. Everyone is doing well☺.

Working bee



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

Saturday 2nd March

9am – 12noon

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

This Week

Bullying prevention survey follow up

By Ava Szabo–Principal

Kia ora whānau and welcome to week 5.

This week I would like to pass on some of the results from our Bullying prevention (anti-bullying) survey. Thank you to those 61 families representing over 100 of our ākongā from preschool to the college who responded to this survey. I appreciate your honesty in sharing both the positives you see at Wā Ora and the areas where we can improve. Your feedback is vital as we continue to grow and develop as a school community.

70% of respondents are aware that we have an anti-bullying procedure and of those, 60% have some familiarity with its content.

When asked *what does Wā Ora do well in the area of student-to-student and teacher-to-student relationships*, respondents commented that: teacher-to-student communication was very good; respect was a key quality held by students and teachers alike (all children are seen and appreciated as individuals); respectful interactions were evident and grace and courtesy was an active part of the curriculum providing skills for life; and the use of the restorative process was seen as important in recognising problem behaviour .

Areas identified as needing improvement included: giving ākongā opportunities to practice assertive communication; strengthening the teacher-parent relationship with early communication being a key component; viewing grace and courtesy as important in all areas of the school to be actively fostered by teachers; and the availability of more information for parents on how to deal with bullying.

Respondents commented on *the benefits of the restorative process* as: providing our ākongā with an opportunity to be heard by their classmates in a respectful setting; allowing children to hear the effects of negative behaviour and find their own resolutions rather than teacher-directed; and allowing for the development of empathy.

Suggested improvements to the restorative process were: better communication to parents; and greater ongoing follow up.

When respondents were asked *about how Wā Ora develops students' skills in responding effectively to bullying behaviour*, with a focus on bystanders to an event, most were unsure of how to comment but some were able to suggest areas for improvement, which included: talking to ākongā about what healthy relationships look like; and communicating with parents to provide a consistent message at home and school.

What next? Full survey results will be shared with staff as a part of our focus on wellbeing at the staff only day this Friday 1st March. I will also be organising a follow up meeting with parents to discuss the full survey results in more detail. This information coupled with feedback from teaching staff will inform a revised bullying prevention procedure.

Have a great week.

He waka eke noa–*a canoe which we are all in with no exception.*

We are all in this together.

Sport

Futsal results

Junior Girls v HVHS Aqua, 13–1.
Senior Mixed v HVHS Blue, 5–5.

Touch Rugby

We have three teams playing this season so come along and support! Games are played at Fraser Park on Thursdays at 4, 4.30 and 5.30 pm (we wear lime green t-shirts).

Pūkeko (Y1/2) v Boulcott Blasts, 5–1.

Kererū (Y3/4) v Kelson Lions, 8–5.

Kōkako (Y5/6) v Belmont Lions, 0–11.

We also run an open touch rugby session on Sundays from 11 am–12 noon at Fraser Park. All Wā Ora students aged 4–12 are welcome. For more information, contact [Anna](#).

Football

Congratulations to Nea Blackham who has been selected to be part of an elite squad "developed for players who have potential to represent New Zealand Football and are being 'fast tracked' with extra individual training, strength and conditioning along with mental and social seminars."

School Photos



School photos will be happening at Wā Ora next **Thursday 7th March**. Order envelopes went home with children last week and will need to be returned to the office with payment by next Monday 4th March.

Staff only day Friday March 1st

There will be **NO SCHOOL** this Friday March 1st as Wā Ora will be closed for a staff only day. This applies to all sectors of the school—preschool, primary and high school.

We're in our new school office!

As of today the school office is located back in its usual place, now looking all sparkly and newly refurbished. Thank you to our Wā Ora whānau for your patience while the building has been happening 😊

Preschool garden request

A friendly reminder that the preschool garden is one of the sources of kai for preschool lunches. It is disappointing when we come in and find unripened food picked and thrown on the ground and under developed plants pulled out of the ground. Please ensure that if your children are playing in the garden area before or after school, they are being supported to look at the gardens, but encouraged not to pick anything. Thank you 😊.

Free to a good home



The office reception counter has retired and is no longer required in the new office configuration so is offered free to Wā Ora community members (or people you know) who could use it. It needs to be gone as soon as possible and can be viewed and measured in the staffroom/old Tawhai prefab.

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 annual twilight picnic has been rescheduled to Friday 8th March after some non-cooperation from the weather on Friday. We'll look forward to seeing you along with your picnic hamper for a catch up with friends and activities for the kids from 5 pm–7 pm in the primary playground.

Raffle tickets for sale

Please contact Kelly Walker on 027 361 1751 if you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets for kai (meat packs and other grocery hamper items) for a fundraiser for Muturangi Te Kohanga Reo. There are 5 prizes worth a combined value of \$1,000 😊.

Book Fair

Stock up on winter reading. Books, DVDs, CDs, jigsaws and board games for sale this Saturday 2nd March from 9 am–2 pm at St James Anglican Church at 71 Woburn Road, Lower Hutt. Free admission. Cash only.

Seaweek: Project Jonah



About 300 dolphins and whales get stranded each year in New Zealand— one of the highest stranding rates in the world. When this happens, who helps? Who provides first aid and volunteers to help stranded animals? Project Jonah is a New Zealand charity focused on the care and protection of marine mammals and the oceans these animals call home. Hear Project Jonah volunteer, Cameron Sang, talk about whales, dolphins and what it's like to be a volunteer medic with Project Jonah this Saturday 2nd March at the Petone community library, 7a Britannia Street, Petone. No admission cost.

Bike the trail



Get family and friends on their bikes and join us for the 10th anniversary of Bike the Trail this Sunday 3rd March. Enjoy an easy, family-friendly, scenic bike ride down the Hutt River Trail to Hikoikoi Park, Petone. Start at either Harcourt Park (for a 25km ride) or Stokes Valley (10km). Relax at the finish with music, spot prizes and refreshments. Go to www.bikethetrail.co.nz to enter online. Please visit the [Bike the Trail Facebook page](#) for further updates.