

Diary Dates

Coming up . . .

- Monday 18th March **BoT/council meeting** 7.30 pm staff room
- Monday 18th–Thursday 21st March **primary swimming lessons** Naenae pool
- Wednesday 20th March **year 9–13 basketball meeting** 3.30 pm
- Thursday 21st March **primary parent education evening** 7 pm
- Thursday 21st March **Pōhutukawa parent evening** 7 pm
- Friday 22nd March **year 7 technology**
- Friday 22nd March **whānau hui** 5.30 pm
- Friday 22nd March **6-9 astronomy night** 8.30 pm (weather dependent)
- Monday 25th–Thursday 28st March **primary swimming lessons** Naenae pool
- Wednesday 27th March **high school class photos**

Congratulations to...

. . . Van Anh and Ho Thanh and big brother Papai in Pōhutukawa who have welcomed their new baby girl, Welly, last week. Everyone is doing well ☺.

Primary Parent Education Evening–THIS WEEK!



This Thursday 21st March 7 pm

TOPIC: How can I help my child at home? Please RSVP to [tanias](mailto:tanias@waora.school.nz) if you plan to attend.

This Week

Odyssey 2019

By Allyson Ashfield–Kawakawa teacher

Well we couldn't have asked for better weather for Wā Ora's ninth odyssey to the top of the South Island this year, that's for sure. This year's focus, as well as to build our community for the year, was on Pedagogy of Place and that place was The Abel Tasman National Park, its environs and Motueka. We were reunited with Henry and introduced to Paddy, both of whom organised this year's Odyssey.



Our journey started with a long day of travelling from Wellington to Picton and then a very warm bus ride over the Takaka Hill to Totaranui, our base for the next six days. Sarah Jane had travelled ahead and had a delicious meal ready and waiting for the weary travellers.

Having only just arrived, half the group were off on their Abel Tasman Coastal track tramping adventure the next day, while the other half spent a full day on Onetahua /Farewell spit on a guided adventure. From the omniscient Murray, we learned about the history, the special features and the flora and fauna of this unique part of New Zealand. A highlight was jumping off a giant sand dune and tumbling to the bottom.

Our planned tramp of 45 km over two nights was a little too ambitious, especially with the baking hot weather, and each of the two groups modified the hike to suit their group. I was really impressed with the tenacity and resolve our adolescents displayed to reach the campsites and the support and help they showed to each other. They all dug deep and I'm immensely proud of them. As a result, my group spent a beautiful day at Bark Bay, exploring waterfalls, swimming, investigating tidal flows, more swimming, learning how to secure tents in the wind and how to deal with a plague of bumble bees!

Once back at Totaranui we spent time in the local area visiting an art gallery for local artists in Takaka, Waikorupupu Springs and Wainui Falls and a half day sea kayaking before heading back over the hill to Motueka for our Marae stay at Te Awhina Marae. We were very lucky to be staying there on Waitangi Day as we got to experience welcoming visitors onto the marae, from the perspective of the manawhenua, and help out with hosting the visitors. Some of our students got to see the setting up of the hangi in the morning and we all had a good feed from it in the evening. A great way to end our 2019 Odyssey adventures.

A couple of thoughts from our adolescents about odyssey:

"Odyssey is a great learning experience for Kawakawa to connect and learn for the year ahead. I love how we get to go and explore New Zealand and learn about the Maori history." A year 10 student.

"It was a good way to start the school year. A good introduction to Kawakawa; it helped me get used to the class." A year 8 student.



Allyson started teaching at Wā Ora in 2016 and enjoys being part of this vibrant community. She completed her Montessori high school training in 2016, at Montessori International College, Brisbane and also has a Graduate Diploma in Primary teaching. Allyson teaches occupations, humanities, maths and micro economy. Through travelling, she has grown to love all areas of learning and hopes to share this as she guides the ākonga.

Sport

Futsal results

Junior Girls v Sacred Heart, 11–1.
Senior Mixed v Silverstream Unicorns, 3–5.

Touch Rugby

Pūkeko (Y1/2) v Kelson Bears, 6–4.
Kererū (Y3/4) v Boulcott Blues, 10–9.
Kōkako (Y5/6) v Boulcott Titans, 2–7.

Indoor Netball

Wā Ora v Try Hards, 20–38.

Basketball

There is a meeting with coach, Semi, this Wednesday 20th March, from 3.35 pm–4.15 pm in the art room for all those year 9–13 students interested in playing, refereeing and/or coaching this season.

Lost property

The lost property rack (in the hallway near Rātā class) is filling up once more. Please make a point of checking for your children's clothes as soon as possible and remember to label your child's clothing as this makes it easier for us to return items.

Scholastic books

Scholastic orders are due this Thursday 21st March.

School photos

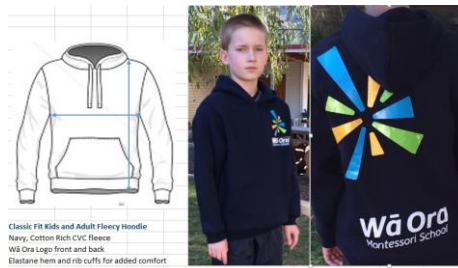
Kawakawa and Tāwari class photos which were postponed due to bad weather have been rescheduled for Wednesday 27th March (next week).

Wetbags—buy through Wā Ora



Wā Ora is pleased to be able to offer you the chance to purchase wetbags by Mum2Mum at a heavily discounted price. These bags help to reduce the use of plastic bags, and can be used over and over again to take wet/dirty clothes home from preschool and also in many other situations. Many thanks to parent Ren Wanden, who has arranged this special price for Wā Ora parents (32% off RRP for plain bags and 34% off RRP for patterned bags). To order please email ren@macronone.co.nz or text 021 224 4483. Payment can be made to 12-3174-0256579-00 (Wanden Family) and needs to be received by Wednesday this week.

Wā Ora hoodies – Order now



Orders are now being taken for our Wā Ora hooded sweatshirts. This year orders can be completed online [here](#) (from tomorrow) or via a paper order form (which can be printed out from the attachment to this newsletter's cover email or picked up at the office; complete and return to the school or scan and email back). **The deadline for orders is Wednesday 10th April** and delivery of apparel is expected the first week of term two. Full details are on the order forms and online order page.

Parent Teacher Interview Bookings

Parent teacher interviews for preschool, 6–9 and Tāwari will be held in weeks 10 and 11. Click on the links below to book a time to see your child/ren's teacher/s. 9–12 interviews are scheduled for week two of next term. Emails will be sent when bookings are open.

Preschool

Monday 1st–Wednesday 3rd April

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=gpt68>

6–9

Tuesday 9th–Thursday 11th April

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=cgeu2>

Tāwari

Monday 1st–Tuesday 2nd April

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=mkg5b>

Coffee cart and Café



KAWAKAWA
COFFEE CART

**New Location for Coffee Cart & Café
at High School Campus in the main
entrance foyer
on Friday mornings from 7.45 am–9 am.**

Contact details for Mzia

Mzia (previous Wā Ora librarian and after school care) would like to extend an invitation to members of the Wā Ora community to visit her in her new home at 617 Otaki Gorge Road, Otaki. Her contact details are 06 364 2355, 021 037 7040, mzia@xtra.co.nz or through her [facebook](#).

PTA twilight school picnic cancelled



Sadly, after two false starts due to bad weather, the PTA has cancelled the twilight picnic.

Government House Guided Tours

Take a FREE, fully guided tour of Government House, the home of New Zealand's Governor-General and of the Royal family when they visit New Zealand. Built in 1910, Government House has many beautiful rooms (including a ballroom, formal dining rooms and reception rooms) and contains many artworks, carved coats of arms and gifts from around the world. Tours run regularly but places are limited so it is essential to book in advance [here](#).

Community pilates



Koha community pilates classes are held at Walter Nash Centre, Taita, every Monday night at 7.15 pm! A fun blend of strength and flexibility exercises. Classes are 45 minutes. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle.