

## Diary Dates

### Coming up . . .

- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June **3<sup>rd</sup> instalment school accounts due**
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June **year 7 technology**
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June **voting closes 12 noon for Board of Trustees elections**
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June **whānau hui** meet up 5.30 pm
- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June **working bee** 9 am–12 noon
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June **pyjama and crazy hair day**
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June **BoT/Council AGM** Tōtara 7.30 pm
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June **year 7 technology**
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June **BoT/Council meeting** 7.30 pm staffroom

### Working bee



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

### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June

#### 9am – 12noon

Sophie Denton	Charlie King
Neriah Hopoi	Anusha Kamanahalli
Jessie Hu	Madhavan Kiridharan
Samantha Hurdle	Papai Le
Jasper Jeffrey-Sun	Thea Martin
Ruhi Jeram	Blake Mayhem
Aaron Jimenez	Cameron MacAulay
Zoe Johnston	Hunter Macaulay
Mahi Kalidas	Vanya McCurdy
Demetri Mackey-Hawkins	

## This Week

### The adolescent voice

By Richard Goodyear—Kawakawa head teacher

Last term one of the classes in Kawakawa produced a podcast episode called Fluorescent Adolescent about 'tribes' in adolescent society. It's a great piece of work and if you'd like to hear it, please contact me or look out for it on the airwaves soon. In it, students speak freely about their identity and their lifestyle. It made me think about the idea of 'student voice'. I think we often underestimate how much they know about themselves and really how different their world is to that of an adult. This has implications for us as teachers and parents.

As a child develops, they go through phases with particular characteristics. For the adolescent phase, communication is an area that can be tricky. Sometimes we have trouble hearing their voice. How often do you hear an adolescent openly and honestly sharing their hopes, dreams and concerns? For many adults, it can feel like the adolescent is living in a foreign land. That's not a bad thing; in fact, it is part of the inevitable chrysalis stage they are in. They will develop into the magnificent butterfly one day. But someone in a foreign land speaks a different language. And the guidebook seems to be published by some mysterious outfit called Patience and Opportunity Enterprises!

So we need to be patient and create opportunities for chatting. The best way to do this in my view starts by recognizing that they are living a life of their own and that just like anyone we love, they need certain things from us.

Like so much of what we do for our young folk, we need to provide structure and freedom, both aspects in measures that probably go beyond what we currently understand as adults. It means setting very clear, predictable and solid parameters and then stepping back. It means being their coach, their guide, their mentor. It means being there beside them and at times being far away. ———

Listening to teens is at the heart of what we do here in Kawakawa. It is the foundation of restorative practice but it shows up all over the place. We hold community meetings. We have changed our parent interviews to be more partnership-focused and we try to put the taiohi (adolescent) at the centre of those meetings. We have changed the structure of their home/pastoral (advisory) groups, so taiohi stay in the same group as they move through Kawakawa, rather than being shuffled around every term. This way we can build rapport in an advisory setting. We also meet with them in their year groups. We maintain an open atmosphere with the taiohi including just 'hanging out' at lunchtime around the class kitchen. We structure some of our subjects to allow time for chatting. Allyson is very good at this in micro-economy—it turns out making bath bombs together is a great way to get to know someone!

Ultimately through our approach we consciously and incidentally set up opportunities for them to be themselves, and then simply chat and ask questions.



*Richard has taught at Wā Ora since 2012 although he had had his eye on the school for many years prior! He's been in Montessori education since 2004 and loves it. It fits beautifully with his vision of education as being learner-centered, flexible and in developing strong ethics and values in people. Richard is married with two children and fun times for him are to park up with a good book and beverage in his sunny garden or in one of the many mountainous, bushy national parks Aotearoa is blessed with.*

## Election for Board of Trustees

### Last chance to vote!

**Voting closes at noon this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June** AND the five highest polling candidates will be elected to the Board of Trustees. Results will be made available at the school and also published in a local newspaper. If you have not yet returned your completed voting paper, you will need to deliver it to school by hand and post in the box in the school office before 12 noon Friday to be counted. Your vote must be on the official paper and in the envelope provided, both of which were posted out to eligible voters recently.

## BoT/Council AGM next week



All school community whānau are warmly invited to our BoT/Council AGM, to be held next Thursday evening in Tōtara class at 7.30 pm. Come along to:

- hear the new BoT members announced,
- farewell and acknowledge our outgoing BoT members,
- hear the reports from our Principal, BoT Chair and Treasurer, which give an informative account of the BoT/school activities for the past 12-months, and
- nominate and vote for the 2 parent Council/Proprietor members, and
- enjoy drinks, nibbles and community.

## Council nominations (direct)

Wā Ora needs to appoint two parent members to the Council/Proprietors directly (not via the BoT election). Nominations will be called for at the AGM and voting will happen with the two highest polling nominees being appointed to the Council/Proprietors. To be able to be voted for, as a Council member, you must be in attendance at the AGM next Thursday night.

## Who qualifies as a nominee?

Any parent whose child attends Wā Ora, in either the preschool, primary or the high school can be nominated. Also all teachers can be nominated.

## Sport

### Badminton

Junior Boys (Year 8–10) vs HVHS 6, WBD.  
Junior Girls (Year 8–10) vs Chilton 1, 4–2.  
Senior Mixed (Year 11–13) had no game (QBW).

### Basketball

Seniors (Year 11-13) had no game (QBW).  
Juniors (Year 8–10) vs Tawa College, 54–18.  
Miniball (Year 5–6) vs Pomare, 10–8.  
Tiniball (Year 3–4) vs Tui Glen Magic, 6–20.

### Netball

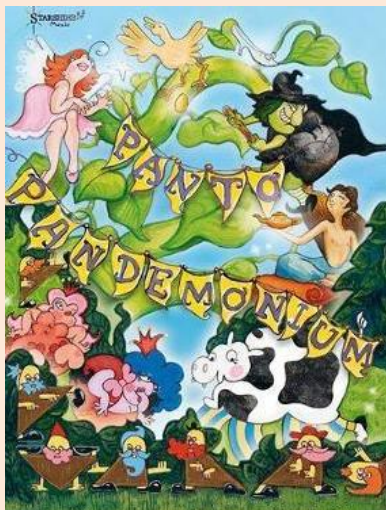
Wā Ora/Raphael House combined (Year 9–10) had no game (QBW).  
Miromiro (Year 7-8) had no game (QBW).  
Toutoutwai (Year 5–6) vs Sts Peter and Paul 7, scores not recorded at this level.

## Congratulations



Well done to Olivia Cheng who competed in Rotorua at the weekend at the Waikato Bay Judo Open Championship gaining bronze medals in the senior girls U48kg and senior girls open.

## Production 'save the dates'



Preparations for our term 3 primary production are well underway. Mark the below performances dates in your diary now and keep an eye out for further information at the end of this term regarding ticket sales.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 7 pm**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 6 pm**  
**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 7 pm**

## Crazy hair and pyjama day



9–12 students Sophia, Freya and Rose have organised a pyjama and crazy hair day for the Waddington Drive site next Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> June to raise funds for a young girl in Indonesia, who needs surgery to correct her feet and improve her quality of life. Come along to school in your PJ's with your crazy hair for the price of a gold coin donation.

## Coffee cart

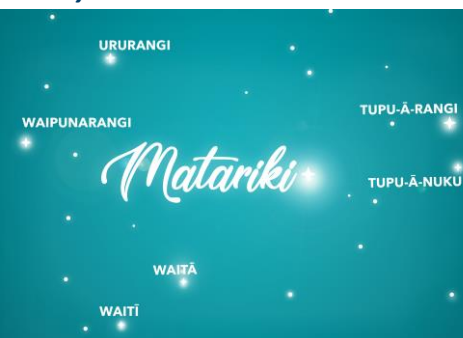


Open this Friday 7.45 am–9 am at Wā Ora Montessori high school serving all

the usual delicious beverages, as well as sausage rolls this week only– a one-off due to customer demand! eftpos available.

## Matariki celebrations

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June.



## Daytime

Come along to T2 at the high school on Friday morning from 10 am–11.30 am and enjoy the performances at our Matariki concert. Ākonga from all classes will be celebrating new beginnings and remembering the past, through waiata, kapa haka and more.

## Evening

Join us later that evening for a Matariki Hākari (feast). This will begin at 5.30 pm in T2 at the high school, the same venue as the morning performances. Please bring a plate of finger and we will all share supper and conversation together. Please label your ingredients to help our whānau with allergies and dietary requirements. All are welcome to this all-ages event. There will be activities/games run for the children.