

Diary Dates

Coming up . . .

- Tuesday 13th August **production rehearsals all primary** Expressions Theatre UH
- Tuesday 13th August **primary production evening performance 7 pm** Expressions Theatre
- Wednesday 14th August **2nd instalment term accounts due**
- Wednesday 14th August **primary production evening performance 6 pm** Expressions Theatre
- Thursday 15th August **primary production evening performance 7 pm** Expressions Theatre
- Friday 16th August **Whānau Hui 5 pm**
- Monday 19th August **BoT/Council meeting 7 pm** staffroom
- Friday 23rd August **Mid-term Break**
WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSED

Save the date



Wā Ora Celebration of Cultures; Friday 30th August 5.30 pm

We warmly invite whānau to come and celebrate Wā Ora's cultural diversity with us on Friday 30th August (week 6) from 5.30 pm– 7.30 pm in T2 at the high school.

Feel free to dress in the national costume of a culture you identify with and to bring your favourite ethnic dish to share. BYO plates/cutlery etc. Water and cups will be provided. Enjoy catching up with old friends and making new ones; there will be games with senior students for the children. More info coming soon, but meantime, mark your calendar!



This Week

Grace and courtesy in the primary school

By Tania Gaffney–Deputy Principal Primary

As ākonga enter into their primary years they become a much more social being; they are also testing limits and are developing their independence. As a result of this, grace and courtesy becomes very social, a negotiated construct within the community, yet still guided by the adult.

Standing alongside grace and courtesy is another term you will hear in the Montessori community–‘freedom with limits or responsibilities’. The limits or responsibilities are often the grace and courtesies that we need, to be able to get on in society–in this case, our school or class. Mario Montessori Jr. said of freedom, "One can only speak of a true community when each member of the group feels sufficiently free to be himself or herself, while simultaneously restricting his or her own freedom for the sake of adjustment to the group. It is in seeking an optimal solution to this tension between personal independence and dependence on the group that the social being is formed." We can all struggle with this at times! Each area of the school plays its part in helping the child develop him or herself socially.

In primary, ākonga are emerging into independence for the first time, pulling away from adults in their lives and wanting to be with their peers more; looking outside of themselves for the first time, but often with a foot in both camps–self and others., Interactions therefore can be fraught as children begin to figure out and negotiate how they will be with each other. "What freedoms will I insist on?" and, "What shall I adjust?" or, "What grace and courtesy will I use for the sake of my friends and classmates?" They (and in fact, many people) don't always get it right especially at the beginning of this journey which is when we need to sit down, talk and negotiate to find a way through.

Much of what we do in the primary years is helping the child, both overtly and covertly to develop their grace and courtesy, e.g.

- setting up and negotiating the class rules at the beginning of the year;
- discussing etiquette around lessons or eating or setting up your work space;
- small role plays by the teacher or children about the many different aspects of class life (humour is often used at this age);
- regular class meetings where issues are discussed and solutions found;
- setting up the community jobs; and
- even when telling stories, we may be expressing gratitude for those that have gone before us.

A great persuader to using your grace and courtesy or thinking about your responsibility in the class is your peers–far more than the adult's influence. This is why whenever possible so much is done in the social setting at the primary age.



Tania has worked at Wā Ora since 2010 having previously taught for many years in Montessori 6-9 primary and preschool classes. She gained her primary teaching Degree at the University of Otago and did her AMS Montessori diploma in New York. Tania really enjoys the community feel of Wā Ora and the way she can see students develop from preschoolers to young adults as they move through the school. During her down time she likes to read and has begun to develop an interest in gardening over the last couple of years.

Sport

Badminton

Senior mixed (Year 11–13) vs HVHS 6

Basketball

Seniors (Year 11–13) vs Onslow College 3, 54–39.

Juniors (Year 8–10) vs Upper Hutt College, 69–39

Netball

Wā Ora/Raphael House combined (Year 9–10) vs Wainui 4, 26–3.

This takes our team to the finals for first place in our grade.

Mid-term break

The preschool, primary and high school will be closed for mid-term break on Friday 23rd August (week 6).



Wā Ora active community group

We are a group of enthusiastic and welcoming parents and staff who are looking to:

–Create the opportunity to be involved with the school through many different avenues (including, but not limited to, community events, utilising skills you may have to benefit students' learning, outings, offering your time in small or large capacities, one-off or ongoing projects, fundraising, camp, ...)

–Connect parents to other parents/whānau in our school by providing an environment where we can support one another and build our community network.

We will be meeting on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd August at 3.30 pm in the staffroom, and on Wednesday 21st August in the playgroup/ASC room at 8.45am. See you there!

For more information, please contact Kelly 027 361 1751, Jenny 027 600 7043 or Vanessa 021 052 7377

Ticket and venue info

Our long awaited primary production, 'Panto Pandemonium' is just about here.



Limited tickets are on sale now at the school office between 8.30 am and 4 pm this week.

Performance dates are:

Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th August

7 pm start; and

Wednesday 14th August 6 pm start.

Venue is Expressions Theatre, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.

Ticket prices are: \$15 Adult, \$10 Student, \$5 preschooler, gold coin donation for under 3's (when sitting on a caregiver's knee).

Rehearsals tomorrow

Tomorrow's rehearsal is at the theatre.

Buses will take **all primary students** leaving school at 8.45 am / returning at 3.15 pm.

If you would like to drop off/pick up your child direct to/from Expressions Theatre tomorrow, you must advise the office prior.

Your child should be at the theatre at 9.10 am and you should arrive to pick them up at 2.30 pm.

Late school arrivals Weds/Thurs/Fri

If your child needs a sleep-in on one/all of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week, students may arrive at school up until 9.30 am, but you must let the office know in advance—via the app, by text on 029 770 4286, by calling 567 2377 or by emailing office@waora.school.nz. We will be following up by text with caregivers of any late students, from whom we have not received prior advice.

Your child will also need to enter school via the office so office staff can sight them and mark them as present.

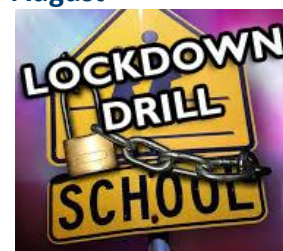
REMINDER: Please return your Civil Defence paperwork ASAP.

Many of these forms are still outstanding and need to be returned to the office as soon as possible. If you have misplaced your original form (every family was sent one) and require another one, please contact Emma☺.

PRACTICE Lockdown:

Tuesday 27th August

We are holding another lockdown drill on Tuesday 27th August at 1.30 pm for the whole



school. Part of our procedure is to alert parents via email and the school communications app that we are in lockdown. Notifications will say 'PRACTICE Lockdown Drill'. You will not need to do anything when you receive this notice, but please be aware that if you arrive at the school to collect your child for an appointment during the practice lockdown, neither you nor your child will be able to leave until the all clear has been given (between 20–30 minutes).

To receive emergency notifications via the school app, please ensure you have the app loaded on to your phone. This can be done via this [link](#).

Quiz Night—can you donate?

Our quiz night is happening later this term and we are calling for donations of prizes for the auction and sponsors on the night.



CAN YOU DONATE A PRIZE OR OFFER SPONSORSHIP?

If your business, or a business you know of, can help with either of these, please email Bridget (sponsorship) or Tania (prizes).

Sponsors' company details will be on an A4 sponsor brochure given to everyone who attends; you also have the option to provide a voucher for your businesses services. Facebook posts and school newsletter coverage are also included. Those businesses donating a prize will also be mentioned during the evening. Thank you to all in advance for your support☺.