

Diary Dates

Coming up . . .

- Monday 16th September **BoT/Council meeting** 7 p.m. staff room
- Monday 16th – Tuesday 17th September **high school parent/teacher/student interviews**
- Thursday 19th September **Kawakawa Coffee House** 7 p.m.
- Friday 20th September **Peace Day**
- Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th September **preschool parent/teacher interviews**
- Monday 23rd – Friday 27th September **Kawakawa serventure camp**
- Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th September **primary parent/teacher/student interviews**
- Friday 27th September **Abacus orders due in**
- Friday 27th September **LAST DAY OF TERM – whole school early close at 12 noon**
- Monday 14th October **First day of term four**

Peace Day



Wā Ora celebrates Peace Day this Friday, 20th September. Whānau are warmly invited to share breakfast (toast and spreads will be provided) from 8 a.m. on the preschool deck, before we march to the primary court area and continue with waiata, raising the flags, passing around the earthball and speeches from staff and students. We look forward to sharing this event with you all.

This Week

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

By Ava Szabo – School Principal

Last week we celebrated the revitalisation of the Māori language.

As I was walking from the carpark one morning a teacher approached me and greeted me in my mother tongue. A simple two-word greeting. However, the effect of this was immediate. I was reconnected to my own whakapapa (ancestry) and felt a deep sense of belonging, an acknowledgment of something greater than myself and a connectedness that I don't often feel, with a language I don't often hear. For me it was a reminder of the importance of language in our identity.

The revitalisation of the Māori language here in Aotearoa is essential if we are to grow and move forward as a bicultural society. Our language carries with it our history; it anchors us to our place and gives us a sense of belonging. It also provides us with important messages from the past and a sense of our future—where we are heading.

This year we say, 'Kia kaha te reo Māori' — 'Let's make the Māori language strong'. A powerful statement.

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori website states that:

'The strength for an endangered language comes from its status, people being aware of how to support revitalisation, people acquiring and using it and from the language having the right words and terms to be used well for any purpose.'

How did we at Wā Ora support the revitalisation of the Maori language? Over one hundred of our ākonga attended last Monday's hiko from Parliament to show our support and respect for this growing movement of strengthening the Māori language.

We have also attempted to use te Reo Māori every day, to each other and our tamariki. This might begin with a greeting, then as confidence grows, could move on to short, simple sentences.

If this is new for you, don't worry. It might feel odd at first, however repeating the greeting each day it will soon become quite natural. You might start with: Kia ora, mōrena, ata mārie. If you are unsure of the pronunciation, there are many useful websites that can help, e.g. maoridictionary.co.nz

Although Māori Language Week is now at an end, the importance of using te Reo continues, through karakia, waiata and conversation.

Nō reira e hoa mā, mā te kōrero i te reo e ora ai.

It is by using the the language, it will live.



Sport

Futsal years 8–13

Term 4 College Sport Wellington futsal season runs 25th October–29th November. Full details and a sign-up sheet are on the Hakinakina notice board in the high school.

We are now calling for coaches for the junior girls, junior boys and senior mixed. Please email sarahjane@waora.school.nz if you are interested!

Twilight netball years 9–13

A six-week season, 29th October–2nd December. Games are played at 6 or 7 p.m. on Monday nights. This is the last week to add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Hakinakina notice board.

HVHS teams

Well done to the students who played in HVHS teams in those winter codes for which we did not have enough players this year. Tournament week marked the end of a successful season! In football: Cecily, Kaitlyn B and Nea; in hockey: Cashel; and in netball: Stella.

Touch rugby and netball for term 4

If your child is interested in playing year 1–6 touch or year 1–2 netball in term 4, a survey will be emailed out this week with all the information. Please look out for it.

Touch rugby in the holidays

Ike Tapine will be running sessions for anyone to come along to — have a run around and try it out — at Fraser Park on Sunday 6th and 13th from 11 a.m.–12 noon. For more info, please contact Anna on tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com.

Total Touch (Wellington comp organisers) are running two days of a touch school holiday programme, with touch skills, games and fun for children aged 6–14 years on 1st and 2nd October, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at Hutt Recreation Ground. \$30 per day. Registrations open 17th September. <https://www.facebook.com/totaltouchwgt/>.

Wellington Touch Association are running trials for the 2019/2020 representative teams on Saturdays 5th, 12th, and 19th October. For more details, see https://www.sporty.co.nz/wellingtontouch/Trials-1/Cubs-Juniors?fbclid=IwAR049cBwJ2zlc40QQO93_ZI5AogYlcVIJEG5_Sbpzi2IEahbe63aKkejB0.

Sport (cont.)

XRace

Entries for the Xrace are now open. This is a fun event for a child (aged 6–14) and adult to work together as a team through a number of challenges. There is a little race for younger kids as well. Entry is currently half-price. For more info, visit <http://www.xrace.co.nz/huttcity#wellington-event> or e-mail Anna.

Pop-up Café @ Coffeehouse

The pop-up Kawakawa Cafe will be selling chicken potato top pie, pumpkin soup, mac 'n' cheese, brownie and citrus slice in the prefab from 5.45 p.m. onwards this Thursday at our Kawakawa Coffeehouse. The Coffee Cart will also be running. Vegan and vegetarian options are available and yes, we have eftpos! Coffeehouse starts at 7 p.m. so get there early and grab dinner for the family☺.

Primary and preschool parent/teacher/student interview links

Preschool: Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th September:
<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=88c39>;

Primary: Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th September:
6–9:

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

Tawhai:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=6wega>.

Tōtara 1: These will be in term 4. Details to follow soon.

Tōtara 2:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=5kbqu>.

Emergency response information

As a part of our ongoing reflecting on and improvement of school emergency practices and communications, we have now added a page of emergency response information to our website. Please read through this information thoroughly to familiarise yourself with how we would care for your child/ren, if an emergency situation were to happen during school hours. The page can be found here: <http://waora.school.nz/our-school/emergency-response-info/>. Paper copies of this information are also available at the school office and the link to this page is also on the school app.

We are testing the app

In the aftermath of Friday's lockdown, we received feedback from various whānau who did not receive our alert notifications (as banners on the front screen of their phones). We believe we have subsequently worked out why this happened, but would like to run a test to confirm this.

This Wednesday mid-morning we will send a test alert to all registered devices, titled: TEST ALERT. Soon after you receive this test alert, you will also receive an email with a short 2-question google survey for you to complete and submit to help us find out who received the notification and who didn't. Please make sure to enable banner notifications and badges in your phone's settings for the school app prior to this test.

The latest version of the app is 2.2.15, shown at the bottom of the side menu list on the app. If you are unsure whether you have the most up-to-date version of the app, please click this link below:

<http://waoramontessori.apps.school.nz/install/> and it will automatically sense your device and show options accordingly (Update/Get/Open).

Preschool Holiday Programme

Bookings are still open for the school holiday programme, which operates from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. After school care is available from 3 p.m.–5 p.m. at the normal term charges (there will be no before school care). The programme costs \$175 per week and morning tea is included but you will need to provide lunch as per our food procedure. Please contact anna@waora.school.nz if you have any questions or would like to book.

Abacus fundraiser

Calendars, sketch pads, diaries, mouse mats and card packs with children's artwork/photo are again available for purchase. Orders are due back to the office next Friday 27th September. Payment can be made at the office by cash/eftpos or online to the school account # 12-3209-0438285-00 with surname and 'ABACUS' as reference. Prices are as follows: Calendars \$14, cards \$16, diaries \$18, mouse mats \$16 and sketch pads \$16.