

## Diary Dates

### Coming up . . .

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of school accounts due
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October **Labour Day holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October **sports photos** 9 a.m.–12 noon
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October **meeting for parents of year 7's transitioning** 7 p.m. Kawakawa
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November **Wā Ora Athletics Sports Day** 12 noon–3.15 p.m.
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November **term 4 parent morning tea** 9 a.m. Trade School Kitchen Naenae
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November **Working bee** 9 a.m.–12 noon

### Welcome to the following children and their families...

**Pōhutukawa** – Clara Buescher

**Nikau** – Theo Malcom, Broc Sweeney and Arjun Poddar

### Preschool and primary disco



Our Odyssey fundraiser disco is happening on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November at the high school. The preschool disco will run from 5.30 p.m.–6.30 p.m. and costs \$5 per child and the primary disco from 6.30 p.m.–8 p.m. and costs \$7.50 per child. Tickets will be on sale from the main school office from next Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October ☺.

## This Week

### Work that is Worthy

By Amy Johnson – Kōwhai Head Teacher – Preschool

Recently, I came across this quote from Dr. Montessori and have considered it many times since: “The child is much more spiritually elevated than is usually supposed. They often suffer, not from too much work, but from work that is unworthy of them.” - *The Child in the Family*.

So, how does one determine which work is “worthy” and which is “unworthy”? We know that children especially, are active learners. They remember or understand most when they are invested—emotionally, physically or intellectually—in their self-chosen activities. This is human nature. It is how people (of all ages) learn and it is helpful to remember when we are looking for activity or “work” that is “worthy” of a child’s attention, focus, effort and exploration.

It is easy as parents and caregivers to look to new activities, toys, books or games when we want to engage these wonderfully developing minds and bodies in “worthy” activity. One look at Pinterest or a google search and you will find all sorts of suggestions, some of them even labelled “Montessori” and a few with pretty hefty price tags. If it is expensive, it must be good quality and “worthy” of my child’s time and attention, right? Counterintuitively, these pricy toys and treasures are often the opposite of what Dr. Montessori was trying to describe. Often modern, electronic toys and games, with all their lights, sounds, bells and whistles can “entertain” children but do so in a way that completely overwhelms their natural sensitivities and tendencies to engage, explore and experiment.

So, if it is not the latest gadget that our children need to engage with to develop their unique and amazing potential, what can we provide that might be “worthy” of their “spiritually elevated” attention? Amazingly, what children need, more than anything else, is to be invited and involved in life being lived. Do your children take part in the day-to-day running of your household, with whatever level of skill and ability they possess? Or does it all happen “magically” when they have gone to bed, or while they are watching their favourite show? Do they help to plan and to shop for food or other items? Do they collaborate with others to take on chores or tasks that need doing around the house? Are they allowed time to experiment, get bored and make mistakes in everyday life with everyday objects? Do they have opportunities for rich, authentic experiences with: music, literature, nature, language, culture, comedy/silliness, exercise, cooking, creating, dancing, stillness/calm, gardening, conversation, assisting others? Very few of these opportunities require a lot of money but they do take time, priority and sometimes a bit of planning.

As the weeks pass this term and they inevitably bring us closer and closer to the craziness we call ‘the holidays’, I challenge you to keep this in mind as you consider what is “worthy” of your child’s time in these precious years we call childhood.



Amy joined Wā Ora in 2015 after previously working in Montessori centres in Australia. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Linguistics), an AMI 3–6 Diploma and a Masters of Education. She loves connecting children with the tools in their environment to discover for themselves their own passion for learning and feels privileged to see them reveal their personality through their interests and actions. In her free time, she enjoys camping and hiking and visiting the beach, skate park and bike tracks with her family.

**Sport**

**Touch rugby sessions—open to all**  
Ike Tapine is running sessions for anyone to come along to (have a run around and try it out) at Fraser Park on Sundays 11 a.m.–12 noon. For more information, please contact Anna on [tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com](mailto:tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com).

**Sports T's have arrived**

If you ordered a sports T-shirt last term these are now available for collection from the main school office. If you need to purchase a sports T-shirt for a sports team this term, please also enquire about sizes at the office.

**Working bee**

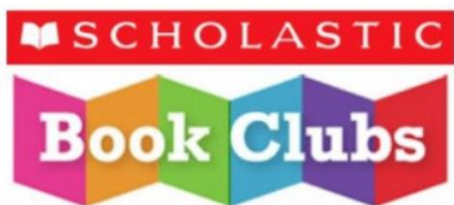


Please check below for your eldest child's name to attend this upcoming Saturday working bee. Contact the office with any queries.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
9am – 12noon**

Conor Sicut	Kate Schlup
Amelia Taylor	Jania Marcelo
Chyoe Thean	Hemi Thompson
Sailor Trapp	George Thorogood
Joel Tregaskis	Sebastien Toilolo-Meijn
Samuel Trojca	Roisin Wall
Asher Wanden	Musa Wagas
Ashlea Weaver	Wila Weaver
Ailie Weir	Julian Wimbush
Seth Wright	Ujin Wythe
Sophie Young	Oscar Zuiderwijk

**Scholastics Books**



Brochures went home last week and orders are due by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November. If you would like to place an order you can do this online using your credit card.

**Next week's newsletter**

Due to the long Labour weekend this coming weekend, next week's school newsletter will be with you on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

**Wā Ora car boot sale**

The Wā Ora Car Boot Sale is happening on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. We are looking for stall holders of new and used items! Book your spot at <https://tinyurl.com/y5plymn4>. Cost is just \$20.



**Term 4 parent morning tea**



Our preschool and primary termly morning tea is happening next Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 9 a.m. after drop off at Trade School Kitchen, 17 Everest Avenue, Naenae. These morning teas are very relaxed affairs and

offer a great chance for new preschool parents to meet up with existing families. Toddlers and babies are welcome. So join us for a relaxed chat and a cuppa and stay for as long or as short as you can manage☺

**Coffee Cart and Cafe**



Our Friday Market will run from 8 a.m.–9 a.m. in T2. We'll be selling coffees and hot chocolates, kranke twists and ginger crunch. Also new products: pasta salad pots—pesto and parmesan or chorizo and tomato.

**Save the date for Wheels Day**

Wheels Day is back later this term on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, so mark your diary and stand by for further updates.



**Request for help**

We've had a request from the brand communications company who worked with us to develop our Wā Ora brand who is creating a photograph library of NZ children and families for a new organization, which is going to be overseeing the welfare of children across New Zealand. Full information has been posted on our Wā Ora community Facebook group page. If you're interested in helping out, they do need an urgent response by end of tomorrow, Thursday 24 October. Please contact them directly via the details on the Facebook post.

**Lower Hutt Amateur Athletics Club**

The Lower Hutt Amateur Athletics Club is a summer track and field club providing a fun environment with a mixture of games for ages 5 and 6 and a mixture of skill-based activities and track and field events for ages 7–15 years. Club night is held at Hutt Rec on Wednesdays 6 p.m.–7.30 p.m. Keen athletes can access specialist coaching and represent Lower Hutt by competing in Interclub events and other competitions through the season. The season has just begun and if you would like more info about joining us, and registering online, please visit <https://www.sporty.co.nz/lowerhuttacc/>.

**Kids yoga**



**Learn German**

