

## ***Wā Ora newsletter for week 8 term 4 2019***

### ***The Wā Ora Montessori School Graduation Questionnaire***

*By Thomas McGrath – Deputy Principal High School*

Montessori emphasised that education is to be an 'aid to life'. But, what does this mean in the final years of school (15–18 years) where a large focus is on gaining a formal qualification? Here are *some* questions that I would hope graduates of Wā Ora Montessori school could answer 'Yes' to from being educated at Wā Ora. Take the test yourself.

1. Do you know your place in the time and space of our evolving human and environmental history and the power you have to effect meaningful and long lasting change, both now and in the future?
2. Do you have the means and confidence to solve problems or resolve conflict for yourself or others, through understanding and empathy, especially with those who are more vulnerable than, or different to, you?
3. Can you work and sustain focus on an individual or collaborative task or project by necessity and/or choice, not only to receive remuneration, but for fulfillment?
4. Do you know how to take care of your physical, spiritual, mental and social needs?
5. Can you read, view, listen to, calculate, research, estimate, hypothesise, test, confirm, reflect upon, criticise and admire the world, both natural and supranatural?
6. Are you an independent and interdependent 'life-long lover of learning'?
7. Can you speak confidently and genuinely, in more than one language, with another person/s using appropriate social/cultural etiquette?
8. Will you respect and uphold the rules that are required to govern society, protest or affect change to rules that are inadequate or even harmful, and be persistent yet gracious if your efforts are not immediately successful?
9. Can you safely use a range of appropriate tools and materials for a specific functional, survival, or creative purpose?
10. Are you aware of the many forms of waste humans produce and how to reduce, reuse, recycle, and dispose of waste correctly; and do you?
11. Can you sustainably and ethically earn your own money, understand interest and investment, exercise your power and rights as a consumer without getting misled by marketing and advertising?
12. Do you know how to care for a range of plants and animals?
13. Do you understand the role physical and digital technology plays in society, and how to use, and/or develop it for productive means?
14. Do you understand the significance of, and our duty towards, honouring New Zealand's bi-cultural history, and that our nation is founded on the basis of mutual respect for the unique cultural and personal identities of all its inhabitants?
15. Can you play a range of sports or games fairly, for pleasure or for competition?
16. Do you appreciate the Arts as a means of personal and social pleasure, criticism, comment, documentation, and exploration?

17. Do you acknowledge that world peace relies on harnessing the diversity of all humankind, according to strength and with awareness of weakness, towards achieving a shared aim?
18. Can you organise and cook a healthy and affordable meal for a group and clean up afterwards?

### **Dates:**

- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December **Kawakawa Coffee House** 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December **Graduation Dinner** 6 p.m.
- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December **Working bee** 9 a.m–12 noon.
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December **Tawari campers** depart 12 noon.
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December **Tawari campers return** to school approx. 10 a.m.
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December **End of year concert** 11 a.m.
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December **Whole school closes** at 1 p.m.
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December **Preschool closes** at 3 p.m.

### **Sport:**

#### **Futsal:**

Wa Ora Senior mixed vs Silverstream Green, 7–4 loss.

#### **Twilight Netball:**

Wa Ora vs One Hit Wonders, 27–11 loss.

#### **Touch:**

Wa Ora Pūkeko (Years 1&2) vs Belmont Superheroes, 3–9 loss.

Wa Ora Kererū (Years 3&4) vs Boulcott Highlanders, score not yet confirmed.

Wa Ora Kōkako (Years 5&6) vs Avalon Black, 0–10 loss.

Finals this week!

#### **Netball:**

Pīpipi (Years 1&2) vs Chilton Diamonds (scores are not recorded at this level).

### **General:**

#### **Christmas Collection – Donations still gratefully received**

Tēnā koutou whānau. Thanks to those who have already donated to our Christmas collections. We are this year accepting donations for Angel Tree, an organisation providing Christmas gifts to children with a parent in prison, and Pataka Aroha, a non-profit community group based in Naenae, helping those struggling to make ends meet. Donations can be left at the school office up until the last day of preschool (Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December) so you still have time if you were planning to donate. A quick reminder of what you can bring in: for Angel Tree–new Christmas gift and/or handmade card; for Pataka Aroha–good condition used toys and books, non-perishable food items, or a supermarket voucher or cash donation. There is a box at the main office or in the teachers office in Kawakawa.

**Pop-up Café at Kawakawa Coffee House: this Thursday from 5.45 p.m.**

Delicious food in a cafe setting! Relax over dinner before going to the final Coffee House show for 2019. Mac 'n' Cheese, Thai inspired pumpkin soup, Christmas Mince Pies, Brownie... and more! Our trained baristas will be running the coffee cart too. Eftpos available.

**End of year concert schedule – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

We warmly welcome you to our end of year concert on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December starting at 11 a.m. This year we will hold our concert on the primary field outside Tawhai classroom. Please feel free to bring picnic blankets or picnic chairs to sit on. In the event of wet weather, the concert will be held at the high school in T2. The schedule is as follows:

**10.40 a.m.** Guests may begin to arrive to the primary playground and will be ushered to the seating areas. Violin and cello students will be performing to welcome whanau and guests.

**11.00 a.m.** Concert begins with a welcome from the MC and speeches from the Board Chairperson (Scott Champion) and Wa Ora Community Group Chairperson (Kelly Walker).

**11.15 a.m.** Class items – Kowhai; Nikau; Pohutukawa; Rewarewa; Kauri, Puriri, Rata, Tawhai, Totara, Kawakawa, Tawari

**12.00 p.m.** Choir Performance

**12.10 p.m.** Leavers Ceremony

**12.30 p.m.** Principal's Speech

**12.35 p.m.** Closing Words from MC

**12.40 p.m.** Staff Item

**12.50 p.m.** Concert Finished

**1.00 p.m. SCHOOL CLOSED – NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

**Expressions of Interest**

We have three part time Teacher Aide positions available for 2020. Two of these are in the high school working with individual students – an interest in Maths and English is preferred but not essential. One position is five hours per week and the other is a minimum of ten hours per week. The third position is in the primary school and is for twenty hours per week. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact Juliette George by emailing

[juliette@waora.school.nz](mailto:juliette@waora.school.nz)

**Completed transition paperwork needed back asap**

If your child is moving up to a new class next year, you will have received a transition pack by now. Please take the time to read through all the information to help with the change for both you and your child and complete and return your forms to the office **before the end of this week** to ensure a smooth transition.

### Working Bee list

Our next working bee is scheduled for this coming Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December and goes from 9 a.m. –12 noon. Please check the list below for your child's name.

George Double
Ishan Vallabh
Nico Freire
James Li
Logan Lampitt
Tilak Patel
Eulie Norton
Tully Whittington-Werry
Eli Shearer
Angus Newlands
Jude McLennan-Deans
Sophie Moore
Adeline Johnstone
Charlie Munro
Enzo Estrada
Nunu Woodson

### Lost property – LAST CHANCE TO CHECK

Please check the lost property rack in the hallway, just past the main office (enter from the deck at the Rata class end) for your child/ren's clothing and belongings, before the end of year, when items still left will be donated. Please ensure that all clothing and belongings coming to school with your child in 2020 are named, as these can then be easily returned when they are lost/found.

### Start of 2020 Dates

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January is the first day of term 1 2020 for the high school – Kawakawa has an Odyssey gear check in the morning and Tawari has course confirmation in the afternoon.
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January is the first day of term 1 2020 for preschool and primary.

### Naenae Community Murals Grand Opening Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m.

Our Kawakawa students, led by Art teacher Jade, have played a part in the Naenae Pool Community Art project, creating four murals depicting the past, present and future of Naenae. The murals have been installed around the Naenae Pool fence line and all whanau are warmly invited by Mayor Campbell Barry to attend the grand opening on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 11 a.m (assemble in the car park to the north of Naenae pool at 10.50 .m. or at Shop 11 in Hilary Court if wet) to view all the murals that have been painted by various schools and community groups.

**This week's newsletter is the last for this year**

Today is our final newsletter for the year. Thank you for your patience with our 'pared-down' format this past term; we look forward to bringing you our regular-look newsletter again in 2020.