

## Diary dates

### Coming up . . .

- Monday 16<sup>th</sup>–Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March **9–12 swimming** 12.30 pm–2.30 pm
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March **BoT/Council meeting** 7 pm
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March **PTA meeting** 7 pm Brew'd Boulcott
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March **high school parent education evening** 7 pm
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March **year 7 technology** 9 am Avalon Int School
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March **Kawakawa market opening festival** 2.30 pm at the high school
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March **9–12 parent education evening** 7 pm
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March **primary swimming sports** 12 noon
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>–Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March **9–12 swimming** 12.30 pm–2.30 pm
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March **year 7 technology** 9 am Avalon Int School
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March **new parent welcome evening**

### Parent education evenings

**PARENT EDUCATION EVENING**

**9–12:** The 9–12 primary will hold its parent education evening **this Thursday** 19<sup>th</sup> March from 7pm - 8.30pm in Tōtara classroom. The topic for the evening is: A day in the life of the 9–12 class. Come along and experience a walk-through of the general events of an average day, hopefully giving some concrete understanding to the abstract concepts underpinning cosmic education and freedom balanced with responsibility. Please RSVP to your child's class teacher so they can have an idea of numbers.

**High school:** We are proud to host the ACC sponsored 'Mates and Dates' team for an evening presentation to whānau **tomorrow evening**, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to seeing you there. <https://www.matesanddates.co.nz/>.

## This week

### Odyssey wrap up

By Richard Goodyear–Kawakawa head teacher

Kawakawa class always starts the year with Odyssey. An epic journey as a new community to refresh old connections and to forge new ones. To explore some of the most spectacular places in Aotearoa and to experience staying on a marae. And to hear the stories of the land from the people of the land. It is a pedagogy of place.

There is no distinct pattern to where we go on any particular Odyssey except for one non-negotiable. Every three years we always go to Waitangi. This means every taiohi will always experience going to Waitangi on Waitangi Day. An experience that I have come to regard as a vital touchstone for all New Zealanders. It is as close as many of us will get to an event that is truly bicultural and of course steeped in so much history and politics. So if you haven't done this already I highly recommend you do. The next two years will be good as you won't get mobbed by 60 Wā Ora adolescents!



Prior to this, we had the privilege of being welcomed on to and sleeping in the marae at Orakei/Bastion Point. There we heard stories of this proud place with such a difficult past. The people there were gracious, generous and most of all positive and passionate about their future.

Experiencing nature and all the opportunities that go with that was another big theme for us on this Odyssey and in fact on all Odysseys. In this case, we dipped into that aspect in a number of places. The theme of kauri stewardship was a big one for us. We must've gone through kauri die-back wash stations a dozen times. And experiencing the giant kauri tree Tane Mahuta is something I don't think any of us will forget. We were lucky to hear from a local ranger about this amazing tree but also the interconnected way a kauri forest exists. We also had some fun just for the sake of it, particularly at Tree Adventures and sandboarding on the Opononi dunes.

It was also nice to have a home base for a while and so the four nights we spent in the wilderness at Tangihua Lodge inland from Whangarei were bliss. We could swim, camp, explore, and develop teamwork and personal resilience through something called Adventure-Based Learning which the team running Odyssey (Little Brown Kiwi) did brilliantly. Actually, that theme of building resilience is a strong feature of Odyssey. Just being away from home and having to manage all the changes in routine and environment for 10 days is a great opportunity for that. And in that regard, the Kawakawa taiohi did brilliantly. I'd also like to acknowledge the Wā Ora Odyssey team of Sarah Jane, Allyson, Jason, Emma, Louane, Paul and Tom. And the Little Brown Kiwi team (who actually organizes Odyssey these days) of Henry, Paddy and Mushi. Look out for next year's adventure.



*Richard has taught at Wā Ora since 2012, having 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.*

## Sport

## Roller skating



Congratulations to Michaela King for her aggregate gold medal at the Laurie Hastie Speed Skating competition in Palmerston North over the weekend. Michaela came 1<sup>st</sup> in both 200m and 400m indoor novice grade speed skating races.

## Futsal

Senior Mixed v HVHS Purple, 1–8.

## Touch Rugby

Pūkeko (Y1/2) v Boulcott Giants, 4–4.

Kererū (Y3/4) v Boulcott Titans, 6–11.

Kōkako (Y5/6) v Boulcott Lions, 1–10.

Weka (Y5/6) v Naenae Magic (girls), 3–2.

## Weetbix Tryathlon



Some of the Wā Ora contingent who participated in the Weetbix Tryathlon last Thursday in Lower Hutt. Many thanks to Anna Tapine who organised our group.

## Parent teacher interviews

## Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent teacher interviews are this term as follows:

**Week 9:**

**Tāwari:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>– Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

**Week 10:**

**Kawakawa:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup>–Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**Tōtara 1:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March–Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**Week 11:**

**Preschool:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup>–Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**6-9 Primary and Tawhai:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>–Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tōtara 2:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup>–Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Links for booking appointment times will be emailed and sent via the app two weeks prior to the interviews.

## PTA meeting TONIGHT – all welcome



The PTA is getting together TONIGHT 16<sup>th</sup> March, 7 pm–8.30 pm, at Brew'd Boulcott, 669 High Street to discuss 2020 plans. All whānau are welcome to come along. Any support, no matter big or small is gratefully received.

## Scholastics brochures

Scholastics brochures are in preschool pockets and have been given out to primary students. Orders are due by this Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## School photos order instructions

Information flyers for ordering this year's school photos, went home with students on Friday. All the instructions for ordering photos are on the flyer, including the website address ([www.photolife.co.nz](http://www.photolife.co.nz)) and your personalized photo keycode/s. You are welcome to share these keycodes with other family members so they may also place an order. Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April is the "free delivery" deadline. Orders placed before this date will be delivered directly to the school for free. Any orders after that will be mailed directly to you and incur a delivery charge.

## Rubbish bin (for inside) needed

If you have a spare rubbish bin that playgroup/after school care could have, either with a foot pedal, a swinging lid or any other type of lid that doesn't need to be lifted by hand, please could you email Dannielle ([dannielle@waora.school.nz](mailto:dannielle@waora.school.nz)).

## Wā Ora community survey

Thank you to those who have already completed this year's survey. Feedback helps us to review our practices and refine these where necessary. Each of us has an important opinion so if you have not yet completed the survey, please visit <https://forms.gle/Bza7BNqChoaUtRbK8> and complete. Feedback will be shared with the school community once reviewed at the close off of the survey.

## Please sign our petition

We are a group of year 13 students from Tāwari completing a social campaign about organic waste. Organic waste is raw materials that we cannot compost or recycle. Whilst the council is suggesting green waste bins, this does not take into account all the food waste that we generate.

We are petitioning the council to get organic waste bins in Lower Hutt. We want to bring about change for the greater Wellington region by starting with the area around us.

Please sign our petition for this cause. You can help us get one step closer to implementing this into our rubbish and recycling systems. You can sign our petition here <http://chnng.it/5Krl6Cvchg> – it takes less than a minute to sign up.

## Please check lost property



Please check the rack in the hallway at the Rātā class end of the deck for your child/ren's clothes as it is now full. This is also a good time to name all your child/ren's clothing items and to remind them to take care of their belongings. This really assists us in returning named items to you/your child.

## Kawakawa market grand opening festival–THIS THURSDAY 2.30 PM

