

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

- Tuesday 9th June **year 7 technology** (catch up session)
- Thursday 11th June **year 7 technology**
- Wednesday 17th June **2nd instalment accounts due**
- Wednesday 17th June **hearing and vision testing Year 1/2's, Year 7/8's**
- Thursday 18th June **year 7 technology**
- Monday 22nd June **Council AGM** 7.30 pm over Zoom

Welcome to the following student and family...

Rewarewa – Vaidehi Choubey

Congratulations to...

. . . Georgie, Reuben and big brother Farren in Rewarewa, who have welcomed a baby girl, Summer into their family during lockdown.

Also congrats to Samantha, Thomas and big brother Cody also in Rewarewa, who have welcomed a baby girl, Sophie, into their family during lockdown.

And in Kōwhai class, Mila became a big sister over lock down to new baby sister Indie. Congrats to Olivia and Stuart.

Wā Ora Council AGM



You are warmly invited to this year's Council AGM on 22nd June at 7.30 pm as a Zoom meeting. The AGM is a great opportunity to learn more about the school's initiatives, achievements and the current financial situation. Please email hayley@waora.school.nz by Thursday 18th June to join the meeting. The agenda and invite will be sent out before the AGM.

This week

The nature of change

By Jason Johnson – Kawakawa Teacher

“Everything flows and nothing abides” —Heraclitus

With the welcoming of Hilary to our team up here in Kawakawa and the departure of Richard, who has led our programme for the past five years, the return to school from lockdown and the strange restrictions on daily life, and the upcoming general elections and ongoing strife I read about each day around the world, I have found myself reflecting on the nature of change.

As humans, we generally like to be in a state of equilibrium. Much of our effort is devoted to removing chaos from our lives, to developing systems for organising and resetting our environment. Why? Because predictability saves energy. When our environment is predictable, we expend less of our precious mental resources carrying out everyday activities. Thus humans have developed an innate behaviour to bring order to our environments, not just to be more comfortable (who doesn't feel better in a tidy room!), but to save our resources for more important things. Like sharing ideas, making art and music and connecting with loved ones.

Yet we live in an ever-changing world that requires us to adapt to changes in our environment on a daily basis. Some changes are small and able to be accommodated easily — “now it's raining, best put on a raincoat” — but others, like the global pandemic we are currently experiencing, require total paradigm shifts and the establishment of a new equilibrium.

Ecologists have a term for this process. They call it disturbance, and it is a vital part of the functioning of healthy ecosystems. When a large tree falls, opening up the forest canopy, or fire sweeps across a hillside, burning up a stand of Manuka, there is massive change. At first, it may seem catastrophic — that which was once, is no more. But nature quickly fills the gaps. The resources once used are now free to be utilised by other organisms. New space is available — more light, more water — and there are opportunities for different species to take on new roles in the community. Without this disturbance, ecosystems stagnate. Dominant species monopolise resources and the system loses its biodiversity, the number of different species, and its ability to adapt to future change diminishes. In short, without some disturbance, ecosystems lose their ability to cope with change at all.

In finding our new equilibrium we are now presented with opportunities. We should assess what is fundamental to the way that we do things and wants to be preserved. What can we choose to develop in a new way, to take advantage of the changing situation? As we do this, however, we remember that too much change, or constant change, can be stressful. We need to be able to find a new equilibrium. And as adults, we must show our young people how to ride through times of uncertainty. We can model how to adapt and, as Jacinda Ardern reminds us, how to be kind to each other as we do it.



Jason teaches in Kawakawa, working across all the subjects – humanities, occupations, English, mathematics, advisory time, and more! He taught English, science and philosophy in secondary schools for about 12 years, and has completed his Montessori adolescent training earlier this year. Jason is a self-confessed geek and musician, and in his personal time he's usually doing something in that world – practicing, performing or recording and tinkering with computers.

Sport**High school badminton**

Senior and junior practices are on Mondays from 4–5.50 pm at Naenae Badminton Hall with coach Shane Harrison. CSW games start 19th June. Congratulations to Olivia Cheng on making the HVHS Premier 1 team.

Netball

Practice got underway for our Year 7/8 team on Sunday. Thanks to Anahera Brown for coaching and Megan Skelly for managing the team.

Congratulations to Madeleine Bailey and Stella Harrison on making the HVHS Premier 1 team.

High school basketball

This year we field 1 senior team. Practices are on Sundays from 4–6 pm at Nash. Thanks to David Kerr for coaching and Krista Kerr for managing the team.

Primary school basketball

This starts on Monday 22nd June. Please email sarahjane@waora.school.nz to express your child's interest in playing and/or your interest in coaching. Wā Ora will play Tiniball, Miniball and intermediate basketball teams if we have the numbers and the coaches to do so.

eSport League of Legends

Wā Ora DAN v Scots College, 0–2.

Wā Ora Under130 v Onslow, 0–2.

We are still looking for a coach. Please email sarahjane@waora.school.nz if you are interested.

Cross Country

Training starts in PE classes this week.

Possible traffic disruption

Northpower are erecting a new power pole on the corner of Waddington Drive, Rimu and Rata Streets this week, so there may be an impact on our community at drop off/pick up time with restricted parking and traffic being controlled by stop/go signs. Thank you in advance for your patience and consideration.

Donations tax Letters

We still have donations letters to either be collected from the office (whilst adhering to our safety procedures for onsite visitors) or you can request a scan to be emailed to you by Donna (donna@waora.school.nz).

Early reminder—term 3 teacher only days and mid-term break

Please make a note of the following term 3 dates where school is closed for students. On Tuesday 4th August (week 3) the area school (primary and high school) is closed for attendance for a Ministry of Education teacher only day; the preschool is still open on this day however. Later in the month on Thursday 27th August (week 6), there is another teacher only day, which is for the whole school (no lessons for preschool, primary and high school), with the day after, Friday 28th August, being mid-term break with the whole school closed also.

Wā Ora hoodies orders —LAST CHANCE

This is the last chance to order a school hoodie this year with orders closing this coming Sunday (14th June). This year orders can be completed and submitted either via an online google order form OR on our supplier's website. Delivery is expected the first week of term three. Full details are on the order forms.

Hoodie order via google form link (payment must be made separately): <https://forms.gle/xDCCUdQBTvknVPvSA>

Hoodie order via supplier online order form with online payment facility: <https://fundraisingidairz.org/wa-ora-montessori-school/>.

Scholastics books

Scholastics brochures have now been given out and orders are due by this Friday 12th June. Orders can be made online with details on the brochure itself. Books are then delivered back to the school, from where parents can collect.

July preschool holiday programme

Our July holiday programme will be operating from 9–3 pm week days at a cost of \$175 pw with after school care between 3–5 pm (at usual term charges) if needed. There are no casual bookings. Morning tea is included but you will need to provide lunch as per our food procedure. Please email anna@waora.school.nz to book.

School holiday computer class

Grand Training runs fun and educational computer classes, Saturday, after school and school holidays at Johnsonville Club and Wellington Girls College, for ages 5+. Learn to Code and Create 3D Games or Learn to Code with Scratch, Python or Java. Also Minecraft, Website Design and for younger children the Discovery Computer Class.

For more details go to www.grandtraining.co.nz or ring Wanda at 499 2211.

Tai Chi for beginners

Come and take part in an introductory (free) Tai Chi class with Wellington School of Tai Chi Chuan Silverstream at 6–7 pm on Tuesdays at Silverpine Scout Hall, Pinehaven Reserve, Pinehaven Road, Upper Hutt. Tai Chi is a gentle exercise to improve health, balance, energy and overall wellness. It is your own journey and you tailor your own outcome. It's suitable for people of all ages and levels of physical fitness. No special equipment is needed, just wear comfortable shoes and loose clothing.

**Washing and drying your hands kills the virus**

Wash often. Use soap. 20 seconds. Then dry. This kills the virus by bursting its protective bubble.

Find out more at [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

New Zealand Government

Unite against COVID-19

Change to alert level system

This afternoon's announcement regarding a change to alert level 1 effective midnight tonight will mean changes to how Wā Ora has been operating during alert level 2. The specifics of these changes will be communicated to our whānau as soon as possible.