

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

- Monday 27th July **PTA meeting** 7 pm
- Wednesday 29th July 1st instalment of **school accounts due**
- Wednesday 29th July **parent education evening** (Raising Resilient Children with Kathryn Berkett) 7 pm Tōtara class
- Friday 31st July **Matariki** concert 10 am in T2
- Sunday 2nd August **working bee** 9 am–12 noon
- Tuesday 4th August **Scholastics book orders close off**
- Wednesday 5th August **parent morning tea** 9 am Trade Kitchen
- Thursday 6th–Friday 14th August **Bee Healthy dental van on site**

Matariki 2020



Matariki Daytime concert

Whānau are invited to join us for the whole school performance this Friday 31st July at 10 am in T2 at the high school. Come along to watch your tamariki sing waiata and present creation stories.

This week

The journey towards independence

By Dannielle King – Playgroup Facilitator – Preschool

Tēnā koutou e te whānau, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

As is usual at the start of a new term we have farewelled some tamariki from playgroup as they turn 3 and transition into preschool; and we have also welcomed new whānau just beginning their time at Wā Ora. Often the parents of our new tamariki comment about the work they see the nearly 3-year-olds doing; they have never imagined a 2-year-old preparing kai for morning tea, setting a place at the table, pouring a glass of water, serving themselves and cleaning up afterwards. I always explain that it is a learning process, that independence is not something that comes about in an instant, but is a journey that begins from the moment of birth. Maria Montessori (1948) wrote that "The essence of independence is to be able to do something for one's self". We can help our tamariki learn to be independent in many small actions that will lead towards their independence as a grown human being.

We must help them to learn how to walk without assistance, to run, to go up and down stairs, ... to express their needs in a way that is clearly understood, and to attempt to satisfy their desires through their own efforts. All of this is part of education for independence. (Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, 1948, p. 58)

As parents, we need to give some thought and effort to educating for independence. In most cases it is quicker and easier for us to do things for our children than to teach or allow the time for tamariki to do it themselves. I'm sure everyone has heard the Montessori quote "Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed." — I would perhaps replace "never" with "as often as possible" though!

In the first few years this seems like a constant effort, as physical capabilities grow so quickly, along with will power. I'm sure we can all remember hearing "me do it!" even if it is many years since we had a 2-year-old. Every moment that you spend teaching, helping or waiting, results in increased confidence and independence. This is not just for younger ones though. A 2-year-old cutting a banana, a 7-year-old packing their own lunchbox, a 10-year-old making lunch for the family, or a teenager cooking dinner; all are steps towards the young adult who leaves home with the confidence that they will be able to look after themselves.



Dannielle has been working at Wā Ora since 2015, starting as a Wā Ora parent covering lunch breaks and relieving in the preschool to increase her understanding of Montessori philosophy. Now she coordinates the playgroup. She finds it amazing to see how much a 1- or 2-year-old can accomplish when given the chance and she loves sharing her Wā Ora experiences with families considering Montessori education. In her spare time she enjoys reading, baking and cake decorating.

Sport

Cross country

A great event on Friday; thanks to you all for supporting the students to participate! Results are being processed this week and those who qualify for the inter school cross country competition will be notified and welcome to enter if they wish.

eSports League of Legends update

The CSW eSports competition was enjoyed by our two senior teams last term. This was a trial and all involved were invited to give feedback. The consensus is that students would like it to be a permanent option. We submitted suggestions for alternative games to be added to future competitions.

Basketball

Our high school team has withdrawn from the CSW competition as there weren't quite the numbers and availability to commit fully. Sincere thanks to David and Krista Kerr for their effort and support as we tried our best to make things work!

Players (and non-players for that matter) may be interested in attending the social basketball that will run in term 4 on Friday nights at Nash. Details will be posted on the hākinakina noticeboard.

Miniball

Practice this term is 12–1pm on Sundays, court 5, Walter Nash. Competition games resume this Thursday. Thanks to Sid, Marina, David and Krista for coaching and supporting this team.

Parent education evening

—THIS WEDNESDAY @ 7 PM



All Wā Ora whānau and friends are warmly invited to attend our term 3 parent education evening this Wednesday 29th July in Tōtara classroom at 7 pm. We are proud to host renowned speaker/trainer Kathryn Berkett who will speak about 'Raising Resilient Children' and share how we as parents and a community can help our children develop resilience. For more information on Kathryn, please click: <http://www.engagetraining.co.nz/meet-your-trainer.html>. There is no charge to attend this evening.

PTA meeting

The PTA meet TONIGHT at 7 pm at Brew'd Boulcott. All Wā Ora whānau are welcome. Contact Kelly on 027 361 1751.

PTA Fundraiser

Purchase any of these great products before then end of August and when you choose Wā Ora as your organisation to support, the PTA will receive a donation towards the class wish lists. Please share with friends and family:

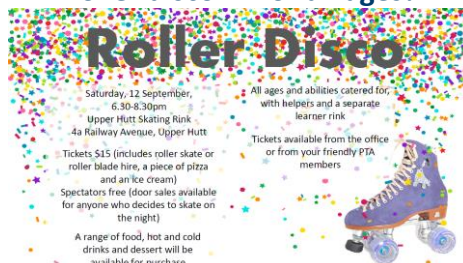
https://fundraisingidairz.org/wa_ora_monessori_fundraiser/



PTA AGM

All Wā Ora whānau are invited to join us for a complimentary drink and nibbles at our PTA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th August at 5pm in Tōtara class.

PTA roller disco — for all ages!



Saturday 12th September at the Upper Hutt skating rink from 6.30–8.30 pm. \$15 entry covers skate hire, a slice of pizza and an ice cream. Spectators are free; tickets can be bought from the school office.

Matariki Hakari

Thank you to all our whānau who came and shared kai with us at our Matariki Hakari on Friday evening. If you recognise any of your items in the photo, please collect from the school office.



Parent morning tea

Coffee catch up @ Trade Kitchen next Wednesday 5th August straight after school drop off at 9 am. See you there☺.

Kawakawa Coffee Cart & Café and Kawakawa Market

Every Thursday from 2.45– 3.20 pm at the Kawakawa prefab (high school campus), whānau are invited to come and relax before pick-up or bring the kids for afternoon tea on the run. Enjoy a coffee, hot chocolate, ginger crunch and hot sausage rolls at reduced Matariki prices from KCC&C (eftpos available) or browse through the Kawakawa market stalls selling plants, cookies, skin products and cold drinks.



2021 start dates

Wednesday 3rd February:

Kawakawa Odyssey gear check (am only).

Tāwari course Selection (pm only)

Primary and preschool have a full day.

Thursday 4th February:

Kawakawa leave for Odyssey.

Monday 8th February:

Waitangi Day public holiday observed.

Friday 12th February:

Kawakawa Return from Odyssey.

Monday 15th February:

Day off in lieu for Kawakawa students and teachers who were on Odyssey.

Teacher only day cancelled

A reminder that the teacher only day scheduled for Tuesday 4th August (week 3) has been cancelled. This will now be a normal school day for ALL preschool, primary and high school students. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Working bee

Sunday 2nd August

9am – 12noon

Evan Atkinson	Amélie De Nardi Cooke
Colton Barnes	Zeta Ford-Robinson
Nyla Daud	Oliver Harrison
Lucia Falconer	Carla Horspool
Zoe Johnston	Poppy-Jane Humphries
Aria Landall	Ava Hunt-Ingledeu
Gabriel Opie	Vera Liddington
Tilak Patel	Logan McShane
Jack Pearce	Zoe Mildenhall
Rose Russell	Rosemary Owen
Eli Shearer	Cohen Partridge
Karun Sologar	Vanisha Tandon

