

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

– Tuesday 8th September **Scholastics book orders due** date

Wednesday 9th September **6–9 trip** to Otari Native Botanic Garden

– Thursday 10th September **parent education evening:** John Parsons

– Saturday 12th September **PTA roller disco fundraiser** 6.30 pm Upper Hutt

– Tuesday 15th September **Playgroup Open Morning** 9.30 am

– Friday 18th September **Peace Day breakfast** 8 am

– Monday 21st September **BoT/Council meeting** 7 pm staffroom

– Monday–Friday 21st–25th September **Te Wiki o Te Reo Maori** (Maori Language Week)

PTA roller disco — fun for all ages THIS Saturday!

Have you got your tickets yet for the PTA's Roller Disco? It's on this Saturday 12th September at the Upper Hutt skating rink from 6.30 pm–8.30 pm and it'll be a great night out for young and old alike! Tickets cost \$15 for each



skater and price covers skate hire, a slice of pizza and an ice cream. Spectators are free, but door sales are available for

anyone who decides to skate on the night. Food, hot and cold drinks and dessert are also available for purchase. Tickets can be bought from the school office or by contacting PTA members Stacey Newlands or Jenny Jellicoe. Come along and have fun supporting the school PTA 😊

This week

A prepared adult in a young person's environment

By Stuart Mason—Chemistry Teacher — High School

Last Monday classes sang 'Tanti auguri a te!' and ate cake to celebrate the 150th birthday of Maria Tecla Artemisia Montessori, born in Chiaravalle, a small town on the Italian Adriatic coast. Of course we know the subsequent story of the first female Italian to graduate as a medical doctor, whose work with children in Rome led to her developing what she called a scientific pedagogy, a stage-development model of education centred on the needs and tendencies of the child. She was influenced by the thinking of others but she based her work in scientific observation, and the pedagogy we implement today is her set of conclusions about child development, generally regarded as the work of a genius. "It is not true that I invented what is called the Montessori Method... I have studied the child; I have taken what the child has given me and expressed it, and that is what is called the Montessori Method" (What you should know about your child, 1961, p.3).

Dr. Montessori's instructions on how to be a prepared adult in a young person's environment are pretty clear. We are told "the child has a mind to absorb knowledge. He has the power to teach himself" (The Absorbent Mind, 1949/2007, p.5). Therefore, we should "respect all the reasonable forms of activity in which the child engages and try to understand them" (The Child in the Family, 1956/1970, p.88). We must never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed because "the essence of independence is to be able to do something for one's self" (The Absorbent Mind, 1949/2007, p.142), and independence is a consistent theme throughout the planes of Montessori education.

A young person's job is to self-construct. The judgement required of the adult is to know when and how to intervene, or to trust, stand back and observe. Sometimes a good compromise working with adolescents is 'Spray and walk away': share an adult opinion about the problem then leave the young person to make their own judgement and take their own action.

The adolescent must never be treated as a child, for that is a stage of life that he has surpassed. It is better to treat an adolescent as if he had greater value than he actually shows than as if he had less and let him feel that his merits and self-respect are disregarded. (From Childhood to Adolescence, 1948/1997, p. 72)

It was well over a century ago that Dr. Montessori began to tell us about the importance of respecting the dignity and autonomy of young people as an aid to their development. However, in many of the institutions in which children find themselves today there seems to be only slow progress in the direction of those principles. So I tautoko those birthday greetings.

Buon compleanno, Dr. Maria.



Stuart has taught chemistry, mathematics, occupations and microeconomy in the high school since the start of 2013. Prior to this he taught in other schools in New Zealand and the UK, including a year at Athena Montessori College. Before teaching, Stuart studied chemistry at Victoria University of Wellington. He loves working with the 12–18 age group because it is a fascinating part of life's journey and it is a joy to see just how much can be achieved by the extraordinary adolescent mind when it is given the opportunities of independent thought and collaborative work offered in a Montessori environment.

Sport
Netball

Congratulations to Anahera and the team. Tui was graded up to Int 6 in the NHV 2020 competition.

School sports T's – order yours today



Online sports t-shirt orders are still open and make ordering quicker and

easier this year. If you would like to order a shirt (price \$48) please complete the order form [here](#) and make payment via internet banking or eftpos at the school office. All sizing info is on the form and delivery will be to families at the start of term 4. Orders close next Wednesday 16th September. Link:

(<https://forms.gle/SfFjk9iyaiwvcCQr8>).

Touch rugby

Touch rugby is back in term 4 and we are assembling our tamariki early!! Pre-season games and kai on this Sunday, 13th September, 1–3pm (note time change). Beginners are welcome so come along and find out what it's about. Ages 5–13 years (up to year 8). RSVP here <https://forms.gle/ZyUpDHsfUSoA6hgJ8>.

The term 4 season starts 29th October at Fraser Park. Email us for more info at tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com otherwise, see you there!

Masks for sale



Kawakawa microeconomy group 'Cute as a Button' has been busy sewing and have now restocked. To purchase (\$7 adult/\$5 child) either email zena@waora.school.nz or meet the students outside the primary gates on Waddington Drive this Thursday afternoon from 2.45 pm to purchase (cash only).

Asbestos testing on Waddington

Results from asbestos testing at no. 211 Waddington Drive (house across from primary playground) confirm there were no fibres in the air – just to put people's minds at rest.

Upcoming parent education evening

Internet health and wellbeing

We are gearing up for our parent education evening **this** Thursday at 7 pm at the high school with John Parsons, a leading authority on keeping children safe online. John will cover such topics as online grooming, sexting, cyber bullying, learning to repel and report, future proofing for employment, screen time, sleep and more. This presentation will be relevant for anyone with children and an internet connection and is free for our whānau to attend.



Scholastics

Orders from scholastics brochure #6 are **due tomorrow**. These can be made online with details of how to do this on the brochure itself. Books are then delivered back to the school, and will be sent home with students.

Peace Day celebrations



Whānau are warmly invited to come and share kai (toast and

spreads) and a beverage from the coffee cart from 8 am next Friday 18th September in the preschool at our Peace Day breakfast. We will then head across to the primary courts for further celebrations until approximately 9.30am. This event may change depending on the next alert level review and we'll keep you updated.

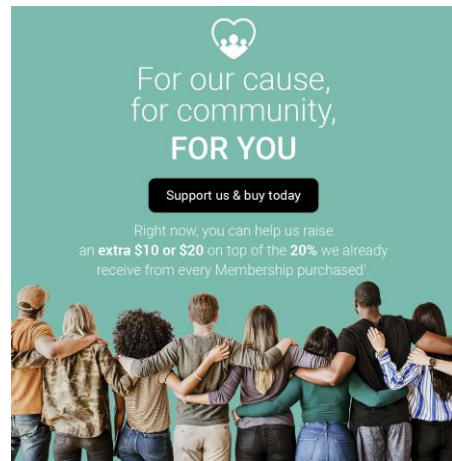
Playgroup open morning



We are holding an open morning next Tuesday 15th September for new people to try out our playgroup. If you know of anyone with a toddler aged 18 months to 3 years, please share this information with them. There's no need to register and we'd love to see them along at 9.30 am.

Entertainment book fundraiser

The Wā Ora Entertainment fundraiser is a great way to help our school and save money when you shop with participants both locally or in other NZ destinations. It is fully online this year and you can find out more or purchase a membership by clicking this link → <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/10530w6>.



Help a great cause, support local community and SAVE on everything you love for your full 12 or 24 month Membership. Together we can make a difference.



- Purchase a 1 year Single City Membership for \$69.99 and our fundraiser receives...
\$24 towards our fundraising goal
That's \$14 + an extra \$10*
- Purchase a 1 year Multi City Membership for \$119.99 and our fundraiser receives...
\$44 towards our fundraising goal
That's \$24 + an extra \$20*
- Purchase a 2 year Multi Plus Membership for \$229.99 and our fundraiser receives...
\$66 towards our fundraising goal
That's \$46 + an extra \$20*

Kawakawa Foodbank drive

We are the Kawakawa Foodbank group and for our humanities class this term we are trying to fill our school van with food for the Lower Hutt Foodbank and we can't do it without you. What you can do to help: If you bring food in between now and Friday 18th September (week 9) you will be helping THOUSANDS of people in need. If there are any questions, please email student.amelial@waora.school.nz or student.baileyl@waora.school.nz.

