

## Diary dates

### Coming up . . .

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September **BoT/Council meeting** 7 pm staffroom
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September **Kawakawa Coffeehouse** 7 pm
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September **PTA meeting** Brew'd Boulcott 7 pm
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September **Tōtara class walk and picnic**
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September **LAST DAY OF TERM**
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October **FIRST DAY OF TERM 4**
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>–Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October **Kawakawa Service Camp**
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October **Peace Day breakfast and celebrations** 8 am
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October **Sports and extracurricular photos** 7 am
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October **BoT/Council meeting** 7 pm staffroom

### Peace Day celebrations



After a Covid-related false start, whānau are again warmly invited to come and share kai (toast and spreads) and a hot beverage from the coffee cart from 8 am Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October (week 1 of term 4) in the preschool at our Peace Day breakfast. All proceeds from Coffee Cart will be donated to the Peace Foundation. We will then head across to the primary courts for further celebrations until approximately 9.30 am.

## This week

### MIM 2020 — Meeting in the Middle

By Zena Kavas — Biology Teacher — High School

Wā Ora Montessori high school recently co-hosted and participated in the annual Meeting in the Middle workshops, a meeting of Montessori teachers, spanning the 4 different time zones of New Zealand and Australia, with participants from Bali and the United States fitting in with us. Although we were originally looking forward to hosting this event in person and showcasing our amazing school and learning programme here at Wā Ora, the COVID travel restrictions have allowed us to explore how to present and participate in an on-line meeting and conference.

Four of our teachers hosted on-line workshops — Thomas was one of the hosts, Sarah Jane ran an inspiring workshop on micro economy, Jason hosted a workshop describing the next 8 days of life in the lead-up to Coffeehouse, and David explained how he designed and continues to build the Maths programme at Wā Ora. There were also workshops and discussions on:

- teaching in these COVID times, with discussions on how different schools are dealing with the range of issues that the future holds in terms of on-line teaching,
- sharing ideas around the issues and successes of timetabling,
- planning a senior Montessori programme that covers the learning that is necessary for the needs of the students,
- a humanist approach to creative self-expression, and how to integrate the humanities with mathematics, technology and the sciences, and
- creative solutions to overcoming barriers, and the euphoria of overcoming the odds.

Meeting in the Middle is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn what other schools are doing, to share our successes and challenges, to discuss curriculum and programme development, and to collaboratively explore and problem solve. And equally importantly, it is a chance for us to catch up with and get to know other adolescent programme Montessori teachers. Although we teach to the New Zealand curriculum, it can sometimes feel lonely, and that we are marching to a different beat. So we make the most of these chances to be part of the Montessori community. Maria Montessori said “we shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity” (To Educate the Human Potential, p. 6). Although this quote is referring to educating the child, it is also very relevant to how we, as adults work best — when we are supported by caring colleagues in our community, and can share our experiences, both our triumphs and tribulations. This gives us the courage to continue to innovate, to try new ideas and to continue to improve how we teach.

Ironically, I got some great ideas from other Montessori teachers here at Wā Ora, shared over the Zoom forum with our overseas colleagues. I have come away from this conference feeling inspired and supported to continue developing the programmes that I teach.



Zena started teaching at Wā Ora in 2018 and teaches Biology to our college students and Occupations to our adolescent programme. Previously she worked at Taita College for 14 years. Zena loves sharing the wonders of the natural world with ākongā and seeing them relate the theory they are learning to real life situations. Her personal interests include practicing and teaching yoga, travelling and exploring new places and ideas, gardening, reading and tramping/trekking in New Zealand.

**Sport**

**Badminton**

The season has finished. A huge thanks to Shane Harrison and Jon Werry for coaching our teams!

**eSports**

Wā Ora v Onslow, 2-0

**Miniball**

Wā Ora Magic v Dyer Street Rebels, 8-16.

**Netball**

Wā Ora Tui v Hutt, 15-19 placing Wā Ora second in the competition for their grade!

**Save the date**

Sports and extracurricular photos are scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> October 7.30- 9.30 am in T2. Details to follow in separate email.

**Thanks to PTA**

A massive thanks to the PTA, who have kindly sponsored 40 shirts for the touch rugby teams. This means from term 4 ALL our touch rugby tamariki will be playing in genuine Wā Ora sports uniforms! Also thanks to the school community for supporting the PTA, so that they are then able to support projects like this.

**Touch rugby in term 4**

For ages 5 (or nearly 5) to 13 years old (year 8). Games are played Thursdays at Fraser Park from 29<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> December (6 weeks). Game times will be between 4 pm and 6 pm, but depend on the grade (we will get the draw for the season before the first game). Register by 16<sup>th</sup> October here:

<https://forms.gle/S6rKvUQisGyZavZz6>.

Skills sessions are on Saturdays from 10 am-11 am at Naenae Park from 10<sup>th</sup> October to 28<sup>th</sup> November (8 weeks) and are open to anyone.

There is a fun carnival tournament on 21<sup>st</sup> November, which is optional, but we would LOVE to have at least one team there. Any queries or for more information, please contact Anna on [tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com](mailto:tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com).

**Please watch your children on Waddington Drive**

A reminder to keep a close eye on your small children when walking between your car parked on the street and school. A small child last week ran straight across a neighbour's driveway, as he was driving out without a parent close by. No harm was done this time, but we must all be very vigilant at drop off/pick up times to make sure an accident does not happen.

**PTA meeting — this Thursday**

Our PTA meets this Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 7-9 pm at Brew'd Boulcott. Please come along if you'd like to get involved or learn more about upcoming events. We'd love to see you there! For more information, contact Stacey Newlands, PTA secretary.

**Abacus fundraiser – closes Friday**

**Turning your Child's Picture into unique products!**

**Calendars:** High quality laminated 12 month calendar of your Child's artwork or Photo. All year (plus a bonus!) like boards, A5 size and size printed on the reverse of all products! Includes postage.

**Cards:** Display your Child's artwork or Photo on a pack of 10 cards. Includes postage.

**Diaries:** Hand cover part of your Child's artwork or Photo. All year (plus a bonus!) like boards, A5 size and size printed on the reverse of all products! Includes postage.

**Mouse Mats:** Your child's artwork or Photo print, hand-drawn to a high quality mouse mat.

**Sketch Pads:** Hand cover part of your Child's artwork or Photo. All year (plus a bonus!) like boards, A5 size and size printed on the reverse of all products! Includes postage.

**Orders to be returned by: FRIDAY 25 SEPT (end of term)**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

	Calendars	Cards	Diaries	Mouse Mats	Sketch Pads	Total
How many items are to be made from this Student's ART?	\$ 14-00	\$ 16-00	\$ 18-00	\$ 16-00	\$ 16-00	
How many items are to be made from Unloaded Photos? (Indicate below)						
Total	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Payment Instructions: Please make payment when this form is returned. Payment can be made at the office by cash/efpos or online to the school account # 12-3209-0438285-00 with surname and 'ABACUS' as reference.

If you want to Upload Photos for your purchase: You can upload photos to create photo products by visiting [www.kidartworks.com](http://www.kidartworks.com) and using your School Entrance Code: **K2752**. Once you have successfully uploaded your photos, you will be emailed a provided a Reference number. Please write that here: \_\_\_\_\_

Calendars, sketch pads, diaries, mouse mats and card packs with children's artwork/photo are again available for purchase. **Orders are due back this Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September** (the last day of this term).

The order form is again attached to this week's newsletter email and app alert and can be printed out, filled in and either photographed/scanned and emailed to [donna@waora.school.nz](mailto:donna@waora.school.nz) or dropped into the school office. **PLEASE NOTE: a separate order form is needed for each child.** If you would like to view your child's artwork, please ask your child's teacher to see the folder which is in the classroom. All payment details, prices and info needed to order your child's artwork or a photo are also on the order form. Payment can be made either at the office by cash/efpos or online to the school bank account no. 12-3209-0438285-00 with surname and 'ABACUS' as reference. Prices are as last year: cards \$16, calendars \$14, diaries \$18, mouse mats \$16 and sketch pads \$16.

**We are at Level 1 tomorrow**

We look forward to welcoming whānau back onto school grounds from tomorrow morning.

**Cybersafety handouts**

Some of our community attended our September parent education evening and heard Cybersafety speaker John Parsons talk about how to keep our children safe online. His slides and some links to material to read/watch at your leisure that support the discussion of the evening are now available and have been posted in the community facebook group. If you are not a facebook user, please email Jo in the office for the pdf.

**Do you have . . .**



The Art room is seeking donations of cold chisels, rasps (all sizes), hammers and saws for sculpture work (your grandpa's rusty tools are our goldmine!). Donated Oamaru stone would be an added bonus. Thank you from Amber.

**Shakeout**

**ME TAKATŪ MŌ TE ShakeOut**

WHIRINGA-A-NUKU **15** 9.30AM

TĀ TĀTAU WHAKAWAI RŪ ME TE HIKOI NGARU TAITOKO

Wā Ora will once again be participating in New Zealand ShakeOut, our national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi, taking place next term in week 1 on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30 am.

**Kawakawa café for Coffeehouse**



Pop-up café is serving before Kawakawa Coffeehouse this Thursday night at the high school from 5.30 pm, serving sausage rolls and pumpkin soup for dinner as well as delicious baking and hot drinks. Gluten free and vegan options are available.

**Mental Health Awareness Week**

It's mental health awareness week next week and this year's theme is Reimagine Wellbeing Together – He Tirohanga Anamata. For more information and resources, visit <https://mhaw.nz/>.

**REIMAGINE WELLBEING TOGETHER HE TIROHANGA ANAMATA**

Mental Health Awareness Week 21-27 September