

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

- Monday 16th November **BoT/Council meeting** 7 pm staffroom
- Tuesday 17th November **TEACHER ONLY DAY FOR AREA SCHOOL**
- Wednesday 18th November **school accounts 3rd instalment due**
- Wednesday 18th November **Tōtara class walking trip**
- Friday 20th November **Tōtara class walking trip**
- Friday 20th November **preschool twilight disco**
- Tuesday 24th November **Y4–8 interzone athletics day**
- Wednesday 25th November **open house evening** 5 pm
- Wednesday 25th November **Year 4 transition meeting for parents** 6.30 pm
- Thursday 26th November **Year 4 sleepover @ Zealandia**

Area school teacher only day TOMORROW



There is **NO SCHOOL TOMORROW FOR PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** due to an MOE teacher only day. Preschool will run as per normal and before and after school care will still operate for preschoolers in the usual manner.

Peace day speeches

The speeches from our Peace Day celebration have been attached to the end of this week's newsletter as some whānau were unable to join us and also others could not hear clearly on the day (due to no sound system).

This week

Looking on in wonder

By Michael Draper —Physics Teacher

The mistaken idea that the adult must mould the child in the pattern that society wishes still holds sway.... The child is not simply a miniature adult. He is first and foremost the possessor of a life of his own that has certain special characteristics and that has its own goal. The child's goal might be summed up in the word incarnation; the incarnation of human individuality must take place within him. (Maria Montessori, Education and Peace p. 15)

With our Tāwari students starting their NCEA exams and preparations for the end-of-year concert underway, I find myself thinking back to what it was like to be a parent of Wā Ora tamariki with the end of the school year approaching.

One of the things that always arose in me at this time of the year was the desire to find out what my children would reveal or demonstrate to show how much they'd achieved that year. I would find myself thinking, "What will my children produce? What will they have to show at the end of this school year?" Behind this was a desire to have things that I could point to proudly and say, "Look at what my children have done. Look at what they're able to do."

I was also aware, however, that I didn't want my enthusiasm for individual achievements to unbalance my children's development of their own intrinsic motivations.

Maria Montessori understood this problem:

The child who has never learned to work by himself, to set goals for his own acts, or to be the master of his own force of will is recognizable in the adult who lets others guide him and feels a constant need for the approval of others. (Education and Peace p. 18-19)

Her solution was as profound as it was simply expressed: "We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself, think for himself" (Maria Montessori, Education for a New World, p. 106).

The child, in fact, once he feels sure of himself, will no longer seek the approval of authority after every step. He will go on piling up finished work of which the others know nothing, obeying merely the need to produce and perfect the fruits of his industry. What interests him is finishing his work, not to have it admired, nor to treasure it up as his own property. (Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind p.251)

As a parent, it is nice to remember that the examples of our children's work that we cherish at the end of the year are only the tiniest glimpse into the true work that they have achieved, and that it is the children themselves, their growth and development, that is the far greater wonder.



Michael trained as an engineer but worked firstly in IT and management consulting before turning his energy to teaching. Michael loves how Montessori engages ākonga in projects that combine learning across multiple fields and helps ākonga grow and develop as contributing members of their communities. Michael describes himself as a geek, loves learning across almost any field and is a recent and enthusiastic electric car owner!

Sport**Futsal**

Junior mixed had a bye.

Touch rugby

Pūkeko (Y1/2) v Dyer Street Diamonds.
Ruru (Y1/2) v Rata Street 1.
Kererū (Y3/4) v Belmont Tigers, 4–9.
Kōkako (Y5/6) v Naenae Thunder, 3–6.
Weka (Y5/6) v Naenae magic, 6–2.

Volleyball

Junior Girls v Wainui 2, 3–1.
Junior Mixed v Upper Hutt, 1–2.
Senior Mixed v Heretaunga, 2–5.
Special thanks to Shane for coaching this team through their games.

Y4–8 interzone athletics

A wonderful day for participating ākonga. Thanks to the teachers and parent supporters for making this happen! Results will be published this week and those who qualify for the interzones will be notified.

Invitation from Whānau Hui

Kia ora! All school families (parents and children) are warmly invited to our final hui of the year on Friday 4th December in Tōtara class at 5.30 pm. We would love to see you and share kai (food) together. Please bring a plate to share. We look forward to catching up with as many of our Wā Ora community as possible.

Wā Ora Board of Trustees – remember to vote

Voting for our Board of Trustees candidates has begun and you would have received your voting papers in the post by now, if you are an area school (primary and high school) parent with voting rights. Please review the enclosed candidate statements and complete your voting paper, and return it inside the enclosed envelope to the school office by Tuesday 1st December. Results will be announced on Tuesday 8th December.

Transition paperwork

A reminder that transition paperwork for year 4, 7 and 10 students should be completed promptly and returned back to Emma Schrader in the main school office asap for processing☺.

Year 4 transition evening

The transition evening this year for those parents whose children are moving up to 9–12 next year is scheduled for next Wednesday 25th November at 6.30 pm in your child's new class.

End of year concert

We warmly welcome you to our end of year concert on Wednesday 9th December starting at 11 a.m. We will again hold our concert on the primary field outside Tawhai classroom. If the weather does not choose to co-operate it will be held in T2 at the high school. The concert will end around 12.35 pm and school is then closed from 1 pm with no after school care. Further information will be available in next week's newsletter.

Preschool Disco

The Preschool Twilight Disco for preschool families is on this Friday, 20th November from 5–6 pm at the Mabey Road hall in Avalon. Entry is by gold coin or \$5 for a family to cover the hire costs. There will be snack food items available to purchase and glow sticks. Cash only please and BYO water bottles. Any profit will be donated to Wellington Shoe Box Christmas.

PTA Te Whiti Riser walk

Join us for a family friendly walk on Saturday 28th November from 4 pm. Te Whiti Riser is low gradient, making it fun and achievable for most. There will be a sausage sizzle, face painting, hot chocolate and ice creams. Please click the link <https://tinyurl.com/twightriser> to register your interest and email ptawaora@gmail.com.

PTA Christmas fundraiser

The PTA are offering a final fundraiser of the year of premium wines available in a 6-bottle case. Please email Colette at waorapta2020@gmail.com if you would like to order or receive more information about this.

Christmas collection – donations gratefully received

We are again reaching out to you to help those in our community in need this Christmas. We are supporting Angel Tree again, an organisation helping tamariki with a parent in prison. An online donation to Angel Tree of any amount can be made at <https://hekorowaiwhakapono.nz/koha/> (but if you can manage \$50 this will cover one child for the whole year). We are also gratefully receiving donations to the Māori Women's Refuge of new, wrapped gifts for children (please label with appropriate age the gift is suitable for) and also food items and good condition second hand toys to the Pataka Aroha, a non-profit community group based in Naenae. In particular, they are asking for toys suitable for girls before the end of November, but anything you have will find a home. Collection boxes will be in the office until the end of term.

Extra yearbooks

Every family who has paid their annual fees will receive one yearbook per family at the end of this year. If you would like to order extra copies this year, please email relda@waora.school.nz with your name and the number of extra copies required by Friday 27th November. Extra copies cost \$16 each and must be paid for prior to pick up.

Term 4 open house evening

Join your child/ren and share in their learning at our open house evening for primary and preschool sectors next Wednesday (25th November) from 5 pm–6.30 pm. Your child may show you a project they've been working on, demonstrate a lesson or give you a tour of the classroom. Teachers will be available to answer any questions you may have. All whānau are welcome.

Holiday work wanted

Hi. I am looking for work over the school holidays. I am interested in either looking after school age children and/or walking your dog. Please call Iris Russell on 022 687 0215, or my Mum, Pam on 027 240 4531.

Peace speech

1. This is what peace means to us.
2. Kindness, help love and care.
3. Sharing with others
4. We are all equal.
5. Every one should be treated evenly.
6. We all have the right to live in freedom and safety
7. No body should blame you without proof.
8. If you are kind and peaceful others will be kind and peaceful back

By Zara and Zoe

peace day speech

Peace, what is it? Is it freedom or slavery? Is it happiness or sadness? Is it love or hate? Ask yourself. The dictionary's definition is a condition where there is no war, no violence, no disorder. But in our world there is disorder. There is violence, and there has always been violence. For example in, French revolution: Marie Antoinette executed in 16 October 1793. World war two Anne Frank died in February 1945 died from typhus.

So will there ever be peace? But what if peace isn't what the dictionary says? what if it's a tranquil retreat. a morning walk even a hug. And there's a chance there will always be violence, but we can change that if we start today. If we start being a little kinder, a little bit caring we got through covid so we can make world peace happen. We can start by bring at peace with are selves.

By Kjesten

Peace day speech

This Speech is for peace day and much more, Peace day is about love, happiness and Peace. Peace is where everyone is peaceful, calm and happy; everyone should have Peace but no... There is still violence, war, racism and anger. Even though this is happening we..., all of WA ora can still be respectful and kind to each other, we should be strong throughout these hard times, be strong WA ora!

This poem is written by Josephine from Taiwan about

How the Japanese crane got its crown of wisdom poem, (for peace day)

in A village far away,
In a land of the unknown,
Lives a restless little girl,
In ~~a~~^{the} center of a war,
A girl with a friend.
A friend of great loyalty,
But in a different shape and form,
A neck so high,
Legs so long,
Beak so straight,
Eyes ~~are~~^{as} dark as the night sky,

An invasion,
A troop of soldiers,
Fighting to end the war,
A stray bullet that left the mark of a lifetime,
The blood soaked cloth touched the head of the crane,
And the color spread,

From then on all cranes have the crown of wisdom.

Peace is Good.

Peace is a flowing river.

Peace is a wavy ocean.

Peace is a water fountain.

Peace is the great earth.

Peace is living animals.

Peace is a girl.

Peace is a boy.

Peace is a new born baby.

Peace is a full grown adult.

Peace is you.

Peace is me.

Peace is everyone in the whole wide world.

The End by Jessica

What peace means to me

Peace to me is stopping war.

Peace to me is kindness.

Peace to me is respecting other cultures.

Peace to me is you and me.

Written by Jessica

Published by Mischa