

Diary Dates

This Week

Coming up . . .

- Monday 15th February **BoT/Council** meeting 7 pm high school
- Monday 15th February **Year 7 & 8 immunisation information session**
- Friday 19th February **Year 7's to Technology**
- Friday 19th February **Preschool coffee morning** 8.45 am playgroup room
- Friday 19th **Whānau hui** 5.30 pm
- Wednesday 24th February **school accounts 2nd instalment due**
- Friday 26th February **PTA Twilight Picnic 5-7pm**

Welcome to the following students and their families...

Pōhutukawa – Arthur Watt

Nīkau – Thea Liu

Kōwhai – Jocelyn Liang, Caeley Hall and Theo van Beynan

Tōtara – Ran Thean and Bede Thomas

Congratulations to . . .

. . . Nīkau family, Lara, Dustin, Liam and Evan Matthews, on the birth of their new family member Isobel 😊.

School photos



School photos are scheduled for Wednesday 3rd March. The online process will be the same as last year for ordering class and individual photos. If you wish to order a sibling photo, you will still need to pick up an order form from the school office and complete and return it by Tuesday 2nd March. More information will be coming home shortly. A timetable for the day will be included in next week's newsletter.

2021 so far at Wā Ora

By Ava Szabo

Kia Ora Whanau

Welcome to the start of Week 3 and a busy term ahead. Let me begin by sharing a few highlights of the year so far.

For anyone who has a child in Kawakawa I am sure you have heard the stories of the wonderful camp at Makahika. This outdoors centre hosted our tamariki for a week at the start of the year and it was a great adventure for our young people. There were high ropes, zip line, day tramps, bivouac construction and much more. These camps play a key role in forming our Wā Ora adolescent community and forging friendships that grow and develop over the year. The kaupapa (principles, ideas) that are formed and agreed to on camp will form the basis of the year ahead.



I am happy to announce that we have a Kapa Haka programme at Wā Ora this year. Each Wednesday, Primary and Preschool tamariki will spend between 30-40 mins with Donnelle Walker our talented Kapa Haka instructor. Our tamariki are excited and have already learnt some new waiata. We are hoping to extend this programme into the High School; I will keep you updated.

At the end of 2020, our senior students sat NCEA at Level 1, 2 and 3. 2020 was a difficult year for all of us and COVID 19 brought an added level of stress. Our 51 ākonga worked hard during the year completing internals at school and during lockdown. I am very happy to share our NCEA 2020 results, these are an accumulation of a long year of hard work. I would like to acknowledge all our college ākonga.

The NCEA 2020 results are:

1. Level 1 Wā Ora achievement was 74%
2. Level 2 Wā Ora achievement was 94%
3. Level 3 Wā Ora achievement was 93%
4. University Entrance was 86%

All of these figures are above the national averages.

Final results will be calculated on the 1st March 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our students and staff who worked so hard last year. Well done.

As I write this newsletter we have found out that there is community transmission of COVID 19 in Auckland and our Alert Levels have changed. I know this is a worrying time for many, but school remains open and I look forward to seeing our tamariki this week.

Sport

Touch rugby in term 1 2021

Our first games are this Thursday and we have 42 tamariki playing in 6 teams, our biggest season so far. This is also our first season with a year 7/8 team. In addition to school games, 6 players (3 U10 and 3 U12) participated in a 4-week development course run by Wellington Touch - the three older players then represented Wellington Touch in national tournaments: Angus Newlands (U12 boys open team) at Whanganui, Mitchell Jellicoe (U12 boys open team) and Phaedra Tapine (U12 girls open team) at Palmerston North. Ka Rawe!

And in November 13 tamariki from Wā Ora touch teams played their hearts out at TouchJAM - a touch tournament at Hutt Park with over 70 teams and 700 kids. To see pics visit the Wā Ora facebook page post from 30th November 2020.

Weet-bix TRYathlon

Weet-bix TRYathlon registrations are now open for kids aged 6–15 years. For complete details please paste this address (<https://tryathlon.co.nz/locations/hutt-city/>) into your browser. A school group has been created for the Hutt City event on Wednesday, 17th March 2021. To be included in the school group paste the below address into your browser (<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=40600&G=118734>) or search for the school when entering. We'll organise a marquee for the day so we have a place to sit together. Note that you are responsible for your child(ren), as this is not a school trip. Please e-mail Anna at tapine.waora.sportsteams@gmail.com with any queries.

Sports coordinator 2021

Our sports coordinator for the area school is Sarah Jane Lambie. Her office hours are 8.30 am–3.30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays at the high school and she is contactable on 04 567 2377 on these days or by email sarahjane@waora.school.nz.

From next week, sports news will be shared in a separate newsletter sent out with the weekly school newsletter. It will include results, photographs, updates, information about upcoming events, team sports registration and general information about sport at Wā Ora!

Caregiver Contact Class Phone Lists

Updated Caregiver Contact Lists have been emailed home last week to all classes. This helps with arranging playdates and contacting parents of class mates for out of school activities.

Dry Cleaning

Dry cleaning can be dropped off at the school office and it will be cleaned and delivered back to school for you to collect? It's convenient and affordable and also helps Wā Ora, who receives a percentage from the sales. Please ask the office staff for further information.

Little Heart Day



Little Heart Day is a day to celebrate the one in a 100 kids born with a heart defect. Aubane, one of our High School students,

will be playing some music to fundraise for this cause on Friday 17th of February, 11:45 in the preschool and 12:10 in Totara. Please bring a gold coin or donate [here](#). Feel free to wear red or hearts.

PTA



Wā Ora PTA invites you to the annual Twilight Picnic on Friday 26th February 5–7 pm on the primary school grounds. BYO dinner and enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones. Bring togs and towel for the waterslide!

Does your child regularly leave school early for activities?

If you regularly pick up your primary and/or high school student(s) from school earlier than the normal 3.30 pm finish time, you must notify both the office and your child's teacher by email. Your email should advise all of the dates this will be happening. If your arrangements change, you need to keep the office updated via email. Thanks for your help with this.

Scholastics book orders

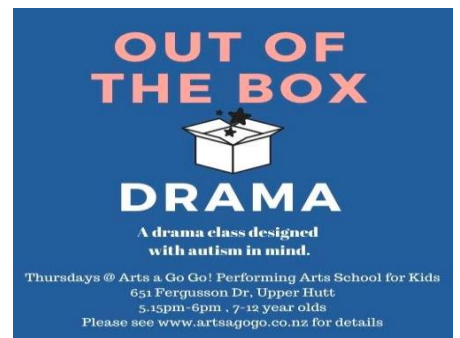


Scholastics brochures have been given out last week. Orders are due online by this Thursday 18th February. Scholastics have a great selection of reading ideas for your child and when you purchase, you are helping the school to increase its library with free books.

Please note orders must be made online, we cannot accept cash in the office.

Arts a Go Go

Award winning Arts a Go Go! Performing Arts School for Kids Upper Hutt has limited spaces in our after school drama classes for 6–18 year olds and in our creative writing class for 11–18 year olds. Please note our brand new option "Out of the Box Drama" designed especially for students on the autism spectrum. For more details, and to see a list of all our classes in dance, drama and singing, please see www.artsagogo.co.nz or email rachel@artsagogo.co.nz



Upper Hutt shuttle

We have a family who is trying to set up a shuttle service from Upper Hutt to school. If you live in Upper Hutt and are interested in some further information please contact Kate Anderson at angelnursekate@gmail.com or text 027 231 7949. Alternatively check out their Facebook page Wā Ora Upper Hutt Shuttle <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2136898166447722>

Have your contact details changed?

If so, please notify the office of any changes to your address, phone numbers or email, either by emailing, completing the online form in the school app or popping in to the office. Having the correct information impacts our ability to contact you in an emergency.