

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

–Monday 8th – Thursday 11th March
Primary school swimming, Stokes Valley

–Wednesday 10th March **3rd school accounts 3rd instalment due**

–Thursday 11th **Parent education evening**

–Friday 12th March **Year 7's to Technology**

–Tuesday 16th March **Y5-8 swimming sports, Stokes Valley**

–Friday 19th March **Year 7's to Technology**

Parent Education Evening *This Thursday 11th March*



Come along to the first of this year's series of Parent Education evenings to be held this **Thursday 11th March at 7pm** in Tōtara class and learn how we incorporate **'Maths'** across Wā Ora from preschool to high school.

Please RSVP to the office by today, Monday 8th March. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Scholastics book orders



Scholastics brochures have been given out last week. Orders are due online by Sunday 21st March. 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.

This week

Freedom, Responsibility, Discipline and Social Development

By Joel Batson –*Tōtara Teacher*

As I ponder the country having to yo-yo between alert levels, it strikes me that the task given to us adults (teachers and parents/whānau alike) is a massive one. The extent to which we instil in the ākonga around us a sense of social awareness and responsibility can have lasting effects for all involved for a long time to come. So it behoves us to fully grasp the idea that 'with great freedom comes great responsibility'. The actions of single individuals can end up having huge ramifications for large numbers of people and their related communities both positive and negative.

These ideas of freedom, responsibility, discipline and social development are all interdependent and interconnected. They depend upon each other. Yet, this idea of giving freedom to the child is one of the hardest ideas in Montessori to understand. It is often misunderstood. And it is even harder to implement!

A world used to exist where children were best 'seen and not heard'. The level of freedom was low and the level of expected responsibility was quite different. Nowadays we generally tend towards a different norm where children are in some cases given as much freedom as fully developed adults, yet they are unable to cope with the responsibility that comes with it. Sometimes, the focus is on making sure everyone 'feels' good as opposed to 'what do you **think** about that?' This is a question that appeals to the reasoning mind. Unfortunately for some, learning new and needed things can and should take some hard graft, which, at the time, often doesn't feel that good!

In the Montessori classroom we try to give children as much freedom as they can cope with in order to independently self-construct. It is not complete freedom. It is the amount of freedom ākonga are able to make good choices with (showing a sense of discipline), based on observation and appropriate for whatever age and stage of social development they are at.

Boundaries and limitations balanced with affection and a sense of belonging are key here. And for us, these are made concrete in what we call the prepared environment. Our environments, including the adults in the room, are prepared in such a way in order to give ākonga the best chance to develop a sense of social awareness and discipline through experiencing limited freedoms and the corresponding responsibility at every level.

"Individual freedom is the basis of all the rest. Without such freedom it is impossible for a personality to develop fully. ... Freedom is the necessary foundation of organised society. Individual personality could not develop without individual freedom. Only individuals can unite to form a society."

Dr Montessori, Education and Peace, pp.101-102 (Clio)

Implicit in the above quote from Dr Montessori is the fact that freedom implies responsibility. Without responsibility, freedom ultimately becomes a lack of unity.



Joel is one of the 9–12 teachers in Tōtara class. He has been teaching since 2009 and at Wā Ora since the beginning of 2014. He completed his AMI 6–12 training in 2016. Joel loves teaching 9–12 year old children — their energy and enthusiasm can be both catching and inspiring. In his spare time he loves playing music, reading books, bush-walking and spending time with his family.

Sport

Please see our new separate sports newsletter.

Swimming

Swimming for the primary classes will be held again this week at Stokes Valley pool. Tania has emailed more detailed information. Please remember to name all togs, towels and goggles. Dates: Week 6 – Monday 8th – Thursday 11th March.

Swimming sports

Swimming sports for Y5-8 will be held next week – Tuesday 16th March at Stokes Valley pool.

A huge Thank You to Kate



This week we acknowledge, with heartfelt appreciation and thanks, the hard work and commitment our netball coordinator of 10 years, Kate Dent-Rennie, has given to growing, and keeping alive, netball at Wā Ora. Your energy and time is greatly valued, Kate; you leave this role with a strong foundation of sound organisation and systems for the future of netball at our school.

Wā Ora App—Have you downloaded it yet?



Our communication app makes it easy for caregivers/whānau to keep up to date with school news. You can notify the office of absences, book before/after school care, check the class blogs, read the newsletter, follow links to our facebook and website, view useful documents and much, much more. Best of all you can sign up for alerts relevant to your child's class/activities/sports, etc.

PTA

Fundraiser

Buy some bulbs, plant now and have beautiful flowers come Spring. Help the PTA raise funds for a sign written gazebo. Order (at office or during Alert Level 2 email: falconer.dani@gmail.com) and pay (bank account details on form) before Friday 26 March. Forms are attached to this email.

Primary Production 2021

Motu Manu Tapu



This year's Primary Production - Motu Manu Tapu is scheduled for week 9 of term 2.

The production will be in T2 and now involves only our 6-8 and 9-12 students. Students in Kawakawa and Tawari are supporting the production by volunteering for roles in the Production team. Students should have their scripts and be learning their lines. Rehearsals continue this week in Tawhai on Thursday afternoons from 1pm – 2:45. Rehearsal schedules are being posted in classrooms.

We have begun the planning for the production and require any offers of the following materials which can be dropped off at the school office:

Feathers, onion sacks, white business shirts, glam glitter throw-outs!

Wellkiwis Household Influenza study To enrol directly in the study, please contact

Wellkiwis at 0800 493555 (08004WELLKIWI).

Or email the Wellkiwis study team at Wellkiwis@esr.cri.nz

HOUSEHOLD STUDY

Join our Wellkiwis study and help fight the flu



Are you living in the Wellington region with at least one child aged 19 or younger living in your household?

We are calling for volunteers to take part in ground-breaking research into how people develop immunity to the influenza (flu) and how the virus spreads in a household. This will help scientists develop a universal flu vaccine that could put an end to flu pandemics and save millions of lives around the world.



Wellkiwis influenza study

Wellington brick show



Naenae soccer club

Naenae Soccer Club

2021 JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS AND PRE-SEASON TRAINING

Pre Season Kicks off:
12th February 2021
Friday evenings 5:30 – 7pm
(please ensure children have shin pads and a drink bottle)

Registration Dates:
February 12th, 19th, 26th
March 5th

Season Starts:
10/11th April 2021 until 28/29 August 2021

WE OFFER:

- Player pathways from First Kicks through to Senior Football
- Indoor Training Facility
- Indoor First Kicks for Inclement Weather
- Subs only \$115 for 7th – 12th Grade, \$120 for 13th– 14th/15th grade, First Kicks (for children turning 5 and 6 this year) FREE. Family Discount for two or more players from the one family is available. (Payment plans available on request)
- Full Playing Kit (no need to purchase club shorts or shirts)
- Free Coaching Courses for our Coaches

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
email: naenaejuniors@hotmail.com
Contact No: 0221540527 between 4-7pm

Capital E Children's Day

Saturday 13th March/10am-2pm



Caital E welcomes you to come together to celebrate Children's Day!

Bring the whānāy along for fun, entertainment and creative activities plus contribute to the collective voice of tamariki in our time capsule with Wellington museum.

Get your groove on, enjoy a variety of performances, & more...

Free/Under the Sails, Queens Wharf.

Activities suitable for ages 0-12.

