

Diary dates

Coming up . . .

- Wednesday 26th May school accounts 2nd instalment due
- Friday 28th May Year 7's to Technology
- Wednesday 2nd June PRACTICE lockdown drill
- Friday 4th June Year 7's to Technology

Welcome to the following students and their families...

Rewarewa – Takumi Fongsavanh

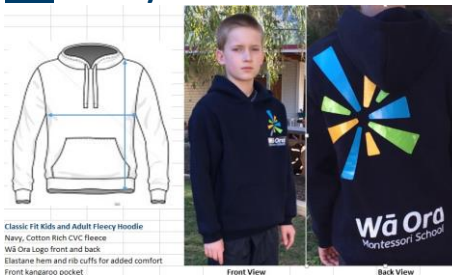
Kōwhai – Lucy Anderson

Scholastics



Orders are now available for pick up from the school office.

Wā Ora hoodies – orders close this Sunday



Orders are now being taken for our Wā Ora hooded sweatshirts. This year orders can be completed and submitted via an online google order form. The deadline for orders is Sunday 30th May and delivery is before the end of term two. Full details are on the order forms.

Hoodie order via google form link (payment must be made separately):

<https://forms.gle/ACiNstZazEj1DjSH7>

This week

Whanaungatanga

By Carolyn Bohm – Rātā teacher

As a whole school staff we have been on a journey exploring different tikanga concepts. Our current concept of discussion is whanaungatanga and as we were engaging with this idea I was struck by how beautifully it connects with Montessori philosophy and principles. Whanaungatanga refers to a sense of family connection and describes the 'glue' holding people together in any whānau relationships. In tough times, it's the relationship-glove of whanaungatanga causing the whānau to gather round, provide support, and put the needs of the group before the needs of individuals.

Whanaungatanga doesn't just refer to one's blood family, it can also refer to a community or group. Children and staff spend the better part of their daytime hours during the week at school and so a classroom can become almost a second whānau to them. Maria Montessori also thought of the Montessori classroom as a community and a family away from home. She believed in having mixed age ranges in the classroom as this mirrors a family at home with children interacting with siblings and cousins in a range of ages. This also allows tamariki to go to older members of the class when they need support and, in doing so, for older students to get a chance to be role models.

Montessori classrooms have community meetings to discuss and brainstorm solutions to problems noticed in the classroom. At community meetings possible solutions to the problem are brought up, their merits analyzed, and a solution voted upon. In this case, some tamariki might need to set aside their own wants to support the greater need of the community. This process also brings the classroom together as a family because all tamariki have an opportunity to make suggestions, comment on the suggestions of others, vote, and have a say in the strategies put into place in their classroom.

This sense of whanaungatanga is also created through shared experiences. While the Montessori curriculum is catered towards the unique interests and learning needs of tamariki, resulting in individuals or small groups working independently, we still come together for class trips, school camps, bush walks, school productions / events, occasional group lessons, and celebrations. These shared experiences allow us to create memories and a classroom identity.

This sense of belonging to a classroom family encourages tamariki to make choices keeping the greater good in mind. They can choose where to work, what to work on, when to follow up on lessons, and who to work with but this freedom comes with a responsibility to the classroom community. Choices around work must be made with consideration to the rest of the class and their need for an environment conducive to focused work. Through these different avenues, the Montessori classroom creates for children a family away from home and beautifully works alongside the local cultural tradition of whanaungatanga.



Carolyn began teaching at Wā Ora in 2017 and holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from New Mexico State University and elementary (primary) Montessori training. Carolyn was introduced to Montessori as a student teacher, when she fell in love with the philosophy, curriculum and lifestyle. When she is not teaching you can find her somewhere outside—hiking, biking, walking on the beach or star gazing. She likes to cook, write, hang out with friends and explore what's new in science.

Te wiki o te reo Māori*(Māori language week)*

This term, our Māori language week committee will be providing us with: **"Te kupu o te wiki"** (word of the week)

The Days of the Week - **Ngā Rā o te Wiki**

Monday - **Rāhina/ Manei**

Tuesday - **Rātū/Tūrei**

Wednesday - **Rāapa/Wenerei**

Thursday - **Rāpare/Tāite**

Friday - **Rāmere/Paraire**

Saturday - **Rāhoroi/Hātarei**

Sunday - **Rātapu**

10-minute parking bays out front of school

A reminder that the car parking spaces in front of the preschool and main school office have a **10-minute limit** on them during our busy drop off and pick up times. We appreciate your ongoing

assistance with parking considerably and safely in our neighbourhood.

PRACTICE lockdown drill: Wednesday 2nd June

We are holding a lockdown drill next Wednesday 2nd June at 2pm for the whole school. Part of our procedure is to alert parents via email and the school communications app that we are in lockdown. Next Wednesday's notifications will say 'PRACTICE Lockdown Drill'. You will not need to do anything when you receive this notice, but please be aware that if you arrive at the school to collect your child for an appointment during the practice lockdown, neither you nor your child will be able to leave until the all clear has been given (between 20–30 minutes). To receive emergency notifications via the school app, please ensure you have downloaded the app. This can be done via this [link](#). Also please ensure your mobile data is turned on, as well as banners and badges enabled.

**Primary Production 2021
Motu Manu Tapu**

We are still requiring the following materials which can be dropped off at the school office:

- Feathers!! Required for years 6-9 Bird Masks. (Chicken, Seagull, Swan, Goose...)
- Boots (If your child is a Hob Nob they will need a pair of boots- preferably a low heal)
- Old leather belts
- **Old cell phones or parts of!** (any age or condition)

Any questions, please email Annette-
annette@waora.school.nz

Parent information evenings**Primary:**

The primary school will hold its parent education evening on Thursday 10th June in Tōtara class from 7pm-8.30pm. The focus of the evening will be Grammar & Language. Please RSVP to the office by Wednesday 9th June.

Preschool:

Our preschool education evening will be held on Monday 21st June at 7pm. Our topic will be Literacy. Please save the date and more information will follow soon 😊.

Headlice in preschool and primary

We have recently had a few cases of headlice in the preschool and primary. Please remember to check your child/ren's head/s for lice and eggs, and if you find any, to treat prior to returning your ākonga to school. It is important to re-treat, and comb regularly to remove any eggs or lice that hatch subsequent to the initial treatment.

Kids Sculpture Classes*Limited spaces*
Micro-economy**The Fermenters**

We are the Fermenters micro group, this Friday lunchtime, we are selling ginger beer, feijoa jam, kombucha, tomato chutney, and kimchi. Bring some money if you are interested in buying any of our products.

If you have any spare clean jars, please bring them in.

BoT/Council AGM this week

All school community whanau (both preschool and area school) are warmly invited to our 2021 Wā Ora Montessori AGM meeting scheduled for Wednesday 16th June at 7pm at the High School, 175 Rata St, upstairs in our Tāwari class. Refreshments will be supplied. We will be seeking nominations for two vacancies on our council at this meeting. These positions can be held by preschool or area school parents.