

# KIA MANAWANUI

Te Rāwhiti & Te Rā Pānui - 22 June 2021



## CO-PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

**Ngā mihi ki a koutou e te whānau whānui,  
dear parents, families, and friends.**

Monday this week was the winter solstice – the shortest day and the longest night of the year. In our school assembly, André told the students a story about te pō (the darkness). Ngā manu o Aotearoa (the birds) are having an argument over whether light or darkness are better. In the end they agree that both are precious and beautiful in their own way - each providing the essential gifts that support the lives in the great forest of Tāne!

This week is lantern festival week at Te Rā and Te Rāwhiti! The kindergartens have their magical Matariki celebration on Friday evening. The school community will gather for the Saint John Midwinter Lantern Festival on Wednesday. These festivals are real highlights of the year for our community, and we appreciate your support in getting your families back to kindergarten and school on these cold, dark winter evenings!

Saint John's night has its origins in a mid-summer festival in the northern hemisphere, with elements that connect back to pagan times. As a mid-summer celebration, bonfires were traditionally built to connect the land and the people with the forces of the hot sun. In the Christian era, this fertility festival was connected to the figure of Saint John the Baptist, who was the cousin of Jesus of Nazareth, six



months older his senior. John acted as a prophet who prepared the way for the life and mission of his cousin, whom he baptised in the Jordan river. In this way, Saint John can be seen as the preparer of the way, and for us here in midwinter this can be expressed as bringing light in the darkness.

Here in the Southern Hemisphere, the bonfires connect us with the Northern Hemisphere in a kind of 'world festival'. We carry a lantern to acknowledge the light that each of us has within ourselves.

Waiata and karakia, as well as the darkness of the season, connect us with our local context here in Kapiti and Aotearoa.

We look forward to seeing you at the festivals this week.

Ngā mihi mahana, nā *Kerstin & David*



## TE RĀWHITI UPDATE AND NEWS

### Property News

Much has been happening in the kindergarten recently - our Raumati South outside space has had a spruce up thanks to all those who turned out for the working bee and to Carrie for coordinating. The Kapiti Waldorf Trust is responsible for the property and are looking at clever and innovative ways to house our growing kindergarten and playgroups. We will keep you up to date as we know more!

### Policy Consultation

We have been working through our policy and compliance work (thank you Suzi and Vanessa) and will begin passing policies out for consultation within the community shortly. ERO has advised all policy should be consulted on, and we have determined that, aside from some very operational processes (like how to do the laundry!) we will work to that approach. Carrie will be sending a separate email in the next week describing the consultation process details and how to provide feedback.

For Te Rāwhiti this is an important step. Historically many of our policies have been tied in with the school, however early childhood regulations, compliance requirements and daily processes and practice are often different. Please do take the time to feed back as we really do want to be sure our policies supports and guide all of us.

### Kaiārahi Recruitment

Most of you will be aware we have been recruiting for a Kaiārahi to replace Suzi. We have concluded the recruitment process and unfortunately didn't find that someone with quite the right skill set and experience for us at this time. We will continue the compliance work in Term 3 with Suzi and begin the recruitment process again later in that term. We will send an update during the holiday period advising who to contact for what during term 3.

The Trust would like to say a big thank you to our kaiako and our parents and whānau for your support whilst we go through our leadership changeover at Te Rāwhiti.

### Reminder....

Reminder Matariki for Raumati South kindergarten site will be this Friday starting at 5:30pm and Paekakariki will hold theirs on Thursday 1st July at 4:30pm

## **RAPHAEL HOUSE CLASS 11 MATARIKI PERFORMANCE**

Our school children were treated to a stunning retelling of a Matariki legend, exquisitely performed by Raphael House's Class 11, under the leadership of their teachers Vanya Howell-Kress and Sue Pegler. Acapella singing accompanied the Eurythmy to a pūrūkau (legend) of the star cluster that is known as Matariki - and it had our Te Rā students and teachers entranced. It was extra special to see some of our alumni too. Sue Pegler was a class teacher here several years back and will join us for terms 3 and 4 to teach Eurythmy in our senior classes. Vanya also has lots of connections to our school (as has her entire family), and some of you may know her from our community choir, which meets in our hall on Wednesday afternoons.

A big thank you from all of us here to our colleagues at Raphael House to have made this very special visit possible! Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou!

## **MID-WINTER LANTERN FESTIVAL**

Kia ora koutou e te whānau whānui

With lantern making in full swing across our school classes, we are all looking forward to our traditional mid-winter Saint John festival this week, on the evening of Wednesday 23 June. As usual, there will be stories, fire, singing, star biscuits and all the usual good cheer! Parents and whānau of students in classes 1-7, please be at the classroom at 5.55pm for stories to start at 6pm. After listening to the story, we will gather in the Pentagon before our lantern walk to the Topfield.

WHETHER THE WEATHER BE FINE ...

Weatherwise, the long range forecast is looking okay right now, but just in case, we've locked in Thursday 24 June as our postponement date.

ALUMNI SPACE

We love to see our "Te Rā graduates" come back for special occasions such as this one! Our Open Day, fairs and festivals can be a lovely time for our alumni to reconnect. This year, we are again offering an alumni space in the school library and warmly invite older siblings and other alumni to meet there while the younger children and their parents enjoy their stories in the classrooms. When the classes then meet in the Pentagon, alumni can join their families at that point.

We look forward to seeing you there!





## WORKING BEE THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who helped at the working bee. Special thanks to Pete Smith and the team who replaced the decking timber outside the office.

## SCHOOL POLICY REVIEW

This term, we are seeking community feedback as we are reviewing our Reporting to Parents policy. Please follow the link to access [School Docs](#), login (user name and password can be obtained from the office) and click on "Current Review"



Home

Current  
Review

Useful  
Links

1. Follow the link to each policy in the review table.
2. Read the policy.
3. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear.
4. Select your role (board member, staff member, or parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
5. Enter your name (optional).
6. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, school office staff can easily provide you with printed copies of the policy and the [review form](#).

There are a couple of other policies for internal review, which you may also find interesting to read.

## CARVING GROUP FUNDRAISER - WAHAROA

Our Carving Group is looking for your enthusiastic and generous support! Please find attached information about how you can support the marvellous Waharoa project and help create a beautifully carved gateway to Te Rāwhiti Kindergarten and Te Rā Waldorf School. Three phases have already been completed:

- Phase 1: Upskilling community members
- Phase 2: Sourcing and felling the trees
- Phase 3: Milling and preparing the logs

This project is now in its fourth, and final phase. It is supported by our Kapiti Waldorf Trust and endorsed by the school's Board of Trustees, and the group are fundraising to raise \$20,000 for the carving and erecting the structure. Check out the attached flyer for more information, or go to their Givealittle page <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/carving-our-story>.

For any questions, please contact Paul Denford ([pauld@tera.school.nz](mailto:pauld@tera.school.nz), 027-2463065) or Doris Zuur ([dorisz@tera.school.nz](mailto:dorisz@tera.school.nz), 027-2811570).



## PLEDGE % REPORT

Thank you so much to everybody who is paying the special character pledge through Kindo on a regular basis. Our target for the end June is was 44.66% and we are currently at 40.58%.

We ask that you apply any balances in your Kindo account to your special character balances that are loaded by the end of June.

As always, if you have any concerns about your special character pledge or payables to our wonderful school, please feel free to contact me or pop in to see me in the office between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm each day.

*Rhonda, Executive Officer*

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## FROM THE OFFICE

### Reminder - School Apps

In a Civil Defence emergency, it is likely that the cellphone networks might become overloaded and may not work efficiently. Therefore instead of sending bulk texts, we will send out information to parents via School Apps. Please download School Apps to ensure you receive any notifications from the office in an emergency situation.

School Apps is available for Apple and Android.

### Absentees

Absentees can now be notified to the school via the School Apps system. We would prefer that absentee information is sent via email, using the app. This system is easy and it saves the information for you to use next time. You can also use the absentee email system to advise if your child will be late to school (although they will still need to sign in when they arrive).

We ask that absentees be notified to the office by 9.00 am each day.





## 'NO SMART PHONE' PROJECT - EMERGENCY INFORMATION

If you do not have a smart phone capable of downloading the School APP or accessing the internet to receive emails, can you please let Maxine in the office know by the end of term 2. We need to create a plan of how we would send information to you in an emergency.



## CLASS 7 DAYTRIP TO VIEW RAPHAEL HOUSE UPPER SCHOOL



## ----- COMMUNITY NOTICES & ADVERTISING -----

*These notices may not reflect the opinions of kindergarten & school*

# REMINDER - Conversation / Workshop with Lenka

How to talk (to kids) about sex/sexuality/their bodies.

This explorative, discussion based workshop is designed to empower parents, whanau and anyone who spends time with children to be part of laying a foundation for positive, safe, healthy sexuality for the adults they will grow up to be.

Topics of conversation will be somewhat guided by the interest of the group but is likely to include:

- How to answer children's questions about sex, sexuality and their bodies in a relaxed, age appropriate way.
- How to not pass our own inhibitions and discomfort onto the kids around us.
- Sex and body positivity and how to instill that in the kids around us.
- Talking to kids about sexual and gender diversity in themselves and the people around them.
- Helping kids feel confident knowing and holding their boundaries.

This workshop will include strategies and insight into sexual abuse prevention - but will not cover all aspects of it.

The workshop material will be applicable to children and teenagers of all ages.

Facilitator:

My name is Lenka. I'm a mum of 4 Te Rā kids (Class 1, Class 4, Class 6 and now year 11 at Kapiti College). I work in private practice as a psychotherapist - with a particular interest in sex and sexuality. My professional background includes being a community educator in sex education, healthy relationship, and sexual violence prevention for young people and adults and providing social work support and counselling to survivors of sexual and domestic violence. I am a pakeha woman. The idea's informing the workshop content are inspired by psychotherapy and sex therapy as well as my personal experience as a person and as a mum.

Values of intersectionality, sex positivity, anti-racism, and gender and sexual diversity are held in mind for me when talking about these topics.

This workshop is free to all members of the community.

Bring something yummy to share if you have energy and inclination.

The workshop will run for 2 hrs in the Te Rā School Hall, from 6:30pm on Tuesday, 29 June.

This will only go ahead if there are 12+ people interested in attending. Feel free to contact Lenka with any questions and let her know prior that you will be coming.

Lenka Ph 027 5066 943, email [lenka.loo@outlook.com](mailto:lenka.loo@outlook.com)

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## Infinity Football School Holiday Programme

Infinity Football are running a Champions League-themed school holiday programme for kids of all abilities, age 7 - 13. The programme runs from 9am - 3pm, on Tuesday to Thursday in the first week in the holidays - at Weka Park. Qualified and experienced coaches and a super fun atmosphere!

Go to the Infinity Football website for more info and to register.

<https://www.infinityfootball.co.nz/holidayprogrammes>

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## Fun Zone Holiday Programme

'Fun Zone Term 2 Holiday Programme is now available. We have heaps of FUN activities available catering for Year 1 to Year 8. For more information go to [www.funzone.co.nz](http://www.funzone.co.nz) or call us on 0800 543 9696.'

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## Scouts Fundraiser



## Hutts Got Talent Event

2021 Hutts Got Talent event! Don't worry if you do not live in the Hutt it is open to anyone in the Wellington region :)

We are running 4 heats in the Hutt Valley and then a grand final to a packed out Town Hall!

[www.huttsgottalent.com](http://www.huttsgottalent.com)

## Music Holiday Programme - Lower Hutt

At Goodtime Music Academy our young holiday heroes get to learn how to play a range of instruments, join a giant band, get arts & crafty, and make loads of new friends! Our holiday programme is for ages 5 - 13 :)

Registrations are open.

**Dates:** Monday 19th July - Friday 23rd July

**Location:** Goodtime Music Academy, 50 Victoria Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt.

## Special Winter Discount for Education Groups on Ngā Manu Kiwi Night Encounters.

**When:** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at dusk in June, July and August 2021.

**Where:** Ngā Manu Nature Reserve, Ngā Manu Reserve Rd, Waikanae.

Deepen your knowledge of kiwi and experience an unforgettable close-up encounter. For a limited time Ngā Manu is offering the experience at a discount to student groups and parents - just **\$200 per education group (12 people max)** - save between \$100 - \$150.

**Bookings:** Call 04 2934131 or email Jane [admin@ngamanu.co.nz](mailto:admin@ngamanu.co.nz) with our DISCOUNT CODE: KNE STUDENT OFFER and the name of your school or education organisation.

**This is available for schools and family groups who wish to organise their own group outing.** We recommend this experience for school aged children as our kiwi are most active with a silent audience, but you may choose to have younger children in your group if you wish. No photography or video is permitted in the outdoor kiwi enclosure. Thank you.

## DIARY OF DATES 2021

### Tue 22-Jun

Information Session for new whānau 2:30pm

### Wed 23-Jun

St John Lantern Festival, 6:00 -7:30pm School

### Thurs 24-Jun

*PP Date - St John Lantern Festival*

### Fri 25-Jun

Raumati Kindergarten Groups Matariki Festival 5:30pm

### Thurs 1 July

Hōteke/Winter Festival. 4.30 pm (Paekakariki Kindergarten)

### Thurs 1 July

BoT Meeting 7:00pm

### Fri 2-Jul

Sharing Assembly for whānau – in the hall from 9:30am

### Tue 6-Jul

Interschool Regional Cross Country – For Qualifiers Only

**Thurs 8-Jul**

*PP Date Interschool Regional Cross Country*

**Fri 9-Jul**

**Last Day Term 2**

**Sun 11-Jul**

Community Matariki Celebration TBC

**Mon 26-Jul**

**First Day Term 3**

**2 -13 Aug**

Parent/Teacher Interviews for the school classes

**Tue 10-Aug**

Information Session for new whānau 2:30pm

**Wed 18-Aug**

Kapiti Interschool Junior Winter Tournament Classes 4 and 5

**Fri 20-Aug**

*PP Date Kapiti Interschool Junior Winter Tournament*

**Mon 23–Fri 27 Aug**

Te Wiki o te Mahi Tahī

**Mon 30-Aug**

**Mid Term Break. No School/Kindergarten**

**Tue 31-Aug**

**Teacher Development Day. No School/ Kindergarten**

**Tue 7-Sep**

Parent Evenings for Korimako, Ruru and Kereru Kindergarten Groups 7:30pm

Kapiti Interschool Senior Winter Tournament Classes 6 and 7

**Thurs 9-Sep**

*PP Date Kapiti Interschool Senior Winter Tournament*

**Tue 14-Sept**

Information Session for new whānau 2:30pm

**Fri 17-Sept**

12:30pm Finish for Kindy & School

**Sat 18-Sept**

**\*\*\*Open Day\*\*\* Bring your whānau!!!**

**Fri 1-Oct**

**Last Day Term 3**

**Mon 18-Oct**  
**First Day Term 4**

**Tue 2-Nov**  
Information Session for new whānau 2:30pm

**Fri 12-Nov**  
Kapa Haka Fundraising Evening

**Mon 22-Nov**  
**November \*School Teacher Development Day**  
(\*No school classes. Kindergarten session as usual.)

**Sat 27-Nov**  
Advent Wreath-making

**Mon 29-Nov**  
Raumati Kindergarten Groups Advent Festival

**Tue 7-Dec**  
Information Session for new whānau 2:30pm

**Fri 10-Dec**  
Christmas Market (TBC)

**Wed 15-Dec**  
**Last Day for Kindergartens**

**Thurs 16-Dec**  
**Last Day for School 1:00pm finish**

[Our Website](#)



## Te Rā Waldorf School School App


GOOGLE PLAY


APP STORE



## Contact Us

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