

KIA MANAWANUI

Te Rāwhiti & Te Rā Pānui - 11 March 2022

Reminder: It's a beautiful day!!!



MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Kia ora koutou e ngā whānau o te kura o Te Rā, me ngā whānau o Te Rāwhiti hoki.

Autumn is beginning to settle into our gardens, with fruit trees ripening their bounty, the heavy seed-heads of sunflowers and dew on the grass in the mornings. Those with keen eyes might spot the delicate fungi in our grass or on the trunks for trees. Rain has been holding off, which is great for being outdoors both at kindergarten at school.

Our kindergarten space has been buzzing with lots of outside activity, as we continue to all juggle remaining upbeat in this most unique of circumstances across our whole community. Our staff would like to thank all of our kindergarten whānau for their support in keeping unwell children home and also for sending well children to us (who aren't isolating). Where possible we are striving for as normal a routine as possible to support the tamariki, keeping all the swirling masses of uncertainty as much as possible in the adult realm. Thank you to you all!

The same goes for our school staff. With larger number of children absent this week, mostly related in some form or another to the pandemic, we understand that this is a complicated time not only for us



teachers and support staff, but also for parents. We all have to juggle many demands on us right now - let's not forget to pause-breathe-notice-smile-and repeat!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Ngā mihi mahana nā

Kerstin Wagner (Tumuaki)

Shelley Wrigley (Kindergarten Kaiārahi)

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills."

Class 5 Ancient India Mainlesson - Nature Mandalas



Covid Update

If you or someone in your whānau tests positive for Covid 19

- If you or your child receive a positive test result the household must isolate for **seven** days (this has changed from previously 10 days).
- Household contacts must test on Day 3 and Day 7.

Returning to school after COVID-19

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 are not required to self-isolate past seven days, **but they shouldn't return to school if they are still feeling unwell.**
- Many children will have long lasting runny nose and cough after viral infections. If it is **over 10 days since the onset of the COVID infection and they are no longer feeling unwell**, they are unlikely to be transmitting any active COVID infection and can return to school. However, if they are continuing to feel unwell or their symptoms are worsening after 10 days then GP review is recommended.

Please note we have had whānau report they are home isolating (due to adults in the household having tested positive). Therefore we do have a number of children away from kindergarten groups and classes, who are part of this whānau isolation. As we said in an earlier email, at this point we will still advise the parents/caregivers of the children in each class when a child has tested positive **if it is likely that they were on site during the infectious period.**

At this point, we all need to remain super vigilant for symptoms right now, so please do follow government guidance on testing, on letting people you have been close with know and so forth if

symptoms arise within your whānau. Please notify kaiarahi@tera.school.nz (for kindergarten children) and principal@tera.school.nz (for school children).

We thank everyone for keeping children with any sickness home - aside from being good practice at all times, this is particularly important right now.

From the Kindergarten Team

The cabin

You will all have noticed a rather outstanding (in more ways than one!) addition near the kindergarten. This current temporary building has been installed to give our wonderful staff a place to work on various documentation requirements, where previously they had to do all this from home. It also serves as a break room for all kindergarten staff, and will be particularly helpful in winter!

ERO visit

Education Review Office are beginning their three yearly review with us, in a somewhat altered fashion to fit around new approaches and the current pandemic environment. A notification letter is next to the sign in sheets area if you want further information. They will not actually visit us on site until Phase 3 is over.



From the School Teacher Team

Teacher Professional Development

We felt extremely lucky to have had two professional development days at the beginning of this week. It included a meeting with one of our fantastic facilitators from Nuku Ora, to set the direction for our 2-3 year PE and Health PLD.

Michelle Vette, from the Anthroposophical Society, visited us on Tuesday to introduce a very deep topic (Spiritual foundation of Morality) in a way that was accessible and inspiring for all of us.

We also had an opportunity to connect with the KiVa programme manager, Deja Harrison. Some of you may know that for several years now we have been a KiVa School. KiVa is an antibullying program that has been developed in the University of Turku, Finland. The program is evidence-based, which means that the effectiveness of KiVa has been proven scientifically. Our school's KiVa team will introduce themselves soon, but if you have any specific questions, Thereza Scott is your contact. Over the this year, school teachers will focus on strengthening and enriching our work with parents and our community to enable a better, perhaps clearer understanding of how our Main Lesson curriculum and our pedagogy connects with a "Waldorf perspective" on child development. Our special

character sits alongside the other 'hull' of our Waka Haurua, which is our commitment to authentic bicultural education.

New Team Member

We are delighted to let you know that at the end of this term, a new colleague is going to join our team. Kerstin and Natasha will hand over the role of Class 6 teacher to Ashley Gibbs, who many of you will know from her different roles at Raphael House (Lower Hutt) over the years.

Nau mai, haere mai!



School Policy Review

In 2022, all schools will review the **Health, Safety, and Welfare Policy** section throughout the year. The main, overarching policy will be reviewed at the end of the year.

In Term 1, the focus is on the **Health and Safety Management** and **Emergency, Disaster, and Crisis Management** sections.

Reviews are open to board, staff, and parents/caregivers/whānau.

Please go to [https://tera.schooldocs.co.nz/](https://tera schooldocs.co.nz/), look for the **Current Review** tab and follow the instructions.

If this is your first time on SchoolDocs, please email the office for User Name and Password.

Eurythmy

Kia ora e te hapori. Is there a pianist out there who would be interested in (and enjoy) occasionally playing the piano for Eurythmy lessons? If you can read music and are interested in supporting us on the occasional Wednesday, please contact the Te Rā office. Thank you.

Sue Pegler

Reminders

Absences (very important)

Absentees can be notified to the office via School Apps or by leaving a message on the school absentee line. You can also text absences to the school cellphone (021) 295 8618. We ask that absences are notified before 9.00 am every morning.

The Ministry of Education requires us to code absences, so when you are advising that your child is absent, we ask that you provide us with the reason for the absence.

Dates

Remember to check the Diary of Dates below.

DATES 2022

Term 1

Thurs 31 March - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Thurs 14 April - Last Day Term 1

Term 2

Mon 2 May - First Day Term 2

Mon 6 June - Queens BD

Tues 7 June - School Teacher PLD day (school closed for students)

Frid 8 July - Last Day Term 2

Term 3

Mon 25 July - First Day Term 3

Mon 29 Aug - School Teacher PLD day (school closed for students)

Sat 17 Sept - Open Day

Fri 30 Sept - Last Day Term 3

Term 4

Mon 17 Oct - First Day Term 4

Mon 24 Oct - Labour Day

Tues 13 Dec - Last Day Term 4 Kindergartens

Wed 14 Dec - Last Day Term 4 School

Te Rā Waldorf School - School App


Available on:

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 Facebook

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