

# KIA MANAWANUI

Te Rāwhiti & Te Rā Pānui - 17 June 2022

**Reminders: BONFIRE this Saturday & MATARIKI next Friday  
(details see below)**



## MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

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

Sometimes, in the midst of a busy life, we are provided with touchstones to remind us of stillness. This term is rich in celebrations and festivals, and last week's Whitsun festival for our school classes was such a "touchstone" for many of us. Our Class 6 and 7 seniors did a simply wonderful job in their roles, which were framing and holding the festival for the younger classes. The 8 part song, which many of you got to enjoy in the form of a public rehearsal at our recent Sharing Assembly, was a beautiful symbol of how unity and harmony can be achieved not despite, but because of diversity.



In today's world, it is a privilege for children and adults alike to experience moments like this. Still reverence, listening without a need to respond outwardly, experiencing inwardly and without being asked to think and talk (or write) about how that made you feel: these moments are far and few between. Our pedagogy understands how important they are and we hope to give children, particularly young children, this opportunity to just "be". Like free play within a natural environment, we believe that these moments are health-giving, nurturing and life-sustaining.

This is no different for our kindergarten tamariki and their whānau. This week's Hōtoke festival, with the lanterns and small grottos shining in the darkness, and the full moon contributing the sunlight's reflection on itself, is another wonderful example. Have a look at the photos in this newsletter!

### **Could festivals possibly be considered as delivering our Health & PE curriculum? Perhaps they are!**



Hauora refers (within a Māori kaupapa) to what in English language can be described as the health and wellbeing of body, soul, spirit and family/community. I believe that the experience of our school festivals has the potential to uplift our individual and collective wairua, serve our mental and soul health. Without doubt, our upcoming Matariki celebration and our Saint John lantern festival are health giving celebrations for our tamariki and our community - you will find invitations in this newsletter.

Are many of you will know, our school board is currently consulting on how we deliver the Health & PE curriculum to our school students. We already had an amazing amount of responses to our Health & PE consultation survey: thank you, thank you, thank you so much for your replies! If you have not yet responded, [it's not too late!](#)

Your responses so far show that a lot of our values are shared. A number mention how our specialist subjects - woodwork, art, gardening, cooking and handwork - contribute to health and wellbeing of their children in many different ways. We know that our community is not taking these subjects for granted, and neither should we!



Our Board and our Proprietor's Trust (Kapiti Waldorf Trust) are both tasked with resourcing and supporting these aspects of our special character of Te Rā School. They, in turn, rely on our community to provide financial help to ensure continuity and additions to the broad range of subjects we are offering.

As you will see in the message from our trust below, each year your Special Character donations determine what, and how much, we can offer in terms of specialist subjects at school. They also determine how well our kindergarten can be resourced to provide a level of education that above and beyond what could otherwise be funded through the Ministry of Education.

***Kerstin Wagner (Te Rā School Tumuaki)***

## **Message from Kapiti Waldorf Trust**

**Thank you for your Special Character donations!**

We wish to thank all families who are regularly make their Special Character donations by way of automatic payments via Kindo. As the Proprietor Trust for Te Rāwhiti Kindergarten and Te Rā School, we set up our Budget based on your annual pledges for your Special Character donations.

Each year, your individual donations contribute to us being able to pay for:

- our land and buildings, including essential capital development of kindergarten & school
- for specialist subjects so that the school can deliver a rich Waldorf curriculum
- for an excellent adult:child ratio in the kindergarten.

Most of these expenses occur regularly. For our cash-flow we rely on your regular donations.

**This year, we have only received 34% of the amount that has been collectively pledged for the 2022 Special Character donations.**

We are now nearly halfway through the year. Ideally, our whānau would have paid half of the amount that was pledged for 2022. Please check that this is the case for your family.

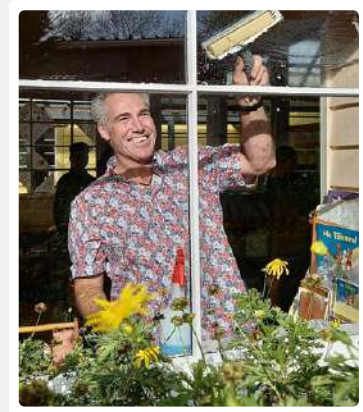
If you need to discuss your pledge or the level of donations, please contact Rhonda in the office or email her on [executiveofficer@tera.school.nz](mailto:executiveofficer@tera.school.nz)

Please check your balance in Kindo today and transfer any donation balances in Kindo to "Special Character 2022". THANK YOU!

With heartfelt thanks

*Doris Zuur (Trustee, on behalf of the Kapiti Waldorf Trust)*

## Working Bee \*\*\* Thank You !!! \*\*\*



Last Saturday we held our first Working Bee in quite some time and we had a very good turnout.

**Thank you to all of those who attended through the day!**

As with so many things, we are reliant on our community to support Working Bees and please keep in mind that attending Working Bee events are one part of the commitment to support our Special Charter that families make when they enrol their children.

Thankfully the weather gave us a break with clear skies throughout. As a result, we managed to complete all the tasks we had scheduled and plus a few extra's including cleaning all class windows inside and out.

We would also like to say an extra big **Thank You** to Danny and Luke from *Habitat Tree Surgery* who brought their people power, tools and machinery to chip all the old wood from the carpark, pruned the

If you missed out this time, we are hoping to see many new face at our next working bee **early in Term 3**, at which we would like to expand the event from solely “working” to include a more social theme with a shared lunch, games for tamariki etc. If anyone would like to contribute ideas for this and make it happen on the day, please contact me via the school office.

*Jason Grundy (Caretaker)*

## **Bonfire night!!!! Third time lucky: this Saturday**



You are warmly invited to join us for a community bonfire on **Saturday 18 June, 4:00 - 6:00 pm**, at Te Rā. We will be having sausages and loaded baked potatoes. Please bring a few dollars, for each person, to contribute towards the kai. Bring your songs and instruments, and let's enjoy being together again.

### **FROM THE KINDERGARTEN TEAM**

We hope you and your whānau, young and old, enjoyed the magic of our Hōtoke festival this week. It was wonderful to come together in this way!

*From the Te Rāwhiti kindergarten team*





## COMPLIMENTS TO THE SCHOOL TEACHERS

We are all busy people, but our school teachers, class teachers in particular, must be taking the prize this term!

Teacher workload is often mentioned as a problem, rarely resolved, and in fact often expected as "part of the deal" and as such taken for granted. Right now, they need to be masters at juggling and multi-tasking EVEN MORE so than normally. Besides teaching preparation, teaching (and ALL that entails), looking after the wellbeing of their classes and students (and their own!), completing administrative tasks and attending meetings ... they are also working on the 2022 Mid-Year Reports for their classes while preparing the community event at the end of this month, Saint John Lantern Festival.



As if all of the above was not already enough, teachers are also tasked with the regular review and evaluation of our curriculum implementation. This term, the focus is on Health & PE.

We have had a fantastic response so far to our [Health & PE curriculum consultation](#) survey! Within the first week, we have received nearly 50 responses - **thank you!** If you are yet to respond, please do - it only takes a few minutes. Your answers will remain anonymous but we will share a summary of the feedback we receive with our community, and it will inform our delivery of this curriculum area AND how we communicate about this to our community.

*Kerstin Wagner*

## Nau mai haere mai: Matariki Community Celebration



## Mid - Winter Lantern Festival 2022



## From the School Board: an Invitation !!!

The next board election of parent representatives is coming up soon! While the election is not until September, nominations will open in July, and we are now putting out a **first call** to our community!

The board, must ensure that the school gives effect to the **Treaty of Waitangi**. Being a member of the Te Rā school board is an opportunity for parents and other members of our school community to be involved with **all aspects of governance** for Te Rā School, which includes safe-guarding our **Special Character**.

### The four key areas of governance are:

1. Leadership
2. Accountability
3. Employer role
4. Representation

The board sets and monitors the **strategic direction** for the coming years, so being a member means you can be part of this mahi. Parent representatives work together with the board representatives of the Kapiti Waldorf Trust, the staff representative and the principal to shape the future of our school. You can check out our 2022 Charter and Annual Plan [here](#).

A background in governance is NOT a requirement! **Nāku te rourou, nāu te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi** – we need many skills around the table. and most of all the wish to be part of the mahi! So ...

- Do you have a background or interest in policy, finance, employment, or keen to grow your skills in these areas?
- Do you have prior experience with governance, or you would like to gain some?
- Are you passionate about our students, Waldorf education, our school and our community?
- Do you want to be part of a team that is constantly working toward making Te Rā an even better place for your children's education?

We would love to hear from you – please contact [michaelf@tera.school.nz](mailto:michaelf@tera.school.nz) for more information!

## SEEKING PLAYGROUP FACILITATORS

Playgroup is starting up again (yay!) and we are looking for facilitators to run the sessions. You do not need an ECE qualification to fill this position. If you are interested in this role, please email your expression of interest to [enrolments@tera.school.nz](mailto:enrolments@tera.school.nz). Playgroup will be starting towards the end of this term and we are hoping to run 2 or 3 sessions per week.



**Tash Robertson**



## Parent Craft Group - update

We are looking times and available spaces to get this group up and running again. If you would like to be part of the parent crafters please either email Cat [office@tera.school.nz](mailto:office@tera.school.nz) or leave your name and number at the school office so we can let you know when this start. This group is suitable for beginners right through to advanced, and a great place to chat with other parents and Whanau.

## VACANCY: Kindergarten Kaiārahi / Centre Manager

**Full-time, fixed term to 31 December 2022**

The children are at the heart of everything we do at the Te Rāwhiti Waldorf Kindergarten.



- Are you ready to lead, inspire and guide a talented and dedicated team of kaiako?
- Do you have experience, or a strong interest, in Waldorf education, and are keen to learn more about a special character which provides a nurturing and unhurried early childhood experience?
- Do you want to be part of a pedagogical movement that has shaped kindergartens and schools in over 70 countries worldwide?
- Are you committed to upholding our responsibilities to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supporting our bicultural journey in a leadership role?

Te Rāwhiti Kindergarten is offering a fantastic opportunity for an ECE qualified teacher to become kaiārahi (centre manager) of our well-established kindergarten. We are open to a conversation about



the size of this position to suit a preferred candidate and may be open to consider the possibility of job sharing.

Please view the full vacancy ad on our website [here](#).

For an application pack or any direct enquiries, please contact [shelleyw@tera.school.nz](mailto:shelleyw@tera.school.nz).



## 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 2, the focus is on **Healthcare** and **Behaviour Management**. Reviews are open to board, staff, and parents/caregivers/whānau. Please go to <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.

## Casual relievers needed – Te Rāwhiti Kindergarten

We are still looking for enthusiastic and flexible people to join our established kindergarten teaching team as relief kaiāwhina (teaching assistants) or kaiako if you are ECE registered.

As a Waldorf kindergarten, it is part of Te Rāwhiti's special character to provide a nurturing and unhurried early childhood experience.

Kaiāwhina act as an anchor in the class, carrying out domestic tasks, with focus and intention, in a calm, unhurried and good-natured manner. The work supports the tamariki's play and is integral to the whole kindergarten day. The role requires:

- Initiative and observational skills
- Cooking and house-keeping skills
- A quiet, calm and methodical nature
- The ability to carry out some physical work including housework and lifting
- To be conscious that tamariki learn through imitation
- Ability to be efficient and have good organisational skills

Please contact Shelly Andrews on [shellya@tera.school.nz](mailto:shellya@tera.school.nz) for more information and an application pack. We have just completed a full review of our files and recruitment functions, so if you have worked with us before you will still need to fill out various additional paperwork items to ensure we have all the appropriate information on file.

**Shelly Andrews**

## Reminders from the Office

### 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.

## 2022 DATES

### Term 2

Saturday 18 June - **Bonfire Night** - 4 - 6 pm

Wednesday 22 June - **Meeting of School Board** - 7 pm

**Friday 24 June - Matariki Community Celebration \*\*\* Public Holiday\*\*\***

(POSTPONED) Raphael House Upper School Information Evening

(POSTPONED).

Thursday 30 June - **Saint John Lantern Festival**

Tuesday 5 July - **Regional Cross Country** - Masterton

Thursday 7 July - **Regional Cross Country postponement date**

Thursday 7 and 8 July - **Class 4 at Wellington Zoo**

Friday 8 July - Last Day Term 2



### Term 3

Monday 25 July - First Day Term 3

Thursday 11 Aug - **School Board Meeting** - 7.00 pm

Tuesday 23 Aug - **Junior Winter Tournament** - Y5/6

Thursday 25 Aug - **Junior Winter Tournament postponement date**

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

Tuesday 13 Sept - **Senior Winter Tournament** - Y7/8

Thursday 15 Sept - **Senior Winter Tournament postponement date**

Saturday 17 Sept - **Open Day**

Thursday 22 Sept - **School Board Meeting** - 7.00 pm

Friday 30 Sept - Last Day Term 3

### Term 4

Monday 17 Oct - First Day Term 4

Monday 24 Oct - **Labour Day**

Thursday 3 Nov - **School Board Meeting** - 7.00 pm

Thursday 1 Dec - **Taukiri o te Ata Kapa Haka Festival**

Tuesday 13 Dec - Last Day for Kindergartens

Wednesday 14 Dec - Last Day for School



## NOTICES

### Wanted. Pianist for Te Ra School Eurythmy Classes

Job description for pianist for Eurythmy.

Ideally the person would have an interest in children.

And piano playing ability to about grade 5 standard.

Ability to sight read a little. The ability to improvise is good but not essential.

There is so much repetition within the lesson that plenty of practice is garnered then.

It would be great to have someone for some of the lessons for Terms 2 and 3.

Please contact Susie Pegler (currently teaching Eurythmy at Te Ra) at 022 6708 160 Text is best or a phone call outside of school hours also works.

### Raphael House Hockey Fundraising Workforce

Raphael House Upper School hockey team players are undertaking fundraising initiatives to raise money for their upcoming tournaments this year. To achieve their goals, they are launching an even **bigger and stronger workforce** team made up of both our girls and boys players to help you with jobs in and around your whare.

A number of players are ex-Te Ra students, who live in Kapiti, and keen to do their fundraising locally. Do you have any jobs around your whare or property needing some brute force or gentle care? Then we have the team for you.

Any jobs will be considered including:

- wood splitting
- firewood stacking
- property maintenance
- house cleaning
- child minding
- garden weeding

Call **Karsten** - 021 186 0471 to sort out a solution to your home or property maintenance needs.

### “Building Bridges”

Dear Friends  
You are invited to

## "Building Bridges"

a celebration for the Dead with Music, Poetry, Eurythmy and a short reading about life after death from the works of Rudolf Steiner.

This evening is dedicated to all those friends who have crossed the threshold.

Everyone is welcome at the Hall of Te Ra School on Sunday 26 June at 7.00 pm. (children from 14 years upwards)

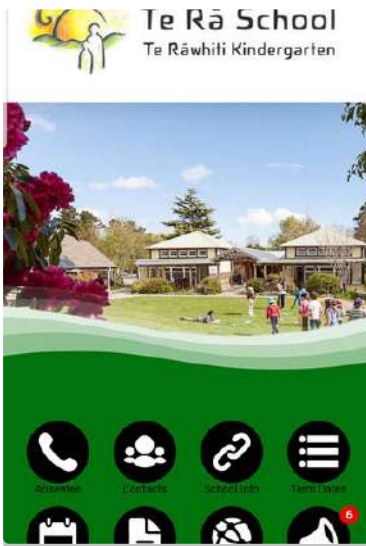
## Art Therapy with Maria

Our school's art teacher, Maria Protassova, is now available to be contacted to arrange art therapy sessions. Maria works with both adults or children. If you think that you or your child might benefit from art therapy (who doesn't!), or to find out more, please text Maria on 021 129 7659.

## Nicki's beautiful Cards: White Feather Art

Since retiring from her position at Te Rā at the end of 2021, Nicki Young has been busy starting up a little greeting card business - examples see below! You may have seen her at her stall at the Paraparamu market on Saturday mornings. Now she is excited to announce the launch of her website [www.whitefeatherstudio.art](http://www.whitefeatherstudio.art), the design of which was guided by the expert hands of Ahly Titchener, (Class One Hanu's mum), and would love it if you would take a look. Feedback and purchases very welcome!





## Te Rā School App (also for Kindergarten)

Did you know that we have a SCHOOL APP that we use to send out notifications, the newsletter and our special notices.

If you have not downloaded it to your phone, the information on the APP is at the bottom of the newsletter and the SCHOOLAPP is available on the Playstore and APP store.

If you have previously downloaded the APP, please remember to update your classes that you are subscribing too.




## Contact Us

 Facebook

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