

# THE FRIDAY FLIER

(Published fortnightly)

KOTAHITANGA

Waikato Waldorf School, Kindergartens and Play Circle



No: 04

15 March 2024

## Kia Ora Whānau

It's exciting watching the development of Castle Waldorf! Thanks very much to Hollie and her team for all their efforts to get the Medieval Carnival organised this year. Many students have asked me if I have my costume ready! There is lots of excitement building and I'm looking forward to seeing all the amazing costumes! This week Class 4 have gone off to Pirongia for their camp, and next week is:

## Teacher Only Day - Monday 18 March (School closed)

Just a reminder that school is closed on Monday due to the Teacher Only Day. Journey Kids are on site in our hall and are able to provide care for your child on this day.

Contact: JOURNEY KIDS Moni F- Senior Programme Manager: 027 286 5097

[Moni.F@Journeykids.co.nz](mailto:Moni.F@Journeykids.co.nz)

[www.Journeykids.co.nz](http://www.Journeykids.co.nz)

## NZEI Meeting / School closure

There is a paid union stop-work meeting scheduled for this term which the majority of our teachers will attend. This means that we will not be able to operate the school as normal and classes will stop at 12.50pm and we would appreciate it if possible that you collect your children at this time. There will be a few non-union members on site who will oversee students in the school hall from 12.50 to 3pm should they not be able to go home.

**DATE - Wednesday 20th March 12.50pm ACTIONS - Please advise your child/ren's teacher if they will be staying at school.**

## ATTENDANCE - a message from the Ministry of Education

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss a whole year of school by 16 years of age.

As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside your school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. As we enter 2024, every day of school matters.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent for a day or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to your school! All schools are committed to supporting your child to attend and building a culture that fosters excellent attendance by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and whānau.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who they are, where they come from and who they want to be.
- A school community that does everything to make sure students are at school, and they are participating, and progressing in their education.

## School Hours / Access to classrooms

Just a reminder that the school operational hours are -

- **8.50am to 3pm** (3.15pm for high school)
- Students should not be on site without a family adult to supervise them before **8.30am** or after **3.15** as there are no school staff rostered on to supervise them.
- **All classrooms**, including the outside classroom area, are not available for students and their families without a member of staff present. This is a Health & Safety matter as some classrooms / areas contain tools or equipment that require supervision from staff.

Thank you for your support of these safety matters.

### Next Whānau Hui

For the whānau of our Ākonga Māori, we have begun a parent group which met for the first time this week. The next meeting is set for 3rd April and a calendar invite has been sent to all whānau. Please let me know if you have been missed on that list by any chance, thanks.

### Travel Claims for Parent drivers

If you are supporting our students with transportation on trips/camps/swimming and the like we can reimburse you at 31 cents per KM. There is a claim form at the office.

Thank you for your support 😊

### Autumn Harvest Festival

Further on in the Flier you will find information from Meredith about the Lower School's Autumn Harvest Festival. Please note there are specified times that parents and family can join in, however there will not be enough space for everyone in the afternoon, so that will be for the school only. Thanks for your support and I hope you can enjoy the morning with us.

### School Community Directory

As mentioned, in the previous Friday Flier, for a variety of reasons previously outlined, we have stopped printing and mailing these out. Should you wish a PDF copy of this, please email the office and a copy will be sent to you.

I look forward to meeting with you all - in costume - this Sunday!

Kind Regards

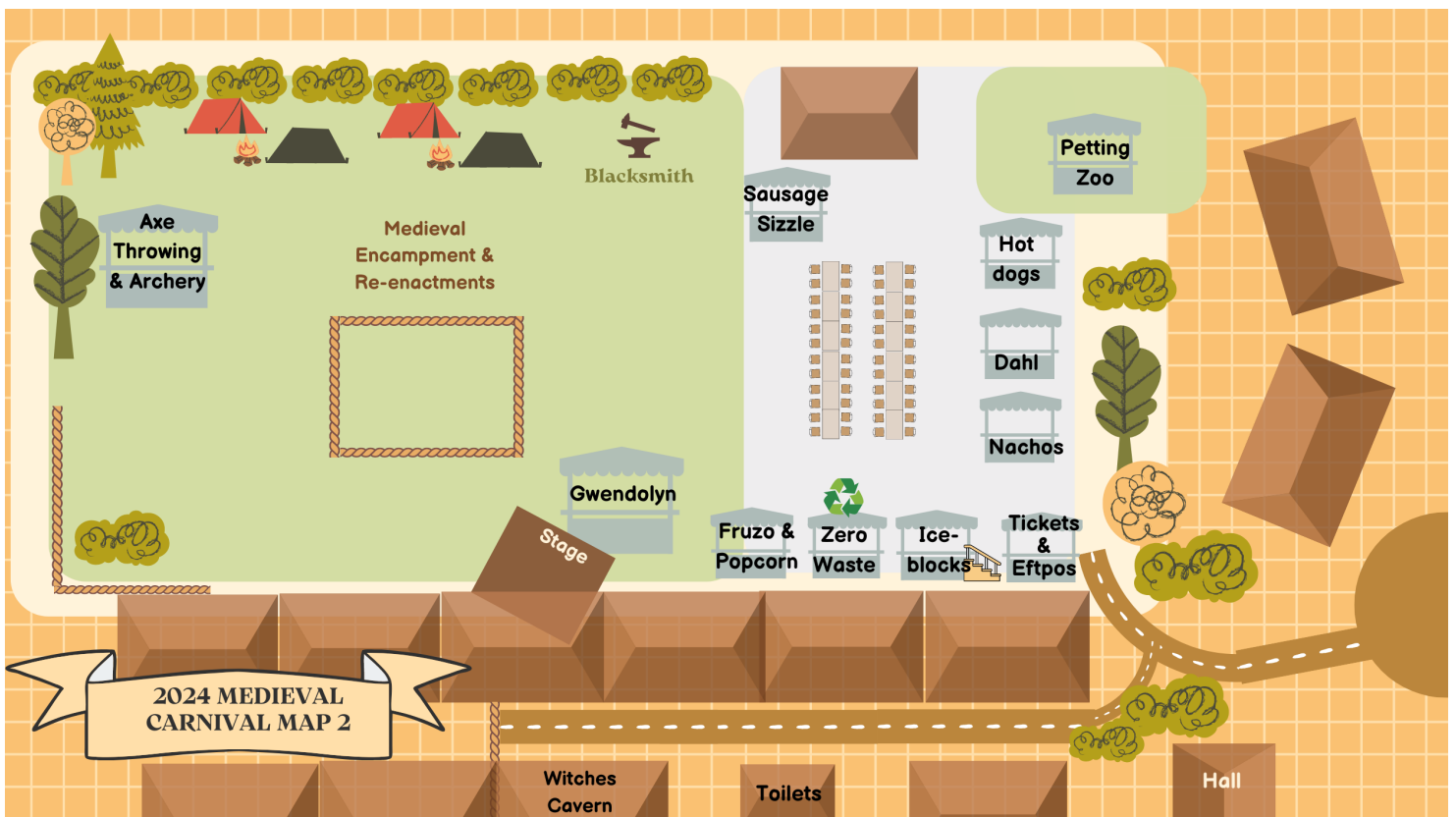
Jane Keir  
Principal



## UPCOMING EVENTS / TERM 1 2024

17 March	MEDIEVAL CARNIVAL
18 March	Teacher Only Day—School closed
19—22 March	Class 11 Camp
20 March	Teacher Union Meeting from 12.50pm (see notice page 1)
27 March	Class 3 Overnight Camp
29 March—2 April	EASTER
12 April	Last day of term— 2pm finish

Note: Term 2 starts on 29th April





# Autumn/Harvest Festival

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024



## 11.00am Autumn Games

We begin our Autumn/Harvest festival with a round robin of fun physical activities, celebrating the outdoors before the coming of the Winter. These activities include slingshot/parachute, wicket hit, egg and spoon, sack race, lily pad hop, hoops/beanbags and a sponge tunnel!

Stations are set up, taught and run by the Class 7 students and each mixed class team is captained by Class 6 students, promoting both leadership opportunities and tuakana teina relationships.

## 12.30pm Shared Lunch

In classes, but gathered together as a community outside the hall, we then share a harvest lunch with our school whanau.

## Assembly and Afternoon Art / Craft

In the afternoon Classes 1 - 7 move inside, following the rhythm of the seasonal change, for an assembly to reflect on the importance of the season, share seasonal songs and enjoy a festival story. Returning to their classes they will engage in Autumn/Harvest inspired craft or art activities.

## Food Bank Collection

As this festival is a time to reflect on gratitude we invite donations from our community of non-perishable goods to be compiled and gifted to our local food bank. (Please check expiry dates). We do appreciate this is a difficult time for many and there is no obligation to donate.



# Autumn and Harvest Time

“Ngahuru, kura kai, kura tangata”

Harvest-time, wealth of food, the wealth of people

As the summer begins to fade into Autumn the days grow shorter, the heat of the sun softens, and the green leaves of the deciduous trees begin to turn to oranges, reds and golds. Work that was begun in the winter and spring with ploughing and sowing of new seeds has seen growth and ripening over the summer and is ready to be harvested.

To our ancestors, and people who live off the land this is a very important and special time. A good harvest ensured the health and well-being of the community and the ability to survive the winter months ahead. Harvest time is a time to be grateful for the bounty of nature and for the comradeship of hard work and community spirit. It is also the time to carry the light of the spring and summer into the darkness of the coming winter, holding it within ourselves to warm us and sustain us. Leading up to the Autumn /Harvest festival it is important to cultivate an appreciation and awareness of the seasons and the cyclic nature of harvesting, ploughing, sowing, resting, growing, ripening and harvesting again!

In a Waldorf community this can be done through stories, poems, songs, paintings, drawings, craft and gardening.



## CLASSROOM CORNER

Last week, Class Six were lucky enough to be able to venture down into the 'bones of the earth'.

We visited Karamu Caves in light of our current Main Lesson, Geology. The children were able to experience the squeezes, the crawls and the climbs first hand, and saw various cave formations to support their learning in class - deep diving into the history of Karamu Cave itself!

Class Six did a spectacular job at partaking in different challenges while in the cave, and came out even braver than they were before... a fabulous way to spend a Wednesday!

Ngā mihi

**Kat Rae**

**Class 6 Teacher**



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

These notices are published as a service to the school community. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor, and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Faculty.



**TARUNA  
COLLEGE**

Connect, Nourish, Sustain

## Movement for Education

Equipping teachers to work with movement in the classroom  
for children's

Self-awareness, Self-mastery and Joy of Movement



Childhood and movement belong together. Yet in children today we increasingly observe the impact of a pressured, technological, risk-cushioned and nature-disconnected world. These influences show themselves in inactivity, inflexibility and in a lack of self-awareness and self-control, both in the classroom and at play.

'**Movement for Education**' is designed to respond by helping Lower School teachers to develop skills for working with movement in the classroom. Movement that supports children to inhabit their bodies through healthy breathing and sound rhythm, with well-activated lower senses and with joy. Participants will be introduced to movement disciplines inspired by an Anthroposophic understanding of the human being. These are developmentally responsive and integrate all aspects of the child: body, soul and spirit.

'**Movement for Education**' is a three- seminar programme focusing on three different Lower School age groups. Seminars may be taken individually, or over a number of years in any order; completion of all three comprises a certificated course.

Each seminar includes age appropriate learning:

- Anthroposophic understandings of child development
- Morning Circle Activities
- Eurythmy
- Bothmer Gymnastics/Spatial Dynamics (CI 4-7)
- Extra Lesson for the classroom (CI 1-3)

Supplementary activities may include:

- Children's Games (CI 1-7) – Indoor and outdoor
- Circus skills (CI 6-7)
- Dance - including traditional Folk Dancing
- Sensory motor integration work (CI 1-3)
- Maori games/skills e.g. Taiaha, Ti Rakau, poi, kapa haka
- Main Lesson related activities e.g. CI 5 Greece and Olympic disciplines.

**Seminar 1 (Class 1-3 Focus): 23 - 25 May 2024**

**Cost: \$590** (A discount of 10% if more than one attendee from a school).

**Principal tutors:** Sue Simpson (eurythmy teacher and adult educator), Johnny Ryan (previous class teacher), Rachel Hughes (extra lesson practitioner). as well as guest specialists and experienced classroom teachers.

All inquiries please contact

[info@taruna.ac.nz](mailto:info@taruna.ac.nz) or see our website [www.taruna.ac.nz](http://www.taruna.ac.nz)  
or call +64 6 8777174

85 Barrington Drive, Huntington, Hamilton

Ph: 07 855 8710 email: [office@waikatowaldorf.school.nz](mailto:office@waikatowaldorf.school.nz)

website: [www.waikatowaldorf.school.nz](http://www.waikatowaldorf.school.nz) [www.facebook.com/WaikatoWaldorf School](https://www.facebook.com/WaikatoWaldorfSchool)