

THE FRIDAY FLIER

(Published fortnightly)

KOTAHITANGA

Waikato Waldorf School, Kindergartens and Play Circle



No: 04

17 March 2023

Kia ora e te whānau

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the crisp mornings and gorgeous Autumn weather.

As we head towards the end of term, our focus is on the Medieval Carnival on Sunday, March 26th. The office has been a hive of carnival-related activity, with handmade goods and tickets being dropped off for the Parents' Association to store for sale at the carnival. It is truly wonderful to see so many of our parents working together for the good of the school and enjoying the social benefits that this brings.

On a related note, I would like to sincerely thank the group of parents who were so generous with their time last Sunday at the working bee. The school looked incredible after all of your efforts...we are lucky to have parents like you at our school.

I have been re-reading 'Discussions with Teachers' lately, which, perhaps unsurprisingly, is a collection of discussions that Rudolf Steiner held with the teachers at the first ever Waldorf School in Stuttgart prior to its opening, back in 1919. This line, from the first discussion, resonates strongly with me at this time:

'This Waldorf School must succeed; much depends on its success. Its success will bring a kind of proof of many things in the spiritual evolution of humankind that we must represent.'

Our community is the embodiment of this right now – a parent/caregiver group who value our Waldorf School, who are prepared to give up their time and work together for the success of the school, whilst also modelling the essence of whā-kawhanaungatanga - establishing relationships and relating well to others. What a gift it is for our tamariki to see and be part of such selfless, positive adult interactions. Thank you one and all for all that you do for our current students and those who follow in their footsteps over the years to come.

Planning is underway for our Autumn festival on April 4th. More details will follow in the coming weeks, but we will follow the usual routine of beginning with team games outside in the practice lesson block. This will be followed by a shared lunch outside, weather permitting. After lunch, we will head to the hall for singing and a story before returning to classes.

Parents are invited to join us for shared lunch and the celebration in the hall. We hope you can join us!

Finally today, please make sure to book a time for a teacher interview on March 28/29. You should have received a link via email to do this. Here is the link again: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/nduyt>

Kia pai tō rā whakatā koutou, have a great weekend everyone,

Rob



UPCOMING EVENTS

22 March Class 7 Maritime Museum visit

26 March **MEDIEVAL CARNIVAL**

27 March Teacher Only Day – School closed

28-29 March Classes 1-7 Parent Interviews

28-31 March Class 9 and 10 Camp

4 April Autumn Festival

6 April Last day of term 2 pm finish

Note: Term 2 starts on April 27th

WANTED!



**Chess sets and clocks
for our Chess Club.**

Any donations gratefully received.
Please give to Monika at the
office.



ADDRESS DIRECTORY

Please inform the office of any changes you might have in your address/phone details.

The directory will be published next week and will go home with your child. Thank you.

WAIKATO WALDORF SCHOOL VACANCY

Classroom Learning Assistant/Teacher Aide 15 hours per week, Fixed Term for Term 2 and 3 2023

WAIKATO WALDORF SCHOOL is a state-integrated Composite/Area school providing special character Waldorf education for students aged 7 – 16 years old, Years 2-11.

We are looking for an experienced **Learning Assistant (Teacher Aide)** to work in our Year 4 class to support students with their learning.

The role is fixed-term part-time, and will begin at the start of Term 2 2023. The hours of work are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8.50am-3pm in school term time only.

The fixed term period is for Term 2 and 3 in the first instance, with the possibility of continuing into Term 4 and beyond. Additional hours may also become available over time.

The successful applicant will have experience as a Learning Assistant/Teacher Aide in a Primary/Intermediate setting in supporting students with a range of learning needs. The successful applicant will be reliable, committed, enjoy working with students who need additional support and have the ability to foster strong relationships with students, staff and parents/caregivers. Assisting students with toileting is a requirement for this role - the regular Tiaki allowance will be included in the remuneration.

At a minimum, the successful applicant will have a genuine interest in Waldorf education and good understanding of its key elements. They will also be a team player who values learning and enjoys contributing to a positive collegial working environment.

For more information on our school please visit <https://www.waikatowaldorf.school.nz/>

Applicants are invited to send their CV and covering letter to the Principal, Rob Shirlow, at principal@waikatowaldorf.school.nz
Closing date: Friday March 31st 2023 3pm

CLASSROOM CORNER

Class 5 Art on our theme of India. The first picture is from Soyi, the second from Ngaio and the third from Jax. This Art is based on the story of 'The Hermit and the Elephant.' The Hermit saved a toddler from a stampeding rogue elephant who, upon encountering the holy man, became tame and 'all the wildness went out of him.'

Taryn





Sunday 26th March 2023, 10am-3pm

- ◆ Hire your costumes, tell your friends – only 1 more week to the Medieval Carnival!!
- ◆ Pre-purchase your Tickets from the school office - \$10 cash only
- ◆ Sign up for a class stall. Some classes still have gaps. Fill a slot!
- ◆ Still got time to give? We're always looking for more manpower on the food stalls!
Contact Jo 021 774 110.
- ◆ Prepare your ingredients label for your boxes of baking for the bakehouse on the day.
- ◆ Keen to make a batch of mix for the veg nacho stall?
Contact Celina 021 185 8160 for recipe.
- ◆ Have a rice cooker or crockpot we can borrow. Contact Celina on 021 185 8160.
- ◆ Saturday 25th is set-up day from 10am. Avoid a last-minute Sunday morning panic.

And on Carnival Day...

Please have your stall ready to go by 9.30am. We would love the community to come together at 9.45am at the circle court for a Medieval opening.

Handover of the stall each hour is important. Please have a copy of your roster, please be timely, and please remember to read the Health & Safety sheet at your stall.

It's a busy day, but all funds raised are to support your children and their activities. Please support the community in this day as much as you can.

We are very fortunate to have Parent Association members or class liaison in every class, so please ask if you have questions, or need help with your stall(s) setup. Email: paatwws@gmail.com

Please like and follow the community Facebook page for updates:

Waikato Waldorf School Parents community.

THANKS EVERYONE - SEE YOU THERE!!



Autumn/Harvest Festival

Tuesday 4th April 2023

“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 school this can be done through stories, poems, songs, paintings, drawings, craft and gardening. Usually on the actual day of the Autumn/Harvest festival we all come together as a community to celebrate.

This year, we will revert to our more established order of events. Before the festival, each class will prepare their own Autumn bunting to adorn the hall and vine area. There will be an Autumn display of art and harvest produce outside the hall and we will collect together non-perishable donations for our local food bank.

We realise this is a difficult time for many families – please do not feel under any obligation to donate. Goods will be accepted up until the morning of Tuesday April 4th. Please check use-by dates.

- ◇ After morning tea (11.10am), classes 1-6 will enjoy a range of fun outdoor activities, provided by Class 7. A shared lunch will follow around the vine area outside the hall, weather permitting. Class teachers will arrange this with parents and caregivers – please join us for lunch if you are able.
- ◇ After eating lunch the students will have their usual lunch break. Then we will proceed to the hall for a celebration with singing and an Autumn story for all to enjoy. Finally, the class will return to their classes to finish the day with Autumn crafts and art.





WAIKATO WALDORF SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

2023

Kia ora koutou

At the class meetings at the beginning of the year we outlined how we have been spending and investing your pledge money. This has included repairing, refurbishing, upgrading and completing new building and grounds work in line with the future development needs of the school.

This is a big year for us as our project work gains momentum. This includes:

- Two new lower school classrooms for classes one and two,
- Renovation of class 2 into a high school science laboratory
- Relocation of lower school library
- New play areas of lower school students



Last year our students put forward ideas to Playground Creations as to the sort of equipment they would like to see in the new play area, and this is the result of those consultations.

We are working closely with Builtsmart to provide us with two new classrooms with new decking and play area. The plan is to move classes one and two before the end of the academic year allowing their old classrooms to be converted into a high school laboratory and a new teaching space.



We are also investigating the future possibilities for relocating our lower school library and creating a further teaching space for the high school which could include using an old school bus and/or a yurt.

Keep watching this space for updates!

We are now looking to fundraise a further **\$500,000** to help drive this project forward. We are already applying for grant funding and will be launching our community drive at the Medieval Carnival. Look out for the new Givealittle page where people will be able to pledge their donations on line. Next term we will also be running sponsored events and social evenings so everyone can be involved.

There will be regular updates in the Friday Flier, on our website and on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Ngā mihi

Waikato Waldorf School's Proprietors Trust