

THE FRIDAY FLIER

(Published fortnightly)

KOTAHITANGA

Waikato Waldorf School, Kindergartens and Play Circle



No: 18

17 November 2023

Kia ora e te whaanau, hello everyone,

I hope this finds you all well.

It has been a significant week in the history of Waikato Waldorf School. Early on Tuesday morning, the staff held a short but heartfelt ground-breaking ceremony, with karakia and waiata. A few hours later, a digger rolled onto site, much to the excitement of our younger students (and possibly the Principal :). Shortly after, levelling work commenced and the landscape of our school changed forever.

At this stage the plan is for the two new classrooms, (which will house next year's Class One and Class Two), to arrive in the very early hours of Thursday and Friday of next week. Once on site, the building team will work onsite most days, with the aim of preparing our new learning spaces to be ready in time for us to move into before the new school year begins. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Proprietor's Trust for making this project happen, in particular Sue Bradley who has taken on the role of project manager. Thank you Sue, for all that you continue to do for this school.

The delightful busyness of Term 4 continues at pace...as I type this, Class 2 is preparing for the first of three performances of their play, 'Stone Soup'; Class 8 has just set off on their journeying camp centered around the Waikato river, and Class 5 is focused on preparing for their Olympic camp in Week 8, practising the disciplines of the ancient Greek Olympics. When not in front of their classes, our wonderful teachers are dutifully beaver away writing end of year reports. A big thanks to them for their commitment at this time of the year when workloads peak.

On a completely different note, please remember that this coming **Monday (November 20th) is a teacher only day** and school is closed for instruction. It is a relatively unusual time of year for a teacher only day, but this day is one of two which the Ministry of Education allocated to schools for 2023 to focus on/learn about the myriad changes to the NZ curriculum and how that affects our teaching practices. The timing of the two days, (the other happened earlier this year), had to be taken within a certain timeframe, hence the November teacher only day.

Finally, today a couple of important housekeeping points.

Firstly, please note that lower school students (those in Class 1-7) are not permitted to be onsite prior to 8.30am. There is no active supervision before this time which leaves your children and the school vulnerable in the event of an accident or an emergency. In line with school policy, if your children are younger than 14 years old and they need to be dropped off prior to 8.30am, they are to be booked into Journey Kids before school care (contact Moni on 0272 865 097). Any questions please call me to discuss. Thank you for your cooperation.

Secondly, a note that hats are required every day at school in Term 4 and Term 1. Please help us to keep your children safe when we are outdoors by making sure they have a suitable hat/pōtae every day at school. They also need shoes suitable for running every day to participate in PE/movement activities. Again, thank you for helping us to help your children be safe.

On the subject of clothing, please check out the bulging box of lost property at the front of the school office – we will donate any lost property leftover at the end of term to a local op shop.

Thanks everyone, have a great weekend.

Noho ora mai,

Rob



UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 20 November | School Closed - Teacher Only Day |
| 27 Nov - 1 Dec | Class 5 Olympic Camp |
| 3 December | Advent Fair Community Event (Sunday) |
| 15 December | Last day of term - 2pm finish |

DAHLIA PLANT SALE

Class 4 have been busy in the garden this spring preparing for a summer full of beautiful dahlias for the school and for our community.



In week 8 after school we will be having a Dahlia Plant sale. You have the chance to grow a brand new variety of dahlia! We would love for you to purchase a seedling, grow it at home and next year bring a flower from the plant so that Class 4 can see the diversity created from the dahlia seeds they have lovingly raised.

We will also have a limited amount of Dahlia tubers to purchase.

Seedlings grown from seed will be \$5 each. Tubers and potted tubers will be \$10.

Remembrance

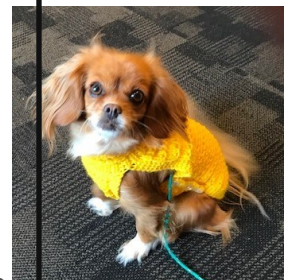
Kowhai was a beautiful dog. She was loved and adored by Class 3. Once Kowhai was so excited chasing a ball, she nearly jumped out of the window.

Kowhai was really clever. When we said verse, she would wake up and say verse with us.

Nuala, the cat came into our classroom one day. Kowhai saw Nuala and chased her up a tree.

Kowhai was a sweet dog, she gave us lots of cuddles and love. We will miss her.

Written by Class 3



FROM THE PROPRIETORS' TRUST

TERM 4 2023

The Proprietors Trust would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your donations to the school in 2023. We are grateful to all of you for your contributions and commitment towards supporting the special character of the school and the future development of the Waikato Waldorf School.

This year has been a very busy one for the Proprietors Trust as we work closely with the School Board to continue consolidating our good practice and in establishing a full high school. We have used your donations to provide specialist teachers and natural materials for the students to work with. We have invested in the professional development of all our staff, and in particular our newest teachers and our high school teachers to enrich our practices across the school. We continue to invest in maintaining, upgrading and developing our buildings and natural environment. A most important piece of our work has centred around our strategic planning and investing in the infrastructure of our school buildings. We have continued to support our much-valued play circle who have been working out of Rimu Cottage this year, providing an important service to young families and a great introduction to Waldorf Education. We have also supported the Before and After School Care Programme for the first part of 2023, which has now been taken over privately but will continue to run this service following our Waldorf pedagogy.

Next year continues to be a busy one. Completing our two new classrooms for classes 1 and 2 plus landscaping and establishing creative play spaces for our younger children. We also hope, with the help of some additional fundraising, to build our new playground for our older lower school students and beautify the areas around the high school classrooms.

We are fully committed to rolling out our new upper school classes and continuing to introduce the Steiner Certificate into our curriculum. Classrooms will be repurposed for our high school students, and we continue to build our specialist resources. Our road to establishing a full high school continues thanks to the dedication and determination of our high school staff, governing bodies and parents.

As we near the end of this academic year we are focusing on the year to come. To complete all these plans, we need to put money behind them. Money translates intention into reality and vision into fulfilment. **Your pledge packs for 2024 are now being sent out.** As always please pledge as generously as your circumstances permit and if you are unable to commit to that amount, please pledge what you are able. We also welcome pledges over the recommended levels, or if you are also able to give an additional payment towards all our new developments that would be gratefully received.

Not a current parent at the school but would still like to support our Waikato Waldorf School Development Fund?



Started by the Proprietors Trust, this initiative is an opportunity for alumni, alumni families, community members and benefactors to ensure the growth and legacy of the Waikato Waldorf School for future generations.

If you wish to make a donation of any amount towards this initiative, you can deposit your donation into the following account:

ASB 12-3209-0274049-50 Reference: Dev. Fund

Please email ptsecretary@waikatowaldorf.school.nz if you require a receipt for your donation.

Once again thank you for your ongoing support of our very special school and we look forward to a very fruitful year to come.

Waikato Waldorf School Proprietors Trust

CLASSROOM CORNER CLASS 4

**Do you know the difference between endemic wildlife and native wildlife in New Zealand?
Class Four do!**

Last Friday as part of their Human Animal Main Lesson, we visited Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. Ranger Phil guided us through part of the huge protected forest and told us all about the pests, the birds, the forest plants and the conservation efforts many people are a part of there. We climbed a huge tower, sat quietly in the treetops and listened to the beautiful bird song while watching the Kaka noisily dance through the branches. We spotted some Silvereyes, Tui, Kaka and stood next to trees that were hundreds of years old. The weather was stunning and our day out together at such a special place was peaceful, inspiring and a lot of fun.

If you are looking for something to do these summer holidays with your whanau, Class 4 recommends that you check this place out.

Sharon & Stacey





CLASS FOUR FUNDRAISING FOR OLYMPIC CAMP



Class 4 is having a fundraising table at advent on the 3rd of December from 3pm-7pm. We will have - Dahlia Plants.

- Sunflower Seedlings. 🌻 🌻 🌻
- Crystal Geodes & other crystals.
- Stocking Stuffers from \$4- \$10.
- Flower Bouquets. 🌸



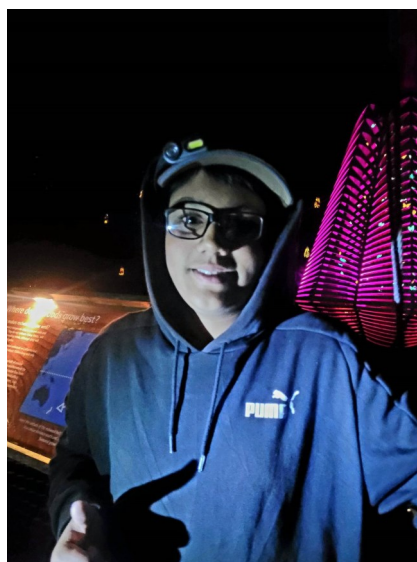
Bring your cash and support us please



At the start of this month, **Class 6** went to our 'Geothermal' themed camp. Whilst we were in Rotorua, our adventures began by exploring Waiotapu Thermal Wonderland. Here we witnessed the incredible effects different geothermal activity has had on the environment.

Later that evening, (after we'd settled into our amazing accommodation at Keswick Camp and had enjoyed a scrumptious dinner), we ventured out in the dark night to the Redwood forest where we got to experience the Treetop Walk. The forest could only be described as enchantingly beautiful. Some of us faced our fear of heights and with the loving support of others, marvelled at the sights we saw along the way from way up there in the tree tops.

On the final day of our geothermal camp, we didn't let the wet weather discourage us too much as we headed out for some mountain biking adventures. Even though it was only an overnight camp, almost all of the class members fell asleep on the journey home - pleasantly exhausted after 2 days of camping fun!



Class 2 performed their first play 'Stone Soup'

With an Aotearoa theme...

Our key learning was "nau te rourou naku te rourou ka ora ai te iwi"
with what I have and with what you have we can work together to help everyone.



Class 9 – Painting

To finish the term, Class Nine have been painting with watercolour. These two tasks are from a series of paintings called the Friedwart Sketches. They were given to teachers by Rudolf Steiner 100 years ago. He suggested they were specifically good learning for the adolescent. This activity teaches students to work in direct communication with colour to convey mood. Van James suggests, this series is particularly meditative and an act of thinking, feeling and willing. The works are titled 'Trees in Sunny Weather' and 'Trees in Stormy Weather'.

Jody



Griffyn



Summer



Summer



Brody



Emily

High School Happenings

Class 10 performed their adapted fairytale 'Rouge' last week to classes 5,6,7,8 & 9 and an evening community show. All was not as it seemed as Class 10 wrote their script to incorporate four HS students putting on a play. So we had a play within a play! Lilly was student Elise the director and narrator, Phoebe was student Catherine who was acting as Rouge, Miao En played student Molly-Rose who was acting as Rouge's Mother and Grandmother and Cadell was student Jacob who was acting as John Wolf. This classic fairytale rendition was put on its head with Rouge and her grandmother 'Babushka' (aka Triple X - a retired Mafia spy) taking on John Wolf (a Russian hitman). Just when you thought it couldn't get more complex, they switched into 'student' mode and brought out Brownies in the hope it would help with their imaginary grades! Class 10 did an amazing job of writing, planning, organising and acting in order to entertain as part of their Drama studies.



Class 10 have also been busy in their Horticulture Main Lesson. They are focusing on composting and organic farming. So are learning from our neighbour next door 'Earth Stewards' about their daily activities and working with them. During this Main Lesson they will build a Johnson su bioreactor, which is a type of composting enhanced by fungi.

Last week Class 9 presented their Science Fair Projects to classes from the LS and HS. The students experienced demonstrations, explanations and discussions on the various topics.



A couple of weeks ago the Waru Markets took place after school Tues-Thurs. Thank you to all those who supported the market by purchasing some of the products. In week 7 Class 8 will be selling fabric Wraps. Keep an eye out on the school website and at the office for more information about these fantastic environmentally friendly items. Class 8 finally got to enjoy playing their handmade board game

and are currently off on camp. More about that event soon!

Getting under your Skin

Our skin acts as a natural barrier, enveloping and protecting the whole body. But it is also our largest sensory organ. We experience comfort and warmth, as well as cold and pain, through the tactile cells of the skin. This ability of the skin to feel means that external applications using water or oils can induce a broad range of effects in the organism. Such applications are even more effective if plant substances such as lavender oil are added. They influence blood flow to the tissues and stimulate the skin's processes of elimination and uptake.

Footbaths ignite an inner fire

Traditional wisdom says that "colds start with cold feet". If the body cools down too much, our immune system is weakened and viruses and bacteria have an easy time of it. A footbath with increasingly hot water is beneficial in such cases. Via the feet we can influence the generation of warmth throughout the body, and ignite an inner fire. Begin with a bowl containing water warmed to about 33 °C, and then gradually add hot water until a maximum temperature of 37 °C is reached. Children love it if someone reads them a good story while they are taking their footbath. Put on some nice warm socks and the healing inner warmth will be maintained all through the night. But a warming footbath like this can do more: by stimulating the autonomic nervous system it also relaxes the body after a strenuous day and allows the cares of the day to wash away through the feet. It can also provide effective relief for children suffering from tummy ache or unable to get to sleep.

Embrocations maintain warmth

Children really appreciate rubs with medicinal oils (embrocation), which leave them feeling relaxed and comfortable in their skin. Performed with warm hands and a little oil by a familiar person they can stabilise the child's mantle of warmth. In the damp, cold months of autumn and winter, especially, an embrocation offers the perfect end to the day and helps utilize the body's own warmth for night-time regeneration. Many a cold has been stopped in its tracks this way. Older people, too, may find that oily embrocation strengthen their powers of self-healing. For them, as for children, Malvenöl (mallow oil) has proved beneficial, with its special medicinal plant extracts of St. John's wort and Weleda's blackthorn which have additional "light-bringing" and stabilizing action. And we shouldn't forget the olfactory experience of oily embrocation. Essential oils may be stimulating or soothing and relaxing and may also relieve pain. But above all – they smell nice.



Maree Smith

**Anthroposophical
Nurse**

Ph. 021 150 9433

Colour adds beauty to life

Come and join us for Veil dying on

November 25th

At Rimu cottage from 0930-1pm

In this beautiful workshop you will learn to dye seven veils, one for each colour of the rainbow.

The muslin veils are used extensively in waldorf education for story telling, season tables, wrapping dollies and creative play. Their use is only limited by the imagination!

Spaces limited to 8 participants

For adults only-hot water involved !

Cost \$50-please bring cash on the day

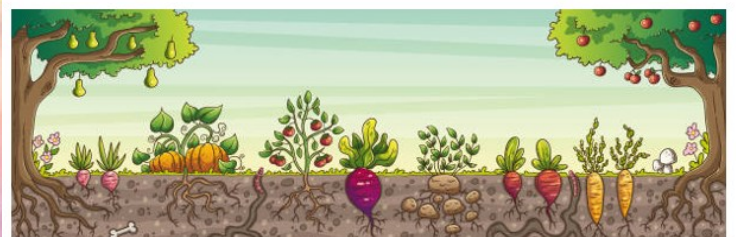
To register email Mieke Smit at amdreamstitch.com



WORM COMPOSTING

- Want to turn your scraps/ lawn clippings/ leaf litter/ cupboard into usable high quality humus?
- Need tiger worms?
- Need a worm farm that's already in production, ready to go?

Contact Maree Smith 021 150 9433



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.

Barratt School of Music

Music Lessons 2024

Are you keen to learn a wind or brass instrument?

Barratt School of Music is taking expressions of interest for music lessons in 2024. Lessons are available in either group or individual formats on these instruments:

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Flute | Trumpet |
| Clarinet | Trombone |
| Saxophone | Music Theory |
| Oboe | |

These instruments are very popular and can open many opportunities to enjoy music in school and in the wider community.

Lessons are taught by Oliver Barratt, Waikato Waldorf Schools High School Music Teacher, and open to all students in classes 4 – 11. Lessons run for 30 minutes and are scheduled during and after school time. The focus is on developing good instrument technique and building musical appreciation all while having fun.

Tuition rates are as follows:

Group lessons: \$15 per lesson
Individual lessons: \$30 per lesson
Students will require a tutor book for their instrument (available from the tutor).

Waikato Waldorf School has a limited number of instruments available for students to hire.

If you have any questions and would like more information, please feel free email me at barratschoolofmusic@gmail.com



MUSIQHUB

PLAY SMART

Half the term's gone so our lessons are now half price!

Making it even easier to learn to play an instrument with:

Contact Carl Watkins:

carl.watkins@musiqhub.co.nz

027 388 9558