

2nd May 2018



WEDNESDAY WINDOW

COMING EVENTS

Monday 7 May	C3 Violin Concert 1.30pm & Parent Meeting C2 Fair Meeting 7pm
Thurs 10 May	Class 1 Parent Evening 7pm
Mon 14 May	Class 2 Parent Evening 7pm
Tues 15 May	Kindergarten Parent Evening 6.30pm
Wed 16 May	Special Character Meeting 9am Cowshed -All Welcome
Mon 21 May	Whitsun Assembly (school children to wear white)
Wed 22 May	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri 25 May	Lantern Festival

KIA ORA WHANAU

The 2017 Founders Meeting, where we report about our efforts to maintain and develop our Waldorf Special Character and the ways we used our community's pledge donations to achieve this last year, was held in the last week of Term 1.

A significant annual community event, this is a meeting where the accountability of each one of us, to the children of our community, is apparent. While the Founders meeting is a requirement of our Trust Deed, everyone is welcome and for those of you who are

interested, but were unable to attend, the reports can all be found on the website. <https://waldorftga.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Founders-Meeting-Website-17-11-4-18.compressed.pdf> (Home Page, People, WST, Gov. Docs & Communication 2017 Annual Founders Meeting & Reports)

One of the important issues talked about that night, was our ongoing efforts to negotiate an increase in our maximum roll entitlement to accommodate the 85 children currently sitting on our waiting list, many of whom have already established Special Character preference as a result of their enrolment in other Waldorf Schools here and overseas. Another was the challenge we are facing with increased roll numbers not equating to increased levels of parental contributions—either through money or deeds, that can sustain the programs necessary to meet the children's needs.

In the holidays just gone, as a very recent example, we were again faced with the prospect of a \$2000 classroom cleaning bill arising from scant interest in deed contribution for this important task. The problem here is that, \$2000 represents many things – a child having listening therapy, a class having eurythmy, or being supported for a term by a much needed teacher aide. The harsh reality of our situation is that the government funding which supports our school, and for which we are so grateful, does not support the delivery of the Waldorf education you have chosen and come to expect.

For those of you who are currently unable to contribute fully financially, or in some cases at all, please consider joining the team of people who care for our school and kindergarten. Call the pledge office or email us pledges@waldorftga.nz. Even if you cannot participate regularly, being on a roster of people for emergencies will make a difference to what your child and all children, receive.

Lastly, thank you to the individuals who stepped forward and up to the task over the term break and a very, very special thankyou to our cleaning coordinator and her family, whose job expanded exponentially to accommodate all the needs and schedules of those who agreed to help. For teachers returning to classes well cared for, as well as clean, this is such a gift. For those of us managing very tight budgets and wanting the world for your kids, these efforts are gold.

Nga mihi MaryT-J



KIA ORA FROM THE OFFICE

Hello and welcome back to Term 2. Just a few reminders from the office;

SPORTS

Term 2 sports kick off (no pun intended) this week, so if your child has a game this weekend please call into the office to pay the sports fee and collect the uniform. Payments can be made direct into our School ASB account 12 3146 0227252 00 (please do not pay into the BNZ account you use for pledge payments). Cash and eftpos payments can also be made at the office. Please ensure you familiarise yourself with the team managers and coaches and direct any enquiries regarding practice and game times to them (especially if they are subject to change with weather). Any queries please contact Charlotte Taniwha Sports Co-ordinator sports@waldorftga.nz

Another ongoing reminder is regarding absences.

ATTENDANCE

If your child is going to be absent due to illness please be sure to let the office know before 9am. You can leave a voicemail, email or send a message through the school app. You are welcome to message teachers by email but please ensure that the office is copied into the message, as busy mornings concentrating on your child, means a teacher will not be able to share messages with the office. Your help with this is so important as in the case of emergencies or civil defence situations, the office will be the first place to establish the whereabouts of your child. It also just saves lots of time and energy each morning establishing where children are. If you are dropping children into school late, following an appointment, please ask your child to call into the office to say they've arrived so that the attendance register can be updated.

ABSENCES DURING TERM TIME

If you have an unavoidable absence for your school child (or 6-year-old Kindergarten child) then please see Cathy in the office, well in advance of the absence, for a form to fill in and have your class teacher sign it. (The form is available on our website too) This helps teachers with their class planning and in particular with plays, to know who is going to be absent. It will also enable an opportunity to discuss with your child's teacher the absence and the impact this will have on the individual and whole class learning. Plays and festivals for the year have been added to the school calendar on the website please use this as a reference if you do you have to plan an absence for your child. For Kindergarten children, the process is to liaise with Dominique and your Kindergarten teacher regarding any planned absences.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Tax Donation receipts have been prepared and posted out yesterday, please check your mail box! Overview of Contributions for Term 1 (to the end of April) will be sent out next week. On receipt of yours, please check them and if you have any concerns please email pledges@waldorftga.nz or call Marlis.

PARENT CLOTHING SWAP MARKET STALL – FRIDAY MAY 11TH

Parents are invited to bring along any children's clothes that your children have outgrown but still have lots of life left in them, ready to swap with other parents for similar clothes/or simply to give away. This is a community based incentive and clothes are not to be sold, just exchanged/given away. Please see Ina Murphy for more details (Class 1 & 3 Parent)



KIA ORA FROM THE KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Parent Corner- Here are two readings which you might be interested in.

Somewhere between the ages of two and three and a half your child will probably be ready for their 'big' bed.

https://www.pdhq.co.nz/sn30/?mc_cid=41c5bb9d30&mc_eid=5f9102dea0

Social Media and Sharing

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/Sharenting-5-Questions-to-Ask-Before-You-Post.aspx>

SIMPLICITY PARENTING

Create the change you've been longing for!

www.simplicityparenting.com

Imagine...

Imagine making time for fun, connection, relaxing...

Imagine your child's room uncluttered, peaceful...

Imagine your family's days acquiring a sense of order, rhythm and flow...

Imagine your child having unscheduled time every day to daydream and play...

Imagine what is said at home becoming more kind, true and necessary...

Imagine using "unplugged" time for the family to be together....

Are we building our families on the four pillars of "too much" – too much STUFF, too many CHOICES, too much INFORMATION, and too FAST?

Join us as we learn ways to simplify the home environment, create predictable and connecting rhythms, simplify your child's weekly schedule and find out the benefits to filtering out the adult world.

TWO DAY WORKSHOP

Saturdays May 12th & 26th 9am-3pm

Location:

Rose Ring Kindergarten

Led by **Traceylee Hooton**

Simplicity Parenting Family Life Coach Discipline & Guidance Coach

Limited to 16 participants. Please book with Dominique, kindergartenadmin@waldorftga.nz

*\$75 per person or \$130 for a couple
Kindly supported by the Waldorf Schools (BOP) Trust*

Further subsidy available

