

30th May 2018



WEDNESDAY WINDOW

COMING EVENTS

Wed 30 May Class 7 Parents Evening 7pm

Mon 4 June Queens Birthday no school or kindergarten today

Tues 5 June Teacher Only Day (School)

Fri 22 June Fire Festival Class 6 & 7 only (no siblings please)

Wed 4 July Class 1 Shared Morning Tea

Fri 6 July Last Day of Term 2 1pm Finish

Mon 23 July Parent Teacher Interviews

KIA ORA WHANAU

A couple of weeks ago a parent told me that the newsletter didn't work for her family. She said that the change to online- version-only had meant that she'd already missed a couple of key events whereas the paper copy tended to sit around the kitchen for reference, where even the dad of the family would find and read it.

Of course, Cathy told her that at a time when we are trying to cut costs and balance expenses, the now online newsletter, is a saving of some \$250- 300 a fortnight -an amount not to be sneezed at. And then, blow me down, the following Wednesday the same parent came to the office asked for a printed

copy and made a small donation. How much do I love people like this? Let me tell you how much!

At enrolment we adults agree to partner each other in delivering a Waldorf education to the children of our community and one of the ways we do this is by committing to reading the newsletter, attending parent evenings and education forums and taking part in class and community events and festivals and using the agreed communication pathways. In other words, each one of us agrees to take responsibility for getting our communication needs met. And as that blessed woman showed us, all communication needs do not look the same, but it turns out, with a bit of plain speaking, good will and problem solving, it is possible for everyone to get what they need. Love it.

And thinking about just how complex and difficult communication can be, I was horrified to hear at our recent board meeting that the word out there on Steiner Street is that only **40% of people contribute pledge donations**. It is true that our pledges have proved harder to manage this year and it is true that with extra numbers in the school and no increase in government funding, that some of our budgets are very stretched. But I was gutted to hear this **rumour**.

Firstly, **because it isn't true!** As anyone who read the 2017 pledge report on the website would know. But secondly if you heard this story and are one of the many, that really stretch to contribute the money and deeds that helps us deliver this very special Waldorf education - and not a mainstream one - you couldn't help but feeling a bit disillusioned, I'm thinking.

I promised the Board that I would correct this gossip at the first possible opportunity and so I've asked Marlis to compile a list of indisputable facts. I do hope you keep reading below and that once you have read these facts we will continue to talk this whole funding thing through.

Even though the situation is not as dire as you may have heard, lets' face it, it's not flash.

Ngā mihi

Mary T-J



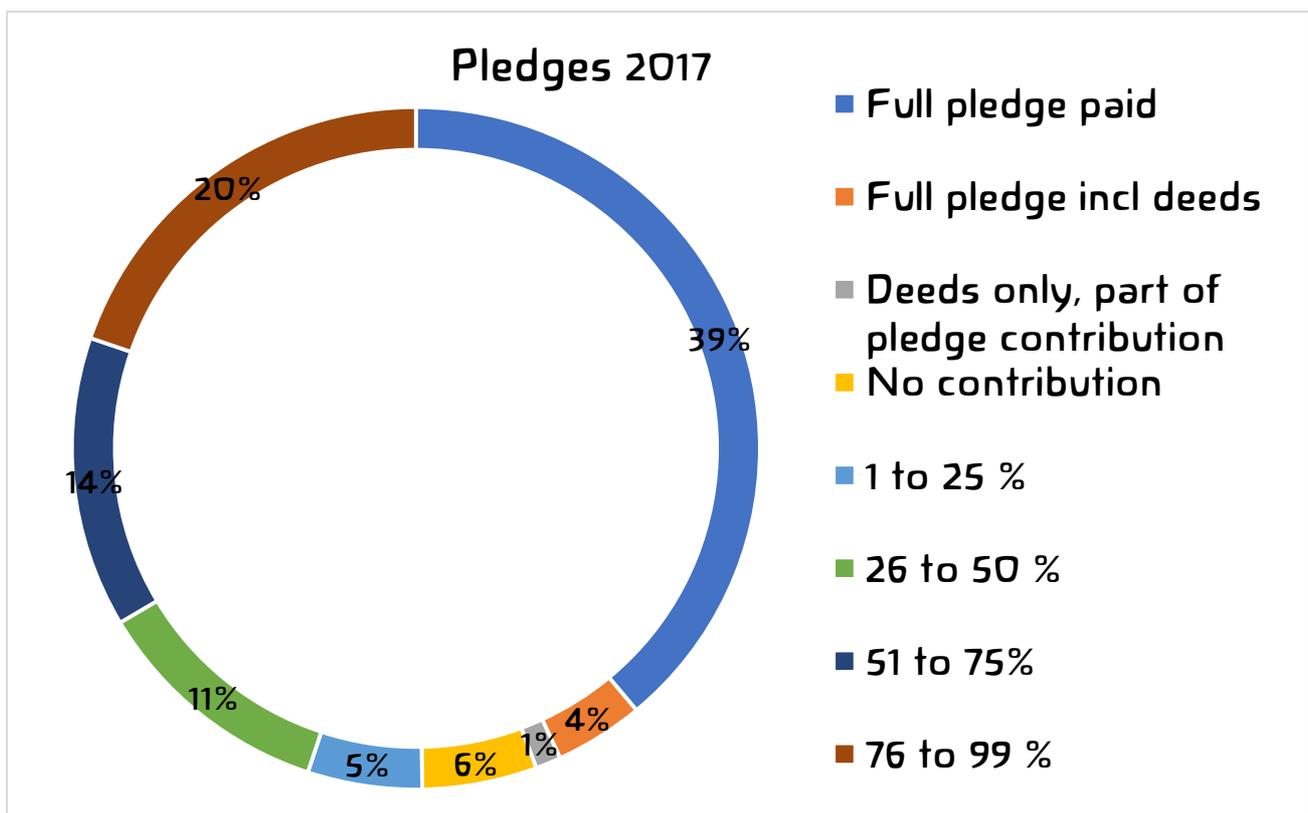
"How far that little candle throws its beams"
Lantern Festival was enjoyed yesterday evening by us all
picture courtesy of Cindy McQuade

FROM THE PLEDGE OFFICE – Stats for 2018 (up to and including end of May):

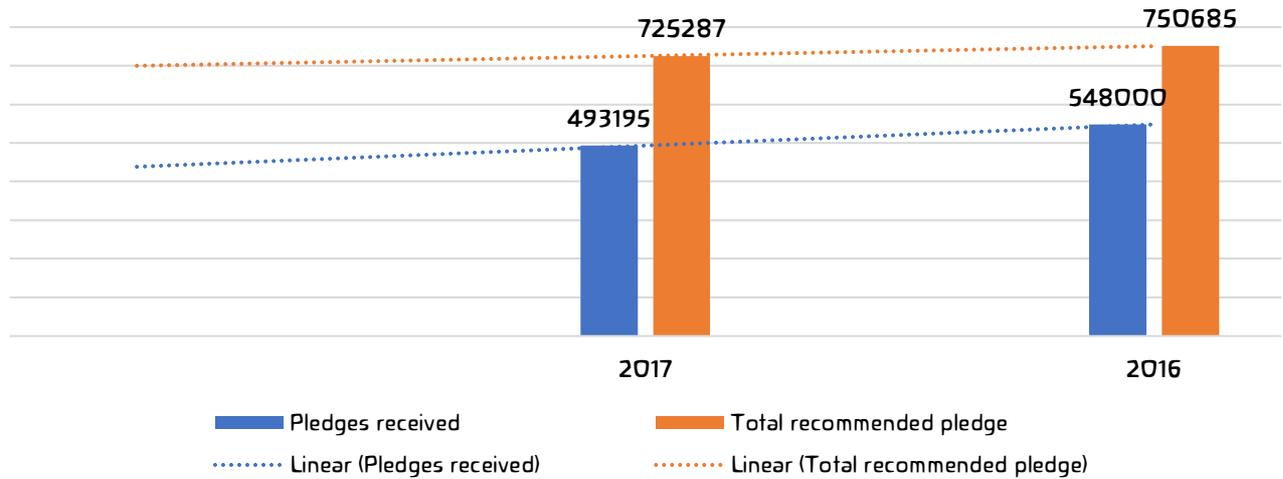
- 1) Of the 182 families that make up the kindergarten and schools rolls, 105 families contribute 75%- 100% of recommended pledge, in money and/or deeds.
- 2) 22 families pay half the recommended pledge amount or more
- 3) 18 families representing 20 children contribute between \$10-15 per week but with no added deeds.
- 4) 1 family pays more than the recommended amount.
- 5) 1 alumni of the school has again this year committed to a pledge in gratitude for the education he received here.
- 6) 18 families (relating to 22 children) have yet to provide pledge forms for the 2018 year. No payments or deeds have been received to date but 4 of the families have a positive history of paying the full amount but not submitting forms so we remain hopeful of these.
- 7) For 2018, 2 families submitted zero pledges with a total amount to be confirmed at some future point. No date was offered. At nearly the half way point of the year there has been no further communication, no payments and no deeds.
- 8) A month ago, we wrote to all families who had not submitted a pledge form asking for an indication of what and how they planned to support the delivery of the education in 2018. There has been no response to date.
- 9) In 2017, 696 cleaning hours were donated. Costed out at even a minimum wage, this represents a significant contribution and savings in expenses.
- 10) Ground work and other maintenance is another area where deeds are greatly appreciated. Currently all our gutters need cleaning.
- 11) As the pledge manager, the thing that I most appreciate and most need, is communication. If I know what to expect our financial planning and spending can be modified accordingly.

Please do email me at pledges@waldorftganz if you need to decrease or increase your contributions. I am really happy to meet with you and talk it through and can assure you that all donations are gratefully received.

Marlis



RECEIVED PLEDGES COMPARED TO RECOMMENDED PLEDGES



COMPARISON CONTRIBUTION 2016 / 2017



KIA ORA FROM THE OFFICE

Lantern Festival thanks to everyone for a great turn out last night on a cold and crisp winter evening, a perfect night to carry our lanterns & let our lights shine! We hope you enjoyed this magical festival. Thanks also to our College of Teachers for the hours of work behind the scenes to create the magic!

Office Reminders

Teacher Only Day – School Only on Tuesday 5th June 2018. Please mark it on your calendars, no school children to attend on this day. Enjoy your long Queen’s Birthday weekend! Kindergarten will operate as normal.

Message from our Neighbour Thursday 30th May - they will be moving cattle please be on standby for some disruption at drop off time and we ask your patience if they are loading as you arrive at school. If cattle are being moved on your arrival, bear in mind that they may be unpredictable and keep your children quietly around you at all times, away from the fences, and escort them safely to their classrooms. Many thanks.

After School Arrangements for your child – reminder that school policy is that children are not to be left unattended after school and we've seen a growing trend in the upper school for kids to linger and enjoy that last game of hand-ball! As tempting as it may be to do this, children should leave school grounds immediately. An OSCAR program (before and after school care) is available for our parents to use. Any children still on site after 3.15 pm (unless attending a sports practice) will be asked to go and sign in at OSCAR and parents will be charged for the service. The safety of your child is our paramount concern so we cannot risk having them unsupervised on school grounds. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Road Safety – Still looking for community feedback about any concerns you may have if your children walk, ride or catch a bus to school. We would like to present our views to Tauranga City Council with regard to issues on Welcome Bay Road, namely speed and a safe place for our children to cross. Please email Cathy reception@waldorftga.nz

Winter is upon us – Colder days are ahead please ensure your children are appropriately dressed with layers they can remove should they get warm as the day goes on. As always please label your child's clothes so if they get discarded we can endeavor to return them to their rightful owners. Use your judgement as to winter bugs if your child is unwell please keep at home until they are completely recovered so that we can restrict the spread of illnesses. Thanks for your help with this too.

Class 5 Fundraising News

PRELOVED CLOTHING SALE – Sunday the 10th June from 10 till 2.

More clothing required urgently. If anyone has any of the following items we could use, it would be very much appreciated thanks. Racks to hang clothing, sheets, long mirrors, hangers, plastic bags. Please deliver to Class 5 deck labelled for return. Thanks Caroline, Pauline and Tania, you can ph. 02102863239.

Class 5 fundraising Recipe Book – Community call for Recipes

The theme of the book is "Healthy lunch boxes and shared morning teas".

We would love your favourite healthy lunch box or shared morning tea recipe contributions! We are particularly looking for recipes that are healthy, easy to prepare, loved by your kids and refined sugar free.

If you have a great recipe to contribute then please email your recipe to Rika (rikamilne@gmail.com). Details needed include:

- Ingredients
- Method (including any special tips for preparation and storage success)
- Estimated time to prepare
- Confirmation whether it is gluten free, dairy free, nut free

Please send before Friday 8th June when our team of experts will make a final selection of recipes. Thanks for your support!

Movie Night – Wednesday 13th June

Oceans 8 is screening as a fundraiser on Wednesday the 13th June and you do NOT want to miss it! Tickets are available for purchase at the Friday market and from your friendly Class 5 student.

The evening starts at 7.30pm with a yummy supper and then an 8pm screening. Tickets \$20

Friday Market Stall

Come see what we have on offer.

Eco home products, Organic Body Butters. Movie tickets and more.

School Jumpers available through order at the market also. See Flyer.



KIA ORA FROM THE KINDERGARTEN

A huge thanks to everyone who helped at the recent work bee and for all the fire wood created as a result! Your efforts were truly appreciated!

Kindergarten Reading – Let them Get Wet!

https://www.pdhq.co.nz/p29/?mc_cid=d0c36baad6&mc_eid=5f9102dea0

Class 5 Fundraiser



*Jerseys - \$47.00 each
with school logo
embroidered.
(2-3 weeks from order
date until delivery)*

*Jackets - \$118.00 each
with school logo
embroidered.
(6 weeks delivery from
order)*



Order at the Friday Market! Sizing Samples to try on!

Children's and Adult sizes available.

Pay online into Bank account:

38-9016-0646288-00 (7 Odyssey)

*Particulars: Child's Class Code: Your Child's Name Ref:
"Jacket" or "Jersey"*

Order contact: Charlotte 0274400607