

13th June 2018



WEDNESDAY WINDOW

COMING EVENTS

- Thur 14 June Class 7 Play 12pm & 6pm
- Tues 19 June BOT Meeting Staffroom 5.30pm
- Wed 20 June Kindergarten Information afternoon 3.15pm
- Fri 22 June Fire Festival Class 6 & 7 only (no siblings please)
- Wed 4 July Class 1 Shared Morning Tea
- Fri 6 July Class 6 Matariki Play time to be confirmed
- Fri 6 July Last Day of Term 2 - 1pm finish for school
- Mon 23 July Parent Teacher Interviews (no school children today – Kindergarten as usual)

KIA ORA WHANAU

It's only 9 days to the mid-point of the year, the weather is turning wintery and cold. It is the perfect time to think of other things rather than how many layers to wear for warmth, rushing through the rain and looking at hearty dinner recipes!

It's also the beginning of our play cycle in the school, starting with Class 7's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' this week.

Below are some thoughts from Jo and John on plays in Waldorf Schools:

From Jo: Plays are the opportunity for our children to live into taking on another persona in the world of the imagination, and for classes to experience one of the greatest riches our Waldorf

curriculum can give in the primary school – a greater capacity for feeling.

The process and craft of our plays are held close in teachers' hearts, not only because of the enormous amount of hard work they entail in bringing all of the 'bits' together – script, casting, music, costume, timing, rehearsal; but because each play gives a gift beyond theatrical logistics – the feeling gift of appreciation, feeling part of a common purpose and achievement, surmounting huge odds as well as being in community. This is a gift that is felt by the children as the 'performers', the teacher as the 'creator and weaver of the story' and the audience as a necessary participant in this process too.

From John: There is something about our approach to plays and performance in the school that is uniquely different. The teachers work with the **whole** class. It is not a drama group or class, nor is it a selected troupe of actors. Out of the curriculum content for the year they choose a play, sometimes writing one specially, or adapting, shaping something to fit the class. With large classes this can involve working with two casts so everyone has a part. Casting is not done from the point of view of ability either, but of need or opportunity. In one class we did Romeo and Juliet. I had a boy who struggled with reading, cast as Romeo. He had great difficulty learning the lines and remembering them. Some parts of the performance he was in front of the curtain and I was directly behind saying his lines so he could repeat them. From the audience point of view, he did a great job, from his point of view he never dreamed that such a thing was possible and I know he never forgot it.

In that same play one of the boys was given the part of Paris, a suitor of Juliet. When preparing the play, we had edited some parts quite severely. Our Paris came up and said he thought we had taken too much out. He didn't think the audience would be able to make sense of what he had left to say. So, he said he had gone to the original text and added lines back in. And he had already learned them all! We were delighted. He was right.

In another play one student stepped up as a natural stage manager. There are opportunities for the children to make props and scenery, to sew costumes, to prepare programmes.

For the little ones appearing before an audience can be daunting, all these feelings are balanced by the teachers to provide the children with a space that is non-threatening and safe. They practise their lines, their moves, their interactions. They come before the audience for the final part of this learning. It is easy today to see being an audience member as a passive role. In fact, it is the opposite. As an audience we fill the very active part of receiving the gift of



"All the world's a stage"
Our Play Season enriches and benefits our children and community

performance. We complete the circle. This is well understood by the Maori people who I have seen respond at Kapahaka festivals with a haka from the audience.

The children may peep out to see if you (the parent) is there, have noticed, have enjoyed it. Part of them will be glad it is over, part of them will be thrilled to have done something they maybe thought was not possible. Performance and theatre have an absolute magic about it.

Protocol for plays.

Be there to enjoy the play from beginning to end.

Don't worry about recording what you are seeing, remember it.

The reason that we do not welcome photos and videoing of our class plays is because for us, the children's space is sacred, and we want everyone to be part of the audience and watch.



KIA ORA FROM THE OFFICE

Korero Maturanga - Let's Talk about Education. Please hop on line and answer the survey, "If you were the boss of education in NZ what would you do first?" The Government are keen to have as many people take part as possible, so get your voice heard!

<https://consultation.education.govt.nz/education/korero-maturanga/>

Office Reminders

Lost Property - We seem to be gathering quite the collection of lost property throughout the school. It would be great to get it returned to the rightful owners. Anything not collected by the end of term will be donated to the local op shop. Please have a look outside the cowshed and check in with class teachers for any misplaced items. A reminder too to label your child's belongings so that they can be easily returned if they do get lost.

Attendance — Reminder to please let the office know if your child will be absent. Even if you have messaged the teacher, please copy the office into the message. You can leave a voicemail, text, email or send a message through the school app.

Annual Fair - Our class 2 parents are working away behind the scenes to begin fair preparations. Thank you Class 2! In light of this **FAIR CRAFT GROUP** will now commence - Thursday mornings in the cowshed from 9-11am. You are warmly welcomed to come along and help us make beautiful crafts for this year's school Fair. There will be a range of craft projects on the go, so there will be something to suit everyone. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and learn a new skill, all while enjoying a nice hot cup of tea. We would really love to see you there from the Class 2 Fair Committee.

Class 5 Fundraising News

Preloved Clothing Sale — Thanks to everyone who supported the sale with donations or being a valued customer, we hope you got some great bargains!

Movie Night Tonight! — **Wednesday 13th June** Looking forward to seeing you all for a great evening at Rialto. Oceans 8 promises to be a good movie. No door sales sorry. The evening starts at 7.30pm with a yummy supper and then an 8pm screening. Thanks again everyone for your support.

Friday Market Stall Come see what we have on offer. Eco home products, Organic Body Butters and more. School Jumpers available through order at the market also. See Flyer attached below.



KIA ORA FROM THE KINDERGARTEN

Thank you so much to all the parents who worked hard and split all the wood to keep us warm. And there even seems to be enough wood to feed the pizza oven!

Kindergarten Information Afternoon — **Wednesday 20th June**
3.15pm Parents seeking to enrol their children into the Kindergarten are warmly invited to attend this information session



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

Finding a new connection to the plant.

Introductory workshop on Goethean and Phenomenological observation.

Saturday 25 August 2018

Waikato Waldorf School Hall -Hamilton



Connecting exercises with plant and plant forms

Experiencing forces in plants

Concepts and work methods

Painting: the plant's lively response to the environment

At the workshop you will get special exercises to develop your skills in observing morphology and metamorphosis processes in plants. You will also learn how to reflect on the way observed forms resound in one's human body.

The aim of Goethean and Phenomenological observation is to gradually improve our care of plants and deepen our understanding of the healing and nutritional qualities of plants.

Organised by the Plant Study Group -Hamilton. Tutors: Marion Koppenol, Maree Smith, Artist- Pieter Swanepoel.

For a full programme and enrolment form please contact Maree Smith

1mareesmith@gmail.com