Taikura Rudolf Steiner School





## He Reo Ora Strategy

Tēnā koutou e te whānau whānui o Taikura

In 2015, Dr Huia Tomlins-Jahnke, a professor of Māori and Indigenous Education gave a community talk at Taikura. This talk inspired a group from the Tū Mai Taikura whānau to take the first steps towards creating a reo me ōna tikanga (language and customs/culture) strategy for Taikura.

The first stage was to conduct a survey. Some of you may remember that last August there was an advertisement in the Grapevine inviting the community to participate in this survey. The survey results were then compiled and presented to Carmel Spencer last September. They were a rich resource of ideas and wishes from parents, staff and students that voiced two key ideas:

- real appreciation for the quality of education here at Taikura, and gratitude for those key people who have carried te reo and tikanga Māori elements so strongly in the school over the years, especially Val Maioha, John Robin and Troy Gardiner.
- a clear vision for where Taikura could further evolve to integrate reo and tikanga Māori into the fabric of school life. This vision was an overwhelmingly positive one that acknowledged two vital elements: the importance of grounding our Steiner pedagogy within this land, Aotearoa; and the very close alignment between the Waldorf pedagogy and te ao Māori – the Māori worldview.

Carmel welcomed the survey results, and suggested that the findings be presented to the Board of Trustees and Trust, with the aim to then begin work on developing a formal reo strategy. Many of you will have seen in the recent school wide Strategic Plan development that this initiative was picked up strongly by the Board of Trustees, and work is now being carried out towards consultation for, and development of, the reo strategy for the school.

We are very fortunate to have the He Reo Puāwai curriculum document as a foundation for implementing a number of the recommendations made by participants in the survey. Two of our current staff at Taikura, Troy Gardiner and Clayton Gibson, along with Charlotte Goddard from Waikato Rudolf Steiner School, were responsible for the development of this document at a national level. The document provides guidelines for the introduction of elements of te ao Māori into the curriculum of each year level. The implementation of the He Reo Puāwai curriculum document into our Lower and High School is a key element of our 2018 Annual Plan.

The work towards the reo strategy acknowledges that language is cultivated in an environment that authentically reflects the culture within which it resides – that tikanga Māori needs to be considered at all levels of the school structure and community if the implementation of any programmes is to be truly successful. The Steiner pedagogy at Taikura Rudolf Steiner School provides a rich framework for this to be built on.

Language has always been an important dimension of the Steiner curriculum – learning a second language gives you the opportunity to open up another linguistic and inner realm, it can increase the number of neural pathways between parts of the brain, and create a capacity to experience life from more than one viewpoint, which can positively influence problem-solving ability and increase empathy. As well as Te Reo we also teach Spanish at Taikura in Class 1,2,6 and 7. We appreciate that there are many different cultures and languages alive within our school, and it is our sincere hope that, by nurturing te ao Māori within Taikura, we will provide the foundation to celebrate all of these cultures and languages. But, in strengthening te reo and tikanga Māori, we value and honour te reo as an official language of our country, and we acknowledge the connection of our school to this land, Aotearoa.

# SCHOOL NOTICES

Next year we will begin our consultation process with the community towards finalising a five year te reo me ona tikanga strategy for the school. We look forward to your feedback, thoughts, and ideas as we take up this initiative as a community.

Mā ngā huruhuru Ka Rere Te manu With feathers a bird will fly With everyone's help the project/ mahi will succeed

Nei anō ngā mihi tino mahana, nā Pippa Caccioppoli

## T $ar{\mathbf{u}}$ mai Taikura

Tū mai Taikura are a group of parents of Māori students, who have been meeting every term. They are a voice that give guidance and recommendations as to the best pathways that the school can take to enliven **Te Reo me ona tikanga**. Naming this group 'Tū mai Taikura' was about standing together and carrying those dreams and aspirations for the school to know and feel comfortable in Te Ao Māori – The Māori world view. I have found the depth of knowledge and support within this roopu invaluable. In the future there will be updates as to what is happening in this group and they will also work alongside the 'Parent Family Association'. If you would like to know more, please contact Troy Gardiner at Taikura.

## **Class 12 Awards and Scholarships for 2017**

On Friday afternoon we held our High School Prize Giving which provided a wonderful formal and sincere way to acknowledge the achievements of students in each of our classes. Awards were presented to students from each class for commitment and effort, academic achievement, leadership, sport and Trades Academy programmes.

Sports Person of the Year – Niamh Jefferson - Niamh plays rugby for the HB premier women's team and she is also in the HB sevens team. Niamh has been selected for the NZ under 18 sevens training squad and she won best female rugby at Hawkes Bay Secondary School Sports Awards.

High Achievement in the Social Sciences - Joshua Hughes and Reed Anderson

High Achievement in The Arts - Elise Terry

High Achievement in Science - Anne Bristow

High Achievement in Mathematics - Kassian Houben

High Achievement in English and Drama - Danielle Le Bon and Reed Anderson

High Achievement in Technology - Elise Terry

High Achievement in Movement - Joshua Hughes

Trades Academy – Tahn Stalker (Level 2 Forestry) and Kassian Houben (Level 3 and Overall Excellence in Computer Technology)

EIT Scholarship - Kassian Houben – up to \$6750 towards Bachelor of Computing Systems Taikura Dux and J Mills Family Scholarship (\$5000) - Danielle le Bon

Taikura Award - Alistair Porter - In recognition of an outstanding student who in their attitude and endeavours throughout their time at Taikura represents the ideals of Waldorf education in Thinking, Feeling and Willing.

Pippa Caccioppoli

# SCHOOL NOTICES

#### Taradale Kindergarten

Over recent months the Proprietors Trust has worked closely with a group of parents and family members regarding the future of the Taradale Kindergarten. We first want to thank these people especially Hana Ruth, Edith van der Meer, Virginia Wilson, Antony Van der Meer and Malcolm Cox, alongside a very active parent group led by Zodi Woods who have worked tirelessly to retain the kindergarten. The trust are deeply grateful for the insights they offered, their cooperation and unflagging positivity. Unfortunately despite all the hard work, on Monday evening, having received the final report from this group, the Proprietors Trust made the difficult decision to close the kindergarten.

On Tuesday the trust met with families of the Taradale Kindergarten to inform them of our decision and we welcome the suggestion that a time and space be made to give proper closure to the kindergarten. Many children, families, staff and friends will want to be a part of a closing ceremony. A small group will organise and convene a time and most probably notify you via email.

We take this opportunity to thank all the people who engaged with the process, responded to the survey and supported others through the process.

Sue Simpson On behalf of the Proprietors Trust

#### Wooden Play Frames for Sale!

Grandparents, a pair of these make wonderful presents for children that support their imaginative play. Drape with fabric, instant entertainment. (Ask about our Wooden Play Crates as well)\$65 each or \$120 for two (un-oiled). Available after internet deposit or cash on pick-up, from Taradale Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten, 68 King St. Phone 844 2486, or 027 532 2032 after hours, or email <u>kingstreetcircletime@gmail.com</u> with orders. Bank account for deposit is: ANZ 11 6401 0595911 50

#### Wooden Wheelbarrow Raffle

Taradale Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten Fundraiser \$2 per ticket. Drawn 10 December. Available from parents at Taradale Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten and from Corrie at the Hastings Rudolf Steiner Kindergartens.

#### Come one, Come all!

Class 2 will be hosting the final Friday market of 2017 tomorrow, the 8 December! Come enjoy some homemade sweet and savoury items, check out some handmade crafts, and cool off with a yummy NICE BLOCK!!!!!!! That's right, we'll be selling the super duper yummy Nice Blocks at the market from 2:45......Look forward to seeing you there!

## Wanted Wanted!

Clothing, wooden toys, used school and sports gear for our op shop opening in the New Year at "ata marie" The Christian Community. Please call Belinda on 0211500058 or drop of at 910 Outram Road.

## Mark Your Calendar

December 7 December 8 December 8 December 10 December 12 December 12 December 13 11:00 am - 12:30 pm 12:30 pm Finish 8:45 am - 9:00 am start 7:00 pm 12:30 pm Finish 7:00 pm Start 12:30 pm Finish Class 8 Project Displays, in the Gym Classes 8 and 9 Rachel Pomeroy - The True Story of Father Christmas Class 7 Sheperds Play Kindergarten Carol Evening 2017 held in the Gym Classes 1 and 7

