



1 March 2018

The Grapevine

Class 9 Tongariro National Park Expedition



Class camps provide an opportunity for parents to participate in a kinaesthetic learning environment with students. Excursions also provide an insight into the care, preparation and leadership that protects the welfare of each student and facilitates their learning.

The Class 9 geology excursion to Tongariro National Park is a stand out experience in an area acknowledged by UNESCO as having extra-ordinary cultural and natural world heritage significance. The active and sacred volcanic mountains Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe, and Tongariro are located in the centre of the park. This area was made famous by Peter Jackson's movie trilogy "Lord of the Rings", with Mt Ngaruroro playing the part of Mt Doom of Mordor. However, for most of our week the remnants of ex Tropical Cyclone Gita threw thick white cloud cloaks across the peaks, which finally lift on the day of our departure.

The National Park is home to the famed Tongariro Alpine Crossing, widely regarded as one of the world's best one-day hikes – and a highlight of our week. The forces of the earth can be seen at work on the surface. You could almost be mistaken for walking on another planet, crossing a landscape of scattered pumice, lava flows, scoria, and mounds of volcanic rock that look like they have been carved into statues. This is what the Tongariro Alpine Crossing is about (as well as a great workout!).

The most challenging section of the track, is a section known as the 'Devil's Staircase'. The climb is steep – rising 1,600 metres above sea level. High winds prevented us from traversing further, so we retreated down ancient valleys carved by glaciers during the Ice Age. Students were repeatedly asked the question: "what's going on here?", which challenged them to piece together what they had witnessed.

Seeing Gee, Anna and Roger lead these young people with a robust elegance is a credit to their teaching and leadership abilities. And a healthy respect between teachers and students meant everything worked well.

The underlying theme of class 9 is "polarity" and this excursion explores their relationships with nature, and each other. They were challenged to adapt quickly to the changing alpine environment, and to their shared living spaces.

I've returned with a heightened respect for our teachers, our curriculum and the special character Taikura offers our fortunate students. Thank you.

Malcolm Cox (Class 9 parent)



Mark Your Calendar

March 7-8		Class 7 Camp
March 8	12:30 pm - 1:20 pm	Biodiversity Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser
March 14	6:30 pm	Parents Evening Taikura Kindergarten
March 15	All Day	High School Athletics Day
March 21	All Day	Class 8 Biosphere Bike Trip
March 21	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Parents Evening Kereru Kindergarten
March 26-29		Class 10 Marae Week
March 28	6:30 pm	Class 7 Parent Evening

SCHOOLNOTICES

Sports Notices

Volleyball

This term we have 3 teams competing at Pettigrew Green Arena. Thank you to all the teachers, parents and students that are supporting these teams.

Orienteering

Last week Jane Herries from HB Orienteering visited Taikura to run a lunchtime session on Orienteering for any interested students from Classes 4 and 5. We had a fantastic turnout and as a result of that session have 15 students participating in the Thursday competition run by the club.

Thank you to Pauline Korevaar for helping out at the Thursday competition. If anyone else has a student they think may be keen to have go at orienteering please contact me at school.

Snorkelling

In preparation for part of their beach camp all the Class 5 students participated in a snorkelling pool session here at school. A week later Brendan Hamilton- Gibbs and myself took the students for an open water snorkel experience in the Marine Reserve at Blackhead Beach. A great experience was had by all, with reasonable visibility on the day everyone managed to view the wonders of the underwater world. For some this was their first open water snorkelling experience and they were amazed by what lay beneath; we were greeted by many schools of fishes during our dive. I have a great passion for this sport and love introducing students to the possibilities.



Winter Sport

Last week we took registrations of interest from High School students for **hockey, netball, badminton, basketball, cycling, adventure racing, coaching, umpiring and football.**

I will now be working on formulating teams and matching the teams with coaches and managers for the season. Look out for the registration forms coming home from participating students.

For those who may wish to discuss sporting options for their student, please feel free to contact me at school. Lower school sports registrations will be collected this week.

High School hockey trials are Tuesday March 13 and Tuesday March 20 at 3:20 pm on the school turf.

Coaches and Managers

We are always on the lookout for coaches and managers for our Lower School and High School teams. Please contact me if you would like any more information about these roles or know of someone in your family or community that may be interested to help this season.

Surf Lifesaving

Congratulations to Orla Jefferson for winning Gold in the board relay team event at the Eastern Regional Championship. Well done Orla.

Well Done to Bayden and Kail MacKenzie! Kail has put in the highest amount of patrol hours this season at the Waimarama Surf Lifesaving club. Bayden was instrumental in the rescue of a woman at Waimarama beach. Fantastic effort boys.

In July this year another intake of guards will be trained in preparation for the new patrol season starting in November 2018, if any students are interested to become a lifeguard please come and talk to Brendan Hamilton-Gibbs or Janet Osborne. Students need to be 14 years old.

HB Schools Triathlon

Next week Class 6 are participating in this local triathlon, good luck to all participants.

Janet Osborne - Sports Co-ordinator

SCHOOLNOTICES

Victoria University Visit

Tuesday 6 March 3:15 pm

Level 3 Taikura House Room 3:3

Shanna, The Victoria University liaison officer, will be at school 3:15 pm Tuesday 6 March to introduce students from Classes 11-12 to Victoria University and Wellington. This is an opportunity for Students, Parents and Teachers to learn more about Victoria's programmes and courses, as well as the student experience. She will talk about admission requirements, school leaver scholarships and accommodation, and give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Come along to find out what makes Victoria University of Wellington special, and our capital city an exciting place to live and study.

This session is open to Class 11-12 students and parents and teachers.

Auckland University Visit

Tuesday 13 March 3:15 pm

Simon Crook, The Auckland University liaison Officer, will be at school 3:15 pm Tuesday 13 March to introduce you to Auckland University.

This is an opportunity for Class 11-12 students to learn more about Auckland's programmes and courses, as well as the student experience. He will talk about admission requirements, school leaver scholarships and accommodation, and give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Come along to find out about Auckland University. This session is also open to students, parents and teachers.

Eurythmy Performance For All Parents And The Wider Community

The Aotearoa Eurythmy Ensemble with members from Norway, Ireland, America, Holland, Italy, Germany, Australia and New Zealand have spent the last year investigating these ideas of loss, and discovery, destruction and creation.

In March the group will be touring the North Island with "Kua Timata"- "it is begun" a programme exploring the themes of journeys, finding a new place to be, a new place to call home through the music of Alexander Scriabine, the poetry of young New Zealanders and a Maori legend "Te Ikaroa" - "the story of the stars".

We will be performing at Taikura Steiner School on Tuesday 6 March at 7:30 pm in the school hall.

Come and enjoy this performance and see the artistic possibilities offered by Eurythmy.

Vision and Hearing Technician School Visit

Lynley Keehan, the Hastings Vision and Hearing Technician will be visiting the school on Thursday 29 March. She will be carrying out standard tests for distance vision with some of the Class 5 & 6 students - this happens every year for all students in New Zealand, and is helpful for picking up on simple vision issues which may not have been previously identified. She sometimes checks other students too: If there is no record of your child/children have not had a Before School Screen or need to be re-screened; for these exceptions, I will send home a letter inform you that Lynley would like to see them. If you have concerns about your child/children's vision or hearing, and they are not being seen by an outside professional, please collect a yellow form from the office and have it filled in and returned before Thursday 29 March, and she will include them.

Karyn Wills

Literacy Support & Lower School SENCO

**The Biodiversity Project
Bake Sale and Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser
Lunchtime- Thursday 8 March**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Learn to Massage at The Lotus Centre

Held over three weekends, this course will teach Swedish massage techniques and enable participants to complete a full-body relaxation massage on friends and family.

Topics covered include:

Use of oils/waxes, contraindications, introduction to skeletal muscles, definitions of massage techniques/strokes and body mechanics.

Dates: 10 and 11 March 7 and 8 April 5 and 6 May Course costs \$180 per weekend

Facilitator is Jenny Allan who has over 15 years' experience teaching massage.
Contact Jenny on 876 8818 or email jenny@thelotuscentre.nz

The Lotus Centre Open Day

Sunday 18 March 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Lotus Centre is under new management so come down and check us out!

Yoga classes all day for koha - come down and experience any or all of the following styles of yoga: laughter, pregnancy, hatha, yin, nidra, dru and shadow.

Massage for koha - 5 minute chair massages or foot massage for koha.

All proceeds from the day will go to the the Hawke's Bay Breast Cancer Trust.

Go to the website www.thelotuscentre.nz for more details or check us out on facebook.

Strong Invincible

Fundraising concert for Hastings Women's Refuge.

International Women's Day 7:00 pm Thursday 8 March Common Room, Hastings.

A massive lineup of musical talent, including Margot Wuts, Bianca Entwistle, Dana Parkhill and Molly Friis Buffet supper and a glass of bubbles as part of your ticket \$40 on the night or from the bar.

[facebook.com/commonroomhb](https://www.facebook.com/commonroomhb)

Cleaning Job Vacancy

We have a vacancy for an evening cleaner at our Kindergartens in Frederick Street, Mahora.

Four hours per evening five days per week, the job could be shared between two people and there is some flexibility on timing. At the moment it is 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

You will need to undergo a Police Vetting, have a willingness to learn, be honest and hardworking and be excited about making the kindergarten sparkle for the children.

Previous experience is handy but not essential, a can-do attitude is much appreciated.

If interested please call Aimee on 0279389845.

Wanted A House To Rent!

I am looking for a 2/3 bed house to rent with a garage or shed for friends that are moving here beginning of April. If you know of a rental or have a rental please contact Osha 0211330213. Thank you.

Class Two Firewood Selling Well

Get Ready Now For Winter

We have sold loads but there is still some available so please contact me now to make your order.

\$100 per cubic metre (\$360 per cord). Great burning Wattle firewood.

Please text Matt Durham on 027 485 8241 or email m.durham@competenz.org.nz



KUA TIMATA TE IKAROA

**A Story of the Stars
Music, poems & humour**

**Performed by
Aotearoa Eurythmy Ensemble**



Photo Bob Zuur

**Public Performance
Taikura Rudolf Steiner School
Nelson Street, Hastings
7.30PM 6th March 2018**

**Door charges \$20 adults
\$15 children**

**We will be performing at Taikura Steiner School on
Tuesday 6 March at 7:30 pm in the school hall.**

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE

Knowledge of Higher Worlds – Decoded

A weekend seminar with Ian Trousdell

24th – 25th March 2018

A detailed introduction to Rudolf Steiner's path of self-development enabling perception of non-physical dimensions for the purpose of knowing reality better



Detailed hand-outs clarify the whole book including all the exercises, combined with 'living thinking' practices, clarifying Rudolf Steiner's 'Path of Reverence' which forms the basis of Spiritual Science, a method for researching deeper aspects of reality than the physical.

Seminar: 9am - 5pm Sat. 24th / 9 – 4, Sun. 25th March 2018

Lecture: Saturday 25th March. 'Birth of the Higher Self.'

7.30 pm to 9 pm including question time

Anthroposophical Centre, Hastings

Corner of Nelson St. and Whitehead Rd.

\$150 fee. Registration or for more information

contact Ian: ian.trousdell@gmail.com