# Taikura Rudolf Steiner School raik The vine



## The Autumn Festival

The Autumn Festival came about because Rudolf Steiner felt that there should be a 4<sup>th</sup> festival in the year in keeping with the four Archangels who guide the four seasons. For a long time in the northern hemisphere we have had Christmas, Easter and St John's. To this Rudolf Steiner wanted to add Michaelmas. These have their counterpart in the Mata-Riki Festival, the Spring Festival, the Christmas or Midsummer Festival and Autumn (Easter) Festivals here in the Southern Hemisphere. Rudolf Steiner describes how in the summer we can feel carried up into the warmth and sunlight in a sort of warm daze and he says that then we become particularly open to the call of materialism. We have to fight this going into the autumn and help is given to us by the Archangel of the Autumn, St Michael whose sword is forged of meteoric iron brought by the summer shooting stars. There are two major meteor showers (times for spotting shooting stars) near midsummer: The Geminids around 14 December and the Quarantids around the 3 January. As autumn approaches this is a time for turning inwards to our inner life and taking stock of things. Personally as a child I always found the brightness and growth of the summer rather overwhelming though they are far stronger here in New Zealand than the South of England where I grew up. There I longed for the autumn dying away of nature and softening of the sun. Once autumn came I felt I could start to breathe properly again.

Rudolf Steiner wanted a new festival of Courage where the dragon of materialism in which fear, hate and doubt can grow could be fought with the aid of the mightiest of the Archangels. Our age of materialism has been brought in externally by the development of an incredible technology principally based on earthly steel. Where this has led to fear, hate and doubt it can be fought with the symbolic aid of cosmic steel. The sword of St Michael forged of Meteoric Iron. We live in a world which needs our courage, faith and love more than ever to combat the many forms of fear, doubt and hate. I once visited one of the German Steiner Schools to see how they were celebrating the Autumn Festival of St Michael. This school had set up trials for the four elements in which the students could take part. They had a trial by water which was going through a tunnel with water spraying into it at various stage. Then further along there was a trial by fire where the tunnel seemed to end in a big bonfire and it was only when you got fairly close to the fire that you saw a way out to the side. Their trial by earth was climbing a big rock (of course duly strapped to a harness) and their trial by air was being flung high up into the air strapped to a harness on a line hung between very high points on two trees. These celebrations were shown in an outward manner but Rudolf Steiner wanted the festival to be that of inner battle. I really appreciate that our Autumn Festival of St Michael shows the dragon being defeated under the guidance of St Michael by use of meteoric iron. Rudolf Steiner said that he was not told to stop materialism or to fight technology but that he must enter into the dragon's skin. This symbolises a transformation of materialism that stems from the corruption of fear, doubt and hate by means of the qualities of courage, faith and love.

#### By David Urieli

"There is a knighthood of the 20<sup>th</sup> century whose members do not ride through the darkness of physical forests as of old, but through forests of darkened minds. They are armed with a spiritual armour and an inner sun makes them radiant. Out of them shines healing – healing that flows from a knowing of the image of the human as a spiritual being. They must create inner order, inner justice, peace and conviction in the darkness of our time."

By Anke Weihs from notes by Karl Koe

March 19 March 20 March 21 March 25 April 4 April 5

12:30 pm - 1:20 pm 12:30 pm 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:45 am - 9:00 am start

#### Mark Your Calendar

French Conversation Group - Library Autumn Festival - Big Field Waiata Mai - Whare - All Welcome BOT Meeting - Meeting Room - Office Class 6 Play - Whanau Performance Parent Group Talk - The Story Of Parihaka

## SCHOOL NOTICES Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou Ka ora ai te manuhiri.

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive



# Autumn Festival Wednesday 20 March 2019

**Lunchtime Picnic** – 12:30 pm. Parents are warmly invited to join us for a picnic lunch on the field and a game of Taikura Crummock between parents, staff and students.

Saint Michael and the Dragon Play - 2.15pm on the School Field

Wet weather option: No lunchtime picnic

Play in the Gym at 2.15pm

**Harvest Table** – is now in the hall foyer, ready to receive any surplus abundance of the season. We welcome any excess produce and preserves for the Harvest table prior to next Wednesdays festival.

Items are welcome from Monday 11 March up until and including Wednesday 20 March. All produce collected is gifted to grateful homes.

Warm wishes the Festival Team



Kelly - Associate Principal Lower School

#### French Conversation Group

A reminder that the the French Conversation Group has begun again for 2019, and welcomes new students. This year the group is being run by two Class 11 students who went on exchange to France and Switzerland in 2018. They will be focusing on teaching conversational phrases, as well as playing board games to help build a word bank of French nouns.

The French conversation group is held fortnightly in the school library. The next meet up is Tuesday 19 March. For more information, contact <u>kura.rutherford@gmail.com</u>



## He pito kõrero!

Kua rewa a Poutūterangi – Altair has risen

The star Poutūterangi (Altair) has just appeared and heralds the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> month of the Maramataka - the Māori lunar calendar. This kāhui whetū (star cluster) rises in the eastern sky about 4:30 am, but is more visible at 5:30 am. This appears as a set of three whetū (stars) that are in a 'V' shape with the middle star being Poutūterangi. The sighting of this whetū signals the change of season, as we've felt the cooler temperatures in the mornings and the evenings. It also tells us that it will be getting closer to harvesting the kūmara within the next month before the first frosts!

Kīwaha o te wiki ......Kīwaha of the week!

Kia tau! (key ah tow) Chill out!

Rangi: Kei te pēhea koe, how are you?

Hemi: Te pukumahi hoki, I'm so busy, e hoa!

Rangi: Kia tau, e hoa! Let's go for a walk down to the beach!

He pito kōrero is a space dedicated to celebrating and promoting Te Reo me ōna Tikanga Māori.



#### University Liaison Visits

These are usually 40 - 50 minute interactive sessions where representatives from each University give a general introduction to the University and the degrees that they offer.

Parents can come along to meet members of the University, talk to Liaison Officers and at some evenings, faculty and staff members. Sometimes current students from Hawkes Bay talk about their experience at University.

The aim of these visits is to introduce the University and demystify tertiary study for students who are thinking of going to university. The topics for the presentations can be tailored specifically to students' needs; however the prepared presentation includes the following:

- Introduction to University
- Entry requirements
- The range of first degrees available
- Planning a degree
- Tuition fees, student loans and allowances and scholarships
- Accommodation (where appropriate) and the application process
- University study and student life
- Important dates and upcoming University events and Open Days.

Taikura Visits: See Lesley Cox if you would like another University to visit school.

Time: 3:00pm

Venue: Mrs Brooker's English Room, Taikura House for Class 11-12 students.

- AUT Olivia Morgan Wednesday 20 March 2019
- Victoria University Shanna Luafalealo Tuesday 26 March 2019
- Auckland University Simon Crook Wednesday 27 March 2019
- Massey University Eugene Hepi Tuesday 2 April 2019
- Otago University Cheryl Caldwell Tuesday 29 May 2019

#### H3 Therapy Group

Top Up Kids Clothes Cupboards. Friday market. Gold coin. Redeem lost property. Step up a size. H3 Clothes stall. CHECK IT OUT AFTER SCHOOL.

# SCHOOL NOTICES

#### **Class Photographs**

Class photograph will be taken on **Thursday 2 May.** The envelopes for class photos should have been handed out by your students Sponsor/Class Teacher this week. Please hand your envelope into the school office with the correct money. **NO** change will be given so please ensure that you have included the correct change and **securely sealed** the envelope. If paying online, please state clearly, **PAID ON LINE** on the envelope and seal it. This year we aim to have all the envelopes returned to the office by Tuesday 30 April.

#### Internet Safety Talk Follow Up

On Wednesday 27 February we were very fortunate to have Detective Sergeant Heath Jones from the Hawke's Bay Child Protection Unit speak to a group of parents about internet safety at home. The issues around personal safety, the effects of pornography to children personally and criminally, bullying and so forth are global, and require active parental guidance and awareness around the insistent and persistent attraction that digital devices have on our children. Last year, Detective Sergeant Jones spoke to our then Classes Six and Seven students who were shocked to hear of the consequences if they were involved in inappropriate behaviours with regard to digital devices. Both of these talks were well received.

Detective Sergeant Jones suggests devices are used in safe zones like the lounge not in bedrooms or toilets, bathrooms, for example; and, that parents stay in their children's space as far as what and when they are using devices.

If you agree to a child having social media like FaceBook, Instagram and Snapchat then discussions around how they would feel reading nasty comments on their page, and how they would react and feel are important. It's like other risk management: enabling our children and teens to be resilient around that space. Communication with your child is the key. Prepare them for the internet world.

William Steffan, in his article 'Information and Communications Technology Curriculum for Steiner Waldorf Teachers, Vol 38. No.1, Oct 2004, says:

"In almost every instance of using digital technology issues such as these crop up:

- How do I care for my health (mental and physical) and the health of other people when I am using this technology?
- How do I recognise that I am heading for addiction and/or repetitive strain injury?
- What are the implications of generations who have grown up on violent computer games?
- Who 'owns' the programme I am using?
- Who has access to what information?
- Who will use the personal information I am disclosing?"

In keeping with our special character, it is pertinent to remember:

"In the educational context of a Steiner Waldorf school the appropriate developmental time for utilising the computer as an integral tool in learning and study is during the high school years. At this time the faculty for critical judgement enables students to make discriminating choices and have a healthy relationship with electronic media."

And, "In the teaching of programmes of the kindergarten and lower school, engaging in the living world develops a sense for truth and authenticity; it keeps children connected with reality and what it means to be human. Direct face-to-face communication is seen as vital for the development of language, social competence and empathy." (Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools, New Zealand Curriculum Guidelines)

#### The Threefold Social Order Talk

Further to the Talks/Workshops on The Threefold Social Order. This coming Monday (March 18) we will be looking at the life of rights. What rights should we have? The purpose is not to come up with a bill of rights. That's been done a few times, But to see a few instances where that has been done and what is included in Steiner's description of the Threefold Social Order. Also to look at Steiner's interesting ideas about the arm of the law and also the role of politicians.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday at 7:30 pm in the Anthro Centre (across the zebra crossing from school).

With kinds regards - David Urieli

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

#### Upcoming May Workshops

Heretaunga Women's Centre, Hastings Introduction to Small Animal Massage and Healing Workshop Saturday 18 May from 10:00am - 1:00pm: Investment - \$60

Introduction to Face and Ear Reflexology Workshop Sunday 19 May from 10:00am - 1:00pm: Investment - \$60

**Reflexology for Women- Pressure Points for Hormonal Balance** Sunday 19 May from 2:00pm - 4:00pm: Investment - \$30

For more information contact- Jackie- vitalreiki@xtra.co.nz; jackiesegers.com

#### Affordable Organic Hair Treatments

Affordable Organic hair colouring and hair care treatments available in a salon in Hastings. For appointments, pricing and other inquiries call Christina on <u>0221871938</u>

### Organic Merino Wool Slipper-boots

We are a Steiner based home-school family, fund-raising to support our daughter and her team, a home-school based Vex Robotics team called Free Range Robotics, to travel to Kentucky, USA to represent NZ in the World Vex Robotic Championships at the end of April this year.

We would like to offer the opportunity to purchase beautiful individually crafted slipperboots. Created from locally sourced, organic merino wool (uncertified), in designs that work with the natural wool colours. They are soft and light on the feet but incredibly warm and nurturing.

Slipper-boots made to order and to individual sizing.

- Cost \$40.00 for kindergarten sizes
  - \$50.00 for lower and middle school sizes
  - \$70.00 for upper school and adult sizes
- Please call Susan 021 2226969 if you would like to place an order.

Thank you for supporting this team of warm hearted, dedicated, young people who put the best into all they do.

#### The Spirit and Art of Human Development

#### A three-day workshop with Van James, on Thursday 4 - 6 April 2019

In the 'Spirit and Art of Human Development', Van James will share some of his long experience as a Waldorf school art teacher together with his own life research into art as a path of human development as he explores the Mandala, the Landscape and the Portrait over each of the three days. If you are an art teacher, an art student, someone interested in Art History or simply want to deepen your personal connection to these three distinctive art forms then this workshop is not to be missed. Held at Taruna College, for more information please see our website www.taruna.ac.nz or call 06 8777174

## The Art of Well-Being

Meet yourself, Know yourself, Be yourself

Three, week-long seminars scheduled for 8 - 13 May, 14 - 19 August and 16 - 21 October 2019.

Is your life engaging and rewarding, yet at the same time sometimes a challenge to your inner strength and resilience? The **'Art of Well-Being'** lets you come back to your centre as you explore art, mindfulness, movement, and your life story. Sometimes we forget to care for ourselves, and **Art of Well-Being** is designed to nourish the soul, allowing a renewing of the senses. Held at Taruna College for, more information please see our website <u>www.taruna.ac.nz</u> or call 06 8777174

#### Two Bicycles

Two bicycles going for the asking. Free to an energetic home. Both a bit tatty but within the next week or so I will ensure that both run fine. One is a standard road hybrid adult size. The other is more of a road racer with drop handlebars and narrow tyres also adult size. davidurieli@gmail.com

#### Viewing The Grapevine On-line

If you are interested in viewing the Grapevine on line please visit the school website www.taikura.school.nz





Haumoana. Te Awanga ,Clive and Tukituki families. After School and Holiday programmes. We are OSCAR accredited for WINZ subsidies.



After school care until 5.30pm.

Holiday programme, sam-4pm, - aftercare available 5.30pm

oscar winz subsidy Accredited

Based at Haumoana school

Fun, meaningful activities based around the seasons. Natural play is encouraged. EXciting, fun, big open spaces and friendly, trained staff.

E: Welcome@capekids.co.nz P: 027566603 Di or 0211408672 Jaci W: www.enrolmy.com/cape-kids