



The Grapevine

Friday 21 June - Mid Winter Solstice

In the Northern Hemisphere, Mid-Winter falls a few days before Christmas Day and the celebration of the birth of Jesus, who became the bearer of the Christ Spirit. For the North, this is a mighty symbol of the coming of new light into the world, and that the darkness shall be overcome. What of us here in the Southern Hemisphere? Is there any way of reconciling the Christ Spirit with our own winter time? One possible way of looking at it, is that since Golgotha and Easter, the Christ Being has united himself fully with the very life of the earth, has ensouled the earth and all its people with his own being and that he accompanies the destiny of the earth and each one of us in all time to come. He accompanies the soul life of the earth in all its cycles in time, large and small.

Beginning in spring and on into summer, the earth itself breathes out in burgeoning growth and new life into the far heavens. We give ourselves up to sun, sea and manifold outer sense experiences. Come autumn, this out breath turns and the earth starts to breathe in again, reaching the fullest point at Mid-Winter. Now the earth is very much within itself, quietly contained. The outer world of nature is diminished and the seeds of summer lie waiting, repositories of all the sun and warmth of summer. Here in Hawke's Bay, where the pause seems comparatively brief (with freesias sprouting, etc) Mid-Winter is typified by a day when the sky is a close, thick, pearly blanket, through which the sun weakly and dimly shines. One feels encapsulated in a cold, still, quiet world. In Europe this would be a day when the snow thickly blankets everything and all is silent.

When the surrounding world is like this, we tend to feel ourselves more acutely in our innermost being, more actively than was possible in our 'out and about' days. In these quiet winter moments, perhaps inside by the fire, we more naturally connect to our own sense of self, contemplate, take stock, review. As our environment engenders more inward focus we come nearer to our essential being, and our own sense of the Spirit. Through being closer to our own Spirit life, our inner light, we can consciously or unconsciously draw nearer to the light of the world, the spirit of evolving humanity. Perhaps this holds good for the soul life of the earth itself at this time, quiet on the outside yet more awake to itself from within. Has Christ accompanied this deep in-breath of the earth; is his being active within the very heart of the Earth at this time? Of course, it is interesting to remember, the exact opposite process of out breathing is going on in the Northern Summer.

For the children of the Lower and Middle school, the light in their lantern symbolises this Spirit spark within them that can grow and strengthen throughout life and overcome darkness of soul night; hate, fear, hopelessness, prejudice etc. As students of Class 7 physics know in their light studies, the smallest light is enough to dispel otherwise total darkness.

For the High School, by consciously placing tea lights on to parts of a large world map, they are pinpointing a place where people are experiencing dark times and need our thoughts and prayers, or else it might be also acknowledging where light is shining and draw attention to it. Be it literal or figurative, the light that each of us carries within us can be acknowledged and encouraged to shine out. Each student who wishes to do so, lights a tea light and places it on the world map in the place of which they are thinking. They accompany this with a few words of the good wishes they want to send a place of suffering if that is what they have chosen. Alternatively if it is something which they want to acknowledge as already bringing some light to the world they add their light, thoughts and words to that place to help make that light stronger. After this has been carried out in a quiet and thoughtful mood and after we have heard some words of inspiration from an invited speaker, we all go out to a place where teachers and students have prepared us a warm nourishing soup to share communally following our communal bringing of warm thoughts and light.

The Little Lantern song used sometimes in the younger classes procession might therefore point to a deep truth.

When days are darkest
The Earth enshrines,
The seeds of Summer's birth
The Spirit of All is a light that shines
Deep in the darkness of Earth.

Warm Winter wishes from the Festival Group

SCHOOL NOTICES

Festival Organisation 20 June 2019 Lower School and High School

Thursday 20 June the day before the Solstice The High School Festival for winter will take place during the day. It is celebrated in the hall with a world map, candles, a talk and thoughts of a global nature. Class Seven joins the High school rather than the Lower School for this festival.

The Lower School Lantern Festival starts at 6:00 pm that night.

Classes one to six children are to be dropped to their class and parents make their way to the big field outside the gym. (Inside the gym if it is wet.) You will be directed to make a large circle around a spiral on the ground and there you will await the classes. Following a bell at 6:15 pm the children will come from their rooms, lanterns lit, and walk to the field.

We will start with a community song (see bottom of page to bring that night). During this evening Classes one - three will walk the spiral and we will hear songs or music from Classes four, five and six.

When the evening is complete we encourage families to make their way carefully and quietly back to cars and home, saving the magic of the light and sound and spiral, to talk about over hot chocolate and a biscuit in the warmth of home!

6:00 pm Students to Classes - Parents to field:

6:15 pm Classes make their way onto the field:

For your own comfort we ask that you don't be tempted to drop students earlier than the 6:00 pm arrival time to classes. The ground is cold and you will become unnecessarily cold if standing for an extended period of time waiting on the field for the festivities to start. If wet, we will have the spiral in the gym.

Festival Songs

Rise up oh flame, by thy light glowing.

Show to us beauty, vision and joy.

When days are darkest the Earth enshrines the seed of Summer's birth

The Spirit of God is a light shines, deep in the darkness of Earth.

All praise to Thee, my God, this night, for all the blessings of the light;

Keep me, oh keep me, King of Kings, beneath Thine Own Almighty wings.



Coming Up: Winter Traditions...Book Week 1 - 5 July

Our Book Week this year has been inspired by the Icelandic tradition of Jolabokaflokkur or the Yule Book Flood. Icelanders have a beautiful tradition of giving books to each other on Christmas Eve and then spending the night reading. We would love to invite you all to join with us in embracing the idea of giving and reading a special book on the eve of the holidays and making this a ritual. We imagine our school community book-worms in their homes on the eve of the holidays, curling up in pjs and reading books - how heart-warming!

Mark Your Calendar

June 14	8:45 am - 9:00 am Start	David Urieli - Anthroposophical look at "Life After Death"
June 18	5:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Victoria University Info. Evening - Napier War Memorial
June 18	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	French Conversation Group - Library
June 20	6:00 pm	Lower School Lantern Festival
June 24	5:00 pm	BOT Meeting - Meeting Room
July 3/4	7:00 pm	Class 12 Play - "Under Milkwood" - Hall
July 3	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Kereru and Taikura Kindergarten Lantern Festival
July 23	7:00 pm	Class 9 Paent Evening - EA Room 7
July 24	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Class 10 Parent Evening
July 24	7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Class 8 Parent Evening
July 29	5:00 pm	BOT Meeting - Meeting Room Main Office

SCHOOL NOTICES



He pito kōrero!

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

Matariki

Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea – The Eyes of the God Tāwhirimātea – Mata ariki; or more commonly known as Matariki, is the cluster of whetū (stars) that can be seen anew each year during the months of June and July. Dr Rangi Matamua in his book *Matariki: Star of the Year* has stated that this year Matariki will rise again between the 24 – 28 of June, heralding the Māori New Year, however, this whetū can be seen for most of the year. The focus for 'He pito kōrero' over the next month will be to share kōrero about the specific whetū, pūrākau (stories), whakatauki (proverbs), and some of the events at Taikura and in our rohe (region) that are part of our Matariki celebrations.

**Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki
Mānawa maiea te Ariki o te rangi,
Mānawa maiea te mātahi o te tau!**

**Hail the rise of Matariki
Hail the Lord of the sky
hail the New Year!**

Kīwaha o te wiki ... phrase of the week

Nōku te whiwhi (Nor coo teh fee fee)
I am grateful/fortunate!

Marama: He aha te raru e hoa...what's the problem my friend?

Rangi: Hika, I thought I'd lost my phone but someone handed it in to the office! Nōku te whiwhi!

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



Class 5KS Fundraiser

BioGrow Certified Organic Apples for sale, every Friday till the end of the term!
Kindly sourced from Norton Organic Orchard.

2kg for \$5 5kg for \$10

All orders need to be placed and paid for, before Wednesday for Friday delivery to school. Please click on the following link to fill in your details, and to find bank account details for an online payment. <https://bit.ly/2UOnUzy>
Please get behind us, by buying your families supply of apples, and also offering this amazing deal to your friends and family.



Organic Persimmons

Jamie is raising money for her student exchange to Germany.
Local organic persimmons picked fresh. 2kg for \$6.00
Tracy Wheeler 027 2627014

Book Found

“The Princess Diaries” . If you have misplaced your book please see Adrienne in the School Office.

Postponement

“NIGHT OF MUSIC” POSTPONED! A Night of Music from the High School Students has been postponed.
Stay tuned for the new date.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Taikura Parents Group Talks

Free for all the school community and includes past parents and those on the waiting list.

You are welcome and invited to come along and enjoy this opportunity to meet other parents and staff from the community, while enjoying the gifts donated by our guest speakers. We meet once a month on a Friday morning at the Hastings Taikura Kindergarten in their lovely community space (just inside the entrance). The aim is to create a relaxed and parent supportive environment so all our informal gatherings are baby/toddler friendly and you are welcome to arrive and leave as meets your needs.

Our guest speakers begin at 9:00 am and tea or coffee is freely available from 8:45 pm. (Any food donations for the morning tea are very much appreciated :-)

Our next meetings:

Friday 14 June: David Urieli. Taikura High school Math and Drama teacher. An Anthroposophical look at *Life after Death*.

Friday 2 August: Herman Veluwenkamp - Taikura Parent and Spiritual Science researcher on *Approaching the Supersensible using Clear Thinking*. Ideas on overcoming the limits of conventional education and finding a path to understanding the world around us.

French Conversation Group

French Conversation Group is on fortnightly in the library during lunch break. The next meet up is 18 June. The group is run by two Class 11 students who went on exchange to France and Switzerland last year, and they will be focusing on teaching conversational phrases, as well as playing board games to help build a word bank of French words. New members welcome. For more information, contact kura.rutherford@gmail.com

Title: Beach Litter Trip

The sun came out last week for Class 2 and Class 6's beach litter audit at Te Ātea a Rangī in conjunction with the charity Sustainable Coastlines. Our day started at school with a presentation by Ben Knight about how our beaches are being polluted by plastics, what we should do to tackle this problem and what Taikura's role would be. Sustainable Coastlines, along with the Department of Conservation, Statistics New Zealand and the Ministry of the Environment have established a rigorous litter database to map the current state of littering on New Zealand's beaches. This database will be publicly available and of a sufficient scientific standard to inform government policy. Taikura has committed to doing a termly litter audit of the beach at Te Ātea a Rangī over the next 2-3 years to sample the amount of litter present and enter it onto the national database. It is hoped that this will strengthen our tamariki's connection to this beach, encourage them in their role of kaitiaki of our coastline and possibly lead to local action to mitigate our litter problem.

On a Scale of A-D, A being very clean to D being full of litter, Ben rated the beach as a C, which meant there was lots of litter to pick up. As Class 2 walked north to carry out a litter pick up with the fantastic whanau support, Class 6 were given the task of mapping out a 100m by 20m area and of picking up every scrap of litter in that space. Class 6 got so involved that they voluntarily continued their beach tidy up outside of the audit area. The collected litter was audited back at school and the results were input immediately onto the national database. This stage of the audit had direct links to the maths curriculum, with Class 6 weighing, sorting and entering data.

As you can see from the picture, most of the litter was plastic. Closer investigation of what we pick up over time at the beach could lead the classes to take action on a local level, but at this moment the data will serve to paint a picture of the state of litter pollution at this moment in time at this one, special beach.

Toby Blakey
Class 2 Teacher



COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Steiner Centre

Corner Whitehead Road and Nelson Street North, opposite Taikura Rudolf Steiner School. We have rooms to hire for events, classes, music lessons and more. The **Library** is available to school families open Wednesdays 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Many different courses and classes available. Notices posted on board outside venue. For more information call: Cleone Armon 06 878 3128 or Robyn Hewetson 021 217 8688

Kindergarten Te Reo Tutor

We are looking for a Te Reo Tutor to work in our two Kindergartens. This position is for two hours per week (one hour in each Kindergarten), term time only. The position requires a willingness and ability to take part in the "Special Character" of the Taikura Rudolf Steiner School and shall be a condition of appointment, as provided in the school's Integration Agreement and section 65 of the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975.

If you would like to discuss this position further, please contact Corrie Levick email: corrie.levick@taikura.school.nz or 0273680242

Winter Warmer Craft Workshops

Come and learn from master craftspeople.

Saturday 8 June 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Felting, Silk Painting and Silver Jewellery making

Saturday 15 June 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Mixed Media Printing and Mosaics

To enrol see our website www.taruna.ac.nz or contact info@taruna.ac.nz, 8777175

Anthroposophic Nursing

Taruna college with the endorsement of the Anthroposophic Nurses Association in NZ offers the Foundation course in Anthroposophic Nursing. The initial three day workshop begins the learning pathway introducing principles of integrative nursing practice. 2 - 4 August 2019. This is ideal for nurses or other health professionals. For more information please see our website: <http://www.taruna.ac.nz/courses-and-workshops/anthroposophic-nursing/> email info@taruna.ac.nz or call 8777174

Art Therapy Is Also For Adults

Accessing your creativity. Art therapy is an effective way to address and overcome grief, depression, anxiety and life crises. Life story painting for acceptance of ones biography. No previous experience in or aptitude for art necessary. For more information contact : Eva Steinmetz-Urieli evaurieli@gmail.com - 068786028, 02102771201

Home For Rent

Four bedroom, two bathroom home in Frimley, available for rent - \$530 per week. Fully insulated in walls, ceiling and floor. Warm, sunny and dry with modern amenities including dishwasher and heat pump/ air conditioning. Two car garaging with integral access. Fenced section. Freshly painted inside and new carpet. If you are interested, please view on Trademe property ID GHN293. Click the Apply Now button and comment on the form that you are from Taikura.

Thank you, Mandy Ostergren (Class 1 and Kereru Kindy parent). 022 6789 362

YOYoga NZ Kids

Our classes offer a fun and well-rounded learning experience for children aged 5 - 8 years. YOYoga Kids develop: Exploration ~ Mindfulness ~ Confidence ~ Self-regulation ~Strength & Flexibility ~ Imagination ~ Self-expression
Classes begin in Term 3, every Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:15. Investment per class: koha/gold coin donation.

Heretaunga Women's Centre, Cnr Railway Rd/Eastbourne St, Hastings
Contact: paula@yoyoganz.com/020 4011 3830 for more info and booking

Holiday Programme

Needle Felting Class for Children.

Would you like your child to explore the beautiful Art of Needle Felting?

I am doing another Needle Felting class in the holidays and I am wondering if there are more children in the community who would like to learn this beautiful craft.

Please phone Sabine on 8751905 or 0274928444 for more details.