

Matariki



Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki
Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi
Mānawa maiea te mātahi o te tau!

Ngā mihi mahana o Mahuika ki a tātou katoa!

Matariki will soon rise, and at Taikura we will be celebrating this over the following month. According to Dr Rangi Mātāmua who wrote 'Matariki – Star of the Year' the rising of Matariki will begin towards the end of June and the optimal time to acknowledge Matariki is in the waning moon or the time of Tangaroa, which is between the 13 - 20 of July.

Matariki has become a major celebration in Aotearoa. Around the country there are different events being held to recognise the importance of this constellation. Over coming weeks in the Grapevine and from your children you may hear the various ways we will be acknowledging Matariki; hanging stars on a tree of remembrance, Kua hauhakea – The harvest table (to be donated to those in need - the first week of term 3), School foyer installation of the Matariki cluster and planting our wishes and aspirations for the coming year.

Over the last few years through different books, online resources, lectures from Rangi Mātāmua and others who carry and share their knowledge of Māori star lore, my thoughts about this cluster of whetū, the importance of their sighting and possible ways of acknowledging and celebration have changed. I have included two links that are a wealth of information that have been influential. The first is a link to a website that Te Wānanga o Aoteroa have created with a vast range of information and resources: https://www.twoa.ac.nz/hononga-stay-connected/te-iwa-o-matariki?sc_lang=en and the second is a Facebook link to Living by the Stars with Professor Rangi Mātāmua:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=living%20by%20the%20stars%20with%20professor%20rangi%20matamua> - This weekly live feed on a Monday night at 7.30 p.m by Rangi Matamua is awesome and at present the focus is Matariki! All the best for the way in which you and your whānau acknowledge and celebrate Matariki!

Nei anō ngā mihi, nā, Matua Troy.

Mark Your Calendar

June 19	7:30 pm	Drama Club Presents 'The Taming Of The Shrew' - School Hall
June 24	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Class 12 Parent Evening - T.H 3.3
June 25	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Waiata Mai - Library
July 1 and 2	7:00 pm	Class 12 Play - The Madwoman Of Chaillot
July 20	5:00 pm	BOT - Meeting Room - Main Office
July 22	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Class 1 Parent Evening
July 22	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Class 8 Parent Evening - EA 8
July 27	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Class 11 Parent Evening - D-TECH Room
July 29	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Class 10 Parent Evening - Art Room
August 13	9:00 am	Class Photos - Further information to come

SCHOOL NOTICES



He pito kōrero!

Continuation of the Matariki story from last week....

Tāwhirimātea, Ariki of the winds, felt sad for his parents – he cried tears of lightning. In his pain and sadness, he tore his eyes out, crushed them in his hands and threw them into the heavens. His eyes became the star cluster we call **Matariki – short for Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea, eyes of the God Tāwhirimātea.**

Our tipuna named the stars of Matariki and each one holds a special message for the year ahead:

- **Matariki**, the brightest of all in the star cluster, watches over all the stars and is connected to the health and wellbeing of people.
- **Waitī** means fresh water, and **Waitā** is saltwater. They represent the creatures you find in rivers, lakes and oceans, like fish, tuna and other foods of the sea.
- **Tupuānuku** is connected to all the foods that grow in the earth, and **Tupuārangi** to the fruit, berries and birds in the trees.
- **Waipunārangi** means water that pools in the sky, and our tipuna looked to her for signs about the weather, and rainfall for the coming year.
- They would talk to **Ururangi** about the wind.
- The oldest kuia whetū, **Pōhutukawa**, offers guidance to the spirits of our loved ones who have passed away, and carries them across the night sky to be returned to the heavens as stars.
- Finally te pēpi, **Hiwa-i-te-Rangi**, is the star you wish upon. In the time of our ancestors when Matariki first rose on the correct night, our tipuna would dig a trench in the garden and those with wishes in their heart would stand in the trench, have soil packed around their feet and plant their wishes in the soil. Tohunga would recite the following karakia:

Ko Tawhito-uru-ngangana,
Ko Hiwanui,
Ko Hiwaroa,
Ko Hiwapukenga,
Ko Hiwawananga,
Ko Hiwa I te rangi
Takataka te kahui o te rangi,
Ko iā Pou, Tō putanga,
Ki te whai ao,
Ki te ao marama!

Hiwa! Great Hiwa,
Wonderful Hiwa,
Hiwa the star.
Come down from the stars in the heaven
and plant my wishes in the soil,
make them grow
and make them come true.
(Nā Rangi Matamua te whakamārama nei).

Whakatauki – Proverb

Matariki hunga nui
Matariki of many people

During Matariki festivities people gather together to celebrate the passing of one year and the hope of a new one. The gathering of people is recorded in this phrase.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Mid-Winter Spiral – The Koru



Have you ever stopped to watch a bird gliding and spiraling in a current of air, a leaf swirling in a vortex of water? Following the movement, there is something wonderful that widens or narrows, draws you up or down. As we breathe we inhale and exhale, the air rushes in and flows out, rotating, enlivening, giving life. Look at nature and you find the spiral shape in many plants, in fern and vine, in the sequence of leaves and petals. Discovering spirals is a never-ending source of exploration. Found in many cultures it is a sacred symbol of life and death, light and dark, beginning and end. Found in earliest carvings and paintings it has been a spiritual and religious symbol, one that is found in cultures and civilizations throughout the world. Moving towards midwinter we experience the diminishing of the light, darkness begins to dominate the day, more time is spent inside and before the advent of electricity, work would end when night came. It is a time to turn inward, find quiet and an inner space.

There comes a moment when we begin to yearn for the return of the light and the inner certainty that it will return. There are many ways to celebrate the return of the light, our way is with the beauty and magic of the midwinter spiral. The room is dark, silence pervades the space, one single candle burns at the spiral's centre. When all have gathered, one person walks the spiral, lights their candle and places it near to the central candle, and as one person after another, lights and places their candle the form of the spiral appears as a gentle light fills the room. It may take courage for a child to walk alone and as the light grows wonder can be seen glistening in the eyes of the children. There is an old saying, wisdom begins with wonder.

Next week the school will celebrate midwinter. In anticipation of our festival for the children - we warmly invite parents to come and walk the spiral - so you too can share in your child's experience. None of us are too old to wonder and perhaps leave with a sense of gratitude for the opportunity to be touched by the simple beauty of the spiral.

Wednesday 24 June

7:00 pm at the Rudolf Steiner Centre, corner Whitehead Rd and Nelson St – across the road from Taikura Rudolf Steiner School.

Adults only.

From Sue Simpson, past Eurythmist, Principal and current Proprietors Trust Chair.



SCHOOL NOTICES

Midwinter Festival And Family

Midwinter festivals have always been a special time for our family. It is a time for us to go within and spend time in meditation or prayer so that we can reflect on what sustains us when our world and the days darken. Symbolically, you can look upon Midwinter as a signal to slow down, relax and pause. The Earth and her relationship to the Sun, encourages us to take a silent inward journey - an exploration of the darkness, the shadow aspects of ourselves and the spaces between.

With the Midwinter Festival coming up I wanted to give you some ideas for what you might like to do as a family, with friends or as a community.

There are many things you can do to embrace and celebrate this special time of year (either on your own or with others). May these ideas inspire you in some way.

- Rest with ritual - have a shower or take a bath using relaxing, calming plant medicine or essential oils
- Brew warming tea and go outside to sit in the sun on a frosty morning
- Give yourself or someone else a footbath or a foot/hand/back massage
- Tend to the garden and bless the fertile soil that will nourish next seasons crops
- Build and light a bonfire on the beach or in the backyard. Share stories, food and toast marshmallows
- Write in your journal as you reflect on the past seasons and how you have experienced the year so far. Write about your dreams for the year (or years) ahead
- Read a book in front of the fire, or if you have a head torch get rugged up outside to read under the stars
- If you don't have a head torch, sit quietly under the stars, honouring the silence, the void, the no thing, contemplating the great mysteries, listening to the inner self, taking notice of your beating heart, your breath and the sounds of nature surrounding you
- Have friends over for a potluck dinner and eat by candle light
- If one of them has a head torch, go for a night walk together, wonder at the starry sky, and come back to the house for hot drinks and sit in circle to share what about the darkness and the Winter season inspires you
- Remind yourself that you and your loved ones need to rest and restore

Midwinter blessings to you

Gee Reisima
EOTC

Taikura Kindergarten:- New Permanent Staff Member Melody Ferguson

Hi I'm Melody



I was born in Papua New Guinea and lived there until I was nearly five years old. My family and I moved back to New Zealand where I grew up in Hamilton. I have always had a passion for the Arts, but ended up specialising in Media Arts, and later gained a position at TVNZ in Wellington. Eventually my husband and I moved back to Hamilton and I retrained as a teacher. When our two older girls began at the local Steiner kindergarten, so did I... and a whole new journey began. In 2015 we moved to the Hawkes Bay and our third daughter was born.

Although life has some-what sped up over the last two years... I feel very thankful to be in Willow Room, with such a gorgeous group of children, and surrounded by the most supportive team I could ask for. And then, I get to go home to our little house on the hill, with my husband, three children, two cats, a dog, 6 chickens and two horses... It's not a quiet life but it's a good one.

Watch Found

Black and gold watch with a plastic strap found. Please see Adrienne in the office to claim.



SCHOOL NOTICES

The NZ Virtual Careers Expo

Sadly as you know there is no Careers Expo at PGA this year.

Students can still get information on courses and providers at the first ever Virtual Careers Expo. The expo will enable students to explore future pathways via real time interactivity and engagement with more than 30 tertiary education providers from around New Zealand.

This is to be held on Thurs 18 June from 12pm till 8pm and on Friday 19 June from 9am - 5pm. To register for the event please go to: <https://www.mediadesignschool.com/virtual-careers-expo> and fill in the form. Then on Thursday or Friday, find a quiet place, get comfortable and head to the Expo.

Students will enter into a virtual 'exhibition hall' and can browse through a wide range of tertiary providers, visit virtual stands and engage in live chats and webinars with representatives from each institution.

Music Department

Itinerant instrument lessons are available during the school day. Instruments include violin, viola, cello, flute, drums, piano, guitar and ukulele if you would like further details please contact: thomas.pearson@taikura.school.nz

Lower school orchestra and high school orchestra are up and running weekly. If your child would like to join, please get in touch in person or through thomas.pearson@taikura.school.nz

Newly Planted Kumarahou Bush

Our Gardens have had a wonderful addition this week. Pictured is a newly planted Kumarahou bush. Planted at Bunnings wall opposite the water tank by the Woodwork building.

Kumarahou is said to mean "kumara planting time" decided by when the flowers appear. Kumarahou flowers in mid September, displaying attractive soft masses of golden yellow blossom. It is commonly called "gum diggers soap" as a slight lather can be formed when its flowers are rubbed with water. For those who experience chest and respiratory complaints Kumarahou tea is an excellent expectorant lung strengthener. We look forward to being able to harvest our own leaves for tea. Thank you Gardeners for adding this useful treasure to our medicine chest.



Support The Hastings Women's Refuge

Class 11 are collecting items to support the Hastings Women's refuge. We are donating 'Handbags' filled with essential items for women and shopping bags filled with cleaning products to be used at the 'safe' houses.

We would love to have the community's support in gathering these items to donate. These items may include: Handbags, Menstruation Pads, Shampoo/ Conditioner, Toothbrush, Moisturiser, Nail Polish and or Cleaning Products. Please bring your donated items to the office.

Thank you, Morag

Waiata Mai Every Thursday, From 12:30 – 1:00 p.m

Ngā mihi maioha ki a koutou e te whānau whānui o Taikura!

Waiata mai has started again. This will be every Thursday from 12:30 –1:00 pm in the Library. If you want to learn some of the waiata that your children sing at school, nau mai, haere mai te katoa.....all are welcome!

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou ngā kōpara e kō!

Nā Troy Gardiner.

Reminder

A reminder - No knives to be brought to school. This includes pocket knives, knives in lunch-boxes or knives on key-rings. No sharp items or anything that could constitute an offensive weapon to be brought onsite.

Thank you for your support in this matter
Kelly Sutton

SCHOOL NOTICE

*Taikura High School plus
Drama Club play 2020*

*Your husband
yea right*

*This one's
definitely a keeper*



The Taming of the Shrew

Thursday 18th and Friday 19th June 2020

at 7.30 pm in the School Hall

Entry Free

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Urgent Accommodation Required

We are urgently seeking a 3 - 4 bedroom home preferably long term in Hastings/Havelock North area. We are house proud tenants with references. Our eldest child attends EIT and our youngest is in Class 5. If you have a place to rent or know of anyone who might please contact Helena on 021 20 22230.

Individual Art Therapy For Adults, Teenagers And Children

Accessing your creativity, art therapy is an effective way to address and overcome grief, depression, anxiety, life crises and trauma and to discover a new relationship to one's biography. No previous experience in or aptitude for art necessary. For more information contact: Eva Steinmetz-Urieli :<evaurieli@gmail.com>, 068786028 or text 02102771201.

After School Art Class For Children

Thursdays 3:00 - 4:10 pm. Explore new art techniques, look at interesting images, listen to a story. \$17 per session, commitment for a term. At the Steiner Centre 500 Nelson Street Hastings. Contact Eva Steinmetz-Urieli < evaurieli@gmail.com > 878 6028 or text 02102771201.

Guitar Lessons Beginner/Intermediate

Havelock North \$20 for a 25 minute lesson. Times Available: After School/ Weekends/School Holidays

Year 13 HNHS student Harry Mason is the lead singer and songwriter for National Smokefree Rockquest 2019 Champions, Arlo Mac. Harry would like to offer his passion and experience to students keen to learn the Acoustic and/or Electric Guitars. Harry remembers well the beginnings of his journey in music, learning guitar from age six and would like to inspire other young musicians by helping them to develop a love of music in a progressive and fun learning environment in his home studio in Havelock North.

For further Information please email Harry: harrymase101@gmail.com include your contact details and any questions and he will get back to you.

Kindergarten Relief Teachers and Kindergarten Assistants Needed

We are looking for casual relief Kindergarten Teachers and Kindergarten Assistants for our two kindergartens. If you are interested please contact Erika Potter on 878 7363, extn 807 or erika.potter@taikura.school.nz.

Holiday Program

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.

Support Local!

The following businesses are owned and operated by Taikura parents:

- Harness the energy of the astronomical event of Winter Solstice with a 28 day online experience, guided by Shamanic Life Coaches – Vicki & Gee Reisima. Your investment is \$49.97. Learn more and register at www.theconsciousloveproject.com/courses
- **Edgebrook Cider** - creators of traditional, dry, English-style cider. Made with pure Hawke's Bay apples! Purchase online at: <https://maker2ucellar.com/shop/shop-by-region/hawkes-bay/edgebrook-traditional-dry-village-cider-12-bottle-case/>
- **Tax Owl Limited** - My Business is 'Accounting, Tax and Advisory Services, www.taxowl.co.nz contact number 021 085 10771. Address: 200 Market Street, North, Hastings (Next to Kiwi Bank)'
- **Mallow's Driving School** - AA Licensee driving instructor, helping learner and restricted driver licence holders. Also giving defensive driving courses. For all enquiries phone 0121830862

If you would like to include your business in this list please email Suzan suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz