

Advent Season

The idea of Christmas for all intents and purposes in this modern age actually does a great job of leading us away from what Advent should lead us towards.

Often referred to as the “Silly Season” it is probably more accurately described as the “Stressed-out Season” as we try and combat the demands that are pressing upon us from society in general. To align more with what advent asks of us we might want to consider working towards making it the “Simple Season”.

Advent asks for a cultivation of inner peace from us, to find quiet moments, go within, internalise outer light and shine it back out into the world. Now we can call it light or something else but there is a sense in which we choose to perceive the good in the world, and reflect that same quality back to life around us.

We could call this “light” Christ Consciousness. The impulse of Christ towards humanity continues to live on after his physicalised deeds on earth, and remains present for us to embody in ourselves. It is from such a place of being, with a willingness to embody such a gesture, that we can truly share the light of Advent with our whānau. If our tamariki are wrapped in our goodwill, our composure, our warmth of thought towards the other then this is the greatest gift we could give them.

So in the hustle and bustle of the season, which is inevitable for most, let us find our quiet space of peace. As we breathe we can commune with and act on that quality within us that is of love, understanding and goodwill. Through this we can all be blessed with a grace of being that allows us to perceive the true value in simplicity through Advent and Christmas.

Darryn Breakwell



SCHOOL NOTICES

Putting on a Class Play - Why and What For?

*Speech Teacher Robyn Hewetson writes about the class play.
Part Two.*

The Class Play

There are different approaches to how often a play is done in different schools. The large plays have always been the Class 8 Play and the Class 12 Play. In the other years, plays can sometimes be smaller and shown outside or in the classroom as well as in the school hall or performing spaces. But the purpose of these plays is a learning role, not so much a "performance" task.

The Pedagogical Role of Story

Theatre is an enacted story. And as such it is one of the many paths available to explore your archetypal tales, be they fairy tales, legends, myths or history, by which we learn to define ourselves as human beings.

Within the context of Waldorf Education the story used for the class play will have originated in the Main Lesson language arts curriculum. The types of stories that comprise this curriculum were devised by Rudolf Steiner and developed by research of many Steiner teachers in the past 100 years for how they speak to the spiritual development of the child and the class.

Class One

In Class One six/seven year olds, fairy tales and folk tales present archetypal pictures or imaginations of the soul's passage through earthly life, and these are used for play material.

Class Two

Saint legends and animal fables are often used here. The saint legends represent the service of the highest spiritual ideals while the fables present images of instinctive life of desire and self serving activities as portrayed through the animal kingdom.

Class Three

In Class Three there is a huge sea change in the inner life of the child, which is called the *nine year change*. It is shown by the child beginning to ask "Who am I really?" and "Why is there evil in the world?" The mythic- historic stories of the Old Testament or ancient stories helps here. The stories of Cain and Abel and Noah and The Flood can be turned into plays for the nine year old. The teacher must choose stories which speak to the class most appropriately.

Class Four

In Class Four, ten year olds, Norse Mythology serves as a foundation. Here come some great comic events and tragic and epic stories. The Norse myths tell of suffering and sorrow that must be transformed through courage and sacrifice by the hero.

Class Five

By Class Five children are leaving early childhood behind and the general theme to be found here is to follow the evolving stories about our individual and social journeys. There is a huge range of stories to choose from. Some of these stories lead into the biography of some of the great heroes: Gilgamesh, Alexander the Great, many of the Greek stories can be used.

Class Five is where drama proper begins, the children now begin to show individuals instead of types or archetypes that animals represent. Now rhyme and rhythm begin to be less stressed and individual speeches and gestures need to be learned. Getting the part which meets the child's needs - to explore for growth becomes very important.

Class Six

The study of ancient Rome and medieval Europe or your culture and stories of this time provide the class with stories for Class Six. Roman history tells stories of conflict, people versus people, class versus class, individual versus individual. This evolves into trials of conscience that can be the struggle between religious groups and the individual.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Class Seven

Classes Seven and Eight bring the students up to the modern age using Renaissance and European cultural expansion, and the industrial, technological and political revolutions as source materials for ever widening and deepening of what the students understanding is of being a human being. At this time, biographies are studied in class and many of these could be source materials for a play.

Class Eight

This varies in different countries now. Traditionally it was the end of the Lower School and a big main stage performance was done to mark the arrival for the group into the senior part of the school. Some schools chose Shakespeare, although I think it too early for that too. But stories of conscience, friendship, betrayal and challenge all help the class to work as they must explore the human soul, working in dialogue with their classmates and working together to bring a mighty story to life on a stage. In many schools they take on tasks like scenery and costuming more and more, music may be used in the production and the task is to really cement the social relationships in the class on a community wide project.

It is of huge importance that your communities are taught how to receive those creative projects. That their job is to come on time, to sit, listen, look and respond to the play - not to become stage crew and filmmakers and family archive creators. Do whatever you can to allow this to happen - have special rehearsals where filming can take place, but make your main stage production a community building project where the adults sit in awe of the story and the actors and the magic of drama created by a group who is learning to work ever closer together to create something much larger than they are.

Robyn Hewetson

Steiner - No Silly Questions

Everything you wanted to know about being a Steiner parent (but were afraid to ask).

The basics, the myths, the history with plenty of space to ask questions (there's no such thing as a silly one!).

Moving from Kindy to School is big for the kids, and enormous for their parents! Come along to Steiner - No Silly Questions, the real oil on being a Steiner Parent from the perspective of a Steiner Kid! From Whitsun to Advent, Form Drawing to Eurythmy, and everything in between. Be prepared for the amazing journey ahead.

A talk by Jess Soutar Barron, Steiner student (Michael Park) and Steiner parent (Taikura).

Come along to the Whānau room on Wednesday 2 December at 7:00 pm and join us for this exciting talk. We look forward to meeting you there.

Taikura Parents Group

Welcoming everyone in the community to these free talks and gatherings (including parents, grandparents, past parents, those on the waiting list).

Join us in the warm and relaxed space of the Hastings Taikura Kindergarten (in their lovely community space - just inside their front door). We aim to create a parent supportive environment and all our gatherings are baby/toddler friendly. You are welcome to arrive and leave as meets your needs.

Our guest speakers begin at 9:00 am and usually finish about 10:30 am. Tea & coffee is freely available from 8:45 am. Donations of food for the morning tea are appreciated. For questions, suggestions, and offerings please contact Filipa Hope 0274513445 or Melanie Sims 0274 555 300

Next Parent Group meetings:

Friday 4 December - David Urieli: Christ before Christmas - Looking at the pre-Earthly deeds of Christ.

Mark Your Calendar

November 27	11:00 am -12:30 pm	Class 12 Cushion Concert For The HS and Community in The Hall
December 2	ALL DAY	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL ONLY
December 2	7:00 pm	Steiner - No Silly Questions - Whānau Room - Taikura Kindergarten
December 4	8:45 am - 9:00 am Start	David Urieli - Christ Before Christmas
December 8	5:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Class 6TM - Mixed Medieval Performance
December 16	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Carol Evening - Gym - The Last Day of School For 2020

SCHOOL NOTICES



Ngā mihi mahana o Hineraumati ki a koutou katoa! Last week Class 3 planted the kūmara tupu. Below are photos of the class in the maara and the karakia that was said before their planting, with the guidance of Jenny and Joanne. Ka pai hoki koutou e te puna tuatoru!



Nā Rangimaui rāua ko Pani,
ka puta mai te kūmara.
Nā Rangi rāua ko Papa hoki,
whakatō te mauri i roto i ēnei tupu,
ka poua i te whenua hei tipu ake kia puāwai,
hei oranga mā te ira tangata.
Haumi ē, hui ē, tāiki ē!

*From Rangimaui and Pani came the kūmara.
With Rangi and Papa also
embed the life essence into these shoots,
enabling them to grow on the land and flourish,
for the sustenance of people.*

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



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

Library Books Due Back Soon

Kia ora koutou

A reminder that all library books are due back by Monday 30 November, please help your tamariki find their books and return them by this date.

Kia ora rawa atu - Kura Rutherford - School Librarian



We Did It!

Heartfelt thanks to every member of the community who crafted and baked; heaved and carried; put up and took down; got dressed up or got dirty; cooked and served; cleaned and counted; danced, played and sang, in service of our marvellous school and our wonderful tamariki. What a magical Fête day it was!

Special thanks to our Office staff; our Teaching staff, especially the High School Sponsor Teachers; the Parent Body; our High School students; and our hard working Property Manager, Liam Wyley, for giving so generously of your time and energy to make this year's Fête a huge success, earning in excess of \$23,000 of much needed money for our school. **Be proud of all that we have come together to create!**

The following businesses supported our Fête, let's show them our gratitude by supporting them: Bay Scaffolding, New World Hastings, Cornucopia, Hohepa, Weleda, Common Room, Firsthand coffee, Hot Shots Photo Booths, The Organic Farm Butchery, Mad Butcher, Star Foods, Trade Aid Napier, Edgebrook Cider, East Coast Packaging, Harald's Bread World, Farmhouse Kitchen, Audio Smith, HSM Security, BNZ.

Signs

Please return any outstanding signs to the Office. They will be reused for many years to come.

Feedback

We want to hear your thoughts and experiences so that the Fête can get better and better. Please take the time to email us at taikurafete@gmail.com.

Get Involved

Are you willing to roll up your sleeves and get involved in the process of bringing the Fête into being? We need more volunteers to bring their energy and flair to the table in order to make this endeavour sustainable. You will be mentored in your role, and given tasks to fit your particular skill set. If you think this might be you, get in touch at taikurafete@gmail.com. There are minimal meetings, we have fun and it's very rewarding.

From the Principal

On behalf of the School and Kindergartens I would very much like to thank the Fête committee for their continual and committed energy, vision and time given to this initiative.

Please see below and the next page for some wonderful photographs of the day!





SCHOOL NOTICES

Instrument Hire

Dear Parents

It is that time of the year where I need to consider the return of hired instruments.

Could you please let me know if you wish to continue hiring the instrument in 2021? If so you can either keep the instrument over the school holidays or they can be returned to school for safe storage and I will return them to you at the beginning of next year.

If you think there is any maintenance needed on your instrument, please let me know and I will attempt to get it completed before term starts next year.

If you no longer wish to hire the instrument, please return it to the school office by Friday 11 December. Look forward to hearing from you.

Warm Regards
Zahira Rickard
Taikura Instrument Hire

Miru Shimaoka Recital

Kia ora koutou, you are warmly invited to a solo violin and piano recital by last year's Taikura graduate Miru Shimaoka. Having just finished his first year of study at the New Zealand School of Music, Miru returns to share his experiences and his music. Please come along and support him next week.

Venue: School hall
Date: Thursday 3 December at 6:30pm
Entry by koha

Found Items

I have several watches that have been lost around the school at various times. One is a Baby G and not very old which was left in the library. Two black digital watches. A black watch with a cat picture and a pink one with a pink face. A silver chain with disc and the letter "O" stamped on front. Also a gold patterned hoop earring. Please see Adrienne in the office if you think one of these items may be yours.

"Bee" Safe Wear Shoes!

Our main field always attracts the buzz of our friendly little workers of the flowers. To ensure the children are safe from harm please check that they have suitable shoes on at all times. This is up to parents and staff to enforce. If you see one of our children on the field without shoes on, please ask them to go and put some on.



Part Time And Casual Staff Required

We require part-time and casual staff for the School Canteen. Please apply at the canteen or contact Matthew on 020 4025 9211

Enrolment Confirmation

We have had several schools contact us regarding students who may be attending their school next year. To help us confirm our classes and enrolments for next year, part of this process is communicating with whānau on our waiting list. If you are considering another school for your child, moving away from the area, or your child intends to leave before graduating please do let us know as soon as this is confirmed in order to assist us with our planning.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Vacancy - Extra Lesson Practitioner

As an integrated Special Character area school with a strong and vibrant Lower School environment, we seek a qualified and experienced Extra Lesson Practitioner with a deep interest in Steiner/Waldorf education. This is a part-time 0.8 position.

The Extra Lesson Practitioner is primarily responsible for the working with specialist and class teachers to identify and support remediation of movement integration issues which become a barrier to formal learning. This incorporates support of teaching staff, work with children, assessment and reporting to parents. Specifically, The Extra Lesson work with the children.

Please send expressions of interest, including a cover letter and CV, to principal@taikura.school.nz
Applications close 1 December 2020 at 5:00 pm

Hasting Choral Society

The Hastings Choral will be performing the Christmas Oratorio, "The Childhood of Christ" by Hector Berlioz. This three act oratorio depicts the Holy family's flight from Egypt.

Joseph Christensen conducts the large choir supporting:

Giselle Clement - Soporano

Lindsey Marshall - Tenor

Michael Morgan - Baritone

Richard Harris - Bass

Vanessa O'Neil - Accompanist

Sunday 6 December at 3:00 pm at Taikura Rudolf Steiner School, 505 Nelson Street North, Hastings.
Tickets: Adults \$25.00, students \$5.00. Doors sales on the night.

Christmas Gospel Choir Invites - Sing Along

Four rehearsals and an event at Riverbend Road Reserve on Christmas Eve - that's Napier's choir project in December. Wednesday's (2/9/16/23) all lovers of Gospel Choir Music meet at 7:00 pm at 36 Riverbend Road in Napier for rehearsing and meeting a crowd of nice people and having lots of fun.

Napier Baptist Church offers this project to prepare a special Christmas Eve open air event with Gospel Music, Carols and The Christmas Story on Thursday 24 December 8:00 pm. It will be lead by Berlin choir director Stephan Zebe. Common traditional songs are sung again in modern, groovy styles and contemporary gospel music. Everybody is welcome! Please register by email: hbsoulchoir@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Fundraiser For Class 9

Beautiful, large trees (Pinus radiata) that have been grown on an organic and bio-dynamically run property for sale. They are \$30 each on a first come, first pick basis. Prior viewing for selection can be arranged, otherwise pick up is Sunday 29 November. Please contact Joanne on 027 901 7592 for purchasing/viewing and payment.



Hastings District Council
invites your school to

Santa's Grotto this Christmas!

This free community event takes place on various days between November 23 and December 19. It's a fantastic opportunity, filled with singing, dancing and Christmas stories from Santa and his Elves, to engage your tamariki this festive season.

Open to years 1-6 (aged 5 to 10/11) these sessions will take place in Functions on Hastings, at Toitoti - Hawke's Bay Arts and Events Centre.

To make a booking contact:

Daniel Betty

Toitoti Kalwhakahaere Ratonga
Whakaari ā-Hapori / Presenter
Services Community Manager

danielb@toitotivenues.co.nz

027 263 7694

toitoti
Hawke's Bay Arts & Events Centre

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Te Kaitiaki o Hastings

