



10 December 2020

The Christmas Carol



The hot weather this week has certainly reminded us summer is on its way. As the year draws to a close school life has its last flurry of busyness. On Monday we celebrated the second week of Advent, the second candle on our Advent wreath lit, the light growing in anticipation of the birth, on Christmas day. In this second week of Advent we honoured the plant kingdom and Mrs Jordan shared a beautiful story from Mexico, "The Legend Of The Pointsettia". The week prior, at our first Advent assembly, we acknowledged the mineral kingdom. During this assembly Class 12 parent, James Palmer, shared vivid pictures of the geological wonders of Mataupo Maui.

*The second light of Advent
is the light of the plants
Plants that reach up to the sun
and in the breezes dance*

During our Advent assemblies we also take time to sing carols as we prepare for carol evening. Below Mr Pearson shares a little about the history of the Christmas carol, included in his piece are the community carols to be sung at this year's Carol Evening. It is a lovely thing to come together to sing.

Wishing you a lovely Advent season, Kelly Sutton

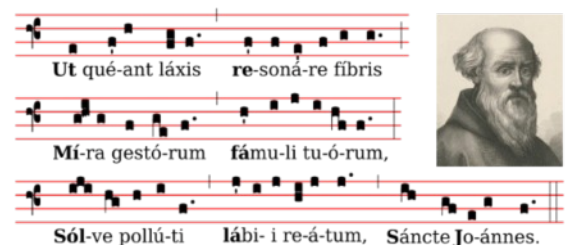
Guido of Arezzo was born in 991/992 and died around 1025. He is the founding father of what would ultimately become western music. Guido was forced to move to Arezzo because he attracted the hostility of the other monks at the abbey who resisted his musical innovations. Through his advancements of red, yellow and black horizontal lines, musical notation was born. These ultimately formed into the full current five-line staves, the clefs we use today. The original function of these lines was to write down the oral songs, mostly from what we call today, Gregorian Chants e.g. Ut Queant Laxis, or the hymn in honour of John the Baptist.

There are some songs from the 4th century that have managed to survive before the existence of notation. Although one would expect Christmas carols to be much older than Guido's time, most are largely adaptations of other tunes with Christ themed lyrics. The oldest known Christmas carol is "Jesus Refulsit Omnium", "Jesus, Light of All the Nations" composed by St. Hilary of Poitiers, France after 336AD. Due to the lack of notation, today's versions have changed in sound and accuracy compared to the original.

Many of today's popular carols were printed in 'Piae Cantiones', a collection of late medieval Latin songs, first published in 1582. This contained the early Latin versions of "Christ was born on Christmas Day", "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" and "Good King Wenceslas". "Adeste Fideles", better known today as "O Come all ye faithful" appears from the mid-18th century, the lyrics dating back as far as the 13th century.

Carols were traditionally sung in homes and other smaller gatherings, until the Reformation, which encouraged music and singing. In Australasia, especially, we have a tradition, near Christmas, of joining together in larger groups for concerts and events to sing carols together. I am looking forward to sharing this year's carols on Wednesday 16 December, at 7:00 pm in the Taikura Gym. This year we will sing O'Holy Night, O'Come All Ye Faithful, Joy to the World and Angels We Have Heard on High.

Thomas Pearson
Music Teacher



Ut Queant Laxis - Guido of Arezzo

SCHOOL NOTICES



He pito kōrero!

Ka mate kāinga tahi, ka ora kāinga rua!
When one home dies, another one lives!

As we come to the end of the year, I find myself contemplating the year that we have had, reflecting on the rāhui that was placed over the whole country in March as mate korona (the Corona virus) was in full strain around the world. Then remembering the pause and breath, the sigh I felt was had from Papatūānuku, for the moment we stopped rushing to work, to school, to those other places, we had to be somewhere at a certain time...and that we just had to be with our whānau, within our own bubbles, at home.

Amongst the many changes we experienced this year, one that was felt by some at school, was the whare and the future of this space. It was deemed unsafe and not earthquake proof, so Te Reo Māori and everything that would normally happen in the whare, was spread to the four corners of the school.

Te reo me ōna tikanga has been like a seed at Taikura, grown amongst the first community-built classrooms, then it blossomed and was established, thriving in the room that was later to become our property manager Liam's workshop. Then it flourished and evolved in the place that became what we have known in recent years as the school whare, where each day students would come and take their shoes off at the door and enter a space that imbued te ao Māori.

In this space, teachers, whānau, the wider community and visitors have come together to wānanga (discuss) the state and well-being of te reo me ōna tikanga in our school. There, we have also celebrated events: the unveiling of *He Reo Puāwai – Te Reo Māori Curriculum for Waldorf Schools in Aotearoa*, as well as *He Reo Ora – the Taikura te reo Māori strategy document*; the blessing of the waharoa, the maara Māori, designed by Jenny Speedy and created by our students; the planting of the pā harakeke; the early morning hāngi that were part of our Matariki celebrations; Lower School kapa haka practises; the Class 10 Pacific Art main lesson. There lives a rich history in this space that we have created. However, this week with each class, I have begun a poroporoaki process, to farewell our whare, as we make room for the next whare that will be firstly a teaching space, however it will be a space in which te ao Māori resides again.

When the previous whare was replaced, a kohatu (stone) was gifted and karakia were recited to take the essence of the whare and place it in this taonga. Each year as the new classes have been taught in the whare, the stone has been passed from child to child, so they also feel the wairua that lives in that stone. This will be the mauri stone that is planted within the foundations of the new whare to ensure the essence of te ao Māori flourishes again in this new space.

I have a mixture of feelings around this, however one thing that I have learnt from being at Taikura is that change is part of life, and the whakataukī (proverb) written above, about the kāinga, is apt for the time at present, acknowledging the old and bringing in the new!

This is the last He Pito kōrero for the year. Kura and I would like to thank all those people who contributed to this space and enlivened it alongside us. We wish you all a restful and rejuvenating time with your whānau and friends!

Nā, Matua Troy.

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



Mark Your Calendar

December 11	8:45 am - 9:00 am Start	Angela Hair - Local Homeopath Looking At Homeopathic Support
December 11	3:00 pm	Classes 8 and 9 Last Day Of School For 2020
December 13	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Shepherds Play - School Hall - Gift To The Community
December 16	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Carol Evening - Gym - The Last Day of School For 2020

SCHOOL NOTICES

Sports Notices

Volleyball

Our 5 volleyball teams have completed their season of playing in the local competitions. All teams have done well, with lots of fun and comradery, amongst some good volleyball games.

The Class 9 boys team finished 2nd in their grade after playing Napier Boys in a tight final!

Last week we also hosted St Johns Junior boys at our school for a friendly game against the Class 9 boys team. This was a fantastic afternoon with much laughter, song and spirited play! Thanks to Troy Gardiner for stepping in to umpire at the last minute, hidden talents that will be getting used again!

Thank you to all the coaches, managers and umpires who supported these teams during the season. It is really exciting to see the passion for volleyball growing in the school.

Well done to Manu, Kaue and Emilio who have been part of the Ava volleyball academy this term as well.



We are now looking for volleyball coaches for the 2021 season please see note below.

Netball

Thank you to Ben Warren and laesha Puata for supporting the primary netball teams this term with coaching and managing, the students have loved it!

Term One 2021

- **Senior volleyball** - Wednesday night competition. **We have a committed team of boys who are looking for a skilled volleyball coach to take them for the Senior Term One league. Please contact sports.coordinator@taikura.school.nz if you or anyone you know may be interested.**
- **Class 6 and 7 students can enter into the Town and Country Triathlon.** The holidays are a good time to get some pre training in.
- **Super League or Kiwi volleyball competitions** - Classes 4-7
- **Social Touch** -Tuesdays Cornwall Park- 6:00 pm- 6:45 pm, just turn up, all ages.
- **Pre season training** - High School hockey, football and netball players.

With some of these teams planning to attend tournaments next year, pre- season training will start in Term One

Lunchtime Tennis - On The School Turf

- Students can use rackets and balls available from the school office five lunchtimes a week.
- It has been great to see some students using this wonderful resource.
- If there is more interest next term we can look at some in house coaching sessions.

Sports Uniforms

There are a few bits and bobs of uniforms to be returned still, if everyone can have a quick look to double check at home. Thank you.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Paige Abraham who competed in the Montana Twilight Show Jumping Series.

Paige rode with amazing accuracy which resulted in her winning all three heights taking out the series in 1st place. A huge achievement for Paige who has done the hard yards with her pony Bella.



SCHOOL NOTICES

Sports Notices

First Eleven Hockey Team Versus Alumni

Monday 7 December the alumni organized a game with the current 1st XI hockey team. The alumni were a very strong team made up of past students (lots of familiar faces) from a variety of years. The current 1st XI scored first but in the second quarter, the alumni equalized. The alumni then pulled ahead going on to lead four to one, but the 1st, ever the battlers, managed to pull a goal back with the final score being four to two to the alumni. Everyone enjoyed the challenge and it is great to see the hockey alumni being involved with the current school team. This game wrapped up a very busy year for Hockey at Taikura and it is great to see that it is still in good health.



Hei kona mai
Anne Hilton

Volleyball

Hawkes Bay Year 7/8 Super League Division 2 Runners Up. Term 4 Taikura Rudolf Steiner Volleyball Hawke's Bay. Well done to Class 6 players.



Staffing Update

This year we will be saying goodbye to two of our long-term colleagues. Rachel Hughes, Extra Lesson teacher, and Shirley Brooker, Class Twelve sponsor and High School Academic Dean, who have both worked at Taikura for the past twelve years. They will be greatly missed.

We are pleased to let you know that Nicole Scheidegger-Mallow will be taking on the permanent position of Extra Lesson practitioner. She has relieved for Rachel in the past and knows the school and the children well, making for a smooth transition.

Anne Hilton will be taking on the role of High School Academic Dean, and Anna Follett will be taking on the role of Class Twelve sponsor.

Sarah Millington is going to take a one year sabbatical, and her classes will be covered internally by the High School faculty, with Morag Wilson taking on the role of Class Nine sponsor.

We will also be welcoming our new Class One teacher, Tobias Hensel, and will share his introduction early in the new school year. Darryn Breakwell will farewell Class Seven at the end of this year and will take on Class Two from 2021. Further information around these appointments has been shared with parents.

End Of Year Library News

Kia ora e te whānau

As our library year winds up and all the pukapuka come flooding back in from classrooms and homes, it is a wonderful reminder of how much our books are used throughout the year in all parts of our school and home lives. It is a great indication that books still have a valuable place in our daily lives...in fact, our issuing rates are growing exponentially, despite a fractured borrowing year, and this is so heartening to see.

At the end of November we held our first pizza party as a celebration for those student librarians who completed their year of duties. Our student librarians have been a real blessing in the library this year, shelving endless piles of books, recommending books to other library visitors, and adding an element of fun to the library environment. We are now advertising for our 2021 team.

As we finish up for 2020, I wanted to say a huge thank you to those families who made such generous donations to the school library this year. We so appreciate you thinking of us. And massive thanks too to our two wonderful volunteers this year Sonya Lethbridge and Willow Sharp – you have brightened my days as well as having covered so many books for us!

Ngā mihi mahana o te wā ki a koutou
Nā Kura – School Librarian

SCHOOL NOTICES

Board Of Trustees Update

Our last meeting of 2020 was held on Monday. Our new Board Member, Patrick Lander, introduced himself and was welcomed by the group. We are looking forward to working together.

Carbon Footprint: Our first agenda item consisted of Sarah Millington and Renee O'Sullivan, a Class Nine student, presenting the findings of their year-long research into Taikura's carbon footprint. This work was undertaken as part of Class Nine's practical ecology lesson, a practice lesson which has been established during the last two years to build on the gardening programme in the Lower School. Class Nine worked with Ekos, an international non-profit enterprise that develops, pilots and scales up innovative approaches to financing a sustainable future, in order to produce their results and their report. The Board very much appreciates the work Ms Millington and the students completed, and the presentation and subsequent discussion were very timely, as the government has just launched the Carbon Neutral Government Programme that will require the public sector to achieve carbon neutrality by 2025. The programme applies to government departments and, to varying degrees, school boards. Phase one of the work programme focuses on reporting requirements and seeks to minimise emissions from some significant sources: coal boilers, petrol cars and office space. Emissions reducing work is already underway in the education sector. Through the State Sector Decarbonisation Fund the Government has committed \$55 million to replacing coal boilers in schools with low emissions alternatives. The Sustainability Contestable Fund has also funded emissions reducing projects, including installing new LED lighting systems, heat pumps and solar panels. Schools are currently scheduled to begin reporting from the end of 2023. With the work Class Nine have completed, and the pro-active intentions of the Board, we are well-placed to meet this reporting requirement. The Board intends to continue the conversation around our carbon footprint and environmental sustainability in 2021.

Reflections from the Chair: 2020 will be one of those years that people remember, the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic has had an effect on the world that is unprecedented in recent times and something that the entire planet has had to counter with leadership, empathy and innovation. Taikura has had to work through this challenge just like the rest of the world, Aotearoa, New Zealand, and our place here in Heretaunga, Hawke Bay.

As Kaiarahi, governance leaders of this kura we have seen the community work through the challenges put to it with integrity, grace and wisdom and have followed and supported the work of the kura kaiako, teachers, through the uncharted waters of school closures, online learning and the unsettling effects of all this for our tamariki. We have seen the way that they react in these times of change, we also see the change to whānau and how as parents and carers for our tamariki the crisis has affected us. Some have lost employment; some have lost their homes and some sadly have lost loved ones.

This year we saw some concern around decisions made to explore the use of wireless internet and although I understand that our process around this was against what some in the school community would have liked, it came from a real belief that support for our learners who need digital learning assistance in class was worthy of the decision and exploration.

Could we have discussed this decision with the community better? Yes, and we have reflected on this after receiving the concerns of many of the community, and apologise we were not able to meet with the community this term to discuss this among other topics called for. We stand by the decision to explore the use of Wi-Fi, because the needs of our tamariki, particularly those who need more manaakitanga or care are our priority. This is not a stand-alone decision. It is in a mix of many other decisions to implement support mechanisms, which include curative therapies and support programmes.

We will ensure that we have a more transparent, consultative process in the future around those decisions that the community can and should help us consider, this is a key area of mahi, work by the Board, next year.

Erin Simpson
Board Chair

The Board of Trustees and the Proprietors Trust would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas, a restful holiday break, and a happy and healthy 2021. Please take care of yourselves and each other.

Te tiro atu to kanohi ki tairawhiti ana tera whiti te ra kite ataata ka hinga ki muri kia koe

Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you

SCHOOL NOTICES

Lower School Reports

Kia ora whānau.

Our postal service is expensive and delivers less frequently than in the past. Items posted in Hastings often travel to other parts of the country for sorting, before coming back to be placed in a letterbox mere streets away from Taikura. For financial reasons, as well as with the intention of lowering our carbon footprint (see BoT update in this Grapevine) we would like to trial a new system for Lower School report distribution this year. Your child's report will be available for collecting from the Eurythmy Hall between 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm on Wednesday 16 December, and on Thursday morning 17 December and Friday morning 18 December from 8:00 am until 9:30 am. If you would like to arrange another time for collection, or this arrangement will not work for you, please get in touch with suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz before 4:00 pm on Friday 18 December so we can ensure your child's report gets to you before the end of the year.

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 11 December - Angela Hair: Local Homeopath - Looking at stress support, disappointment, anxiety...

Sharing From The Kindergarten

Advent in a Waldorf/Steiner kindergarten is celebrated by having a simple advent table or display, each week looking at different aspects of nature all awaiting the birth of the Christ child. On the first advent Sunday we begin with minerals. We might put stones or shells the children have collected onto the display or crystals. The second week plants, we might pick flowers to decorate the table. The third week is animals, what animals can we add? A knitted woolly sheep? A felted cow? A donkey? And in the last week we add the human element, a Mary and a Joseph and on Christmas day, the child arrives.



***Advent, Advent, four candles burn.
First one, then two, then three, then four
Then stands the Christ child at the door.***

Traditionally the advent wreath is a symbol of oneness. Often the wreath is made with evergreen branches (but doesn't have to be!) with 4 candles and one more is lit each advent Sunday. Some see each candle as representing the virtues of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. At kindergarten we like to have a wreath of roses or pōhutakawa, a summer gesture.



SCHOOL NOTICES

Jaci Chambers - Biography - Teacher Aide and Listening Programme Coordinator

Tènà rà tàtou katoa e te whànou whànui o Taikura. Nei rà taku mihi kia koutou katoa.

I tipu ake au I raro I te maru o te maunga o Kahuranaki, ki te taha o te awa o Tukituki, I te rohe o Ngati Kahungunu ki Heretaunga

I grew up here in Hawkes Bay, under the mantle of the maunga Kahuranaki, Beside the Tukituki river. Wiithin the rohe of Ngàti Kahungunu Iwi.

I lived and worked in Otautahi - Christchurch for many years, and my own tamariki were born and raised there until the events of 2010 and 11 shook us out of there and brought us back here to the Bay.

I have been incredibly blessed to have many amazing people in my life from kaumatua, teachers, mentors and friends. All who have helped to shape my passion for working with our tamariki.

I have worked in many different and varied areas within education, from Kohanga Reo to Youth Programmes, from Mainstream schools to Rudolf Steiner schools. From Kaiako o Te Reo Maori me òna tikanga and teacher aide to now running the iLs Listening Programmes here at Taikura.

I've been working with the iLs Listening Programme under the guidance of Rachel Hughes for the past two and a half years and have witnessed some fantastic results for children who attend a programme consistently.

The iLs Listening programme is a bit like an exercise program for the brain. The children come along to a daily one hour session in small groups. They listen to music through specialised headphones while doing selected exercises. This engages both the brain and the vestibular system as well the body. The fitness of the brain increases in areas of attention to task, emotional control, balance and coordination and cognitive skills to support learning.

The feedback from teachers, parents and even some of the students themselves has been generally very positive. I've had students tell me that they can concentrate better in class, some feel like they perform better on the sports field after completing a programme, and I've had older students tell me they feel more organised and efficient and even more emotionally resilient.

It is a real blessing to have the iLs programme available here at Taikura and I really enjoy watching the children develop their potential with the support of this programme.

Ma te huruhuru ka rere ai te manu. It is the feathers that enable the bird to fly.

I love this Whakatauki because it is saying that if we are given the resources we can all achieve great things. The iLs Listening programme gives our tamariki an opportunity to develop their concentration, to learn to filter out background noise and distractions and to learn to focus so that they can develop their abilities to achieve.

Mauri ora
Nà Jaci



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.

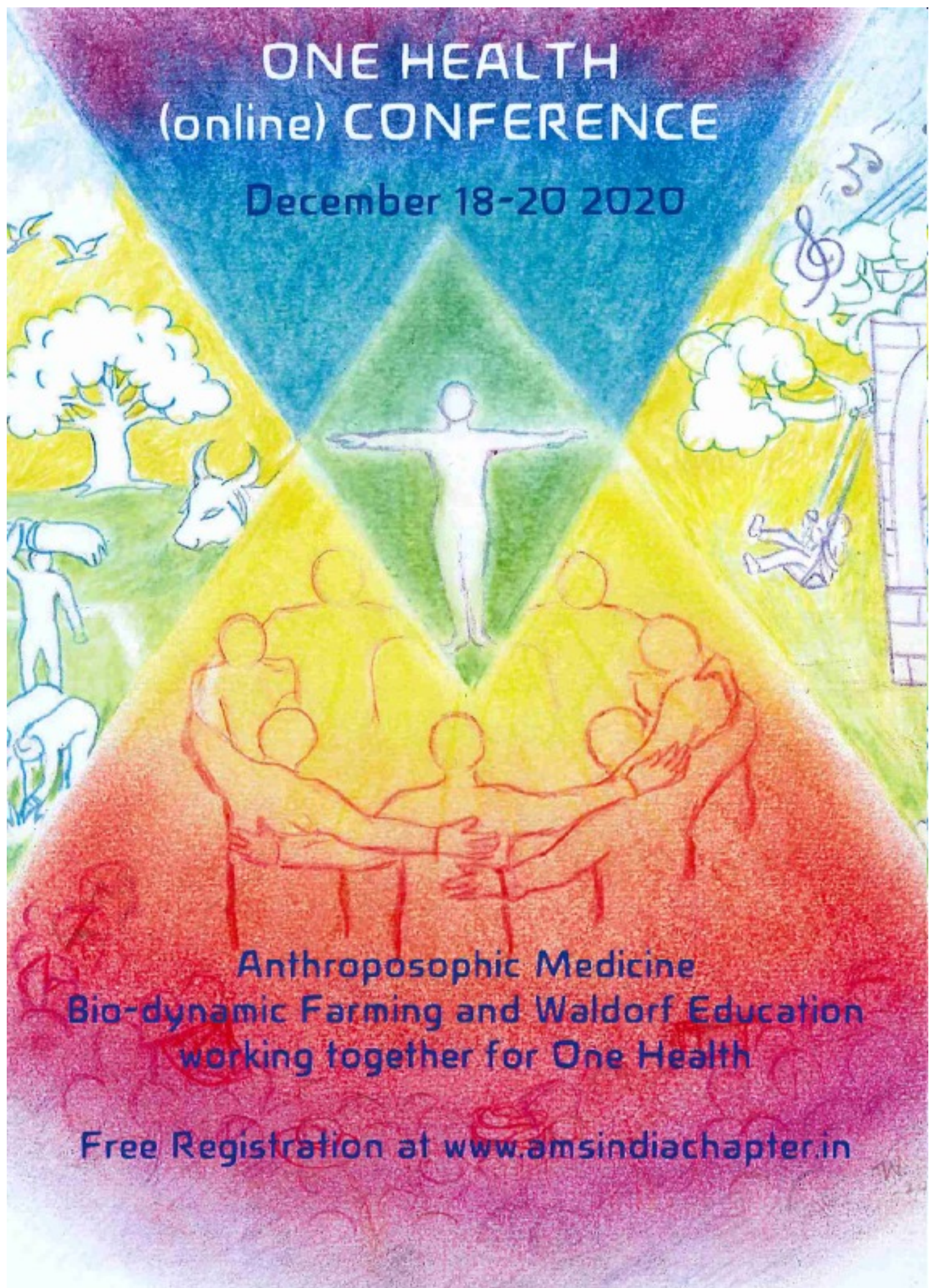


Do these glasses belong to you or your child?

Please see Adrienne in the office if you think one of these items may be yours.

ONE HEALTH (online) CONFERENCE

December 18-20 2020



**Anthroposophic Medicine
Bio-dynamic Farming and Waldorf Education
working together for One Health**

Free Registration at www.amsindiachapter.in

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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. Wednesdays (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

Art Therapy In 2021

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 02102771201

After School Art Classes For Children

Thursdays (and possibly Tuesdays) 3:00 - 4:10 pm, starting Term One 2021. Explore new art techniques, look at interesting images, listen to a story. Cost is \$19 per session, commitment for a term. At the Steiner Centre 500 Nelson St. Hastings. Contact Eva Steinmetz-Urieli <evaurieli@gmail.com> 878 6028 or text 02102771201

Ruth Strong Speech and Drama

Classes will begin again in 2021

Using the gifts of poetry, literature, oratory and drama, these classes foster confidence, mindfulness and authenticity. Please phone or text with expressions of interest: Ruth 027 3540 844

House Sitter Wanted

Looking for a house sitter from Thursday 24 December until mid January in Havelock North. This is a three bedroom house suitable for a small family. Text your interest to 0211282810.

Piano For Koha

We have a well loved Bohm piano for collection. All the keys work but have had the notes written on them. It's very heavy and would need two people to lift it. Text your interest to 0211282810.



Merry Church @ St Matthew's Hastings

Saturday 12 December 2020

4:00 pm – 6:00pm

Family fun for all ages!

Come and join us!

What? Fun with crafts, games, Bible stories, a celebration time and a meal together
Who? Everyone is welcome. Children under the age of 14 to be accompanied by an adult.
Where? In the church hall

Phone: Barbara Person 878 8855, St Matthew's Church, 200 king St South, Hastings www.stmattshastings.com

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

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.