Taikura Rudolf Steiner School



🗠 Te Aka Kūmara — The Kūmara Vine

16 September 2021

Maori Language Week

Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tina!

Seek out the distant horizons, while cherishing those achievements at hand!

E rere ana ngā mihi whakamānawa ki a koutou katoa e pānui mai ana i tai wiwi, i tai wawa, tēnā koutou katoa! Greetings of celebration to all of you reading this!

Māori Language Week has been celebrated each year from 1975 and commemorates the presentation of the 1972 <u>Māori language petition</u> to parliament. I always feel grateful for the courage and determination it took in carrying this kaupapa to bring about the change in mindset of where Te Reo Māori is today and where I am at with learning my father's first language.

I always remember my very first whaikōrero (speech) on a Marae, which was in my father's home area of Rotorua. I was in my early twenties accompanying and supporting a group of rangatahi (youth), from Tāmaki, going to a Youth hui (gathering). The week prior to our trip and on the journey, I memorised a short whaikōrero that I was to say on our behalf, the manuhiri (visitors). As soon as I saw the line-up of kaumātua (elders), sitting on the paepae, I started shaking...it became a moment of terror! However, they were very generous in accepting my mistakes especially as they found out we were related, and that an effort had been made to conduct this pōwhiri in Te Reo Māori, with an open heart (even if it was beating rapidly at the time!).

Learning Te Reo is an ongoing journey, that I stop and reflect on when I get the chance. My children were the impetus for me to really pick up that challenge, especially with my firstborn. I did not want him to have a lack of sense of identity and culture, that I sometimes felt, when I was growing up. It was not always a given norm to celebrate and embrace one's culture especially in the 1970's in Aotearoa! I am glad times have changed.

My kuia (grandmother) was brought up in te ao Māori, and throughout my father's childhood, te reo Māori was the predominant language spoken in their kāenga (home). Dad never thought it was important to pass on this legacy, as he was of the generation that were punished for speaking te reo. Due to this and the way Te Reo was viewed, he felt it was better to speak English, as the bread-and-butter language that would push you forward in their changing world. I loved my kuia and always felt she was a fount of knowledge within te ao Māori, and as a teenager I learnt what I could from her when I was in her company.

Today, I celebrate where I am at and know that this is always an ongoing journey. I can have an everyday conversation...to a certain point and I am able to understand a lot of what I hear on the radio, television, at a Marae and other platforms that are vehicles for learning te reo. I make my mistakes, however, as I say to all our ākonga (students), a mistake is a tool that we can always learn from. My underlying mantra when I am learning te reo is an old proverb from the Chinese philosopher Lao-Tzu 'A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step!' Kia kaha te reo Māori!

Nā, Matua Troy.

Mark Your Calendar

September 27

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

BOT Meeting



He pito kõrero!

Hari Te Wiki o te Reo Māori!

During this year's Te Wiki o te Reo Māori there are a lot of people around our motu sharing why they decided to take up their te reo journey. I asked some people in our school community to share some of their reasons for learning te reo, and here are some of the inspiring responses:

'I am learning te reo because I want to give my son the opportunity I never had at his age.'

'I am learning te reo as a way to honor the heritage of this beautiful land, Aotearoa.'

'I began learning te reo at university mainly because, as someone with a love of languages, I felt it was only right to learn the language of this land, but my journey with te reo has ended up being a much deeper one, of discovering and reconnecting with my whakapapa and tūpuna.'

'I learnt te reo Māori to honour my children and the children I teach.'

'I began my reo Māori journey as a way of supporting my partner and children in their identity as Māori. Little did I know I would get so much out of it personally.'

'I've always wanted to learn te reo Māori, properly, and this year I finally got started. I feel part of a movement, a wave sweeping across Aotearoa. It feels like an obvious and right part of being 'Kiwi'.'

'I had no idea just how inspiring and uplifting it would be to take up learning te reo Māori. I know myself better, I feel more confident, and I can offer more to the world. It all just took one brave step to sign up for class and then the magic began.'

Do you know your 'why'? Do you need inspiration? Here are some links to a few great articles about the benefits of learning te reo <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>

There is still room for participants in the te reo class being offered here at Taikura on Monday afternoons from 3:30pm-5:00pm. These have been delayed due to Covid and will now start in week one of Term 4 (circumstances permitting) with a new tutor/kaiako. Contact kura.rutherford@taikura.school.nz if you would like to participate.

Ngā manaakitanga Kura Rutherford Kaitiaki Pukapuka/Librarian

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 (At Level 1)

Ngā mihi maioha ki a koutou e te whānau whānui o Taikura! Waiata mai will start again at Level 1. 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

Lost Property - Kathmandu Jacket

A Kathmandu jacket has been handed into the office. If it belongs to your child please come and collect it. Naming these expensive items is a good way of getting them returned to the rightful owner. There are several items of clothing that need collecting from the foyer in the gym, please take the time to have a look, you may find something you have been missing for sometime.

Curriculum Corner

Thank you Class 6 for photographs of your wonderful Lockdown Learning. Examples from:

Upcycling project Master chef challenge Concrete poems



Laura Golding - Concrete Poem

Toby Feldman - Master Chef Challenge

Anxiety Part Two

Anxiety is irrational - it's not something anyone consciously chooses. Sensations in our bodies feed more information, more forcefully, to our brains than our brains feed to our bodies. We might feel constriction or expansion, pain or ease, energy or numbness; our conscious mind assesses these states and any external information, then decides a reason for feeling in a particular way - but it's often incorrect or only partially correct in its assumptions.

Bodily sensations are dominated by either the energetic, excitement/fight/flight responses or the calming response. The calming response is largely controlled by a complex system of nerves that connect our brainstem, throat, heart, lungs, stomach, gut and spine. This is the vagus or wandering nerve, and what Resmaa Menakem* calls our soul nerve. Together these two systems constantly assess whether we are safe or unsafe then, if the fight/flight/freeze aspect is engaged, it overrides any conscious thought - like a bolting horse with a rider unable to bring it to a halt. We need this response to keep us safe at times of real danger and, in someone who isn't anxious, it's most often quietly switched on in the background like an element on a 1 or 2 setting; however, if we are anxious, this response is frequently switched onto a 5 or a 6, or maybe even an 8 or 9, and we are more likely to behave as if we are unsafe: we act before we have time to 'think'. We find our body has moved away from someone or something; we might act out; we might freeze like a deer in the headlights; we might suppress our emotional state to seem less threatening to the other; or, we might (automatically) physically do something that soothes our activated nervous system, like sucking our thumb or rocking on the spot, or jiggling, or wandering around the room. The younger we are, the more likely we are to be reactive.

The good news is that anxiety can be moderated by others; especially in the parent-child relationship.

Hint Two for Supporting a Person with Anxiety: We can....Lalalalalalala

While you are near the anxious person, breathe out as far as you can; now, say lalalalalalalalalalalal until you automatically take a deep breath in (you don't have to make the noise, just do the action - they don't have to know what you're doing). Do this a few times until you have an automatic, deep sigh and/or you notice a change in their state.

This strategy helps us to fully engage our soul nerve and create calm or additional calm; via emotional resonance and mirror neurons, the other person will calm too.

*Resmaa Menakem, "My Grandmother's Hands"

Karyn Wills - Literacy Support and Lower School SENCO

Administration/Finance Star Wanted

I'm looking for someone to work alongside me this year for the handover of Taikura Fete's administration and finance. The commitment is for one month per year in November, and it is essential to be available for the whole day on the day of the Fete. Tasks include organising the floats and eftpos, keeping track of food stall and children's activity funds coming in on the day, providing change to stallholders, paying invoices, and banking and distributing the funds raised. Confidentiality, accuracy and reliability are a must in this role. There is minimal involvement with the organising committee as this is more of a 'behind the scenes' position. Ideally I am looking for someone who is able to carry this for the next four or five years, so this may suit someone with children in the Lower School. Please contact me directly if you are interested or would like to know more.

Suzan Bart <u>suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz</u>

School App

If you have not already done so, please download our SchoolApp into your smart phone. You will find school contacts, newsletters, a link to our website, term dates, absentee notifications and our calendar which is filled with upcoming events, meetings, camps and trips. Subscribe to class alert groups and you will receive notifications such as class camp school arrival times and meeting reminders straight to your phone. So much useful information!

- 1. Go to the **App Store** or **Google Play Store** on your mobile device
- 2. Search SchoolAppsNZ
- 3. Download the **App**
- 4. Open the **App**
- 5. When it asks to send notifications click allow.
- 6. When it asks to search your **School** type your **School Name** in the search bar
- 7. Lastly, subscribe to the Alert Groups you would like to receive alerts for.



Introducing Our New Canteen Operator Reuben



Calendar Fundraiser Ordering

Hi everyone, as you might've noticed I didn't manage to organise the art calendar fundraiser last year, but this year I've decided to give it another go. However, because of Covid there's now limited time left until the end of term which means I'll have to run it a bit differently this time.

Rather than getting the children to complete their art at school, I'll ask their teachers to send them home with the art paper, order forms, and instructions for creating their art, which will then have to be returned to school once completed.

Payment will be via bank deposit ONLY to avoid cash hassles for the office.

- So keep an eye out for those items in your child's bag sometime in the next two weeks.
- I'll be collecting the art and order forms from school towards the end of October.
- This year the funds raised will go to Class 10 for their upcoming camp.

More details will follow in next week's grapevine.

Thanks everyone! Iris Nobel

Sports Notices

The winter sports season for all of our teams has now ended due to the cancellation of all semi finals and finals. (Football is still allowing one or two more games to be played). A frustrating way for our students to end the season but one positive is that we managed to get through a lot more games than last year !

Other cancellations have been our Senior football team attending Tournament week for the 1st time ever which was a real blow after all the hard work that had gone into preparing and attending for that event. Further cancellations are:-

- 1st 11 hockey trip to Gisborne
- Hastings District cross country
- Hawkes Bay Champs cross country

Looking forward to Term 4 there is Junior High school (Classes 8 and 9) and Intermediate volleyball coming up.

- Students who are interested can register their names at school, teams will be formed, coaches and managers will be needed.
- Volleyball can only go ahead in Level 1. Fingers crossed for mid October.
- Summer hockey are taking registrations which are done privately by parents organizing teams.
- We will hold a school cross country event on site in the near future.

All winter sports uniforms are now due to be returned, your team manager will be in touch with you as to how this will happen.

Hi coaches and managers

Just another reminder to please contact the families of your team members and work out a system of collection of the sports kits. It is a lot easier to manage the **return of these as a set in a bag with the team name attached**. These can be dropped at the school office.

Janet Osborne - Sports Coordinator

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Individual Art Therapy For Adults, Teenagers And Children

And family sessions supporting the grieving process.

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 <<u>evaurieli@gmail.com</u>> 06 878 6028 or 021 0277 1201

After School Art Classes For Children

Thursdays 3:00 - 4:10 pm. Explore new art techniques , look at interesting images, listen to a story. \$19.00 per session, commitment for a term. At the Steiner Centre 500 Nelson Street. Hastings. Contact Eva Steinemtz-Urieli < evaurieli@gmail.com> 878 6028 or text 021 0277 1201



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Biodynamics Group Update

On Saturday 18 September we will be going to Hōhepa Poraiti (21 Fryer Road, Poraiti, Napier) by 2:00pm. From the school car park, walk down the back track where you will find the shed. This will be a great opportunity to visit the Hōhepa site and have a lovely and leisurely afternoon. Our purpose will be to maintain the Demeter standards as being a Biodynamic Farm, by continuing to spread the Biodynamic Preparations. We will be stirring and spreading the Biodynamic preparation 500, all guided by Chris Hull, who has been taking care of this land for over 30 years. The plan is for Chris to briefly introduce us to Hōhepa, 500 and the practice (10-20 min), we will then stir the Biodynamic Preparation 500 while having a cosy afternoon tea (1 hour), then we will spread the stirred preparation all around the site (1 hour) and finally we will have a debrief and insightful discussions, do not hesitate to ask questions (30 min - 1 hour)

On Sunday 19 September we will gather at Lauren and Andrew Clayton's property on Kereru farm (430 Kereru Road, Maraekakaho) by 2:00 pm. Drive past the 1st house all the way down (farm track, 1 km) until you reach the 2nd house - you have arrived.

Six years ago, Lauren and Andrew moved to Kereru farm (formerly Glenside), a 60 hectare farm now used for cattle and their crops. They are both newly interested and involved in Biodynamics and also keen on ways we can support future generations through knowledge and community. It will be a New Biodynamic Foundation being laid out on their land. First, Hans & Ineke Mulder will give a talk, an introduction on Biodynamics and 500 + Questions (1 hour 30 min), following this we will stir the Biodynamic Preparation 500 while having a cosy afternoon tea (1 hour), then we will spread the stirred preparation on one part of their land (30 min) and finally we will have a debrief and insightful discussions, do not hesitate to ask questions (30 min).

Please bring questions and enthusiasm, clean buckets and brushes to apply the 500, food and beverages for afternoon tea, chairs and mugs. Please remember to wear a face mask, and observe 2 m social distancing.

Florian Roger florian.roger@protonmail.com

Taikura And Kereru Kindergartens Are Looking For Casual Relief Staff

Registered Kaiako And Kindergarten Assistants

We are looking for enthusiastic people to come and support us in our kindergartens. If you are an experienced kaiako or someone interested in Steiner pedagogy in the kindergarten setting this might be an opportunity for you! Casual hours between 8:30 am - 2:45 pm (might be shorter), term time only.

We are looking for both qualified registered Kaiako as well as Kindergarten Assistant support. If you are interested, please contact Danica Hensel Ondrusova at <u>danica.henselondrusova@taikura.school.nz</u>.

Looking For Rental

Reliable, responsible young couple with baby looking for rental in Hastings or Napier. We are real homebodies and love our home and garden. We look forward to hearing from you – please contact Celeste on 0226761058 or email <u>celesteglover6@gmail.com</u>.

Matapopore Babysitters

We are a group of Taikura High School students, from Classes 8 to 12, offering babysitting services to the Taikura community. **Need a sitter?**

Contact Jamie on 022 474 8785 for further information or to arrange a booking.

