

Tēnā koutou e te whānau whānui o Taikura!

Kua rongo koutou te karanga a te Pīpīwharauroa? He tohu tērā mā tātou...kei te hoki mai a Tamanuiterā ki uta, kua tae mai te Koanga! Nau mai haere mai te katoa, ki tō tātou ahurei hei whakanui i a Koanga!

Have you heard the call of the Pīpīwharauroa? It is a sign for us all that Tamanuiterā is returning and Spring has arrived!



Today is the spring equinox, the exact time of this was 7:20 am this morning.

Equinox means "equal night" when the sun is positioned above the equator and day and night are about equal in length all over the world. This is the start of the Astrological year. Many ancient cultures built structures to point directly toward the rising Sun on this day every year. The celebration of the Spring Equinox is about new life & hope, the planting of seeds and the activation of the fertility cycle.

Due to a wet-field, rain and Alert Level restrictions our Spring Festival had to be cancelled today.

However, wanting to acknowledge this point in the earth's year, some of us braved the rain, going out into our school garden we gathered Piripiri. Instead of a Spring Festival, how about a cup of Springtime Green Tea? During the early spring time you may have noticed this wee plant growing up and through the undergrowth.

A strand of fairy lights glimmering in the garden. Māwe - (Galium propinquum) otherwise known as piripiri, cleavers, bedstraw or biddy bids. The common name among children of biddy bids comes from the Māori name for *Acaena microphylla* - piripiri. Early Europeans spelling it as biddy bid - based on what they heard. This little plant is a world wide native annual. It has many medicinal uses, and makes a rejuvenating and cleansing springtime tea.



Hunting for Piripiri in Scannelll's Garden - Tobias, Rowan and Toby Class 2



Once under Level One, *which we hope will be early next term*, the Lower school and parent community will enjoy a community picnic. Some of the elements of the Spring Festival will be shared during this picnic. We will confirm a date for this as soon as we are able.

We miss our whānau and extended community - it is hard - as guidelines for crowd numbers are altered under Alert Levels, many changes and adjustments to event organisation have been required. We know that you too miss our shared community events, parent evenings and those informal opportunities to connect with your child's teacher at pick up and drop off.

The Lower School has the ease of being more flexible. In the High School, teaching and learning programmes along with events, are considerably more bound by assessment and moderation criteria. Many high school staff have been in the unenviable position of having to adjust programmes, often multiple times within a changing landscape around event criteria and organisation.

Our Class 12 projects are being presented this weekend. These projects are a greatly anticipated event on our school calendar. Enjoyed by whānau and community annually. The presentation of the 2021 projects have gone through many iterations over the last 4 weeks. And while we know what we have is less than ideal, we are excited that we can have at least 100 in our audience to hear each student. This means for the students and parents there is opportunity on a small scale - to connect, share and celebrate the mahi. Please note that the projects are not open to the public - all viewing seats are pre organised with whānau allocation prior to the event. We know this is disappointing and are grateful as always for your understanding.



Puawānanga ("Pua" meaning blossom and "wānanga", learning.)



## He pito kõrero!

#### Growing kūmara

We are blessed here in Heretaunga with our climate, water and our soils. We have the ability to grow our own nutritiously nourishing homegrown kai throughout the year. Living seasonally with our kai also connects us to the rhythms of nature and the cycles therein. In our present moment in time, this late spring we can start to grow our own kūmara.

There are a good number of varieties of kūmara that vary in flavor and texture and also in growth habits. We have kūmara varieties that run vigorously like their 'whanaunga' (relations), Bindweed or Convolvulus. The commercially grown variety commonly known as Red Kūmara is one of these running types. The second growth habit and lesser known are those that grow in a bush form, for example Taputini. The Taputini variety are also slenderer in form then the Red Kūmara and they have white skin and flesh.

For those of us with limited garden space these bush types lend themselves very well should you wish to grow kūmara in your backyard. Small mounds are made above the ground instead of the now more common commercial practice of long rows in which the tipu (sprouted plant), is placed and grown. You can grow your own tipu or buy them from a grower. Tipu are easily propagated and this is another story to be told at a later date and in the right season. Whether you grow in rows or mounds the planting of the tipu is very similar.

Ideally the maramataka (Māori lunar calendar), is considered and the right moon phase is chosen to commence the planting of the tipu. The other consideration regarding a good planting time is the 'waiata' (song) of the Pīpīwharauroa (Shining Cuckoo). When the Pīpīwharauroa's waiata has reached a certain climax, it is another tohu (sign), that it is time to plant your tipu.

Healthy tipu also have their roots dipped into a mix of the soil they are to be planted into and water (to make a watery paste) overnight or for a couple of hours before being transplanted. The soil is cultivated into the mounds or the rows that the tipu will be planted into dependent on the variety of kūmara you wish to grow.

One of the keys to successful kūmara growing is to turn the roots up to form a J when you transplant into the soil. The tip of the J should be orientated to the East; this is according to most cultural practices very important. This is much easier to explain through demonstration rather than a written description. Therefore, if you are new to growing kūmara then finding a local expert willing to share their valuable mātauranga (knowledge) will undoubtedly yield the best results.

You are also connecting to a culture that has carried this taonga (treasure/prized possession) across oceans, nurtured the kūmara for a few millennia, and considers the kūmara with utmost importance and reverence. Once planted and depending on who you talk to, a single cup of water is given to the tipu, and in some areas that is all the water the plant will be given. Relying then on the tears of Ranginui (Sky Father) to quench its thirst during its long hot summer growing season. Nā. Nathan Foote.

*"Ko tangi te wharauroa, kua tou te kūmara" "When the cuckoo cries it is time to plant the sweet potato".* 

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

#### **Curriculum Corner**



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be restored. Respectfully yours Gramemhole Grace O'Maller

#### **Curriculum Corner Continued**



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#### 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

#### Fete Committee Activity

The Fete Committee are looking for a children's activity to replace the Gyroscope at this year's Fete. We are wondering if there is a member of the community that has something fun that could replace this (either equipment or an idea). Past examples have been pony and train rides for instance. If you do, we'd love to hear it! Please contact either Trudi Collins (<u>trudiyoga@gmail.com</u>) or Lynda Warren (<u>lynda32@yahoo.com</u>).

#### 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>

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### Geometrical Drawing Classes Given By Robin Bacchus

Currently, there is a display of Geometrical Drawing in the foyer of the **Anthroposophical Centre** until the end of October, that people are welcome to view free of charge.

In Term 4 (18 October to mid-December) I am offering classes in Geometrical Drawing for those interested. They will take place in the **Art Room** of the **Anthroposophical Centre**, 400 Whitehead Road, Hastings.

I plan to offer a sequence of five 90-minute lessons at times to be determined by the times the room is available and those interested can manage. I could manage weekdays (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) morning or afternoon, weekends and some evenings.

The aim is to learn excellent drawing techniques and create beautiful drawings, not to prove abstruse theorems.

There could be more than one group, providing there at least 5 people in a group. The room can comfortably accommodate 18 people. There could be a beginner's group and/or an advanced group. We can start with some set exercises and then branch to specific interests of participants as needed.

**Equipment**: It is preferable that participants acquire their own Geometrical Drawing equipment, but I can loan basics for those who don't have any. I will provide paper and backing boards.

- Compass for circles, firm, adjustable, capable of holding pen or pencil.
- Ruler/straight-edge, 400mm.
- Pencils, 2 mechanical, with 0.5mm HB lead (not 0.7mm).
- Eraser, soft, white.
- Coloured pencils, 12 or more, not too hard; Acquarel is good.
- Protractor, full circle, 360°
- Set squares; 30-60-90, and 45-45-90.
- Optional: set of fine-tip (0.4) coloured felt pens.

<u>Charges</u>: For a sequence of **five** 90-minute lessons there will be an up-front charge of **\$75** <u>non-refundable</u>. This includes room hire. In other words, it is your responsibility to commit to turn up once we are under way.

Initially, I wish to collect the names and contact details (mobile and email) of people interested. I will then canvas them by email to determine the best dates/times for group(s) as well as individual's experience and any specific queries and interests.

Please register your interest by emailing Robin at robin@bacchus.co.nz

#### 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>.

#### Te Kõpere Childcare: Staff Wanted

Te Kōpere Childcare are seeking new Kaiako as well as a Centre Manager. If you are a wonderful teacher or manager, or know anyone who would be amazing please apply through Trade Me or contact the centre directly on 8707203

#### 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>

### Awesome Taruna House Cleaner Wanted

#### Hours per week: 8

- Taruna College is the home of holistic adult education, in Havelock North
- We are looking for a meticulous house cleaner, who pays attention to details.
- This position is during school hours approximately 4 to 8 hours per week.
- Please email or phone your interest, to Charmaine info@taruna.ac.nz 877 7174