



## Whitsun

The heart of the human being as it opens to warmth & light is like the flower aligning itself to the Sun. And what pours down from the Sun, giving the flower the potency it needs, is like the tongues of fire descending upon the heads of the disciples in the Whitsun moment.

Whitsun is the festival of our true higher self, which as yet only hovers above us like a dove. Promoting us to ask: What are my gifts? How can I place them in right relationship within the social realm? How can I hone them to strengthen and enhance the world?

Our work is to take our individual Inner Whitsun & expand it, into what Steiner calls the "World Festival of Knowledge " a path leading from 'Sprit Recollection' to 'Sprit Sensing', to 'Sprit Beholding'.

On Friday 3 June Taikura will celebrate our Whitsun Festival. (The actual day of Whitsun this year is Sunday 5 June) This festival happens fifty days after Easter and the resurrection.

The disciples were in deep contemplation following the crucifixion and resurrection, when the Holy Spirit comes upon them at Whitsun and they are able to speak in such a way that others understood them. They were able to see others as they truly are, without sympathy or antipathy. They felt absolutely known as the Holy Spirit was in them. "Not I but Christ in me". This image is infused by a distant picture of what humanity could arrive at.



This is the ideal we aspire to. This is something we may gradually achieve over time. Whitsun is a festival which belongs to the future as a possibility to realise.

This festival is relevant to our modern world in relation to migration and globalisation, how we can find a sense of community and identity in the world today. We need to be unified by the human spirit. To receive and give equally.

Our Whitsun Festival currently involves Candle lighters from each of the classes who symbolically light their individual candles from the Christ candle. Classes One to Seven make white paper doves, which are hung from the ceiling of the hall. The doves symbolize the Holy Spirit, the mighty rushing spirit of the wind. Our Festival also includes High School speakers of different languages who all read the same passage. This provides an experience of different peoples, an example of the world which the students are made aware of. The festival includes a story and is followed by the students gathering in a classroom to share a greeting, a biscuit and a drink. An opportunity for them to connect with their wider school community - to hold the beauty, hold the sacredness, to hold the moment and the mood.

Students join their Saint Groups for various festivals throughout the year. The Saint Groups are made up of the students divided into vertical groups. Each group being made up of students from Class 1-12. This Whitsun students from Classes 2 - 12 will join their Saint Groups for our Whitsun festival. Class One will stay in their own class group, joining in the hall then returning home to their room.

By grouping students into vertical groups, we break up peer groups and make students more aware of themselves than they would be if they stayed in the same class. These vertical groups emphasis the idea of community and assists in the development of community across the school.

Unfortunately, due to our hall space we are not able to accommodate our whole school as well as the entire parent body.

However parents do play an important and vital role in the Whitsun Festival with their mahi in the setup of the classrooms. It is a joy to return to classrooms with students to find beautiful tables with lovely drinks and biscuits awaiting us.

From the Festival Group

## Grace for Whitsun

The plant seeds are quickened in the night of the Earth  
The green herbs are sprouting through the might of the Air  
And all things are ripened by the power of the Sun  
So quickens the soul in the shrine of the Heart  
So, blossoms spirit-power in the light of the World  
So ripens our strength in the glory of God



# Whitsun

**Join us at 6.00pm on Tuesday 31 May**

**Taikura School Library**

Come and explore the theme of Whitsun, its meaning, and the many ways it could be celebrated.

Creating festivals which reflect the unique kaupapa of your home and whānau is an investment in the history your whanau will share in the future.

Our festival years may look very different - but each equally nourishes the child and our whānau.

Rituals and traditions are the food which nourishes the soul and sustains us through challenging times. For the adult, revisiting rituals, and traditions personal to their childhood is an anniversary of the heart, a thread which connects siblings and across the generation or a touchstone to a passed loved one.

Join Kelly Sutton and Sandra Jordan and explore the festival themes of Whitsun and how these could look in your home.

Part of our evening will involve creating items to take home for your own festival or dining room table.

Registration is necessary for the preparation of materials

Please register: [kelly.sutton@taikura.school.nz](mailto:kelly.sutton@taikura.school.nz)





## *He pito kōrero!*

**Sāmoa Language Week starts 29 May**

Tālofa lava! Sāmoa Language Week starts Sunday 29 May. Discover resources, activities and more to celebrate the language week with your students in our Pacific languages topic:  
<https://natlib.govt.nz/schools/topics/627060fd1ee79b001d529791/reo-olelo-gagana-pacific-languages>.

Tofa soifua...see you later!

### **Kīwaha o te wiki – kīwaha of the week**

#### **Wheo kē (Fear or keh)**

Buzzy, awesome!

Hata: Kia ora e mara! Did you see that line of satellites in the sky last night? It was like a line from one side of the sky to the other!

Mata: Āe rā, wheo kē e hoa!

*He pito kōrero is a space dedicated to celebrating and promoting Te Reo me ōna Tikanga Māori and this week we are also celebrating Pasifika languages.*



## **Waiata Mai Is Back**

**Thursdays – 12:30 – 1:00 pm - in the Library!**

Ngā mihi hīkaka ki a koutou ngā manu tioriori o Taikura!

Waiata mai has started. Every Thursday in our Whare pukapuka – the library. If you want to learn some of the waiata that your tamariki sing at school, nau mai, haere mai te katoa....all are welcome!

Ngā mihi ki a koutou ngā kōpara e kō!  
Nā Troy Gardiner.

## **Upcoming Events**

May 31	6:00 pm Start	Whitsun - Creating Family Festivals- School Library
June 1	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Class 6 Parent Evening
June 6	All Day	Queen's Birthday
June 8	7:00 PM - 8:30 pm	H3 Goup - School Library
June 15	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Liaison Parent Evening - Library
June 22	7:00 pm Start	Parent Community Mid-Winter Spiral - Rudolf Steiner Centre (Corner Nelson Street and Whitehead Road)
June 24	All Day	Matariki

# Curriculum Corner

Class 7 students reading to Class 3 children in recognition of tuakana teina experience and manaakitanga.



## **Pink Shirt Day 2022**

I would like to thank Sita, Addison, Ruby, Indiana and Stella for helping with the organising and collecting for our first ever Pink Shirt Day. I also want to acknowledge Laura and Rose for speaking and showing a video on the impacts of bullying in the High School assembly and lastly, Ms Mackwell for sharing a story around bullying. I really appreciate your support.

We as a school raised \$154.10 Thank you to all of those people who kindly donated.

If you would like to contribute via bank transfer you can:

Bank: BNZ Name of account: Mental Health Foundation Account number: 02-0100-0752592-097 Reference: Taikura Rudolf Steiner School Code: PSDsch

Creating a positive culture and environment, free from bullying, where diversity is celebrated, takes more than one day. Change takes time and it takes the commitment and energy of the whole kura, community and whānau.

It's really important to remind people that it's okay to be different from others and it's not okay to bully people because they are not the same as you.

Bullying harms the person being bullied, the person doing the bullying and can also harm those who witness it (bystanders).

By taking bullying seriously and celebrating the diversity of taurira/students, all rangatahi can feel safe and supported.

Gee Reisima - EOTC/Health and Wellbeing

## **University of Waikato Hamilton Campus Open Days May 27 and 28**

The University of Waikato welcomes students and Whanau to the beautiful Hamilton Campus. This year the Open Day has been extend to Saturday, enabling more families to attend. A great opportunity to tour the campus, attend mini lectures on a range of subjects and explore study pathways.

Please register at: <https://openday.waikato.ac.nz/hamilton/#register>

**For more information please contact Paula in the careers office: [paula.rose@taikura.school.nz](mailto:paula.rose@taikura.school.nz)**

## **University of Otago's College of Education Virtual Information Evening Thursday 2 June 5.30pm-6.30pm**

Students and Whānau are invited to join the University of Otago's College of Education department for a livestreamed information event in June. An excellent opportunity for those students who are interested in studying early childhood, primary teaching, or primary bicultural education. Registrations essential.

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/news/events/otago839925.html>

## **Reader/Writers Required**

Are you, or do you know of someone who might be interested in becoming a Reader/Writer for akonga in the High School? We are looking to create a pool of willing assistants that can be called upon to support students during tests and examinations (an hour or two every so often). This position would suit someone who has flexibility in their daily schedule, including grandparents, with the ability to read, and record student responses. Some remuneration is available. Please contact our High School SENCo, Sanne Coulthard, if you can help. 8787363 ext. 841 or [sanne.coulthard@taikura.school.nz](mailto:sanne.coulthard@taikura.school.nz)

## Community Notices



Come and bond with your child by having a creative art experience together. The theme for this workshop will be Autumn, we will be doing three gorgeous art activities of drawing, pastel and clay.

All materials provided. No prior art experience needed.

Children from 6-12 years.

Herbal tea and fairy tea will be offered for nourishment.

Arrive 10 minutes early to get settled. Park at the bottom carpark & walk to the classrooms which is situated on the left of the driveway



Limited spaces

Bookings:

[info@amandasowersby.co.nz](mailto:info@amandasowersby.co.nz)

### Need A Plumber?

Recently self-employed, specializing in maintenance and renovations.

From hot water cylinder and gas Rinnai Infinity upgrades to tap repairs ...no job too small!

- 10% discount off labour for Taikura friends and families.

Nathan Ferguson 027 289 5161 (text or phone) or [nathan.fixit@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.fixit@gmail.com)

### Curative Eurythmist

Hōhepa Hawke's Bay is looking a Curative Eurythmist, we support people with intellectual disabilities and complex needs. Hōhepa is based on the principles of Rudolf Steiner. This is a rewarding role where you will work as a part of a multi-disciplinary team to work together to enable the people we support to fully live their lives. This role will be predominately working at our school with our Tamariki. If this sounds like something you may be interested please see the below link, if you have any question please call our Recruiter on 027 265 4697.



[Job Vacancies & Recruitment | Hōhepa Hawke's Bay \(gjumpersjobs.co\)](http://gjumpersjobs.co)

Francesca Dalli-Niven: **Recruitment Coordinator – Hohepa Hawkes Bay**