



28 July 2022



Imbolc

This coming Monday - 1 August is the festival day of Imbolc. Imbolc marks the midway point between the winter solstice and spring equinox. In some traditions Imbolc is celebrated over the eve of the 31 July until 2 August.

This time of year has been celebrated for centuries in many ways in many places. In the Northern hemisphere it is often merged with the christian festival of Candlemas, marking 40 days after the birth of Christ. It is a holiday of purification, with the candles representing the purifying nature of light, both spiritually and physically. It is also the ritual end to the Christmas season, and often Christmas greenery are burned on this day, and holiday decorations are put away.

But even before the creation of the Christian liturgical year, in agrarian societies, people were greatly attuned to the turning of the seasons, and celebrated the summer and winter solstices: the longest and shortest days of the year; the equinoxes, the days halfway between the solstices which mark the beginning of the spring and fall seasons. They also celebrated the cross-quarter days between the equinox and the solstice. Candlemas and Imbolc are such days.

Imbolc is a time of year when the lengthening of daylight hours becomes noticeable. The day is celebrated because it means that winter will soon be over, and spring will come. The time of darkness and fallow earth will soon end, and new light and life-sustaining growth will come.

During a time when one's diet and income relied on what could be grown locally, the end of winter was more than a time of cabin fever and seasonal depression—it could also be a time of hunger and poverty.

When the early church created its liturgical calendars and feast days, they mapped them onto existing Roman pagan holidays, which corresponded with the solar calendar. February 2nd was celebrated as the feast day of Juno Februata, the virgin mother of the god Mars. In the Christian liturgical year, this feast day became Candlemas, and celebrated the Purification of the virgin mother of the Christian God, Jesus, and the presentation of Christ in the temple.

Meanwhile, in Celtic lands, the winter cross-quarter day was celebrated as Imbolc, a feast honoring Brigid who, in Celtic tradition, is a goddess of the Dawn, of healing, of fertility. The feast day in her honor marks the beginning of the lambing season, a sign of the earth coming back to life after the fallow time of winter. As Celtic Christianity developed, Imbolc became Candlemas, and Brigid became a saint, and the celebrations merged. It is known as a celebration of hearth and home, of the coming warmth, of fertility and purification and new life.

People lit candles or bonfires as a sign of the warmth of the sun to come. They made “Brigid’s crosses” from rushes, and dolls of Brigid were carried from house to house to bring her blessings. People also made pilgrimages to holy wells and brought back water to bless the home.



Celebrating Imbolc at Home

- Make and light candles. The simplest tradition is to bring light into your home by lighting candles. Beeswax candles are traditional.
- Make your own hand-rolled beeswax candles with a kit from Bella Luna Toys.
- Recite the following verse when lighting your candles:

*Candle, candle, burning bright,
Fill us with your holy light.
May the flame of joy and love
Glow now in our hearts.*

From Seven Times the Sun by Shea Darian

- Read about St. Brigid then make a Cross of St. Brigid using rushes, straw, willow branches, as available, or pipe cleaners or plastic straws.
- Clean house. Anticipate the coming of spring by engaging in some spring cleaning.
- Bring a hint of Spring colour and decoration into your season’s table.
- Read poems and sing songs with children about spring. Many can be found in the volume *Spring* from the Wynstones seasonal book series.
- Take a moment to sip some tea and watch the flame of your candle flicker.

Taikura Winter - Warmer



On Thursday evening 11 August, Taikura will be having its Winter Warmer evening.

We hope this will be a lovely opportunity for the community to come together and connect.

We encourage families to park some distance away from the school grounds - walking a good distance in the cold - led by your child's lit lantern will help the child to experience even more deeply the magic of their kura being lit by fairy, lantern and fire light.

This event is an opportunity to listen to live music, wander through Scannell's by lantern light, toast marshmallows, buy dinner and enjoy company in community.

Like last year, there will be a Shadow Play to conclude our evening.

Based on community feedback there will be some minor adjustments to this year's set up and programme. (Including thorough planning for inclement weather!)

Those people who indicated via last year's festival survey an interest in helping will be contacted over the coming week for support. If you would like to offer some time of the evening to be on a food stall (shifts are not too long) please email jessicaclark07@hotmail.com

Classes, via liaison parents will also be asked to support aspects of set up and kai preparation.

Next week's Grapevine will include the list of kai which will be available for sale, including prices. To help us with change we encourage families to come with gold coins and small change.

We are aware of current times and understand for some whānau resources are stretched. Every intent and effort is being made to keep kai costs down and *for many to do a little mahi* to ensure a lovely time is accessible to all.

All funds raised at this event support the H3 Fund

Kelly Sutton
Deputy Principal



He pito kōrero!

***Ehara taku toa I te toa takitahi,
engari, he toa takitini!***

*Our strength is not from one,
But from the multitudes!*

Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou e te whānau! When thinking about the year that has past, I felt strongly to acknowledge two pou whirinaki who have championed for a stronger kaupapa Māori outlook in our school of Taikura, in a myriad of ways.

Te Kaahurangi Maioha, a past pupil of Taikura, whose father Valentino Maioha was (back in the day) a Class teacher/Te Reo Māori teacher, and then our School kaumatua. TK, as she is known as, became a parent and sent her youngest here for a number of years and was also the teacher aide for one of our students. TK left at the end of last year and from my perspective, was one who I could quickly wānanga with to help clarify points of Te Reo or te ao Māori within our kura. Her artworks adorn the stairwell of Taikura House, and her artistic abilities were apparent in many areas. The other kaupapa that she was part of, whose seeds have flourished over the years was the He Reo Ora – Te Reo me ōna Tikanga Strategy for Taikura Rudolf Steiner School.

The other person I want to acknowledge, farewell is Whaea Kura, our school librarian, a parent and the person who has been another pou whirinaki for Te Reo me ōna tikanga! Whaea Kura, our kanohi hōmiromiro (refers to a person who looks at detail – or has great editing skills) was also a member of the group who carried 'He Reo Ora'. The roopu would meet regularly and Whaea Kura was one to see the finer details, to ensure that things would be done properly and followed through. The other kaupapa that Kura has supported is the weekly 'He Pito Kōrero' in our Grapevine. Her editing skills and suggestion of ideas, have seen this weekly column continue over the last 2 years! Her ability to efficiently edit documents and forms of communication, I have called on time and time again. Whaea Kura has also been indigenising the walls in our whare pukapuka – library. The library has also been a space for Waiata mai to happen in, on Thursdays.

On behalf of Tū mai Taikura and myself, I want to acknowledge both these wahine toa, who have supported the ongoing growth and awareness of Te Reo me ōna tikanga in our kura. Ahakoa, he paku te kōrero, he hōhonu te aroha mō ā kōrua mahi mō te katoa – Even though this is short, the love felt for both your work here is felt and will continue to do so! We wish you both well in your future endeavors!

Turou hawaiki!
Nā, Matua Troy.

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





It is tri-annual Board Election time. This term Taikura will be undertaking a parent election for **5 School Board vacancies**. We have employed **CES** to undertake the election process on our behalf. **CES** issued nomination papers to our caregiver community during the holiday break, **PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAILS AND SPAM FOLDERS FOR THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION**. Nominations close next week, on **Wednesday 3 August at 12 noon**. Election day is Wednesday 7 September.

We urge you to please consider standing for this most important role as a matter of urgency. If you do wish to stand for the board, it is recommended that you provide a candidate statement and photograph. Nomination forms are also available from the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact:- suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz for any further questions or assistance.

Winter Is Here - *and with it lots of rain, puddles and mud*

Our weather in Hawke's Bay can be unpredictable, because of this, it is essential tamariki come to school with layers of clothes and appropriate wet weather attire.

The rain offers a completely different play environment from the more usual dry summer days. For children to get the most out of their play environment during winter it is important they bring to school layers of clothing, a good raincoat and if possible some gum-boots.

Due to a child's accelerated metabolic rate they are not always able to fully regulate or recognise being cold, or overheating, thus the need of having **layers available**. Our curriculum is all about supporting the child to fully incarnate into their physical bodies. Warmth enables this incarnation process to happen more easily. With this in mind it is helpful for students Classes 1 - 5 to keep a pair of slippers at school.



The layers your tamariki bring to school ensure we are able to support them to stay warm, or cool down.

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.

Found Items

I have several watches and items of jewellery that have been handed into the office. Please see Adrienne if you think anything may belong to you.

Upcoming Events

August 2	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Class 3 Parent Evening
August 3	7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Class 8 Parent Evening
August 8	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Class 12 Parent Evening
August 11	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Winter Warmer - Courtyard Between Classes 2 and 3
August 24	6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Spring Festival Parent Evening
August 25	ALL DAY	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL ONLY
August 26 and 29	ALL DAY	Mid Term Break - SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN
September 12	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	School Board Meeting

Trees of Note



Tree of Note
***Metrosideros umbellata*: Southern Rata Rare in this region**

Girth at ground level 3.3m 1969 Height 11m 1969

Library News

This will be my last library update for the Grapevine, as I head off to Auckland to take up a role at Michael Park School, leaving the library in the capable hands of Paula Rose, who will take over from Term 3. Paula brings a wealth of experience to this role, and I know will add some wonderful new elements to the library. I look forward to us continuing a connection as two of only a few fellow Steiner school librarians in New Zealand.

It has been a privilege to work in our beautiful whare pukapuka over the last four and a half years, and to be part of such a vibrant library environment. During my time here we have had so many happy times celebrating books, stories and community, and I have enjoyed getting to know each and every one of our students along the way.

Thank you to all of you, our Taikura community, the management team, the School Board and the Proprietors' Trust for your ongoing support of the library. I also wanted to acknowledge Fran Evers-Swindell and other supporters of the library for the years of mahi that went into creating this magical space we have. It really is team work that makes the dream work, and our library is an example of team work creating something special. In my time here, a huge part of that team has been incredible, hard-working colleagues; our volunteers who have not only dedicated their own time to come and help, but have brought a lot to the library at the same time; and last but not least, our substantial crew of student librarians, who turn up to their duties with a smile on their faces, and help bring our library to life with their enthusiasm.

We truly are blessed to have such a wonderfully welcoming space that brings happiness to so many. Sending you all the very best, I hope our paths cross in the years to come...and happy reading!

Whaea Kura



Our beautiful new shelving unit for our upper middle school collection.

Music Notices

Taikura Itinerant Lessons

We have had our Lower School and High School orchestras developing ensemble skills and building in number year on year. If your child may be interested, we are looking for students who are interested in violin, viola, cello, double bass, percussion, flute, clarinet, piano, and guitar.

We have tuition available for **guitar, bass, banjo, piano, voice, recorder, violin, viola, and cello**. The start of the term is a great time to initiate lessons for students and there is strong evidence instrument lessons improve maths and reading skills. (Journal of Research in Music Education)

Itinerant lessons are available from Class 3 to Class 12 and it is strongly preferred that these lessons occur outside of main lessons and need to be arranged in close consultation with teachers whose lessons are affected. Lessons are available throughout the year, however, spaces are limited. If you and your child is interested in lessons, please do get in contact with me via my email: thomas.pearson@taikura.school.nz

Eurythmy Sessions

Moving out of winter, are you ready to enjoy moving in a way that is not strenuous but awakening? For movement that brings health and wellbeing, come and join us!

7 Eurythmy sessions



Starting the second week of term

Wednesday mornings, 3 August – 14 September
9.00-10.00am

Thursday evenings, 4 August – 15 September
7.00pm – 8.00pm

Cost \$100.00

Contact: sue.simpson0@gmail.com

Fundraiser

Skate film night fundraiser for Wellness Riders, featuring the skateboarding journey of several Taikura students and other inspiring young skaters from HB and around the world!

5:30pm Thursday 28 July 2022

Kindly hosted by Common Room Bar - 227 Heretaunga Street East, Hastings

Koha entry and awesome prizes to be won! Check out:- wellnessriders.com for free youth skateboarding classes funded by Hastings District Council

Full Moon Sound Shower with Crystal Singing Bowls

Wednesday 10 August 7.00 pm

Healing Sound Meditation with Crystal Singing Bowls in the Full Moon evening. Cost: \$30 by book and pay in advance. Venue: Rudolf Steiner Centre at the corner Whitehead Road and Nelson Street North. The facilitator, Shu is a school parent. For booking, contact Shu. Email: shushimawalker@gmail.com or text 0210549035.

Community Notices



TARUNA
COLLEGE

Winter Warmers Craft Workshops

Crafts that foster creativity and connection. Come and learn from master craftspeople.
Bring a friend for a day of creativity Saturday July 30th 9.00-1.00pm

Cost \$110 includes morning tea and materials

For more information and to enrol see our website www.taruna.ac.nz or call
(06) 8777174 or contact info@taruna.ac.nz



Flax Weaving: Mahi Raranga

July 30 with Te Kaahurangi Maioha

Te Kaahurangi has been teaching flax weaving to adults for over 20 years. She is a Hawkes Bay artist of Ngapuhi and Tainui descent. In this workshop you will be introduced to mahi raranga/ flax weaving through the tikanga/ protocols pertaining to its application. You will leave the workshop with a completed woven taonga - a kete or creative art piece.



Wool Felting

July 30 with Sabine Laakman

Would you like to learn the beautiful art of Needle Felting? Come along and create your own winter figurines for the season table or puppet shows.

This is a fun and rewarding class for beginners or advanced students.



Mini-Print Workshop for Beginners

July 30 with Lisa Feyen from Ink Moth Print Studio

Learn dry point etching in this relaxed weekend workshop. You will create your own beautiful hand-crafted miniature fine art prints, taking inspiration from the natural world. This workshop is perfect for print beginners or those with mixed abilities. Dry point is a great place to start!



Pastel Art for Wintertime

Amanda Sowersby July 30

Pastel art and rubbing is a wonderful meditative technique. You can play with colour to create gorgeous tones and softness to your artwork. You will learn about techniques of pastel rubbing, colour blending and get to create several gorgeous artworks to take home.

Taruna College Campus - 33 Te Mata Peak Road, Havelock North

Fundraiser For Class One

Fire wood and pinecones for sale:

Good size boxes of pinecones for \$10/box or sacks of pinecones for \$15/sack.

There is firewood for next year's winter at \$350/cord delivered.

If you are interested please message me on Facebook using messenger or text/call:

Emil Driessen 021 711 711



Community Notices



Anthroposophy with Art

Introduction to the Spiritual Science of Rudolf Steiner

An esoteric journey through the old Testament from humanity's first beginnings to the birth of Christ. Guidance for this evolution comes from the series of books written by Emil Bock.

Behind the stories and pictures of the narrative, we follow the hidden and purposeful interventions of the Gods who oversee human development, right up to the point when the Christ could incarnate as a man.

Along with the gradual descent of the great Sun God, we follow the evolving development of human beings — ourselves.

"The most difficult and most obscure of the sacred books, Genesis contains as many secrets as words, and each word conceals several others." Saint Jerome

Sessions can be attended at Manawa Studio in Hastings or join us on Zoom for an inspirational morning.

TIME: TUESDAY 9.00 – 12.00

COST: \$260.00 for 8 weeks

DATES: August 2,9,16,23,30, September 6,13,20

For further information contact: Margaret-Mary Farr on (027) 248-4193 or

Email: manawastudio@gmail.com

Facebook page: Kairos Artistic Endeavours

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. Funding is possible through ACC (adult sensitive claims) and WINZ (for beneficiaries). For more information contact: Eva Steinmetz-Urieli: <evaurieli@gmail.com> 06 8786028 or 021 02771201 mobile.

INVITATION

We warmly invite Kindergarten and School parents to a series of short talks introducing Anthroposophy and some of the ideas underlying Rudolf Steiner Education.

We offer these talks at a time that we hope will be suitable for parents prior to picking up children at the end of their school day. The talks will be held in the **Rudolf Steiner Centre** Library where attendees can also peruse the many books available for reading and borrowing.

The talks are free, but there is a Koha box for contributions that help cover the costs of keeping the Centre.

From 1:45 to 2:30pm on Wednesdays in Term 3
in the **Library** of the *Rudolf Steiner Centre*
entrance 401 Whitehead Road, Hastings.
(across the road from Taikura School Nelson Street entrance)

These talks, to be given by Hans van Florenstein Mulder, will be 30 minutes long followed by 15 minutes for discussion.

The initial talks offered are:

Talk 1: 1:45pm Wednesday 3 August

How do we connect to the world around us?

- Through our BODY's sense organs we **perceive** the world.
- Through our SOUL's feeling/empathy we **relate** to what we perceive in the world.
- Through our SPIRIT's activity the inherent meaning of what we perceive is **revealed** to us.

Talk 2: 1:45pm Wednesday 10 August

What is our relationship to nature?

- Understanding the 4 kingdoms of nature.

Talk 3: 1:45pm Wednesday 17 August

How do we understand ourselves in relation to the mineral, plant and animal realms?

- The archetypal nature of Threefoldness.

After these three initial talks we can decide how to proceed through the term, based on the questions arising from these talks.

On behalf of an initiative group: Hans van Florenstein Mulder and Robin Bacchus

Hans van Florenstein Mulder has been involved in Waldorf Education (Upper school Taikura from 1974 to 1990) and had a biodynamic horticulture unit in Hasting from 1976 to 2002. He was General Secretary of the New Zealand Anthroposophical Society from 1992 to 2006. Since then he has been active in above fields mainly in Asia. He is now retired.