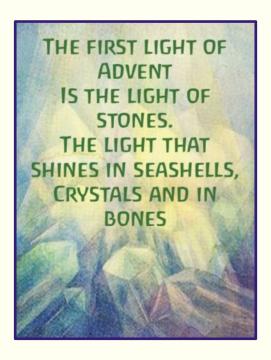
Taikura Rudolf Steiner School





Advent Latin - "that which is coming"



The poem below can guide us through the four weeks of Advent. Each week a kingdom in nature could be considered and gratitude given. The corresponding stanza of the poem - glued onto a card, to be added to the festival table or mantle piece - until all kingdoms are represented.

The first light of Advent is the light of stones— Light that lives in crystals, seashells, and bones.

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

The third light of Advent is the light of beasts—All await the birth, from the greatest and the least.

The fourth light of Advent is the light of humankind— The light of hope that we may learn to love and understand."

Sunday 3 December will mark the first Advent Sunday of 2023



How does your whānau mark the Sundays of Advent and the Advent Season? What elements of the coming festive season have meaning to you? There is no right or wrong way to create traditions in your home. Over the years I have come to realise that one ritual or tradition held consistently, with personal relationship to its meaning, has proved to be more potent than the myriad of traditions and Christmas activities. Our interactions when we actively practice the virtues of goodwill, hope, love and peace to all, along with the intentional festival space we create, provide an opportunity for ourselves and family to experience the mood of Christmas.

Possible family activities over Advent

Create an Advent Festival Table. The first week celebrates the Mineral Kingdom. You might adorn the festival table with a blue cloth - the colour of Mother Mary's mantle. On the table a candle and gemstones are placed. These elements help create the landscape to where on Christmas Eve, Mary and Joseph arrive. The following day - sees the empty manger filled when the sweet baby Jesus is placed in the empty manger.



Alternatively you might wish to use a soft sea blue with a buttery lemon coloured cloth, colours of the Aotearoa summer beach. Instead of gemstones, simple greywacke may be all that adorns your table, echoing the beautiful landscape of Aotearoa.

This year's parent Advent evening, led by Margaret-Mary Farr, will introduce various Madonna motifs and their meaning along with the exploration of the colours of the Advent Season in relation to Aotearoa and the season of summer.



Make an Advent wreath. The Advent wreath is four candles on a wreath of evergreen. Some people like to have a central white candle - representing the Christ and/or universal love. The wreath is shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of the seasons, God and universal love. Each Sunday of the Advent season, you might focus on one of the four virtues the Jesus child brings to us: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. Others consider the lighting of the first candle to symbolize expectation, while the second symbolizes hope, the third joy and the fourth purity. The Christ candle in the centre of the wreath can be lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day - a picture of light arriving - the Jesus child is here.

Advent Meal

Each Advent Sunday you might have a special Advent dinner with food reserved for these four meals specifically. Or a significant food of your childhood or homeland, a traditional family recipe - something that is dear to your heart and that which you want to hold significance for your children. During your meal you might light a dinner candle or the candles of the Advent wreath.



He Pito Kõrero!

Kia ora e te whānau whānui o te kura nei!

Last weekend I was in Tāmaki Makaurau, and whilst there I visited 'Te Rā' at the Auckland Museum. The following is a korero that gives background information about this taonga, the exhibition that Te Rā is part of and the replica 'Māhere Tū ki te Rangi, that was woven by a roopu of kairaranga harakeke (weavers of flax). From a personal perspective, to stand in the presence of Te Rā was awe inspiring!

Auckland Museum currently has a special exhibition $Te R\bar{a}$, Navigating Home, where the museum is hosting Te R \bar{a} , the only known customary M \bar{a} ori sail still in existence. The sail is dated to be around 200 years old, and this is the first time it has returned to Aotearoa after being held in the British Museum for many years. Standing at over four metres high, the sail, finely woven in harakeke and other materials, is a stunning reminder of the rich history of M \bar{a} ori sailing and navigation.

Alongside the sail is an exhibition, *Te Karanga o Te Rā*, by Te Rā Ringa Raupā, a group of Northland weavers who have worked since 2009 to recreate replicas, or younger siblings, of Te Rā; Hine Mārama, a small-scale model of the sail, and Māhere Tu ki te Rangi, a full-size recreation.

For more information about the exhibitions, see the link here.

https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/visit/exhibitions/te-ra

Kīwaha o te wiki - kīwaha of the week

Ākuni pea (ar coo nee peh ar) Maybe, perhaps, soon, possibly

Hina: Kia ora e Mata. Are you coming to waka ama training today?

Mata: Ākuni pea e hoa!

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



Waiata Mai Thursdays – 12:30 – 1:00 pm - in the Whare Te Manukura

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

Every Thursday in our Whare Te Manukura. 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 kopara e ko!

Nā Troy Gardiner

Community Carol

Hark the Herald Angels Sing!

Hark! the herald angels sing, Christ, by highest heaven adored:

"Glory to the new-born King! Christ, the everlasting Lord;

Peace on earth, and mercy mild,

Late in time behold him come,

God and sinners reconciled." Offspring of the favoured one.

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;

Join the triumph of the skies; Hail, th'incarnate Deity:

With th' angelic host proclaim, Pleased, as man, with men to dwell,

"Christ is born in Bethlehem." Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! the herald angels sing,

Hark! the herald angels sing,

"Glory to the new-born King! "Glory to the new-born King!

Attention

Please note a change from tradition in this years Carol Evening start time,

it will take place at the earlier time of **6:30 pm**

Staffing Update

A very warm welcome to our new school gardener, Stephen Oliver. Stephen is an experienced gardener and landscaper with a love for plants. He has lived in Hawkes Bay since 2019 and is enjoying the lifestyle change after working in corrections for many years.



We are delighted to have appointed Fiona Mackenzie to the role of Class Four teacher from the start of 2024. Mrs Mackenzie has been relieving in Class Five this year and we have all enjoyed getting to know her.

Upcoming Events

December 8	3:00 pm	Last day for classes 8 & 9
December 11	5:00 pm	School Board Meeting - Meeting Room
December 13	7:00pm	Shepherd's Play community performance - school hall
December 15	12:30pm	Last day for all school & kg - please note early finish
December 15	6:30 pm	Carol Evening
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EURYTHMY AOTEAROA

COME JOIN US FOR THREE FULL DAYS OF EURYTHMY

IN THE BEAUTIFUL SETTING OF TARUNA!

This summer workshop offers three full days from the 9th – 11th of January to immerse oneself in the dynamic movements of visible speech and music.

The workshop is open to all those interested in or passionate about eurythmy no matter what age, profession or field of interest.



ARE YOU INTERESTED, OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY BE?

CONTACT US EURYTHMYAOTEAROA@GMAIL.COM

Community Canteen

It is so lovely to see our tamariki enjoying the canteen kai. This week we switched it up a bit and made crostini with hummus and tomato, and pear and yogurt.

They were loved by students and faculty alike.







We provide organic, wholesome food everyday to the whole school community

It is loved by students and teachers alike

We now have a bank account – so it is now super easy to donate

Acc: 38-9025-0307982-00
Taikura Community Canteen

Thank you

Home Wanted

I am urgently looking for a room or sleep out to rent, a good place where I can re-gather myself and find my feet. Please phone Alice Kenny on 021 1722 934

Car For Sale

2012 dark red Hyundai Santa Fe 2.2R CRDi Elite A6 diesel. \$10,000. 191,000 km AWD, 7 seats, 5 doors, towbar, child seat anchor points, cruise control, push start, electric seat adjustment, cool box, electric windows and mirrors. Last service Nov 2023, WOF until Nov 2024. Well kept, with normal wear on upholstery and bodywork. Excellent service history for the duration of my ownership and that of the previous owner. Sale due to overseas travel. Ring 027 387 6884 for more info.









