



6 June 2024

Mid-Winter

Friday 21 June is the mid-winter solstice. Mid winters' day. This year the move from autumn to winter has seemed slow. Last week had moments of warmth and strong sun.

In the Northern Hemisphere, mid-winter falls a few days before Christmas Day and the celebration of the birth of Jesus, who became the bearer of the Christ Spirit.

For the North, this is a mighty symbol of the coming of new light into the world, and that the darkness shall be overcome.

What of us here in the Southern Hemisphere? Is there any way of reconciling the Christ Spirit with our own winter time? One possible way of looking at it, is that since Golgotha and Easter, the Christ Being has united himself fully with the very life of the earth, has ensouled the earth and all its people with his own being and that He accompanies the destiny of the earth and each one of us in all time to come. He accompanies the soul life of the earth in all its cycles in time, large and small.

Beginning in spring and on into summer, the earth itself breathes out in burgeoning growth and new life into the far Heavens. We give ourselves up to sun, sea and manifold outer sense experiences. Come autumn, this out breath turns and the earth starts to breathe in again, reaching the fullest point at mid-winter. Now the earth is very much within itself, quietly contained. The outer world of nature is diminished and the seeds of summer lie waiting, repositories of all the sun and warmth of summer.

Here in Hawke's Bay, where the pause seems comparatively brief (with freesias sprouting, etc) mid-winter is typified by a day when the sky is a close thick, pearly blanket, through which the sun weakly and dimly shines. One feels encapsulated in a cold, still, quiet world.



In Europe this would be a day when the snow thickly blankets everything and all is silent. When the surrounding world is like this, perhaps we can feel ourselves in our innermost being, more acutely, more actively than was possible in our 'out and about' days. On these quiet winter days, perhaps inside by the fire, quietly reading, reflecting, is it not easier to feel one's own sense of self and perhaps contemplate, take stock and review? We come nearer to our essential being, and our own sense of the Spirit. Through being closer to our own Spirit life, our own inner light, do we not consciously or unconsciously draw nearer to the light of the world, the spirit of future evolving humanity?

Perhaps too, this holds good for the soul life of the earth itself at this time. That, although quiet on the outside, it is more awake to itself, most earthly and self-contained. *Has Christ accompanied this deep in breath of the earth; is his Being active within the very heart of the earth at this time?* Of course, we have to remember, the exact opposite process of out breathing is going on in the northern summer.

There are many ways to celebrate the Spirit spark, or inner light. Our way is with the beauty and magic of the mid-winter spiral. For the children of the Lower and Middle school, a candle lighted, placed in the Spiral which they walk, symbolises this Spirit spark or inner light.

The room is dark, silence pervades the space, one single candle burns at the spiral's centre. When all have gathered, one person walks the spiral, lights their candle and places it near to the central candle, and as one person after another, lights and places their candle the form of the spiral appears as a gentle light fills the room. It may take courage for a child to walk alone and as the light grows wonder can be seen glistening in the eyes of the children. There is an old saying, wisdom begins with wonder.



For the High School, by consciously placing tea lights on to parts of a large world map, they are pinpointing a place where people are experiencing dark times and need our thoughts and prayers, or else it might be also acknowledging where light is shining and draw attention to it. Be it literal or figurative, the light that each of us carries within us can be acknowledged and encouraged to shine out.

The Little Lantern song sometimes sung as the younger classes make their way to the Mid-Winter Spiral Walk may in fact point to a deep truth.

When days are darkest
The Earth enshrines,
The seeds of summer's birth
The Spirit of Man is a light that shines
Deep in the darkness of Earth.

As students of Class 6 and 7 physics know from their light studies, the smallest light is enough to dispel otherwise total darkness.

Mid-Winter Spiral – the Koru **save the date - Thursday 20 June 2024**

During the school week of 17 to 21 June, Taikura will celebrate mid-winter. In anticipation of the festival for the children - we warmly invite parents to come and walk the spiral, so you too can share in your child's experience. None of us are too old to wonder and perhaps leave with a sense of gratitude for the opportunity to be touched by the simple beauty of the spiral.

Parents are warmly welcomed on
Thursday morning 20 June at 9:00 am
Eurythmy Room Taikura School
Adults only



We very much hope that the change of venue as well as the change of time will make this event more accessible.

He Pito Kōrero!



Ngā mihi o Hinetakurua ki a koutou o Ngai Taikura!

Over the last few weeks I have been watching the setting of the sun, and then the descent of 'Te waka o Rangi'. Taramainuku the kaihautu – captain of that waka, every night has collected all the souls of those who have passed on from the previous year. As the waka disappears from the night sky, those souls are taken into the fiery abyss of the sun and made into whetū – stars, to be released at the time that Matariki rises again! The following link is a kauhou - lecture that Te Ahorangi – Dr Rangi Matamua gave a couple of years ago. This kauhou shares a wide a multi-faceted knowledge of Matariki; the origins of how this cluster came to be, stories about this cluster, time from a Māori perspective, and the significance of the rising of Matariki again. [Mānawatia a Matariki : with Dr Rangi Matamua \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

I have attended a couple of the kauhou that Dr Rangi Matamua has given and I feel a deep appreciation for the wealth of knowledge that he has and the way he easily shares this with Māori humour.

I thought it would be good to share phrases, whakataukī – proverbs, and activities, as we prepare for the sighting again of Matariki. A phrase that was coined by Rangi Matamua and Hēmi Kelly is "Mānawatia a Matariki!" happy Matariki, hail Matariki, celebrate Matariki - an expression used to welcome Matariki and wish someone well during the time of Matariki! Last year during this time, this was a good sign off for all my emails!

Kia ora mai anō, nā, Matua Troy.

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



Sports Notices

We are wishing to build our umpire base for school hockey. There are two upcoming opportunities for parents or students to develop skills.

Hockey Umpiring Course - Thursday 13 June in our school where Te Manukura from 5:00pm to 6:30pm
Cost: \$10.00 per person. Run by Todd Astill. Parents and students from Class Five and upwards are welcome. This is a classroom based session, particularly looking at seven-a-side hockey games. Please email Janet for registration sports.coordinator@taikura.school.nz

Hawke's Bay Hockey are running an umpiring training course in the school holidays.
See their website under registrations for more information, it is called "YUP".

Congratulations to Eva Körschenhausen who was selected into the Hawke's Bay Under 19 Volleyball team, they had a great tournament over King's Birthday weekend.

Congratulations to Phillip Ostergren who has been selected for the Hawke's Bay Under 12 Futsal team travelling to the Gold Coast.

Coming up.... Hawke's Bay Hockey under 13 development teams. If you are a student from Class 6 or 7 and under 13 from 1 January this year, you can join these development teams. Contact Janet for more information.

PB4L update

As an overarching emphasis for this year the school's PB4L group is working on raising awareness, reflecting on, and taking initiative towards the three principles and values of Kindness, Perseverance and Respect.

This term's focus is on Kindness and the first step is to capture as many voices from within our kura as possible. To do that the students regularly engage in vertical working groups after morning assemblies and their mahi is to look at different aspects of Kindness from the table below and brainstorm ideas about:



- > What does it look like?
- > What does it sound like?
- > What does it feel like?

KINDNESS Atawhai	Mā te ngākau aroha koe e ārahi. <i>Let a loving heart guide your decisions</i>	Use kind words and actions - Greet others
		Use kind words and actions - Use your manners
		Use kind words and actions -Use a friendly tone
		Use kind words and actions -Take turns to speak and act
		Awahi - Encourage others
		Awahi -Welcome new students and visitors

This data collection and analysis then inform the creation of skits, written and performed by High School students as well as teachers, showcasing it in the context of real life scenarios thereby increasing awareness of it.

Even though this mahi may sound straightforward and self-explanatory, first evaluation of gathered data suggests that translating the idea around Kindness from a thought into an action does not necessarily seem to come naturally and will require some explicit focus and engagement. Looking at the feeling realm however suggests a wide and deep appreciation of and for kindness - another aspect that seems to deserve increased awareness.

The PB4L group would like to thank all students and teachers who are actively involved in this mahi and are looking forward to the shared performances and increased kindness to come from it.

PB4L Group - Pippa Caccioppoli, Tobi Hensel, Tish Chalmers, Sanne Coulthard, Troy Gardiner

Upcoming Events

Class Eight Play Performance - Thursday 6 June at 7:00pm

Teacher Only Day - Friday 7 June - SCHOOL CLOSED

School Board meeting - Monday 17 June at 5:00pm in our whare Te Manukura

Kererū Kindergarten mid-winter festival - Wednesday 19 June at 6:00pm

Mid-winter spiral for parents - Thursday 20 June at 9:00am in the Eurythmy Room

Taikura Kindergarten mid-winter festival - Friday 21 June at 6:00pm

Te Wiki o Te Pūrākau - Story Week - 24 to 27 June

Community Survey

We would like to gather some feedback from our parent body about our school. What do you and your tamariki/rangatahi enjoy most about Taikura? What do you value/connect with most about the various aspects of our Special Character? What areas could we strengthen? This is the **third set** of our questions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RM8597Q>

We encourage you all to participate, either via the links, emailing us directly, or dropping in handwritten notes, whatever works for you! For those who have not yet got to it, here is the link to the first set of questions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCQVX99>

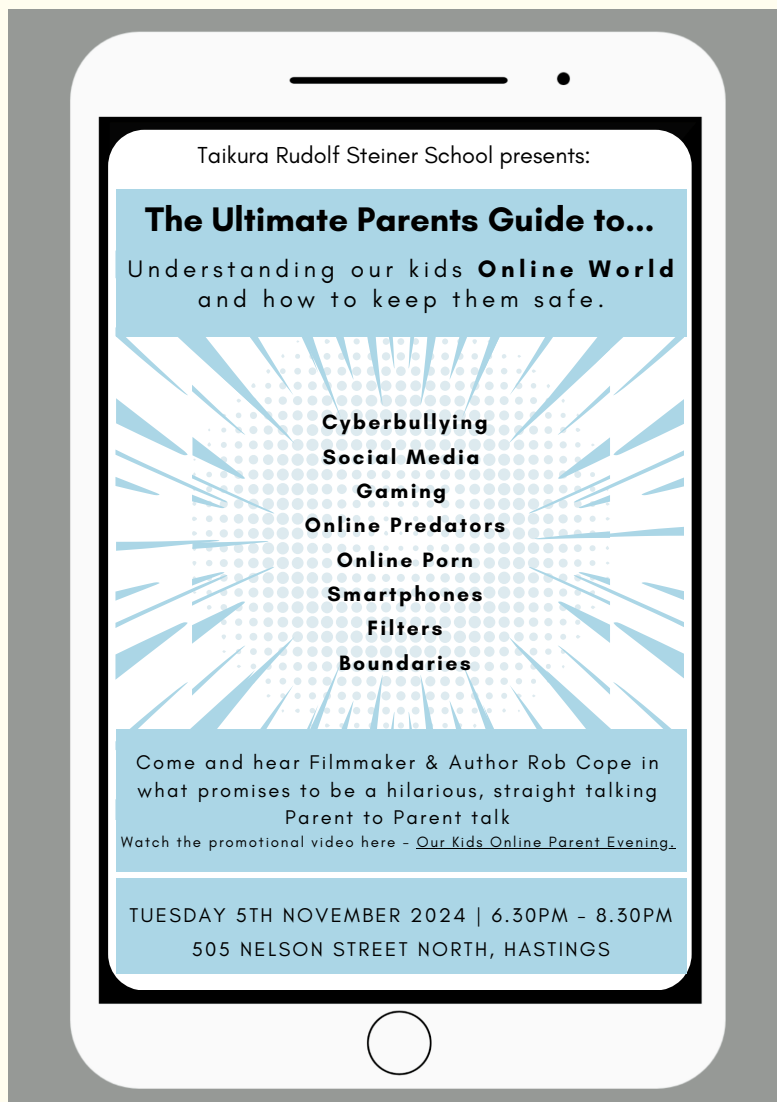
And the link to the second set: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8FXWLD9>

Please don't hesitate to contact us office@taikura.school.nz or by phone 06 8787 363 if you would like a hard copy, or an emailed version of the survey.

Employment Opportunities

Playgroup Coordinator. Applications close this Sunday, 9 June. Our playgroup currently runs on Monday and Tuesday mornings across the road from school at the Steiner Centre. We are looking for a coordinator to lead the group and complete some administration. 4 - 7 hours per week as agreed. Previous Steiner ECE experience preferred but not essential.

Please contact Erika Potter erika.potter@taikura.school.nz



Community Canteen

It has been exactly a year since our canteen was overflowing with apples ... and they have lasted us well over the last winter!

This year we are so very thankful to Bostock New Zealand for supporting our community canteen with lots of apples for this upcoming winter!

NOW THEY NEED TO BE PROCESSED! This Saturday 8 June the canteen will be open after Saturday sports from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and we will be cutting, freezing and stewing those BEAUTIFUL Granny Smith apples for our tamariki's morning teas!

If you have some time - even half an hour - come along and help prepping! It's a lot of fun and many hands...



Community Notices

Taruna College is excited to be once again offering their Winter Warmer Craft workshops on 27 July and 3 August. Are you keen to try your hand at macramé; needle felting; stone carving sculptures; flax weaving; flower wreaths or printmaking!

For more information or to register go to Taruna's website <https://www.taruna.ac.nz/courses-and-workshops/winter-warmers-craft-workshops/>



Winter Warmers Craft Workshops

Crafts that foster creativity and connection.
Come and learn from master craftspeople.
Two Saturdays July 27th & August 3rd 9.00-1.00pm, bring a friend for a day of creativity.
Cost \$120 - includes morning tea and tuition - extra material costs for some of the workshops is payable
For more information and to enrol see our website www.taruna.ac.nz or call 06 87777174 or contact info@taruna.ac.nz



Flax Weaving: Mahi Raranga
July 27 with Te Kaahurangi Maioha
Make your own taonga - a kete or creative art piece.



Linocut Printmaking
July 27 with Printmaker Lisa Feyen
Carve your own linocut then make prints on paper, for beautiful cards and art. Materials \$20 extra.



Wool Felting
August 3 with Sabine Laakman
Create your own winter figurines for the season table or puppet shows. Materials \$15 extra.



Macrame Hanging Plant Holder
Aug 3 with Tania and Sharon
Create a macrame hanging plant holder out of 100% cotton macrame cord. Materials \$30 extra.



Dry Flower Hanging
Aug 3 with Jo-anne Doig
Create a dried flower wall hanger, decorating it with a range of dried flowers and foliage. Materials \$30 extra.



Stone Carving
July 27 with Marcus Helmore
Make a simple bird sculpture for your home or garden. Materials \$50 extra.



Taruna Campus - 33 Te Mata Peak Road, Havelock North

FBI Games

Kids' Holiday Program (ages 7-13)
Mon 15th - Fri 19th July
9am-12pm

FBI is run in the mornings of the second week of the July and October holidays. It involves games, songs, skits, Bible times, quizzes, prizes and more! If you can't make it these holidays, register your interest to be reminded about future holiday programs.
*5 boys welcome at our discretion, preferably with an older sibling or friend.

FREE

<https://form.jotform.com/241476813828869>

Faithful Bible Investigators
Riverbend Bible Church 354 Te Aute Rd Havelock North

For more information, contact Maria Henderson 022 0966 300 or maria@oac.org.nz

Register here 

He Rangatahi Pounamu: 'Treasured Youth'

Kia ora whānau, Thank you for the interest, I will be available this coming Monday 10 June from 3:10pm - 3:40pm for further discussion and information. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME.

When : February 2025 – March 2025 (4 weeks)

Who: Rangatahi /Youth (14-17y)

What: A four week adventure journey in Finland (Suomi)

How: Applications are open until 15 June

Contact: Te Whiti Seeds(Kaiwhakahaere/Director)
021 1278279

Tracy Mclean (Kaitiaki/Secretary) 0212545820

email: rangatahipounamu@gmail.com

A genuine Finnish cultural experience with myself to guide and support youth to maximise their time, with dedicated pre-departure preparations and orientations to support our youth to succeed, learn and grow. A trip through the country, the nature, the food, having host families, visiting schools and ultimately the people; the silent Finns who live in the happiest country in the world.

Hawkes Bay Society for Music Education Inc.

Te Manu Topu o te Mataurunga Puoro o Heretaunga

PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRAL "PLAY-IN" 2024

With Guest Conductor: Kimbali Harding,
CEO of the Australian Youth Orchestra



9.00AM, THURSDAY
29TH AUGUST
HAVELOCK NORTH
INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL

Families, friends and teachers are warmly invited to attend the concert presented by the children commencing at 1.30pm

TO REGISTER
PLEASE CONTACT:

Jenni Hodgson
mewzik518@gmail.com

What to bring on the day:

- instruments
- a music stand if you have one (please label)
- morning tea and lunch
- a water bottle
- \$5.00 per child to help cover the costs of the event

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