



15 May 2025

The Importance of Warmth and the Lower Senses

Please mark your diaries for Thursday 5 June in the school hall.

We warmly invite you to join us for a hands-on sensory experience on the theme: 'The Importance of Warmth and the Lower Senses'

This will be an interactive evening for the whole school, from Kindergarten parents to High School parents, with the opportunity to talk with various therapists who work within the school, or in our wider school community.

The four lower senses lay the crucial foundation for our children's future growth and well-being, enabling higher learning to take place more easily. Also, it is a wonderful opportunity to see and experience the various supports available to our students on a daily basis which contribute to their on-going learning and social/emotional growth.

These therapies support and promote the hauora of the individual but also the collective of the class in which they belong. Hauora being the Māori concept of health comprising of taha tinana (physical well-being), taha hinengaro (emotional well-being), taha whānau (social well-being), and taha wairua (spiritual well-being).

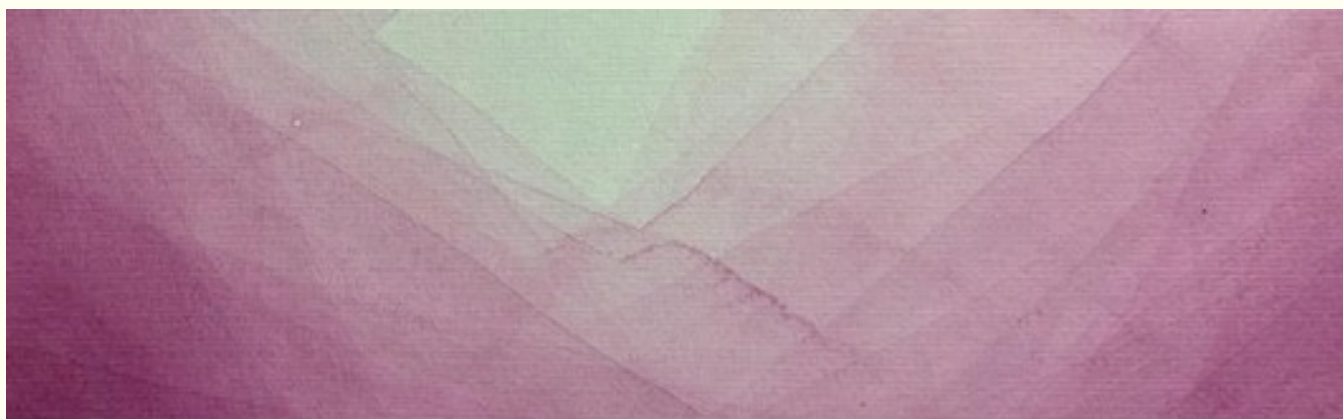
We warmly invite and encourage as many people as possible to come and attend and experience the programmes and supports available for our tamariki and rangatahi. The therapies you will be able to learn more about and experience hands-on include therapeutic eurythmy, the iLS Listening Programme, nursing therapies, speech therapy and formation, art therapy and Extra Lesson. These therapies are available to all our students across all areas of our school, however some therapies are more appropriate or effective for a particular stage of development than others.

Our evening will start at 6.30pm with a short welcome and a ten minute talk. Parents will then have the opportunity to move around the hall to learn about and experience the various therapies, and talk with the therapists and practitioners that work with our tamariki and rangatahi.

You will be greeted at the door with a warm drink and a tasty morsel of kai. There will also be a table of products which support warmth and well-being available for your purchase.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Warmly, the H3 Group





He Pito Kōrero

Kai hea a Matariki? - Where is Matariki?

Ngā mihi mahana o Mahuika ki a koutou katoa!

As it starts to get colder as Tamanuiterā journeys inland towards Hinetakurua, you may have noticed in the wee hours of the early morn that Matariki is no longer visible in the night sky. According to Dr Rangi Matamua, Matariki, after journeying across the night sky over the last 11 months collecting the souls of those who have died, has now gone to the fiery abyss, where those souls are made into stars and will be released when Matariki rises again in the coming month. This will also herald the beginning of Te Tau Hou Māori – the Māori New Year.

The following link is to a video that the College of Teachers watched last week that helps explain the significance of Matariki and different ways we can celebrate this period <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-k95itL71po> Over the course of the following weeks, *He Pitō Kōrero* will share different aspects of Matariki with you all, including waiata, whakataukī, karakia and other activities that will be happening at Taikura.

Whakataukī o te wiki – Proverb of the week.

Te ope o te rua Matariki
The company from the cavern of Matariki

This proverb can be used when speaking of the many chiefs who have left this world and gathered in the cavern of Matariki.

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



Waiata Mai Every Thursday 12:25 - 12:55pm!

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

Every Thursday in our whare, Te Manukura, you can learn some of the many waiata that your tamariki sing at kura! Nau mai, haere mai te katoa...all are welcome!

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

2026 Term Dates

2026	Dates	Notes
Term One	Monday 1 February (Pōwhiri) – Thursday 2 April	Waitangi Day Friday 6 February Good Friday 3 April
Term Two	Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July	Anzac Day Monday 27 April King's Birthday Monday 1 June
Term Three	Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September	Mid Term Break Friday 21 August – Monday 24 August
Term Four	Monday 12 October – Wednesday 16 December (Carol Evening)	Labour Weekend Friday 23 October – Monday 26 October

Communication

Last term we updated our Communication Procedure and due to the working together between home and school at Taikura there are aspects of this procedure that we would like to share with whānau.

The Grapevine, our school and kindergarten pānui, is our primary vehicle for sharing the life and culture of our kura. The Grapevine is published every Thursday on our website and on our school app, and a link is emailed directly to all school families.

Our **Website**, **SchoolApp**, **Facebook** page and **Instagram** account are additional platforms which are used for sharing the life and culture of Taikura School and Kindergartens. Regular updates, announcements, reminders and alerts are shared via our SchoolApp and this is the platform which will be used to communicate during an emergency.

Emails and Text Messages: Taikura does not expect staff to read or respond to text messages or emails outside of work hours, however, it is expected that staff will respond to all emails received from parents and whānau within two working days. We recommend that text messages and emails are used for information sharing only. If a conversation is needed we encourage arranging a face-to-face meeting. Termly pānui will be shared via email with parents from the Kindergarten, Lower School Class Teachers and High School Sponsor Teachers.

KAMAR is our student management system, where all up-to-date contact information for students and their whānau is stored. Parents and whānau are reminded termly of how to access the KAMAR portal via which they can check their child's details, attendance and academic results. Please notify office@taikura.school.nz of any updates to your details, including emergency contacts. All EOTC consent forms are now completed digitally via KAMAR and links to these documents will be shared with parents via email.

Information regarding **Parent Hui Evenings**, **Liaison Parent Meetings**, **High School Information Evenings** and any other hui or community events is communicated via our usual platforms (Grapevine, email, SchoolApp). Kindergarten Teachers, Class Teachers and Sponsor Teachers hold at least three whānau hui (parent evenings/afternoons) each year. Traditionally these are held in the evening, but afternoons have also worked in our kindergartens and for combined Lower School events. Whānau hui may be for individual classes or kindergarten groups, or for a combination of classes or kindergarten groups.

Careers Information

Careers Expo

The Napier Careers Expo provides an opportunity for young people looking to make key decisions about their future career choices to connect with a range of tertiary providers, apprenticeship programmes and local employers. Unfortunately, due to the Teacher Only day, Taikura won't be able to take our Class 11 and 12 students to the expo this year. However, the expo is open to the general public in the evening, so a great opportunity for students and whānau to attend together and have some conversations about potential career pathways.

Event: Napier Careers Expo

Date: Tuesday 27 May

Time: 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Location: Pettigrew Green Arena, 480 Gloucester Street, Taradale

Event: Victoria University Information Evening

Date: Wednesday 21 May

Time: 6:00 - 8:00pm

Venue: Napier War Memorial Centre, 48 Marine Parade, Napier

Please register at <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/events/2025/05/hawkes-bay-information-evening>

For more information, please contact Paula in the Careers Office

paula.rose@taikura.school.nz

Nau mai, hāere mai Roger Smith!

We're excited to welcome Roger to our Taikura staff, bringing a love for sport, the outdoors, and meaningful connection to our school and community.

With nearly 20 years of teaching experience in Aotearoa and a background in Sports Science and Physical Education from Brunel University in the UK, Roger is passionate about creating engaging real-world learning experiences, especially the outdoors! From beach trips to camping weekends, learning through doing.

Drawn to Taikura's values and the Steiner philosophy, Roger felt an instant connection. "It almost felt like Taikura chose me, I was ready for a new challenge, and the chance to teach across the whole school was really appealing." Roger's first weeks have left a strong impression where "The students, staff, and whānau have been incredibly welcoming. I've especially loved seeing the energy of the Lower School—it's a new experience for me."

Outside of school, Roger lives with his daughter, who's studying accounting, and an international student. His family enjoys cycling and Roger is currently training for an Ironman, as well as gardening, baking, and dreaming of one day biking through the Alps after watching the Tour de France.

"I'm really looking forward to being part of student experiences and connecting with the wider school community. I truly believe we all have a role in shaping young lives—so don't be afraid to get involved."

Taikura staff and students look forward to working alongside you Roger.

Noho ora mai rā, nā Thomas Pearson.



Upcoming Events

School Board meeting - Monday 19 May at 5:00pm

Liaison Parent Meeting - Wednesday 21 May at 6:00pm

*****Class 8 play performance** - Thursday 29 May at 7:00pm*** please note date change

Hui-a-whānau Tū mai Taikura - Thursday 22 May at 6:00pm

Teacher Only Day - school only - Tuesday 27 May

High School Information Evening - Wednesday 28 May at 6:00pm

Class One parent hui - Wednesday 28 May at 6:00pm

Class 3 parent hui - Wednesday 28 May at 6:30pm

High School Fundraising Ball - Friday 30 May at 7:00pm

King's Birthday - school & kindergartens closed - Monday 2 June

Kererū Kindergarten whānau afternoon - Tuesday 3 June at 2:00pm

Taikura Kindergarten whānau evening - Wednesday 4 June at 6:00pm

Class 2 parent evening - Wednesday 4 June at 6:30pm

H3 therapies evening - Thursday 5 June TBC

Whitsun - Friday 6 June

Taikura Fete - Sunday 16 November

Class 8 Play Performance - The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet

Written by Peter Bloedel Directed by Clayton Gibson

This is a funny 40-minute one-act play with a happy ending. A whimsical reinvention of Shakespeare's love story, without all the tragedy. It comes complete with fanciful costumes, rhymed couplets and creative wordplay -- similar to something Dr. Seuss might have written if he ever had his way with the script.

This play first premiered in 2001 and has since played in 41 US states, plus Australia, Canada, Japan, & South Africa and now at Taikura Rudolf Steiner School in Aotearoa.

Please note updated performance date: **Thursday 29 May at 7:00pm** in the hall

Quiet club initiative - donations of LEGO requested

The HS SENCo room is on the lookout for LEGO as part of a lunchtime quiet club initiative. If you have any LEGO at home that is no longer in use and you are willing to donate this, please can you get in touch with the HS SENCo, Sanne Coulthard sanne.coulthard@taikura.school.nz or drop off any donations to the office. Many thanks for your support.

Friday Market

Support Class 3 at the Friday Market on 23 May!

Come grab a delicious sausage from our sausage sizzle – just \$2 each!

While you're there, check out our beautiful range of house plants and herbs, including Spider plants, other varieties, and a lovely selection of herbs such as Calendula, Lemon Balm, Motherwort, Mugwort, Comfrey, Mint & Wormwood.



Prices from just \$0.50 to \$10 (class bank account details available for plant payments if needed).

All proceeds go towards our Class 3 fundraiser this term. We'd love your support – come and see what we've got!

Special thanks to Mat from The Organic Farm Butchery for supplying our amazing sausages!



Knitted Kindy Slippers

Taikura Kindergarten is selling hand knitted woollen Kindy Slippers as a year round fundraiser. Ready-made sizes available are from age 2 - 7 years old. Custom orders for older children are welcome. Slippers can be found in the Taikura Kindergarten whānau room Craft Cupboard, and payment can be made either by cash or bank deposit. Please contact Victoria 022 1037862 for any queries.



Taikura ball

Classes 10 - 12

Class 11 ski camp
fundraiser

Under the sea theme

Friday the 30th
of May

7pm till 11pm

Venue - Taikura
school hall

To purchase tickets or enquire about an
out of school plus one email:
si.fitzgerald@taikura.school.nz

\$45
per ticket



Community Notices

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.

For more information contact Eva Steinmetz-Urieli evaurieli@gmail.com

Phone 8786028 or 021 0277 1201



Join our Youth Week Skate Jam (free community event), 12 – 3pm Saturday 24 May at Hastings Skatepark. Games, spot prizes, giant bubbles, food stalls, DJ Sneaky!

We also have spots available in our weekly skateboarding lessons for all ages and abilities from complete beginners to more advanced riders! Boards & protective gear provided! Sessions are run by a Taikura parent and amazing Taikura teen coaches.

3.40 - 4.40 pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays at Hastings Skatepark (near Taikura). Come for a free trial, then \$7.50 per class.

Sign up at wellnessriders.com or email sarinah@wellnessriders.com

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