

Taikura Rudolf Steiner School

The
Grapevine



Matariki Whetū - Stars of Remembrance

19 June 2025



Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki
Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi
Mānawa maiea te mātahi o te tau

Hail the rise of Matariki
Hail the lord of the sky
Hail the New Year





He Pito Kōrero

***Matariki ki te rangi,
Matariki ki te whenua e!***

I was recently listening to a kōrero that resonated with me that one of our whaea from our kura shared. The kōrero was from Pā Ropata, or Rob McGowan. I remember Pā McGowan, when he was the priest for the Catholic Māori parish in Paki Paki. He moved on to the Whanganui River where the kaumātua and kuia shared their knowledge of rongoā Māori – traditional Māori medicinal practices – with him. Pā is renowned amongst the Rongoā practitioners across the motu for the wealth of knowledge he holds and shares, both physically and spiritually, within this domain.



As we look to the stars to read what the year ahead holds for us, it is also a time to look to the whenua to feel what is happening in the realm of Tāne. The slowing down of the plants and trees is a tohu for us to do the same thing. In our busy lives, Matariki is also a time of self-reflection and a time to recalibrate, which is what the children of Tāne are doing in their own way! The plants seem like they are asleep, however they are gathering energy to prepare for what needs to happen in the time of Koanga – Spring. This was the essence of the kōrero that Pā shared, which we all know, and that I appreciated being reminded about...*Me huritao whaiaro tātou – a time for self-reflection and replenishment for us all.* Below is a kawakawa tea recipe that Kura, our past librarian shared that I love!

The heart-shaped leaf of the kawakawa tree is full of wintry goodness. Packed with vitamin C, it is a digestive aid, immune booster, and blood purifier.

- Pick three or four leaves (the leaves closer to the stem full of holes are the most potent – the caterpillars are showing you to the best leaves).
- Bruise the leaves to help release the flavour.
- Simmer for 10 minutes (with the lid on to keep in the goodness) with 2 slices of ginger, and then add juice of a lemon, and honey to taste.

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

Curriculum Corner - Class Seven



Made as part of their mechanics Main Lesson, A Rube Goldberg machine is a deliberately over-engineered contraption designed to perform a simple task through a complex chain reaction of mechanical steps. When students build these machines, they get a hands-on opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of physics concepts like levers, pulleys, inclined planes, and energy transfer. This creative process encourages problem-solving, collaboration, and the practical application of scientific principles.



International Students' Conference at the Goetheanum

Disconnect to Connect - *The threads that hold us together*

From 1 to 5 April 2026, the next International Students' Conference will take place at the Goetheanum in Switzerland.

The conference is a wonderful space where ideas and experiences from young people aged 16 to 19 from all over the world can come together, enriching those who participate with multiple perspectives and ways of seeing life. As usual, this conference has a central theme that brings us together and serves as a guiding thread throughout the days: connect.

How do we connect with diversity? How do we connect through technology? How do we connect with nature? How do we connect deeply with one another?

What does it mean to be an individual, and how can I connect with others from my freedom as an individual?

During the conference, we will address these questions and related topics in many different ways, not only through thinking, but also through feeling and doing.

The conference is organized by young people from around the world in collaboration with the Youth Section at the Goetheanum and the board of the students' representatives of Waldorf schools in Germany.

Congratulations

At the recent Surf Lifesaving Hawke's Bay Awards, one of our Class 12 ākonga received high recognition for his volunteer work in the field of saving lives and keeping our beaches safe.

Mika Moenchmeier received the top award for Event Safety Contribution of the Year. This means that he worked at events organised by other groups, volunteering to ensure the safety of these events on the beach.

He has become the Head Instructor for Waimarama surf lifesaving for the upcoming season and will be in charge of training the lifeguards for the 2025-26 summer season.

Mika represented the club at this year's IRB competition as part of a team which included Elliot Blakey, another Taikura student

Last year, he was awarded the Young Lifesaver of the Year award for Hawke's Bay.

We are very proud of our ākonga who venture out into the community and are making outstanding contributions.

Awesome work, Mika.

Anne Hilton



School Board Update

We held a School Board meeting on Monday 16 June. In this meeting, we discussed putting plywood panelling around the second floor of Taikura House. This will protect the walls from bags, furniture etc. It has already been put up on the third floor of Taikura House and was very successful. There were reports from the sub-committees. I gave a report from the Student Council. We discussed the latest policies that were up for review and ended the meeting in a timely manner.

Just a reminder that elections for the School Board are coming up in September and I highly recommend standing for the School Board. For more information, please check out this link:

<https://www.resourcecentre.org.nz/helpforboards>

Tyler Dipper, Student Representative on the School Board

Lost Property

A reminder to please check the lost property cupboard under the external hall stairs before the end of term. Any items not collected will be donated to charity during the school holidays.



Upcoming Events

Matariki Public Holiday - School & Kindergartens CLOSED - TOMORROW

Class 12 Play Performance 'Radium Girls' - Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26 June at 7:00pm

Mid Winter Festival - Thursday 17 July

Class 11 Quiz Night Fundraiser - Wednesday 23 July

School Dance - Friday 25 July

SING! Choral Workshop - Sunday 3 August at 2:00pm

Vox Humana Choral Performance - Sunday 3 August at 5:30pm

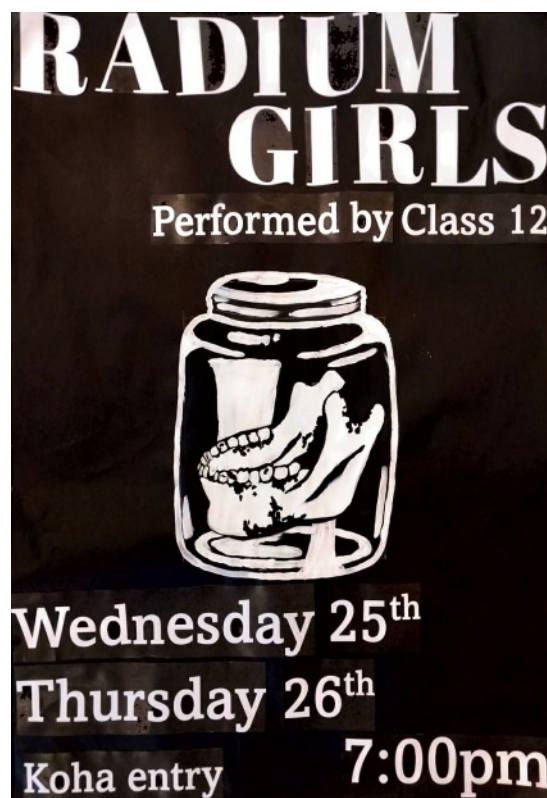
Hockey Fun Day Fundraiser - Saturday 9 August 10:00am

Taikura Fete - Sunday 16 November

Class 12 Play Performance

Class 12 presents Radium Girls...

Radium Girls is a play based on the true story of young women who worked in the U.S. Radium Corporation in New Jersey, painting watch dials with radium-based paint in the 1920s and 30s. The play follows Grace Fryer as she and her co-workers continue to work, ignorant of the dangers to their health. Only later to discover they are suffering from horrific side effects. Grace fights hard in court to bring those responsible for the irreversible damage caused, to justice.



Please save the date of Sunday 16 November for our Fête!

The Fête Committee has started preparations and is feeling positive and excited for a wonderful 2025 event that raises funds for our kura and showcases the school's special character and kaupapa.

For those new to the school – the Fête is an annual Taikura highlight and a fixture on the Hawke's Bay event calendar. A festive mix of entertainment, food, games, magical children's activities and stalls make for a special day and an important fundraising activity for our school. Each class takes responsibility for different aspects of the Fête, and we ask all parents and whānau to contribute their time and efforts. Further information will continue to be shared via this newsletter, liaison parents and at parent meetings, however, if you have any questions in the meantime please email us at taikurafete@gmail.com

It's time to get crafting!



Winter is the perfect time to work away making crafts for the Fête's Children's Shop! Remember to make at least 10 of each item. These can be delivered to the school office at any time between now and Fete day!

Community Notices

Dry Pine Firewood For Sale

My name is Ashton and I am an ex-student of Taikura. I am selling firewood to raise funds for my rowing, and passion of photography.

The price is \$300 per cord delivered, or \$180 for a smaller trailer (a little less than ½ cord). Stacking is included with the smaller trailer load only.

Please call or text me on 028 4605 572



Mackenzie Property Maintenance and Handyman Services

Gardens; start up & maintenance, small or large, pruning & care (all organic or biodynamic methods), small builds, decks, pergolas, fences, ramps, water blasting and more.

Friendly, knowledgeable & reliable, quality workmanship. I can come to you throughout the Hawke's Bay region.

Ph or text Jason Mackenzie 0273669531

jason3mackenzie@gmail.com

Accommodation Needed

Kia Ora whānau, I am starting the one year Rudolf Steiner training at Taruna this year. My two girls children (age 13 & 10) and myself, are looking for a place to stay from Saturday 5 to Thursday 10 July. If you need a house sitter we can do. Or if you have a self contained sleep out that would be wonderful. Or, we are happy to share a room and can contribute towards power and food. My children will be at friends places while I'm at the course.

Please contact me on 021-2604992

Tara Lamb

Conversations - Getting Started With Homeopathy

With Angela Hair

Saturday 21 June 2.30pm - 4:00pm at Rudolf Steiner Centre.

Angela Hair, from Concordia Health and the homeopath at the Steiner Centre, will share her experiences with the Selene Starter Kit. This kit contains 12 homeopathic remedies and offers a cost effective way to get started using homeopathy.

Having a homeopathic kit at home is a great way to help you and your family with acute illnesses and injuries that may happen. Angela will explain how homeopathic remedies differ from Weleda remedies and how they can be used together to support faster recovery. Angela will talk about how the remedies can be used in childhood and at the end of life, in fact, at any age. This kit is great for humans and animals.

The Selene Starter Kit may be purchased or ordered at the event for \$35.

Koha for Centre is suggested.

ART ALCHEMY THERAPY

(ARTISTIC THERAPY FOR CHILDREN)



For children with Autism, behavioural and emotional needs, and other diagnoses.

1:1 and group sessions available

School visits

Amanda Sowersby

Experienced and qualified artist, artistic therapist, yoga teacher, and sound healer

amanda@artandalchemy.co.nz 021449168

ONE DAY ONLY

ART & YOGA WORKSHOP

FOR CHILDREN 6 YEARS-12 YEARS



Keirunga Arts
Venue, Havelock
North
9:30am – 2:30pm

Tuesday 1st July
Bookings &
payments are
a must.



We will start the day with yoga, story telling, morning tea—drawing & painting, lunch, nature walk, clay
Email: bookings@artandalchemy.co.nz

Elemental Beings

In-person and Online 9 Week Course
Starting 15th July, 2025

This course invites us to renew our relationship with these, our non-visible earthly companions and co-workers.

Elementals are everywhere, in all creation and in us.

Who are these tireless workers, what are their natures and their roles and where do they come from?

We have forgotten the Elemental Beings we once knew, but since the turn of the millennium many new connections are being made and communications reported.

Tuesdays 09.00am - 10.00am, Talk series \$170

Tuesdays 10.35am - 11.45am, Guided Art Experiences \$60

Online Course: live + video recordings and notes

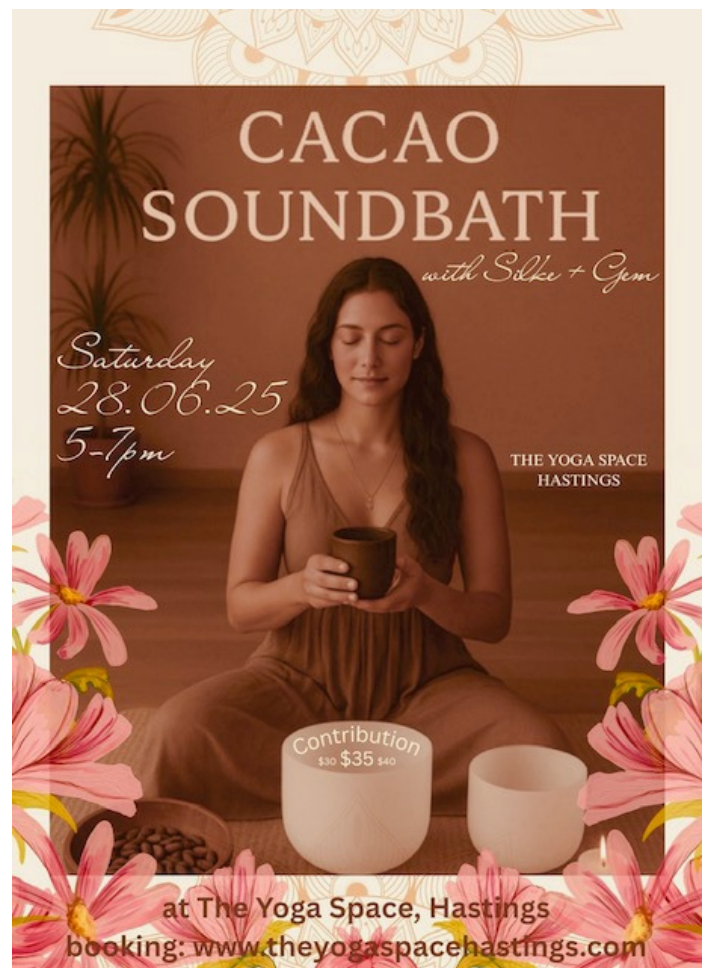
Contact Cleone Armon for more details:
candsarmon@gmail.com 0224 895 674

CACAO SOUNDBATH

with Silke + Gern

Saturday
28.06.25
5-7pm

THE YOGA SPACE
HASTINGS



Contribution
\$30 \$35 \$40

at The Yoga Space, Hastings
booking: www.theyogaspac Hastings.com