



27 November 2025

Ahurei o Ngāti Kahungunu – Kahungunu Kapa Haka Festival!

Reflections on our kapa at the festival

Walking through Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu, I am overwhelmed by the expressions of culture from the tamariki, rangatahi, the kaiako, ngā kui me ngā koroua, all smiling and happy with the day that will present itself with various kura displaying their kapa haka prowess.

I see familiar faces sitting and waiting in anticipation of “Te Manukura”, the Taikura Rudolf Steiner School Class 6 and 7 kapa haka.

The MC steps forward mic in hand and announces that “Te Manukura” is about to step onto the stage and perform for the first time. They look calm, they walk with pride and humility and then they begin...

My account of the performance will be different to all others who watched and vice versa, my account holds back tears of joy at what unfolds on that stage. I am overwhelmed at the achievements of these rangatahi and those that have held them in this light. Overwhelmed that from all walks of life they have bonded, they have persisted, they have demonstrated commitment, and they have stood in unity to express Māori culture to the very best of their abilities.



Their performance was special on so many levels, from the clear pronunciation of te reo, the soulful sound of their waiata, the harmonies sounded by their collective voices filling the hall, to their own achievement of standing on a stage performing kapa haka to those blessed to be there.

I am reminded that culture shared and culture expressed creates meaningful shifts in consciousness towards understanding. The level of performance of Te Manukura on this day stirs my imagination to believe that they are the leaders of tomorrow. To that end, we must acknowledge and give loud applause to the leaders of the present that have helped Te Manukura to stand tall on that platform. That through it all, we have people in our community that give of themselves above and beyond, that we have ākonga accepting the challenge, and that we can be overwhelmed by the beauty expressed by our rangatahi when they come together.

Te Manukura - Class 6 and 7 kapa haka, you have excelled in your performance, and you carried Taikura with dignity, humility, and excellence personified! You deserved the applause that resounded and echoed through the hall! Tihei Mauri ora!!!

Nā, Nathan Foote (Class 6 parent)

He rā whakamīharo! Our tamariki did our kura proud performing kapa haka at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori oTe Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu – such a beautiful setting. Their reo, waiata, haka – te ihi, te wehi, te wana! The respect, heart, and mana they showed was truly uplifting. Ngā mihi nunui to Matua Troy and all who tautoko i tēnei kaupapa, thank you for supporting our tamariki to be part of this special event. Awesome whānau support too - ka mau te wehi! Already looking forward to next year. **Ngā mihi nui, nā Hana Ruth (Class 6 parent)**

Watching our students perform at the kapa haka festival was a testament to their commitment and kotahitanga. Every action and every waiata carried the weight of hours of practice and the pride of presenting something meaningful together. Their performance was the result of steady effort, attention to detail, and the courage to stand before an audience and give their best. What they shared today was strong, polished, and showed āhua, we can all be proud of what they achieved. Ka mau te wehi. Many thanks to Matua Troy, for his efforts with offering them this opportunity and the time and commitment invested in their performance. **Nā, Darryn Breakwell (Class 6 Teacher)**



Our kapa haka tamariki and rangatahi made my heart swell yesterday representing Taikura at the Kahungunu Primary and Intermediate Schools Kapa Haka Festival. There was a bubbly positive vibe filling the bus with chatter as well as the odd nervous comment of, "Oh whaea, I really don't want to do this anymore!"

As we pulled into the gates of Te Kura

Kaupapa Māori o Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu, the whispered awe of, "oh wow, is this a school?" when they saw the carvings, the buildings and te iwi Ngāti Kahungunu. They conducted themselves beautifully walking through the kura.

They took their place on stage. I was at the back with Matua Troy so I couldn't see their faces but I could feel the ihi and the wehi within every one of them. They were standing together supporting each other so well. Every one of our tamariki should feel extremely proud of themselves, they sang their waiata and did their haka beautifully. Poututerangi spoke with such mana and dignity. His mates right there at his back. Our roopu burst into their first waiata, singing clear and strong, they carried this all the way through until we exited the stage. Halo carried the kaea kōhine role with such humbleness and strength, Carter led our tama through to the front with his clear melodic voice, Timo started the haka with such kaha, and Juan took on the haka with power and humility.

Nā rātou i whakarangatira te kaupapa o te kapa haka. Tēnā rā koutou katoa, kei te mihi, kei te mihi kei te mihi. Kei te menemene mai ō koutou tipuna, ō koutou lwi, hapū, whānau me tātou o te kura hoki.

He mihi maioha ki a koe Matua Troy mō tōu aroha, tōu kaha me te rangimārie i tōu mahi mō ēnei rangatahi, ngā rangatira mō āpōpō. **Nā, whaea Jaci (Kaiāwhina)**

It was a wonderful thing to see and hear our kapa haka roopu perform at Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu today as part of Te Ahurei o Ngāti Kahungunu. They really did us proud! Poutūterangi opened the set with a beautiful and strong mihi; as kaitātaki (leader) he opened the way for our rangatahi to deliver a tight set of waiata-a-ringa, haka and hīmene. As the other kaitātaki, Halo's clear voice rang out as she led the roopu in the 'Ruawharo' and 'Waiatitia' waiata; this was one of my highlights for sure. All the performers contributed to the collective heartbeat of the takahia, held their form, held their mana, carried their gestures, and sang so beautifully. There were some lovely harmonies coming through, too. Another of my highlights was hearing Carter sing 'mata rawa e' to lead the roopu into 'Tika tonu' - wow, what a voice he has!

Ngā mihi maioha, nā Sarah Millington. (Class 7 parent)

The goal of going to a kapa haka Festival focused the students and created a more cohesive group. It was very valuable for students who had to take a leading role, not only that they had to practice their part, but they became the authority to others who seek their help. The performance was inspiring to others and already some are speaking about being on the group even after they move to the High School! **Nā, Sandra Jordan (Class 7 Teacher)**

Taikura Rudolf Steiner School: Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The Board and Proprietors of Taikura Rudolf Steiner School reaffirm our unwavering commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Upholding Te Tiriti is not a symbolic gesture—it is embedded in our daily practice, in the values our ākonga aspire to: Whakaute, Atawhai, Manawanui (Respect, Kindness, Perseverance). It is reflected in our Annual Strategic Plan submitted to the Ministry of Education, and in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Proprietors and the School Board. These frameworks guide us in meeting our obligations under Te Tiriti.

We acknowledge the recent changes to the Education and Training Act, which remove the statutory requirement for school boards to “give effect” to Te Tiriti. While the Government has clarified that boards must still seek equitable outcomes for Māori learners and reflect cultural diversity, we believe Te Tiriti is foundational to education in Aotearoa. It is not an optional extra—it is a constitutional document that shapes who we are as a nation and as a kura.

In response to the Minister’s comments, we appreciate the emphasis on achievement and equity. At Taikura, we see these goals as inseparable from honouring Te Tiriti. Steiner education teaches us to consider all perspectives, fostering empathy, ethical reasoning, and social responsibility. Our students learn that partnership and justice are essential to community wellbeing.

Our position is clear:

- We will continue to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- We will continue to recognise mana whenua and nurture relationships with local iwi and hapū.
- We will continue to embed te reo Māori and tikanga through our He Reo Ora strategy.
- We will continue to ensure our curriculum reflects te ao Māori alongside the NZ Curriculum.

This stance aligns with our peak body, Steiner Education Aotearoa New Zealand (SEANZ), whose Equity Statement affirms Te Tiriti as the constitutional foundation of our society and commits Steiner schools to honouring its principles.

As we look ahead, we draw strength from the whakataukī:

“He toka tū moana, he ākinga nā ngā tai”

(A rock standing in the sea, lashed by the tides) — a reminder of resilience and steadfastness in times of change.

Markus Dipper
School Board Presiding Member

Pippa Caccioppoli
Amber Wale
Sean Gresham
Victoria Bednarek
Robert van Duin
Kelly Sutton
Louis Skipper

Michelle Vette
Proprietors Trust Chair

Craig Riddiford
Sue Simpson
Aimee Bartley
Patrick Lander
Benn Ratana



High School Prizegiving

Taikura Award 2025 - *Ashley Diedericks*

In recognition of an outstanding student who in their attitude and endeavours throughout their time at Taikura represents the ideals of Waldorf education in their thinking, feeling and willing and exemplifies the values of kindness, respect and perseverance.

Dux - *Lucy Allison*

In recognition of top academic results across all subjects at Level 3 during the 2025 school year.

Class 12 Awards

Top academic students in each subject:

The Sciences - *Lucy Allison*
Mathematics - *Lucy Allison & Mika Moenchmeier*
English and Drama - *Tabitha Mouat*
Movement - *Lucy Allison*
The Social Sciences - *Lucy Allison*
Technology - *Ashley Diedericks*
The Arts - *Ashley Diedericks & Tabitha Mouat*



L: Ashley R: Lucy

Exemplifying our values of kindness, respect and perseverance:

Service to the school through leadership - *Ashley Diedericks*
Service to the school through EOTC leadership - *Mika Moenchmeier*
Service to the school through leadership in the classroom - *Madeline Golding, Kate Caccioppoli, Lucy Allison*
Contribution to the cultural life of the school - *Mika Moenchmeier*

Class 11 Awards

Top academic students across all subjects:

Haruka Wallis & Moana Woods

Top academic students in each subject:

The Sciences - *Sita FitzGerald & Moana Woods*
Mathematics - *Max Sothart, Moana Woods & Haruka Wallis*
English - *Haruka Wallis*
Movement - *Moana Woods, Haruka Wallis & Tyler Dipper*
The Social Sciences - *Tyler Dipper*
Technology - *Tyler Dipper*
The Arts - *Haruka Wallis*

Exemplifying our values of kindness, respect and perseverance:

Service to the school through leadership - *Alistair Paddison & Jack Ludvigsen*
Service to the school through EOTC leadership - *Elliot Blakey*
Service to the school through social leadership - *Sita FitzGerald*
Service to the school through leadership in the classroom - *Stella de Lacey-Tong, Moana Woods, Indigo Lane & Haruka Wallis*
Service to the school through orchestra - *Moana Woods*
Contribution to the running of the school - *Tyler Dipper & Jack Ludvigsen*
Contribution to the cultural life of the school - *Sita FitzGerald & Moana Woods*
Special recognition for culture and the arts - *Sita FitzGerald & Moana Woods*



Class 10 Awards

Top academic student across all subjects:

Phoebe Hairs

Exemplifying our values of kindness, respect and perseverance:

Service to the school through leadership - *Georgie Abraham*

Service to the school through EOTC leadership - *Sahara Rarere & Millie McGuinness*

Service to the school through social leadership - *Phoebe Hairs*

Service to the school through leadership in the classroom - *Laura Golding & Millie McGuinness*

Contribution to the running of the school - *Demetri Mackey*

Contribution to the cultural life of the school - *Lewis Moenchmeier*

Class 9 Awards

Top academic students across all subjects:

Nela Pulfer-Ridings & Zoe Rousteau

Exemplifying our values of kindness, respect and perseverance:

Service to the school through leadership - *Avah-Jade Maoate, Willow Collins & Fern Wynands*

Service to the school through leadership in the classroom - *Lexi Hardy, Zoe Rousteau, Fern Wynands & Avah-Jade Maoate*

Service to the school through orchestra - *Nela Pulfer-Ridings*

Class 8 Awards

Top academic students across all subjects:

Neihana Toheriri & Sidney Spicer

Exemplifying our values of kindness, respect and perseverance:

Service to the school through leadership in the classroom - *Veni Menzies & Jakob Diedericks*

Contribution to the running of the school - *Veni Menzies*



Sport Awards

Taikura Sportsperson of the Year: *Mateo De Marco*

In recognition of playing Senior Boys basketball, Senior Boys volleyball, being selected for the U18 HB Basketball reps, and being selected for the Hawks Basketball training squad for the 2025/26 season

Outstanding participation in school sports: *Zoe Rousteau, Tara Theyer-Durham & Elliot Blakey*

Special Achievement in Sport: *Jakob Diedericks, Ian Foxcroft, Tyler Dipper, Mateo De Marco, Sidney Spicer*

Volunteer contribution to school sport: *Mika Moenchmeier, Ian Foxcroft, Nico Theyer-Durham, Louis Skipper, Zahara Kizito-Rees, Ashley Diedericks, Jakob Diedericks*

Trades Academy

Trades Academy Award with Special Mention

Phoebe Hairs – Agriculture Level 2

Sarah Stork- Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2

Class 12

Imogen Mackenzie Mapel - Hair & Beauty Level 3

Class 11

Mateo De Marco - Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2

Karl Frohlich - Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2

Alistair Paddison – Building and Construction Level 2

Maddison Powell – Hair and Beauty Level 2

Louis Skipper – Integrated Trade Skills Level 2

Addison van Duin - Hair and Beauty Level 2

Frances Wheeler - Building and Construction Level 2

Class 10

Amelia Diedericks – Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2

Phoebe Hairs – Agriculture Level 2

Demetri Mackey – Barbering Level 2

Zoe Meek – Hospitality Level 2

Sarah Stork- Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2

Grace Train - Sports Skills and Coaching Level 2



Upcoming Events

The Bubble Show - Saturday 29 November at 2:00pm

Class One sharing evening - Wednesday 3 December at 6:00pm

Class 5 play performance - Thursday 4 December at 7:00pm

Last day for Class 9 - Friday 5 December

9 year old change workshop - Sunday 7 December

Splash Planet Road Patrol outing - Monday 8 December

Class One 2026 whānau hui - Wednesday 10 December at 6:00pm

Class 8 project displays & speeches - Thursday 11 December

Last day for Class 8 - Friday 12 December

Last day of term - Wednesday 17 December - 12:30pm finish

Carol Evening - Wednesday 17 December at 6:00pm

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.

Class 12 Graduation Dinner



Our Kids Online

How Much Tablet Time Is Safe for Growing Brains?

With developmental delays in children skyrocketing, this video asks a crucial question every parent needs to consider: how much tablet time is actually safe for our children's young, developing brains?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdYE3CaVLYY>



Sports News

Well done to all our competitors at the Hawkes Bay Primary and Intermediate Schools Triathlon held on Monday.

16 of our Lower School students competed, only one of these students had experienced a triathlon before. Everyone did super well and enjoyed the experience. We had some great results as well. Ianto Owen, Hugo Crellin- Ruth and Jonah Cleary came 3rd in the Year 5 teams section. Bruno Skipper, Tobias Freeman and Phillip Ostergren came 1st in the Year 7 teams section. Timo Allison won the Individual year 8 Male section. Well done Taikura!



Curriculum Corner

As part of the Class 7 Health Main Lesson we have covered hand and foot care, drawing and sketching said extremities and with the latter, writing our names with toe held pencils or crayons. We also did form drawing of straight lines, curved lines and spirals with our little piggies!

We worked in pairs giving hand massages using beautiful Weleda oils and on another day foot soaks in citrus bath milk or lavender followed by foot massage.

Topics of personal hygiene, sensual perfumes and our bodies were other areas focused upon.



Towards the end, Class 7 learned to come to quiet and engage in water colour paintings depicting the fimbriae from the fallopian tubes engulfing an ovum and then after a morning's discussion we painted a foetus cocooned within the gentle confines of the uterus.

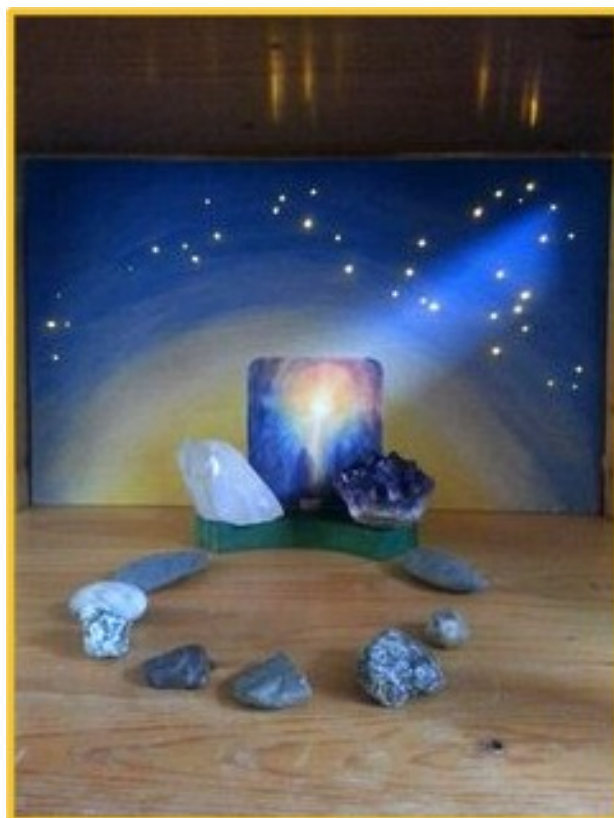
With Best Regards to Class 7 from Miss Maioha

Advent Season

This Sunday - 30 November marks the first Advent Sunday.

Advent starts on the fourth Sunday prior to Christmas. It is a time of inner searching, introspection and anticipation.

It is through the darkness of the Earth that we await the birth of a new inner light to warm our hearts and strengthen our thoughts and deeds. This is manifested in the Christ Child of Light born on the night of Christmas. All the kingdoms of nature – Mineral, Plant, Animal and Human – await the coming birth. Advent is an inward journey of the soul, when we become aware of the eternal light that illuminates our way. It is beautifully entwined in the northern hemisphere with the Winter Solstice and the return of the Sun, and in the southern hemisphere with Summer and celebrating the continued warmth of the Sun. Advent is a fun-filled and joyous time, especially for children. A time that will be etched in their memories forever.



Advent in the Waldorf home is something that is celebrated by families of every religious background, every faith, and every spiritual path as part of the festival cycle of the year. The following traditional Advent verse can be used in the lighting of the Advent candles:

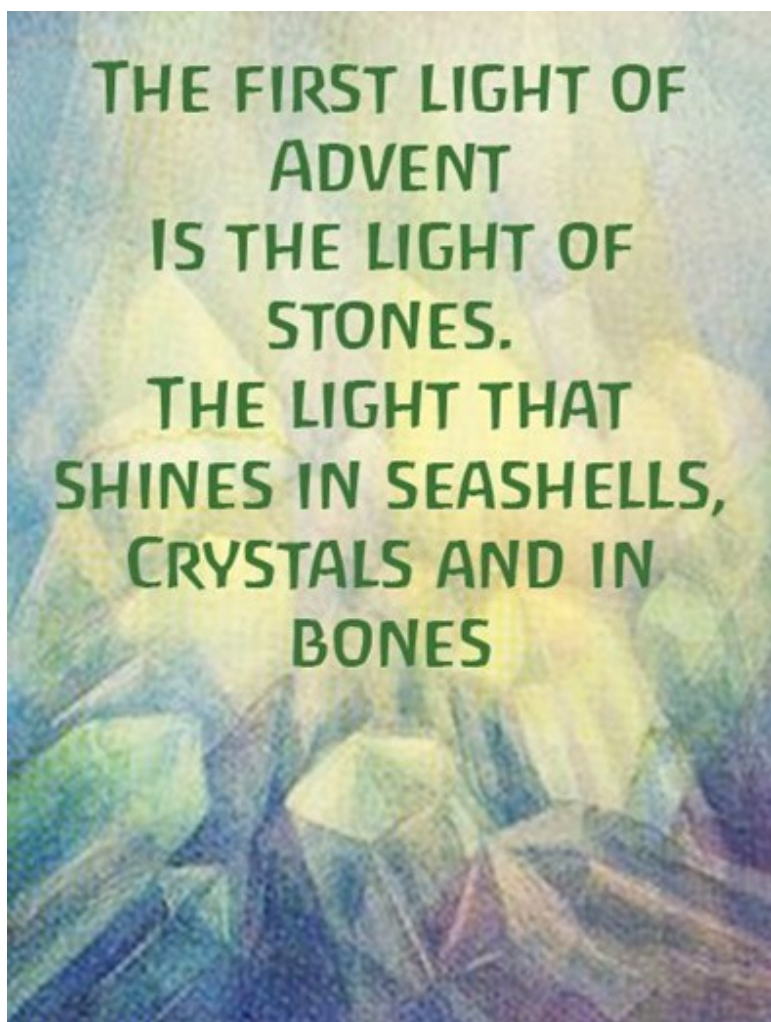
The first light of Advent is the light of stones -
Light that lives in crystals, seashells and bones.
The second light of Advent is the light of plants -
Plants that reach up to the sun and in the breezes
dance.

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.

Many Waldorf schools and families celebrate Advent by looking each week at the natural kingdoms on Earth: minerals in the first week, plants the second week, animals the third week and humans in the fourth week, all awaiting the birth of the Christ child.

We invite you to keep your eye on our school Advent table which sits in our hall foyer just outside the hall entrance - this table slowly builds up its tableau during the weeks leading up to Christmas - the day marking the birth of the Christ child.

Kelly Sutton
Deputy Principal



Community Noticeboard

The Christian Community - Movement for Religious Renewal

Hawkes Bay Community - meeting at Rangimarie, 617 Heretaunga Street East, Hastings on Sunday 30 November



First Advent and a Family Sunday!

- 10:00am The Act of Consecration of the Human Being (14 years and over)
- 11:00am Family Sunday
- Families will gather in the garden under the walnut tree for singing advent songs before meandering towards the Community Room.
- A story will be told and an opportunity to bring from the mineral world a precious stone/crystal to our Nativity Table.
- After the story the children and families are invited to the Service for Children.
- All adults are welcome to listen and attend!
- Refreshments for the children will be available for them after their Service.

We will try to follow this format for each of the Advent Sundays; the second on 7 December, the third on 14 December and the fourth on 21 December.

Contact: Rev. Lesley Waite 021 0658065, Sabina Bacchus 021 08307141, Jocelyn Freeman 021 1734152 or Corrie Molenaar 027 3680242.

The Bubble Show - A Fun and Educational Experience for all Ages

We're thrilled to bring The Bubble Show back to Hawke's Bay – a spectacular family event that combines magic, science and bubble-art in a way that delights children and adults alike.

Our show is led by Eran (who used to teach Drama at Titirangi Steiner School), bringing a rich understanding of Steiner-inspired pedagogy. With years of experience in both education and performance, Eran transforms the simple joy of bubbles into engaging demonstrations of light, air, water and soap — all while keeping laughter and wonder at the heart of the show.

The performance is not only entertaining but also educational: children witness real-time science in action, participate in interactive bits, and leave with new ideas sparked by curiosity. For adults, it's a chance to relax, laugh and watch the magic unfold.

We warmly invite Taikura families and staff to join us for a memorable afternoon together. Tickets must be booked in advance and are available now here: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2025/the-bubble-show/hastings> Please encourage your children to invite friends and come along.

We look forward to bringing this vibrant, interactive show into your community and sincerely thank Taikura Steiner School for hosting and supporting this special event.



Room to Let

Room available to rent in lovely semi rural location, only five minutes drive to Hastings. Shared facilities. Text Tracey on 0279180097 for more information.

SAVE THE DATES 10 -12th JANUARY 2026

Social Eurythmy Course

Eurythmy Aotearoa is bringing the highly skilled and experienced, Goetheanum accredited Social Eurythmy trainer Teresa Mazzei to New Zealand to run an introductory, three day Social Eurythmy course.

WHEN - January 10th - 12th 2026

WHERE - Michael Park Steiner School, Auckland.

COST - \$250

WHO CAN ATTEND - This introductory course is designed for qualified eurythmist's and fourth year eurythmy students, and individuals with a strong interest in exploring the application of eurythmy in workplace settings.

To register your interest, write to Sue Simpson
eurythmyaotearoa@gmail.com

School Holiday ART

DECEMBER 15-23
& January 26-30



www.michalk.co.nz

Suitable 6+



HORSE RIDING SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Mon 12th - Fri 16th January

Mon 19th - Fri 23rd January



A hands-on horse riding programme for all levels. Build confidence, connect with horses, and enjoy the great outdoors. No experience needed!

Booking options: One-day | Multiple days | Full week

Location: Clive, Hawkes Bay

Contact: Julia

Phone: 027 822 3185

The Lawn
EQUESTRIAN



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP

MANGATEPOPO, TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

January 6-11 2026

BOOKINGS

Registrations for our 2026 Summer Camp are open – spaces are limited so please book your space to avoid disappointment.

DAILY RHYTHM

Each year we offer separate programmes for little children, young children, youth and adults.

We begin and end each day with a circle including games, singing and an ongoing story. Morning and evening services deepen our spiritual striving and devotional life. Together we build and strengthen our community and connection with daily work, play and devotion. We prepare and enjoy organic and biodynamic foods.

Tongariro is renowned for its beauty and diverse outdoor activities including walks, waterfalls, hot pools and swimming holes.

**All inclusive costs per person;
Adult \$450; 10-17 yrs \$300; 5-9 yrs \$250; Up to 4 yrs \$75**

Camp Account: The Christian Community 03-0259-0165146-05

INFORMATION: Hartmut Borries hartmutborries@gmail.com 021 259 8555

BOOKINGS: Cheryl Prigg cheryl.n.p@gmail.com 021 0232 0932



+649 525 2305



www.thechristiancommunity.org