

# Taikura Rudolf Steiner School

## The Grapevine



## Our Kids Online

5 March 2026

We all want our school and community to be a safe place for our tamariki. But in a rapidly changing digital world, the risks our children face online are growing—more frequently, and more seriously.

That's why we've invited filmmaker, author, and speaker **Rob Cope**, producer of the powerful documentary *Our Kids Online*, to deliver a **humorous, eye-opening evening talk** for our parent community.

### His talk will cover:

- **Cyberbullying** - How bullies can reach our kids 24/7
- **Social media** - How social media is affecting the mental health in 3 out of 5 children. FOMO, depression, anxiety
- **Gaming and the developing brain** – An oversupply of dopamine leading to dopamine deficiency, synaptic pruning, and the underdevelopment of social skills and empathy
- **Naked Selfies** - The pressure to send nudes from intermediate up through high school
- **Online predators** - The methods they use, how to spot them
- **Online porn vs healthy sexuality** - How consuming online pornography as a child or teen can create a sexual template where violence, aggression, and dominance are seen as normal and consent can become very blurry.
- **AI** - Growing concerns around Companion bots, Deepfakes, Voice Cloning, Algorithmic Radicalisation

### Solutions

- **Filters** - Which filters are best and how to install them
- **Smartphones** - How to lock down a smartphone to make it a safe phone
- **Boundaries** - How to put good boundaries in place around device use
- **3 golden rules** - The 3 golden rules that will keep your kids safe
- **Talking to your kids** - How to have difficult conversations with your kids
- **Challenging our own phone and device usage** - Reconnecting as a family.

The talk will be held in the school hall on Thursday 12 March from 6:30pm. Please note this talk is for **adults only** and is **not suitable** for children or teens to attend.

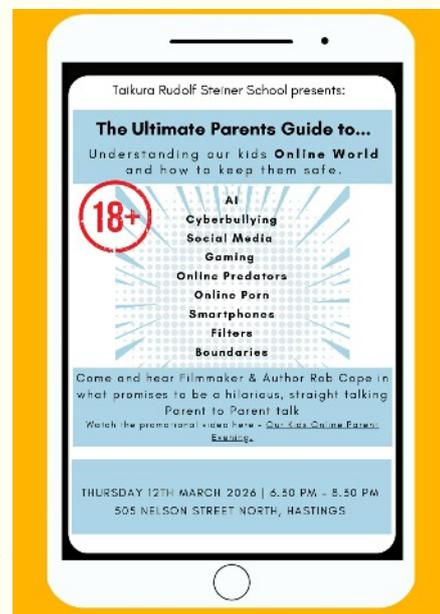
We request that at least one representative from each family attend, and hope you are able to prioritise this within your busy lives. This topic is too big for us not to pay attention.

Tickets are \$5, available now from the school office, or on the door on the night.

Included in your ticket is a one-year complimentary subscription to *Parenting in an Online World 101* valued at \$99. Created by Rob and Zareen at *Our Kids Online*, this practical, no-nonsense course is designed specifically for kiwi families and is already being used in thousands of homes across the country.

Please note: simply buying a ticket does not give you access to the course—you must attend on the night to receive it. So don't miss out!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ7L1TJkWBE>





## *He Pito Kōrero!*

### *Te noho marae o Te puna tuangahuru i Waimārama!*

Ko Takitimu te waka  
Ko Te Whanganui-ā-Tara te maunga  
Ko Waingōngoro rāua ko Pouhokio ngā awa  
Ko Waimārama te marae  
Ko Taupunga te whare  
Ko Ngāti Kurukuru, Ngāti Whakaiti, Ngāti Hikatoa  
Ngāti Ūra ki te rangi ngā hapū  
Ko Morehu Te Amohaere te wharekai  
Ko Tiakitai te tangata!

Kia ora koutou!

One of the highlights of my teaching year is the Pacific Art Main Lesson with Class 10 and with their noho marae at Waimārama marae. During their noho the class were immersed in life on the marae with a myriad of activities; pounamu carving, kapa haka/Tahitian dance/Sāsā practice, flax weaving, preparing a hāngi, a pōwhiri to welcome their whānau and teachers, putting on a hākari for their manuhiri, and finishing with their concert! Ka mau te wehi!

*Troy Gardiner*



*Pounamu carving with Aaron Greaves*



*Weaving putiputi to decorate the tables*



*Kai preparation for the hāngi*



*Building the hāngi*

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



## WW Hook Fund

The WW Hook fund was generously created by the estate of the late Wallace William Hook back in 1987. The fund was created to assist akonga māori at our kura. Every year we set aside WW Hook funds to assist with camps and other fees. The WW Hook funds are a contribution towards the amounts applied for, however it is never the entire amount of the application.

To apply, we request a letter written from you and your tamaiti that details the following:

1. Who you are, by means of your pepeha
2. What you are applying for (the applied activity i.e. camp) and the cost (if known)
3. What other initiatives you have in place to pay for the applied activity
4. How the applied activity will impact you i.e. what you may learn or experience
5. Successful applications are asked for a letter of thank you and details of the applied activity once the event has taken place

Your letter can be handed into the office, addressed to WW Hook.

*Selena Crouch*  
*Business Manager*

### Our Kids Online - Tip of the Week

Morning Screens = Cranky Kids. Here's Why

When our kids were younger, we used to let them get up early on the weekend and watch TV so we could get a sleep-in, and it backfired every time!

We ended up with tired, cranky kids. So we made some changes and weekends have never been the same!

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

### Upcoming Events

**Class 3 Whānau hui - TONIGHT at 6:30pm**

**Class 2 Whānau hui - TONIGHT at 6:00pm**

***DATE CHANGE\*\*\* High School Athletics Day - Tuesday 10 March \*\*\*DATE CHANGE***

**Kererū Kindergarten Pounamu Room whānau hui - Tuesday 10 March at 2:00pm**

**Kererū Kindergarten Kōwhai Room whānau hui - Wednesday 11 March at 2:00pm**

**'Our kids online' parent information evening - Thursday 12 March at 6:30pm**

**Teacher Only Day - School Only - Friday 13 March**

**School Board hui - Monday 16 March at 5:00pm**

**Autumn Festival - Thursday 19 March**

**Taikura Kindergarten Harvest Festival - Friday 27 March**

**Term One ends - Thursday 2 April at 2:45pm**

## Sports News

### High School Hockey Trials

Monday 16 March at 3:00pm on the school turf. Any High School students who wish to play hockey can attend these trials. We hope to create a 1<sup>st</sup> XI and a 2<sup>nd</sup> XI depending on numbers. Students will need a mouth guard, shin guards, sports shoes and a hockey stick. If you have any questions please see Anne Hilton or Janet Osborne.

### Good Luck

To Class 12 student **Ian Foxcroft** who is competing this week in the High Jump at the New Zealand Athletics Championships. All the best Ian!

To our paddlers **Zahara Kizito-Rees, Tara Theyer-Durham, Zoe Rousteau, Phoebe Hairs, Avah-Jade Maoate, Halo Nuku, Austen Craig, Timo Allison, Kaaho Tiuka, Daniel Ostergren, Oscar Pearce and Tupai Bryant-Toi**. Our two waka ama teams are competing this weekend in the Regional waka ama sprints in Napier. Important preparation for the upcoming Waka Ama Secondary School Sprint Nationals coming up very soon.

To **Jakob Diedericks** from Class 8 who is competing in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Canoe Slalom Championships later this month.

### Winter Sports Teams

Are being organised - students will be asked which sports they are interested in playing over the next couple of weeks. Listed below are the available sports:

#### Classes 3 to 5

Hockey  
Netball

#### Classes 6 and 7

Hockey  
Netball  
Basketball (already up and running)

#### High School

Hockey  
Netball  
Basketball  
Badminton



### Thank You

To our summer sports coaches, managers and officials for keeping the teams well supported!

Cricket - **Jimmy Clark, Stephen Young, Tania Diedericks**

Volleyball - **Tia Gardiner, Troy Gardiner**

Netball - **Frances Wheeler, Stella de Lacey-Tong, Elspeth Ross, Makeesha Dagg**

Basketball - **Louis Skipper, Ian Foxcroft, Angela Binns, Chloe Napier**

Waka Ama - **Clayton Gibson, Linda Hill-Rennie, Loretta Maoate**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY WILL BE HELD THIS COMING TUESDAY 10 MARCH\*\*\***



## Procedure for anticipated long-term absence

Applications for pupil absence (not sickness) for periods of more than one week must be made in the following manner: An application in writing must be received by the Principal at least four weeks before the intended absence. The application will include acceptable reasons for the pupil's long-term absence, and the date of expected return to school. It is important to note that anything other than ill health or special family reason is considered unjustified by the Ministry of Education.

The school reserves the right to accept or decline the application and will notify the parents in writing.

High School parents should be aware that significant absence may impact on a student's achievement of the New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education.

Failure to follow the above procedure will mean that the child's name will be withdrawn from the roll after a period of 20 school days absence has elapsed. An application for re-enrolment would then need to be made.



## Community Noticeboard

### After School Caregiver Needed

Looking for after-school care for two children (ages 7 and 9). Ideally someone who can walk them home from school — it's a short distance. An older student perhaps. Hours will vary week to week, and I'm happy to offer fair compensation. Please text: 0274725142

### House for Rent - Havelock North

Fully furnished 4-bedroom house available April to October 2026.

Sleeps 5–6, office, pool, organic fruit and vegetable garden.

Located within short walking distance to the village and cycling distance / public transport access to Taikura.

For further details, please get in touch - [email@moenchmeier.de](mailto:email@moenchmeier.de)

### Real Estate

Hi Taikura community, my name is Amy Pennington, and I'm Oshi's mum in the Kererū kindy.

I'm a real estate agent who helps our community buy and sell property with integrity and a little more soul than your average transaction.

I have a referral partnership with Taikura, which means if you list your home with me and mention this ad, \$500 goes directly back to the school to support our tamariki and school projects.

Autumn is a great time to make a move. I'd love to help.

Call me on 022 3433 554 or just tap me on the shoulder at pick-up.





Heretaunga  
Women's  
Centre

JOIN US FOR AN  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2026**  
**BREAKFAST AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

**FRIDAY | 6 MARCH 2026 | 7-9 AM**

Hastings Community Arts Centre  
**106 Russell Street South, Hastings**

Join us for a meaningful International Women's Day Breakfast as the Heretaunga Women's Centre launches its 2026 **'Give to Gain'** campaign. The event will bring together community leaders, supporters, partners, and advocates to explore a simple yet powerful idea: when we support women, we all gain. The morning includes networking, a light breakfast, a facilitated panel discussion, and an opportunity to be part of a year-long movement for collective gain.



Korrin Barrett  
MC - Life Unlimited  
& Resilience Expert



Wendy Griffin  
Educator, Volunteer  
Connector



Emma McLean  
CEO Works for  
Everyone



Raukura Huata  
Cultural Advocate &  
Content Creator

Tickets are \$50, which includes breakfast, and ALL remaining funds will support funding the Heretaunga Women's Centre.  
<https://events.humanitix.com/hwc-international-women-s-day-2026>  
Proudly supported by the Hastings City Business Association.



*"Really bat-mospheric!"*

# BAT'S INCREDIBLE

**DATE:** Friday 6th March

**PLACE:** Te Poho O Tangianui Marae  
95 Auckland Road Greenmeadows

**TIME:** 7 - 8pm

**PRICE** Please register /attendance by koha



BOOK  
HERE

STORYTELLER TANYA BATT AND MUSICIAN PETER FORSTER INVITE YOU INTO THE TWILIGHT REALM OF THE BAT. SHOW CASING AOTEAROA'S ONLY INDIGENOUS LAND MAMMAL AND ONE OF THE MOST PROLIFIC MAMMALS ON OUR PLANET - THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY PROGRAMME IS A WEAVE OF TRADITIONAL BAT STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD, BAT SCIENCE, STRANGER THAN FICTION FOLKLORIC TRADITIONS AND A BAT - FACTS QUIZ WITH PRIZES!! SPREAD YOUR WINGS UP AND DON YOUR MASK AND COME & DISCOVER JUST HOW INCREDIBLE BATS ARE.

*"Bat-Tastic!"*

ALWAYS BE YOURSELF UNLESS  
YOU CAN BE ~~BATMAN~~ *Batwoman*  
ALWAYS BE BATWOMAN.

*"Completly Batty!"*

TANYA BATT'S  
**IMAGINED WORLDS**  
COME EXERCISE YOUR IMAGINATION

[www.imagined-worlds.net](http://www.imagined-worlds.net)



**TARUNA  
COLLEGE**

Connect, Nourish, Sustain

# Certificate in Rudolf Steiner Education

Discover the True Art of Teaching

**Discover the true heart and art of teaching while undertaking a rich and exciting journey of personal and professional development.**

The certificate is an introductory course to Rudolf Steiner Waldorf education. This part-time year-long programme gives a broad overview of the many-faceted dimensions of Waldorf pedagogy, curriculum and culture. Alongside lectures and workshops that will deepen and extend your understanding of child development and approaches to teaching and learning, you will have the opportunity to engage your creative side with many practical activities including arts, crafts, music and movement. Biography work, observation and reflective journaling recognise the importance of schooling and nourishing the inner life of the teacher.

***The Certificate programme is designed for:***

- Teachers new to Waldorf education who wish to extend their knowledge or to enliven and re-examine their classroom practice.

***It also provides a helpful foundation for:***

- Teacher aides in Steiner Waldorf schools
- Student teachers looking to teach in a Steiner Waldorf school
- Home-schooling parents or parents wishing to accompany their children's development and education in a Steiner Waldorf school

***The course is also designed as a rich path of re-livening for any teacher looking to find new joy in their work.***

**Enrolments for 2026 seminars are now open:**

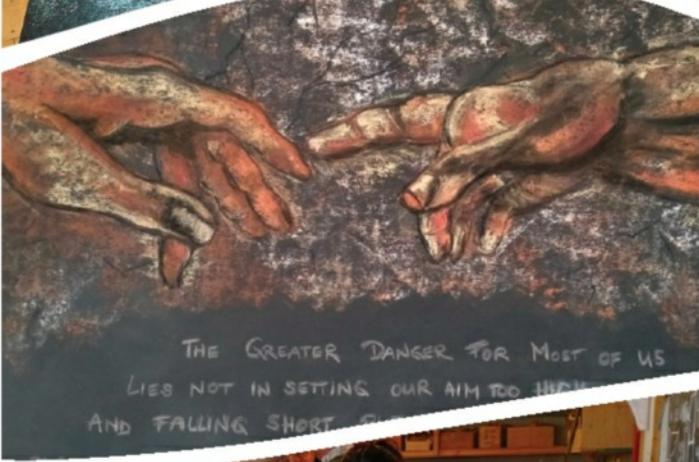
**Seminar One: 13-17 April**

**Seminar Two: 13-17 July**

**Seminar Three: 5-9 October.**

**Cost: \$1400 per seminar (Early bird price of \$1300 per seminar when all three seminars are paid on enrolment at least one month prior to Seminar One).**

*Johnny Ryan and Lauren Hudson are Programme Directors for the CRSE.*



For further information and inquiries please contact  
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or call +64 6 8777174