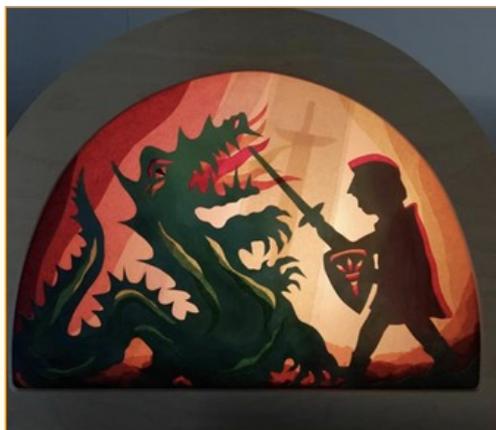




Saint Michael

12 March 2026



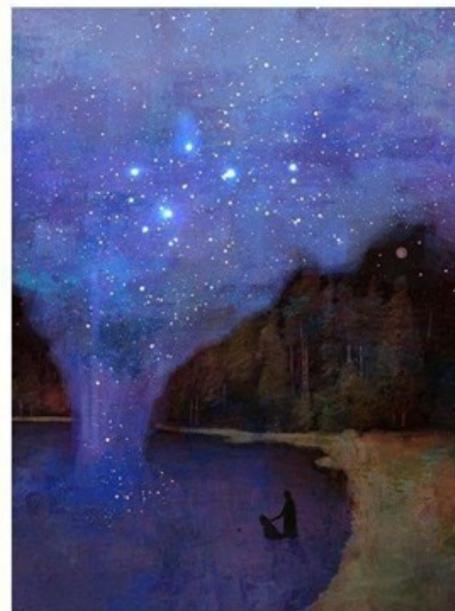
The sword-wielder,
the dragon-confronter,
gathering up the true aims,
shielding the purposes of our hearts.
He watches over the conflicts
of the dark time,
sending down iron courage
from shooting stars,
lifting the heart to see ahead
the light that overcomes in darkness.

Evelyn Capel

As autumn begins to settle very gently around us we turn our thoughts towards the Festival which is next week, Thursday 19 March.

Parents and whānau are invited to join us for a picnic on the field from 1:00pm after which we will watch the younger classes perform the play of Saint Michael and the Dragon.

Rudolf Steiner spoke a great deal about Saint Michael as the Archangel and Time-Spirit of our present World. Steiner also gave a number of pictures regarding this spiritual being and his place in the season of autumn. Like the play, these 'pictures' can be seen and understood on many levels, for the ideas and imaginations they represent are ancient but also very applicable today. Steiner often spoke of the meteoric iron of which Michael's sword is a symbol, with the meteorites that flash through the autumnal night skies like sparks from the blade. Steiner highlighted the importance of the meteoric iron and its work outside of us in the World and also inside of us at this time of year. Iron permeates our daily lives. It has changed our modern world dramatically through the ages, and even the iron contained in our food and our bodies was once made in the stars. Modern scientists tell us that stars, in fact quasars, are the stellar factories of iron production as they blaze their way across our Universe. Just as we see in space during these months a flashing of iron meteorites (a condensed form of this cosmic iron) coursing across our night skies; so too, says Steiner, is our blood filled with a "million upon million-fold" of meteoric counterparts.



Our blood is indeed full of minuscule meteorites and the iron is the very centre of much of the work it does. The average human adult has around five million red blood cells per cubic millilitre of blood. That's a LOT. It equates to approximately 25 trillion red blood cells in your body! Within every red blood cell there are roughly 280 million haemoglobin proteins and each one of these proteins is made of four 'heme' molecules. These molecules are the tiny secret to our breath of life, at the heart of which is an atom of iron: the core to respiration (and the reason our blood is red). If there are four molecules to every 'heme' and there are 280 million 'heme' proteins in each red blood cell, that means we have on average over a billion iron atoms in every cell which must mean we have at least 5 600 000 000 000 000 of them in our bodies!! Over five quintillion iron atoms coursing through our being, and every one of them made in the star-foundry of the Universe...Beings of the stars we are indeed.

Written by Johnny Ryan

Pumpkin Competition

Help support the students of Taikura with their annual pumpkin growing competition.

This event will take place on the afternoon of the Autumn Festival.

How to enter:

Please bring your pumpkins into the hall foyer from Monday 16 March onwards where a table will be set up for your pumpkin. Pumpkins will need to be collected and taken home after the competition.

We highly encourage pumpkins that are entered to be homegrown. However, we do understand that if you do not have the space or time to grow your own you can purchase your own pumpkin for the carved or best dressed category.

A gold coin donation is asked per entry

Categories

- Biggest homegrown Pumpkin
- Best dressed pumpkin
- Most creatively carved pumpkin



Contestants' pumpkins will be grouped and judged based on the age groups below. Fun prizes will be available!

Groups

- Lower school students (Classes 3 and up)
- High School (Classes 8 through to 12)
- Staff & Community



Nā tō rourou, nā taku rorou ka ora ai iwi

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive

The Autumn Festival table will be in the Hall Foyer from Monday 16 March. We welcome you to add any excess produce and preserves for the table prior to the school festival on Thursday 19 March.

Over the time that the table sits in the hall foyer waiting to be filled - it is a warming sight to watch the piles of produce and preserves grow. We encourage all students to bring something for the table on Festival day. All produce collected will be shared amongst families who require awesome extra care at the moment. We also understand resources are presently stretched and we ask for only what your whānau is able to easily spare.

Kelly Sutton on behalf of the Festival Group

Autumn Meal Blessing

The silver rain, the shining sun,

The fields where scarlet poppies run,

And all the ripples of the wheat

Are in the bread that I do eat.

So when I sit for every meal

And say a grace, I always feel

That I am eating rain and sun,

And fields where scarlet poppies run.



He Pito Kōrero!

Kīwaha o te wiki – kīwaha of the week

Āta koia (art ah coy ah)

Well! You don't say! Really! Indeed! An idiom expressing surprise or amazement.

Hata: Kia ora e mara. Have you seen the new movie 'Holy Days? It's great!

Tāne: Āta koia e hoa!

He pito kōrero is a space dedicated to celebrating and promoting Te Reo me ōna Tikanga Māori and this week we are also celebrating Pasifika languages.



Upcoming Events

'Our kids online' parent information evening - TONIGHT at 6:30pm

Teacher Only Day - School Only - TOMORROW Friday 13 March

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

Autumn Festival - Thursday 19 March. Parents welcome from 1:00pm

Kererū Kindergarten Autumn Festival - Thursday 19 March

Taikura Kindergarten Harvest Festival - Friday 27 March

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

The Friday Market is Back!



Term One Roster

Week 7 - 20 March

Class 4 & Class 7

Week 8 - 27 March

Class 1 & Class 2

Reminders & Helpful Tips

- Items need to be made at home and not store bought
- Please follow the school lunchbox policy
- Pizza and iced cakes are always popular
- Label your items if allergy specific (GF / DF / NF etc.)
- Stalls need to have a .50c option and maximum pricing of \$2

Our Kids Online - Tip of the Week

The Thinking Step Without Drama!

I'm not a fan of the "naughty step" — because most of the time kids aren't actually being naughty, they're overwhelmed, tired, or struggling to manage big emotions.

What I do like is the "thinking step." It's a calm space where they can sit, take a breather, and reflect on their behaviour. And if they refuse to sit? That's when I pull out a little magic trick that works a treat!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vkn3W9InAOA>

A reminder that **tonight** at 6:30pm in the school hall we have filmmaker and author Rob Cope talking to our community about the reality of the online world our kids are growing up in along with some key tips on setting good boundaries and filters. See you all tonight! Cash & Eftpos door sales available. Bring your friends and whānau.

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!

Payroll giving

With the new year well under way, it is a timely reminder for those whānau who are paying donations via payroll giving to please check your payroll giving payments reflect the 2026 donation level of \$2,850. We will check in with payroll giving families at the end of the term.

Katherine Laing Fund- assistance with overseas travel

The Katherine Laing Trust was established in memory of Katherine Laing who, when a pupil at the Edinburgh Rudolf Steiner School, went on an exchange to the Stuttgart Waldorf School in Germany. This exchange began her interest in travel and Eurythmy which brought her to New Zealand as a Eurythmy teacher. She taught here for 15 years in the 1970's and early 1980's.

After her passing in 1982, her parents in Scotland wished to commemorate her life and work and established a Trust called the Katherine Laing Memorial Fund. It is the intention of Katherine's family and friends, who contributed generously to the Trust, to give monetary assistance to any teacher or pupil who wishes to travel overseas in order to gain experiences that will benefit them on their return to New Zealand, and to the Taikura Rudolf Steiner School. This is especially so in the case of High School students going on exchanges in overseas Steiner Schools.

Preference is given to applications which have a Steiner School/Anthroposophical background, but support can be given towards other ventures depending on funding available.

Application forms can be collected from the office.

Selena Crouch
Business Manager

Sports

High School Hockey Trials will be held this 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 1st XI and a 2nd 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.



High School Athletics Day

Congratulations to our High School students who's results on Athletics Day qualified them for the East Coast Athletics Competition

Discus: Louis Skipper & Sita Fitzgerald.

Javelin: Zahara Kizito-Rees & Harvey Shore

High Jump: Ian Foxcroft, Karl Frohlich, Belle Ratana & Linn Bekker

Long Jump: Ihipera Te Huia

100m: Fuu Kaneko

1500m: Timo Allison

Morning departure time changes



From March 16

ROUTE 1a (Peak Service)

Napier ➤ Hastings via Pakowhai Rd

New departure from Dalton Street will be at 7.30am
(previously 7.45am). **All stops run 15 minutes earlier.**

ROUTE 11

Napier ➤ Hastings ➤ Havelock North

New departure from Dalton Street will be at 7.35am
(previously 7.40am). **All stops run 5 minutes earlier.**



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HORSE RIDING HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Tues 7th - Fri 10th April

Mon 13th - Fri 17th April



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

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.



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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:

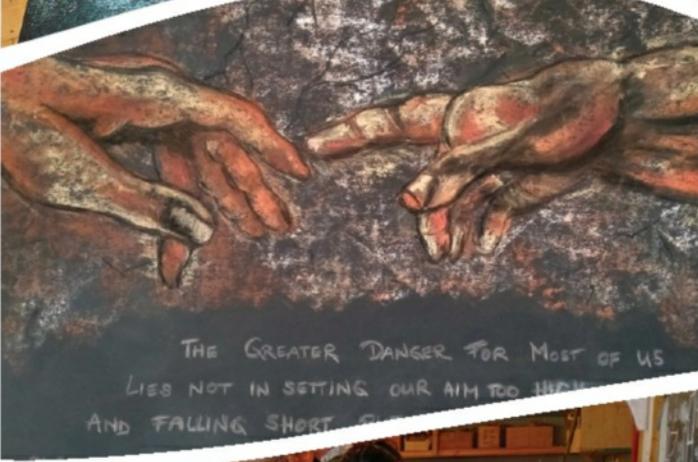
Seminar One: 13-17 April

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
info@taruna.ac.nz or see our website www.taruna.ac.nz
or call +64 6 8777174



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These free sessions are open to all. Just bring a yoga mat or towel and come as you are!

For more information or to enrol contact:

Anna Campbell
acampbell@eit.ac.nz

Dates: 1 May to 23 June 2026

Days: Tuesdays, 9.30am - 10.30am
Fridays, 10.15am - 11.15am

Location: St Matthews Church Hall
200 King Street South, Hastings

Tutor: Miao Chen



TE AHO A MĀUI

*conditions may apply

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