

Waiheke Island Steiner School

58 Korora Road, Oneroa, Waiheke Island, 1081

09 372 2152

office@waiheke.steiner.school.nz

www.waiheke.steiner.school.nz

Newsletter 3: 28 Mahuru 2017



*Nau mai e te Koanga me tō marama
Kuhuna ngā tipu me ngā kano kanapa
Tōhaina puawai hei tīpare
Hei tikitiki mō te māhunga*

*Welcome Spring with your golden light, Clothing plants in colours so bright
Sharing your flowers for our garland fair, Placed like a crown upon our hair*

Kia ora e te whānau

We mark the end of another exciting term at Waiheke Island Steiner School.

Over the last few weeks, the main lesson focus in both classes has been the four operations of mathematics (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division), and on Spring, combining preparation for our festival with close observation of nature and exploration of poetic language. Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori gave us an opportunity to take our learning of te reo me ōna tikanga to a new level.

Our school is currently advertising for a teacher to take over the teaching of ngā tamariki teina, the younger class, from the start of 2018. Nieves will be leaving Aotearoa New Zealand, and she will be sorely missed. While Olivia's children are still young, she is not planning to return to full-time teaching. She will however maintain an ongoing relationship with our school. We will update whānau on our search for a fantastic teacher as the process unfolds.

Term 4 sees us using the Fossil Bay site in new and creative ways, adhering to the permaculture principle of 'use edges and value the marginal'. Holiday working bees will focus on creating play space beyond the yurt.

Wishing you all a safe and restful holiday.

*Ngā mihi mahana (warm greetings)
Nā ngā kaiako (from the teachers)*



Calendar

Sept 28 End of term assembly

Sept 29 Last day of term

Sept 30 Working Bee

Oct 14 Working Bee

Oct 16 Term 4 starts (9 weeks)

Oct 23 Labour Day

Oct 24 Class meetings

Dec 15 Term 4 ends

Spring Festival Friday 22 September

What a magical day!

In preparation, the tamariki harvested harakeke to weave their tipare, learned to sing and play the spring songs on recorder, and practised the maypole dances with focus and determination.

On the day itself, we kept a cautious eye on the weather as we decorated our tipare with flowers. The scene was set for our spring assembly with the beautifully decorated yurt. Following the musical introduction, we were enthralled by Olivia's vivid telling of 'The Selfish Giant'.

The whole Steiner community came to watch our children dance the maypole. Sarah, Nieves, John and Juan provided the musical accompaniment. The joy and pride on the children's faces made it all worthwhile. The day was rounded off with more singing and shared kai. Thank you to everyone for their contribution, big or small, to the success of this festival.



Learning Outdoors

We are fortunate to live in such an amazing environment for learning. Children play freely and naturally at Fossil Bay. We have beaches within easy walking distance. The elements of water, air, earth and fire are our play things.

Huge thanks to Michael Park School for allowing Luis to spend a day with us recently, teaching us how to use a flint to make a fire out of tinder, kindling and fuel.



Birthdays

Spring has been a busy birthday season at Waiheke Island Steiner School.

8 of our 21 children have celebrated their birthdays in the last few weeks!

And it was Nieves's birthday too.

Always fun to celebrate and share good food together.



Anthroposophical Study Group

Interested in learning more about Steiner Education and the impulse behind it? We will be reigniting our study group next term on Wednesday evenings. This is open to all who are interested in reading and learning about Steiner's teachings.

Please contact Tania on 027 688 9204 or through the school email address office@waiheke.steiner.school.nz



Reminders

- Sun protection: Applying sunblock before coming to school is recommended. Children must have sunhats at school for Terms 4 and 1. (Sunhats are also strongly recommended for those times in Terms 2 and 3 when we are outside for longer periods. This tends to be Mondays and Fridays.)
- A change of clothes in the school bag can be really helpful :)
- School mobile number for reporting absences – please text **021 174 2445**

Term 4 and beyond

For the time being, we are able to remain at Fossil Bay. We will be developing the area between the car park, the kindergarten fence, the road and the yurt into an outdoor play space (see note about working bees) and making use of nearby public space.

At the same time, the school development group has been busy working on a more permanent location for our fledgeling school. There are some promising leads and parent will be provided with more detail as soon as possible.

Working Bees

As explained in email communication, there will be two working bees in the holidays. If you have not done so already, please sign up for your preferred job(s) by using the links in the email.

These working bees are an essential part of maintaining the site, and preparing the school inside and out to be a safe and beautiful place for the children to learn and play.

Many hands make light(er) work.

Please bring a plate of food to share.

Dates: Sat 30 Sept OR Sat 14 Oct
10am - 2pm.