

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



*Look out! Look out!  
Jack Frost is about!  
He's after our fingers and toes;  
And all through the night,  
The gay little sprite  
Is working where nobody knows.*

*- Cecily E. Pike*

Kia ora e te whānau

Despite the recent bouts of cold weather, and Jack Frost leaving our gardens glittering with a sprinkling of frost, spring is in the air! As I walk up the path to the top campus, I pass all our lovely fruit trees bursting with swollen buds and even white and pale pink little blossoms. In the vegetable garden garlic, spring onions, strawberries, broccoli and cauliflower are amongst other yummy edibles happily growing and should soon be ready for harvest. The pear, apple, and peach trees are in bud and slowly blossoms are opening to the sun.

The Spring Fair organizing team is working hard to get everything ready for the Fair on September 14. Please get in touch with them if you are able to lend a hand in any way. You can find the sign-up sheet further on in this newsletter. Please join them for the Working Bee on Sunday 7 September to beautify the campus for the Fair.

Congratulations to our Class 7 boys, Kohaku and Ben, for winning the Rotary Primary School Quiz in a tie with Motueka South School on Tuesday evening last week. We previously won the Quiz in 2022. Well done, boys!

Just a reminder that our Parent Enrichment evening this term is on Monday 25 August. Yolande and I will facilitate the first of two interactive evenings. Do come along and discover some amazing things about your twelve senses, and how to nurture these in your children.

We would also like to introduce you to a new reliever in the office on days when Sorie or Ange are not able to be there. His name is Francesco Brogi, and you might see his friendly smile in the office from time to time. Francesco has an association with Steiner education through his two stepdaughters who attended the old school for a while a number of years ago.

*Mā te huruhuru ka kere te manu*

Ngā mihi

Elizabeth



## Term 3 dates

Click [here](#) to view full calendar online

Monday 25 August	Parent Enrichment Evening	7:00 pm
Wednesday 27 August	School Photos	
Tuesday 2 September	School Board Meeting	5:00 pm in Totara building
Sunday 7 September	Spring Fair Working Bee	9:00am—4:00pm
Sunday 14 September	★ MSS Spring Fair 2025	10:00am - 4:00pm
Monday 15 September	Teacher Only Day/Spring Fair Tidy	No School
Thursday 18 September	Michaelmas/Sharing Assembly	
Friday 19 September	Last day term 3	

# CLASSROOM CORNER

## KOHATU

As part of our weekly rhythm, every Wednesday, Kōhatu class takes a trek over the hill to our 'Bush Kingdom'. The children pull the trolley with our essential equipment and supplies and are dressed for the wet and cold with backpacks on their backs.



At Kōhatu we follow the Steiner Kindergarten Curriculum (Early Childhood) allowing the children 'time and space' to foster their creative, self-initiated play. We spend the morning immersed in the outdoors which for this age group is wonderful nourishment for their 4 Lower Senses (Life, Movement, Balance and Touch). Clambering through the long grass and over the creek, running the trails, sliding slippery slopes, tending the fire, making damper, making things with the tiny pine cones and sitting in a little spot chatting peacefully with a friend. Sometimes we put a pulley and rope up a tree and hoist our friends up!



It is such a pleasure to share this time with the children and witness their joy of playing in nature with each other.

# OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

We have started forging this term with the seniors and after a few frustrating false starts we are finally firing up a hot forge. It has been a great test of patience for the class and so rewarding to finally get going at a good pace. Thank you to the parent helpers so far that have made this possible with a pair of extra eyes around the forge. In the leather group the level of work is now amazing, with students coming up with a concept then designing all the steps and presenting me with a pattern before going ahead with the leather. I can see the skill set has leaped ahead from last year when they started to work with this medium. I see lots of time spent around the fire especially at lunch break and food being shared by the weekly cooks; this part of the outdoor classroom curriculum is an essential component as we drop our nervous systems and tap into a sense of belonging and contentment. This is one of my favourite observations and I encourage a small outside fire lit at home where students can share this space with friends and family sometimes. Damper on a stick is always a hit or even an easy cook dinner, or just sitting around staring at the flames.

A nice way to be warm in these cold days :)

Lindsey



# SCHOOL NOTICES

## PARENT ENRICHMENT EVENING THE TWELVE SENSES

Monday 25 August

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Ahī Classroom



## 2026 TERM DATES

### TERM ONE

Wednesday 4 February to Thursday 2 April  
Waitangi Day—Friday 6 February

### TERM TWO

Monday 20 April to Friday 3 July  
Teacher Only Day—Tuesday 2 June  
Anzac Day—Monday 27 April  
King's Birthday—Monday 1 June

### TERM THREE

Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September  
Teacher Only Day—TBC

### TERM FOUR

Monday 12 October to Wednesday 16 December  
Labour Day—Monday 26 October  
Teacher Only Day—Thursday 17 December

## SCHOOL CONCERT

On Friday, August 22nd at 3:15pm in the Mahana classroom, there will be a concert by students who are learning an instrument. There will be harp, violin, and piano music, as well as the school choir and a recorder ensemble. Children attending or performing will have time for a little snack between the end of the school day and the concert, and the concert should be finished by 4pm. Look forward to seeing you there!

## TERM 3 COMMUNITY SURVEY

This term's survey is focused on Evaluation for Improvement. We would appreciate your feedback so that we can continue to improve our practice and to provide the best education for your children.



<https://forms.gle/nPMokWKGuyJ25tpm9>

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

Wednesday 27 August

Please pay special attention to the dress code.

## ROTARY CLUB QUIZ



Congratulations to Ben Bauer and Kohaku Bier who represented Ahī Class at the recent Rotary Club inter school quiz

night. Not only did they score a perfect 10/10 round, they also won in a nail-biting tiebreaker against Motueka South School for first place. Great general knowledge skills!

A TOUCH OF MAGIC FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



MOTUEKA STEINER SCHOOL

# SPRING FAIR 2025

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 10-4PM

165 ROBINSON ROAD LOWER MOUTERE

FAIRYLAND + PUPPET SHOW + FAIRY QUEEN & JESTER + MEDIEVAL GAMES  
FACE PAINTING + CANDLE DIPPING + NATURE CROWNS + PHOTO BOOTH  
LIVE MUSIC + HANGI + GOURMET INTERNATIONAL FOOD + SILENT AUCTION  
HANDMADE TOYS + PLANTS + SECONDHAND BOOKS & CLOTHES



FOR MORE INFO:  
FACEBOOK/MOTUEKA STEINER SCHOOL SPRING FAIR  
OR OFFICE @ MSSPROPRIETORS.NZ

PRINTED THANKS TO:  
FUJIFILM

  
NO DOGS  
(LEAVE AT HOME)

MOTUEKA STEINER SCHOOL



# Spring Fair

Our wonderful Spring Fair will take place on Sunday, 14 September, which is just over three weeks away! It is time to all pitch in to get the final tasks done, and to promote the fair as much as we can!

With the fair fast approaching, we are needing to urgently fill a number of gaps on our fair job sign up sheet. <https://signup.zone/xNGrqRdJdAjKJWdkp> If you are able to take on an extra shift, or you have family/friends who can do a shift, we could really use this extra help.

### Fair day jobs are still vacant in these crucial areas:

**Food** - A good food area is going to keep our visitors at the fair longer, so it is imperative that we fill all of the empty shifts and not have to cut any stalls. We need enough food to feed all of our guests, as well as all of the school families working (and playing) on the day!

These food area jobs needs filling as a matter of priority:

\* **donations admin**: this job would help make a real financial difference for the outcome of the fair! This role requires a well organised, spreadsheet loving person with time to give before the fair. The ingredient list is almost finalised, It means you would need contacting businesses for donations, coordinating pickups & thanks messages.

\* **coffee stall**: 2 morning and one afternoon shift (times TBC) for fast pace lovers, good with people, hospo experience a bonus

\* **Pizza**: 2 morning and 2 afternoon shifts. Fast pace, fun and delicious stall to be involved in

\* **Patatas**: this stall will need pre-fair preparation (probably the day before, TBC) and hands on support on the day (1 shift morning, 2 afternoon)

\* **Wash station**: show people where and how to wash their dishes, and then load into the steriliser, running clean dishes back to their stalls

**Fairyland** - we need to get the following roles filled so that we can continue to provide the special Fairyland experience. We need 2 x **fairy queen helpers** (take tickets and help children to wait for their visit with the Fairy Queen), 1 x **pirate** (Dress up and play the pirate, hand over a reward for found treasure), 2 x **pirate dig helpers** (take tickets, bury the treasure). **Facepainters** - training given if needed.

**Medieval Games** - Shifts available in this fun area!

**Crafts and Marketplace** also have some empty spots to fill.

### Here are more ways you can contribute to our fair:

**Food**: Donations are very difficult to get this year from businesses, as they have donated a lot after the floods. If any families/supporters are in a position to donate supermarket vouchers, ingredients (flour etc), or pay an invoice - it would make a real difference to the fair takings if we can avoid paying GST on some stalls. Please contact Caroline regarding this on 0210530837.

**Plants Stall**: Please dig up, divide, pot, and CLEARLY LABEL any garden plants you are happy to share, such as perennial flowers, bulbs, berries, succulents, small trees, natives, and more. To learn more, contact Brig Knowles, 0221704583. Also, please save small, sturdy boxes for sending home plants that are sold during the fair. Bring these to the Plants Stall on Set-Up Saturday. You are the best!

**Secondhand Clothing Stall**: We need lots of donations of clean, stain and hole free clothing, footwear, accessories (bags, belts, hats, gloves) ONLY (please no other items). Please drop these to the school or kindy office, or the bright orange school cottage at 49A School Rd, by September 1st. Contacts are Marie and Valetta.

**Secondhand Books Stall**: Please bring your donations of **Children's books only** (we have enough other books) to either the school or kindy office. Contact is Ananda.

**Homemade Fair-Day Contributions**: On fair day, each school family and any supporters are asked to contribute to the Cafe (by bringing homemade cakes), the Curry and Salads Stall (by bringing homemade vegetarian or vegan salads), Please label your beautiful creations with name/ingredients/allergy-friendly/organic, and label your crockery so we can return it to you. Please sign up on the *Cakes and Salads* tab of the sign up sheet.

### We still need YOUR help during these community gatherings:

**School-Grounds Working Bee - Sunday, 7 September**, from 9am to 4pm (help all day, or for a few hours as it suits you). All welcome and needed; please plan to help. We will be mowing, weeding, sweeping, tidying, collecting rubbish, and cleaning windows. Please bring tools needed. If you are unable to make this day, but have time to help get the grounds up to scratch before fair day, please get in contact with Ritchey on 02102512116.

**Fair Set-Up Day - Saturday, 13 September**, all day from 9:30am until finished. Jobs have opened up, after one of our key helpers has been badly injured. Everyone's help is needed to create our fair! For those who aren't stallholders, sign up here - <https://signup.zone/xNGrqRdJdAjKJWdkp> under the *Set up/pack down/pre-fair + Other jobs* tab.

**Spring Fair Day - Sunday, 14 September**, open to the public 10am to 4pm. Thank you to each person who helps make our fair day a success!

**Post-Fair Tidy (Teacher-Only Day) - Monday, 15 September**, from 10am. If you didn't volunteer for a pre fair job, please help on this day.

We look forward to sharing our Spring Fair day together. Let's all pitch in to make this another successful, and fun fair day for all.

With thanks for all your support,  
*The Spring Fair Steering Committee 2025*

# WHAT IS FORM DRAWING AND WHY DO WALDORF CHILDREN DO IT



In many Waldorf classrooms, you'll find children quietly drawing graceful lines, mirrored curves, and flowing shapes. This is *form drawing*, a practice that might seem unfamiliar at first glance, but plays a powerful role in how children grow—not just in coordination and focus, but in how they think and learn.

Form drawing is unique to Waldorf education. It's not art in the traditional sense, nor is it geometry—though it lays the foundation for both. At its core, form drawing helps children develop spatial awareness, balance, inner stillness, and the kind of focus that quietly builds the ground for later abstract thought.

But this isn't a one-size-fits-all subject. It grows and changes with the child, evolving through the grades.

## In the Early Grades (1–4): Laying the Groundwork

In the beginning, children explore the two most basic elements: the straight line and the curved line. These are not just drawn, but *experienced*—walked on the floor, traced in the air, felt with the body before they ever reach the page. This full-body engagement develops coordination, midline crossing, and a strong sense of directionality—essential for reading and writing.

Forms in these early years help build:

- Fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination
- Spatial awareness and body geography

Visual memory and imaginative capacity  
Through movement, story, rhythm, and repetition, children begin to feel structure and flow. Some forms mirror each other, helping with letter reversals or understanding “above and below.” Others weave or run across the page, quietly supporting mathematical thinking and even emotional balance.

The emphasis here is on the *process*, not the finished picture. It's about how a form is created—not how pretty it looks.

## In the Middle Grades (5–8): From Form to Geometry

By Class 5, students begin transitioning to more precise and intricate forms. They may draw complex patterns freehand, building both dexterity and spatial reasoning. These eventually become geometric constructions in Class 6, when tools like compasses and rulers are introduced.

What begins as movement and rhythm slowly becomes precision, symmetry, and logic.

This work helps prepare children for:

- Geometry, maths, and technical drawing
- Abstract thinking and visual-spatial intelligence
- Scientific observation and natural form study (like in botany)

Perseverance and attention to detail

There's also a deeper cognitive layer: advanced forms like “metamorphosis” (where one form gradually transforms into another) ask the child to think in patterns and progressions—skills essential in algebra, sciences, and design thinking.

## Supporting the Whole Child

Form drawing also meets children emotionally. Specific forms can support different temperaments—soothing, energising, balancing, or grounding as needed. For example, repeated spirals might calm a restless child, while symmetrical patterns can help centre one who feels uncertain or scattered.

Form drawing is one of those quiet practices that doesn't always make a big splash. But like many things in Waldorf education, its effects are deep and lasting. It works below the surface—helping children integrate movement, thought, and feeling in ways that prepare them for the rigours of high school and the abstract world beyond.

By the time they sit down to solve an equation or construct a geometric proof, they're not starting from scratch. They've been training for it all along—one thoughtful line at a time.

<https://thewaldorfschool.co.za/2025/08/05/what-is-form-drawing-and-why-do-waldorf-children-do-it/>

# KINDERGARTEN



As the days grow longer and the flower buds begin to open, we can feel that spring is on its way here in kindergarten, even though King Winter and Jack Frost still come to visit sometimes. The children notice and de-

light in the subtle changes of new green leaves, flowers blossoming and the birds beginning their morning songs again. These little shifts in nature echo the rhythms we nurture in kindergarten to support both the security and growth in the tamariki. Spring, as a time of renewal, offers an invitation to pause and honour the flow of the seasons and the shift in seasonal rhythms. It's a perfect time for families to establish or rediscover meaningful rhythms to help both children and parents feel grounded. If you're looking for a helpful resource that echoes this seasonal reminder, Kim John Payne's *Simplicity Parenting* short podcast "Rhythm and Creative Family Flow" explores how everyday rhythms build calm and connection. You can listen here: <https://www.simplicityparenting.com/podcasts/the-simplicity-parenting-podcast-with-kim-john-payne/episodes/2147770643>

## KINDERGARTEN TERM DATES

- 19 Sep Kindergarten Spring Festival 11:30
- 19 Sep Last day term 3



term 3  
8 sessions  
\$ 120

# LEARN GERMAN

## LERNE DEUTSCH

age  
6-10  
small  
group



playful  
relaxed  
welcoming



Tuesdays  
3:30-4:30

Mapua  
School  
library



native  
German  
speaker  
passionate &  
experienced  
teacher

holistic & creative language learning

listening, speaking, singing with rhymes, songs, games and simple conversations

Contact Jenny: 0284707639

## Karen Church



### Massage Therapy & Wellness Coaching

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- Holistic Relaxation Massage
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- Emotional Healing



027 2906 469

karenmassage@outlook.co.nz

# COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

## Looking for a Peaceful Long-Term Rental in the Mapua / Ruby Bay / Moutere Hills / Tasman Area

Kia ora Steiner whānau,

We're a respectful and caring family in search of a permanent home to rent in the beautiful countryside around Mapua, Ruby Bay, Tasman, or the surrounding Moutere Hills.

We're hoping to find minimum 3-bedroom home in a private, peaceful setting, somewhere with a calm, natural feel where our family can settle and thrive. A home that's clean, tidy, in an area not prone to flooding, would be ideal. We're open to furnished or unfurnished homes and are flexible with moving anytime from early September through to the end of November.

We bring excellent references and a genuine respect for the homes and land we live on. It's important to us to find somewhere we can care for deeply and call home long-term.

If you know of anything, or hear of something through word of mouth, we'd be so grateful to hear from you.

Please don't hesitate to contact:  
Fiona – 022 586 2719

Thank you so much  
Fiona & family

## House for Sale:

3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, plus sleep out and double garage. 1290m<sup>2</sup> section, fully fenced. Recently renovated. Wonderful yard for kids to play with trees to climb. Spray free, organic vege gardens and established fruit trees. 3.5kms from Motueka Steiner School.

Enquires to Lorna on 0273907965



## 2 Bedroom Eco Cottage For Rent.

Charming cottage available on organic, lifestyle property 15km from Steiner school, located in Upper Moutere. Suit those with smaller children. Double glazed, wood stove, French doors to covered veranda. With abundant fruit trees/woodlots, in a beautiful setting with views to Neudorf Valley and Western Ranges. Veggie garden. Available approx from early to mid Sept. Details available on request.

Contact Peter -hazelnuss24@gmail.com

## Music lessons are now available at school!



Which instrument would your child like to learn?

We offer piano lessons (from class 2 recommended) on Monday afternoon and Guitar, Ukulele and Flute lessons (from class 4 recommended) Day to be confirmed.

To enroll your children please contact  
Eugenie: info@musiclingo.nz  
Please let us know your child's name,  
class and what they would like to learn.

For more information, check our website: [Musiclingo.nz](https://musiclingo.nz)  
<https://musiclingo.nz/> or find us on facebook: MusicLingo

We are looking forward to bringing more music to your school.





## Dear Kōmitimiti Whanau,

We are sending warm hugs to all of you who have been affected by the recent floods. Our Café Hub was unharmed with water only coming into the car park garden which we are grateful for!

We are offering koha soups for anyone who needs a warm meal between shoveling mud so come on in, enjoy the warmth of our fire and take a break.

## Our line up for our Friday Family Food and Music Nights in August looks magnificent:

August 22nd: Jason Mciver

August 29th: Public Nuisance - folk band playing traditional English, Irish and Scottish tunes

**Our Saturday Morning Family Craft Space** welcomes little people and parents every Saturday from 11am to 1pm - all materials supplied & koha appreciated. Look out for our weekly FB post.

On top of the best coffee price in town we now also have turmeric and matcha lattes on our drinks menu! We cater for vegetarians and vegans - not just with savory menu items but also with lots of cake options!!

## Our Café Hub is open all weekend:

**Fri 10am-8.30pm**

**Sat&Sun 10am-4pm**

Come, share and connect  
The Kōmitimiti Team

## FAMILY ART & CRAFT SPACE

Come and create art together! This is a shared experience for families.

From painting and weaving to nature crafts, storytelling, music, dance and more – we offer a rich, hands-on space to get creative with your tamariki.

Enjoy a cuppa while you connect with others in our inclusive, community-focused café. There's a cosy kids' corner, delicious affordable food, and options for all dietary needs.

No need to book, just drop in and join the fun!  
✂ All materials provided.

Let's grow, play, and imagine – together.

Every Saturday from 11am to 1pm  
all ages are welcome  
Your Koha for materials is much appreciated

☎ 020401121100  
📍 289 Main Road Lower Moutere  
🌐 komitimitiriverside@gmail.com

KOMITIMITI PROJECT

## THE SAUNA PROJECT

Relax, rejuvenate and improve your well-being!

### Sauna

and (optional) River plunge

See Schedule and Book at:  
[www.thesaunaproject.co.nz/motueka](http://www.thesaunaproject.co.nz/motueka)

1 hour session \$20 or  
10 session concession \$160

Blue gums hole - West Bank Rd



fb: thesaunaprojectmotueka

insta: thesaunaproject\_motueka