

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



The need for imagination, a sense of truth and a feeling of responsibility – these are the three forces which are the very nerve of education.

- Rudolf Steiner

Kia ora e te whānau

As I drove through the school gate this morning, I spotted an ewe and her lamb munching on the grass in front of my office. What a wonderful sight to greet a principal so early in the morning! It reminded me of how grateful I am that we have this beautiful rural farm campus that allows the children to feast their eyes on the majestic mountains every day when they play outside. We are so lucky to have this magnificent campus with its wide-open spaces where our tamariki can run and play at their hearts' content. Ritchey has recently been planting many trees on the campus, and we are looking forward to sitting in their shade in the years to come. Thank you, Ritchey! We are also grateful to the Proprietors Trust, especially to Lachlan, for organising the installation of the new shade sails next to the playground to provide welcome shade in the summer months.

Term Four is a very busy term for all of us. Three classes are rehearsing their class plays, and we are looking forward to attending these performances.

Moana is hosting their Olympic Games on Friday. The class has been looking forward to it with much anticipation. Parents and students have been busy making and painting tunics and banners, writing and sending out invitations, and baking and cooking Greek food. A heartfelt thank you to Helga and the parent volunteers who assisted her in staging the Olympics.

Thursday finds me once again in Wellington as I work with my SEANZ colleagues on revising and rewriting the updated Steiner Waldorf Curriculum for Aotearoa New Zealand. This is deeply satisfying work for me, as the Steiner Waldorf curriculum is very close to my heart.

Just a reminder to consider joining the Proprietors Trust, who currently only has two trustees overseeing its portfolio of property management and Special Character attestation. Please be in touch with Lachlan Grey if this is a role that interests you:

chair@mssproprietors.nz

Mahia i runga i te rangimārie me te ngākau māhaki.

Ngā mihi, Elizabeth



Term 4 dates

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

Tuesday 4 November

Sunday 9 November

Monday 17 November

Tuesday 25 November

Sports Day

Working Bee

Community Meeting

Board Meeting

11:30am to 2:30pm

10am to 1pm

7pm in Ahi

5pm in Totara

CLASSROOM CORNER MOANA (CLASS 5 AND 6)

Moana Designing & Creating Roman Mosaics for their Beautiful Gardens

As part of Moana's learning students have worked through the process of designing and creating mosaics stepping stones for their gardens. The students used their mathematical knowledge to draw three detailed symmetrical designs, using the commonly used colours of Ancient Roman times. During the process of designing students had to consider how the materials might break in the smashing (lightly tapping) process, and how no piece will be perfect. They had to be well prepared with safety glasses, gardening gloves and covered shoes.

The Ancient Romans transformed mosaicing into a recognised form of art and their mosaics were used on floors and walls. Their mosaics were made from small colourful stones or glass tiles called tesserae. Roman mosaics had the most intricate patterns and images.

The image shows two class 6 students, Hugh and Lukas, creating their mosaics.



SCHOOL NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES

Sports Day	Tuesday 4 November
Working bee	Sunday 9 November
Community Meeting	Monday 17 November

REMINDERS

A friendly reminder that the speed limit within the school grounds is 10 km/h.

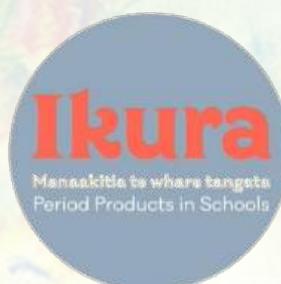
Drop off point is at the bottom of the hill even on rainy days. Please refrain from using the driveway unless necessary (sickbay pick up, dropping off heavy items, etc.)

Children who are more than 10 minutes late, must come to the office with their parent/caregiver and provide a reason for tardiness.

Thank you for your understanding.



IKURA PRODUCTS



No student should miss out on school because they do not have access to period products. Ikura free period products are available in schools to support all menstruating students throughout their entire cycle. Please contact the school for more information.

MOTUEKA STEINER SCHOOL 2026



KOHATU



MOANA



PUTIPUTI



AHI



MAHANA



STAFF





For over a century, educators and researchers alike have recognized that the arts are more than enrichment, they are essential to learning. From music and drama to drawing and storytelling, artistic expression strengthens academic achievement,

fosters creativity, enhances memory, and builds social-emotional skills. While many schools still debate whether the arts are optional, the research consistently demonstrates that they are central to student growth and success.

Education as an Art

The idea that teaching itself is an art has deep roots. Effective teachers are not simply conveyors of information; they are creative guides who awaken curiosity, invite exploration, and help students see the world anew. Lessons infused with rhythm, imagination, and story allow children to connect knowledge with experience. One major randomized trial in Houston, *Investigating Causal Effects of Arts Education Experiences*, showed that students in schools with enhanced arts programming not only performed better in writing but also displayed fewer disciplinary infractions and higher levels of empathy. When teaching is approached as an art form, learning extends far beyond academics into the realms of character, community, and humanity.

Academic Achievement and the Arts

Arts-rich learning environments have long been linked to higher academic performance. The landmark *Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth* report revealed that students deeply involved in the arts earn better grades, graduate at higher rates, and are more likely to aspire to college. More recently, the NEA's *Snapshots of Arts Education in Childhood and Adolescence* confirmed consistent gains in reading, math, and language skills when arts participation is strong.

One study, *The Effects of Arts-Integrated Instruction on Memory for Science Content* (Hardiman et al., 2019), found that students who learned science concepts through arts-based methods retained knowledge more effectively than those taught through traditional instruction. This underscores what many classrooms already practice: abstraction becomes more accessible when introduced through artistic exploration, such as drawing geometric forms before tackling geometry formulas or illustrating a science experiment as part of the learning process.

Creativity and Critical Thinking

In today's world, creativity is not a luxury, it is a necessity. The OECD's report *Art for Art's Sake?* highlights how arts education fosters flexible, innovative thinking. Studies

consistently confirm that students who engage in artistic activities develop stronger divergent thinking skills, enabling them to generate original ideas and adapt to new situations. Whether composing music, performing drama, or painting a landscape, the arts cultivate persistence, originality, and problem-solving capacities that translate across disciplines.

Memory, Engagement, and Multisensory Learning

Artistic practice also strengthens memory and engagement. Research from Hardiman et al. demonstrates that [arts-integrated instruction](#) leads to deeper long-term recall of content. This is because the arts activate multiple senses—visual, auditory, kinesthetic—anchoring knowledge in embodied experience. Reciting poetry, singing a mathematical concept, or illustrating historical events embeds learning more powerfully than rote memorization alone.

Social-Emotional Growth

The benefits of arts education extend into the social-emotional domain. The Houston study noted earlier found increased compassion and improved engagement in students with greater arts exposure (Kisida & Bowen, 2019). Similarly, the NEA's *Arts in Early Childhood: Social and Emotional Benefits of Arts Participation* documented that storytelling, music, and drama build cooperation, empathy, and resilience in young learners. Working together on a play, a choir performance, or a group art project requires collaboration, patience, and shared responsibility. All are vital life skills.

Equity and Access

Despite overwhelming evidence, arts programs are often the first to be cut when budgets tighten. Yet research shows that arts engagement can be a powerful equalizer. NEA studies reveal that low-income students deeply involved in the arts outperform their peers academically, are more likely to attend college, and are more engaged in civic life (Catterall et al., 2012). The Kennedy Center's *Turnaround Arts* initiative confirms similar outcomes, with improvements in attendance, behavior, and school climate in schools that embrace arts integration.

A Universal Call

The evidence is unequivocal: the arts are essential to education. They elevate academic performance, spark creativity, deepen memory, and nurture empathy. Schools that fully integrate the arts, whether through music, visual art, movement, drama, or storytelling, embody what research affirms is best practice for learning.

For more than a century, Waldorf schools have provided an example of what this integration looks like in practice, weaving the arts into every subject as a matter of principle. The arts are not add-ons, but the medium through which academics are brought to life.

<https://www.waldorfeducation.org/3246-2/>

BOOK-A-RAMA



Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd Nov

10am - 4pm

at The Riverside Community Centre, Lower Moutere

BOOK-A-RAMA

A Motueka Steiner School Fundraiser

All Books \$1 or \$2 each!!



Enquiries - valetta.sowka@gmail.com

Our bookarama angels are getting together again in November with a special pop-up book fair, sponsored by the Riverside Community who are generously offering their beautiful hall for our event!

Come along and grab a bargain, ALL books just \$1 or \$2, or bulk bags for koha - our goal is to move all remaining book stock!

Please spread the word!

Sat 22 & Sun 23 Nov.

We will be setting up the evening before.

If you want to come and help us (Valetta, Jo W, Jo H and Dunja) on set up day, or at the event, please get in touch!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orQKfXMiA8>

Arthur Charles Brooks is an American author and academic. Since 2019, Brooks has served as the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Professor of the Practice of Nonprofit and Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School and at the Harvard Business School as a Professor of Management Practice and Faculty Fellow. He is the author of thirteen books and since 2020, he has written the Atlantic's *How to Build a Life* column on happiness.

KINDERGARTEN



Did you know our kindergarten has a lending library for parents? It's full of beautiful books on Steiner education, parenting, rhythm, craft, family life and more. There are some great

books there that offer inspiration and practical ideas to bring more calm and connection into your days.

Parent education is an important part of what makes our Steiner kindergarten so special. When parents and teachers share an understanding of the values and principles behind our work with the children, it helps build a stronger bridge between kindergarten and home and helps to weave a strong community. In Steiner education we aim to foster a life-long love of learning, and parents have a wonderful opportunity to model this for your children while you're on your own learning journey.

You're warmly invited to have a look through the shelves to see what speaks to you. Whether you'd like to learn more about Steiner's approach to early childhood or just enjoy an inspiring read, there's something for everyone. If you'd like to borrow a book or find out more, come and have a chat with Amy in the kindergarten office.

APPEAL FOR KINDERGARTEN DONATIONS

The Kindergarten would greatly appreciate donations of the following items:

- Silks in various colours
- Gardening tools:
 - Weed hook
 - Metal trowels for adults
 - Metal weed claw
 - Hose reels
 - 2 good quality hose nozzles
 - Watering cans for the children - good quality ones that don't rust and bend
 - Sand in the sand pit

Many thanks!

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Message from Steiner family moving to Motueka

Kia ora

We are Lee, Larissa, Ida (4 yrs) and Francis (2 yrs). We are moving to the area from Titirangi, and are very excited to be part of your school community! We are after a temporary space for our tiny home while we settle in the area and look to purchase a larger lifestyle property. We would be open to anything that anyone in the community might have available from mid to late January 2026 within a 30 minute drive of school. Please get in touch with Lee if you know of a space that might work, or if you know of anything coming up for sale - 0210368635.

Nga mihi aroha



Qualified Nanny + Experienced Adventurist

My name is Bexie and I love working with children. I have over 20 years experience in NZ and overseas, working with all ages from birth to 14-year-olds. Reference available. I am flexible with days + time so please get in touch to discuss your needs. 021 167 9390

Harp Lessons with Annemieke

Dear Steiner Whanau,

Your child is inspired to play the harp too. I teach the harp locally and have a few spaces. Rental harps are available for hire so you don't need to own a harp yet. I teach both sight reading skills and playing by heart.



Annemieke Harmonie
0212139446
harpandhealing@gmail.com

Music lessons are now available at school!

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

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

Riverside Komitimiti Café- Looking for Outdoor furniture

The Komitimiti cafe is looking for any surplus second hand outdoor furniture. We are happy to arrange pick up. Please contact Verena 021 144 9513

Veda Organics is hiring



We at Veda Organics (owned by the MRSST) are looking for someone to take over our Nelson Saturday Market stall. It's a permanent, paid role starting in 3 weeks with training before hand.

We need someone committed, who can drive a manual small truck, who has keen attention to detail (numeracy skills), can lift vege boxes and loves being around people. You also get a selection of organic veges that are unsold from the market stall each weekend. If you are a charismatic person, dedicated to excellent customer service, please get in touch!

Vedaorganicsnz@gmail.com

Christmas Angel decorations for Sale

Hand sewn. wool-blend white felt angel with wooden head and wool hair. 3 different styles available.

① Plain with slight colour \$6.00

② Plain with slight colour Year or initials on front \$6.50

③ Plain body 2025 or Initial embroidered on sparkly wings \$7.00

Contact Davina by text 021702251

BUILDING COMMUNICATION BRIDGES INSIDE & OUT

Despite our best intentions, old patterns and communication styles can create insurmountable gaps.

Building Communication Bridges - Inside and Out is a multi-day workshop designed to explore new ways of communicating and connecting with ourselves and others. Join me and a group of radical change-makers to discover your truth, maximise your resources and create new results, all while feeling supported in your transformation journey.

You know that plants grow or don't grow because of the soil... did you know that relationships grow (or don't grow) because of communication?

Do you feel not heard?

Do you get stuck in reactivity and blame?

Are you hungry for connection and authenticity?

In this two-day training, we offer a deep dive into your unconscious patterns and survival strategies to find what you are holding back and what you are really bringing to your communications.

From there you will learn how to create ever more connected, authentic relating spaces in your life so that you can play your part in growing out the regenerative culture that Earth so desperately needs...



I'm Janet, A possibility manager, building communication bridges trainer, village healer and village weaver.

I'm a Space Holder for Learning, Healing, Growth, Aliveness & Fun. I turn obstacles into opportunities, conflict into creative results, and pain into possibility.

I am passionate about people reclaiming their Warrioress and Warrior by using conscious anger and new thoughtware, to create new results in their lives and in the world.

www.janetredmond.com



Anthroposophic Meditation Workshop

Connecting to your higher self

Christchurch

Fri. 28. to Sun. 30. Nov. 2025

Auckland

Fri. 5. to Sun. 7. December 2025

Course leaders: Agnes Hardorp, Thomas Mayer

To register: meditation333@protonmail.com

Living with the Deceased

and effects of materialism on the afterlife

Lecture by Thomas Mayer

Christchurch, Wednesday, 26. November

Auckland, Wednesday, 3. December 2025

(Details on the next page)

www.anthroposophical-meditation.info

1st + 2nd Nov 2025

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Riverside Community Hall
Motueka

Training fee \$395.00

Sliding scale or payment plans
available on request.

Register online
www.b.link/bcb



This Workshop brought life changing insights to my way of communicating and I can't wait to share this space with as many people as possible. We are all communicating all the time with others and ourselves, what is your toolkit like? Are you ready to learn more about yourself and how it goes? Do visit Janet's Website for more information or contact me - Ellen Appleton if you want to ask questions - 02102915785



TARUNA
COLLEGE
Connect. Nourish. Sustain.

Supportive Therapies

1 - 3 November 2025

As a nurse, therapist or caregiver we invite you to register for this three-day workshop focussed on practical, effective care and intervention strategies. Come and be a part of widening the circle of those offering supportive therapies in the community. Through our learning process, healing plants and external treatments will become familiar to you, preparing you to assess and safely work with the therapies based on a sound rationale.

In addition we introduce

- biography work
- the inner path of the nurse or therapist
- casework to help with individualised care across various situations and settings, and
- an anthroposophic approach to therapy.

Cost: \$550 all materials, refreshments and lunch included

Tutors: Deborah Bednarek RN MN ANS and Michelle Vette RN MN ANS

We welcome your registration by visiting our website: www.taruna.ac.nz or contact us on 06 8777174





You are warmly invited to our:

Free Christmas Get Together

at Community House on Deck's Reserve

Sat 20 Dec 2025

11am – 2pm

Free continuous BBQ with delicious festive dessert *
Christmas-themed give and take table * Christmas tree *
festive atmosphere * presents and a visit by Santa * fun in the playground *
giveaway festive pantry boxes*

Everyone is very welcome to come and share some Christmas cheer with us.

To receive a pantry box please register by **Mon 24 Nov 2025** with
an agency you are enrolled with e.g. Women's Support Motueka, The Shed, Motueka Family
Service Centre, Te Piki Oranga, your doctor's practice or
Motueka Community House, Decks Reserve, Motueka
Email: reception@motuekacommunityhouse.org.nz
Tel: 528 0404

We wish everyone in Motueka a safe & happy Christmas.



Know what to do in an attack...



ESCAPE

Move quickly and quietly away from danger,
but only if it is safe to do so



HIDE

Stay out of sight
and silence your phone



TELL

Call the Police
by dialling 111 when it is safe



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

KNOW WHAT TO DO
police.govt.nz/crowdedplaces



A.T.L.A.S

COME HANG OUT WITH US!

WEDNESDAY 3.30PM - 4.30PM

WEEKLY DURING TERM TIME - STARTING 15 OCTOBER

TERM 4,
WE GET CRAFTY!
A DIFFERENT CRAFT PER
WEEK.



A.T.L.A.S

(AT THE LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL)
IS A PLACE FOR FUN, CONNECTION, CRAFTS
AND GAMES!

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED, PARENT SUPERVISION ADVISED



the CRAVE

where live music meets the rave
Takaka homeschooling
group fundraiser

LIVE BANDS
&
DJ'S

Pōhara Hall, Takaka 15th November
7pm - 12am 13-17 years only
Alcohol free - Bags May Be Checked!
Food & Drinks Available
\$15 Online Tickets \$25 limited Door Sales

Scan Me

ELLIS CREEK FARM

<https://events.humanitia.com/thecrave>