

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Little thoughts will get us nowhere, so we must pluck up the courage to think big thoughts.

- Rudolf Steiner

Kia ora e te whānau

A huge thank you to all the parents and other volunteers who joined the school's Working Bee on Sunday 1 March. We had a good turn out and managed to complete quite a number of essential tasks, including neatly stacking away the fire wood ready for those cold mornings next term. Thank you to Ritchey and Sorie for organizing the teams and the morning tea, and to Dunja and the Weavers for a delicious lunch.

We have noticed that some students are consistently late for school in the morning. Students learn best when they arrive at school in time for the start of main lesson, instead of arriving at school in a rush and missing out on the calm and peaceful start of the day. Give your children the best start to their school day by ensuring that they arrive at least 5 minutes before the bell.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS



This morning the Steiner principals met again via zoom – we meet like this once a month during term time to discuss curriculum matters as well as multiple areas of leadership. This is a very supportive forum for all of us and in this way, we work together on common goals for Steiner schools in New Zealand.

He aroha whakatō, he aroha ka puta mai.

Ngā mihi, Elizabeth



TERM DATES

Tuesday 17 March	School Board Mtg	5:00-7:00 pm
Monday 23 March	School Photos	
Wednesday 25 March	Proprietors Trust Mtg	7:00-9:00pm
Thursday 2 April	Last day term 1	
Monday 20 April	First day term 2	

CLASSROOM CORNER

MAHANA



What a beautiful beginning to the term we've had in Mahana!

We eased into our days with a gentle week of form draw-

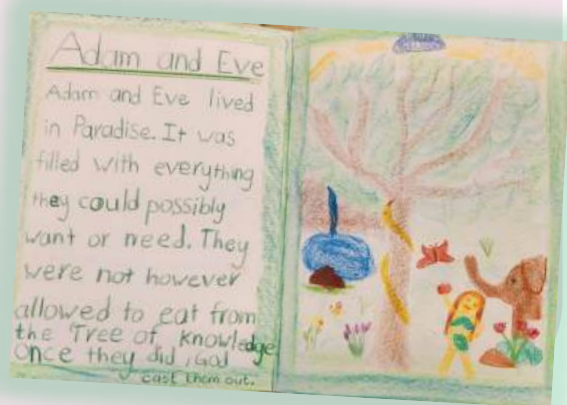
ing, strengthening little hands and focusing our minds before stepping into our first main lesson: the Creation Story. The children carefully crafted their own books, filling them with lovely paintings and their neatest handwriting to tell the story of the first seven days. It was a joy to see such care and pride in their work.

From there, our journey continued with Adam and Eve and their Fall from Paradise, the story of Cain and Abel, the tale of Cain's three sons, and the mighty adventure of Noah's Ark. In the Steiner curriculum, these Old Testament stories meet the children at a particular stage of development – as they begin to feel their own growing sense of individuality and separation from the "garden" of early childhood. They offer powerful images that will echo through many of our upcoming main lessons.

In the midst of this block, we were delighted that the joyful Jewish festival of Purim arrived just in time for us to celebrate together. We listened to the brave story of Esther, learned a lively dance and song, and made our own "groggers" (noisy rattles!) to shake every time the villain's name was mentioned – which made for a wonderfully interactive storytelling experience. We even dressed up for the occasion, adding colour, sparkle and plenty of laughter to our celebration! We ended the festivities by enjoying delicious Hamantaschen, lovingly made with the help of Jolie. What a treat!

It has been a rich and meaningful first main lesson – one we will return to later in the year. For now, we are turning the page with excitement as we prepare to enter our second main lesson of the term: The Kingdom of Grammar. We are eager to meet the fascinating characters who dwell there... so keep your eyes peeled for royal updates coming soon!

Blessings
Miss Terry



FARM TO TABLE

WITH JOLIE

Despite the lack of rain and our school garden pump not working, our garden has still managed to produce some wonderful summer crops. We've been enjoying harvesting the last of the summer vegetables, along with fruit from the orchard – and of course many children's favourite, the grapes!



The apples have been very light this year. After last year's bumper crop, the trees seem to have taken a well-earned rest. Instead, we've been lucky to enjoy plenty of nashi and peaches.



Looking ahead, we have some exciting projects planned with a focus on worm farms and compost systems. We are continuing to care for our no-dig garden beds, which have proven to be very efficient self-seeders. At the same time, we're beginning to set up more raised beds. These will serve a dual purpose: acting as both worm farms and compost systems, while also making it a little easier for the children to garden without quite so much time spent weeding.

All of our garden projects take time and are very much child-led. Along the way we learn, experiment, and enjoy the process together. We always finish our garden sessions with a circle of gratitude, appreciating our time spent in nature and the beautiful outlook we are so lucky to have.

We're looking forward to another wonderful year in the garden.

Jolie

RUDOLF STEINER'S BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATION



WORKING BEE AND SPECIAL LUNCH BY THE WEAVERS



SCHOOL NOTICES

ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND STEPPED ATTENDANCE RESPONSE

Regular school attendance is vital for the success and wellbeing of our tamariki. Attending school every day supports our tamariki to build strong foundations for their learning and social development. Regular attendance also promotes achievement success as tamariki are able to consistently build on their learning.

Our government has set a national target of 80% of students attending school at least 90% of the time. This means that tamariki should be absent for no more than one day a fortnight to ensure that they can have continued success at school.

You can find our Attendance Management Plan and Stepped Attendance Response on our website: <https://motuekasteiner.school.nz/policies-procedures-and-reports/>

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED FOR NOLEE

We are looking for a host family that can accommodate our German support teacher, Nolee from April to mid August. Preferably in town, but open to other areas. As an exchange, Nolee is able to work one day a week doing gardening, light house chores, babysitting, etc. For more information, please contact the office.

THE WEAVERS



The Weavers are inviting you to come together at the upcoming *Coffee Connection Catch Ups* on Thursday afternoons 19th March and 2nd April. We'll have hot drinks and fresh baking available from 2.30pm, creating the perfect space to connect with fellow parents, old and new friends - everyone welcome.

This is a parent initiative; come and chat to us if you'd like to join our little group.

Love from Anna, Karuna & Dunja



Waldorf Moms

By Allison Gillespie

Waldorf moms wear cotton socks,
Woolen sweaters, Birkenstocks.

Waldorf moms have long full skirts,
Big silk scarves and layered shirts.

Waldorf moms have fluffy hair,
They're kind and firm and make you share.

Waldorf moms drive Volvo cars,
And talk of fairies, gnomes, and stars.

Waldorf moms love Waldorf meetings
Where they greet with Waldorf greetings.

Waldorf moms make Waldorf dolls
From purest wool and cotton balls.

Waldorf moms drink lots of tea
Which has been grown organically.

Waldorf moms serve fruit and meats,
Veggies, grains, and not much sweets.

Their favourite word is "nourishing",
They love to hike and knit and sing.

They leave the gluten out of bread,
And make you spend twelve hours in bed.

And if you fall and scrape your knee
They give you rescue remedy!

PROPRIETORS TRUST UPDATE

Just a quick report to keep everyone in the picture:

An extension for Elizabeth's office and a shed for Jolie's gardening tools are in the pipeline -watch this space!

A Tri-Board brainstorming session is planned for the coming week to develop ideas on how to help increase both the school and KG rolls.

Dunja Balmer has joined the school's Board of Trustees as a PT representative. The PT now has two full BoT members representing it: Dunja and Isabel Challis.

A big **thank you** to Karuna and her family for making new painting boards (for wet-on-wet painting) for the school. This family is donating their time and also the cost to the school for the material - a few hundred dollars, which is only a fraction of a quote received earlier for the same job. The money will go to the Community Support Fund.

Also a big **thank you** to Valetta, who put together the surveys that were recently sent out to current and former school parents, and of course to all the families who took the time to complete them. Your responses have already provided valuable insights into what parents appreciate about our school and where they see areas for change. A group of trustees will soon get together to analyse the results and consider how we can implement improvements. The PT Fundraising Group has organised the **Warehouse Stocktake**, a fundraiser where "someone else's money can turn into our money" - without preparation, pre-meetings, or hours of planning. We simply have to turn up and count - a very easy job everyone can do!

The group has also started to get the ball rolling for our school's main community fundraising event: **The Steiner Spring Fair 2026!**

The date has been set: **20 September 2026** - please mark it in your diaries. We hope you are all as excited as we are to be involved in such an amazing event that helps keep our school going. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase who we are, what we stand for, and what a school community can create when everyone brings their energy together. The PT has also decided that, from this year onwards, 10% of the Fair's income will go to the MRSST for the Kindergarten.

A quick reminder: all fundraising activities related to our school - including class fundraisers - need to be approved by the PT.

That is it from us. We hope you are all enjoying these beautiful early autumn days we are being blessed with.

If you would like to get in contact with the PT, please send me a message on 027 61 83 633 or speak with any of the 13 PT members.

Love
Konstanca
PT Chairperson

Spring Fair 2026

Dear Community,

We are delighted to let you know that this year's Spring Fair will be held on
Sunday 20 September 2026.

More details, including stall information, entertainment, and how to get involved, will be coming your way soon. For now, pop the date in your diary and start looking forward to a wonderful day together.

The PT Fundraising & Fair Team
(Annemarie, Beba and Dunja)



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

International Family—Looking for rental

I'm Misaki from Japan, my son Lucas and I are currently living in Neudorf in a flatting situation. We are looking to move into a self-contained flat, cottage, or apartment for the long term.

If anyone knows of a suitable place, please let me know or leave a message at the office.

Short term rental available

Fully furnished 50sqm off-grid house is available for SHORT-TERM rent for 3 months from 25th May to August 25th. 2 bedrooms. Motueka Valley

Contact Jamie 027 405 6226



BENEFITS OF REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Short term benefits

Keeps Learning on Track

Your child won't miss key lessons, so they can keep up with reading, writing and maths.

Building Friendships

Kura (school) is where kids make friends, learn to share and work together, helping them feel included and happy.

Increased Confidence and Security

Being part of a familiar school routine gives your child a sense of belonging. A steady routine can ease anxiety and help them feel more confident.

Support from Kaiako & Staff

The more your child is at kura, the more kaiako (teacher) and staff understand their needs and can help straight away.

Good Routines & Responsibility

Regular wake-ups, packing kai (food) and arriving on time teach organization and responsibility - skills for life.

Long term benefits

Better Career & Earnings

Good grades and potential for university or NMIT, opening more job options and better pay.

Resilience & Wellbeing

Learning to stick with things teaches grit, helping them tackle challenges, which will support wellbeing and build resilience into adulthood.

Healthier Lifestyle

Regularly engaged students often grow into adults who prioritize exercise, good kai and self-care.

Community Participation

Teamwork and cooperation at Kura pave the way for participation in sports, the arts and cultural groups.

Strong Study Habits

Building solid study routines sees your child right through intermediate and secondary school.



Creative Barefoot Ballet Classes

with *Bex*

Bex 021 0271 8035
studiobex.co.nz
info@studiobex.co.nz

Fun and creatively structured classes that use age-appropriate fundamentals of ballet and contemporary dance.

Designed to develop confidence and build knowledge through musicality, body awareness and self-expression.

Creative Ballet (5-7 years)
Barefoot Ballet I & II (8-10 years)

Moutere Hills Community Centre
Mondays from 3.30pm



Nelson Youth Theatre Company's

production of



THE LITTLE MERMAID



To see C6 student Leona perform in her main character, choose a time from the Renee team:

6pm Wed, 15th Apr
2pm Thurs, 16th
2pm Fri, 17th
6pm Sat, 18th

Music by Alan Menken

Book by Doug Wright

Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater

Adapted and arranged by David Weinstein

Based on the Christian Anderson story and the Disney film.

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).

15th-18th April

Theatre Royal Nelson

www.theatreroyalnelson.co.nz

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 long to be 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...



janetredmond.com

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

Apprentice Spaceholders

Ellen Appleton



Mia Ruby



Sebastian Norton



28 / 29 Mar 2026

9:30am - 5:00pm

Training fee \$395.00

Sliding scale or payment plans available on request.

Motueka

Riverside Community Hall

289 Main Road Lower Moutere

Register online

www.b.link/bcb



MUDDY BUDDY

Adventure Fun Run

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026

FOOD | COFFEE | SILENT AUCTION | WHITE ELEPHANT STALL & MORE!

GREAT SPOT PRIZES!

PRIZES FOR THE BEST ECO DRESS-UP!

EARLYBIRD / ONLINE | \$20 per person | \$50 family
ENTER ON THE DAY | \$25 per person | \$55 per family
SIGN IN 10.30-12pm | RACE STARTS 12.30pm

Image Credit: Iida Fitzsimmons

EACH LAP APPROX 1KM	1 LAP - Kids, Family Fun, Open	2 Laps - Open	3 Laps - Open
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www.tasman.school.nz

