

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



*The wise speak only of what they know*

*- JRR Tolkien*

This has been quite a short term, but it has been packed with learning and activities. Class 6&7 enjoyed three great class trips: Mana Whaitaki/Sea Week out in Kaiteriteri (together with Class 4&5), a Wilderness Canoe adventure, and a foraging excursion with Lindsey collecting materials for the Outdoor Classroom. Class 4&5 also enjoyed an informative excursion to the Motueka District Museum.

We will finish the term with our usual Easter Festival on Thursday on the eve of the Easter weekend. This festival is just for our tamariki, keeping the focus reverent and peaceful. We will have a community Harvest Festival and sharing assembly at the beginning of next term. Details will be made available as soon as these have been finalised.

I recently discovered the work of dr. Brad Johnson. He is an inspiring and sought-after speaker in education, dedicated to transforming how teachers and leaders approach their roles. Dr. Johnson focusses particularly on relationships, communication, and collaboration. Central to his work is an emphasis on empowering others to maximize their potential.

Brad Johnson reminds us that "teaching is the toughest job. Not just because of the hours, the paperwork, or the pay. But also because [teachers] are competing with culture, social media, peer pressure, and trauma – and still expected to produce excellence." He continues to say that teachers are asked to meet every need, fix every gap, calm every storm – all while hitting standards and staying upbeat. But they show up anyway. Teachers believe in what they are doing, even when others doubt them. And that is why teachers are extraordinary.

Johnson furthermore states that the most important education starts at home. "Values. Boundaries. Respect. Responsibility.

Schools reinforce it. But the foundation is built long before a child ever walks into a classroom." "Teachers are affirmational by nature. They look for good. They look for effort. They put others first. And let's be honest ...they are human too. They have things going on at home. Stress. Bills. Family stuff. Doubt. Just like everyone else. Some days they are weighted down by life but still choose to lift someone else. And they do not just do it for your child. They do it for 25 other children in the same room."

We know of so many teachers who have left the profession. Fewer young people choose to study education. We have a severe shortage of teachers worldwide. As dr. Johnson says, "Burn-out is not caused by a lack of bubble baths. It's caused by chronic overload and constant pressure to perform miracles."

Let's value our teachers. We are lucky to have highly qualified, experienced and dedicated teachers at our school. Please be polite in your emails, please be kind, follow the correct procedures, respect boundaries. Our teachers work tirelessly to plan and deliver their lessons, care for your children, and ensure a happy day at school. And let's be mindful about what goes into those WhatsApp chats. Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary?

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Lis McCracken this week as she moves on to a more exciting adventure studying for her post-graduate Diploma in Teaching. Lis has a long association with our school, both as a parent and as a staff member. We are very grateful to Lis and her family for the tremendous contribution they have made to our school through the years. We wish Lis all the best and hope to see her back one day as one of our teachers! And we wish our student teacher, Mark Stone, all the best as he moves on to complete his last practicum before graduating.

We have been joined by Matilda Hegerty, who is familiar with our school and is a trained Steiner teacher. Matilda provides learning support once a week, and we warmly welcome her to our school. Next term will see Francesco Brogi, a parent of the school, join us as well to provide further learning support. A warm welcome to Francesco as well.

We wish you all a wonderful Easter holiday with whānau and friends.

*He rangi tā matawhāiti, he rangi tā matawhānui*

Ngā mihi, Elizabeth



## TERM DATES

Thursday 2 April

Monday 20 April

Friday 24 April

Last day term 1

First day term 2

Harvest Festival

1:45pm

# CLASSROOM CORNER

## PUTIPUTI

Putiputi is shining brightly as the northern-most classroom at Steiner, learning together whilst having fun. Starting the day in Morning Circle, we greet each other with happy movement songs that get us quickly into form and action – *As I was walking down the street... A riggedy jig and away we go...* Beanbag counting rhythms in te reo Māori and English focus our minds while coordinated fingers carefully make merry music on the recorder.



Our classroom is awash with paintings as we explore the unique qualities of individual colours; circles of yellow, blue and red as well as landscape sweeps of blended colours. The brightly painted fish that adorn the walls were created for the letter 'F' as part of the *Introduction to*

*Letters* Main Lesson. Pottery creations of eggs and hares will sit alongside felt eggs for our upcoming Easter display.

Learning every day with our head, heart and hands is a joyful experience!



# HANDWORK

Handwork has had an amazing start to the year and everyone is focused on their new projects.

**Class 1** has lovingly crafted new needles and snails are growing off them.

**Class 2** is knitting their animals with lions and lambs being the first to appear.

**Class 3** has started to venture into the world of embroidery with many well on their way to having a new pencil case.

**Class 4's** new challenge is cross stitch. The design phase has seen many ideas and beautiful patterns. Now many are on the challenging stitching stage.

**Class 5** is starting to tackle their year of knitting by learning to knit in the round on 4 or 5 needles

**Class 6** is deep into the making of an animal and this year is the year of the red panda, it seems.

**Class 7** is focused on dragon finishing and bag making.

Regards Davina

### Special Request from the Handwork department!

The handwork department is looking for donations of thicker wool so children in class 1 and 2 can use it for personal projects, like finger knitting, in their class.

If you have any thing that you no longer require and are happy to pass on, please drop it off to the office.

# EASTER PREPARATIONS



# SCHOOL NOTICES

## WELCOME

New entrants in Kohatu:

Ananda  
Cosima  
Gloria  
Henry

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

We invite parents and caregivers to join our Harvest Festival. Please save the date:  
Friday 24 April from 1:45pm.



## LOST AND FOUND

We have a new setup for the school's lost and found items in the office. A reminder that all items are donated at the end of each term.



## DID YOU KNOW?

There are many aspects of the school that do not get mentioned but help in making our school a magical place!

Did you know?

- Class 1-7 gather every Friday afternoon for Kaitiakitanga sessions. They work together to care and nurture our school grounds. Afterwards they play games together as a whole school.
- Francesco (class 2 parent) volunteers as a football coach every Tuesday at lunch time.
- Kapahaka is back from term 2. Matua Sean will be offering Kapahaka every Wednesday. (Optional subject for class 1-3 and school subject for classes 4-7.)
- Blessing runs a choir group every Tuesday afternoon as an optional session.
- You can join a MSS sport's team as part of the after school sports programme which is run by the Recreational Centre in Motueka.

Thank you for being part of this school!

## THE WEAVERS

The Weavers are inviting you to come together to the upcoming *Coffee Connection Catch Ups* on Thursday 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



# SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Our official channels of communication are via email, newsletter and website.

However, we are aware that there are unofficial WhatsApp groups that are used within our community for communication. To support a healthy, respectful and positive use of digital communication, we have created a set of guidelines for our school's WhatsApp groups.

A reminder that In Waldorf/Steiner school communities, face to face communication is prioritized over digital communication.

These guidelines are designed to foster a respectful, supportive, and constructive environment for all parents and care-givers involved in school-related discussions.

## 1. Purpose of the Group

- To share school-related information, reminders, and updates.
- To foster positive community engagement and support among parents.
- To arrange class or school-related events and activities.

## 2. Group Etiquette

- Be respectful and kind in all interactions.
- Keep discussions relevant to school and class-related topics.
- Use clear and constructive communication.
- Assume good intentions and seek clarification before responding negatively.
- If a personal issue arises, address it privately with the relevant person or school staff member.

Avoid:

- Negative or inflammatory comments about teachers, staff, students, or other parents.
- Sharing confidential or sensitive information about students or families.
- Posting promotional or commercial content.
- Excessive or off-topic discussions that detract from the group's purpose.

## 3. Moderation Process Parent Liaisons' Role:

- Ensure discussions remain respectful and aligned with group guidelines.
- Encourage constructive solutions if conflicts arise.
- Redirect or remove off-topic or inappropriate posts.

Handling Issues:

1. Reminder – If a post is inappropriate, a parent liaison will provide a gentle reminder of the guidelines.
2. Warning – If inappropriate behaviour continues, the parent may receive a direct message from a parent liaison.
3. Removal – In extreme or repeated cases, a parent may be removed from the group.

Reporting Concerns:

- If a parent has a concern about a post or discussion, they should message their parent liaison privately.
- If needed, unresolved issues may be referred to school leadership.

## 4. Privacy and Security

- Take care with sharing any personal details (addresses, phone numbers, etc.) in public posts.
- Do not share school-related messages, photos, or discussions outside the group without permission.
- For official school matters, always refer to communications from the school directly.

## 5. Emergency and Urgent Issues

- The group is not a substitute for direct communication with teachers or the school office.
- For urgent school matters, contact the school directly.

By following these guidelines, we create a positive, supportive space for our school community. Thank you for your cooperation!

# PROPRIETORS TRUST

## UPDATE

Are you aware that our school - *your* school, MSS - truly needs you?

Without you - your presence, your energy, your willingness to give - this school would simply not exist in the way your children experience it today. That might sound strong, but it's the truth.

While the Ministry of Education supports us like any other school of our size, it does not fund the very things that make this place so special... the Outdoor Classroom, the Gardening and Farm to Table programme, the Handwork lessons - the moments where our children don't just learn, but *grow*. Where their hands, hearts, and minds are all nurtured. Without your support, classes would be larger, opportunities fewer, and the depth of Steiner Education - education that speaks to the soul of the child - would be diminished. This is why what you give matters so much.

Last weekend, a group from our community showed what that spirit looks like. Annemarie Bauer organised the Warehouse Stocktake Fundraiser, and eight people (three from one family!) stepped forward - parents, caregivers, and one former school dad whose quiet, tireless dedication helped shape MSS into what it is today. Peter Garlick. Without his years of commitment - much of it voluntary - we would not be celebrating 25 years of MSS this year. To Peter, to Annemarie, and to everyone who gave their time and energy: THANK YOU. Deeply. Together, they raised around \$1000 for our school. And for those who couldn't be part of it - there is still a way to contribute. If you are able, please consider making a donation:

**NBS MSSPT-02Acc**  
**03-1354-0547032-02**  
**Ref: SC donation**

Think of it as our shared "Give-a-Little" - every contribution, no matter the size, helps protect and sustain the special character of our school.

This is not just about funding programmes.

It's about preserving something rare and precious for our children.

If you have any questions, or simply want to connect, please reach out - to me or any PT member.

You can call me on 027 61 83 633.

Thank you for being part of this community - and for helping it continue to thrive.

Warmly, Konstanca  
MSSPT-Chairperson



## Motueka Steiner Kindergarten

Autumn is a time of bounty, harvest, connectedness and community. It contains the gesture of coming together and reaping the rewards of hard work.

On Wednesday our Kindergarten families came together for a picnic and singing in the garden to celebrate the abundance that Papatūānuku shares with us in this season.

*Yellow the bracken, golden the sheaves.*

*Rosy the apples, crimson the leaves.*

*Mist on the hillside, clouds grey and white,*

*Autumn, Good Morning,*

*Summer, Good Night!*



# LANDCARE GROUP



Twice a year in autumn and spring we make and dynamize a spray we have made here on the land according to Steiner's indications. This charges the soil with the life forces it needs and connects us with natural seasonal and celestial cycles - we use the biodynamic calendar to choose the most active day for this activity.

**When: Saturday April 11th at 2.45pm.**  
**Where: At the Woolshed on School Rd.**

We stir the preparation, then walk the land broadcasting it as we go.  
Contact: Fiona 021 210 7441.

## Nanny / Childcare

Patient, caring & reliable with 24 years experience in Childcare, with children age Newborn to 12 years, in a variety of roles and settings

I have a natural connection with children, love spending time with them, helping them to learn and grow in a nurturing and positive way

I enjoy taking children to groups, activities and out in nature, keeping active & having fun. I also have an interest in baking, arts and crafts and kids yoga.

I have a full drivers license, first aid and a great reference

I am looking for part-time work in the Mapua / Ruby Bay / Tasman / Motueka / Moutere area

Please get in touch to talk further  
Jo - 0211709495

# 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.

## Looking to rent a house for at least one year:

We are a family of five from Germany who recently moved to New Zealand with permanent residency and are looking forward to making our long-term home in the Tasman Bay area.

Our family includes lively twin girls aged five and a half and an eight-month-old baby. We are therefore especially looking for a place where children are truly welcome and can grow up close to nature.

Ideally, we hope to find a home with some land where we can have a garden and perhaps keep a few chickens. We care deeply for the homes we live in and take great pride in maintaining both house and garden to a high standard.

If the right opportunity presents itself, we would also be open to purchasing a property in the future :)

Jennifer Miksch, Maxim Nohroudi and the girls Cosima, Gloria and Maxima



## 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

## Looking for a place to park campervan—2/3 weeks

We are a road-schooling family from Waiheke looking for a place to park our camper van for 2-3 weeks from 19th April so that Asia (12) can join Class 6/7 for a trial period. We need just a piece of paddock and are happy to offer an exchange - we have heaps of experience in organic farming, homeschooling and pizza making! [freelauren@yahoo.com](mailto:freelauren@yahoo.com)

## Cottage for Rent

Newly refurbished cottage in Motueka  
1 bed, 1 bath, lounge + kitchenette  
\$380 / week includes fiber internet, gas, rubbish removal.  
Available from April 15  
Contact Ange on 021 02518729

## Copper Smithing workshop with Jamie Nicoll

Tuesday 7 April 9.30am 2pm

Create your own jewellery, candle holder, spoon, laddle, hook or - anything you dream up.

Adults and kids from 8yrs welcome! \$55

Book your place: 027 405 6226



# MOTUEKA AFC FOOTBALL 2026

**Kids turning 9 years old needed**

<b>Games starting 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Kids born in 2017 or late 2016</b>	<b>No experience needed</b>
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- Registrations also available for ages 5 to Adult
- Register online [www.sporty.co.nz/MotuekaAFC](http://www.sporty.co.nz/MotuekaAFC)
- More info contact [motuekaafcjunior@gmail.com](mailto:motuekaafcjunior@gmail.com)



## FUN WITH CLAY WITH AKANE



### Family Clay Time

A 1.5-hour private, guided clay session for a caregiver and child

Enjoy quality time together as you create your own cup, plate, bowl, or little figurine

\$80 per session  
(\$20 per extra child)

Includes all materials, kiln firing and glazing

### Private Pottery Class

Personalised clay sessions with an experienced potter

Enjoy one-on-one or couples' sessions tailored to your interests and skill level

Explore wheel-throwing, hand-building, underglaze painting/glazing and other tips and tricks

Contact Akane for more information

[akaneceramics@gmail.com](mailto:akaneceramics@gmail.com)

STUDIO A, 49 School Road, Lower Moutere

## KIDZ KLUB AFTER 3 Amazing Autumn holiday programme

7th -17th of April 2026

8.30am - 3.30pm

(aftercare may be available to 4:30pm depending on numbers)  
LOWER MOUTERE SCHOOL HALL

\$45 per day

WINZ OSCAR Subsidies available to eligible families



To get an enrolment form for your children contact Leah Bailey-Young 027 512 0687  
[Kidzklubafter3@gmail.com](mailto:Kidzklubafter3@gmail.com)

BE IN QUICK AS SPACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED!!!

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>EASTER MONDAY</b> NO PROGRAMME TODAY 	<b>Mosaics on Canvases</b> Turn tiny pieces into a big masterpiece! 	<b>Einstein's</b> Get ready for curious minds and big ideas! Our Einstein sessions are packed with fun experiments, problem-solving challenges, and hands-on science that will spark creativity and make kids feel like real inventors.	<b>Masterchef</b> Our famous Masterchef competition is back in town! 	<b>Playground Hop</b> Join us on a bus tour around all the best playgrounds in our beautiful backyard! 
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>The Great Auction</b> Going once, going twice, SOLD! 	<b>Upcycle it</b> Using recycled equipment, let's see what we can create today! 	<b>Around the world</b> Around the world in 1 day! At each station we will experience a different culture 	<b>Under the sea</b> Get crafty with this fun theme, what seascapes and creatures can we create! 	<b>Survivor!</b> Who will outwit, outplay and outlast their peers today? 

## 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



Sebastian Norton



Mia Ruby



28 / 29 Mar 2026

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Motueka

Riverside Community Hall

289 Main Road Lower Moutere

Training fee \$395.00

Sliding scale or payment plans available on request.

Register online

[www.b.link/bcb](http://www.b.link/bcb)



## Nelson Youth Theatre Company's

production of

Disney

# THE LITTLE MERMAID



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).

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

## 15th-18th April

## Theatre Royal Nelson

[www.theatreroyalnelson.co.nz](http://www.theatreroyalnelson.co.nz)



# Sandcastle Competition

An activity for children and families

No cost, no booking, just turn up

Starts from 12 noon. Judging at 3.45 pm.

Sat, 28 March 2026

Stephens Bay Beach

For more info on summer arts workshops

W:[www.motuekaartscouncil.com](http://www.motuekaartscouncil.com) F:Motueka Art Council