



COMING EVENTS

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

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TONIGHT | Takurua Festival. |
| Monday 24 June | Kindy Koru Festival |
| Monday 24 June | Class 1 Parent Meeting 7pm |
| Thursday 27 June | Matariki Breakfast 6.30am |
| Friday 28 June | Matariki Public Holiday |
| Wed 3 & Thu 4 July | Class 8 Play 'Branches' at 6pm |
| Friday 5 July | Last day of Term 2 |



Kia ora whānau,

Ka mahua a Matariki i te pae, ka mahuta oo tatou tuumanako ki te tau.

When Matariki rises above the horizon, our aspirations rise to the year ahead.

We have had another wonderful week at school with lots of things going on, our school is humming with rehearsals and preparation for our Takurua Festival this evening.

Next week we will be celebrating Matariki with our potluck breakfast next Thursday. Matariki is a celebration of abundance, of remembrance, unity and hope for the future. Matariki reminds us that all parts of the environment are interconnected, to each other, and to us.

To spot Matariki when it's visible, look low on the horizon in the northeast of the sky; it's easier to spot pre-dawn, between 5:30am and 6:30am. Look for what you probably know as Orion's Belt or the bottom of 'the pot' and follow the three stars across the sky to the left until you find Matariki. It's a small and tight cluster, not as big and showy as you might be expecting, but once you know what you're looking for you will see it more easily.

This is a time to consider what we have gathered in the last year, remember those we've lost, and set plans for the future.

See you all tonight.

GO THE BLUES

Nga mihi māhana,
Desmond Pemerika
Tumuaki



Class 7 Takurua Festival Poems

I observe gathering warmth,
Path to peace,
Starry flame,
Flowing light,
Frozen stillness.

Light cold fire,
Love people darkness,
Flame frozen burning bright,
Light river flowing.

Fire flame burning bright,
Candle, lanterns, torches,
Cold, darkness, winter night,
Frozen, icy, frosty delight,
Festival gathering, food, excite.

Our thoughts are washed away,
when our lanterns light the way,
through the dark we go,
where the bright flame glows,
we sing through the night,
with our lanterns shining bright.

Community gathering,
Silence and song, merge into one,
Flames light up the darkness of the light,
While the river of light flows past,
Burning bright,
Hidden beacons show the way,
On the shortest day.

In the light burning bright the air is frozen cold,
People walking down the path and walking down the road,
Making circles and spirals and finding your warmth inside,
Lanterns lit with glowing flames,
Find your peace and find your light,
And find your flame that's lit inside.

Flowing, flowing, river of light,
Crossing, crossing, spiral of light,
Living, living, circle of light,
Freezing, freezing, grotto of light,
Burning, burning, beacon of light.

River of light burning bright,
Contemplation in the night,
Contrast of darkness and night,
Lanterns on a path that glows,
People in the darkness where inwardness flows.

The gathering of light,
Of friends,
Of family,
Lights glowing,
Candles burning,
Brightness.

A path with candles left and right,
Makes the night very bright,
Contrast with darkness and light,
Almost looks like they're having a fight,
In the middle of the silent night.
Glowing candles burning bright,
Disappearing in the night,
Cold and darkness brought to light,
Gathering in silence.
Flowing fire and rivers of flame,
Frozen silence in darkness came,
Love and peace are one and the same,
Colourful and glowing.

Silence falls upon the world,
When people walk the spiral,
Looking round in wonder,
Hidden grottos here and there,
Along the candle-lit path.

Warm and light fill the night,
As candles burn like stars so bright,
Stillness fills our inner soul,
With peace and love, as a whole.

Walk through the river of light,
Through the darkness of the night,
Flicker flame,
Silent remains,
That is nature's way.

The light flows like a river,
Like a river of gold,
The night swallows us in darkness,
In darkness untold,
But when the light shows,
And the river flows,
The darkness goes.

A cold night, a little light,
Warmth and light fire spreading,
Candles blinging and lanterns singing.

People contemplate silent movement,
And the contrast between light and dark,
Torches burning bright, flowing in a river of light,
In a spiral path glowing and eating marshmallows.

The light is very bright in the night,
Now the light is too bright,
It hurts my eyes.

Marshmallows, hot chocolate, silence, flame,
Always bright every day,
Winter festival, river of light,
Food, peace, beacons, light,
Then walking late at night.

Class 8 Presents

BRANCHES

MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL

BY
DAVID
HILL

Dates: July 3rd and 4th 6pm
Doors open at 5:30pm
5*child 10*adult 15*family



Parent Action Group

Thank you to all the keen gardeners who got stuck in to make our school gardens look great for open day. We will be doing it again and everyone is welcome, second Saturday of every month, weather permitting, 10-1pm.



Why did you join the Parent Action Group?

The unique community at Michael Park School is the main reason why our family chose it for our children. We could hardly imagine though, how important this community would become for us. It has become our village! I joined the Parent Action Group because I believe that together, we can make a big impact and make this community thrive - for our family and for others, for many generations to come. I also selfishly enjoy spending time with other like-minded people who are not only smart and action-oriented, but also fun, creative, witty, easy-going, and kind. Every meeting fills me with joy, gratitude, and a sense of belonging. I encourage everyone to give it a go and join us - the more the merrier!



Sofia Gelman

Keen to join?

Contact Leah on leahd83@gmail.com or 0210 204 0780

MATARIKI

LUNCHBAR

THURSDAY 27TH JUNE

CLASS 1



DELICIOUS SWEET & SAVOURY TREATS
MORNING TEA & LUNCHTIME

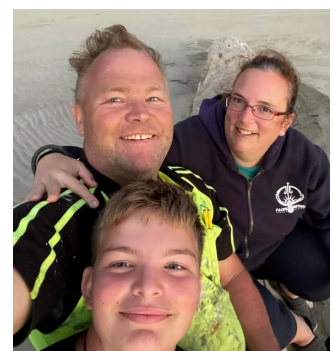
Support for former MPS student Oliver Gordine who has lost both parents suddenly in the space of 10 months.

After losing our beloved Whaea Andrea Gordine last August, Ollie's father Keith has also passed away on 7th June.

A [Givealittle](#) page has been set up to help support Ollie.

Thank you, MPS whānau.

givealittle
POWERED BY perpetual guardian



DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The DofE section took advantage of the King's Birthday weekend to complete several expeditions. Our Silver and Gold practice expeditions took place in the Hunua Ranges, whilst our Gold qualifier expedition traversed the length of the Kaimai Ranges.

The biggest benefit of the DofE Award is promoting independence. The physical, skill and service components are done at your own speed. Nobody will chase you if you don't complete your logs. The adventurous journey, whilst facilitated by the school, is also fully independent. Students plan their routes and source their own food. They quickly realize that having Mum or Dad helping pack their bag is not necessarily a good thing – every extra item that they think you need must be carried through the bush, up NZ's invariably steep and rugged terrain. Teams quickly learn what equipment works for them and what can be left behind. To see the preparation level and attention to detail of our recent Gold qualifiers shows the true results of this process. This is education through immersive, experiential learning.



Whilst all groups require an adult shadow party, adults go to great lengths to step away whenever possible. When we do make contact, groups quickly learn that the main aim of the shadow party is to mess with their heads by trying to lead them the wrong way, and for them to trust their own developing navigational skills! We have recently trialled using the older students to mentor the younger groups as part of their training, which has been highly successful.



We currently have around 35 students involved at all levels of the Award. The sad thing is that we nearly had to call off these recent expeditions as we could not find enough parent volunteers to join shadow parties (thanks to our local Scout leaders for stepping up). It is physically demanding but also a wonderful way to make new friends and learn new skills in the outdoors. We welcome parents of younger students to step forward and get involved now, to ensure that the DofE group thrives for many years to come!

GOLD / SILVER HUNUA EXPEDITION

We had a full mix of students from classes 9-11 plus some from our local Scout troop, undertaking the mission to climb Auckland's highest mountain, Kohukohunui (688m). Recent rain had turned the tracks into slippery mud slides, and walking times on the first day were almost twice as long as anticipated! The second day saw one group sensibly modify their plan due to illness. The other group managed to reach the summit but ended up walking the last hour and a half of descent in pitch darkness – lucky they all remembered head torches! The sun came out on the third day and the groups completed the route in good time. Throughout the trip, all students kept their spirits high and improved their navigation skills significantly! In particular, it was great to see students welcoming others from outside their classes and watch new friendships develop. It really sunk home for many students that it's about the journey and not the destination. A very enjoyable trip!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD EXPEDITION

On the King's Birthday weekend, Class 12 students Jasper Firth, Cameron Le Pelley, Leon Kment, Ben Edwards, Catherine Zhao and I (Luka Winz) did our sixth and final Duke of Edinburgh hike. We completed our first, 2-day bronze practice hike on Rangitoto Island in 2020, when we were all in Class 8. This year, we did our Gold Qualifying hike which took 4 days and 3 nights in the Kaimai ranges. Unfortunately, we were not able to complete our original route as the poor track conditions forced us to make an emergency detour to finish on time.



Luka: Personally, this hike was a STRUGGLE. The track we hiked was for "experienced backcountry trampers only" which meant climbing over and under trees, crossing (and in some cases falling into) rivers, going up a 90° vertical ladder on a steep rocky cliff, and scaling rocky cliffs - aka ROCK CLIMBING with a 20kg pack on, and descending very muddy hills that turned into mud slides. I really did enjoy the team spirit, and waking up on top of a hill in the clouds and the beautiful, New Zealand nature.

Leon: The tramp was not only the final tramp of our Duke of Edinburgh program but also one of the hardest tramps I have ever done. It required persistence through intense climbs, determination to keep walking through the dark to reach a camping spot and the ability to adapt to obstacles that presented themselves on the day. I thought it was a lovely way to grow closer with friends through challenges, sitting around a campfire, watching the stars and taking in nature's beauty. I highly recommend this personal challenge and opportunity for personal growth alongside your friends.

Jasper: I enjoyed being in charge of the food preparation for this tramp. This included buying, packaging and preparing 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners for the six of us. We had meals of Curry and rice, Carbonara pasta, wraps, muesli, and pancakes. Overall, it was successful and no one went hungry. Nutrition

was a crucial part of our tramp. As we were walking approximately 9 hours every day, we also had to keep the food as light as possible, so I dehydrated most of our food. I enjoyed the tramp a lot, and am a bit sad that it was our last one for Duke of Ed.



Catherine: I love how the hike took us through different terrain. We crossed clear pebbly rivers, walked through the bush with the golden morning sun shining through the trees, and across misty, windy hilltops.

Cameron: I feel sad that this was our last Duke of Ed hiking experience, but it was definitely a strong note to finish off with.

Ben: It was certainly a challenging tramp, with several hurdles to overcome regarding time and distance, but I am unbelievably proud of our teamwork when it comes to the unwavering energy we needed in the light and dark areas alike. The varied terrain and weather, over the weekend, created an unrivalled atmosphere that I had never seen in the Kaimai ranges; with the rainforest heights, foggy Scottish highlands, serene river crossings, and palm tree lined camping lodges. I am also very pleased with our team's quick thinking skills that provided us the ability to improvise, despite our tired derision, whether late at night or very early in the morning. Being a day behind route-card, we thought on our feet (literally) about a shorter plan of attack for the following day, ultimately leading to the external travel support of my dear father, Philip. Yet, I wouldn't trade the challenging experiences for the world and am glad we made it through!



SNAPDRAGON OPEN LATE CELEBRATING TAKURUA FESTIVAL OPEN 4PM FRIDAY 21ST JUNE

STILL OPEN NORMAL HOURS 8-9 AM & 2PM-3 PM

SEASONAL TABLE LANTERNS & DECORATIONS
CRAFT SUPPLIES FOR LANTERN & STAR MAKING

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Outdoor Classroom Holiday Workshops with Mr. Bernal

Kia ora whānau,
Tamariki in classes 2-7 are invited to join our holiday programme. Activities include fire-making, open fire cooking, traditional crafts and primitive technology.

Monday 15 July & Tuesday 16 July
9:00am to 3:00pm
Single day \$80, two days \$75 per day.

Expressions of interest welcome at
luisbernal@gmail.com

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Guest speaker:

**Philipp Reubke- Leader of the Pedagogical
Section in Dornach, Switzerland**

**Rudolf Steiner/Waldorf Early
Childhood Conference**

**Organised by Waekura, EC group of
SEANZ**

8-11 July 2024

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

**\$300 Conference fee, incl morning and
afternoon tea, lunch and light dinners**

[Click for full programme and registration](#)

Eurythmy Aotearoa

You are warmly invited to a presentation
of pieces in both tone and speech eurythmy,
by the students of Eurythmy Aotearoa.

These six students are now in
the third year of their NZ eurythmy training

Thursday 11th July

3.00pm - 4.00pm

**Michael Park Steiner School Auditorium
55 Amy Street, Ellerslie.**

Your koha is welcome.

Shaping Life Together

**WALDORF EDUCATION
TODAY**

Join a talk with international
speaker **Philipp Reubke**

**The Challenges and Task of
Anthroposophy and Waldorf
Education in the World Today**

**SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2024
7PM - 8:30PM**



Hosted by
Rudolf Steiner House

Lopdell Precinct - Theatre
418 Titirangi Road, Titirangi,
Auckland

Suggested Donation: \$10-20
Adults only

'100 Years' composed by Dale
Jones will be performed. An
accompanied choral concert
directed by Stuart Lithgow.
Followed by refreshments.

Anthroposophy and Waldorf
Education share a dynamic
and intricate relationship.
Anthroposophy, founded by
Rudolf Steiner, serves as the
philosophical underpinning of
Waldorf education. The
challenges lie in balancing
the educational practice with
anthroposophical principles.
Despite these hurdles, Waldorf
education continues to evolve,
drawing on wisdom and strength
from its roots while adapting to
contemporary contexts.

ABOUT

Philipp Reubke will be visiting
Aotearoa New Zealand to speak at
the Waldorf Early Childhood
Conference held at the Titirangi
Rudolf Steiner School.
He was born in Stuttgart. From 1989
he worked as a Waldorf teacher and
is a member of the Hague Circle -
International Council for Steiner
Waldorf Education. Since 2020, he
has headed the Pedagogical Section
at the Goetheanum with
Constanza Kaliks.

FOR MORE INFO:

rudolfsteinerhouse@xtra.co.nz
hello@diannabrinsden.co.nz

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Looking to keep the kids entertained during the July school holidays? Choose from our fun and active holiday programmes with options to suit your needs and the interests of your child.

Week One - Commences Monday 8 July
Week Two - Commences Monday 15 July

Our programmes will be running both weeks of the July School Holidays at our St Johns venue for both boys and girls of all skill levels. Our Netball Skills programme will also be running in Week One of the holidays at our Mount Eden venue.

To book or for more information please contact:

Caitlin Smardon, Development Programme Officer
T 09 280 4129 or M 021 577 105
E development@aucklandnetball.co.nz
www.aucklandnetball.co.nz



YOU'RE INVITED TO

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Songs from:
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SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
2PM & 7:30PM

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