



COMING EVENTS

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

TONIGHT	MPS Concert
Saturday 14 June	High School Ball
Monday 16 June	Class 6 Market
Thursday 19 June	Takurua Festival
Friday 20 June	Matariki Public Holiday
Tuesday 24 June	Class 7 Parent Meeting
25 & 26 June	Class 10 Play Performance
Friday 27 June	Last day of Term 2

Kia ora e te whānau,

"Ehara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini."

My strength is not that of a single person, but that of many.

This proverb reminds us that success and strength come not from individual effort alone, but through collective support, unity, and collaboration — an appropriate message highlighting our values and priorities within our school community.

It has undoubtedly been the wettest week of the year so far, yet our students have embraced the weather with resilience and joy. Many could be seen making the most of the rain—happily playing outside in their raincoats and gumboots, a true celebration of childhood spirit.

Our music students have been working diligently throughout the term and are now excitedly preparing to showcase their talents at the upcoming concert this evening. We are so proud



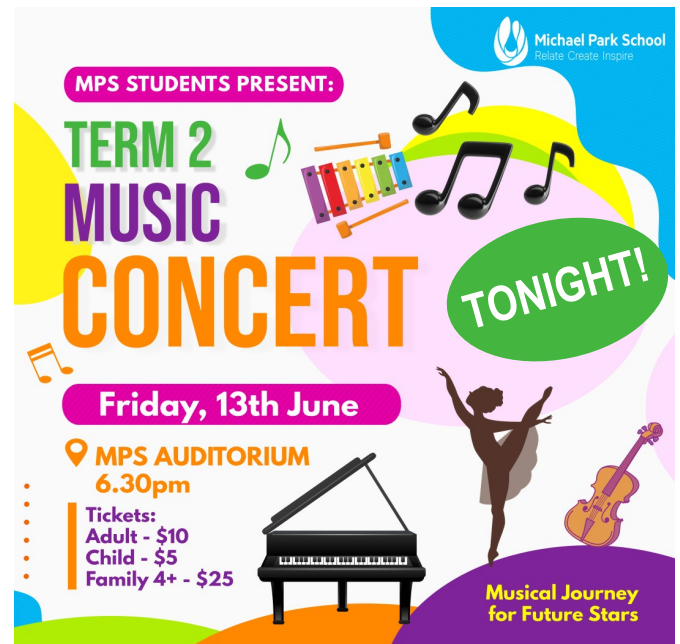
of the creativity and dedication they continue to bring to their learning.

Tomorrow evening, our high school students and staff will be gathering for the much-anticipated school ball—a special event that promises to be a memorable occasion for all involved.

And finally, a special shout-out to those who joined in the fun of coming to school in their pyjamas today—a delightful idea that added some comfort and warmth to a rainy week (and certainly made getting ready in the morning much easier!).

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.
GO THE BLUES!

Ngā mihi nui,
Desmond Pemerika
Tumuaki



PYJAMA DAY



TAKURUA FESTIVAL

Dear Whānau,

As nature heralds midwinter with heavy rain and strong winds, we prepare ourselves to get together as a community to share an evening of celebration and ritual. Festivals are a landmark for us as a community, and a good reason to come together to meet and share food, laughter and joy around the fires.

This year we will have the Takurua (winter) Festival on the evening of **Thursday 19 June**, starting at **5:30pm** at the steps in front of classes 2 & 3.

The evening will include beautiful singing from the lower school classes, a performance from class 7, a lantern walk around the school and through the grotto village built by Class 6, a walk in and out of the big spiral on the soccer field and a culmination at the fires for food roasting and meeting each other.

It is a lovely gathering that we cherish deeply in our hearts as part of the community. Please come and join us for as long as you please. Our celebration will be over before 9pm. All school students are encouraged to join us.

Class 8 will be contributing to the atmosphere of the Festival with warm food available from late afternoon at the lunch bar. Feel free to bring your family earlier for a yummy snack before the ceremony.

You are all welcome to bring food to roast on the fires. We challenge you to be creative and stay away from pre- packed food while keeping the joy of sweetness, taste and practicality.

We look forward to welcoming a big crowd and making the best of this lovely opportunity to meet with you and tighten our social bonds.

Greetings,
The College of Teachers



TAKURUA FESTIVAL SUPPER



Come and support Class 8 and purchase yummy winter food at our festival supper.

Food on sale from 4pm at the festival

- Nachos
- BBQ sausages
- Fruit crumbles & cream
- Baking
- Hot chocolate and mulled juice

EAT APPLES, GET SPORTS GEAR!

Yummy apples is running their annual promotion where they donate sports gear to schools that buy their apples. If you buy Yummy apples from New World, Pak n Save or 4 Square, please collect the stickers (or coupon on the 1.5kg bag) and pop the sticker sheets and coupons into the blue box in the office before the end of term 3... plenty of time to eat plenty of apples! Official sticker sheets can be printed out here or collect from the office:



https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Sticker-Collection-Sheet-2024_NEW_upload.pdf

The Dhal Wala needs you! If you have a slow cooker taking up unwanted space in your cupboard, we desperately need it. A hot lunch in winter is so comforting & nutritious, your slow cooker donation will help with this. Thanks in advance!

[Visit the Dhal Wala website here](#)



The Triennial School Board Elections are coming up in September. The Board is considering adopting a staggered election cycle which would mean that half of the Board Parent Representatives are elected at the regular 3-year Triennial Election and half at a Mid Term Election. There are advantages and disadvantages to the different approaches, and the Board intends to discuss and resolve whether or not to adopt the 'Mid Term' approach for the coming elections at the next Board Meeting. This meeting will be held on **16th June at 6pm** in the MPS Staffroom and this will be, like all Board Meetings, an open meeting so anyone can attend this meeting.

If anyone would like more information on the Mid Term Election or has feedback please email

BOT@michaelpark.school.nz

DEBATE SUCCESS FOR MPS STUDENTS

This term, the Michael Park Debate Group participated in five inter-school debates, proudly winning three of them! Two dedicated teams represented MPS, with Class 10 students (Emma, Zoe, Bianca), Class 11 (Amelia) and 12 (Finlay and Luca) stepping up to challenge opponents, and holding their own impressively.

The teams meet every Tuesday lunchtime to practise. Each session involves debating a topic, sharing ideas, refining opinions, and learning the art of argumentation and debate structure. It's been a term full of critical thinking, confident speaking, and great teamwork.

Well done to all debaters for their hard work and enthusiasm!



MICHAEL PARK AT MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY (MUNA)

On the 16th and 17th of May, two teams from Michael Park School represented China (Luca, Finlay, and Amelia) and Tanzania (Emma, Zoe, Sana, and Sarah) at the annual Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), held at Rosmini College.

More than 52 schools from across Auckland and Northland took part, each representing a country's political perspective; regardless of their own personal views. Delegates debated a wide range of global issues, including whether the Internet is a human right, climate change, unfair labour practices, and the use of AI in warfare.

The event was filled with drama, controversy, and excitement: allegations of bribing the Secretary-General with lollies, heated debates between countries, accusations of AI-written speeches, and formal condemnations all added to the realistic and dynamic atmosphere.

Some highlights included dressing in traditional clothing, passing diplomatic notes during sessions, following unfolding political storylines, and, of course, enjoying delicious international cuisine.

Overall, it was a fantastic opportunity to learn about global politics and engage in meaningful discussions—while still having plenty of light-hearted fun.

A big thank you to Mrs. Valyashko for coaching our teams, Ellerslie Rotary for sponsoring us, and Rosmini College for hosting this incredible event.

Sarah C9

TE AO MĀORI

A space dedicated to promoting te reo me ōna tikanga Māori

MATARIKI CELEBRATIONS



Matariki Traditions

Matariki can be a time to reflect, gather and plan, a time to find ways to bring warmth and light into the cold season, and a time to develop traditions that weave the three principles of Matariki Hunga Nui (remembrance), Matariki Ahunga Nui (celebrating the present) and Matariki Manako Nui (looking to the future) into celebrations. As Rangi Matamua says, 'anyone can celebrate Matariki. Whether you're continuing a tradition of your tupuna or starting a new one, Matariki is for everyone'.

A beautiful and unique part of the Matariki festival is the way that it honours the past, both through the star, Pōhutukawa (the star connected to those who have passed), and through the stories of Te Waka o Rangi, the great waka in the sky. During the live broadcast of the hautapu ceremony (this year honouring Puanga), it is always moving hearing the voices of different iwi calling the names of their dead into the dawn sky, bidding them farewell as they join the stars. This sacred element of Matariki can offer significant healing and comfort for whānau and communities, intertwined with the celebration of the present and planning for the future.

How My Koro Became a Star by Brianne Te Paa is a beautiful and moving Matariki story about a child who is taught the tikanga of Matariki by his koro (grandfather), and then when the grandfather passes away, the grandson keeps up the tikanga. This story shares the Matariki wisdom about the journey of Te Waka o Rangi, the great waka in the sky that carries the souls of those we have lost in the previous year, releasing them as stars into the sky.

If you want some ideas for Matariki, here are some lovely ones that people have shared:

- Find your own ways of honouring the loved ones you have lost in the year past. Look for Te Waka o Rangi in the morning sky – on a good clear (very) early morning, it can be quite visible.
- Keep an eye and ear out for the events happening around Tāmaki Makaurau – there are more every year.
- Share stories – ask each member of the whānau to write a story about a favourite memory. Share these stories at a special dinner or around a fire, and then collect these stories into a folder to read again in future years. One day you might have enough to make a book!
- Gather with friends for an early morning walk up a maunga to spot the Matariki cluster, before sharing a Matariki breakfast.
- Create a gratitude wall or hanging mobile for people to write down things they are grateful for.
- Rug up warm and cook on an outdoor fire.
- Watch the livestream of the ceremony from 6am here: <https://www.matariki.com/live>

Mānawatia a Matariki e te whānau! Wishing you peace, reflection and revitalisation in the time of Matariki.



Images used from Huia books of *How my Koro Became a Star* by Brianne Te Paa.

WHAKATAUKĪ O TE WĀ:

Te ope o te rua Matariki

The company from the cavern of Matariki.

This whakataukī is used to address the party of chiefs or leaders who have departed this life and gathered in the cavern of Matariki.

CHESS CLUB TERM 2 PRIZEGIVING



Class Two Sock Fundraiser

NZ Merino socks, tights and other apparel
for babies, kids and grownups.

Please order online at:

www.cosytoes.co.nz

within the month of June.

Be sure to write
'Michael Park School'
in the message box at
checkout.

20% of your purchase
spend will be donated
to Class Two.



CLASS 6 MARKET

MONDAY 16TH JUNE

MORNING TEA
& LUNCHTIME
IN CLASS 6

BAKING, RAFFLES, CRAFTS,
SECOND-HAND, FIDGETS,
GAMES, JEWELRY AND MORE!





Helping hands of MPS presents..

Winter Wellness Fundraiser

Sunday 22nd June 2pm - 4pm

Eurythmy room Michael Park School

Tickets \$30 ea or 2 for \$50

Join us for a relaxing & informative afternoon to rejuvenate your mind, body & soul

- A short talk on homeopathic remedies for winter ailments (incl free sample remedy)
- A gentle 45 min yin yoga session
- Relaxing 15 min sound bath to finish

Please bring: Notebook & pen

Yoga mat (& optional pillow, blanket, eye mask)

Limited Spaces, Bookings Essential. To book please email

Louise: pureessencehomeopathy@gmail.com

Subject line: Winter Wellness



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

You are warmly invited to our St Johnstide Spiral Festival

Sunday 29th June

10.00 am THE ACT OF CONSECRATION OF THE HUMAN BEING
(childcare can be organised in advance)

11.30 am THE FESTIVAL OF ST JOHN

With singing, story, walking the spiral and followed by
THE SUNDAY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN

A Festive lunch will follow. Please bring food to share.

The Christian Community relies entirely on financial contributions from every member, friend and visitor. Your donation supports our ongoing work throughout New Zealand.

The Christian Community Inc
03-0259-0112730- 04

Thank you, we are so grateful for your support

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Artisan Pathways

Outdoor Classroom - Experiential Learning
Teacher and Practitioner Course 2025(2)

Course Structure

- 7-week Online (Zoom) tutorial sessions
Tuesday evenings (7.00 - 9.00) 22 July to 2 September \$450
- Weekend Workshops:

Fire & Sharp Edges	26-27 July	\$250
Fibre (Wood & Ti Kouka)	9-10 August	\$250
Metal: Intro Blacksmithing & Pewter Casting	30-31 August	\$250

The online and hands-on workshop balance of theory and practice, however they can be done independently.

Course Content and Skills

You will develop:

- Localisation of curriculum strategies
- Integration of outdoor and indoor learning
- Links with the environment as an agent in learning and teaching
- An understanding of the learning journey using traditional crafts
- Deep cultural sensitivity and appropriateness
- Reflective practice
- An understanding of whole person intelligence and how the literacies of making and growing support balanced human development
- Health and safety and risk benefit analysis practices
- Earth, Water, Fire and Air themed activities

John Lawry

Educator, B.Ed, Master Craftsman

Born 31.5.1950, in Auckland, New Zealand, a fifth generation South Pacific Celt, my life experience as an artisan & educator spans more than five decades.

In 2010, a confluence of my life-long interest and immersion in craft and education occurred when, inspired by Bernard Graves, I began establishing and developing the Outdoor Classroom at Michael Park Steiner School. This included site surveys, comprehensive curriculum gardens, a lower-school craft/experiential skills-based curriculum, its integration into H/S Technology, an intensive Masterclass Craft program and camps.

Word spread: tasks multiplied; O.C. teacher training courses, consulting, presenting workshops and papers and organizing conferences ensued. I "retired" from full-time teaching at the end of 2016 and established "Artisan Pathways" to run masterclass workshops, craft immersion camps, travel and consult in New Zealand, Australia and Southeast Asia and to craft and garden more.

To enrol or request further information
Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Email: lawry.john@gmail.com
Phone: 021 125 7817

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Looking to support trades and services within our school community? [Click here for the Community Skill Share list.](#)

- **Looking for a house/dog sitter** to look after our 3 year old labrador in a modern house in the Mt Wellington area (10 minutes from MPS) during the first 2 weeks of July. Contact Chloé at 021 0820 3684 for more info.

- **Give a kid a blanket** - 2025 winter campaign. This is a network across Auckland that connects children (& their families) living in poverty, with basic items to keep them warm. Distribution of items is done largely by starship public health nurses, social workers and the domestic violence police team.

We are looking for: Blankets, duvet inners and covers, sleeping bags, infant sleep sacks, NEW pillows, NEW hot water bottles, Warm infant, child, teen and adult clothing, pyjamas, robes, socks, beanies, jumpers, track pants, hoodies. I am happy to collect from your place, have things dropped to me, or to meet up at school.

Many thanks! Rachel (class 2 & 6 mum).

021 571 648. rachelsmcmahon@gmail.com

Contact the editor, Dana Marcroft at fridayflyer@michaelpark.school.nz
Guideline 150 characters maximum please. Deadline midday Thursday.