





FRIDAY FLYER

24 October 2025 Issue 30

COMING EVENTS

Click here to view the full calendar online

Monday 27 October LABOUR DAY

28 Oct - 1 Nov Class 7 Camp

Saturday 8 November FAIR DAY

Friday 14 November Mid-Term Break

Kia ora koutou,

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been very fortunate to enjoy a series of inspiring community presentations led by parents within our school community.



Last week, Dr. Samantha Marsh presented "Behind Their Screens." The talk was confronting and honest, offering valuable insights into the impact of digital technology on young people. Parents and staff who attended found the session both thought-provoking and informative, with many expressing interest in inviting Dr Marsh back again next year.

This week, we were treated to another remarkable presentation from Ella Ewens and her family, who shared their incredible journey around the world in 2024. Travelling to 26 countries with just a 7kg backpack each, they offered fascinating reflections and lessons from their adventure — a truly inspiring story of courage, creativity, and connection.

Our new Board also met for the first time this week. I am pleased to announce that Sanjay Theodore has been elected as our *Presiding Member*, and Christian Holden has been appointed as *Deputy Presiding Member*. We look forward to their leadership and contributions in the year ahead.

This week also marked the final week of classes for our Class 11 and 12 students before they begin their NCEA external examinations next week. A very special mention goes to our Class 12 students, for whom today marks their final day as students of the school. Thank you for the beautiful breakfast you prepared and hosted for staff this morning — it was a thoughtful and heartfelt gesture that was greatly appreciated.

We wish all our senior students the very best as they head into their exams — your hard work and dedication have brought you to this moment, and we are incredibly proud of you all.

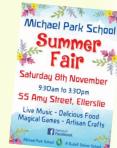
Enjoy the long weekend, whānau.

Ngā mihi nui, Desmond Pemerika - Tumuaki



FAIR UPDATE - 15 DAYS TO GO

- Advertising can you help deliver the Fair flyers in your local area? Please collect flyers from reception and tell us which streets you can deliver to.
- Please like and share the MPS Fair
 Facebook Page, and here's an image of the poster than you can share digitally:
 2025-Fair-Flyer.jpg

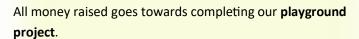


- If you have a fence that gets plenty of traffic passing by, and you'd be willing to display a 1200x1200 fair sign, please get in touch with Erin fairadmin@michaelpark.school.nz
- Pre-loved clothing bin is now out in front of auditorium.
 Please make sure clothing is washed before placing in the clothing bin. Last day for clothes will be 29th October.
- If you have any **shopping bags** we can use, please drop to reception.
- Please make sure you have put your name on your class roster, we need all parents to help out - your class coordinators need your FULL support!
- Fair Shirts On Tuesday 28th October from 2pm 3.30pm we will be selling T-Shirts again in the Auditorium Foyer. If you can't make it, please use the order form at the end of the flyer, or pick up a form reception. We now have samples in reception to view!

Any questions, please contact fairadmin@michaelpark.school.nz

A great big THANK YOU to our dedicated raffle ticket sellers! Many families are asking for more tickets to sell. **If you have unsold tickets, please return these to the office ASAP** so we can pass them on to other families.

Extra books can be picked up from the office, and all **sold and unsold tickets (with cash)** can be popped into the **drop box in reception.**



The **class that sells the most tickets** wins lunch for their class from **Sanjay**, plus a few extra treats thrown in - and a special gift for their teacher/kaitiaki!

Selling tips:

Share our raffle info & the image on whānau and friends' chat groups, take a book into your workplace,



or post it on your socials. People love to know why they're buying - mention our playground and the great prizes up for grabs, including a **Weber BBQ**, **Toyworld voucher**, and a **city staycation!** You can copy a sample image of the ticket here: Fair-Raffle-2025-Sample.jpg

Ticket returns due: Monday 3 November (at the latest).

Unsold tickets will be sold at the Fair.

Prizes drawn: On stage at the Fair, 3pm - you don't have to

be present, winners will be contacted.

CAKE STALL

Every year, each family makes 2 cakes and 1 additional item (meringues, cookies, fudge, homegrown produce) for the cake stall at the fair. Packaging supplies have now gone out to families.

BEST IN SHOW - Prizes are back, so get inspired and create your dream cake to win - best in show, most creative, etc. *there is also a prize for cakes made by adults!

TIPS -

- Get baking in the holidays choose items that can be frozen.
- Specialty cakes always sell well (Christmas cakes, gluten free, etc).
- Make your cakes look pretty! If you are looking for inspiration, there are many wonderful sites on the internet.

Happy Baking!

ADOPT-A-BALE FOR THE SCHOOL FAIR!

Add to the rustic charm and some rustic seating for the Fair! For the great price of \$24 from the great team at Auckland Pea Straw, you can adopt a bale (~270L or 10m2 coverage) of Pea Straw. After the fair, take your nitrogen rich bale home to mulch up your garden for summer! Adopt your bale today and let all your

green thumbed friends and relatives know!



Email christianh@michaelpark.school.nz before the 24th Oct to book yours!

HOST FAMILY NEEDED



Michael Park School is looking for School Family to host a High School Student in Term 4 2025. The student is coming from a Waldorf School overseas.

Please contact Brenda Davidson if you are interested in hosting our lovely student. Please email Brenda on brendad@michaelpark.school.nz with your queries.

GREAT NEWS FROM THE CLIMBING WALL

Mikhail (Misha) Dergilev, a Class 5 student, has once again proven his incredible skill and determination by becoming the New Zealand National Champion in two climbing disciplines - for the third year in a row!

At the Climbing New Zealand Toprope & Bouldering Nationals held in Queenstown, Misha represented the Auckland Climbing Club in the Under 13 category and climbed his way to the very top, securing first place in both events.

It was also a special moment for his younger brother, Aleksei (Aliosha) Dergilev from Class 2, who competed in his first

national competition and achieved outstanding results in Under 11 group, taking second place in both disciplines.

This national championship brings together young climbers from across New Zealand to test their strength, technique, and focus.

Congratulations, Misha and Aliosha - an amazing effort and fantastic results!





On Friday 31st, the Dhal Wala will have special ghoulish treats for Halloween...

LIBRARY NEWS

Ka nui te mihi – huge thanks to Alice Newman for stepping in as relief library assistant in my absence in Term 3 to complete

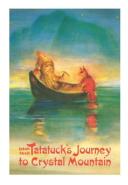
my final external practicum. Alice's work has been so appreciated by all the staff, students and school community. Ngā mihi nui, Alice.



Upcoming dates in the library:

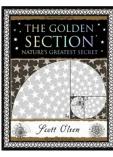
- Books are now due back from Senior students (apart from textbooks required for study - these are due back by graduation day at the latest in order to avoid charges).
- We are running a Summer Issuing campaign again this year this will happen from Dec 8 to end of term. To be eligible to take books for summer, students will need to have all overdue books back by 30 November for our Stocktake Week.
- Whānau Hour library open late for whānau to issue books for summer (date to be confirmed).

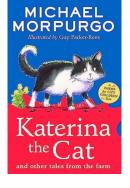
Pukapuka hou/ (some of our) new books:

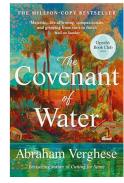












TE AO MĀORI

Out and about in our kura

A glimpse into kapa haka in our school

Thank you to our wonderful music teacher, Amanda Lawrence, for this update on all of our kapa haka groups at MPS:

This year we have had three kapa haka groups: junior, intermediate and senior. The junior and senior kapa haka groups run during lunchtimes and the intermediate group is on Fridays, period 1. The junior group is mainly classes 1-3, the intermediate group is all of classes 5 and 6, and the senior group is classes 7-12. Our junior and senior kapa haka groups have had excellent commitment and good numbers. They have performed on several occasions, at powhiri, Matariki, the cultural festival, with more performances to come this year. The intermediate group formed quite recently, and they performed at the cultural festival for their first time.

We have been very lucky to have Aria from Class 12 running the junior kapa haka group. She has done an amazing job and the tamariki really like and respect her.

This year the senior kapa haka group is the largest it's ever been, with over 20 members. It's been great having more senior students get involved. A new waiata they learned, "Mahi Kapa Haka" has become popular all throughout the school. It came from Matua Troy who teaches at Taikura Rudolf Steiner School. The group has performed it several times this year and led the school in singing it as well.

Amanda Lawrence

Ngā mihi nui to Amanda and Aria and all of those who coordinate, support and participate in kapa haka in our kura - providing such a rich world of waiata for our ākonga.



Whakataukī o te wā:

He oranga ngākau, he hikinga wairua

In order for your heart to be filled, take time to lift your spirits

- a reminder of the value of singing waiata.

Special Character Articles

A place to share information to deepen our understanding of our Special Character as a Steiner school

Food for Thought from the RSST

The Art of Becoming: Creativity in the Age of AI

How Steiner education prepares children for a creative, human future in an automated world

By Jade Kelly, RSST Member

The world is changing quickly. Artificial intelligence now helps us design, write, compose, even dream. I find it extraordinary - and at times, humbling. But as these tools grow more capable, I keep coming back to what gives our work its soul: the human impulse to imagine, to care, to make meaning.

That's what I see nurtured so beautifully at Michael Park - an education that strengthens the inner capacities technology can never replace.

As both a designer and a parent, I often think about what kind of education will best prepare our children for the world they're growing into. Because if AI can replicate the *products* of creativity, it can't touch the *process* - that deeply human dance between imagination, intuition, and meaning-making that lives only within us. And it's this process - not efficiency or output - that Steiner education so beautifully protects and cultivates.

Creativity as a Way of Knowing

In design, creativity isn't just about expression - it's a way of *thinking*. It asks us to hold ambiguity, to observe deeply, to question, and to imagine what doesn't yet exist. That same quality runs through Steiner's philosophy of education.

Steiner understood imagination not as decoration, but as a form of knowledge - a bridge between the inner and outer worlds. Through art, craft, story, and movement, the child doesn't simply learn about life; they *experience* it. In shaping and making, they discover how to think, to feel, and to will - freely and in harmony.

This is what Steiner meant when he described education as an art - the art of awakening freedom through imagination.

At Michael Park, I see this daily: children shaping meaning through their hands, relationships, and curiosity. In the younger years, they learn through rhythm and story - through play that mirrors life. In the middle years, imagination matures into experimentation and collaboration. By high school, it becomes the ground where genuine critical thinking takes root - the ability to discern, question, and create with conscience.

Creativity is not the opposite of critical thinking - it's the soil it grows in. A child who imagines freely learns later to think freely, to weigh ideas, and to stand independently in a complex world.

What AI Can and Can't Do

Al can analyse and replicate. It may even simulate creativity. But it cannot *feel* its way to truth. It cannot wonder, or sense beauty, or choose with conscience. These are distinctly human capacities - and they are the very ones Steiner education nurtures from the earliest years.

In one Silicon Valley Waldorf school, about three-quarters of the students have at least one parent working in high tech - people shaping the digital future yet seeking an education grounded in creativity, play, and human connection. Perhaps they recognise that as automation expands, the qualities that will define the next generation won't be technical prowess, but empathy, adaptability, and imagination.

The Future Will Need Human Beings

As the world accelerates, the most sought-after skills are shifting. The next generation will need more than data literacy - they'll need *moral imagination*: the capacity to see beyond algorithms, to feel what matters, to question, and to care.

Steiner education has been cultivating these very capacities for over a century. The steady, human-paced learning that some might see as "out of step" is, in fact, what equips children to thrive in a world that values creativity, collaboration, and depth of thought. The future will belong to those who can imagine wisely - who can think with both head and heart.

In the noise of data, it offers rhythm; in the flood of information, it restores meaning.

Keeping Pace by Staying Human

Some may worry our children must "keep up" - mastering AI tools to stay competitive. And yes, they will learn to use these technologies. But before we hand them powerful tools, we must help them become powerful *thinkers*.

A grounding in imagination, empathy, and reflection ensures they approach technology consciously - not as passive users, but as creators guided by ethics and insight. When that foundation is secure, technology becomes an instrument of purpose, not a substitute for it.

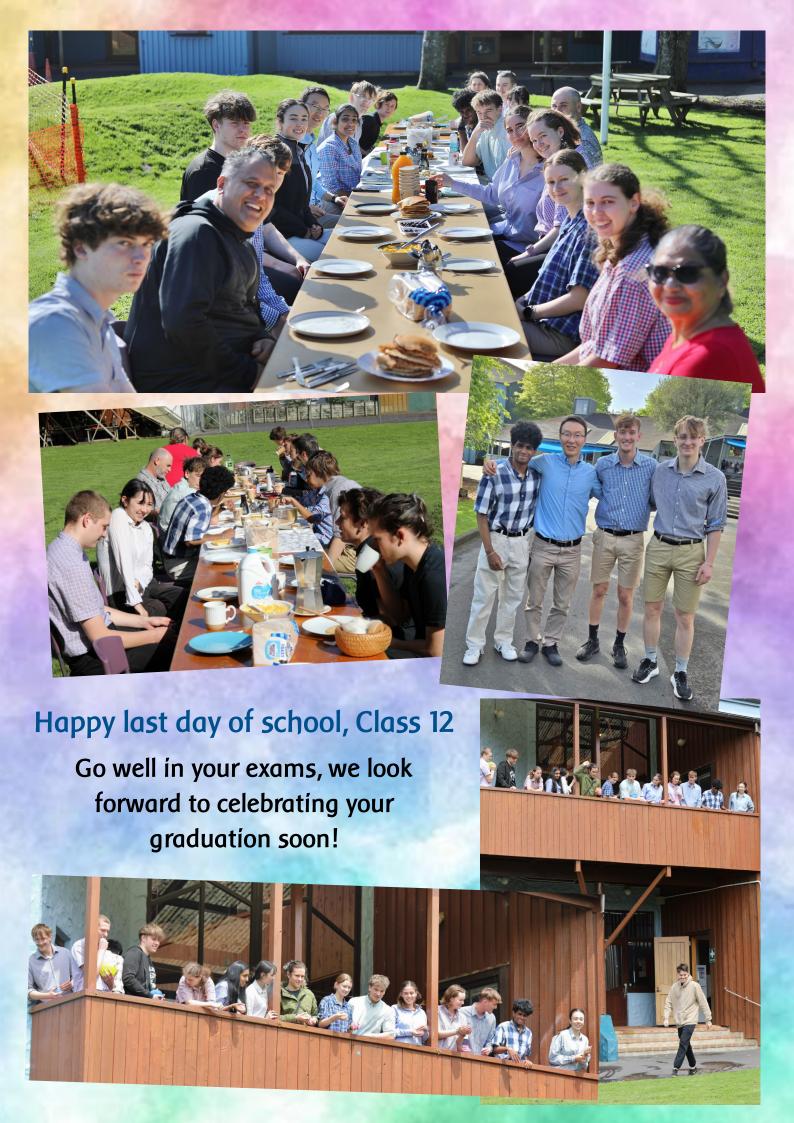
Steiner education doesn't resist progress - it refines it. It ensures that as technology advances, humanity evolves alongside it.

The Human Touch

Every creative act bears the imprint of its maker - the trace of care, curiosity, and intention. Education is no different. What matters most is not how quickly a child can produce an answer, but how deeply they have journeyed in arriving there.

Steiner education slows us down just enough to remember what makes us human - that creativity isn't only about making things, but about *making sense*.

If we continue to nurture these qualities in our children, the age of AI won't diminish our humanity - it will remind us how essential it is.



DOLL MAKING WORKSHOPS

TWO WEEKEND OPTIONS TO MAKE YOUR LOVELY WALDORF STEINER INSPIRED DOLLS IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

MAKE A DRESSABLE DOLL:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 29TH-30TH NOVEMBER

5 DUE TO 9AM - 1PM BOTH DAYS

5 150

NOTE: DATE CHANGES DUE TO CLASH WITH TITIRANGI SCHOOL FAIR

MAKE A SMALL DOLL OR MERMAID:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 6TH-7TH DECEMBER

9AM-1PM BOTH DAYS
\$80

SPECIAL OFFER FOR BOTH WEEKENDS \$210

Location Michael Park School

Bookings Essential. Please bring a plate to share

For bookings and enquire please contact nininosch@gmail.com









RSST

Seeking New Members

If you are passionate about Waldorf Steiner education, here is an opportunity to be part of defining our school's future.

The Rudolf Steiner Schools Trust is one of the governing bodies of the school in partnership with the Board of Trustees and College of Teachers.

We are seeking members to join us and step into roles in 2025/2026.

Our main objectives are to establish, raise and provide the means and management for kindergarten and schooling according to the methods advocated by Rudolf Steiner.

The following fields of interest/experience would be beneficial:

- Waldorf Steiner
- Parent Education
- Fundraisina
- Property Maintenance
- Governance

To be eligible to apply, you:

- Are committed to Steiner education and Michael Park School.
- Have sufficient time and expertise to fulfil your role fully.
- Are a critical thinker who can contribute to robust conversations.
- · Ability to access email and dropbox.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.

Can attend:

- Approximately 10-12 meetings per year.
- · Significant school events.

If you are interested in joining or learning more email us at rsst@michaelpark.school.nz



MANY THANKS FROM THE RSST

FREE & ONLINE SERVICE DISCOVER THE HEART OF WALDORF EDUCATION LECTURE SERIES

THE RSST presents this exciting opportunity for our Whānau

INTERNATIONAL WALDORF LECTURE SERIES

Free Online Lecture Series for Waldorf Parents,
Whānau & Educators



September 30 – December 9, 2025, Live every Tuesday | 5:30–7:00 AM NZDT (Recordings available for flexible viewing)

Why Join?

- Deepen your understanding of your child's education
- Hear from internationally respected Waldorf educators
- Connect with a global community of like-minded parents
- Attend live or watch later—your choice
- Entirely free



Register now at: www.international-campus-waldorf.com

Whether you're new to Waldorf or a long-time supporter, this series offers fresh insights and inspiration for your Waldorf journey.

Nga mihi nui - The RSST

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Looking to support trades and services within our school community? <u>Click here</u> for the Community Skill Share list.

- All Together Now Choir 'Mixtape for the Mission' Auckland Town Hall, 4pm, Sunday 9th November. Profits
 will support Auckland City Mission. More info and tickets:
 www.ticketmaster.co.nz/all-together-now-tickets/artist/3902429
- Please Help, rental home needed! Our landlord is selling and we need to find a new place to live. Ideally looking for a 4 bdr, 2 bth, 2 or 1 garage, good storage, within a manageable commute to school. However, we have some flexibility. Please, if you know of anything please help us find a new home. Or perhaps you know of someone who would like to purchase a fantastic investment property in Mount Wellington which already has the best tenants in place. We are 1(-2) adult, 2 kids, 2 cats and come with outstanding references. Thank you, Maylin 021 169 5880
- Conscious Parenting Circle upcoming date Tues 28th
 Oct. Offering support, insight & a space to share &
 connect with other parents you are warmly welcome to
 come along and join this circle. Bonus opportunity to
 learn more about the transformative principles of
 Conscious Parenting. Facilitated by Donna https://raisingparents.nz/ Fortnightly Tuesday 7-8pm, One Tree
 Hill Area. Email Donna raisingparents.nz/ @gmail.com
- I'm working on a story about families who choose to live in an apartment. Would Michael Park families who live in apartments like to share with us the pros and cons of apartment living with kids, and what their lifestyle is like? The story is for the RNZ website, not radio, so over the phone interviews are fine. Serena Solomon Lifestyle and Entertainment Reporter serena.solomon@rnz.co.nz
- Past student from Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School looking for an electrical apprenticeship. I have my pre-trade electrical certificate from Unitec as well as my sitesafe passport and forklift license. I have my own vehicle and am ready to work. I would love to hear from anyone who may be able to take me on. Thanks, Cruze. 0272886982
- New Volleyball classes with East Auckland Volleyball
 Club funded by SportNZ have recently started Tuesday
 5pm at the Tamaki Recreation Centre (Elstree Ave). Great
 experienced coach, with a focus on learning and
 improving Volleyball skills. Only \$50 per term age 11+.
 Register: https://forms.gle/XzgeCwDNJ5qByNg16

Contact the editor, Dana Marcroft at fridayflyer@michaelpark.school.nz
Guideline 250 characters maximum please. Deadline midday Thursday.

Sorry, we no longer publish graphic advertisements, except for Michael Park
School activities, class fundraisers and Steiner-related events.



FAIR T-SHIRTS ARE BACK!

We will be selling T-Shirts again on Tuesday 28th October from 2pm - 3.30pm in the Auditorium Foyer.

If you can't make it, please use the order form below.

Child T-Shirt \$20.00 Adult T-Shirt \$25.00

T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

Name							
CLASS							
Please circle colour and size you are wanting to order:							
Child							
Colour:	RED RO		AL BLUE	IRIS	SH GREEN	GOLD	PINK
Size:	4	6	8	10	12		
Adult (Womens)							
Colour:	PINK		AL BLUE	IRISH GREEN			
Size:	S	M	L	XL	2XL		
Adult (Mens)							
Colour:	ROYAL BLUE		RED	IRIS	SH GREEN		
Size:	S	M	L	XL	2XL		

HOW TO PAY:

- 1. Place cash and order form in drop box at reception (envelopes provided by drop box)
- 2. Order in person at reception from 8.00am to 8.30am (Tue Fri). EFTPOS available.