



COMING EVENTS

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

4-11 December High School Craft Week

Monday 8 December Luis Bernal Farewell Assembly 10.50am

Monday 8 December Library Whānau Hour 2.30-3.30

Thursday 11 December Last day for High School

Thursday 11 December Nativity Play 2pm

Friday 12 December Nativity Play 1pm

Wednesday 17 December Last day for Class 1-7 & Kindy - 12pm finish

Kia ora e te whānau,

This week our High School Prize Giving was a truly wonderful celebration of effort, growth, and achievement. We congratulate all of our recipients who were acknowledged across academics, service, leadership, and sport. Events like this remind us of the breadth of talents within our community and the strong culture of encouragement that surrounds our young people.

The main event of this week was our Class 12 Graduation, a deeply meaningful occasion marking the culmination of a long and rich journey for our students and their whānau. Together, they have walked many years with us, and it was a time to reflect, celebrate, and acknowledge all that has been shared along the way. We farewell our graduates with pride and gratitude, and we wish each of them every success and happiness as they step into the next chapter of their lives.

Meanwhile, our Class 7, 8, 9, and 10 students have begun their much-anticipated Craft Week workshops with master craft experts. This initiative, started by Mr Bernal a number of years ago, has become a valued and eagerly awaited tradition on our High School calendar and a fitting way to conclude the academic year. This will be Mr Bernal's final Craft Week before he leaves us, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to him for the lasting legacy he has created for our kura.

In the Lower School, excitement is building as students rehearse diligently for this term's Nativity Play. The children have been practising their lines, songs, and movement with great enthusiasm and are very much looking forward to performing for our community on Thursday and Friday next



week. We warmly invite families to join us for this special seasonal celebration.

As always, thank you to our staff, students, and whānau for the energy, care, and commitment you continue to bring to our school community.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Desmond Pemerika
Principal



FAIR RESULT

A huge thank you to you all in the Michael Park School Community for your hard work through the year and on Fair Day. **We made a profit of \$39,417.04 excl GST.**

We hope you all enjoyed the day. Have a great Christmas and New Year break and we will see you next year.

Kind regards
Erin Wilson

THE BIG RAFFLE

The class that sold the most raffle tickets was Class 2 - well done Class 2! As their prize, they'll enjoy a special afternoon tea from Sanjay along with some baking from the Helping Hands team.

And a special mention to Magnolia, who sold the most tickets in Kindy. Ka pai, everyone!

A very special thanks to our Big Raffle sponsors for their incredibly generous support: **Weber Lunn Ave, Toyworld Lunn Ave, Mitre 10 MEGA Mt Wellington, Zoe & Morgan Jewellery, First Mates Last Laugh (Westhaven), Bunnings Mt Wellington, Mapari Meats – Lunn Ave, Mint Cakery and our local New Worlds, Pak'nSaves, and Four Squares.**

We couldn't have pulled this off without them, so if you're out shopping this month, please think of these businesses and show them some love.



Class 12 Graduates and Senior Prize Winners



STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR 2026

We are pleased to share the new staff who will be joining our school community for the start of next year:

Jonathan Gabriel

Teacher in charge of High School Media Studies

Jonathan is currently the interim acting Head of Department of Media Studies at Dilworth School. Jonathan previously taught at Manurewa High School and Mt Roskill Grammar School. It so happens, that his wife Miss Reid is our HOD of Drama in the High School and their daughter Luna recently started in the kindergarten. Jonathan will also be teaching English in the high school.

Thomas Huskinson

Class 6 Kaiako

Tom brings over a decade of teaching and leadership experience across New Zealand and international schools, including his current role as Year 5 Team Leader at Wakaaranga Primary School. He has a strong background in curriculum planning, student leadership, wellbeing initiatives, and creative enrichment programmes, alongside previous experience in literacy leadership and environmental education. Tom has a long-standing interest in Steiner pedagogy and a commitment to holistic, student-centred learning.

Mike Pavarno

High School HOD Technology – Hard Materials

Mike brings a strong trade-based background alongside extensive teaching experience, having served over ten years as the Hard Materials teacher at Glendowie College and currently lecturing in Building and Construction at MIT, where he supports learners working toward their Level 4 Carpentry qualification. He combines expertise in carpentry, furniture making, engineering principles, and workshop health and safety with a deep understanding of both unit standards and achievement standards. Mike's broad experience across secondary, tertiary, and industry settings positions him strongly to lead our High School Hard Materials programme.

Sue Lyons

Lower School and High School Counsellor (part-time, 2 days a week)

Sue brings over 20 years of experience in education, alongside her work as a qualified and compassionate school counsellor. She is skilled in person-centred and integrative counselling approaches and is deeply committed to culturally responsive practice. Sue has extensive experience supporting the wellbeing of students, whānau, and wider communities.

She is strongly committed to working in partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and brings a deep understanding of and connection to Steiner pedagogy.

LIBRARY NEWS

All books still out are now overdue for stocktake – please ensure all books are back so that in Week 10 your child/ren can issue books for summer.

Whānau Hour at the library

A chance for the school community to come and take books out for summer.

Mon 8 December, 2.30pm - 3.30pm.

- Come and choose books to take home for your family for summer reading.
- Visit our Christmas tree.
- Check out our new books.
- Drop off your Kiwi Christmas Book donation
- Pick up one of our reading recommendation lists.



Ngā mihi nui
Kura



Goodbye note from Luís Bernal

Dear friends,

I find myself deeply moved as I sat under the outdoor classroom tent observing Finlay Newton, Class 12 student who graduated on Wednesday, leading students into the experience of hand spinning sheep wool, after carding it by hand to turn it into yarn, and eventually into a knitted or crochet garment. The simplicity of the process allows a deep connection with the material and the source from where it all comes from, and with it, a deep connection with nature and oneself. It becomes a true experience of being human. Finlay is one of the nine passionate crafts practitioners holding workshops, four of them parents of our school. The event is available to 95 students in classes 7 to 10. We call this event Craft Week and it happens every year on the very last week of school. This year our

students had the tough decision of picking from one out of the following workshops: Knife making, fine metal jewellery, stage makeup and SFX art, cooking, ceramics, book binding, stained glass, resin casting and wool spinning. So attractive it is that 21 of our class 10 students, for whom the event is optional, have decided to stay at school for an extra week to join us.

Making crafts around a fire collaboratively is a social event that is linked to the deepest roots of any culture, and is a vehicle to creating healthy societies that collaborate in the search of everyone's benefit. Our school cherishes this event profoundly and allocates big resources for it to happen. It is one of many activities that allows us to deliver the special character that we stand for.

I feel specially moved this year knowing that this is the last craft week I will hold at MPS. As you know I have decided to move to Melbourne next year to help another Steiner school set up their outdoor classroom program. I find myself in a bittersweet moment of transition, knowing that I must leave behind this lovely school, this community, my dear colleagues and my beloved students. Specialist teachers like me have the benefit of teaching all ages, and we get to see our students grow and develop and are lucky to build deep and strong bonds with them. I am leaving behind a big family and lots of friends, and walking towards a new adventure.

I also leave behind a beautiful warm-hearted woman in Kirsten Anderson, to take over the outdoor classroom. The school has made a fantastic appointment. We have been interacting this term and I can assure you that our beloved program couldn't be in better hands.

All that is left is to thank you all from the bottom of my heart, for being part of my life and giving me and my family a community we can call home. We leave with a deep sense of loss and we grieve it with tears of gratitude. We look ahead with excitement and joy, and hope that we will stay connected to this school and all that it stands for.

Today, Friday 5th of December, is my last working day at the school. I will be around on Monday morning to say goodbye to the children, I will be around the school until 1pm. I fly to Mexico on Tuesday 6th December to spend a few weeks with my parents in Mexico before the next adventure begins.

I hope you don't mind I take a piece of your heart with me, and certainly leave a piece of my heart in your hands.

Much love from Luis, Norma and Karla.

luisbernalt@gmail.com

*A farewell assembly will be held for Luis in the Auditorium,
Monday 8th December, at 10.50am.*



Christmas Kindness

We are collecting festive food and gifts for the Salvation Army again this year. Over the next few months we will see thousands of Kiwis in desperate need. Increased costs of living are further stretching families who already have so little, meaning they don't have the luxury of participating in festivities like gift-giving and shared meals this year.

Can you help with providing items that we can gift them?

Think festive treats and gifts for teenagers (body spray, nail polish, hair accessories, colouring books, etc.). These should be unwrapped. This is the age group that often gets overlooked and they really struggle with gifts for them.

There is a donation box in the school office until Wed 17 Dec.

www.salvationarmy.org.nz/christmas-appeal/donate-now

And let's not forget our furry friends at Christmas!

Mackenzie and Mala from Class 2 are also collecting canned pet food, to be delivered to a local animal shelter.



Thank you MPS whānau for bringing hope and joy at Christmas.

DONATE A BOOK FOR CHRISTMAS!

Once again MPS is collecting donations of **brand new books** to gift to kids in need this Christmas. Picture books, chapter books, fiction, non-fiction - we'd love them all! Even better if we can support Kiwi authors and illustrators.

We have two donation boxes in the school - one in the office and another in the library.

You can also purchase **GIFT CARDS** through the website and donate a book on behalf of someone else. They make ideal presents - please do check them out!

Donations close on Wednesday, December 10th.

Registered Charity CC60356

KIWICHRISTMASBOOKS.ORG.NZ **#GIVEBOOKSTOKIDS**



Main Lessons

CLASS 4 LOCAL HISTORY

Step back in time to colonial New Zealand with Class 4! For our Local History main lesson, students explored the fascinating lives of New Zealand's early Māori and non-Māori settlers. The class visited Howick Historic Village to get a hands-on feel for what those times were truly like. See the historical experience captured in these modern photographs of Class 4!





Christmas Craft Holiday Program

with Michelle Mullany

Thursday 18th & Friday 19th December
9am - 3pm

MPS Handwork Room and Kitchen

Class 1-5 Tamariki (Ages 6-11)

Candles, baking, decorations and more!


\$90 1x day
\$160 2x days

Book now to secure your space
michellemullany@gmail.com
022 127 6551

March 6-8 2026
Tauranga


New Ground

Youth Festival
Exploring Being Human



With Richard Drexel & Helen Proctor

Camping - Anthroposophy - Workshops - Connection
Community - Saunas - Discussions - Learning



\$150 includes food and camping for 2 nights

tickets and info - www.nz youthsection.co.nz

SAVE THE DATES 10 -12th JANUARY 2026

Social Eurythmy Course

Eurythmy Aotearoa is bringing the highly skilled and experienced, Goetheanum accredited Social Eurythmy trainer Teresa Mazzei to New Zealand to run an introductory, three day Social Eurythmy course.

WHEN - January 10th - 12th 2026

WHERE - Michael Park Steiner School, Auckland.

COST - \$250

WHO CAN ATTEND - This introductory course is designed for qualified eurythmists and fourth year eurythmy students, and individuals with a strong interest in exploring the application of eurythmy in workplace settings.

To register your interest, write to Sue Simpson
eurythmyaotearoa@gmail.com

Deepening Course 17 and 18 January 2026
Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School
5 Helios Place, Titirangi, Auckland
edith.vandermeer@gmail.com

'THE HUMAN BEING AS SYMPHONY OF THE CREATIVE WORD'

Saturday: Brian Tracey
'Play and Creativity for Life'

Sunday: Sue Simpson
'Awakening to the creative forces of the night'

With workshops:

1. Brian Tracey - A Key to Understanding...The Temperaments
2. Sue Simpson - Eurythmy: Out of the Word
3. Evelyn Davis - Improvised storytelling
4. Abi Ortiz - Music heals the heart and makes it whole
5. Jo Erskine - Creative expression of human metamorphoses in clay
6. John Lawry - Making Porotiti: Good Vibrations!
7. Susanne Cole - Eco printing with nature's colour and form
8. Susie Gay - Painting: Harmony, balance and joy



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

Shall I tell you who will come
To Bethlehem on Christmas morn?
Who will kneel them gently down
Before the Lord newborn?

THE CHRISTMAS STORY,
NARRATED
WITH CAROL SINGING

CHRISTMAS EVE, 8PM
10 RAWHITI ROAD, ONE TREE HILL
PH 09 525 2305



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

Advent and Christmas

ADVENT FESTIVAL

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH

10.00AM THE ACT OF CONSECRATION OF THE HUMAN BEING
(adult service - childcare can be arranged)

Followed by morning tea

11.30AM ADVENT FESTIVAL with Advent story, singing, bread-baking, and
THE SUNDAY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN

All ages are very welcome.

Followed by lunch. Please bring festive food to share.

CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE TABLEAU

A most heart-warming, wonder-filled time for all ages
to share the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to
Bethlehem, and the coming of the Light of the World,
with the birth of the Christ child.
You are warmly invited to come, share and sing
together.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

10.00AM SUNDAY DECEMBER 28TH

THE ACT OF CONSECRATION OF THE HUMAN BEING
Followed by morning tea

11.30AM CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL INCLUDING THE CHRISTMAS
SERVICE FOR CHILDREN

CONTACTING US

Reverend Hartmut Borries 021 259 8555 hartmutborries@gmail.com
Reverend Cheryl Prigg 021 023 20932 cheryl.n.p@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

- **Cleaner available:** Our lovely MPS cleaning team, Richard and Sunita, are available for your cleaning requirements! Commercial cleaning, carpets, windows and general cleaning. Contact Richard on 021 578 271.
- **Furnished 2-bedroom upstairs unit available for rent** in a two-level house from now until the end of January. Short-term stays (by the day or week) are welcome. Located just a 5-minute drive from the school. For inquiries, please contact Kinga at kinga0112@gmail.com or 021 039 5434.
- **Steiner School Art Curriculum Adult Learning Online** (Zoom). 2 year course starting Jan/Feb 2026. Hands on Art, working with the colours through wet-on-wet painting, Goethes Colour Theory in depth, form drawing and much more. I'd love to hear if you're interested - message Margaret-Mary Farr on 027 2484193 or email manawastudio@gmail.com
- **Conscious Parenting Circle** - last circle for 2025 this Tues 09 Dec. Offering support, insight & a space to share & connect with other parents. 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 for more info raisingparentsNZ@gmail.com
- Hi, my name's Grace and I'm in Class 11 (18 years old). If you need a **babysitter**, please consider me! I'm dependable, responsible and currently look after children at the MPS after school care programme 1-2 days per week (with some extra babysitting on the side). I can provide references if requested. I'm available over the Christmas/summer holiday period. Mobile 021 027 86369.
- Looking for someone to give a 12 year old a few introductory **trombone lessons** over the summer. Could be a student from the high school. Happy to pay a fair rate. Rachel 021 571 648. Many thanks!
- **Lovely 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living room home for rent.** Quiet, friendly street close to school. 14 Ellerslie Park Rd. \$1050 per week. Contact wandaignatievsky@gmail.com
- **Do You Need a House Sitter this Summer?** We are 3-4 responsible, mature women looking for accommodation during our Eurythmy Aotearoa training at MPS, and are happy to take care of your home in exchange. The dates are 4-12 January 2026 AND 5-9 February 2026 (Waitangi Weekend). Preferably within 30mins of MPS. We can water plants, feed cats (sorry, no dogs), collect mail, and keep your home tidy and secure. If interested, please contact annemansart@yahoo.co.nz

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.