



COMING EVENTS

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

Tuesday 17 February	Nursery Parent Meeting 6.30
Tuesday 17 February	Kindy Parent Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 17 February	Class 1 Parent Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 17 February	Class 6 Parent Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 18 February	Open Day
Wednesday 18 February	Helping Hands Meeting 6.30pm
Friday 20 February	Class 5 Lunch Bar
	High School Information
Tuesday 24 February	Evening 6pm, followed by Parent Meetings for C8-12
Wednesday 25 February	ID / Portrait / Class Photos
Friday 27 February	Class 2 Lunch Bar

Kia ora whānau,

The beautiful weather this week has provided a wonderful backdrop as students reconnect with friends and settle into the first full week back. On Wednesday we held our first fire drill, which also coincided with our school's 47th birthday — a lovely moment for both the school and kindergarten to come together and sing "Happy Birthday."

The year is now well underway, with lower school class meetings that have already happened this week. Next week we look forward to our first Open Day, followed by a high school information evening the following week. The high school



evening is an opportunity to be introduced to our high school staff, and will be followed by individual class meetings for classes 8-12. Further details will be shared next week.

Finally, it is very pleasing to end the week with outstanding news. Our class 11 and 12 cohort from last year achieved exceptional results with 100% attainment at both NCEA Level 2 and Level 3. Congratulations as well to Aurelia Kment in Class 12, who gained a German Scholarship in the external exam, placing her among the top 5% of students nationally — a remarkable achievement. Full details will be shared in the flyer in a couple of weeks.

Thank you to our students, staff, and whānau for such a positive start to the year. We look forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Nga mihi māhana,
Desmond Pemerika
Tumuaki | Principal

HARI HURITAU, MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL!

As we celebrate 47 years of our kura, we acknowledge with deep gratitude the foresight, courage, and dedication of the pioneering families and educators who laid the foundations of our wonderful community. Their vision and commitment created the school and kindergarten we are privileged to be part of today. We also honour the many families, staff, and supporters who, over the years, have continued to nurture that original spirit, ensuring that the passion and ideals that inspired our beginnings remain alive and thriving for the generations who learn and grow here now.



FINANCE INFORMATION 2026

Welcome to 2026 from the Finance Team

Haidee Thompson (RSST/Kindergarten Accounts)

haideet@michaelpark.school.nz

Raewyn Farley (BOT Accounts)

raewynw@michaelpark.school.nz

The 2026 RSST statements have been posted out to you and the BOT statements have been emailed out.

Your financial contribution is important as it is used directly to support:

- the unique, beneficial programmes that are only offered within a Steiner school
- quality education for all our students
- a well-resourced Special Character environment for students

Have a fantastic 2026!

Erin Wilson

Business Manager

CHOIR INVITATION



**Open Invitation to be part of the
Performance to open the Rik ten Cate
Geometric Form Exhibition
at Michael Park School,
Thursday 19 March, 7pm,
Eurythmy Room**

Kia ora koutou, our school community are warmly invited to take part in a musical choir collaboration to open the Rik ten Cate Geometric Form Exhibition at Michael Park School, Thursday March 19 Eurythmy Room, (the same exhibition and performance will be held during the opening at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School, 12 March, 7:00pm).

Rehearsals are currently taking place on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm at the Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School Hall, and participants from across our wider Steiner community are very welcome to join. We will also be holding rehearsals here, in **the auditorium every Wednesday 7-8pm!** Both rehearsals will be held by Stuart Lithgow.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share in a meaningful artistic project and celebrate our connected Steiner community. If you are interested in participating or would like further information, please contact our school singing teacher Abigail Ortiz, abigailo@michaelpark.school.nz

The link below is a sample of the performance:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u41ZnSd3maY>

ID / PORTRAIT / SIBLING / CLASS PHOTOS

All classes 1 to 12 will have their **Portrait / ID photos** as well as **Class Photos** taken on **Wednesday 25th February** at 8.30am in the gym. Please ensure that students arrive to school on time, wearing the correct dress code, as photography will start first thing in the morning.

If you would like sibling photos, please complete this form:

[Michael-Park-School-PHOTOLIFE-Sibling-Request-Form](#)

PhotoLife will not accept a form filled out but not signed by the parent, so please remember to sign. Please return this to Brenda by **Tuesday 24/2/26**. This includes parents attending at 8.30 AM for the **Sibling Kindy/School photos** - we still need the form completed and returned. This is essential for us to know our numbers and organise our schedule/timing for photos.

No Sibling Photos can happen without the form being completed and signed by the parent, and returned to Brenda by Tuesday 24/2/26

- First session at 8.30am are for **Kindergarten/Sibling photos**. The parent/caregiver will bring their kindergarten child and school child to the Gym. Once completed, the parent/caregiver would then need to take their child to kindergarten to drop off. Reception would need a list of the school children attending with their kindy sibling so we can update teachers and our roll.

All other students who are not doing a sibling/kindy photo are required to go to their classrooms for 8.30am start and roll call.

- Second session will be our school-only sibling photos. These students will be collected from class by runners.
- Third session is all ID/Portrait Photos for Class 1 - Class 12.
- Fourth session is our School Class Photos.

Any questions please email me.

Sibling photo request forms can be dropped into reception or emailed to me brendad@michaelpark.school.nz



ID Cards

School ID cards will be issued for students in Classes 7-12. These are used for photocopying and printing at school and also as ID for public transport discounts. The ID photo charge of \$10 will be added to your account.

If a card is lost and a reissue required, the cost is \$10 which is payable to the office before replacements are ordered.

Any queries please contact Brenda at reception.

brendad@michaelpark.school.nz

HAVE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CHANGED?

If you have changed your postal address, email address or phone number, please email Brenda with your changes:

reception@michaelpark.school.nz

HOUSEKEEPING/SAFETY MATTERS

SIGNING IN AND OUT PROCEDURE

If your child is late to school, please make sure they sign in using the tablet at the office.

If you are taking your child off school grounds during school hours they must be signed out by a parent using the tablet at the office. For students in classes 1-4, a parent must sign out the student at the office. Students in classes 5-11 may sign themselves out but a note, phone call or email from a parent/caregiver must be given to the office with the reason for leaving. Class 12 have off-site privileges and may sign themselves out during lunch only.

VISITORS - EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

Every year at Michael Park School we are required to run various drills for our emergency procedures. When running fire drills or lockdown drills it is essential that we know who is on site so that they can be accounted for.

To this end it is a Health & Safety requirement for all **visitors, parents and itinerant teachers to sign the tablet in reception** when they come into school and sign out when they leave.

'HELIX' - CAREGIVER PORTAL AND APP

Instructions for how to download and use the Helix caregiver app can be found on our website here:

<https://michaelpark.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Helix-Caregiver-Pack-App.pdf>

ABSENTEES AND MESSAGES

You can use **Helix** for reporting whole or half day absences for illness or doctor/dentist appointments only. If you are reporting an absence for any other reason, or needing to get a message to a teacher or a student, please email reception@michaelpark.school.nz or phone the absentee line 579 3083. Please do not send time-critical messages to admin@ or staff personal emails as these might not be seen in time. The reception email is checked regularly in the mornings by Brenda or whoever is covering reception.

If we are not notified of a student's absence before 8.30am, the school office will send an absentee text message to the caregiver/s to follow up. **The absentee text system is a last resort only.** By the time these are sent each morning, the students presumed to be in our care have been essentially 'missing' for a long period of time. Please don't wait for our text to notify us that your child will not be at school.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

When dropping children off in the morning please drive as far around to the auditorium doors as possible. The driveway is wider here, which allows vehicles to pass and lessens the chance of waiting cars being backed up outside the gates and creating a safety hazard. Children must exit on the left side of the vehicle, as other vehicles may pass on the right. Please drive in and out slowly to help keep our tamariki safe.

Please do not park in the Bus Parking Area. If you park in that space then the buses are unable to make the turn and block the traffic behind them.

A reminder also that, for safety reasons, we ask that parents and students do not cross at the top by the busy main entrance gate. Please walk down to the crossing at the Auditorium and use the footpaths rather than walking on the driveway. We have had several 'near misses' reported to us.

BICYCLES AND WHEELS IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Riding of bicycles, scooters, rollerblades and skateboards is prohibited in the school grounds during school hours and at drop-off and pickup time, i.e., between 8am and 3.30pm. This includes school events outside of normal hours. Bicycles are to be kept on the bike racks.

CAR PARKING

The staff car park is strictly for staff and those holding a disability card only. We have staff on varied schedules coming and going throughout the day, and we do not have sufficient parking spaces to cater for them as it is (we have 40 spaces, but 70 staff members!). When other people use the carpark, even just for a few minutes, staff may be forced to look for street parking and risk being late for classes or meetings. Please be respectful of our car park constraints.

2.10PM FINISH FOR CLASSES 1-7 ON FRIDAYS

School finishes at 2.10pm each Friday for classes 1-7. Please ensure your children are collected promptly as we are unable to supervise children after 2.10pm.

CHILDREN AT SCHOOL AFTER HOURS

The school is responsible for all students on our grounds and we do not have the means to supervise students after hours. We are also committed to honouring our undertakings to minimise noise to neighbours.

Please ensure you collect your child on time and that they are off site by 3.15 pm when duties finish.

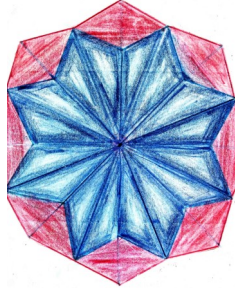
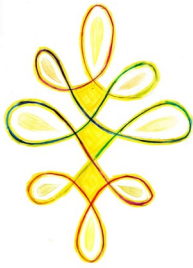
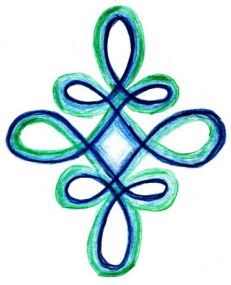
SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school office hours are 8.00am to 3.30pm

Thank you for assisting us in our procedures.

Class 5 Form Drawing

Class 5 got off to a great start during their first week back at school with a full form drawing immersion. Here are some of their amazing creations.



TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE

Some students who travel long distances could be eligible for Transport Assistance Allowance from Ministry of Education, more information available at:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/school/property-and-transport/transport/sta-eligibility/>

All applications are done online and all families are welcome to look at this and apply online to see if they qualify for this allowance.

If you have any queries please email Brenda Davidson, brendad@michaelpark.school.nz

GOT YOUR HAT?

Remember, sunhats are required during terms 1 & 4 for break, lunch and outdoor lessons.



TE AO MĀORI

Ngā mihi o te tau hou Pākehā e te whānau whānui!

Hoping you all had a rejuvenating holiday and are ready for the school year to come. Over the weekend, our whānau spent the day at Waitangi for the celebrations. It was one of the best days ever and we are already planning for getting there next year. If you've never been, we wholeheartedly recommend it!

Kupu whakarite:

This year in our Te Ao Māori section we will explore some of the kupu whakarite in te reo Māori. Kupu whakarite are metaphoric comparisons (such as metaphors, similes and personification), that are used frequently in te reo. Many of these connect with nature and te taiao (nature/natural word) and as te taiao is a focus of our Lower school te reo lessons this year, we will share kupu whakarite that connect with te taiao.

Kupu whakarite o te wiki:

Honu manawa rahi

A turtle with a big heart (breath).

A person who has endurance and perseveres like a turtle that journeys the ocean. Turtles, as creatures who cover long distances through slow, steady movement, have always been an integral element of many pacific cultures, and can be found represented in a lot of pacific art. They are often seen as a symbol of strength and resilience, and their presence in the ocean is often believed to be a sign of good luck.

Example in speech:

Tō mahi nui hoki e te honu manawa rahi - what an amazing feat, you are one of great endurance (ref: Te Aka Dictionary).

Reminder:

Our Te Reo Māori Club starts next Wednesday from 3.30-5pm in the school library. This club is a supportive space for high school students and any parents who are keen to enrol in Te Kura Correspondence School Te Reo Classes (which are free for adults too) and the club events will include occasional speakers and activities. Contact Kura at kurar@michaelpark.school.nz if you are interested in hearing more about this initiative.

Ka nui te mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa
Kura Rutherford
School librarian/kaitiaki pukapuka.





Helping Hands of Michael Park

**Next meeting - Wednesday 18 February
6.30pm in the staffroom**

Our purpose is to assist, uplift, and nurture our school and its students, fostering a strong and connected community. We continue the legacy of the dedicated parents who helped build our kura and remain focused on action, solutions, and making a lasting impact.

Being part of Helping Hands doesn't mean committing countless hours - whether you can assist once or twice, or take on a larger role, every contribution makes a difference. We are a fun, energetic team of parents, grandparents, staff, and alumni who support the school through fundraising, community-building, and events.

We welcome all who want to get involved - whether in big or small ways. If you're ready to lend a hand, we'd love to have you!

If this sparks something for you, please contact Leah Corbett, leahd83@gmail.com

Kahore taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini
We cannot succeed without the support of those around us.

Class 5 Lunch Bar



**Friday
20th February**

Sausage Sizzle
from \$3

Baking

Iced Drinks

Juicies

The Dhal Wala

The Dhal Wala serves delicious homemade lunches for \$5 a bowl. Curries, hakka noodles, nachos, chai, juicies and snacks.

Offering vegan, gluten & dairy free, & 100% fabulously made!



For a bowl of yummy every day, please visit
the Dhal Wala website

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

- We're a MPS family **looking for a long-term rental**, ideally walking distance from school, 3 bedrooms. Please feel free to contact me. Nicole 0224085974. Thanks so much.
- **A Conscious Parenting Chat** - next date Wed 18th Feb. Feeling stuck in loops of struggle, triggers, or disconnection with your child? Come along to this supportive fortnightly catch up to explore Conscious Parenting, share experiences, & learn practical ways to create real change. Fortnightly Wednesdays 7-8pm, One Tree Hill Area. Facilitated by Donna raisingparents.nz. Email Donna for more info raisingparentsnz@gmail.com
- Two happy MPS High School teens are wanting to live closer to the school and their friends, so our whanau is **seeking a 2-3 bedroom home available for rent**, ideally within walking distance. We currently travel from Hunua daily and it is just not sustainable. We are open to options, including furnished or unfurnished or even 3-4 nights mid week, if anyone has an AirBnB style property, as we plan to go home on the weekends. Please contact Natasha on natasha.sabatier@hotmail.com or 021 400 497.
- **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.
- MPS parent **searching for a desk to work at during school hours** (just while my daughter is at school, not weekends, evenings or holidays). Ideally within walking distance of school. I only need a small table and chair with internet access! Happy to koha \$ as suits you. If you have a small space available, please contact: shaylaunder@gmail.com

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.



Behind Their Screens

A talk by Dr Samantha Marsh

Saturday 14 February
10-11.30am

\$15

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School Hall

Tickets at <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/events/landing/18247>

This presentation explores:

- How social media and smartphone tech are designed to capture attention
- Why these designs often clash with how children and teens develop
- The impact of digital use on young people's wellbeing
- Practical strategies to help families navigate the digital world with confidence.



Dr Samantha Marsh is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Auckland's School of Population Health. Her work focuses on child and adolescent wellbeing, particularly the impact of screen use and social media.



Her research has explored parent and teen experiences around social media use and what support families need in New Zealand. She is particularly interested in how digital technologies affect wellbeing, parent-child relationships, and healthy development.



Spot prize donated by
Little Reef and Friends!

Play Chess!



- ✓ Improve concentration and focus
- ✓ Develop problem solving skills
- ✓ Develop strategic thinking
- ✓ Improve decision making
- ✓ Develop independent thought

0800 4-CHESS

www.chesspower.co.nz

Join our Chess coaching classes here at our school!



- Learn a new skill each week
- Professional and accredited coaches
- Well structured classes
- Good mix of learning and playing
- Skill ratings and progress reporting



Visit the Parents Centre on www.chesspower.co.nz to learn more

Friday 13th February

Start date

Friday 27th March

End date

Library 1.30 - 2.30pm

Room

\$ 173

Term Fee

Register online today at www.chesspower.co.nz/class-registration

Outdoor Classroom - Experiential Learning Teacher & Practitioner Training Course 2026

Course Structure

- 7 online (Zoom) tutorial sessions, Wednesday evenings (7.30-9.30pm)
March 24 & 31; April 21 & 28; May 5, 12 & 19

Cost: \$450

- Craft Immersion Camp (Auckland)
April 13-16

Cost: \$650

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 full human development
- Health and safety and risk benefit analysis practices
- Earth, Water, Fire and Air themed activities, eg campfire cooking skills

**"Tell me, I'll forget. Show me, I'll remember.
Involve me, I'll understand."**

To enrol, or to request further information
email: lawry.john@gmail.com

Phone: 021 125 7817

Registrations close Friday, 27 February 2026

An Artisan Pathways Initiative

Outdoor Classroom Experiential Learning Immersion Camp 13-16 April 2026

Hands, Heart, Head

A four-day hands-on immersion camp

You will develop:

- links with the environment as an agent in learning and teaching
- deep cultural sensitivity and appropriateness
- reflective practice
- collaborative and co-operative learning strategies
- an understanding of whole-person intelligence, experiential and reciprocal learning
- strategies which integrate the theory and practice of Outdoor Classroom Experiential Learning with indoor learning programmes
- camp fire cooking
- health and safety and risk benefit analysis practices
- immersion in traditional crafts of harakeke and blacksmithing

"I came to see that the artisan was meant to transform themselves through their work. While striving to transmute the materials' physical limitations, the artisan was striving to transform their own soul."

Narar Ardelan

13-16 April, Auckland

Cost: \$650 per head

Registrations close Friday, 27 February 2026

To enrol, or to request further information
email: lawry.john@gmail.com

Phone: 021 125 7817

An Artisan Pathways Initiative

RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOLS TRUST

SCHOOL

2026 - Reviewed Yearly

Class 1 - 12

School Attendance Dues - Compulsory

\$1,437.50 per year per student (GST inclusive)

\$1,078.10 per year per student (GST inclusive) for 4th child in a family and for 5th and subsequent children there are no Attendance Dues charged.

Attendance Dues are used to cover insurance, debt servicing, improvements to integrated school buildings and associated facilities required by our integration agreement, as well as project support.

School Special Character Donation – Tax Deductible

\$2,920.00 per year per family in school (class 1-12)

The above donations help us cover:

- Staffing for the special character education components
- Professional learning and development relating to the special character
- Lower and High school consumables
- Federation of Rudolf Steiner Schools expenses
- Steiner Curriculum and festivals

Invoiced at beginning of the year or upon starting if through the year, payable by instalments or in full.
These are paid to the Rudolf Steiner Schools Trust.

Rudolf Steiner Schools Trust bank details: 02-0256-0102748-00

Contact Haidee Thompson via email: haideet@michaelpark.school.nz for more information regarding RSST costs.

MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL

SCHOOL

2026 - Reviewed Yearly

BOT Donation – Tax Deductible

Classes 1 – 7:	\$ 760.00 per student
Classes 8 – 10:	\$1,046.00 per student
Classes 11 - 12:	\$1,212.00 per student

This includes:

- All Curriculum based materials
- Start-up stationery in the primary school Class 1 - 4
- Artefacts (handwork, art etc. that is taken home)
- Photocopying (worksheets) etc.
- Covers, use of school instruments, and repairs
- Items for curriculum enhancement as defined by the Ministry of Education such as:
 - PE & games equipment
 - Art & Craft materials and equipment
 - Science materials and equipment
 - Costumes for plays
- General running of MPS

Additional Costs per student

For items such as:

- Classes 5-12 Stationery requirements (Students MUST purchase their own stationery),
- Lower School (Class 1-4) Extra stationery requirements not provided at start of year,
- Main Lesson Books Classes 4-12,
- Personal materials and tools e.g. (Independent project material),
- Student purchases for individual projects not covered above,
- Textbooks and Workbooks,
- Camp costs for Classes 4 to 12,
- PE Uniforms if required,
- Swimming lessons and transport.
- Art Materials,
- NCEA Photography Printing,

All invoiced at beginning of the year and payable on the 20th of the month following.
These are paid to the Michael Park School BOT.

Michael Park School bank details: 02-0256-0235647-00

Contact Raewyn Farley via email: raewynw@michaelpark.school.nz for more information regarding MPS costs.