

Parent Panui February 12 2021

Included in this email you will find information about

- Annual Calendar
- Class Photos
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- Communications Survey
- Hui o Ākomanga
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Annual Calendar

The School Annual Calendar has now been printed and is available to collect from the Office on Monday. Please find attached to this email a PDF version. This will also be available on our website soon (where we will make additions and updates throughout the year). If you prefer to have a hard copy of the Calendar come home to you with your child, please do let Katie M know katie.m@raphaelhouse.school.nz

Class Photos Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th February.

Inspire Photography will be in school on Wednesday and Thursday next week. Class photos as well as individual and sibling photos will be taken over the two days. Information around ordering photos will come out soon.

Wellington Bus – time change

The Wellington Bus will depart from Wellington railway station at 7.50am from Monday 15 February 2021. We are hopeful that this new departure time will accommodate both Upper School and Lower School children. A reminder that this is a user pays service and all passengers must carry a relevant bus pass / ticket. Tickets can be purchased via KINDO.

Communications Survey

This is a [link](#) to a survey we would really appreciate you completing about school communications. Your response will help us to create a new communications plan for 2021 moving forward.

Hui o Akomanga

Many classes have held their class meetings over the last couple of weeks, with some classes holding their hui next week. Hui o ākomanga are a positive way to support your class kaiako. It is a time where information about class programmes, activities, events and a “picture” of where ākongā are with their developmental journey through the kura are shared. Hui o ākomanga are also a lovely opportunity to connect or reconnect with your whānau community that your

tamariki are growing up with. Classes 2,6, and 11 have their hui o ākomanga this week. Looking forward to seeing a great turnout.

Safety

Just a gentle health and safety reminder to please not walk behind the parked cars beside the playground. We want to model safe behaviour to the students.

Situations Vacant

Grounds-person

We are looking for a Grounds-person for 12 hours a week, duties include weed-eating, leaf blowing, gutter clearing and light pruning work. Days and times worked are open for discussion however we will need to establish a fixed work schedule with the successful applicant. Please apply to brett@raphaelhouse.school.nz for hourly rate and further information.

SEDT vacancy

Steiner Education Development Trust (SEDT) is seeking a person for the position of General Manager reporting to the Board.

SEDT manages the New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education (CSE) which is delivered internationally. The position, which could be New Zealand or Australia based, requires some awareness of Steiner Waldorf Education but especially general management, entrepreneurial, financial, IT and marketing skills together with good communication and people management to direct a small NZ-based and international team. This team of highly skilled professionals works remotely and is involved in delivering the certificate to a growing number of schools in New Zealand, Australia and the Northern Hemisphere.

This is an opportunity to work with a highly motivated team dedicated to making this unique secondary school qualification available right across the Steiner Waldorf Education world.

Applications close on 15 March 2021

For a full position description and expressions of interest please contact Glen Saunders
Director and General Manager
+64 21 329 156 gsaunders@sedt.co.nz

Sports Day

Yesterday the upper school had an athletics day. It was a superb day full of laughter, support and engagement. We had a relieving teacher who was there for the day and she made a point of coming in afterwards to say that in her over 40 years of teaching she had never been part of a better day- the engagement of students and staff and the smoothness of the organisation far surpassed anything she had ever seen anywhere else. Thanks to Brian for organising the day.

Spotlight on a Staff Member

Every week we are going to spotlight a different staff member. This week our focus is on Karen Gault who is teaching two days a week this year in the role of Te Reo kaiako across Classes 1 through to 9.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā rā tatou katoa

Ki te taha o tōku māmā, nō Ōtaki, raua ko Taranaki ia.

Ko Agnes McDonald tōku tipuna.

Ko Agnes Montgomerie tāna tamāhine.

Ko Peggy Hopson tāna tamāhine.

Ko Barbara Gault tāna tamāhine, tōku māmā.

Ko Karen Gault āhau.

Tipuna - ancestors, grandparents

Tamāhine - daughter

Tāna - his / her

Māmā - mother, mum

Āhau - I, me

This is the genealogy on my mother's side, starting from my great, great grandmother who was born in Scotland in 1829 but later lived in Ōtaki and raised her ten children and her husband's first born son Hugh (his mother, a niece of Te Rauparaha, died in childbirth) speaking Te Reo Māori and English. So I follow in the footsteps of pākehā women speaking Te Reo!

I would like to acknowledge my inspiring Te Reo teachers Alice Patrick, Fran Hunia, Keri Kaa and Mereana Hond who taught me at teachers college and Victoria University, 1993-1996. I attended Taruna to train as a Steiner Teacher in 1997. After travelling, I taught at Raphael House 2000 –2005, returning again in 2009 with my own tamariki to start in kindergarten. This year they are in class 9, 8 and 5.

I'm thankful for support of Ngā Rōpu, Ngā Rito and all the whānau and kaiako who have kept the flame burning. Ngā mihi ki a Ben Ngaia raua ko Mania Maniapoto-Ngaia who introduced me to Te Puna Reo o Ngā Kākano preschool, where I have been immersing myself in Te Reo for the past two years and building my confidence to step into this role.

I accepted the position as part of Te Ao Māori team at Raphael House for 2021, a team that was to include Whaea Irene and Matua Rangi, and we were excited about working together. Unfortunately, due to whānau circumstances, Matua Rangi is taking a year out. We will miss many aspects of his presence especially his composing skills, beautiful singing voice and guitar and we send our love to the care of his father.

I'm passionate about our school community being courageous and confident in Te Reo and aim to build on the solid foundation of pronunciation and waiata our ākonga already have, thanks to Matua Rangi and their kaiako. I recognise my weakness in tikanga and Karyn, Grant and Irene have agreed to Raphael House joining Kura Ahurea, sharing Te Reo resources with Hutt Valley schools under the guidance of local Iwi, Te Ati Awa.

This week I had an incredible first lesson with each of the classes 1-9, having a kōrero about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, or a story based around agreements for the younger ones. I would like to attend the first Kura Ahurea hui in Poutū-te-rangi (March) before I extend an invitation for an evening hui for school whānau to face-to-face with me to share their Te Reo curriculum hopes and aspirations and ways you can support Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori (September). So watch this space. Until then I recommend you go out and purchase a copy of Scotty Morrison's Māori Made Easy, tune in to Atiawa Toa radio station (100.9 and 94.6 FM) or begin your phone calls and emails with a Tēnā koe (to one person) or Kia ora.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Ngā mihi

Karyn, Grant, Irene and Katie on behalf of all kaimahi