



Te Kura o Rudolf Steiner Otautahi Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School

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Kawerongo Newsletter

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Whitsun, Matariki and This War is not Inevitable

One of the best festivals of the year is **Whitsun**. We celebrate the wide diversity of our school's cultures by speaking, singing and listening to texts, words and music where the SPIRIT of each NATIONALITY and CULTURE shines into the hearts of all in the assembly.

At the same time we are celebrating **MATARIKI** – actually on June 25th - when the Pleiades become visible in the eastern sky. The Lower school classes will be creating many forms of stars – woven, painted, geometric etc. representing the STAR WITHIN US. What is it that guides us to what we are to become? We wish that our tamarki will choose a life's path that is close to their inner star, close to their inner growing spirit and, despite any cultural and national differences, our common aspiration is for their spirit to shine, to find its voice and its place of equality and community.

Whitsun is more than a Christian based festival, it's the festival of human brother and sister-hood. And oh how we need this in our present times! What can you do at home? Make stars, tell stories of following your inner star and of seeing the star shine in others or if not, finding how we can help it to happen for others.

WHITSUN IS THE FESTIVAL OF THE WORLD'S SPIRIT SHINING THROUGH US ALL.

In response to the full blown horror of World War One, Rudolf Steiner developed the idea of the *Threefold Social Organism*, an idea that aimed to support all sections of society – human rights, cultural, and economic, and how Europe could begin a new way of interacting that grew bridges between people rather than repeat what had led to this tragic war. It was certainly Steiner's deep desire for the ravaged world. **Michael Burton** (ex teacher of our school and professional dramatist for the last 20 years) wrote the play '**THIS WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE**', to mark the centenary of Steiner's *Threefold Social Organism*. Come and see the play this Saturday night, 7.30pm in the school hall, see page 2 for more details.

And while we are talking about inevitability, I was gutted last week when I heard that the American administration had withdrawn from the International Climate Change agreements. I have walked around furious and in disbelief that our children and mokopuna will be deeply affected by this blind decision. This really means that we have to do something more ourselves. Our café is close to 90% sustainable, we attempt to do much that is carbon neutral but I am sure there is more we can do. I would like to establish a parent task force to generate some ideas – if you are interested, meet me in the café next Monday morning at 8.50am and we'll see how we can begin!

FAREWELL TO CSABA - This is Csaba's last week with us. He is returning to Hungary after two years of dedication to the world of drama in our school, both as playwright and director. He threw himself into the Upper school plays with fire and enthusiasm, aiming for a high level of performance and gifting long nights to both projects. Enthusiastic parents cried "best ever" as our senior students shone on stage. Thanks Csaba for your energy and passion, your brilliance and laughter. We wish you all our very, very best for your new adventures back home. We also farewell Csaba's children, Simon and Adin from classes 3 and 1.

You may have seen a programme on Sunday night on Transgender issues. There has also been media talk around the possibility of boys now wearing skirts and vice versa in schools, and of course the issue of toilets. Many of you will not know that a decade ago, we were at the forefront of this debate when we had a boy who was transitioning into a girl at school. If you have a child for whom this is an issue, please do talk about it to your teacher or sponsor.

Thomas Proctor

CALENDAR Wāfaka

Sat 10 June	'This War Is Not Inevitable' Play, 7.30pm, School Hall
Thur 15 June	Class 1 & 2 Lantern Festival (ppt 22 Jun)
Tue 20 June	Matariki/MidWinter Spiral Festival
Wed 21 June	Cross Country Canterbury Champs, Halswell Quarry, 10am-1pm
Thur 22 June	Kindergarten Mid Winter Festival , 5.15pm
Sun 25 June	Matariki begins
Tue 27 - Thur 29 Jun	Lower School Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 7 July	Term 2 Ends
Mon 24 July	Term 3 Starts

RAFFLE REMINDER

Thank you to everyone who has returned their raffle books. Remember to get your sold books in to the office by **THIS FRIDAY, JUNE 9th** to go in the special sellers draw. Amazing prizes to be won.



THIS WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE

A play for two actors

Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School auditorium

Saturday night, 10th June at 7.30pm

THIS WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE is a play written to mark the centenary of the birth of an idea that could yet change the world – Rudolf Steiner's *Threefold Social Organism*.

The *Threefold Social Organism* was first of all an idea that could have taken two years off the length of the First World War and made the Second World War impossible. It addressed people's vulnerability to political and economic events – something that is every bit as relevant today as it was in 1917.

By showing us what Steiner was attempting to do in 1917 and how the German ruling classes and general population received the idea, the play gives audiences an excellent summary of what this idea is and invites us to consider how it could exert an influence in the chaos of our time. In this production there is also much humour and warmth and you see Steiner in a way that he has never been portrayed before.

THIS WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE is written by Michael Burton who was a class teacher here, 1983-6. It is a play for two actors and will be performed by himself and English actor Ryan Kouroukis. **Rod Green**, who also taught at Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School is the play's director.

It is not suitable for children under fourteen but will appeal very much to all who care for the fate of the world and have hopes for world peace – not as a utopian dream but as something absolutely achievable.

THIS WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE asks for a koha of \$20 waged and \$15 unwaged. No reservations necessary.

(Further information: phone 09 963 2171 or 029 123 0717.)

COSTUMES NEEDED FOR US PLAY

The **12th Night** is fast approaching and we need some costumes. The theme is **1960s** so if you have anything that you aren't currently needing that resembles that era, then we would love to have them! Please drop them into the cooking room and I will collect them each morning. Please clearly label your garment with name and phone number if you would like it returned afterwards. Thankyou!

Rebecca and Emma

BOT Meefings 2017

Next meeting: **THUR 15 JUNE**
Board of Trustees meet at
6pm in the music room.
All welcome.

TERM DATES 2017

Term 2: Mon 1 May - Fri 7 Jul
Term 3: Mon 24 Jul - Fri 29 Sep
Term 4: Mon 16 Oct - Wed 13 Dec
Lower School Thur 14 Dec

FROM THE SCHOOL Ngā Pānuí o Te Kura

Kia ora koutou,

The Lower School teachers have decided to offer two afternoons for interview times in week nine on the 26th and 27th June to accommodate more availability. The impact of this means that the Lower School will finish one day later in December. Lower School will finish at **3pm on Thursday 14th December** which is different to the advertised dates at the beginning of the year.

An online booking system will soon be available for parents to book interviews with their class teacher as a reflection from the reports which will be sent out in advance of the interview week.

Nga mihi

Brenda Warrander

For the College Principal Group

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to **Samara Millar-Greig** (class 10) who completed the Christchurch half marathon (21km) on Sunday in 1hr, 50 minutes. She came 120th out of 729 females, 553 from 1580 overall and 8 out of 32 in her age group, women under 20.
Ka pai tō mahi!

CLASS 1 FAIR CRAFTS

Class 1 crafters are meeting on Tuesday mornings (after drop off) in the cooking room to prepare items for the fair. All are Welcome. Contact Kara (027 360 8369) with any queries.

CLASS 11 FUNDRAISER

GARAGE SALE!!!

Friday 16th June

2.45pm-3.45pm

Outside the hall

**Clothing, toys, household items
and quality goods**

Please come and support us!

To donate goods please contact 022 654 9909

ATTENDANCE DUES AND DONATIONS

Thank you to all those families that have paid in full or by automatic payment to cover their attendance dues and proprietor contributions for 2017. Your financial contribution is important as it is used directly to support the unique, beneficial programmes that are only offered within a Steiner school. Parents/Caregivers, we NEED you to give your full support in order for us to be in a sound financial position to deliver on our philosophy and create a wholesome, healthy and well-resourced Special Character environment for our tamariki.

Remember there are TWO SEPARATE BANK ACCOUNTS:

Attendance Dues and Proprietor Contributions:

03 1598 0022419 00

Recoverables:

03 0855 0334196 00

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Email: admin@ch.steiner.school.nz or call 03 337 0514

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL - You must notify the office if your child will be absent.

- For **planned absences** (e.g. holidays during term time) email the College Principal Group (CPG) via admin@ch.steiner.school.nz or drop your letter in to the office **IN ADVANCE**.
- For **unplanned absences**, such as illness, you can leave a message on the absence line (ph 337 0514) or text **3255**. Start your message with CHRSS then leave a space and tell us your child's name, class **and the reason for absence**.
- If you receive a text from us about your child's absence, please respond **WITH A REASON**.

We are required by law to accurately record student absence, please remember to let the office know - Thanks!

COMMUNITY Hapori

Saturday June 10

FULL MOON ECSTATIC DANCE

6:30 - 8:00 pm  407 Tuam Street

I warmly invite you to a Full Moon Ecstatic dance -

Saturday June 10, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

A mixed hour and a half of guided and free dancing designed to make you feel good! \$10 - Eftpos/Cash

The music is eclectic and awesome, the vibe is high. The venue is wonderful - and the lighting is set to a nice ambience so you can relax, let go and Lose yourself to Dance.

With the Full Moons magic, this will be a wonderful opportunity to Release, Refresh and Renew ourselves!

Would love to see you there !

Saskia (Class 1 mum)

**Aroha ki te tangata,
Ahakoa ko wai te tangata**

Love people,
in spite of who they are.

FOR SALE

Black puffer jacket,
Torpedo7, 12-14 years.
Very good condition.

\$35

Tracy 021 0278 0119

**When you have
no family and feel
like an outsider,
how do you fit in?
Put down roots?
How do you find
love?**



Tracy Chollet

**A love story
about belonging,
set on the south**

**coast of Brittany at Carnac,
with its thousands of standing
stones...
and written in Christchurch by a
school parent!**

**Copies available on Amazon,
paperback and Kindle,
or from Tracy for \$25
(337 3741 or 021 0278 0119).**



Gift items you no longer need to:

CLOWN DOCTORS NEW ZEALAND

Load: **2 June - 24 June 2017**

visit www.webfair.co.nz for more

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