



Raphael House, Rudolf Steiner School

Term 3, Issue 25
28 August, 2009

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends,

On Saturday evening the Upper School held its Annual Ball. From all accounts the evening was very enjoyable. Well done and thank you to Class 11 who worked very hard to organise this event with the help of Amelia and Ken.

This week we welcome two visiting Taruna Students, Mischa Orbans and Pauline Vellings who return to take up their teaching practice. We wish them an enjoyable and rewarding time with us.

Class 7 are away this week on their well earned ski trip. We hope they have a great time and that the weather remains settled for them.

We will be hosting the annual meeting of the Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools in NZ, on Friday 4th-5th September. Delegates from all the other Steiner Schools will be attending this meeting. We will once again ask if you are able to have a billet on the Friday 4th September. Please let Wendy Daals know if you are able to help.

Wishing you an enjoyable and restful weekend.
Karen Brice-Geard

School Coordinator on behalf of the College of Teachers: Ray Shore, David Stephenson, Julia Sherriff and Margaret Sweaney

The Board meeting was held on Monday 24, August. This meeting was the last one for Robert Patchett, who has been our Student Representative on the Board for the last 2 years. He has done an excellent job during this time. He finished his term presenting a survey he completed of student views on Raphaël House. This work provided some valuable insights into student thoughts and concerns for the Board which we will have to consider next year.

Work is progressing with Ken Wilson on understanding the whole school finances and will continue for the next 8 weeks. The financial situation for the School is not good, with a substantial deficit projected by the end of the year (\$172,000 which cannot be covered by the Trust with the current level of SCC). We would appreciate anyone with outstanding camp fees and disbursements to pay these as soon as possible (and thank you to those who have already paid or made arrangements to pay). Every cent contributed will help.

Malcolm Baxter, the Ministry's Specialist Advisor, continues to work with the Board. We spent a significant amount of time in the meeting discussing how we can achieve our governance goals in a manner that focuses on student achievement. We have resolved to work more in sub-committee's. This has the advantage of allowing members to build up a specialist knowledge on their subject areas and allows us to draw in more assistance if required in a particular area. The challenge is to ensure the sub-committees remain strategic and focused on how their work improves student achievement overall.

We initiated a discussion on the Board composition, which currently consists of 4 parent elected representatives, 3 appointed proprietor's representatives, a student representative, a staff representative and the School Co-ordinator/Principal. Board members are going to reflect on the makeup over the next month. We can have between 3 and 7 parent representatives on the Board. Historically however, we have not had sufficient candidates to fill the 4 positions available, meaning we have not had to hold an election. Should we reduce the numbers further still to ensure a democratic process, or increase the number of positions to allow for more skills to be brought on to the Board, if people are interested?

The final discussion on this topic will be held during the next meeting on Monday 28 September in the Heide Worth Room. If you have any thoughts on this you wish to share with the Board before the meeting, please email chair@raphaelhouse.school.nz and please feel free to attend the meeting.

Glen McCauley, Board Chairperson

Tena koutou

At the outset our Group gathered to develop a stronger connection to things Te Reo and Tikanga Maori within the School. Many of us knew from a legislative perspective that being an integrated school, Maori needed to be present within the curriculum. For most of us this was not the main reason why we were passionate about supporting the school in this journey.

The stories we told on why this endeavour was important to us were very personal and heartfelt. Some members of the Group spoke of not having Maori present in their early life and education, and exploring an interest as adults, and having this interest fueled from their children's positive pre school experiences. Some spoke of the surprise in coming to New Zealand that Maori were not more present and integrated into day to day living. Others spoke of having grown up being told they were not Maori and finding out later in life they were and wanting to ensure their children were proud of their Maori heritage and culture. Others were open to things Maori, and having many ask them if they were Maori.

As we continued the journey, we also discovered what a rich and long history there was for the School with Maori. The people of the land were involved at the outset, stories were shared of the land, the local Iwi were very interested in the School for educating their children and the School had a powhiri (formal Maori welcome and blessing). So in many ways we are acknowledging that energy and spirit and bringing into being something that was always intended and present, just a bit silent for a while. The journey is, therefore, personal, shared and meaningful. We continue to gather knowledge, resources and experiences that will form a solid foundation. We will continue to share this with you.

Aroha mai, aroha atu. Love towards us. Love going out from us.

Helen Emmerson, on behalf of Te Ropu Tautoko I Te Kaupapa Maori

FUNDRAISING GROUP

FUNDRAISING NEWS: GARAGE SALE - Saturday 5 September

Our Garage Sale fundraiser is on Saturday, 5 September from 9.00am to 12.00pm at the front of the School. Come along and browse what will hopefully be a good collection of books, toys, tools, clothes, etc. We still need lots of donated goods to help make it a success. Please look out any surplus kitchen items, toys, tools/hardware, books, clothes etc. that can be donated. Goods can be dropped off during school time at the Bus Garage in front of the School, or can be picked up on a weekend. Contact Amanda O'Connor on 589 2004 if you would like goods picked up. We also need a few volunteers to help on the Saturday morning to set up and help run things. Please contact us if you can assist: fundraising@raphaelhouse.school.nz.

Chris Penman, for the Fundraising Group, Ph 566 4977, 021 611 343.

BOOK SALE AT THE GARAGE SALE. NEW BOOKS FOR OLD!

The School Library will be selling surplus, outdated and unused stock and will be using the money raised to buy exciting and up to date books for the Library. Your children will benefit. Please come and support this and snap up some good oldies at bargain prices.

ADULT EDUCATION

Meeting the Adolescent with the Waldorf Curriculum
19 August, 2 September @ 7.30pm in the Eurythmy Room

2 further sessions to be presented by Julian Thomson and Upper School Staff
No charge and no enrolment necessary.

Wednesday 19 August: Classes 11 and 12
"The Struggle for Individuality in a Big Interconnected World:"

What educational insights and understandings help us to foster the emerging individuality of young people on their path to adulthood? Julian Thomson, Ray Shore and Grant Rossiter will give the second of three presentations to introduce the Waldorf/Steiner approach in the High School Years.

Julian taught in the Upper School at Raphael House from 1994 to 2007. For several years he gave courses on Steiner Education at Taruna College in Hawkes Bay. He now works as a science communicator for GNS Science in Lower Hutt. Ray teaches History, Philosophy and Religion and Grant teaches Biology, Science and Mathematics. Both have taught for many years in the Upper School here at Raphael House.

The Therapeutic initiative group invites you to a presentation by
Dr. David Ritchie, Friday 4 September, 7.30pm
At Raphael House, Rudolf Steiner School
27 Matuhi Street, Lower Hutt
Eurythmy Rroom
\$5 at the door

Children with ADD, ADHD, Anxiety,
Aspergers syndrome, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia
How to help them at home and in the classroom.

A diagnosis is often the first step on the road to finding help, but what can we do at home or in our classroom to help our children in their daily life. Dr. David Ritchie is a GP at the Helios therapeutic centre in Christchurch, where he works with children with learning and behavioural difficulties. He travels the world to lecture and consult with parents and teachers on how to help the children of today that are struggling.

FROM THE OFFICE

Information for Parents of students in Class 6 - Year 7 and Early Childhood Children

VISION SCREENING TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

Jackie Jennings the Vision and Hearing Technician, will be visiting our School as part of the Regional Public Health's vision screening programme for children on Tuesday 22, September 2009.

Vision - Children will be advised of results at the time of testing. If further assessment is recommended you will be notified by mail.

Colour- Vision - This is to identify boys with an inherited colour defect. If there is any difficulty with the colour-vision test you will be notified by mail.

Children who wear glasses and/or are under professional care and have regular checks will not require a vision check by Regional Health Service.

NON CONSENT: Please notify Wendy on 569 5161 ext 203 or your child's class teacher if you do not agree to your child being screened.

This screening is NOT a full assessment of your child's vision. If you have any concerns, please consult your optometrist. Should you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Jackie Jennings, vision Hearing Technician, on 04 570 9186

HEAD LICE

Like many Schools, we have a recurring problem with head lice. The Lower School Classes are having a problem with head lice this term. To prevent an infestation, we ask that you check your child's scalp and hair roots once a week (lice may be hard to detect, especially in blond hair), vigorously brush the hair daily and comb the hair with a very fine-toothed comb thoroughly at least once a week. Tea-tree oil, applied and combed into the hair and washed out the next day works well; as a preventative, two drops of Olbas oil in the hair behind the ears each night is of help. (Available from many pharmacies.) There is also a 'zapper' comb on the market which sends a light charge through the hair, thereby killing the lice. This product appears to be effective and may be an option preferable to the use of shampoos. Ask your pharmacist. Could you please take the time to check your child?

SPORTS INFORMATION

SUMMER SPORTS LOWER SCHOOL NETBALL

As Classes 4, 5, 6, and 7 are already aware, we will be entering three teams in the Summer Netball League which commences on 12 October (first day back of Term 4). We already have three excellent coaches, and an umpire or two. Forms have been given out and should be returned to the Lower Office, along with the \$5 registration fee, by 11 September.

We are still looking for one or two more volunteers to umpire the Monday games. If you can help us out with this, please e-mail Phoebe (sport @raphaelhouse.school.nz). Your assistance will be much appreciated, and you will have lots of fun!

SPORTS DRAWS - WEEK 6

FOOTBALL- SATURDAY playing for first place

U/S Raphael House 1 Vs Well Col 4 @Hutt Park 3 9am

LOWER SCHOOL BASKETBALL Wed 2 Sept

L/S Raphael House 1 SBC Saints Walter Nash 5:30pm

The winter season is coming to a close. We would like to thank all our amazing coaches, managers and umpires, without whom these teams would not have been possible.

Jo Llewellyn, Grace Tessier, Cashy Yates, Simon Wall, Ken Isaac, Udo Froetschl, Stephanie Hansby, Eve Jones, Amanda O'Connor, Ellie Boyd, Cien Howell-Kress, Eva Schaller, and Kathy Ward. Fabulous people, thank you all so much for your time, energy, and enthusiasm.

The teams did really well, and the students had a lot of fun! If you see any of these people about, remember to thank them in person. The world is a better place because of such volunteers. Congratulations to all the students who played, and well done for getting out there and getting active!

TOUCH

Touch will be up and running again soon too, so watch this space nearer Term 4 for further details. We will also need a coach or two and a couple of managers for the touch teams. Any suggestions, requests, or offers of assistance, do not hesitate to get in touch. sport @raphaelhouse.school.nz

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

As a considerable number of students will be away on the Hockey tournament next week, and have expressed their interest in participating in the School Cross Country. The NEW DATE for the cross country will be FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER. If you have any questions please contact Annette Terlau.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

TRIP TO JAPAN

Invitation to attend a presentation on my recent trip to Japan. My name is Simon Atkinson, I am a past pupil of Raphael House and wish to give a talk to interested parents and pupils about my recent trip. The venue is the Heide Werth Room on 3 & 4 September, two presentations 7-9pm. I look forward to meeting you for an enjoyable evening.

DEMETER APPLES

Available Friday (today) after school in the car-park.

10kg bags of Pacific Rose or Granny Smiths \$10.00

Reuben and Lizzie in Class 10 are fundraising for the Japanese Trip next year.

Reuben 972 3878

Lizzie 938 1306

SINGING LESSONS AND MUSIC GROUPS

I am offering individual singing lessons to students 11 yrs and above. I am also looking to start a couple of small music groups that will essentially sing together, however sessions will also involve creating instrumental accompaniments. No prior music training necessary. 10 yrs and above. Individual singing lessons \$20 per half hour. Music group prices to be notified (dependant on numbers). If you are interested, please contact Jen Lyons on 563 5892

AN UPDATE ON JAYDEN'S RUN

I am running from Taupo to Wellington for The Child Cancer Foundation for my Class 12 Project. I began on Sunday 23 August, by the time you read this I will be in Taihape and have ran 133ks. I may even be a little sore. Please find the time to visit my fundraising website, think about how much energy and time I am putting into making a difference and then think about how much energy and time it takes to donate. Thanks to all those who are supporting me, see you in two weeks. <http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/thelongmile/>

TE RA WALDORF SCHOOL RAUMATI SOUTH CLASS 1 TEACHER 2010

We are looking for an enthusiastic Waldorf teacher to guide our next year's class 1 through their primary school journey. Te Rā Waldorf School is a state integrated primary school with a strong commitment to the Special Character and our New Zealand's heritage. State and Waldorf qualification, a love for children, excellent teamwork skills and plenty of humour are essential. Waldorf teaching experience desirable. Closing date 11 September. Please contact Doris Zuur on ph. 299 0813 or doris@tera.school.nz for more information and job description.

WHAT'S ON

LAST WEEKS! Last day Sunday 6 September

ORIENTATE reimagining customary forms, showing contemporary jewellery and artwork by: SPRING REES, Kerry Ann Lee, Sarak Vone Sum.

Free at PATAKA Museum's Blue Pacific Gallery (next to super cheap auto and Harvery Norman in Porirua) its a great Gallery if you've never been there, do come and check out my work. Call or email for extra information or to be put on my mailing list for future shows/events Spring 027 2160100 spring.rees@gmail.com

THE GRAIL.

3 - 7 September 2009 at Riverslea Retreat, Otaki Gorge. The Grail is a three day residential experience which offers men the opportunity to experience a powerful transformation in awareness, gaining in self acceptance and self love through a potent engagement with other men in a privileged space. Contact: Mike on 04 562 7175 michaelsim@paradise.net.nz or visit www.shematrix.com.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

All copy, including advertisements, to be at the school office in written form no later than Tuesday 9.00 am the week of publication. Classified Advertising 'Buy, Sell or Swap' \$2-00 per week. Private enterprises and businesses: \$5-00 up to 4 lines (one column width); Non-profit organisations may apply for space. No flyers/inserts unless directly related to the school, anthroposophy, or Steiner education. Advertisements are placed at the discretion of the College. Publication does not imply endorsement of the activities advertised. Advertisements that contravene the Special Character of Waldorf Education will not be considered for publication.

I am looking for a nanny/home help to work from 4 to 8pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday, until the end of the year, must love children, be resourceful and self motivated, driver preferable. Please ring me if you are interested.
Monica 587 0336

Raphael House Rudolf Steiner School
27 Matuhi Street, Tirohanga, Lower Hutt 5010
Telephone: 64 4 569 5161 Fax 64 4 569 4860
E-mail fiona.d@raphaelhouse.school.nz

THE PERFECT RECIPE

Take one ounce of wisdom,
Blend with two tablespoons of openness,
A cup of willingness
And a plateful of kindness.
Stir well, and watch it grow

You will have made the perfect recipe for creating a bountiful future for all life on
this planet.

Protect the Earth
Protect our children's future

Know the facts about your diet

Our Diet - Leading to a Sustainable Future
Or Killing Our Planet?
Dr Aryan Tavakkoli MBBS FRACP

"It's not just about eating locally grown organic produce"

Wednesday 16th September, 7pm
Eurhythmy Room
FREE LECTURE

All parents, teachers and upper school students invited

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We are planning to use the website and email as a more environmentally friendly way to communicate with our School community.

One of the major impacts of this will be the publishing of the Bush Telegraph newsletter, which will be published on the school website (www.raphaelhouse.school.nz). We want to use this delivery method for as many families as possible, reducing our carbon footprint.

If you do not have access to the internet or email, we will print you a copy. Please complete the form below and return to the Lower Office by 2nd September, 2009. If we do not receive a form from you, we will no longer send out a hard copy of the Bush Telegraph.

If you wish to receive your Bush Telegraph by email, and are not already doing so, and please email Fiona and your name will be added to the distribution list. fiona.d@raphaelhouse.school.nz

We look forward to your response. Thank you for your support in our efforts to help protect the environment.

Warm regards

Karen Brice-Geard
School Co-ordinator/Principal

I wish to continue to receive a paper copy of the Bush Telegraph, and have my child bring it home on a Friday.

Childs Name.....Class.....

Signed.....(Print Name)