



Weekly Newsletter of Raphael House Rudolf Steiner School

9 April 2009

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

The Easter Festival is only two days away now and extensive work is being done with children and teachers in preparation for this special event. Over the course of the week classes and have been busy decorating eggs, making Easter baskets and practicing their songs. The teachers meet early in the mornings during the Easter week to hear and reflect on the events of Passion Week. This is now an important and special tradition at Raphael House and is greatly appreciated and valued by those who attend each morning.

It has been a very busy but rewarding term and with the school holidays just around the corner a reminder that Term 2 begins again on Monday 27th April.

The Class 12 Connect Conference crew is heading off on Saturday 11th to meet up with students from around the world at the International Class 12 Conference.

We will be meeting with some students from Class 12 of Michael Park and Taikura Schools, and are all looking forward to this opportunity.

The School will be holding a Community Meeting on Wednesday 13th May (Week 3 of Term 2). We will be sending out an agenda early in the term for the meeting, and hope you can all mark this date in your diary.

Te Ropu Tautoko i te kaupapa Maori met last Friday to progress thinking on how we can strengthen the Maori Curriculum at the School. The meeting had Troy Gardner from Tai Kura, the Hastings Rudolf Steiner School present. He spoke on the journey there and shared his insights. It was a very inspiring discussion and people felt reinvigorated. The group will meet early May to establish a programme of work. This will focus on supporting the 18 teachers who are undertaking Te Reo, community discussions and adult education options, as well as initiatives

within the School. More information will come to you next term. This was an enjoyable, informative and very helpful meeting. There will be further opportunities for staff, parents and children to be more involved.

Wishing you all a wonderful, restful Easter break.

Karen Brice-Geard

School Co-ordinator/Principal

on behalf of the College of Teachers: Ray Shore, David Stephenson, Norbert Mulholland, Adam Ricketts and Margaret Sweaney.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009

TERM 2 27 April - 3 July

TERM 3 20 July - 25 September

TERM 4 12 October - 16 December

27 April	BOT Meeting	7.00	
4 May	Class 5 Parent Meeting	7.30	
5 May	Class 6 Parent Meeting	7.30	
6 May	Class 7 Parent Meeting	7.30	
11 May	Class 2 Parent Evening		
12 May	Class 1 Parent Meeting	7.30	
19 May	Pentecost Festival		
20 May	Class 3 Parent Meeting	7.30	
25 May	BOT Meeting	7.00	
29 May	Teacher Only Day		No School today
1 June	Queens Birthday Holiday		No School today
2 June	Class 4 Parent Evening	7.30	

FROM THE OFFICE

Re: "The Update of Student Information" form sent out last week. Thank you to the 49 families who have returned forms to the Lower Office. Keep them coming in, 100% return is expected. If you need a copy please collect one from the Lower Office.

HAIR LICE

If you find your child has hair lice, please let us know so we can ask all parents to check their children's hair and treat if necessary. If you should find hair lice or eggs please treat them straight away. Weleda and chemists have appropriate lotions and creams. We request that no child attend School with untreated hair lice. All children need to have their hair checked regularly, preferably in the morning, before attending Kindergarten/School.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT
MAINTENANCE OFFICER, RAPHAEL HOUSE

Since the reorganization of various property related tasks last year, this has been an acting position. We now want to fill this role on a more permanent basis. We are seeking applications from suitable people with the following abilities:

- General handyman skills & trade skills, preferably
- Ability to organise and supervise trades people and groups of volunteer parents
- Ability to source and organise materials for work
- Ability to supervise and direct the Cleaner
- Ability to work with minimal supervision.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 24 April 2009. Application packs (including Job Description and Application form), as well as more information on this position, are available from the Resource Manager, Raphael House: alan.c@raphaelhouse.school.nz, Telephone 04 576 2332.

BOT UPDATE

Alan Chapman has been a Proprietors' representative on the Board since March, 2006. Late last year Alan stepped into the position of Acting Resource Manager to help the School temporarily fill a position which had been vacant since the beginning of the year. At that time, and twice since then, the School Trustees' Association assured the Board that he was still eligible to perform his role on the Board as a Proprietors' representative, given his employment contract was not permanent. We have now received a final legal opinion from the School Trustees' Association which reverses their position. As a result Alan has immediately vacated his position as a Board member. The Trust hopes to appoint a replacement in time for the April Board meeting.

We thank Alan for his commitment, frank expression of opinions and dedication to the School during his tenure on the Board.

Glen McCauley, on behalf of the Board of Trustees

BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday 27th April, 7pm in the Heidi-Werth room. As the School will be closed on the Thursday and Friday prior to the meeting, parents wishing to receive a copy of the agenda and reports scheduled to be discussed at the meeting may request an electronic copy from Thursday 23rd April by sending an email to boardsecretary@raphaelhouse.school.nz, or they can be viewed in the Parent Library.

THE STEERING GROUP

Dear Raphael House Community

The Steering Group invites your feedback on the draft constitution and (Name) procedures manual for the (Name) association. If you wish to attend, the meeting will be held on the 28th April at 7.30 in the Anthroposophical Rooms, Bristol Square, Lower Hutt.

The Steering Group

Rachel Clarke, Jacqui D'Ath, Marie Deery, Lut Hermans, Richard Howard, Kym Kiddie, Helen Lewis, Philip Mirkin, Jaia Ocean, Amanda O'Connor, Maarten Quivooy, Winston Roberts, Julian Thomson.

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

The ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS are back!!
The School earns 20% (\$11) from each sale.
\$55.00

They're back. Purchase your brand new 2009-2010 Entertainment book now to receive over \$10,000.00 in valuable offers, valid through to 1 June 2010. At the same time, you help your community fundraising. Orders are now being taken in the Lower Office or contact: Alan Chapman, 569 5161; email: alan.c@raphaelhouse.school.net.nz Special bonus offers are available for the first 5 orders received!!! This includes restaurant meals, + much more.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Guitar Lessons in school:

Acoustic Guitar (steel strings) Contact Luke Parker 04 565 0512

www.voguegymnatory.com/guitar-lesson

Classical Guitar (nylon strings) Contact Cheryl Grice-Watterson 027 333 1528

www.cherylgriceguitar.com

THE REVOLUTIONARY CAFÉ

Is the greatest way to start your day
Every Thursday 8am-10am
Outside the bus shed at the bottom of the drive
Come one, come all
Koha coffee, tea and treats, T Shirts for sale
Raising money for our new school entrance

Come and have chat to Damian and Jereon at the Revolutionary Café on Thursday morning or give us a call. Jereon 566 7011, Damian 586 8693

*With great coffee and tea
Allow your mind to float free
With Chocolate and cake
Your body will levitate*

*Come share in the beauty that is in you and me
And unite as one community
Come along, relax, you'll see
Connection and friendship - like it's meant to be*

Revolutionary Café Seeks an engineer

We are looking for an engineer to work with us on a revolutionary project that will set the world alight. Is there anyone in the school community that can advise us on the construction and creation of this top secret concept? This project will certainly end world hunger for coffee. If interested remember as always the secretary will deny any knowledge of your whereabouts. This message will self destruct in 5,4,3...

WHAT'S ON

CUTTING-EDGE SCHOOL HOLIDAY COURSES, FILLING UP FAST!

Have you ever wondered how movies like Wall-E and Shrek are made? Learn robotics, games development and web design in an Ultra Computer Course, a great way of getting inside information in the computer and design industry. Computer Animation and Games Design & Movie Making courses also available. This school holidays, at Samuel Marsden Collegiate & Palmerston North Boys' High Schools. T.0800 GET BUBBLE or E: info@bubbledome.co.nz

WELLINGTON SCHOOL OF CRICKET HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

13-17 April and 20-24 April. Wellington School of Cricket Indoor Facilities (Mana, Hutt Rec and Westpac Stadium). Register online at www.cricketwellington.co.nz or email asoka@firebirds.co.nz

SCHOOL HOLIDAY KNITTING & NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Knit World, 60 Queens Drive, LH, Tel: 566 4689.

Knit World will be teaching children to knit a pair of easy socks or a pair of TV slippers or in another workshop to create simple and funky, balls, monsters, bees, sheep, dice or pictures during the Easter School Holidays.

Knitting Workshops: 14th April – 16th April 10.00am – 11.00am Cost: \$20.00 includes yarn, needles, lesson, Learn to Knit leaflet and instructions to make a pair of easy socks or a pair of TV slippers. Needle Felting Workshops 21st April & 22nd April 10.00am – 11.00am. Due to the limited size of the classes it is essential to book.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT RIVERSLEA RETREAT

733 Otaki Gorge Rd, Otaki, ph 06 364 3388 or visit www.riverslearetreat.co.nz

17 – 19 April 2009 ZEN MEDITATION RETREAT. The Manawatu and Wellington settling groups of the Zen Institute of New Zealand have combined to hold a weekend retreat at Riverslea. This retreat is suitable for beginners and more experienced Zen practitioners. Instruction is given if you are doing a Zen retreat for the first time. Contact: Gary 04 479 2627 or gandha.page@paradise.net.nz

24 – 26 April 2009, AYURVEDA WORKSHOP with Dr Gupta. Ayurveda Immersion for people interested in practicing Ayurveda in their daily lives. Dr Gupta is a 4th generation Ayurvedic doctor from Vrindaban, India who has been coming to NZ to teach and heal for over 20 yrs. Contact: Nick and Shona on 04 389 9016 or shona.page@orcon.net.

29 April – 3 May 2009, 4 DAY INSIGHT MEDITATION RETREAT. Resting in Wholeness led by Hugh Tennent and Stephen Archer

The purpose of mindfulness meditation is to magnify well-being. Its practice helps us to recognise, and then be guided and healed by that within ourselves which is already whole and peaceful, free and unobscured. On this retreat we will create an environment of silence and tranquillity in order to help everyone relax and "come home" to themselves in a natural and tender way. Cost: \$320 + Dana. Contact: Hugh ph 04 383 9335 or hugh@tennentbrown.co.nz

A PARENTS EASTER THOUGHT

The Dawn Trust and the Wall family would like to ask the whole community to think of what Easter means in the context of renewal and rebirth. At a time when the School community is reflecting on itself, it can be helpful to look at a deeper level. Think of the families that have given much of themselves and the children that have gone out into the world with a wider view, helping humanity on many levels. Humans are known for making decisions that do not always benefit the group they are otherwise sincere about supporting. We all came to the School for our children, not for ourselves. As a community we are all linked together in some way. Perhaps need to focus on this.

The Sunflower Cafe staff wish to say "Thank you," to the school for the gift of opportunity that has been given them. They and the students are richer for this. We wish, therefore, to give every student two bulbs, one to plant at School and one to take home. The Wall family wish to join with the Sunflower staff and say "Thank you" as our family have had a great 20 years trekking to the school. We love the School and although sometimes frustrate but realise that that is community. We join with the Dawn Trust and wish you all a happy and reflection filled Easter.

Thanks Stell, Jess, Meryn, Vicki, Simon, Freya, Guy, Bridie, and Nicholas.

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.

CATS FOR LOAN. Leaving for Tauranga in the Easter Holidays and sadly can't take our cats. We will be away for about 9 months. Would anyone like to look after 2 friendly cats for the year? We will help with expenses and keep in touch. Cats are females/neutered/ house trained/affectionate.

Contact Ros or Ervin on 569 7114 or 0274 447 2017

BELMONT SECTION FOR SALE 9 Avonlea grove. 1454m2. Lovely sea and valley views. Walk to school. Sloping and flat areas with some native bush. \$175,000.00 neg. Phone Victoria or Martin 565 4444 email Jaenecke@xtra.co.nz

CAR FOR SALE Toyota Vitz RS, 5 door hatch, 1500cc, year 2000. \$9,000.00 ono. Very economical to run contact Allison 021 920 946, home 589 0285

NEW FAMILY TO THE SCHOOL ARE LOOKING FOR A NICE 3 BEDROOM HOME in the Tirohanga/Belmont area.

Please call Danielle or Mark 09 812 8131 or 021 2533 865

CAPITAL COAST DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD STAFF "RUNNING FOR AUTISM". We have run the Great Forest Half Marathon on Saturday 4 April for Autism NZ but it's not too late to make a donation. We have currently raised over \$1400 but we would love to reach \$3000. Contact the office Ph: 569 5161

HORSE CARE COURSE: Offering a fun, comprehensive 8 week Horse Care Course here in Belmont. I attended the Steiner School for 14 years. I spent a year learning and practising how to teach horse riding. A project which I thoroughly enjoyed. If you are interested please phone Chelsea on 565 3626. I will email you a full flyer with all the information.

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY 8TH APRIL, 53 NORMANDALE RD we are moving house and we have household goods and toys for sale. Please no earlier than 9am and park on the street near the skate ramp.

Any questions ring Ros 569 7114 or 027 447 2017

TERM 2 NIGHT CLASSES - HOMOEOPATHY FOR THE HOME PRESCRIBER

When: Starting 2nd week of term 2. 5th or 6th May, Tuesday or Wednesday night (depending on bookings) 5 weeks - 7.30 to 9.00pm \$60.00.

Where: 151 High Street Homoeopathy Clinic (old Post Office building)

Classes are designed for Mums & Dads to help themselves and their families. Beginners intro, what it is, how it works, how to use it, how to choose the best Remedy, when to see the Dr. etc. We cover common acute illnesses like ears, coughs, throats, croup, nits, worms etc and common childhood diseases like chickpox, measles etc and vaccination issues, what to use in accidents, i.e. bee stings, fingers in doors, puncture wounds, animal bites, bleeding, shock etc. Free Sample Rx's to take home each week. Numbers are limited so there is plenty of time for individual questions.

Call Kym Kiddie - Dip Hom to register your interest Ph 569 6617

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E-mail fiona.d@raphaelhouse.school.nz