

## Principal's News...

# Welcome to the final week of the 2023 school year and the final newsletter for the year!

The Staff and Board would like to wish you all safe and happy holidays and for those of you returning in 2024 we look forward to your wonderful smiling faces and recharged batteries on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

- Start of 2024... We will send a start up newsletter / stationery list etc home in late January, before school starts. The stationery list will be uploaded to our facebook page and emailed this week.
- Choir... Congratulations to the Titiwai Children's Choir for their outstanding performances at the Waitomo Caves " Carols in the Caves" on Friday and Saturday nights. Our 5 students are very strong singers in the group.

For those who are passionate about singing, I am in the process of organising another combined schools Music Festival for September next year. This will most likely only involve our Room 1 class. There will be other opportunities for younger students as well and I will keep you posted.

- Piopio Christmas Parade... Don't forget the School float on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Come dressed as an elf or reindeer if you can or just your favourite Christmas outfit. Bring your wheels if you want to, like stake boards, bikes, scooters etc. Meet at the St John Ambulance carpark at 6.00pm for judging. The parade starts at 6.30pm. Hope to see you all there.
- Lunches in School... there will no longer be lunches in schools. Please send a packed lunchbox to school for the remainder of the week. At this stage there will not be any lunches provided next year, however the canteen will continue on Mondays and Fridays.

We would like to thank the following people for your support during 2023:

- $\Rightarrow$  The parents/whānau who have supported the school in some way this year.
- $\Rightarrow$  To the community for all the donations we have received this year.
- $\Rightarrow$  Threeway Motors for your continued support.
- ⇒ Donald MacRae (Aria RD) and Mokauiti RD for your continued support throughout the year delivering our school newsletters.
- $\Rightarrow$  Sheryl Johnson (Piopio Pantry) for providing school lunches in school this term.

See you all at prize giving on Wednesday, please be seated by 6.50pm.

### Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū I Pam Voyce.

#### **ĀRIA SCHOOL VALUES**

A ttitude	-	I always do my best.
R esilience	-	I am motivated and confident.
I ntegrity	-	I am honest, kind and caring. I treat all people with respect even when
		they are different from me.
A ccent res	nonsihility -	Lam organised and on task

#### I am an ĀRIA student

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER, NOTICES AND CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.ARIA.SCHOOL.NZ

	ĀRIA SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL KEYS	WE NEED YOU!!! BOARD POSITION
	Swimming pool keys are available from the school office. Pay, sign the documentation and receive your key.	URGENTLY REQUIRED We currently have an open position on the Āria School Board that
	Last day to collect pool keys is end of school day Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2023.	urgently requires filling.
$\mathbf{O}$	Pool <u>WILL NOT</u> be opened to the public until the end of school day on <u>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</u> !	The role is that of Board treasurer as our current treasurer has moved into the Presiding Members Role.
С Ш S U U S	Cost for keys for 2023/2024:   ⇒ Key: \$60.00   ⇒ Bond: \$20.00	Some financial knowledge would be helpful but not a necessity as the accounts are all prepared by Ed Services in a manner that makes
$\mathbf{O}$	Pay directly into the school bank account:	monthly checks and reporting
F	Bank: Westpac Account Number: 030449-0105523-00 Account Name: Aria School BOT Reference: Pool Key	simple. The incoming treasurer will be provided with support from the existing treasurer, Ed Services and there is professional development available also.
0 N	You will receive the \$20.00 bond back when you return your key at the end of the season.	Joining the board is a great way to understand how your school works
	A BIG thank you	behind the scenes and a great introduction to governance. If you would like to know more
	to Donald MacRae and his team of helpers, Brett Johnston & Stefan Mischefski for installing the pool cover on the swimming pool. We really appreciate your help and support.	about the role please phone Natasha Cave on 027 278 7509. Natasha Cave Presiding Member Āria School Board
	we really appreciate your help and support.	
SCH	HONESTY AWARDS The following children have found money on the school grounds at some	YOU VOI
Ś	money on the school grounds at some point and have handed the money into the office. We are very grateful for the honesty of these students in handing in money that doesn't belong to them.	To the following farmers for nominating Āria School. The donation we received is appreciated.
	Aria Buttar Mila Ormsby Antonia Pardo Yanez	Papakauri Farms Ltd (Phill & Marree Gudopp & Matt & Natasha Faull)
	Kadius Young Laveila Young	GB & DG Hodges Trust Riley Farming Ltd (Sarah & Kevin Riley)

Monday 11th December 2023

#### Kia ora koutou

This year it is my turn to present the Presiding Member's Report for Āria Primary School, not something I had envisaged undertaking at the beginning of the year but with our then Presiding Member Bevan Brown standing down from the board earlier in the year I have found myself in this role.

As we return to our post covid "New" normal, it seems the year has flown by in what seems like a busier fluster than normal. Whilst we faced the challenge of reducing to a two-teacher school, our wonderful school has returned to doing all the awesome things that make it so special. The annual senior school camp, this year at Rotorua, hosting other kura and hundreds of tamariki for orienteering at St Helen's domain, kapa haka development and performances, seniors attending national leaders' day, attending interschool athletics, cross country and swimming among many, many other activities and day trips our Aria students have One of the highlights and something Pam Voyce and her teaching undertaken. staff should be extremely proud of is the development of our local curriculum, with students learning and connecting with the local history, land and waterways, and understanding how we can protect these taonga into the future. The local curriculum development this year has seen our tamariki visit Pureora and learn the Maori history of the area and see the headwaters and beginning of our Mokau river, visit Wai Ora Rivercare and learn all about growing our native rakau, a stream health day among many other aspects of learning associated to the local curriculum. I see this as a fantastic opportunity for not just our students but also our parents to learn alongside our children, helping our children develop a strong sense of belonging and connection to our community and what makes it so special. This curriculum area continues to develop with some exciting plans ahead.

Whilst we bid farewell to this year as a board our eyes are also focussed on next year and the challenges it poses us. We remain a two-teacher school for now, with an increasing roll, a challenge constantly at the forefront of the minds of our teaching staff, as they ensure all the children receive the attention they need. As a board we have committed to continuing to provide two full time teacher aides to provide our teachers with the support they require. In the meantime, Pam will continue to lobby the ministry for more funding for a third teacher, which is somewhat of a frustrating and thankless task.

I would like to take this moment to thank the amazing teaching and support staff at our school. These ladies go above and beyond for our children, often undertaking tasks outside of their job descriptions, that largely go unnoticed by parents and others, but they do for the general benefit of our school and students, such as taking home the rubbish due to losing our rubbish collection, picking up and running children to and from school in their private vehicles, and being genuinely invested in our children. Also, a huge thank you to our caretaker Donald MacRae, Cleaner Carol Tilyard and gardener Kate Dawson. And most importantly a heartfelt thank you to our super principal Pam Voyce. This lady is a force to be reckoned with. Many of you will not see the blood, sweat and tears this amazing wahine toa puts in when the rest of us aren't looking. Late nights working keeping up with the never-ending paperwork that the education system requires, fighting the good fight with the ministry to ensure our children get their needs met, alongside being a teaching principal. You never cease to amaze me and thank you for making my job on the board so much easier. I would also like to thank two of our former board members who left earlier this year after many years on the Āria School Board. Thank you to Catherine Terry and Bevan Brown for your time and dedication to the Āria School Board. Your experience is greatly missed.

To our current board members, Phil Watkins, Hannah Bodger-Kearns, Lliwen MacRae, Nicole Hurley and Raewyn Williams, thank you for your continuing contribution to the Āria School Board.

And most importantly, thank you to our wonderful students of Āria School. Your confidence in this world as always continues to amaze me, you always do our school and community proud when representing us at events, face challenges head on as they appear and jump at opportunities to learn with enthusiasm. If you continue in life as you do during your time at Āria you will all excel when you enter the big wide world.

To our year 6 leavers, good luck on your next adventure, cherish your memories and friends made at Āria, and never ever stop learning. I look forward to watching with anticipation to see what great things you will go on to achieve in the future.

That's all from me for now. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Ngā mihi nui, Natasha Cave

2024 Staff	2024 Board	
<b>Room 1 Teacher (Year 3-6)</b> Mrs Pam Voyce Email: p.voyce@xtra.co.nz	Natasha Cave Presiding Member	
<b>Room 1 Teacher (Year 3-6)</b>	Nicole Hurley	
Whaea Ana	PR/Hospitality	
Email: ana@aria.school.nz	Philip Watkins	
Room 2 Teacher (New Entrant - Year 3) Ms Alicia Benefield	Property	
<b>Office Manager</b> Mrs Nicola Alcock Email: office@aria.school.nz	Raewyn Williams Interim Treasurer	
Teacher Aide	Hannah Bodger-Kearns	
Ms Nicole Hurley	Communication	
<b>Teacher Aide</b>	Lliwen MacRae	
Mrs Rebecca Bates	Communications	
<b>Teacher Aide</b>	Pam Voyce	
Mrs Maria Palmer	Principal	
<b>Cleaner</b>	Ana Wiseman	
Carol Tilyard	Staff Rep	
Caretaker/Swimming Pool	Nicola Alcock	
Donald MacRae	Minute Secretary	
<b>Gardens/Grounds</b> Kate Dawson		

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Thank you to our spon

RuralSupport

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