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**Porirua Montessori**  
CONNECT | EMPOWER | GROW

# Pānui

18 August

## Upcoming Events and Dates

Newlands

Masjid/Mosque Visit - no cost, 26 August. Please let Lisa know if you can help with transport and supervision

Pool trip TBC - \$6 - We will be travelling by public bus

Monday 15 September  
Trip to Wellington  
Botanic Gardens - \$6.  
Please let Lisa know if you can help with transport and supervision

## Montessori Quote

"To stimulate life, leaving it free, however, to unfold itself—that is the first duty of the educator.

Maria Montessori



We have been exploring the Fourth Great Montessori Story: The coming of signs.

## Welcome to: Leo

TIAKI

One of our core school values is Tiaki.

- We treat others how we want to be treated.
- We are respectful of our classmates and kaiako.
- We look after ourselves, kura and environment.

Montessori said that children aged 6-12 are moral explorers really wanting to know why certain rules exist and also wanting to explore what those rules mean.

You can help us by ensuring:

- Your child/ren know what respect looks like, feels like and sounds like.
- Discussing what the above rules mean.
- Reinforcing the importance of using the THINK acronym including when speaking to the teacher.

Before I speak or do something I need to THINK. Is it:

T : True

H: Helpful to myself and others

I: Intelligent

N: Needed

K: Kind

## **ARRIVAL:**

It is very important that students arrive on time for school. Recently, we have noticed an increasing number of students arriving after 8:45, which makes it difficult to begin lessons smoothly. Montessori classrooms are designed around the rhythm of a three-hour work cycle. This uninterrupted work time allows children to settle in, choose their own activities, and take part in lessons at a natural pace.

## **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

You are welcome to cover your 5 volunteer hours during school time by listening to children read or sorting materials or teaching a skill. Just let me know what an when works.

## **ADVERTISING FUND**

Can you help us with our advertising? We need to pay for advertising for our last Open Day and to help with some pamphlets to drop off at local ECE, Kohanga, Aiga and Kindergaten. Please pop any donations into the school account with the code ADVERTISING. Our huge thanks to Che for his help with putting up signage for the latest Open Day.

## **WHAT ARE THE MONTESSORI GREAT STORIES?**

We have recently been focusing on the Fourth Great Montessori Story, which looks at communication through signs. This story traces how humans learned to write down ideas and serves as a starting point for studying grammar, inventions, and the contributions of many civilizations to writing.

The Five Great Lessons (some traditions include six) are impressionistic “windows” into the world that help children see the bigger picture—of both the universe and the Montessori curriculum. They are a central part of Montessori classrooms. Montessori believed that stories are an essential way to awaken a child’s imagination.

Each story is traditionally told by a teacher and accompanied by props or experiments to illustrate key ideas. They are usually presented to the whole class.

### **THE FIRST GREAT LESSON – The Coming of the Universe**

This story introduces students to the formation of the universe, stars, the solar system, and the beginnings of Earth.

### **THE SECOND GREAT LESSON – Life Comes to Earth**

This story introduces students to the earliest life forms and explains how they adapted to Earth’s changing conditions. It explores the diversity of life and ends just before humans appeared.

### **THE THIRD GREAT LESSON – The Coming of Humans**

This story explores the arrival of humans on Earth and what makes humanity unique.

### **THE FOURTH GREAT LESSON – Communication in Signs**

This story explains how humans developed systems of writing to communicate ideas (discussed above).

### **THE FIFTH GREAT LESSON – The Story of Numbers**

This story traces the origins of mathematics and the human invention of numbers.

