



# School Newsletter

*"If the children are given a Krishna Conscious education from early childhood, then there is great hope for the future of the world" ~A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada*



*"Everything should be done on the basis of love. Strictness is not very good. The students should act automatically, out of love, That is wanted.  
~ Srila Prabhupada*

Dear Parents,

We now approach the end of the term and have a lot to celebrate. I am so proud of our students' achievements this year. Everyone has worked so hard to overcome the challenges brought about by Covid-19 and we all look forward to an exciting year of progress in 2023.

This year it has been wonderful to see how our new house groups and events have created a sense of school unity and team spirit, and to see our school values Wisdom, Respect and Joy "lived" through the way our ako interact with each other in games, competitions and sports.



It is with regret that we farewell a number of teaching staff at the end of the year: Nikki Smith, Ravina Devi and Leanne Nola. Nikki has been teaching at Hare Krishna School since 2019. She has inspired her students in many areas including outdoor learning. The students and staff will miss her genuine caring, encouraging attitude towards the students' wellbeing and growth. Ravina has made tremendous contributions to our ako's learning, particularly in giving the new entrants and Year 1's an excellent foundational start to literacy. Leanne will be moving on to teach at Orewa College next year. She has made significant contributions to develop the sports and P.E curriculum and organise sports events. We thank both Ravina and Leanne for helping our school this year. All these teachers will be missed by staff and students alike and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

I am delighted to be able to confirm that from next year we will have Sarada Stansfield joining our team to teach our class of Year 9-10 students. Sarada has a high school English, Science, and Social Sciences teaching background. She is a devotee of Lord Krishna raised in a Vaishnava family in South Africa and is enthusiastic about supporting young people in the development of their Krishna bhakti. We warmly welcome Sarada and look forward to seeing the Year 9-10 class grow.

We also warmly welcome back Kirti Kumari to the teaching team to teach the Year 7-8 class. Kirti has been studying for her Masters this year. We look forward to having her back on the team. We look forward to informing you about exciting learning events and developments across the school in 2023, especially in approaches to the school-wide literacy programmes. We look forward to connecting with you all in Term One next year.

Wishing you all a safe, restful and restorative holiday break. See you back at school in February!  
Dharma-Setu Dasa



Visit 'Hero' to get all the updates, notifications and your child's learning stories



Please follow our "parents of the Hare Krishna School" facebook page for pictures, notices and more.

## Govardhan Puja at HKS

We had a wonderful Govardhan Puja festival at the Hare Krishna School at the beginning of Term 4. Each student bought along some sweets and fruit to offer to Giriraj who was sitting atop the hill. The Govardhan hill was decorated by the students with flowers, clay figures and greenery.

Dharma Prabhu shared the beautiful pastime of Govardhan Puja pointing out that something we can take away from this story is that, When we love and serve Krsna nicely, even if we make mistakes along the way, he will always be there for us. He will only ever do what is best for us as he has shown in his dealings with Lord Indra.



*Each class made some offerings for Giriraj to enjoy*



*Dharma Prabhu narrating the beautiful pastime of Govardhan Puja*

## Diwali and Kartik Month With Us

The Hare Krishna School celebrated Diwali (the festival of light on the return of Lord Rama) at the temple by offering ghee lamps to the deities. Dharma Prabhu told the story of "the glorious loser". This story was about Lord Rama's most dedicated devotee Jatayu. Though he was old and frail, he tried his very best to rescue mother Sita from the wicked, conniving King Ravana out of love and dedication to his lord. Jatayu did his absolute level best to succeed but was unsuccessful. Does this make him a loser? Definitely not! If you do your best in anything, you can not be a loser. This was a very important, meaningful story for our students as we have recently introduced the four house groups to encourage unity and team spirit at our school.



*Greeting of the deities*



*Carefully offering ghee lamps to Sri Sri Radha Giridhari*

## Our Students' Expeditions



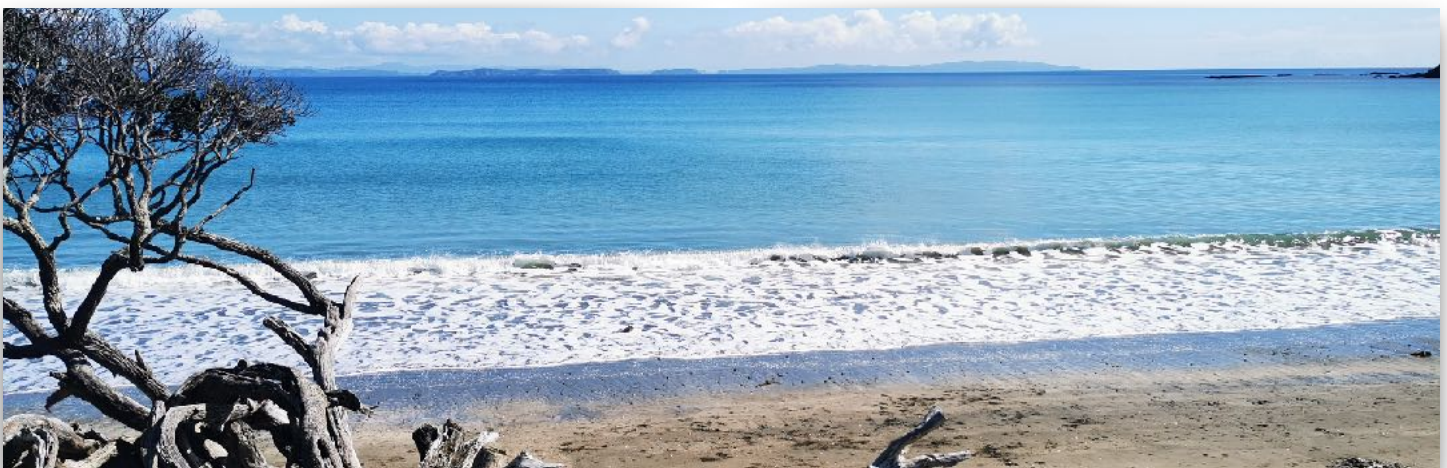
### Shakespear National Park

With warmer weather, this term has been filled with lots of education outside the classroom. The middle school visited Shakespear Regional Park as part of their theme project on Nature and birds.



### Auckland Zoo

Years four through to six had the opportunity to go to Auckland Zoo this term. This followed an online class by the education team at the zoo on native birds. This was a fantastic learning experience.



# Shastra Quiz



This term we held the first ever Shastra Quiz event. Each house had a runner or two to collect the questions and after the team answered, they had to run back to the teachers to give the answers. There were 60 questions with a 20 minute timer.

The questions ranged from simple Krishna conscious pastime trivia to correctly reciting shlokas. It was a lot of fun. It was inspiring to see just how much Shastra these students actually know and how much knowledge they have retained from their Shastra lessons throughout the year.

All the houses did incredibly well with house **Sankha** (Conch) winning the Shastra Event house cup!



The Lower School's trip to:

# Kiwi Valley Farm



Our lower school had been waiting in great anticipation all term for their outing to Kiwi Valley Farm. Each class did a project on animals to learn a bit more about them before visiting. Some highlights from this trip were, the horse riding, the maze and holding the smaller animals like the Guinea pigs, rabbits and rats.

A wonderful end to a very busy term!



Gaura Nitai's class trip to:

# Motu Moana Camp



Our senior class went on a class camp to the Motu Moana scout camp. There they participated in various trust exercises, cooperative games and learnt bush skills. The students made some of their own meals and made dampers on the outside fire pit.

A fun-filled educational finish to a fantastic term of learning.



## Athletics Day

We held a whole school athletics event in the last week of term 4. The seniors had already competed in some activities the week before on the Riverhead track but participated in a couple of the events. Everyone did so well and had a great time. Taking home the athletics house cup this year we have- **Lotus house!**



## Hare Krishna School End of Year Celebration

Following on from our athletics event we held an appreciation/open day. Students took their family into their classroom to showcase their work. We had a great turn out of family members and the students were elated. We showed our appreciation for our Board of Trustees members, our wonderful principal/staff and maintenance man, Coco. We had a couple of performances and then lastly, we shared the winner of the 2022 House championship. Every one of our students have shown great team spirit throughout the year while displaying our school values wisdom, respect and joy. We are delighted to share that the winning house that takes home our House Award cup is- **Cakra house!**





## PRASADAM SPONSORSHIP

Have you got an upcoming event to celebrate?  
A child's birthday or an upcoming Vaisnava festival perhaps?

What better way to commemorate this occasion by sponsoring the lunch prasadam for the special Vaisnava children of the Hare Krishna School?

\$108 to sponsor lunch prasadam for one weekday or  
\$301 to sponsor a school lunch feast on a festive day

To sponsor prasadam, please fill out the form on our website:  
[www.harekrishna.school.nz/donations](http://www.harekrishna.school.nz/donations)  
Alternatively, you may contact the Hare Krishna School reception.



## Lateness- Please Note

Starting the school day on time is crucial for your child's day of learning and experiences at school. The start of the day is when teachers discuss the upcoming day's schedule with children, and it is when they come together for morning prayers. When your child is late for school, it is likely they will find it difficult to settle in and engage with important learning, and their late arrival, even if only a few minutes, can be disruptive for other children. All students are expected to be in the classroom by 8.25 a.m. If they do not catch the bus, we recommend that students arrive at least 5-10 minutes before the bell at 8.25 a.m. to greet their teacher and peers, and to be prepared for learning and interacting with others. We humbly ask for your support to ensure your child has a positive start to their school day.

Our teachers appreciate your consideration.

- Go to [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) to find your school list
- Check that you want everything on the list
- Enter your details and choose how to pay
- Choose when you want your order delivered, before Xmas or in January
- Your free gift & delivery is underway **PLUS you're in to win\***

**ORDER IN DECEMBER AND BEAT THE RUSH...**

**Choose how you pay.**

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Plus, we've partnered with Laybuy, so you can pay in 6 weekly interest-free payments and still get your order right away.

See [myschool.co.nz/laybuy](http://myschool.co.nz/laybuy) for terms and conditions. Please note: School donations and charges will be charged when you place your order. You cannot use laybuy to pay for school donations and charges.

**Choose when you want it.**

Whether you want your order delivered before Christmas, or in the new year – the OfficeMax team will make it happen.

**Help yourself. Help your School.**

Earn School Rewards with every order. It's our way of giving back to the community, and it helps your school get the extra things they really need.

See [myschool.co.nz/school-rewards](http://myschool.co.nz/school-rewards) for terms and conditions.

## Stationary Lists 2023

Go to [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) to find the class stationary lists. Your child will also receive Prime Math homework books through school. These will be included in the Term 1 invoice.

Juniors workbook- \$12.99

Seniors workbook- \$15.99





## Music Lessons at HKS

We offer both mrdanga and harmonium lessons for students in Years 3 and above. From Term 1 of 2023 both lessons will be charged at \$7 per student.

Please let the school office know if you would like your child to attend mrdanga and/or harmonium lessons.



## SCHOOL BREAKFAST FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS.

Available Mon-Fri between  
8:10am-8:20am

No need to opt in.

Students will need to bring a bowl and a spoon.



## SCHOOL LUNCH PRASADAM

\$4 per day,  
Everyday of the week!



Please make sure your child brings an empty container, a spoon and morning tea.

If you haven't yet opted your child in for school lunch and you would like to, please contact Amrta Pani mataji at [admin@harekrishna.school.nz](mailto:admin@harekrishna.school.nz)



## IMPORTANT TERM 1 DATES

1st February- **School resumes for 2023**

3rd February- Sri Nityananda Trayodasi (appearance of Sri Nityananda Prabhu)

6th February- Waitangi Day

7th March- Gaura Purnima (appearance day of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu)

30th March- Ram Navami (appearance of Lord Rama)

7th April- Good Friday






**School breaks for Term 1 holidays on 6th April**



## Our Teaching Team for 2023

Our team of teachers are incredibly enthusiastic about facilitating our student's learning. The Krishna conscious teaching culture we are creating at Hare Krishna School fosters the right conditions and environment that will help our students flourish as lifelong learners.



	Sarada Dasi	Years 9-10 Class Teacher
	Kirti- Kumari D.D	Gaura Nitai (Years 7-8) Class Teacher
	Subhatra Mataji	Jagannath (Years 5-6) Class Teacher.
	Julia Kosterman	Radha Giridhari (Year 4) Class Teacher.
	Sudharma Mataji	Prabhupada (Year 3) Class Teacher.
	Lavanga-Lata D.D	Bal Gopal (Year 1) class and Krishna Balaram (Year 2) Class Teacher.