

WAINUIOMATA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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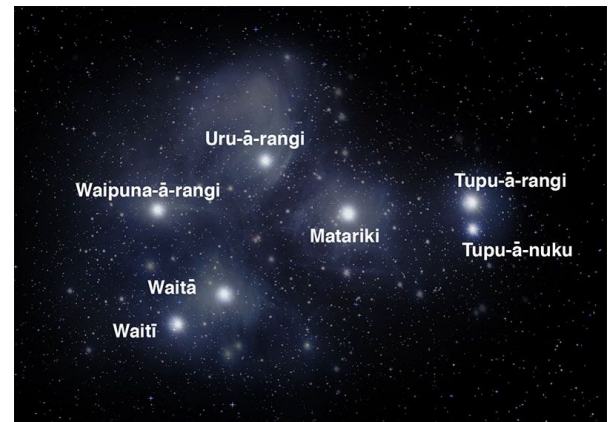


24 June 2019

Kia ora Whanau,

Matariki: Te Tau Hou Māori - Matariki: The Māori New Year.

Matariki is a time to gather with family and friends to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future. Depending on your religion or ethnicity, New Year can come at different times of the year and be celebrated in many ways. For example, there is the Chinese New Year or Spring Festival, the Muslim month of Muharram, and Rosh Hashanah, one of the most important religious holidays in the Jewish calendar. Māori also have their own New Year, which is marked by the rise of Matariki (or Puanga depending on location) and the sighting of the next new moon.



Like Chinese New Year and the Christian festival of Easter, its exact timing varies from year to year, but it usually occurs during the middle of winter. Traditionally, Matariki was used to determine the coming season's crop. A warmer season, and therefore a more productive crop yield, was indicated by how bright the stars were.

I hope your whanau can find the time to gather and remember the important people in your family at this time.

Thank you to all of you who came to our Student Led Conferences, research indicates that student agency and whanau involvement are two of the biggest predictors of success at school, so, again, thank you for helping your child succeed.

As we approach the end of term (Friday 5 July) I thought we should have a reminder of all the activities we have coming up over the next two weeks as it is very busy.

Nga mihi nui,

Craig Sharp
Kaihoutu / Principal

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