



TAWA NEWSLETTER 1, 2019

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WELCOME!

Welcome to 2019! We hope you have managed to have some lovely weather and a good break, whether home or away. A special welcome to new families.

We can't wait to get started on term 1 classes. We are honoured to work with your children.

You will see a change this year. Arts a Go Go! Upper Hutt and Arts a Go Go! Tawa have been two separate companies for some time, but we have tried to keep them together as much as possible. This year we would like to make the special identities of each clearer and they will now be two separate schools. (Of course, still under the umbrella of the Arts a Go Go! family, with one overall website as usual.) Arts a Go Go! Upper Hutt is a much larger school of over 160 students and several teachers. It has many classes, including baby and pre-school classes and creative writing, as well as drama only, musical theatre, Irish Dancing and the combo classes. The Tawa school is currently smaller, offering the one fantastic performing arts combo class on a Saturday afternoon, which takes up to 30 students per term. The Tawa school will continue to be managed by teacher Lisa Kelly and she is joined this year by the wonderful Jane Armstrong. The Tawa school is currently at capacity and there is scope to offer more classes in the future. You will see that each school will now have its own newsletter and facebook page. This will enable us to celebrate each school separately and keep information relevant to either Tawa or Upper Hutt. Sometimes there will be crossovers with what is shared and any outside opportunities for students, such as film extra work, will continue to be made available to all students. Extension Singing will still be offered to students from both schools, and delivered out of our Upper Hutt premises. Please see later in this newsletter for decisions about the show.

Please contact us anytime if you have questions. Most Arts a Go Go! communication is sent through email, so please check this often.

Have a fantastic year!

Rachel Main, Director Arts a Go Go! ph 0211441641

& Lisa Kelly, Manager Arts a Go Go! Tawa ph 0211741551

TERM 1 DATES

Your child is automatically enrolled in 2019 unless you email rachel@artsagogo.co.nz. You do not need to re-enter details with Enrolmy but you can update addresses and phone numbers yourself if need-be. You can check term dates on your Enrolmy too. For consistency of fees throughout the year, Arts a Go Go! terms run for 9 classes (or rehearsal equivalents) per term, regardless of the length of the school term.

Term 1: Saturday 9th February – 6th April



TERM 1 FEES

There is no increase in fees from last year. Fees are due by the third class of each term and internet payments are preferred. (Please contact Rachel if you need to arrange a cash payment. No cash is to be given to teachers on site.) Although the option comes up on Enrolmy, we do not accept credit card payments at this stage due to the extra charges that would incur.

Invoices will be sent through Enrolmy soon or you can pay now as per account number below.

Please reference with your child's name and the term you are paying for, for example, *Joe Bloggs Term 1* (please change the term number each term)

- 2 Hour Combo Class: \$230 (*small discount for the second child in the family enrolling in the combo class*)

Bank Account

Arts a Go Go Tawa

06-0545-0894593-00

Receipts are only issued on request.

TEACHERS: Welcome to the Tawa Team!

Tawa Manager and Dance & Singing Teacher: Lisa Kelly

Drama & Singing Teacher: Jane Armstrong

Welcome to our new Tawa drama teacher, Jane Armstrong. Jane comes very highly recommended and we welcome her to the team! Jane lives with her husband and two young daughters (aged 1 and 3) in Tawa. She was Head of the Drama Department at Wellington College from 2009-2015, developing and teaching introductory courses focused on confidence and skill building through to Year 13 advanced Scholarship classes. Jane was heavily involved in the extra-curricular Arts programme at the College and directed/ assisted with several Major Productions both dramatic and musical as well as external competitions such as Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival and Stage Challenge. In 2014, Jane was the recipient of the Pasifika families' award for supporting Pasifika students in the Arts. In 2012 she received the (student voted) award for outstanding teacher contribution to the Arts. Jane has a Graduate Diploma of teaching with Victoria University in 2008. She was valedictorian Speaker for VUW Graduation Ceremony (2009) and has a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English Literature and Theatre and Film Studies (2000-2003). In 2003, Jane completed her Trinity College London Speech and Drama Associate Diploma (ATCL). In 2002 she received the Exhibition Award for the top national result in the Trinity College London Performers' Certificate. Between 2003-2008 Jane lived overseas in Canada and the UK. Education related roles she held in this period were that of a Zoo Keeper and Animal Activities Presenter at London Zoo (2005, 2006) and Education Officer at the National Science Museum, London (2006). Jane feels Arts a Go Go! has a really lovely culture where both the Arts and kids are celebrated. She looks forward to meeting you all.

Arts a Go Go! Overall Director: Rachel Main

CONGRATULATIONS TO:



Lisa! You will be excited to hear that Lisa and her partner Jesse are expecting their first baby in May this year. We wish them all our love and support on this new adventure. Lisa will be on maternity leave in term 2 and will be back term 3.



2018 TAWA PRIZE GIVING AWARDS – Congratulations!

If you missed prize giving and are still to pick up show certificates or awards, please see Lisa.

Singing Merit Cup: Maya Pigou-Mackie

Junior Performer Cup: Kaia McDermott

Senior Performer Cup: Aurora Gritt

Spirit of Arts a Go Go Trophy (The 3 C's - Creative, Courageous and Caring): Kyle Owen

Drama Merits: Callie Scholtz, Emily Bognuda, Eli Williams, Savannah Gritt, Kyle Owen, Jazz Calder-Clayton

Dance Merits: Callie Scholtz, Maya Pigou-Mackie, Rose Fairbrother, Emily Martin

Singing Merits: Jodie Kriel, Isabella Oakley, Maxwell Rayner, Corrie Milne

Singing Effort: Nyah Gavin-Scott

Spirit Certs: Savannah Gritt, Maxwell Rayner

Most Improved Overall: Jodie Kriel

Improvement: Bryony Rielly, Hester Du Plessis, Kelly-Mae Fairbrother

Congratulations to all students who received their “1 year” to “5 year” awards at prize giving and throughout the year!

The Tawa Show

Thank you for all your emails when I called for feedback about the trial we undertook with Tawa doing its own showcase last year, as an alternative to being part of the major Arts a Go Go! theatre show in Lower Hutt, as in previous years. There were some lovely comments about how much it meant to your children and we really appreciate that. It is a difficult one. Most people would prefer to keep the shows separate. Some people would like to keep them separate, but would like the show to be like the Lower Hutt one. A few people would like to join back up with the Upper Hutt classes to do one show. We can see the advantages and disadvantages of both and using your feedback, we have given this a tremendous amount of thought. Here is what has been decided:

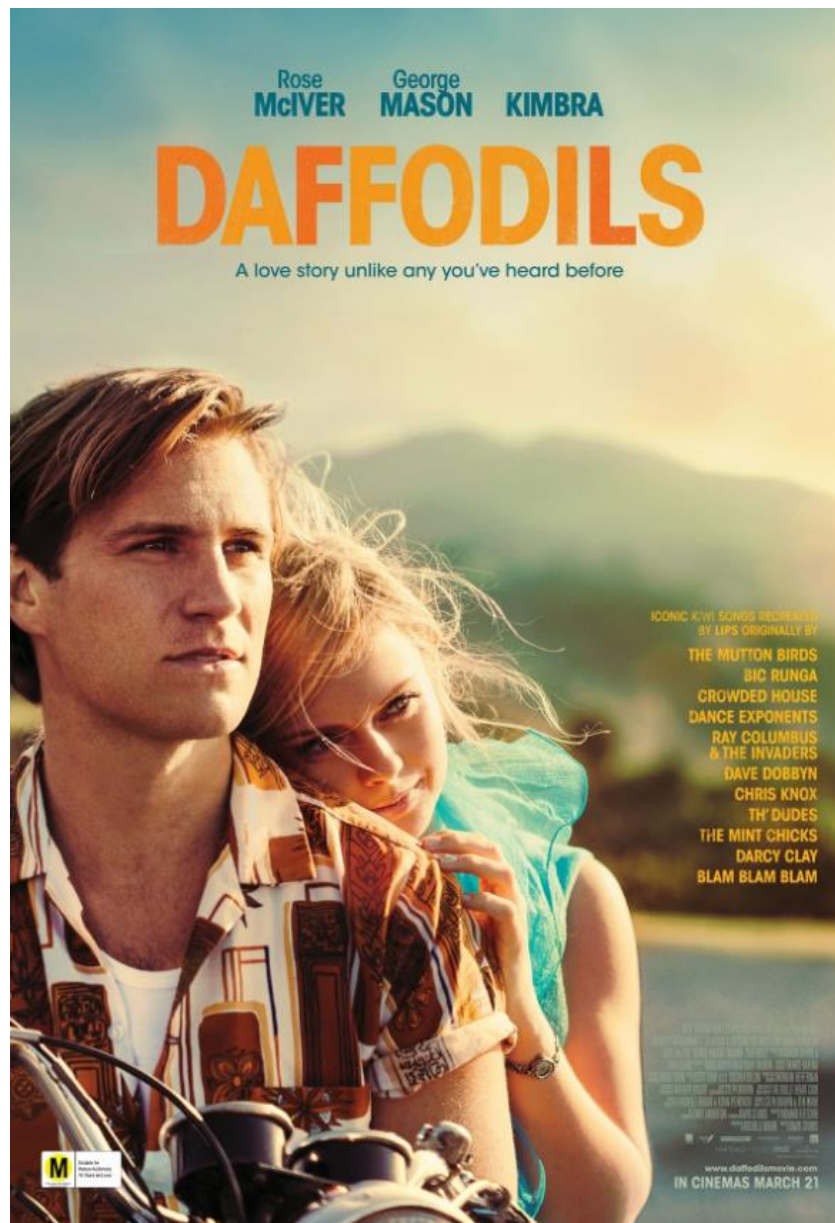
- As explained on page 1, the Tawa class is now Arts a Go Go! Tawa, a separate school to Upper Hutt but under the Arts a Go Go! umbrella
- Arts a Go Go! Tawa will do its own show
- The show will contain plays, dance and songs that will enable the students to play different characters, with costumes and props
- The senior students will be given more challenging drama content in the show
- Overall content of the show will be decided on by Arts a Go Go! director Rachel
- We are hoping to do this year's show at Aotea College's theatre, if their renovations are complete in time.

There are some things that we would like to make really clear though. Although the Tawa show will have more similarities to the Upper Hutt show this year, it is currently impossible to create a show of the same scale. In 2018, there were approximately 5 times as many students in the Upper Hutt show, many more teachers, higher costs to parents for tickets, costumes and show fees, and approximately 75 volunteers to make it happen. Physically and financially, it is not possible for the two shows to look the same. Having said that, stage time and dramatic content per child will be equivalent, in fact although the Tawa show is much shorter, stage time per child is actually greater. With neat costumes and exciting scripts, we feel your child will love their Tawa show and get just as much out of it. If you feel that you would still prefer your child to be in the Upper Hutt classes' show, please contact Rachel to discuss 2019 class options. Rehearsals for both shows start in Term 3. Terms 1 and 2 will continue to have a skill building and creativity focus.



Do See This Movie – Out 21st March!

Rachel and a number of senior students acted as extras in this fabulous movie. (Rated M)



Arts a Go Go! Developing talent and inspiring creativity and confidence through performing arts!

A reminder to please like and follow the new Arts a Go Go TAWA facebook page!

www.facebook.com/artsagogotawa

