

Kia ora, Parents and whānau of Knighton Normal School!

We are thrilled to announce that we, Te Ahi Ora, will be coming to the mighty Waikato this year. We deliver free performing arts lessons to schools, followed by free evening fire performances and lessons for your community.

Fire Performance is a new community activity that is rapidly spreading across the country. This exciting discipline engages the mind, activates the body, and is incredibly fun and stimulating. The last few years have been rather difficult for schools, students, and families, and we aim to re-ignite the passion for learning and community in a fun and highly engaging setting.

Te Ahi Ora has 5 goals:

1. Encourage students to participate in physically challenging and satisfying activities
2. Boost self-confidence, encourage experimentation and foster creativity
3. Provide opportunities for personal growth and development
4. Build a sense of community through shared celebration and performance
5. Counter the negative effects of excessive screen time and digital addiction

We will be working with **Knighton Normal School on March 28th, 29th, 30th, & 31st**, teaching **non-fire** lessons to students during the days. In the evenings, from 6-8pm Te Ahi Ora will be performing and teaching with fire at the school field. Our tutors demonstrate the top level of skill for the first 15 minutes, and the rest of the time will be spent teaching your community how to perform with fire. All school students, staff, and families are invited to watch and participate in all of the evenings, but students & staff who trained that day will have priority in the line to try.

Although Fire Performance may sound dangerous at first. with the right safety procedures and protocols in place, it is just as safe as any contemporary sport (and in some cases, even safer). Thanks to these stringent health and safety systems, we are proud to maintain a fantastic safety record. We require parents to contribute to the safety of the evening by following 2 simple rules: We recommend bringing foldout camping chairs, water bottles, and blankets (if cold). You are welcome to take photos and videos of **your whānau and the Te Ahi Ora staff** during the evening. If you post them on Instagram, Facebook, or Tiktok, please follow and tag us. **Please remember to respect the right to privacy of all tamariki and their whānau and DO NOT post pictures to social media without the permission of those who can be identified in the photo/video. If the photo/video includes anyone who is not in your family - please seek permission from their adults.**

After we work with your community, we will send out a Participant Survey through the school, to be filled out by parents and students. Participants that complete the survey will go into the draw to win \$150 at the end of the term. At the end of the survey there will be an option to upload pictures or videos (permission from all who can be identified must be sought). The three best pieces of media at the end of each term will each win \$50. We are often far too busy to get good videos or photos, so very much appreciate your assistance.

Thank you for your time and attention. We are incredibly excited to be coming to work with the Knighton Normal School community, and look forward to meeting and performing with all of you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Ngā mihi nui

Te Ahi Ora Team

