

Kia ora #FirstName#

March 2022 - Newsletter

Kia ora APODC whanau and welcome to our first newsletter for 2022. It's already been a busy start to the year for the APODC committee as we've re-planned our events calendar twice already. But we are really hoping this year will bring more opportunity for our community and members to get together safely.

It's exciting to see our membership continue to grow each month especially after such a disrupted two years. So, it's lovely to welcome 5 new families who have joined us over the last couple of months. We now have over 140 whanau, which is a huge milestone to celebrate in our 70th year!

Yes, you heard me right this year APODC turns 70 this year and we think that's something to celebrate! Keep an eye out for more information on our AGM in May, we're planning a special event to celebrate 70 years of bringing Auckland whanau together to celebrate and support our deaf and hard of hearing children to have full and wonderful lives.

This year we are also looking for a couple of people to join our committee this year. In particular, if you are interested and have experience in; marketing, social media, legal or finance we are looking for these skills to join our team. Email willa@apodc.co.nz for more information or keep an eye out for committee nominations coming out in April.

Handwaves

Willa



Keep an eye out for our upcoming events, coffee groups, a new education series for parents and whanau and of course our awesome family events

APODC event calendar 2022....

March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
	Education series 1		Education series 2		Education series 3&4			
New Members coffee group		NZSL Week	Youth event				New Members coffee group	
	AGM and 70 th Birthday				Family Event			Family Event

We'll do our best to maintain our events calendar however due to possible changes to the Covid-19 Alert system and restrictions, all events are subject to change. We'll keep you updated and we look forward to seeing you soon. APODC Committee.

In other APODC News.....

Congratulations to our very own Frian Wadia who was appointed as a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to disability and education in the New Years honours. Frain has been a prominent APODC committee member and most recent held the post of Secretary until she stepped down in 2020. From all of the Committee we just wanted to say well done Frian, wonderful and well-deserved recognition of a lifetimes work!



Ako Adventures

Ako Adventures is a private preschool owned by a former AODC / SLT who recognises that there is a need for a language nest / co-enrolment space in South Auckland. We are excited to have a full-time teacher who is Deaf and uses NZSL as her first language.

The team at Ako Adventures is building a team to meet the needs of young deaf / hard of hearing learners. If you would like to know more you can visit the website www.akoadventures.co.nz or contact Samara on 0211124921 or samara@akoadventures.co.nz

Ako Adventures offer 20 free hours and our administrator can provide assistance linking with WINZ to provide support with fees for our under 3s. We want to meet the need of the community so please contact me directly if you experience financial hardship and are unable to meet the cost of fees.



Coffee Group, Friday 25 March at 10.30

Zoom coffee catch up

What?

APODC Coffee groups are casual gatherings which bring parents and caregivers together for a coffee and chat, whilst the children play. Coffee groups are often the first events that families attend and we aim to provide a warm welcome and the opportunity to connect with others who are at a similar stage.... we'll be zooming this time so it's all in the comfort of your own home, office or wherever you happen to be on the day!

Who are Coffee Groups for?

Coffee groups are aimed at families and whanau with young children (under 5's), HOWEVER all APODC families are welcome to attend.

Who hosts them, and how regularly are they held?

Willa Hand, (APODC committee) will host the first coffee group of the year on zoom.... and we're looking for parent hosts for these events as well. We aim to schedule coffee groups through the year in local venues across Auckland so that families can meet others in their area (Covid-19 restrictions dependent of course!)

Is there a charge?

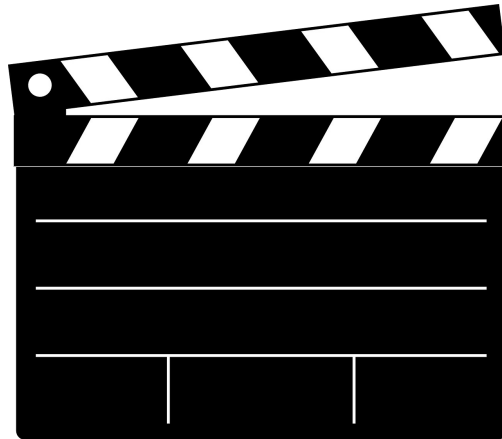
No. Coffee groups are free, especially this time as we are on zoom so no drinks will be provided sorry ;)

Do we need to book in to attend?

Yes, we do need to know if you are planning to attend so we can share the zoom link with you, and sort interpreters if needed

TO BOOK: Email: coordinator@apodc.org.nz

* If you have ideas of where else we could run a coffee group, we would love to hear from you!



Life in silence casting call

Life in Silence casting call | We are looking for two Deaf or Hard of Hearing girls to play our leads. We are looking for young actors who can pass for between 10-12. We are open to casting between 9-14 if the actor looks older/younger than their age. The girls' dialogue is in NZSL so the actors must be able to sign. Previous acting experience is not required. Please contact Shelley directly, her email address is: waddamsshelley@gmail.com

Nga mihi nui, APODC Committee



