



NEWSLETTER

“In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.” – Albert Camus



DIARY OF DATES

Wednesday 28 June	7pm School, kindy and playgroup community meeting
Tuesday 4 July	Kindergarten spiral walk
Wednesday 5 July	9:30am Parent reading group in yurt
Wednesday 5 July	7pm Proprietors meeting
Friday 7 July	Last day of Term
Monday 24 July	Term 3 starts

PLAYGROUP TIMES

Mondays 9:15 to 11:30am	Mixed age children - Maia
Wednesdays 10 to 12pm	Mixed age children - Pine Hill (not on this week)
Fridays 10 to 12pm	Te Whare Ako Marie - Pine Hill
Fridays 1:15 to 3:15pm	Kereru's Nest (new parents and infants) - Rata room

Kia ora koutou - greetings to all

Tonight we look forward to welcoming you to our community meeting. Our main topic is long term financial sustainability. We look forward to an evening of sharing information and experiences, discussion and the opportunity to make connections. Come to Class 1 and 2 for a 7pm start.

Over the last week we enjoyed some midwinter celebration with the kindergarten lantern walk and the spiral walk for the Primary School. In the last weeks of school we will also be celebrating matariki.

Our best wishes go to Rachel's husband Charles, who is still recuperating. Rachel should be back with us in the last week of school.

School finishes on Friday 7 July. Our kindergarten will remain open for its holiday programme. Keep warm and well!

NEW FROM THE PROPRIETORS

We are hoping you love the decision we made last time: A heatpump for the lower class room so it is going to be nice and cosy in there as soon as it is installed.

Warm greetings from the Props! *Gabriela*

PARENT READING GROUP

Interested to join? Just come along or contact Bex Fisher or me. We are reading and talking about the four temperaments at the moment and as a special treat we do 5 minutes of Eurythmy. *Gabriela* (021 0856 4793)

FORMER STEINER STUDENTS SHOW THEIR TALENTS

Four of our former students were in the news last week. Anna-Saima Walrond, one of the top sailors in her age-group in New Zealand, was sailing in Bermuda in the America's Cup Endeavour open event. The event is held in conjunction with the finals of the main event. Zoe Degas is in the Otago under-19 handball training squad and will compete in the South Island Tournament in Christchurch in the first week of July. Violinist Rose Stevenson, the violinist in the Aurora Verde trio, won the NZCT Chamber Music Contest Otago district final last weekend. Benny Holloway is the drummer in the band Carmina, which won the Smokefreerockquest Otago regional final last weekend.

These students were all in kindergarten together and continued up through the Primary School. Congratulations to all of you!

We also enjoyed having Rosa Miles- Seeley come into school with her Chamber music trio to play to our school students this week. Many thanks for sharing this with our school.



Former students Rosa Miles Seeley (cello), Zoe Degas (piano) and a visiting student from Germany, Becky (flute), entertained the whole school yesterday with their Chamber music competition pieces.

All former students are welcome to join the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner Alumni Facebook page – a good way to see what everyone is up to. Please also keep in touch with the school if you have other news to share. *Clare*

MUSIC

This month our Board of Trustees received a review of music in our school – here is a summary of that report:

From the songs that playgroup sings up to the orchestra that we hear in the older classes, music is a part of the curriculum. Singing happens throughout the school, with rounds and harmonies being introduced in Class 3 onwards.

The school children also learn recorder – playing the gentle sounding choroï flutes. In Class 1 they play pentatonic recorder, which produces a more harmonic sound as they are beginning. From around Class 3 the children move on to the diatonic recorder and play more complex music, moving into harmonies and rounds, reading music and eventually playing tenors and trebles.

Both singing and recorder music are often embedded into the daily morning circles of each class.

From Class 3 students at the school are provided with violin or cello lessons as part of the curriculum. They will continue to learn a stringed instrument for the remainder of their time at the school when possible, and join the school orchestra in Class 4. Currently we have 12 children playing the cello and 13 playing the violin at school.

Rudolf Steiner indicated the violin was an appropriate instrument for Class 3 because of the way that the violin is held and played. The bowing movement across the chest as the child plays this most emotive of instruments, helps stimulate and open the heart forces. This is important because the 9 and 10 year old child is at a stage that is centred on developing their 'feeling' life. The cello brings similar benefits to the child, and may be chosen because it is an easier instrument to begin with, and the child may be drawn to its tone.

Stringed instruments allow the child to acutely develop their sense of pitch because it is not a 'fixed pitch' instrument. They will experience minute differences in pitch by slightly different finger positions and learn to hear when the note is perfectly in tune. Stringed instruments are very closely related to the voice in this way and can be seen as natural progression from singing. Playing a stringed instrument at this time in a child's life develops neural pathways connecting to fine and gross motor skills. Ear, hand, eye coordination is refined as they learn to sense, feel, hear and observe the correct pitch of each note on an unfretted instrument. The quality of sound production is a major focus as students learn to move the bow across the strings with grace and flow to produce a rich, warm and appealing tone.

The classes have other opportunities to explore music and rhythm in their daily morning circle activities. They repertoire of waiata as part of their broadening experience of kaupapa build up a rich Māori

CRAFT GROUP

Craft Group manifests the special character of our school with handmade natural crafts. Funds raised during the fair help the running of the school and funds raised outside of the fair generally go to projects that would not otherwise have funding. For example, trees for an orchard.

There are several ways to support craft group:

- Purchases from our shop (payment in the box in the drawer or online);
- Come along to craft group sessions and make craft for our shop and the fair;
- Make crafts at home for the shop and the fair;

- Donate natural materials to the group to be made into crafts for sale;
- Organising craft sessions, for example, is there a particular craft that you do that you would like to share with others.

Tuesday afternoon craft sessions will resume next term on Tuesdays at 1.30pm in the Rata Room. Come along and felt small animals, take home what you make for a koha for materials or donate your work to the craft shop. *Sharyn*

SCHOOL NEWS

Handwork in Class Two

With the beginning of the new school year the children swapped their chunky wool and knitting needles for much finer materials, and have started to knit animals. Each child decides for themselves what kind of animal they would like to make and must learn to read and follow patterns as well as develop additional sewing skills.

Some of the children in this class have chosen to work on the same animal. This has allowed them to learn from one another, teaching each other and taking pleasure in their shared achievement.

Here are some of the fruits of Class Two's labours. *Martina*



Classroom Cleaning – Term 2 2017

Vacuuming, dusting, anything you see to keep our classrooms clean! A once a week clean in the middle of the week (Tuesday or Wednesday after school), really helps. Thank you in advance. Should the timetable below not suit your family, please arrange to swap with another family.

Class	26-30/6	3-7/7
1/2	Lylith	Jakob
3/4	Poppy	Matthew
5/6	Mya	Massi

KINDERGARTEN

We look forward to welcoming you all to our midwinter spirals in kindergarten on Tuesday 4th July. The spiral walk will start **at 6pm prompt** so please do not be late. Come to your child's class in the normal way.

Thank you to all who came to our lantern walk in Chingford Park last Friday. Despite the inclement weather, there was a huge turnout, which helped to make it a truly heartwarming experience for all.

The term ends on Friday 7 July. The holiday programme will continue in kindergarten. Let the office know if you plan to bring your child.

From the Kindergarten Teachers – *Julie, Kate, Sandra and Junko.*

We extend a big thank you to Julie for taking on the responsibilities of Head Teacher over the last two terms. From the start of next term Sandra will take the reins again. Thanks to all of the staff for working together with the tamariki, making this kindergarten such a special place to be. *Clare – on behalf of the Management Team*

PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER

We are heading towards the end of term and it sure has been a busy one.

I missed it myself, but I hear the Lantern Walk in Chingford Park on Friday was a lovely family evening.

We enjoyed another sunny morning this week for our new Maia Playgroup. So far we have been switching up our usual routine by meeting outside and beginning with some exploration of the kindergarten garden which seems to be suiting us well.

Our Wednesday Pine Hill group is not meeting this week as some of us are involved in the Marionette group and are performing a short puppet play for the Kindergarten children this morning. Playgroup families who are missing out today on their regular

session have been invited to join the kindergarten. Last week we planted a bag of blue bell bulbs and I can't wait to see them in the spring.

Our dear Mannie who facilitates our te reo group is still away this week and will not be back this term. We send Mannie our Aroha at this difficult time for her family. Last week Christine stepped in to help and we will be in touch later this week with the plan for this Friday and next.

Our term ends on the 7th of July and we take 2 weeks break. I will email before we come back to confirm next term's session days and times. There has been a request to keep meeting over the holidays and if there is enough interest, we will arrange this. Arohanui, Alida

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community notices in our newsletter will normally appear for one week only and may be edited to accommodate space. If you wish to place a notice please email your notice to office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz. We charge \$10 for an advert and need ads in by the Monday prior to the Wednesday publication date.

You can pay by direct internet banking to 03-0903-0437318-00

Disclaimer: This space is open to advertisers and the school does not make any guarantees or endorsement on their behalf.



Orientation and Professional Training Course

The Spirit of the Word School for Creative Speech and the Art of Drama is holding a 3-week Course this winter, 9th – 28th July 2017.

Venue: Rudolf Steiner Centre, 500 N Nelson St./Cnr Whitehead Rd, Hastings, Hawke's Bay.

Cost: NZ\$1500 (three-week block) or: NZ\$600 for 1st week (two weeks: \$1100), if unable to attend the full three weeks. Early Bird concession 'till 15th June: \$1300; (\$550: 1st week/ \$1000: 2 weeks)

This course is an 'Orientation Course' for newcomers, as well as a 'Professional Training Course'.

It is open to anyone interested. All Welcome! The web address is: <https://spiritofthewordschool.wordpress.com/> For further information and enrolment, contact Astrid/Admin, T: 06 857 7113; E: spiritofthewordschool@gmail.com

Blossom Tree



Educator positions: Would you like to work from home while caring for your own children? Are you passionate about children and Steiner education, or would you like to learn more? We offer great remuneration rates, can help you up-skill and gain qualifications as well as provide full support and guidance along the way. We have families wanting care now so contact us today on 0800 4 BLOSSOM (0800 425677) and visit www.blossomtree.org.nz to find out more.

Organic Fruit from Marahau, Abel Tasman National Park: Dear parents and supporters of the School and Kindergarten. We have been growing organic fruit since 1986 are sending fruit to the

Steiner Community in Dunedin for the last five years, originally to our friends Tracy and Nick, which now live nearby in Motueka. Ingrid and I are part of a group of founding parents of the Motueka R. Steiner School. We are still involved, supporting the creation of the new Farm School. We live on a small commonly called 'lifestyle block' in Marahau and have always been passionate about small scale fruit growing for our family. We do sell our surplus at affordable prices, rather than at the usually 'higher biodynamic price level' to people who appreciate healthy organic fruit as well. We do not have Bio Gro or Demeter certification but always stick to organic and almost always biodynamic principles. We also appreciate the way fruit growing fits with producing our own food and looking after our dairy goats. The fruit is sent by fastway courier to your door overnight. It comes packed in 15 kg Banana boxes which hold 14 kg of fruit. The freight is \$15 and if one box is too much you may want to share or place a mixed order. The average cost per box will be around \$65- \$70, online payment is preferred. Our amounts of surplus grapefruit, lemons and oranges are small, and the availability does vary. Our reliable main crop are **green and gold kiwis**, they last until November preceded by a brief (and very popular) flush of **feijoas** in May to mid-June. This year we **dried sturmer apples**, which while so light are cheap to freight. Our prices per kg are: Feijoas and kiwi gold \$ 3.50, kiwi green \$ 2.50 and persimmons \$ 4. From mid-June onwards we can add smaller amounts of **lemons, grapefruit and oranges** which are \$3 to \$ 4. Our dried apples are \$ 5 per 100grams.and oranges \$ 4 its best to contact us via e-mail: ingridandtom@gmail.com

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Healing power of sound: This seminar will provide opportunities to learn some Vedic Healing chants. No prior experience is necessary and is open to all. The rules of chanting and pronunciation will be introduced during the seminar under the guidance of a very experienced teacher, Menaka Desikachar. We will honor the tradition of ancient teachers using the process of adhyayanam - listening to the teacher and then repeating the chant. We will also do a yoga practice each day that combines the use of chant with simple āsana and breathing. **Cost NZ\$ 225 Dates 07 - 08 Oct 2017 Venue Dunedin Yoga Studio, 492 Moray Place, Dunedin. Dates 14 - 5 Oct 2017 Venue Blockhouse Bay Boat Club, Endeavour Street, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland.** Interested participants can kindly contact Ruth Diggins via ruthyoga@paradise.net.nz or through phone **04-905-6224 or 021-258-6865** to register for this very special event.

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The **Fortune Theatre** is excited to bring Dunedin an all new kids' show. *What You Will* is inspired by the Shakespeare classic *Twelfth Night*, and brings together disguise, mischief and more than a dash of fun. Co-created by locals Zac Nicholls and Jordan Dickson, the show is going to be a must see these holidays. Date: 15th-22nd July, time: 11am and 2pm daily, ages: 3yrs and up. Tickets: \$12 per person (Group pricing available).

