

# NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM 1 # 10

7 APRIL 2008

471-2163

office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day Term 1	KMC	TBA
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Bio Dynamic Field day 10:30am – 3:00pm	Proprietors Meeting	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm at School
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	First Day Term 2	Board of Trustees Meeting	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April CANCELLED (Next meeting 8th May)
Mon-Wed 26 - 28 May	Marjorie Theyer Visit		

## FROM THE OFFICE

### School Calendar

We are devising a new calendar to send out with the newsletters each month – see attached. We would like to include children's birthdays on it. Please would you let Clare or Leonie know if you would not be happy to have your child's birthday listed.

### New Website

Have you taken a look at our lovely new website? Feedback in any form will be greatly appreciated - to Manfred or Clare.

We are planning to have the Newsletters available through the website as well.

Our web address is:

<http://www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz/>

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Yurts

The three Mongolian yurts are almost on their way! Construction should be completed by the third week of April, then they will be put into a container and shipped to us. They are due at Port Chalmers at the end of May and buildings consents are in process from the City Council. By June, we will be ready for a concerted community effort to get them up and running for the new term in August. We hope to have one big weekend working-bee to raise them. The plan is for Class 4/5/6 to use one yurt and for Class 1/2/3 to move to the lower classroom, leaving the upper schoolroom to become another kindergarten room. There will finally be wonderful space and place for playgroup and craft group!! All thanks to Merrall for his energy and time in making this happen!

### Board of Trustees

#### Casual Vacancy

A casual vacancy has occurred on the Board of Trustees for an elected parent representative.

The board has resolved under Section 105 of the *Education Act 1989* to fill the vacancy by appointment.

If ten percent, or more, of the eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held. Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the board to hold a by-election should write to: Manfred Oswald, at the school, by 5<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The children have really enjoyed playing in the boat of sand and the completed hut. They love feeling the texture of the small shells in the hut. This week we are hearing the story of the gnomes preparing the earth for the seed children. We are also having a circle that tells the story of the little hen finding a safe nest for her chicks. The children will also be weaving little autumn baskets this week. They enjoyed making butterflies for the autumn tree last week (beeswax bodies and 'honesty plant' seed pods for wings). The end of daylight saving may make the children feel out of routine this week.

Please try to remember not to come into the kindergarten in the mornings, once the session has started, unless it is very important. I have left a book at the sign-in table for messages to me. I will read these at 11am. Thank you, Roslyn.

#### Warmth

The human being is born without physical protection. Meyerkort 1983, p288, explains how human beings are creatures of warmth and that this balance of warmth is essential in order to keep active. She continues by saying how the faculty of balancing the opposing forces of heat and cold is acquired gradually during the first years of the child's life. 'Body, soul and spirit remain in a continually varying relationship to one another throughout life'. When we are warm we are healthy. It is very important for parents and educators to ensure children are warm. Meyerkort M. 1983 *Thinking About Clothes*, Davy G & Voors B, Lifeways, Hawthorn Press,p.288

#### Bulb fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraising effort. We collected \$1,312 and this means that the kindergarten keeps \$262.50, which will contribute to the cost of the beautiful wooden table that Colin Rawle made for us. Special thanks are extended to Rita Brent, who bought bulbs that she is giving to the kindergarten gardens, and also to Connor and Tamatea's families, who clearly worked hard to bring in big orders from friends and family.

#### Marjorie Theyer to visit

Marjorie Theyer, our Federation Kindergarten advisor, will be visiting for Mon-Wed, 26 - 28 May. Marjorie will be speaking to individual parents, on the Monday afternoon, and may do a presentation on the Tuesday afternoon. We will issue an appointment schedule closer to her visit.

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#### Fundraising and grant applications.

To all parents;

Kirsten and I have met regarding grant applications. We have found several possible grants, with deadlines throughout the year. These grants would benefit both the school and the kindergarten.

We would like to initiate a grant application system, whereby aspects of the grant applications are worked on by any interested parents, and then returned to us for compilation and consistency. There will be some aspects common to all grants, which will simplify the process once we have those prepared. The complete applications would then be passed on to the proprietors for final approval, prior to the grant deadline.

The first deadline is 15 May! We are working on this grant application at present. We understand that the kindergarten is in need of more chairs. Are there any other requests?

Does anyone want to help in anyway whatsoever? Such as: searching for other grants we have missed on our first search, compiling wish lists, costing the wish lists, grant preparation, brainstorming, etc. etc.

-Karen Pessione

Please call Karen Pessione 477-4832 / 027-649-0654 or Kirsten McAuley 481-1953 / 021-893-831

## **Kindergarten Management Committee met last Thursday. We would like to pass on the following news :-**

### **Staffing**

- Jo will be leaving us in May or June to start looking after a baby in her home. We have really enjoyed working with Jo – she has been a lovely person to have in the kindergarten and will be missed. Once we have agreed her last day we will let you know.
- Roslyn has completed her last assignments for her Early Childhood registration. Roslyn has worked extremely hard to finish off this university module, while also starting her work here with us, and her new life in a new country. We really appreciate the effort that she has put in to her studies, while also bringing so much energy to the kindergarten.

### **The Kindergarten is full**

- The kindergarten is full. We have some space allocated for the children coming through from the playgroup. Other children will have to join the waiting list once they have had their introductory meeting with Roslyn. We will also be asking new enrolments to pay a \$25 fee on enrolling to cover the time and administration involved and to demonstrate parental commitment. We anticipate that the kindergarten may be able to expand into two rooms in August and our numbers can increase then.
- If parents want to increase the hours their children attend, then they should speak to Roslyn about booking afternoon sessions, because the mornings are full.

### **Attendance records**

- Our Ministry auditor has just visited. Now that we are licensed from 8.45am to 3.15pm parents can drop off their child just before the 9am start. Every minute that your child attends is a minute funded by the ministry! Therefore please record the exact time of drop off and collection as we will always be paid the greater of the actual hours attended and the booked hours attended. There is a watch on the top of the fire extinguisher by the sign in book – so be accurate in your time recording.
- Please also ensure that you make a note on the attendance sheet if your child is being collected early (e.g. missing a booked afternoon session), or being collected by someone different. And don't forget to sign in and out!

### **Proposal on new fees structure**

- So far only a few people have responded to the proposal, and feedback has been positive. If anyone else would like to respond, then you have until the 11 April. Please post a note to the box on the office counter, or email Clare in the office.

### **Working bee**

- The children are delighted with the new look to the playground. We have one piece of work left to finish off. The macrocarpa blocks around the edge of the new sandpit need to be rounded off to ensure that if children fall on them we have minimised all sharp edges. If you have some time to work on this, or have questions, then please let our new working bee coordinator, Ryan MacDonald, know. Phone him on 484 7823 or email him through Shelley at [shelley.wrigley@nzblood.co.nz](mailto:shelley.wrigley@nzblood.co.nz)

## **CRAFT GROUP NEWS**

Good news for the community! We can use the Ravensbourne town hall – free of charge! So please take note – the next Tuesday meeting of the craft group, Flax Weaving on the 15<sup>th</sup> April, will take place there.

This month watch for Sunday's Doll making Workshop. No registration necessary, just turn up.

Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	10am to 3pm Meet in Class 1 at the school.	<b>Doll Making with Cecil.</b> Bring needles and scissors. PART I: Make the head. Please think about what character you would like to make. Pay \$25 if you want to keep your doll or it's FREE if the doll stays with the Craft Group. Bring some food to share. No children please.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	9am to 1pm Meet at Ravensbourne town hall	<b>Flax Weaving with Junko.</b> Please bring 12 leaves of flax (not too straight because it is too hard, not too bendy because it is too soft.) Any questions, please phone Junko 467 2243
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May (after holidays)	9am to 1pm Meet at the office	<b>Working bee with Marie.</b> We need to price and package items, extend the display... Everyone is welcome as usual!

## Community Notices

Community notices in our newsletter will 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](mailto:office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz)

Marie is always looking for glass jars with lids, large or small, please let her know by ringing 471-2181.

### Bio Dynamic Field Day

**Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am to 3:00pm**, with a shared lunch.

Stir and spread 500, build a compost heap, cow pat pit, garden prep. Talk as we work with Colin Rawle and Warrick Thompson. Entry by donation, please.

### **CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOP**

*I would like to organise a cheese making workshop, but before going ahead I need to gauge what, if any, interest there might be. The workshop would be held early in spring and would most likely be in two parts, part one being 'easy' cheeses, mozzarella and the like and the second part cheeses such as cheddar. We would be using fresh organic milk (hopefully from the MacNeille's beautiful Jerseys!) and vegetarian rennet. If you would be interested in taking part in either or both parts of the workshop can you please me know. Many thanks. Paula 4822446.*

### **Community Choir**

The next Community Choir is on **Wednesday 9 April at 6:00pm**. Please bring music or a song to share. See you there!

### **The Spiritual Impulse of Anthroposophy and The Foundation Stone**

The annual conference of the Anthroposophical Society in New Zealand will take place from 4-7 July 2008 at Michael Park Rudolf Steiner School, 55 Amy Street, Ellerslie, Auckland.

The Guest Speaker is Sergei Prokofieff, author and lecturer, who will give three lectures.

This conference is open to anyone who seeks knowledge of Anthroposophy. A full registration or casual registration is available with a choice of lectures, workshops and an evening artistic performance. Details of the conference programme and on-line registration is available at [www.anthroposophy.org.nz](http://www.anthroposophy.org.nz)

For enquiries to Vee Noble, phone (09) 627 2044, [veenoble@xtra.co.nz](mailto:veenoble@xtra.co.nz)

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### HOUSE FOR SALE, IN WALKING DISTANCE OF SCHOOL AND KINDY

Wonderful harbour views. Three bedrooms, large living areas, artist's studio (currently a potter's studio). Low maintenance brick home. See notice-board for pictures and more information.

\* 54 Manapouri Street

\* Open home 5.30pm this Wednesday (9 April) - see ODT for open homes this weekend

\* Tenders close at Harcourts 4pm Wed 16 April 2008

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# Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School

## APRIL 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 3.00 COT 7.30 KMC	4	5
6	7	8	9 Choir	10 3.00 COT 7.15 BOT - Cancelled	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 3pm COT 7pm Proprietors	18	19
20	21 Mid term Break	22 Mid term Break	23 Mid term Break	24 Mid term Break	25 Mid term Break ANZAC DAY	26
27	28 Mid term Break	29 Mid term Break	30 Mid term Break	Term 2 starts on 5 May		

COT – College of Teachers; BOT – Board of Trustees; KMC – Kindy Management Committee

