

# NEWSLETTER

## RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

### OTAGO

TERM2 #11  
26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2010  
471-2163

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www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

| UPCOMING EVENTS                       |                                       | MEETINGS                              |   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April,<br>7pm | Quiz Night Port<br>Chalmers Golf Club | Thursday 29 April<br>7.30pm           | Proprietors meeting                     |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> May                   | School Trustees<br>election           | Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May, 1pm      | Kindergarten<br>Management<br>Committee |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May,<br>5.30pm | High School Vision<br>Group           | Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May,<br>7pm | Parenting Support<br>Group Meeting      |
|                                       |                                       | Thursday 13 May<br>7.15pm             | Board meeting                           |

*Early childhood learning is largely experiential, imitative and sensory-based. The education emphasises learning through practical activities. Elementary school years (age 7-14), learning is regarded as artistic and imaginative. In these years, the approach emphasizes developing children's "feeling life" and artistic expression. During adolescence, to meet the developing capacity for abstract thought and conceptual judgment the emphasis is on developing intellectual understanding and ethical thinking, including taking social responsibility. - Rudolf Steiner.*

### FROM THE OFFICE

We are sorry to let you know that Brenda Hawke has decided to resign. As she writes in her letter that will be going to parents today, she has decided to 'return to Australia to care for my ten month old grandson. He is currently in daycare and his parents have agreed to my being his carer during the day. I apologise for creating this change for your families, but need to consider my family at this time'. She will leave on the 11 June and will tell her class today of her plans. Brenda has given an enormous amount to the school and her skills and experience as a Steiner teacher have been a great gift to the school. Her work on the curriculum, the roll cap and her music and puppet plays are among the many things that she has brought to us. The College of Teachers, Board and Proprietors will be discussing future staffing plans for the school and also any interim measures that may be required at the end of this term. A letter from Brenda is going home today with her class children.

Due to health issues, Joan Rawle will no longer be able to continue the gardening classes with the school children. She will continue to be involved with the school in other ways. We would like to thank Joan for her immense contribution to the gardens in our school grounds. She created the beautiful gardens by Lee's room, by the letterbox and a lot of work in the kindergarten play area. Thank you so much Joan.

#### QUIZ NIGHT THIS FRIDAY -PLEASE READ and TAKE NOTE

The quiz is on This Friday so please get in and support it.

**Organic Hamper** -please put a little "organic something" in the basket in the office for the organic raffle which will only be available for sale on quiz night.

**Raffles** Please bring back all raffle sheets before Thursday –sold if at all possible!

**Quiz Teams** We have 16 teams registered!! There is space for 4 more and we're hoping for more registrations from outside our community this week. If you have friends who may be interested, please tell them its \$20 for a team of 4, includes snacks and lots of great prizes to be won. If by Wednesday we haven't filled those 4 slots I will send an E-mail around to ask for any last minute teams from within the Steiner community. Please note- you must pre-register with me if you want to be in the quiz.

**Stall for selling raffles and advertising quiz** We are having a stall at Port Chalmers NW **TODAY** from 3-6pm. If anyone can come for a short time to help that would be wonderful! Sorry for the terribly short notice!

**Thanks** Huge Thanks to all the people who have donated so many items for the raffle prizes and quiz prizes: Alice, Peter Humphries, Michelle, Jason, Andrea Vaughan and Julian. Thanks to all our sponsors -please support these wonderful businesses who continue to give vouchers to our school year after year : Monarch, Tairei Gorge Railway, Portobelo Aquarium, Discovery World, Olivier Home, Gray's Studio. University Bookshop, Tangente, Nicols, Tast Nature. Thanks to our new sponsors -Clifton Wool n things, Careys Bay Hotel, Small Poppy and Port Chalmers New World. Thanks also to Olive for her gorgeous poster and Elan for doing the raffles. All people who have donated items or vouchers -Please bring them to school and leave in office -soon!

### **Food for quiz night**

It would be great if all school families could supply a plate of food for the quiz night. Kindergarten parents are let off!! We need snack finger food -eg nuts, chips, dips, vegies, savouries for people to nibble on -this food will be free. If it is just a store bought bag of something -this is OK! We also need cakes and pizza. Can people who are going to make a cake or a pizza for Friday night please ring me -we need at least 3 cakes and 3 pizzas. We have 29 families in the school so surely this will work. You can leave food in the back office on Thursday or Friday or take it to the quiz night yourself -PC Golf Club, Reservoir Rd, Sawyers Bay. Let's have a great night and try for \$2000 for lighting up the yurts. -Linda -472-7646

### **Reclaiming Tax on Donations**

Letters will be coming out this week showing how much your family has donated to the school. These letters will be accompanied by tax forms which you can send to IRD to reclaim one third of your donations.

### **Trailer Required**

The school needs to borrow a trailer for a day to collect some gravel for paths (even better if someone could also collect the gravel!) Please let Clare or Leonie know if you can help.

### **Back Office**

The back office is filling up again with all sorts. Please would you come and remove items if you have left them in there (bags of craft material, items for raffle etc). This would be much appreciated as our space is so limited.

### **Safety Vests**

As part of the walking school bus project I obtained several safety vests from the DCC in a range of sizes. These would best be utilised by walking or cycling children to help keep them safe rather than sitting in the office. If your child regularly walks or cycles, please come and collect a safety vest from the office (behind the office door).

### **Chamber Music Concert**

The next Chamber Music NZ concert -NZTrio -is coming up again next week on Tuesday 4 May at 7.30 pm.. We have 9 free tickets for children. It usually finishes about 9.30 but it is also possible for a child to be picked up in the interval -about 8.40. I'll be going from Roseneath so can take 3 children from this area. The trio consists of piano, violin and cello. They are young, energetic New Zealanders who tour internationally and play a lot of contemporary classical music as well as traditional. The programme includes Mozart, Schumann, Arvo Part and 2 commissioned pieces from New Zealand composers. Please see Linda/phone or E-mail (robz@ihug.co.nz) if you want your child to go.

### **Bus Service**

Kanuka Simpson (Rata room parent) is exploring the option of the ministry providing a school bus for our children. This would only be for children aged 5 and over covering a route from Port Chalmers that may also include Waitati and families from Purakanui, Aramoano and nearby. The Ministry requires a list of the children who may utilise this service. We will do this from the school role so if you **DO NOT** want your child included in this list please let Clare know. Kanuka is also exploring other options as when they kindergarten children are included, there are 22 children on that potential route.

### **High School Vision Group**

Join us for our third meeting to help lay the foundation to bring our vision of a high school into reality! Friday May 7th 5:30. See you there!

## Parenting Support group

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting last Wednesday was a bit quieter than the first but we had a very interesting and helpful presentation from Kanuka about Steiner's "6 Exercises" as applied to meetings and helpful comparison of notes about sharing amongst children. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May from 7-8.30pm. All parents with children at Steiner school, kindergarten and playgroups are welcome to attend and share parenting stories, challenges and discoveries.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

There is a family strange indeed, each member has a peculiar speed.  
They can walk for half a day, counting footsteps all the way.  
Here they come, number ONE...

Class one is delving into the world of number, first through number quality of one to twelve, then through the games they play with the four processes. Using our counting stones we will work through our problems and then practice writing the equations on our chalk boards. Each day we are using the multiplication verse while jumping rope to practice the 10s,2s,and 5 tables.

### Yurt Cleaning Roster

We have added the Class 6 families into the yurt cleaning roster to share the work fairly through the school community. I have had to abbreviate some names to fit them into the table. The date refers to the Monday of the week you are on, please see instructions below. We appreciate your help with this. The Botica, Cain and Miles families are on yurt duty this week.

| Cls | W1 -19/4 | 26/4   | 3/5     | 10/5      | 17/5      | 24/5      | 31/5    | 7/6     | 14/6     | 21/6      | 28/6      |
|-----|----------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1   | MacDon   | Botica | Dunroy  | Xu        | Barto     | Tamang    | Funnell | Holmes  | Bendall  | Henderson | Nichols   |
| 2/3 | Walrond  | Cain   | Schweik | Stevenson | Cunningha | Oswald    | Hollowa | Whitehe | Alger    | Carter    | Walrond   |
| 4   | Stichnot | Miles  | Noyes   | Cohen     | Degas     | Tapealava | Barriga | Dwyer   | McMillan | Robson    | Szukiel-D |

Yurt Cleaning Duty consists of sweeping the yurt twice during the week (preferably on Tuesday and Thursday) either before or after school. Each yurt has its own broom, dustpan and brush. The duty family also needs to bring a bag of kindling for fire starting during the week. For Class 1 duty – could one of the sweeps please be Fri afternoon or Monday morning so the week starts with a clean Yurt.

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

### Kowhai Room

Thank you to all those who helped in the Kowhai room last week. I had a lovely extended holiday with my family in Northland. Welcome to Emily, our new girl in the Kowhai room.

Please remember to make sure children have wet weather gear and hats now the rain has come with the cooler weather. Please could you send dried fruit to kindergarten for little fruit back: dates, prunes, raisins, dried apple, apricots. Fresh fruit is still needed on Thursdays and Fridays.

A verse from our circle:

To and fro, to and fro  
Sweeping with my broom I go  
All the fallen leaves I sweep  
In a big and tidy heap

Good health to all our tamariki and whanau from; Whaea Violet, Whaea Sandra, Junko and Julie.

### Rata room

We are pleased to have Whaea Liqin back after a brief illness. One of our circle songs for this term is:

Oh where do you come from  
You little flakes of snow  
Falling falling, softly falling  
On the earth below  
On the trees and the bushes  
On the mountains afar  
Tell me snowflakes  
Do you come from  
Where the angels are?

-Matua Nick, Whaea Ros, Whaea Liqin

## PLAYGROUP NEWS

There is a Dusty little gnome... Join us on Tuesday at 10 to give the yacht club an autumn clean! Please bring cleaning gear. It is the blue clubs and societies Yacht club on the marina off Parry St. See you there!

It has been a busy and joyful time as we settle back into playgroup, welcoming many new families. Our last group with space is now filling up fast, so we will need to be wait listing new families soon!

-Cecil, on behalf of all the playgroup facilitators; Anna, Elan, Jorinde, Nalani, Ros, Sally & Tace

## CRAFTGROUP NEWS

Tomorrow is our first our winter workshop! The craft group will go "woolly" this term, doing lots of felting projects. Everyone welcome, beginner or experienced! Through the sessions, you will learn how the felting works, and what you can do with it. You can join one session or all the sessions, and are welcome to bring your young children too.

Tomorrow, we will do two things. One is wool carding. Carding is a preparation stage of felting, and we can make smooth wool slivers from entangled washed wool. Also, by mixing various coloured wool into the carder, you can create a rainbow wool sheet. The other project is finishing off the Class 1 children's felted cushions. We would especially like to invite Class 1 parents for this project.

The second session will be on 11th May, and we will make felt sheets using carded wool. On the third session, which will be on 25th May, we will make king's and queen's crown out of the sheet felt (and possibly other staff too).

See you tomorrow, and don't forget to bring some snacks for yourself.

### **NEW PRODUCTS AT THE OFFICE SHOP**

At the Steiner office, you will find various handmade toys and craft materials for sale. The "Honesty Box" is at the bottom drawer of one of the glass cases. The shop is run by the craft group, and we donate money for school/kindergarten and use the rest for future projects.

This week we have some new stocks:

- Stockmar Gold or Silver Pencils \$3.00 each
- Lyra Wax-O-Glas crayons \$ 16.00 set

Transparent crayon, great to write on glass, and easy to wipe off!

|  |                   |   |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Tuesday 27th April<br>9:00 – 12:45           | Ravensbourne Hall | Wool carding and finishing of Class 1 cushions. Bring your sewing kit please. |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May<br>9:00 – 12:45 | Ravensbourne Hall | Sheet felt making. Bring 2 big towels and a pair of plastic gloves please.    |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May<br>9:00 – 12:45 | Ravensbourne Hall | Making King's and Queen's crown. Bring your sewing kit please.                |

## 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](mailto:office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz).*

### Te Aroha Homebased Steiner Childcare

We are THRILLED to announce that our first Te Aroha care provider is ready to begin welcoming children needing care! Tace Wilson, mother of Olive (19 mos) lives in Waitati, and is available to provide care for limited hours. Please contact her directly to explore availability, fees, etc. 482-1161 or [tacewilson@gmail.com](mailto:tacewilson@gmail.com). There are still many families seeking Steiner childcare, so please consider whether becoming a carer with Te Aroha could be right for you! There is an information sheet in the office for prospective carers, or speak to Angela Oswald 473-0992 or [angela.oswald@vodafone.co.nz](mailto:angela.oswald@vodafone.co.nz) . Thank You!

Nga Tamariki o Koputai.

Kapa Haka is starting again on Wednesday 28th of April 3:15pm - 4:15pm  
@ the Pioneer Hall in Port Chalmers.

It's a fun group of kids interested in Maori performing arts.  
Every body is welcome it is \$20 dollars per family per term.

We hope to get some new members.

Any enquiries please phone Licia on 4728384

### **PAID FOCUS GROUP**

**For people over 25 who are considering tertiary study in the next few years.**

**On the evening of next Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

**To be held in a Hotel, in central Dunedin.**

**Light refreshments served.**

**\$60 cash will be given to attendees.**

**Market research exercise-all we want are your opinions.**

**To register please text Claire on 0274158913 or email on [claire@researchfirst.co.nz](mailto:claire@researchfirst.co.nz)**

## **WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME**

When your child:

- Has signs of being unwell, i.e. grizzly, unsettled, listless or tired
- Has a high temperature or appears very hot
- Is complaining of, or appears to have a sore tummy, throat or ears
- Has a continuous cough
- Has had diarrhoea or vomiting in the past 24 hours and not able to eat their normal food
- Has had diarrhoea and vomiting within the last 48 hours
- Has weeping, red eyes and/or a yellow discharge around the eyes
- Has broken skin sores
- Has become ill with a communicable disease eg measles, chickenpox.

If you are unsure, call your child's school or public health nurse.

Please inform your school if your child is going to be kept home due to illness.

## **HAND WASHING**

**Washing hands kills germs but how much difference does it make to a child's health? Children who wash their hands regularly have fewer sick days with colds and flu's, and less time off with 'tummy bugs'.**

Teach children to get into the habit of hand washing to help control the spread of disease. If your child is a reluctant hand washer, liquid soap (from a pump) may be more fun. It takes 20 seconds to wash your hands properly ... that's the same time it takes to sing '*happy birthday to me*' twice.

Drying your hands is very important too, as wet hands attract bugs like a magnet.

## **4. COUGHING AND SNEEZING**

**Did you know that viruses travel about 6 metres when you sneeze, and 3 metres when you cough! These days, as one-way of preventing the spread of viruses, we are teaching children to cough and sneeze into their elbows or alternatively to cough or sneeze into a tissue and then throw it away. This is a good practice to get into as well as cleaning hands after every time you cough or sneeze.**

## **5. SLEEP AND BEDTIME**

Children need a good night's sleep so that they have enough energy for the next day's activities. Sleep is important for our brains as well as our bodies. Children cannot fight colds and viruses when they are tired.

Children may not be a good judge of how much sleep they need, as they may not recognise they are tired. Children of primary school age may require 11 or 12 hours sleep. Suggested bedtimes for 5 to 11 year olds are 7 pm to 8.30 pm. Generally 12 year olds need only 10 hours. A good bedtime routine will help.

If parents are having difficulty with the children's bedtime routines they can discuss these with the local public health nurse or Plunket nurse.

## **6. VACCINATION REMINDER**

At 11 years your child will be due the 'dTap' immunisation. The 11-year-old immunisation is a vaccine which includes diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. It is one injection given in the upper arm.

Your family doctor/practice nurse will provide this.