

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM2 # 11
27TH APRIL 2009
471-2163

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UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Monday 27 April	First day Term 2	Wednesday 29th April	Fair Meeting
		9am	
Monday 4 May	Teacher only day Kindergarten Open School Closed	Wednesday 6 May	KMC
		9.15am	
		At school	
Tuesday 5 May	Parent-teacher Interviews 1pm - 5pm	Thursday 14 May	BOT
		7.15pm	
		At school	
Friday 8 May	Ice Skating starts		
Thursday 28 May	St Michael's Chorale		
12.30pm	City library		

When you undertake a single step forward in the knowledge of spiritual realities, take at the same time three steps forward in the development of your moral character
- Rudolf Steiner

FROM THE OFFICE

Welcome back to everyone – a lovely fine day to start the new term on. We also welcome a new teacher in the Rata Room – Dianne Darker. Megan Vella King, a former pupil at the school is also joining the Kowhai Room this term on Mondays as a work placement from Logan Park High School.

Thank you to all those who came and worked on the ditches, applied fire protection to two yurts and fixed up the Gnomes' hut in the kindergarten playground. Strong arms also shifted three stoves in to the yurts and we are working on getting them installed ready for the cold weather.

A big thank-you to Colin and Warwick for organising our Biodynamic Field Day. Thanks to the willing workers and a beautiful, sunny day we now have a large BD compost heap in the kindergarten yard and have reinvigorated the school grounds with 500.

Can we remind everyone that the Primary school is closed next Monday for a teacher only day. The kindergarten will still be open.

Brenda, Alex, Junko and Vivienne presented the puppet play at the library over the holidays attracting big audiences each day. Thank you to them for giving up your time to perform Snow White again these holidays. We had large audiences - over 220 people altogether!

We are becoming more visible in the wider community – if you read the Playgroup information you will also see that Playgroup is extending into town or up the coast.

School Transport Assistance – parents can claim school transport assistance to help with the cost of bringing their children to a Special Character School. If you live more than 2.4km from the school and your child is enrolled (includes 6 year olds in kindergarten) then you are eligible for this help. Please pick up a form from the office or from the Ministry of Education website. Forms then have to be returned to the school for us to sign before we send off.

Fair 2009 - Date still to be decided

We would like to have a meeting of those people who would be prepared to be organisers of the fair this year. These jobs entail planning and organising for several months before the big day. There are 5 jobs (at least) we need to fill: co-ordinator, cafe, advertising, children's activities and stalls. We will have a meeting this Thursday at 9am. Please consider becoming part of the team - we cannot have a fair if we don't get these jobs filled!! Phone Linda 4727646 if you have any queries or comments or can't come to the meeting but would like to!!

Strategic Plan Review – remember to hand your feedback in to the office by Friday.

Bicycle Raffle

Please note a correction to an acknowledgement in an earlier newsletter: It was *Browns for Bikes* that contributed a cycle lock to the raffle prize package. Thank you Browns for Bikes for your kind donation of a lock, and thank you Cycle Surgery for kindly donating a helmet.

Please remember to return tickets (preferably sold) and money to the office by this Friday.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Thanks again to Junko for helping me create the beautiful Maori puppets for our Te Reo and Tikanga lessons.

A reminder that Tuesday afternoon has been set aside for our once-yearly parent-teacher interviews - from 1pm - 4pm. Please return the attached form with the teacher's name and an indication of 3 suitable times.

Next Thursday and Friday Rachel Barrington will be visiting from our sponsor school - Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School. Rachel will be arriving at the Dunedin Airport at 9.45. If anyone is able to pick her up and bring her to school, could you let Clare know.

Brenda

KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY NEWS

Welcome to the new term and to the rhythm of Kindergarten and Nursery. A number of you have helped again in the holidays on weekend working bees. Thank you all so much for your support. Thank you for joining us at Harvest Festival on the last day of term. It was wonderful to see so many of you there. The children were quite intrigued at watching you perform the circle and forgot to do it themselves – however, we hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did!

What a fabulous shared morning tea. Thank you for your contributions to that and to the Harvest table. As you know the Kōwhai Room monarch butterfly caterpillar was still hanging in its cocoon on the last day of term despite our frequent song:

*Waken sleeping butterfly
Burst your narrow prison
Spread your golden wings and fly
For the Son has risen*

*Spread your wings and tell the story
The Son is up in all His glory*

In the holidays, so that it didn't starve after all its efforts without food, we have been checking on the cocoon and have left some special plants in flower in the room with it that it will like: (marigolds, sedum, hebe and a swan plant) in case the butterfly hatches when no one is around in fine weather to let it out.

A special welcome to Dianne Darker who will begin the new term in the Rata Room. We are really looking forward to having you join our team, Dianne. Dianne will spend mornings in the Rata Room and afternoons in the Kowhai Room. In the holidays Dianne and I chose a rata which we will plant with the children soon.

The freesias and muscari (grape hyacinths) were planted in pots by the children just before the end of term and some of the sprouting bulbs are showing through already.

It really looks like autumn now with so many beautiful coloured leaves around. Our seasonal theme of autumn will continue on while the season lasts and will gradually change to winter.

If anyone is upgrading to a new computer and has a good one available that our early childhood staff could use we would be really grateful.

Kindergarten / Nursery staff this term will be: Violet, Nick, Lea-Ann, Dianne, Liqin and Rennie. Our hours and timetabling will be a bit different this term.

As I will be working 4 days a week this term I look forward to seeing you all again tomorrow.
Rennie

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup news: Welcome back to term 2 everyone! Our first playgroup session will be Friday May 1st from 9-11. We are still in the process of setting up our two new sessions off site but we will be able to offer them soon. If anyone has any supplies they are able to donate or lend, we are still looking for: Steiner Dolls, Baskets, Natural fibre cloths in pastel colours.

CRAFT GROUP

Winter is approaching, and we have projects to keep our minds and hands busy in our cosy hall. Come along with your lunch! At the first session we will make thick felt sheets to cover the Felt Needle Book --- our popular item for keeping needles safe and sorted. Play freely with your colours. At the second session we will bind the book: hand-made felt cover and commercial felt sheets.

Tuesday 5 th May	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Town Hall	Felt Needle Book with Janine - Part 1. Bring a big bowl or pan for water, 2 large towels, plastic bags and rubber bands or rubber gloves, synthetic net curtain (if you have one.)
Tuesday 9 th May	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Town Hall	Felt Needle Book with Janine – Part 2. Bring an embroidery needle for stitching, scissors

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

Marie is always looking for jars. Please put them in the office for her to collect.

Accommodation sought in Purakanui, Long Beach or Heywards Point for a Steiner family moving to New Zealand in September and wanting a temporary base to start from. If anyone knows of anywhere or can offer some helpful advice please email Kanuka Simpson (ikan_ukan@yahoo.co.uk).

SUSTAINABLE LIVING COURSE - ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION RAVENSBOURNE - Daytime Course (9 Weeks) Start Date: Tuesday 28 April; Each Tuesday: 10.30am-12.30pm Venue: Renaissance Gallery **ENROLMENT AND COSTS:** All courses are **free** but a Koha/Donation is requested (\$35-45 recommended) Courses are restricted to a maximum of **14 people. REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL.** Registration or enquiries to Maureen, Phone 4739967, Email mhoward@slingshot.co.nz

*“Spirit Women” ... a call to the spirit ... at Tangente café, Friday 1st May, 6pm.
All from the Steiner Community are warmly invited. Chris Cohen*

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Parent-Teacher Interviews - indicate 3 suitable times and return to the office by this Friday.

Name: **Child's Class**

- 1.00
- 1.20
- 1.40
- 2.00
- 2.20
- 2.40
- 3.00 BREAK**
- 3.20
- 3.40
- 4.00
- 4.20
- 4.40
- 5.00