

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM2 # 14
18 MAY 2009
471-2163

office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz
www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Thursday 21 st May 7.30pm	Kindy parent Information Evening	Tuesday 19 th May 7pm at Chris Cohen's	Proprietor's Meeting
Sunday 24 th May 10am – 4pm	Whole School Working Bee	Thursday 28 th May 7.15pm at school	BOT
Thursday 28 May 12.30pm	St Michael's Chorale City library		

"Being personally acquainted with a number of Waldorf students, I can say that they come closer to realizing their own potentials than practically anyone I know."

— Joseph Weizenbaum, Ph.D., Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Author: *Computer Power and Human Reason*

FROM THE OFFICE

Whole School Community Work Bee

Preparing to be warm! Sunday 24th May, 10-4
Trenches to dig, leaking yurt to be repaired, tidying and cleaning to be done.
Please check out the list of jobs on the wall in the office and put your name down!

Bicycle raffle

The raffle will be drawn this Thursday at pick up time (around 3pm) at the office under the scrutiny of Leonie. Come along!

Tax refunds

Letters went out to all parents which are official receipts of donations to the school and kindergarten in the last tax year. You may also be interested to know that if you and your partner are in work or otherwise unable to care for your child while they are in kindergarten then you can make an additional tax credit claim for kindergarten fees paid in the year. Please take advice from the IRD or look at their website for information on Tax Credits. There is a limit to the amount that can be claimed (the least of \$310, 33% of payments made or 33% of your taxable income). Your invoices or statements from the kindergarten should suffice as proof of payment.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Class 5

A fine ceremony, shared by the whole school, saw Ola warmly welcomed into Class 5 this morning. A thank you from the class goes to Mrs. MacNeille for providing the beautiful garlands for Ola to walk through; to Whaea Jocelyn for warming us with a solo recital on cello... and to Class 1, 2 & 3 for giving us the opportunity to make a fine mess with the throwing of freshly-made confetti and rice! We are so glad Ola is now able to join us at this time.

We begin a new Main Lesson block this week, moving on from decimal fractions and into the world of the Polynesian explorers who bravely traversed and colonised the vast Pacific Ocean; pushing in all directions, eventually even to reach the shores of Aotearoa. In addition to looking at what drove these brave people to explore the Great Triangle,

we will be working on a puppet play of Maui stories to present at the city library, using a script crafted by Mrs Hawke just prior to her journey; and puppets lovingly made by Brenda and craft-group.

Fare well Brenda, on your holiday to France!

We look forward to your return with plenty of stories to share.

During the seven weeks Brenda is away, Class 3 will, of course, be in the caring hands of Whaea Jocelyn – and a wonderful opportunity it will be for her to get to know the children better and for the class to take advantage of the gifts she brings with music.

St Michael's Chorale

Please check the date for our library performance, 12:30pm on Thursday, May 28th, at the Dunedin City Library for our *third consecutive year* singing for the wider community as part of New Zealand Music Month. We relish a good-sized audience and would love to see as many members of our community as possible there to support us!

Thank you, Lee Noyes.

KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY NEWS

Rainy weather kept us inside some days last week but enabled us to enjoy knucklebones, finger knitting, craft and skipping inside – rare pleasures as the weather has been so favourable for outside play this year. Outside it is wonderful to have an edible garden. We are continuing to dig potatoes from it and on Friday we planted 4 silver beet plants of different colours and varieties thanks to a donation from Liselle.

While Whaea Violet was absent for 3 days last week Liqin, Junko and I filled in for her in the Kindergarten Room.

To avoid accidental injury through children playing with rubber bands we request that some alternative to rubber bands be used to secure children's lunches.

Children bringing their own toys to Kinder and Nursery is discouraged. Children play together and share more contentedly without something to which they are so emotionally attached.

We are wanting to create a cosy nook within the Rata Room. If anyone has any floor cushions, smaller cushions or a foam mattress that might be suitable please see Lea-Ann.

The Rata Room has some bean bags in desperate need of recovering. Any kind volunteers please see Lea-Ann.

Thank you to Izumi for the fabulous King Winter who will adorn the seasons table in the Rata Room once Winter is truly upon us.

With growing numbers we are needing more chopping boards. Please let us know if you have one to spare, or suitable wood to make some.

The Kōwhai Room aprons have been well used and look more suitable for art than cooking activities now. If anyone, or a group of you, would like to take on a project of making a new set of 19 cooking aprons for the Kōwhai Room it would be much appreciated.

For those of you who are new to the Steiner rhythm we have these activities and foods on the assigned days:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rata Room Nursery	Painting Rice	Vegetable soup	Bread making	Drawing Fruit	-----
Kōwhai Room Kindergarten	Painting Rice	Vegetable soup	Bread making	Fruit soup	Drawing Fruit & popcorn

Please send a vegetable with each child on Tuesday and fruit on both Thursday and Friday.

Thank you for all your support to your Kindergarten and Nursery and best wishes to you all for a happy week from us all the Kindergarten / Nursery team – Rennie

PLAYGROUP

On Wednesday 27th May we will hold an informal meeting for Playgroup parents and their children who are interested in being part of a playgroup on Wednesday afternoons here at the school. We have around 4 places still free for an afternoon session at school. Please come to talk about it 1.30 – 3.30pm. The existing playgroup sessions are going well at Waitati and Maia. Many thanks to Cecil for her commitment to getting the playgroup growing.

CRAFT GROUP

Dear Playgroup, Kindergarten and School parents, you are welcome to come to the craft group meetings at any time. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and learn new skills while creating crafts for our beautiful display. We would love to meet you soon. Please come along.

There is an opportunity for the craft group to have a stall to sell our craft at the midwinter carnival this year (Saturday 20th June from 4pm to 9pm). Please contact Izumi (472 8598) if you would like to help with this.

The craft group needs 2 gas or electric burners for the candle making. Please call Marie if you can loan one. (471 2181). See the invitation at the end of this newsletter and ignore last week's version which was full of errors!

Finally, could those who came to the felting workshop 2 weeks ago please bring the felt made, the plastic bubble and synthetic curtain back this Tuesday. If you can't make it to the workshop please leave these items in the office on the shelf.

Tuesday 19 th May	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Town Hall	Felt Needle Book with Janine – Part 2. Bring an embroidery needle for stitching, scissors, the felt you made at the last workshop and your lunch.
Sunday 7 th June	11am to 3pm	Candle dipping workshop with Junko, Emmeline, Izumi and Marie Bring your friends and family. Children under supervision welcome. Come for 1 hour or the whole session. Bring your lunch.

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.

Kia ora koutou. The organic co-op will be placing an order with Chantel next week (Monday 18th May) for organic dry goods. If you would like to place an order please email Tracy for an order form and catalogue ASAP (tracy@sculpture.co.nz) Even if you have ordered before, please email me as I will send you a new order form which will hopefully simplify the process.

Thanks, Tracy

Organic Fruit for sale from Motueka.

Hi, we are growing organic fruit for about 20 years on a small block of land in Marahau adjacent to the Abel Tasman National Park. Our fruit is not certified because we grow primarily for ourselves and sell the surplus to friends and the Steiner Community in our area at affordable rates. Ingrid and I are involved in the Motueka Rudolf Steiner School as Parents and on Trust level.

Last year our friend Tracy Botica has passed on our contact to some Parents of the Dunedin Steiner Community to sell fruit and we are happy to continue selling some surplus to you.

Our main crop are green (\$2 kg) and gold Kiwifruit (\$3). We have smaller amounts of Oranges, Ugli, Lemons, Grapefruit all \$2.50) and Feijoas (\$3) when in season. Both Kiwifruit are ready now.

We usually send 14 kg of fruit in Banana boxes which cost \$15 to freight to your door if you live in the city or to the school if not.

Kind regards, Tom&Ingrid

Contact: ingridandtom@gmail.com 03 5278200

You are invited to a Winter Celebration

Organic Beeswax Candle Dipping Workshop

Free Entry

Sunday 7th June 2009

11am to 3pm

Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten

1 Fern Rd , Maia

Rata & Kowhai Rooms

(follow the smell of the wax)

Come along for the whole session bringing your lunch or pop in for a couple of hours, and listen to classical music while you dip candles. Bring friends, bring family. Children under 3 years old need to be carried in back packs in the candle making room. Older children will be able to dip one candle at a time supervised at all times by parents. Because of the growth of our community we will use the 2 kindy rooms, one for candle dipping and one for eating ,resting and playing. Please don't forget to clean this room before leaving. You will be able to buy 5 candles per person maximum. The others will remain with the craft group for sale at the office. For more information call Marie 471 2181