

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM2 # 17

8 JUNE 2009

471-2163

office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz

www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Wednesday 10 June 9am to 3pm	Marae Visit classes 1 - 5	Thursday 7.15pm 2 July	Board meeting
Sunday 28th June 10 – 4pm	Working bee	Tuesday 7pm 16th June	Proprietors meeting
Tuesday 30th June 9am	Vision & Hearing Testing		

"If you've had the experience of binding a book, knitting a sock, playing a recorder, then you feel that you can build a rocket ship, or learn a new software program you've never touched. It's not bravado, just a quiet confidence. There is nothing you can't do. Why couldn't you? Why couldn't anybody?"

— *Peter Nitze, Waldorf and Harvard graduate, and director of an aerospace company*

FROM THE OFFICE

Advertising material – help to grow the school!

We have beautiful new flyers for the playgroup in the office. If you know of a couple of places where you can pin these up, then please help yourself from the office counter. We also have new laminated car flyers available for distribution.

Vision & Hearing Testing

The Vision and Hearing technician is visiting on Tuesday 30th June at 9am. She will test 4 year olds, any children that need retests and any children new to the school (aged 4+). She will also look at children if parents have concerns. Please let Paula or Leonie know in the office if you would like your child tested (and they are not already covered above).

Working bee

Mark your calendars please: Working towards being warm; part 2. Sunday 28th June. 10 - 4pm.

KMC

Kindergarten management committee met last week. The Playground development work was discussed. Kirsten and Norman, after initial consultation with teachers are preparing a plan which will be put up in the office for your comment. The plan will then come back to the teachers and proprietors to sign off.

Playgroup booklets written by Cecil are available in the office, in the library, as are parent handbooks, if you'd like a new copy.

As the Rata Room fills up it is fairly likely that some of those children who have been there some time may transition to the Kowhai Room. This will only be done after discussions between the child's parents and teachers. If you would like clarification on this then please speak to your child's teacher or a parent rep (Pamala, Kirsten or Norman).

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Finally, news from class 1 and 2! What have they been up to all this time? We started the year with form drawing, the traditional starting block for class 1, and spent the next month working on our letter books, creating pictures from the stories, and finding the letters in the images. We are currently working our way through the numbers 1-12, looking at the quality of the quantity. Class two is drawing out circular and linear patterns that are characteristic of each table as we make our way through the numbers. We will finish our math block with the 4 processes and work with our counting stones and transition boards as continuity when we go back to a writing block. We continue to do mental arithmetic each day (addition and subtraction so far) and lots of counting as we jump rope to build fluency for later games. Jump rope at home would be a great support, with practice running in and out. Homework already? Alex

KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY NEWS

A big thank you from us all for your support in allowing us to get away earlier on Thursday afternoon and have Friday and Tuesday off so we could attend Seminar two of our Rudolf Steiner Early Childhood inservice training course at Taruna in Havelock North. There was quite a presence of us from Dunedin this time – our whole Kindergarten staff – Violet, Nick, Lea-Ann, Dianne, Liqin and I attended. It was a very full and informative course. We were well looked after in Havelock North and we all even had the chance to do a little needle-felting and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of that. We really appreciate the opportunity to attend these seminars, make connections with teachers in other Steiner kindergartens and learn more about the Steiner philosophy.

In our absence we find everything has been forging ahead at a great rate. The playgroup sleep room is taking shape thanks to Clare and all her helpers and the garden is changing shape thanks to Joan. Kirsten and the playground redevelopment group are making further plans so it's all happening!

With the days getting shorter and colder our activity and circle focus will be more on winter in the days ahead. On Friday afternoon we thoroughly enjoyed using the beeswax for modelling.

We have on our wish list: a dishwasher, that the dryer be vented to the outside, a heat pump, a drying rack for paintings for the Rata Room and a storage shed for tools. The first three are the most urgent. Hopefully funding will be available for these someday. If anyone has any brainwaves of how they can help us get these quickly please let us or Kirsten know.

The muddy season is beginning so those of you who delight in this experience for your children will know they are exploring further the natural environment and furthering their holistic development. Thank you for sending children along with warm clothing. Wet weather gear is particularly useful for wearing over the top of other clothing to keep the mud off the children's clothes. Apparently a little swapping or giving away of clothes has been instigated by a few of the children! We strongly discourage this. If you find your child has come home with someone else's clothing we would be grateful if you would return it to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

We are going to all miss Clare, Miriam and Zoe so much and wish them a wonderful break away in the northern hemisphere summer for the next six weeks. Thank you so much for all your hard work, Clare. Very best wishes for your trip and we hope you won't forget to come back!

On behalf of all the Kindergarten / Nursery staff

Rennie

PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup sessions are:

Wednesday Morning 10-12 in Waitati with Nick and Leigh

Wednesday afternoon 1:30-3:30 in Maia with Lea-Ann and Anna

Friday morning in Morning 9-11 in Maia with Lea-Ann and Cecil

The Playgroup will be holding its winter Lantern Festival, especially for the youngest members of our community, on June 19th from 11-1. Any questions to Cecil 472-8683

CRAFT GROUP

Thank you to those who came to the candle-making workshop on Sunday. Many candles were made. Thank you to helpers Izumi, Ulf, Junko, Christophe and Emmeline and candle making expert Marie.
The planned stall at the mid-winter carnival has been cancelled as we did not have enough people offering to help.

Tuesday 9 th June	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Hall	Felting-Colouring with silk tissue paper with Linda Bring sewing needles
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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

Blue House Yarns

Catherine and Junko have an organic wool business. If you would like to see the website, the address is www.bluehouseyarns.co.nz. We will leave some wool for inspection in the office.

Any orders from this advert will attract a donation to the school of 5% of the value of the order.

Kia ora tatou,

Dear parents & staff, this is a warm (& urgent!) invitation to put your signature behind the Green Party's Healthy School Food Petition in the school office.

The petition is in 2 parts:

-reinstating nutritional guidelines for all schools

-supporting schools wanting to develop gardens and cooking facilities that give the children the opportunity to plant, harvest, cook and eat the food they grow.

Please roll up to the office so we can make the July deadline!

Thanks heaps for your time on this.

Alice Bartlett