

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

OTAGO

TERM2 #16

8 JUNE 2010

471-2163

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www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Tuesday and Wednesday	Parent teacher interviews for Class 2/3	Thursday 10 th June, 7pm	Board of Trustees Meeting – starting with a meeting with Proprietors to adopt the new curriculum
Monday 21 st June, 7pm Rata room	Marjorie Theyer Talk for kindergarten and playgroup families	Thursday 17 June 7.30pm	Proprietors Trust Meeting – at Angela's house
Wednesday – Friday 23 rd to 25 June	Camp at Naseby for Classes 3-6	Tuesday 14 June 3pm	Cello – meeting for parents – see school news section
Saturday 26 th June, 10am-4pm	Working Bee: kindergarten insulation.		
Saturday 31 July 10-4pm	Working Bee – other work		
Sat – Sun 7-8 August	Story telling workshop		

FROM THE OFFICE

"If young children have been able in their play to give up their whole loving beings to the world around them, they will be able in later life to devote themselves with confidence and power to the service of the world."

— Rudolf Steiner

We hope every one has returned refreshed from the long weekend. As the weather gets colder please be aware of our procedure in the event of snow:

"Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School and Kindergarten follow the lead of other Schools in the West Harbour area. If it is announced on the radio that the West harbour area Schools will be starting late or are closed, then that includes us. Parents are advised to listen to the local radio stations (More FM 89.4 FM or Classic 97.4 FM) or to phone the following local information numbers – 474 8426 or 471 7555. If the School and Kindergarten need to close for any other reason, parents will be contacted through the telephone tree as soon as possible."

As most people are aware, this is Brenda's last week with us before she heads off to Australia. We look forward to welcoming Wendy Russell as the Class 2/3 teacher for the last three weeks of term prior to the appointment of a new Class teacher for the remainder of the year. Wendy Russell has taught for many years in Northland and has relieved for us earlier this year too when she worked on the farming main lesson.

Use of the office phone/ storage

The office phone should only be used by children in the event of an emergency (and not for social purposes). This message will be given to the children at school, but it is useful if parents are also aware of this. Also please note our space is limited and so try not to use the space as a drop off point for instruments, bicycles and so on.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Please would Class 4 - 6 parents remember to send back permission slips for Bothmer Gymnastics at Ravensbourne Hall for Tuesdays and Thursdays. We hope to start this Thursday if all slips are back.

Class 1

Mrs MacNeille will now be taking main lesson for her class from Monday to Friday – no more French Fridays with Mrs Plant

Class 2/3

Parent teacher interviews are happening today and tomorrow. Please make sure your child has somewhere else to go while the interview is in progress.

Time	Tuesday	Wednesday
2	Asia	Rose
2.30	Anna-Saima	Katja
3	Grace	Gabriella
3.30	Isa	Benny
4	Reef?	Reef?
4.30	Andrew	Lucas

Class 4

"Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree
Merry, merry king of the bush is he..."

This is one of the songs we have brought into our morning circle – all will be revealed on Friday morning! We are busy getting our heads together for camp, which is greatly anticipated. Keeping warm is also very high on our list of priorities as winter truly kicks in. We are now very nearly ending our Viking journey and the children have created beautiful texts which we will share at a later time in the term with other classes. Busty, busy busy is the class 4 motto! *Jane*

Class 6

With the winter weather upon us, and some waterproofing to be done on the Blue Yurt, Class 6 are now working in the lower classroom woodwork area.

Toys

Please would children leave toys at home. While we welcome bikes, skateboards, scooters, roller blades (all with helmets) and even skipping ropes and silent hobby horses, we find that other toys take something away from the playground.

Yurt Cleaning Roster

The Holmes, Whitehead and Dwyer 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.

Skating

Skating continues this Friday – please remember children will need to have appropriate warm clothing to wear including gloves and hats. We have a couple of volunteers working with Lee and Marie. If anyone else would like to help, please contact Marie: 471-2181.

Winter Camp

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help at the Winter camp for Class 3,4 and 6, staying at Larchview Holiday camp in Naseby on the 23rd and 24th June. Please see Mrs Plant if anyone else is interested

Cellos

If you would like to learn more about cello technique with regard to bowing exercises I am holding a meeting after school on Tuesday 14 June in Alex's room. Please bring your child so they can demonstrate some of the pieces they are learning. Next term I am hoping to provide venues where the children will have an opportunity to showcase their pieces including a concert at my place. I will discuss this further at the meeting and welcome any ideas you have in regard to this. *Jocelyn*

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The Kindergarten Management Meeting met last week and agreed that it would look both to the Governance of the kindergarten as well as assisting in the management. The Proprietors will continue to safeguard the special character of the kindergarten. The group welcomed Jooske to the meeting who will be another parent rep. Among other matter we talked of transitions for kindergarten children from Rata Room to Kowhai. These are not likely to happen until term 4. At that stage a small group of the oldest children may transfer after teachers have discussed any possible moves with parents

Kowhai Room

Dear friends and family of the kindergarten,
A big thank you to parents and families for their ongoing support for supplying food and spare clothing and helping the kindy teachers with home visits and the up and coming parent teacher meetings. See the appointment book on the sign in desk to see when times are available for these meetings.

Wool is wanted – any knitting wool would be very welcome for weaving and pom poms.

A reminder to please bring a vegetable on Tuesday and a fruit on Thursdays. And please support Marjorie Theyer at her evening talk on Monday 21 June. This will be an opportunity to hear from and discuss matters with an experienced kindergartener who is the Kindergarten Advisor for the New Zealand Federation of Steiner Schools. - *Whaea Violet, Whaea Sandra, Junko and Julie.*

Rata room

We say farewell to Isla and Janneke who have their last week with us this week and will be back in October. Please diary our next working bee on the 26 June which will be focussed on insulating the ceiling of the Rata Room with wool. The lights will also be replaced. Lists of specific jobs and tools will be posted nearer the time. -*Matua Nick and Whaea Ros,*

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Mark your diaries! Our midwinter Lantern Festival is planned for Friday June 25 from 11-1 in the Rata Room. Please bring some nourishing egg-free food for our shared lunch!
Please also note Marjorie Theyer's visit on Monday the 21st June and the Story Telling workshop in Community notices.

CRAFTGROUP NEWS

On Saturday 12th June, Tace is opening her house for a Steiner doll making circle. Come along for this relaxed session and learn how to make a Steiner doll.

Saturday 12 th June 9:30 –12:30	Tace's home: 18 Orokonui Rd., Waitati	Doll Making Circle – All Welcome! ph 482 1161 if you need directions.
Tuesday 22 nd June 9:15 – 12:45	Ravensbourne Hall	Felt bag making. Bring one big towel, some soap and a pair of rubber gloves.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Last week we talked about sharing, guided by Kate. This turned out to be quite a multi-layered issue, with age being a pretty significant variable. We remembered that children under 7 years old learn best through imitation, and that a child's challenges around sharing require our empathy and love.

Our next meeting is at 7pm on Wednesday 21 July and will be guided by Jooske and focus on parenting and maintaining relationships with our partners.

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.

Nappies

Clean cloth nappies to give away, phone Angela 473 0992

Regent Fundraiser Variety Concert

Saturday 12 June 7pm at the Regent Theatre

A-Capella Gospel choir, Sunny-Side-Up, will perform two items from their latest singing workshop, as well as many other local artists, musicians etc. Sure to be an entertaining evening and all in aid of keeping the Regent Theatre alive and well in Dunedin!

Storytelling workshop By Allysen Caris

Date: 7th and 8th of August Time: 9am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm + Shared lunch

A few places still free (\$120 for the weekend). Also I discussed a smaller workshop for parents who would love an introduction and get more ideas. They can join the group for a few hours on the 7th of August from 9am until 1pm at a cost of 30 dollars. Let me know! Jooske@gmail.com or 4727684. Thank you

Why tell stories when there are DVDs, TV and movies? Can't we just read from a book?

These forms of "telling" negate the bond that can develop between the teller and listener. Stories work on so many levels. They stimulate the child's ability to form their own pictures – now understood as the basis of creativity and intelligence. Stories develop concentration and the ability to listen, and enhance language skills (through exposure to crafted language). They are like a soul massage, stimulating feelings of fear, joy, excitement or sorrow, thus contributing to a healthy soul life.

This workshop will work with nature and develop a deeper understanding of fairy tales. We will work individually, in pairs and as a group, on exercises that will train our observation. Looking at nature we will find the kernel of a story which we will clothe in word pictures. Above all, you will create your own stories and learn how to weave the story spell!