

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM1 # 1
02 FEBRUARY 2009
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UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Friday 6 February	Waitangi Day – school closed	7.15pm Thursday February	12 Board of Trustees meeting at School
		To be advised	Kindergarten Management meeting

	<u>Term dates 2009</u>	
Term 1	Monday 2 February	Thursday 9 April
Term 2	Monday 27 April	Friday 3 July
Term 3	Monday 20 July	Friday 25 September
Term 4	Monday 12 October	No later than Friday 18 Dec

FROM THE OFFICE

Welcome back to everyone. We are sending out address update forms to everyone - please return these to the office by Friday 13 February. We will then send out updated phone lists to everyone. It is time to restart any automatic payments for kindergarten fees or school donations. The Activity Fee for school children is also due - \$50 for each semester – this covers activities such as swimming, outdoor pursuits and the quality art materials used. The weekly donation requested for school children is still \$40 per week as is the weekly kindy fee for 5 and 6 year old kindergarteners. Parents of 3 and 4 year old kindergarteners are asked to donate \$1 per hour attended to supplement the 20 hours free funding. If 3 and 4 year olds stay longer than 20 hours then the hourly rate is \$4.

Here are the **Westpac Bank** details of each entity at the school:

Proprietors:	<i>Rudolf Steiner School Trust Otago 03-1726-0004961-00</i>	School and Kindy Donations
School:	<i>Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School 03-0903-0437318-00</i>	Activity Fees
Kindergarten:	<i>Dunedin Steiner Kindergarten 03-0903-0458928-00</i>	Kindergarten Fees

Clare will be in the office on Modays 9-3pm, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Leonie will be here all day on Thursday and Friday. Emmeline will be doing the newsletter on Monday mornings.

Primary School News

Welcome back to all school families. As you can see the second yurt is up and Colin is moving all the woodwork materials and tools today. Huge thanks to Merrall, Peter and Mark for the many, many hours of work you put in to make this a reality. Thanks also to all who helped through the holiday period in all kinds of weather. Thanks also to Linda for setting up the classroom yesterday and sourcing musical instruments.

Many thanks also to:

- Alex, Brenda, Junko and Vivienne for your time and talents over the holiday period in the creation and performing of Little Snow White. We had appreciative audiences at the library and have been asked to perform the play again in the next school holidays, when we will have an elevated stage.
- Colin for sealing the floor of the yurt.
- Joan and Colin for keeping all the plants alive throughout the summer

Music:

This year all children in classes 3-5 will have instrumental lessons on Fridays, beginning Friday 13 February. Children will need to bring their instruments to school for these lessons. Teachers are – Lee for guitar; Jocelyn for 'cello and Linda for violin. A separate note will be coming home later in the week about instruments.

The St Michael's Chorale will rehearse on Wednesdays and perform at the library for New Zealand Music month in late May. School Orchestra will commence in term 3 for all children in classes 2-5.

Summer Camp,

Classes 1/2 and 3/4 will be sharing the Green Yurt for the first 2 weeks until the last yurt is erected and ready for habitation. During this time we will be having a joint in-school Summer camp, making the items we need for this year, going on field trips, creating new gardens and enjoying Summer activities.

If the weather is fine we will head out to Long Beach this Thursday.

We are planning a Summer walk with Linda – probably next Monday.

We will finish Summer Camp on Thursday week, 12 February, with a trip up to Hindon to swim in the river and enjoy campfire cooking. Parents are welcome on these trips and transport is needed.

Please fill in the permission slip at the back of the newsletter and return it to school by Wednesday.

Water bottles will not be needed this year in the yurt. However we do need to wear HATS and closed in shoes (not sandals). Soft shoes or slippers are required for inside the classroom. There is a large basket of unclaimed clothing in the school office. Much of the clothing has been there for a long time. Please look through it this week as items remaining on Friday 13 Feb will be taken to the op-shop.

Class 3/4 Parent Information Evening

Due to Brenda's son and his partner coming for a flying visit from Australia next week, the parent evening is postponed until **Tuesday 17 February, 7pm – 8.30pm**. It is important that a parent from each family attend as we will be looking at:

The Nine Year Old Child and the changes and experiences they go through – how this is supported through the curriculum in Class 3.

The class 3 curriculum – esp the building project and the focus areas in literacy and numeracy.

Homework - purpose, expectations and commitment

Music – instrumental lessons, orchestra and choir.

Swimming: Class 1-4

Swimming will begin for the younger classes on Friday, Feb 13 2009 at Ravensbourne pool and we are very pleased announce that we have arranged the services of professional tutors from the Jill Clark Swim School to oversee the swim programme.

Sessions will begin at 1:45pm and run for one hour. We will be needing help with transport of the 20 children to the pool; parents are reminded that pickup for children, like previous years, will be at 3pm **at the pool**. Please complete the attached permission slip and indicate whether you are able to help with transport.

Class 5 during this time will be engaged in outdoor pursuits, yachting, kayaking and learning water safety on Otago Harbour!

Kindergarten and Nursery News

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa!

Welcome to you all at the start of the new term and a special welcome to our new children and their parents and families and to our new Kindergarten assistant, Mila and Ruby's Dad, Nick Duval-Smith. We are looking forward to working with you all.

It will be an exciting time with a new direction for many people. With Mrs MacNeille working with the year one class this year the Kowhai Room will be staffed mainly by Whaea Violet and Matua Nick as assistant in the mornings. Lea-Ann and I will also work in the Kowhai Room some afternoons and on Fridays. The Rata Room will be staffed by Lea-Ann and myself (Monday to Thursday mornings).

The timetable will be as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kindergarten Kowhai Room 9-1pm	Whaea Violet & Matua Nick	Whaea Violet & Matua Nick	Whaea Violet & Matua Nick	Whaea Violet & Matua Nick	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann
Kindergarten Kowhai Room 1-3pm	Miss Rennie & Matua Nick	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann	Whaea Violet & Miss Lea-Ann	Miss Lea-Ann & Matua Nick	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann
Nursery Rata Room 9-1pm	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann	Miss Rennie & Miss Lea-Ann	-----

The Rhythm of the Week will be as last term:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rata Room Nursery	Drawing Rice porridge	Vegetable soup	Bread making	Painting Fruit	-----
Kowhai Room Kindergarten	Painting Rice porridge	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.

Please remember to send

- ~ outside and inside shoes or slippers and boots.
- ~ some warm clothes even on a hot day as Dunedin's weather is very changeable
- ~ a change of clothes (useful if your child gets wet during play).
- ~ lunch.
- ~ a fruit or vegetable with each child on the appropriate day – Tues fruit, both Thurs and Fri a vegetable
- ~ a sunhat

Whaea Violet and I have just returned from Havelock North where we were very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend Seminar One of our Steiner training course at Taruna College for a week. It was a wonderful experience for us. We are studying for the next 2 years during which time we have 4 seminars to attend in the North Island at Taruna College. Roslyn and then Alex gave us a great start last term and now we are further immersed on our Steiner journey. For those parents who are new to the Steiner philosophy those parents who are familiar with it will be able to help answer your questions. The Steiner community is a very supportive group.

In the holidays I also attended a St John's Workplace First Aid course.

Some requests for play equipment:

Outdoors: An old hand water pump, an old, disused coal range – not in working order, billies,

For indoors : different types of rock, flat stones, shells.

Old pastel coloured woollen blankets, natural woollen yarn – pastel colours, and cotton thread are always useful.

I hope you had a great holiday. We are looking forward to working with you and your children.

Rennie Bremner

On behalf of the Kindergarten and Nursery Staff: Rennie, Violet, Lea-Ann and Nick

Playgroup - will be meeting first at 10am on Friday 13 February. The session will run from 10am to midday and parents can then discuss the best times for the term. Everyone is welcome. Bring a piece of fruit and a gold coin donation. Cecile is our contact for the Playgroup.

Craft Group – information on Craft Group will be out in next week's newsletter. No Craft Group this week.

Permission slip for class 1-4 activities

I give my permission for my child to attend the following excursions and have ticked the ones for which I can help with transport:

- Beach trip to Longbeach, Thursday 5 February
- Summer Walk
- River trip to Hindon, 13 February

signed: Date:

contact phone number:

Permission slip for swimming

Trip to : Ravensbourne Primary School Pool

Date : Each Friday afternoon starting 13 February

Transport : Walking (class 3&4) and car (class 1 & 2) leaving at 1.30pm

Collect : At Pool at 3pm

What to bring : Swimming togs, towel, goggles

Please complete slip and return to office

I give my child _____ permission to take part in the school swimming trips. I can/ cannot assist with transport.

Signature of Parent or Caregiver

Date