

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM2 #20

29 JUNE 2009

471-2163

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| UPCOMING EVENTS | | MEETINGS | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Thursday 2 nd July | Kindergarten Lantern Walk | Wednesday 1 st July | KMC |
| Friday 3 rd July | Last day of term – school closing at 1pm School Lantern Walk 5pm | Thursday 30th July 7.15pm | Board meeting |
| Tuesday 20 th July 9am | Vision & Hearing Testing | | |
| Monday 20 th July | First day of term 3 | | |

"Example is the school of mankind and it will learn at no other."

Edmund Burke

FROM THE OFFICE

Last day of term

On Friday 3rd July school will finish early in order to allow everyone to rest before the lantern walk that evening. Please collect children at 1pm and return to school with warm clothes and a plate of food for a shared supper at 5pm.

High School Vision Group

Imagine a Steiner High school in Dunedin! A group of families who want to see this vision become a reality have decided to form a group that meets regularly, to identify and pursue goals in the process of creating a High School for our children. We invite anyone interested in putting energy into this vision to join us on Monday August 10, at 5:30 in the Rata room. At this meeting we will consolidate our group, find someone willing to be a chairperson for meetings, and discuss our overall vision and preliminary steps. Any questions to Cecil 472-8683

Thank you

Thank you to all those parents and friends who braved the drizzly weather to come out for the working bee on Sunday. We now have a fire in one yurt with two others soon to come. A spade was left behind and can be collected from the office.

Board of Trustees

The meeting that was scheduled for this Thursday, 2nd July, has been postponed until the second week of next term, 30th July.

Playground update

We have a draft sketch of the kindergarten plans in the office if anyone would like to have a look. This plan will change as we have further ideas and discussions. The proprietors will review the ideas at their meeting this week and then we hope to make a start. If anyone is interested in helping to fundraise for certain aspects of the playground revamp, that would be great. Please talk to Kirsten or Norman.

The flaxes in the playground have to be moved unfortunately. Could anyone please volunteer to move these?

Many thanks, Kirsten

Cot Mattress

If you have a standard size cot mattress going spare – could you loan it to the school?

Fair

Collection of 2nd Hand Clothes has begun
For the Steiner Fair in the November sun
Natural fibres and rain wear are in need
And if possible, pre wash them please please, please
Give them to Sarah or in the office clothing bin
Thank you one and all for your contribution!!!
Sarah 481 1966

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

This week most of our learning 'Ako' will be putting together myths and imagination for our play. We now have most of the costumes for the characters. We still need one suitable fairy dress, a pair of blue or green tights and a pair of black shorts to fit Amon. If anyone has any of these items please let me know. A huge thank you to Chris, Catherine Linda and Junko for their wonderful support in helping with costuming. We are working hard remembering our lines and learning Waiata. This indeed is a work in progress. A big Kia ora to Peter who is kindly painting the backdrop for our play.

As well as learning the play, the children can now ask each other how they are in Maori and respond appropriately. This week we will also be listening to oral stories about the different versions of Matariki. Apparently Rigul is the brightest star that the South Island people first look for above the horizon, not Matariki. Rigul is still used for navigational purposes.

Tino Pai to all those brave people who slaved away on a rainy Sunday installing our woodburner. This is the first time we have been truly warm all winter. The teachers are enraptured. Alex has been monitoring its effectiveness all day, and it's got the thumbs up.

Congratulations to Brenda – first time Kuia. She now has a beautiful grandson called Oliver. We are looking forward to Brenda's safe return and seeing pictures of the new little Pepi.

I have loved my time at the school – thank you everyone - and look forward to continuing to see you all each Friday.
Jocelyn

KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY NEWS

*On the trail where we are going, ever will we sing,
When the winter comes with snowing, still our hearts will sing to you,
Sing to you, sing to you, songs of rain and sunshine.*

Lantern Festival Thursday 2 July: No normal session - Lantern Festival instead.

Late start: Please bring a plate of healthy finger food and leave in the Kowhai Room before 10am . Children to be ready to begin in their mid-winter circle at 10am in their own room – Kowhai or Rata. This will be followed by a shared morning tea for all in the Kowhai Room. Apart from when the children are in the circle your children will be parent's responsibility and with you for the morning . The teachers request that the children don't get the toys out to play with today. After morning tea we will all take part in a lantern walk. Each child walking with his / her parent, will carefully carry a lantern – outside if the weather is suitable, otherwise inside. After the lantern walk you may take your child home but if your child is staying on after the lantern festival for lunch and for their normal afternoon session please send their lunch and afternoon tea as usual.

To save parents 2 trips on Thursday morning, one to bring the children at the normal time and then to return themselves a short time afterwards, we suggested the 10am start. There may be some of you who need your children to begin at the normal time on Thursday morning. Please indicate in the parent communication book at the sign in table in the appropriate columns so we know when your child will arrive and for what sessions.

On Friday afternoon the school will be closing at 1pm but the Kindergarten will be open until 3pm as usual for those who are booked in and require it. Kindergarten children and parents are invited to the school lantern festival on Friday evening.

Playground:

Our playground coordinator, Kirsten, and Norman have been working so hard on plans for our Kindy playground. Does anyone have old planks and rounds of timber they could donate for children to play with outside? Thank you to someone for the wonderful donation of 2 watering cans, a long rope and a metal bucket for outside use. Does anyone know of a disused handpump we could put to use outside?

Visiting speaker /advisor:

We are all very fortunate that Marjorie Theyer, who is a fount of knowledge and advisor on Steiner education, will be visiting the Kindergarten, Nursery and Playgroup the last week in July (Mon to Thurs). She has asked what we would like her to do while she is here. We would like an indication from you as to whether you would like her to do an evening presentation, 6.30-8pm, on any particular topic or topics (eg. Class One Readiness), or if you would like her to be available for a group question and answer session or individual appointments for parents if individual assistance is needed. If you have any requests please indicate in the parent communication book at the sign in table. We need to let Marjorie know this week what we would like her to do so that she can prepare.

Fundraising:

The Kindergarten and Nursery are urgently in need of funds. If some of the newer parents would like to do some fundraising for us it would be wonderful. If you are able to help us with this please see Rennie. It is important that all applications for fund raising come through the proprietors and Kirsten and will be proof read by Clare, Leonie or Kirsten.

Looking forward to seeing you at the lantern festival.
Rennie (on behalf of all the Kindergarten staff)

PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup facilitators meeting was very fruitful- thanks everyone for your time and its great to have Elan and Tace on board as future facilitators.

We want to share our vision of the role of the playgroup within the school: We see the playgroup as a fundamental foundation of our community, and as the ultimate driver of sustainable growth of the Kindergarten and school. We believe that any investment of energy or resources directed towards the playgroup is repaid with interest in the form of children who have experienced the Steiner approach from a young age, and families who have a strong understanding of Steiner education. We also would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people over the years who have offered their time and energy in carrying the playgroup.

We wish to reiterate our invitation to any parents with older children who would like to volunteer as a co-facilitator alongside a playgroup parent. This would be for one of our newly forming off-site groups, and the scheduling can be planned according to the facilitators' availability. We have found immense value in having the perspective of a parent slightly further along in the education journey, as well as the logistical advantage of including one adult who is not caring for his or her own child!

Our aim over the next term is to get a town playgroup up and running. While we have one good possibility of a space in a home, we all agreed it would be fantastic to find a space that would be quite central and have high visibility, while still offering a suitable indoor and outdoor environment. If anyone has any ideas for such as space please contact Cecil 472-8683.

Setting up a new room also means we are on the look-out for supplies again!

Any donations of the following will be greatly appreciated:

Baskets

Natural fibre pastel coloured cloths

Steiner dolls & Cradle

Natural (tree-branch) blocks

Small metal or wooden cooking items- pots, spoons, bowls, etc.

Many thanks, from the playgroup facilitators Nick, Lea-Ann, Anna, Leigh and Cecil

CRAFT GROUP

Thank you for all who joined the workshops, took projects at home, helped and inspired us in many ways this term! This Tuesday (tomorrow), we are having a cup-of-tea-over-niceties gathering at the back of the office room. ALL welcome -- if you haven't joined any of the workshops etc. that is OK too! We will plan for the next term, price candles, and chat, chat, chat. Please bring a plate to share.

I would also like to remind you that the projects you took home to finish after the workshops should be back to the school for sale. If you wish to keep it at home, you can buy it for half of the sale price. Please bring all in! Thank you, and see you tomorrow. Izumi

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

Would you like a nice ram?

New home wanted for Harley the ram. He is half Arapawa (no horns), half milking sheep (East Friesian), gentle but not wholly tame (will follow a bucket of sheep nuts, but doesn't go on a lead rope). His faults are an overenthusiastic desire to be with the girls, and a tendency to jump low fences, or barge weak ones, to get there! He was living at the Bainbridge/Barriga household, but disgraced himself. He's been fine at my place (new fences) but I have not got enough grass. He is very pretty and makes lovely spotty lambs. I'm happy to sell him or loan him out in return for his keep. Anni Watkins 4739266.

1989 Honda Civic Auto For Sale

Low kms, 2 new tyres, new wof, reliable and regularly maintained. Ph. 473 6088 Chris

*Beautiful young purebred Light Sussex Rooster. Still growing, would suit a farm. \$12
Ph Chris 473 6088 / 021 1489 677*

Vol. 19 Adrian Anderson, *Dramatic Anthroposophy. Identification and contextualization of primary features of Rudolf Steiner's 'anthroposophy', as expressed in his 'Mystery Drama', 'Die Pforte der Einweihung' ('The Portal of Initiation')*, Dunedin 2005. x + 304 pp. ISBN 0-9583726-9-1. NZ\$ 45.00

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