

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST OTAGO

TERM 3 # 25

25 AUGUST 2008

471-2163

office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz

www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Friday 29 th August	10 am– 3pm	Thursday 4 th September	KMC meeting
Costume and prop-making workshop			
Friday 12 th September	6pm Supper	Thursday 11 th September	BOT meeting
Roll Cap Celebration!	Fireworks to follow		

FROM THE OFFICE

Roll cap lifted to 60!

We are really pleased to receive our letter from Chris Carter saying that he has reconsidered our increase and the roll cap is lifted to 60. This is wonderful news and we would like to thank everyone who worked hard to make this happen – especially Kirsten for leading the way with our last submission. This increase makes us a viable school. We can breathe! Let's celebrate! Fireworks, barn dance...Friday 12th September. Please bring finger food only for a supper.

2008 CRAFT FAIR

- OUR MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENT!
SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

Fair Meeting – Friday 29th August 9.10am . Many roles need to be filled. We need people to be responsible for the craft stall, produce stall, children's games, stalls for outside school, and several others.

Janine is organising the raffles this year – thanks Janine! From next week we will have a box in the office for our "Organics Prize" . Please contribute organic items. We hope to take our wonderful raffles around several different markets and supermarkets during September and October

Safety Notice – pick ups and drop offs

Please ensure the safety of all children when you pick up and drop off children. We request that drivers:

- Do not turn cars near the school gate. Turn at the bottom or at least 20 metres up the road from the gate
- Please do not park right by the gate. Leave a couple of car lengths either way.

Remember we do have a turning circle right at the bottom that you can use. Children's movements around the footpath may be quick and unpredictable – please take good care.

Norovirus

As you will know, the vomiting and diarrhoea bug known as "norovirus" is doing the rounds at the moment - Dunedin Hospital was locked down last week to try and control its spread. There have been some tummy bugs going round the School and Kindy recently so now would be a good time to be particularly careful about handwashing etc. The University circulated the following practical advice this morning:

Common names of the illness caused by norovirus are winter vomiting disease, viral gastroenteritis and acute non-bacterial gastroenteritis, also colloquially known as "stomach flu" (a broad name which can also refer to gastric inflammation caused by other viruses and bacteria).

Signs and symptoms

The disease is usually self-limiting, and characterised by nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, and abdominal pain. General lethargy, weakness, muscle aches, headache, and low-grade fever may occur. Symptoms may persist for several days and may become life-threatening in the young, the elderly, and the immune-compromised if dehydration is ignored or not treated.

Prevention and infection control

Hand washing remains an effective method to reduce the spread of norovirus pathogens. A proper handwash requires soap, warm water and rubbing hands together for 20 seconds, then drying hands for another 20 seconds using disposable paper towels (30seconds when using an air dryer). Norovirus can be aerosolised when those with the illness vomit. Sanitising (taps, benchtops) with hot water and detergent followed by dilute bleach is recommended in areas where the Norovirus may be present on surfaces.

Further information can be found <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norovirus>

SCHOOL NEWS

Last week we were fortunate to host Mario Gude from Tauranga who shared his school’s beginning and growth journey with us. He spent two days with Lee observing, giving guidance in curriculum and advising on composite classes. Thank you Mario.

Thank you also to Jocelyn for the wonderful lessons you gave the children in my absence.

Spring Festival Costume and Mask Making Workshop This Friday 10 am – 3pm

Parents are invited to come and make costumes and masks for the class 1/2/3 play, *The Little Grey Men*. We have to outfit 4 gnomes, a giant and 9 woodland creatures. All materials will be provided through the grant we received from the Port Chalmers Community Board. Please bring sewing kits.

Class 1/2/3

The children are enjoying their experiences of playing with money as they shop in The Gnome’s Nook. We are using our tables to calculate coin values, and to solve challenges as we attempt the number mazes and daily quiz. In our class of budding entrepreneurs we are working towards a café with “real” money to finish our main lesson with panache!
Thanks, Brenda

Class 4-6

Answering the call for more rope for the playground was our office administrator, Leonie, whose several lengths were immediately put to use in the construction of a tripod frame and platform from spars harvested from ‘Green Heaven’. This, in addition to ropes strung in new formations means the Spider-tag circuit is under continual revision and enhancement and is keeping both imaginations and physical capabilities a thorough workout!

Please, if you have any spare lengths or any other of last weeks’ wish list items do not hesitate to bring them in. We might also add tennis balls and hula-hoops to the list as we are making excellent progress with the juggling during our circus skills sessions and look to diversify the activities in these Wednesday afternoon periods. Of course, any unicycles families may have in back cupboards would also be much appreciated – the children are expressing a desire to ride them on the high-wire we hope to install!!

Last week’s visit by Mario Gude was very well-received. I, personally had very worthwhile conversations with Mario discussing his observations of my teaching and planning and the children very much appreciated his open and participatory manner (especially in Spider Tag!). On the whole, a wonderful experience for all involved. Thank you, Mario.

Lee

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

This week the children will hear the nature story 'Hint of Spring'. The seed Children and the Earth Children have been eagerly waiting for the Spring to come but it is not quite the right time; when little Brown Song Sparrow comes it will be time to wake up. We had a little sparrow singing outside the window the other day during morning tea and the children noticed it. I am sure they will remember this during the story.

Sleeping Boxes

Cecil has written up the instructions for how to make a box cover and it is simple. I have some cotton fabric samples from Spotlight. I need someone to help organise a Saturday morning when we can make these covers. Please can someone help with this. I really need someone to take responsibility it is actually very simple. Please let me know.

Hat Bags

I have had no response to the request to make two hat bags. It involves sewing two squares with maybe a drawstring. Currently have a plastic bag for the summer hats and a torn backpack for winter hats. Please bring avocado seeds to the Kindergarten. They are great fun to grate!

Nursery Room Teacher – part time DUNEDIN RUDOLF STEINER KINDERGARTEN

The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten is a well established kindergarten for children aged 3 to 6 years of age. We are establishing a second kindergarten nursery room for the younger children in Spring 2008. We are therefore looking for a teacher qualified in Early Childhood, preferably with Steiner training to run this new room alongside our existing well-established kindergarten.

The kindergarten is set in the tranquil grounds of the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School, overlooking Otago Harbour and has an excellent 2007 ERO report, a supportive College of Teachers and an active parent community.

It is anticipated that the nursery room will be open for three mornings a week at the start. The role could also be used to lead a Steiner Playgroup session for one other morning and for support in the established kindergarten room. The post may therefore be for four mornings – or 20 hours per week.

The new kindergarten nursery room will open on 13 October 2008 and the successful applicant will be in post before then.

Please apply in writing to Dunedin Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten, 1 Fern Road, Maia, Dunedin or by email to office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz.

Phone the office on 03 471 2163 or see our website www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz for more information and a job description. Applications close Friday 29 August 2008.

Kindergarten Supervisor DUNEDIN RUDOLF STEINER KINDERGARTEN

This position offers an opportunity for an ECE qualified and preferably Rudolf Steiner trained teacher to run a wonderful and well-established kindergarten.

Set in the tranquil grounds of the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School, overlooking Otago Harbour, the Kindergarten offers morning sessions and afternoon day care for up to 25 children from 3-6 years of age.

The kindergarten is thriving, with an excellent 2007 ERO report, a supportive College of Teachers and an active parent community.

The existing postholder is relocating at the start of 2009. We would like the successful applicant to work alongside her in Term 4 – starting 13 October 2008.

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PLAYGROUP NEWS

Playgroup sessions this term will be held at the Ravensbourne Hall, Wednesdays, 10.30 - 12.30pm. Please bring a piece of fruit and a gold coin donation. See you there.

CRAFT GROUP NEWS

Dear All. We need to think about the fair and make some crafts for the kids (small beautiful crafts selling for \$1, \$2, \$3) If you have some ideas, please let us know, we would love to hear from you. (Talk to Marie 471 2181) Also because of the fair, the craft group will try to run sessions every tuesday from now. Please tell us if you want to be involved in organising a session.

Tuesday 2 nd Sept	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Hall	Make a doll with Cecil You can come and finish the doll you started at the Sunday workshop, or you start a new one
Tuesday 9 th Sept	9am to 1pm Ravensbourne Hall	Knit an Animal with Catherine Make a rabbit out of a square

A note from Catherine: Could the people that are knitting for the craftgroup or other knitting projects please ensure that they are knitted in pure wool. Thanks

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 glass jars with lids, large or small, please let her know by ringing 471-2181.

Stephne Bennett, our Anthroposophical nurse, is back in town and available for therapeutic treatments on Thursdays and Fridays. (tel) 488 5617 (cell) 021 296 8074

Early Childhood / Kindergarten Teacher Urgently Required

A relief teacher is required for the Motueka RS Kindergarten, from now until the end of Term 3 (Friday 26th September), to work alongside the present kindergartener. EC qualification and teachers registration are preferred, but not essential.

The Kindergarten is a long-established centre, in Motueka, close to lovely beaches, mountains and national parks.

Please contact Jean Howarth 03 528 6028, a.h. 03 528 7763, jeanhowarth@xtra.co.nz.

Flax Weaving Exhibition

The Wananga O Aotearoa Raranga students have an exhibition at Gallery De Nova (101 Stuart St) from 29th August until 10th September. The gallery opens 9.30 am – 5.30 pm weekdays and 10am – 2pm weekends. All welcome.