

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

OTAGO

TERM3 #27
 31 AUGUST 2009
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 www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Tuesday 1 st September	Kindergarten parents meeting - see Kindergarten news	Wednesday 2 September 9am	Kindergarten Management Committee
Wednesday 2 September 9am	Fair organisers meeting	Thurs 3 rd September 6pm	Board of Trustees and Proprietors
Tuesday 15 th September	Sue Simpson's evening talk	Wednesday 9 th September 7pm.	Meeting for all people in the community to discuss the plans for the next three years
Friday 25 th Sept	Last day of term 3		
Tuesday 20 October	Anthroposophical Doctor's visit to the school		

"The heart of the Waldorf method is that education is an art – it must speak to the child's experience. To educate the whole child, his heart and his will must be reached, as well as the mind."

Rudolf Steiner

FROM THE OFFICE

The future plans for the school – a meeting for all parents in school and kindergarten

A reminder that the school Board and Proprietors' Trust will be holding a meeting for the whole community to discuss how we can offer classes 1- 6 next year, whilst ensuring that we offer a sound Steiner education to all the children in the school. This meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday 9 September in the lower classroom. It is requested that one or both parents from each school and kindergarten family attend as the decisions made will impact significantly on us all.

Fair news

Fair Organisers Meeting this Wednesday 9am

Kia ora, everyone.

It's about 9 weeks left until the fair and we want to make it awesome, so we need as much of your wonderful homemade jams, pickles, cordials and syrups, seedlings, shrubs and trees that you can supply. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

On a similar note of fundraising, we would like to compile a recipe book using recipes from the Steiner Community. If you are interested in contributing a favourite recipe or more, please include a short description of the recipe(s) and maybe any hints and tips that may have been discovered while using the recipe. Any would be gratefully received. Please send to mossyra@gmail.com OR ring 471 0042 to discuss. *Thanks. Lou (Wiremu's Mum)*

Plant stall at the fair

If you are dividing your perennial, planting seeds or pruning fruit bushes, then please do not forget the fair. We would love to have your spares. *Catherine*

Organic raffle

Please place your organic non-perishable food/ pantry item in the box in the office asap. I will be photographing the hamper for a picture to go with the raffle tickets. Let's make it look abundant!
Thanks, Tracy

School and kindergarten cleaning

Monika is away later in the year which will leave a paid cleaning job available. She is away from 21 November to 19 December. The time taken each week is 5 to 6 hours – it is currently worked as a mix of evening and weekends. Please see Clare or Leonie if you are interested.

Visit of Dr Michael Sargeant

On 20 October Dr Michael Sargeant will be visiting the school. He will probably spend much of the morning in the kindergarten and school classrooms and with the teachers. He is then available in the afternoon if parents wish to book a session with him. More details on the work of the anthroposophical doctor will follow.

A Steiner Inspired Parent Support Group

Nick would like to start a group that meets one evening every fortnight or month. He would like to find out who else would be interested. If you are interested then let him know (478 0411 or leave him a note in the office or email).

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

School Camp

School camp will be at Waiora Scout Camp – also called Whare Flat Camp, which is 25 to 30 minutes from the centre of Dunedin. The camp dates are Monday 14 December, Tuesday 15th and out on Wednesday 16 December. The bus to the camp will leave from the school on Monday morning at 9.30am. Children will need to be at school by 9 so it is a normal start time for parents. Children will need to be collected from Waiora Camp on Wednesday 16th December between 11.30am and 12 midday. Maps will be provided closer to the time. A list of what to bring will also be given at a later date. The cost of the camp is \$40 per child payable by the 8th week of term 4. Early notice of the camp has been given so that parents have adequate notice of dates and costs. Further details will be announced at the start of next term.

Orchestra change

From next week Orchestra will be held on the THURSDAY afternoon, with instrumental lessons on Friday as usual. We have made this change as the children were not enjoying so much music on one day. The children will be able to leave their instruments at school on Thursday nights

Class 5

Ancient Greece studies are well under way, culminating in Friday's Spartan School day – a morning that left us with aching muscles, more than a few cuts and abrasions and exceptionally tired, but with the unanimous feeling that it was the best day we'd ever had at school. The children now have a similar respect for the Spartans that the rest of Greece will have had at the time!

Fundraising toward our aspirations of attending the Classic Greek Olympiad held at Hastings in November are well underway. Busking at the Farmers Market this Saturday, besides being loads of fun in a busy, friendly and sunny setting, netted a total of \$216.70 (!!) towards our goal of \$5000. We plan to continue singing and playing; at the Octagon Market this coming Friday and hopefully another few weekends at the Farmers Market. Other avenues are also being explored and the planning for the trip is creating a great sense of collectivity among the parent body – thanks for all the help so far!

Class 3

Thank you to all who supported our pizza lunch fundraiser. We raised \$96 and together with our funds from the *Gnomes' Café* last year and the children's lemonade stand we now have \$202 to purchase timber for our tree house. Merrall has created professional architectural plans for our treehouse and we are looking forward eagerly to commencing this project.

I will be away this Friday at the Steiner School Federation meeting in Wellington, with Clare. Jocelyn and Linda will be looking after the class and music lessons will be as usual.

Yurt Sweeping and Kindling Roster

A reminder to check the roster on the office noticeboard to see if you are sweeping this week. The

Cohen and Barriga families are on duty this week – thanks!

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The *Spring* Celebration for Kindergarten will be on Thursday 24th September, details to follow.

As the weather is still extremely changeable please remember to send your children to Kindergarten with hats. It is our policy that they must wear a hat for all outside play.

A general reminder to please discourage children from bringing toys or dress-ups from home to Kindergarten. If things do come from home they should be kept securely in children's bags.

Kowhai Room

Due to a slight change in daily rhythm we have re-introduced little fruit to keep the children going prior to a now later morning tea. Each family is asked to please donate a bag of organic dried fruit for this purpose.

Any donations of wool for craft activities would be greatly appreciated.

Clean wool blankets needed. Plain if possible or pastel colours. As long as they are clean we can cut around any holes if worn through.

Rata Room

Children in the Rata Room now have hooks outside the classroom for their spare clothes and bags. Only lunchboxes, hats, coats and boots need come into the Rata Room. We hope this will ease congestion in the room and enable children to hang coats, hats etc with greater ease.

Due to a change in staffing requirements the teachers in the Rata Room need to get away promptly at 1pm each day. If you are held up collecting your child you may find that they have been taken through to the office. Please remember that you will still need to sign them out.

We are looking for a parent volunteer to make us a few extra drawing mats as we no longer have enough for all the children.

Dear Rata Room Parents

You are warmly invited to a first day of Spring gathering, a catch up and some arvo tea straight after pick up at 1pm (1st September) in the Rata Room- or outside. This gathering is also to explore any workable options for mutual support for those times when we find ourselves torn between work commitments and keeping our sick children home from kindy. Bring your thoughts and I'll bring the scones. Alice Bartlett

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Due to the changes in Kindergarten staffing, the Waitati group is sorry to say farewell to Matua Nick. Thank you Nick for creating a strong foundation from which the parents can continue to build. The Waitati playgroup will now be ably co-facilitated by Leigh and Tace. The Playgroup Spring festival will be on September 18, 11-1 at Maia. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a marionette show, shared lunch, and (weather permitting) dance around the spring pole. Please note the festival takes the place of the usual Friday session, and marks the end of playgroup until term 4.

CRAFT GROUP

Dear community,

We are working very hard to make as many things for the fair at the moment, but unfortunately we have only a few of us at each workshop. We have small projects that you can do at home, so if you can spare time, will you lend us a helping hand?

Here are examples of projects, and we are happy to teach you how to tackle them if needed. If you can help, or if you have other ideas, please contact Izumi: izumi@slingshot.co.nz or 472 8598.

- A) Assembling "Kit set", e.g. mice, horse, donkey.
- B) Making "Gnome Pencils".
- C) Making felt balls (small or medium).
- D) Making Origami hexahedron or octahedron from simple parts, for mobile.
- E) Making felt or cloth animals.
- F) Crochet knitting hair accessories.

And here are the workshops coming up.

Tuesday 8th Sept	Ravensbourne Hall	Flax flowers with Izumi. Bring a dinner knife, and a pair of scissors or a cutter knife.
Tuesday 15th Sept	To be advised.	Kowhai Babies with Linda. If you want to join this session, please contact Linda by 11th.

Dollmaking circle

Thanks to all those who came out for a wonderful morning making dolls, with especial appreciation to the men-folk who took all the children on an adventure! Our next gathering is planned for November at Kate's house in Waitati. A confirmation of the date will be posted closer to the time.

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

Southern Children's Choir

The Southern Children's Choir is actively seeking new members.

Who: Children who love to sing. Girls from 8 to 18. Boys 8 and over with unbroken voices.

When: Wednesday evenings from 7 pm - 8.15 pm

Where: Marama Hall, University of Otago

The choir sings in a variety of styles (classical, folk, popular) and languages, and gives a thorough education in choral technique. The ability to read music is an advantage. The ability to sing in tune is essential.

Informal auditions will be held on Wednesday Sept 2 and Wednesday Sept 9 between 6pm and 7pm. Phone Sandy Garner or Anthony Ritchie 4762541 for further information or to book an audition.

Red Retreats **Mindfulness, Movement, Meditation** *invites*

Women of Aotearoa, New Zealand to a Women`s Retreat
Thursday 29th October- Sunday 1st November 2009

Please go straight to <http://redretreats.ning.com/>

Many thanks for your time and we hope to see you on retreat! Felicity Yellin, Lee Ball and Tanette Hickey

One-week Intensive Introductory Course on

TRANSFORMATIVE SPEECH

Explore the wonders of speech and its power to communicate , become more creative and effective in your speaking

Transformative Speech (sometimes called Speech Formation or Creative Speech) is a new art, initiated by Rudolf Steiner and then developed further by his wife, Marie Steiner von Sivers. It harnesses the formative gestures and creative power of the individual speech sounds. It is founded upon the connection that exists between speech and the whole physiology of the human body. Transformative Speech is a potent form of therapy and self-development, as well as a vehicle for communication and artistic expression.

Participants are introduced to the ways the voice can be transformed through speech exercises and texts. Engaging consciously with different placements of where we speak from, the voice becomes a flexible instrument, capable of carrying different nuances of feeling. Participants will learn the formative power living in each particular sound and get insight into how these can be put to use in artistic endeavor, healing and self-knowledge.

This inspiring five-day course includes lectures and discussions, speech classes, an introduction to chirophonetic therapy and other artistic activities. Those who will benefit from this course will include teachers, business-people, healing practitioners, actors, managers, counselors, parents and anyone interested in the art and business of spoken communication.

Dates: Mon 28th Sept to Fri 2nd Oct 2009

Cost: \$450** (**\$525 including lunches- numbers depending)

Tutor: Michael Burton

For further information, or to enroll for this course, please contact the Taruna Office on 06 8777 174 or email: info@taruna.ac.nz.