

# NEWSLETTER

## RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

### OTAGO

TERM3 #30  
21 SEPTEMBER 2009

471-2163

office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz

www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Thursday 24 September	Spring festival – Kindergarten from 9am	Thursday 24 September 9am	Fair organisers meeting
Friday 25 September	Spring festival – School – from 12 am	Wednesday 14 October 9am	Kindergarten Management Committee
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Last day of term 3		
Saturday 3rd October 2009 10am – 4pm	Sausage Sizzle fundraiser		
Tuesday 20 October	Anthroposophical Doctor's visit to the school		
Sunday 1 November 11am to 3pm	The Fair		

*"When I examine myself and my methods of thought, I come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than any talent for abstract, positive thinking."* — Albert Einstein

## FROM THE OFFICE

### Looking to 2010 and beyond

Thank you to all! Everyone who has children in the school has provided us with feedback following our community meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Most families have committed to a donation level of \$65 per week – this will enable us to go ahead and recruit a part time teacher to take main lesson and practice lesson for four days a week.

We also understand that some families are not able to make the additional financial contribution. It is very important that we do not lose these families. There will be a structure which will recognise non-financial support to the school in lieu of financial donations. Families who are concerned about this should speak with Clare.

### Working Bee

There will be a working bee on the 18 October from 10am to 2pm to tidy up the place.

To remove the blackberry below class 3's yurt;

To finish putting the stones around the yurts and rejuvenate paths,

To spring-clean all classrooms.

### Protecting and Nurturing Children's Hearing,

The National Foundation for the Deaf published an enlightening article relating to children's exposure to unsafe levels of noise (Dangerous Decibels distressing our kindy kids, Vibrations, Spring 2009).

Research cited in the article suggests that, in the 32 early childhood centres surveyed, more than 3/4 of the children are exposed to levels of noise that exceed safe levels. The same researcher also studied 'noisy toys', and found that many models generated unsafe levels of noise. International

research supports the claim that children under six are more sensitive to noise than adults, and are more vulnerable to acute cochlear damage resulting from unsafe exposure. It is always interesting when current research corroborates ideas that Steiner discussed from a spiritual perspective. The need to protect and nurture children's senses is a central theme in the Steiner approach to early childhood education. The sense of hearing is particularly sensitive because it cannot be voluntarily 'closed'. We strive to offer the children harmony, living sounds, music, and language, and protect them from loud, electronic, mechanical and monotonous noise. We can now see that this serves not only to support the children's harmonious development, but may also protect their hearing for life! *Cecil*

## *Hear Ye Hear Ye !!*

### *Steiner School Medieval Fair Sunday 1 November*

#### **Fair Raffle**

This year we are having one raffle that we are asking families to pre-sell tickets for (as opposed to the 4 or 5 smaller ones in previous years). It's the organic hamper with goods donated from our community and also from Artemis and Trade Aid. It includes two baskets and a lovely woven kete. There are also vouchers from Taste Nature (\$50), Tangente (\$20) and Red Barn (\$10). A great prize valued at over \$200 and tickets are only \$1 each.

Each family will be issued 20 tickets. Please try to sell as many of these as you are able to over the holidays. Early in term 4 we will call for the monies and unsold tickets to be returned. Next term we will be asking for help with selling tickets to both raffles outside supermarkets and at the Farmers Market prior to the Fair.

Thanks to Cleone Brown for the lovely crocheted blanket and to the Otago Quilters Society for the beautiful quilt. These will be the prize for our second raffle.

Please support those businesses that have supported us. The businesses include all of the ones mentioned above and Harvey Norman who gave us free photo printing. Let them know that you are from our community - it helps for future fundraising endeavours.

Kindergarten families' tickets will be in their cubby hole. School families' tickets will be given to a child in the family. *Any questions - please feel free to contact Tracy 478 0411*

-----000-----

Clothes clothes, more and more'  
Please keep them coming through the door.  
Some beautiful ones are coming through,  
But even more would really do!  
Remember natural fibres and clothes all cleaned  
Let's raise lots of money to help the school gleam!  
*Sarah*

-----000-----

Only 6 weeks to go folks! Lets get organised now so it's not a huge scramble at the end of October. I'm making up a roster and will be calling you in the next week or so .

Our **fair posters** will be coming out this week!

Please remember to fill in the **cafe food form** by the end of this week-or jot it down on paper and give it in to the office. Any enquiries to Liselle.

Does anyone know of any craftspeople/others who might like to have a stall at our fair? It costs outside stall holders \$25. As long as it fits in with our culture the more the merrier!

There is a **fair meeting** for all organisers on Thursday 24th at 9am. Please come or ring!

I'll be away 29 Sept -16 October and hope to banish "fair thoughts" from my mind till I'm back! *Linda*

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

This week's Yurt sweepers are the Noyes and Walrond families. Remember that if you cannot cover your week please arrange to swap with another family.

### **Spring Festival**

The Spring Festival celebrations are happening for the school on the last day of term - Friday 25 September. Performances start at midday followed by a shared lunch. We will be on the top field - weather permitting. Afterwards it will be time to help to clear up and pack away for the term.

Please bring something to share for lunch. Leave this in the back office if it needs somewhere to stay while you watch the performances.

### **Notes from Class Five**

After another three hour stint busking at the Farmers' Market, I am struck by a number of things – foremost the generosity of the Dunedin public as we work toward our goal: now \$278.70 closer! A very grateful "Thank You!" must go to Maja Szukiel-Deans, who donated the money she'd earned busking on Friday evening toward that amount (while we shivered and lost our hats doing the same on the corner of George St and Moray Place, singing to the busses stopped at the red light..! We won't do that again in a hurry!)

I am also very impressed with our own Wiremu Ratapu, who, with me, busked the first hour as a solo-voice on recorder. He demonstrated excellent musicianship as he played through pieces and over any mistakes without missing a beat. Thank you, Wiremu, you did us proud.

Of course, thanks goes to all children and parents for their hard work each week, as well as for the other fundraising endeavours going on behind the scenes by way of sizzles, cheese-rolls and raffles... tickets are still available for the Tool Box raffle: \$3 each, purchasable from any C5 parent. Our registration is in, our transport booked – we are on our way!!

(Check also the article published in last week's Star community newspaper about our trip). *Lee*

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

### **Spring Festival**

The Spring celebration for Kindergarten is this Thursday 24th September starting at 9am. On arrival between 9:00 and 9:30 children will make paper garlands with their parents in their classroom. Morning circle will begin in each room at 9:30 (parents please join in). This will be followed by a marionette show in the Rata Room, a shared meal in the Kowhai Room and the dance around the Spring Pole outside.

Parents please leave your contribution towards our meal in the kitchen. Also if you have a stapler it might be handy to bring it along to help with the garlands.

The festival is not a Kindergarten session. Teachers will lead the circle but parents will be responsible for their children during garland making, the meal and later outside. Please ensure that children remain seated whilst eating.

Would those parents whose children usually stay Thursday afternoons please indicate in the Kowhai Room communication book whether your child will be staying after the festival or leaving with you at its completion.

Kindergarten is as usual on Friday 25th September.

Just a reminder that if your child is unwell or will not be attending Kindergarten on any given day, please phone and leave a message with the office.

Morning Kindergarten session times run from 9-1pm, afternoon from 1-3pm. Our licence currently allows for children to be dropped off and picked up between 8:45 and 3:15. Outside these hours you will need to remain with your children.

Thank you to those families who have returned the odd crayon. Could all families please check at home for Kindergarten supplies that may have inadvertently found their way home via bags, lunchboxes, pockets. We are particularly light on teaspoons and block crayons (orange, red, purple) in the Rata Room.

### **Kowhai Room**

Due to a slight change in the daily rhythm we have re-introduced little fruit to keep children going prior to a now later morning tea. Each family is asked to please donate a small bag of organic dried fruits for this purpose. Thank you to those families who have already done so.

If you would like some scraps, perhaps for your chickens, please provide Violet with a bucket and lid and let her know what you would like.

### **Rata Room**

The teachers in the Rata Room need to get away promptly at 1pm each day to allow them to meet their afternoon teaching obligations. If you are held up collecting your child they will be left in the Rata Room in the care of office staff.

We also need a volunteer to make up another two baking aprons. This would be greatly appreciated as we do not currently have enough for all the children.

## PLAYGROUP NEWS

Thank you to all the families who joined us for a wonderful spring festival! We look forward to seeing everyone again in term four, starting the week of October 12th.

Our facilitators' meeting is this Wednesday at 1:30 in the Rata room. Anyone who is interested to be a facilitator at some stage, or simply wishes to be more involved, is invited to come along- children welcome. *Cecil*

## CRAFT GROUP

Tomorrow, we are going to produce beeswax candles, for the fair. This is going to be a big production, so if you have done candle-making before, and can spare some time, please join us!

And thank you all for offering help for creating crafts for the fair. We still hope to create more things, so if you think you can take on some projects during school holidays, please contact Izumi.

Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept 9:00 – 15:00	Ravensbourne Hall	Beewax Candlemaking Session (Sorry, experienced candle maker only please).
--	-------------------	--

*Lost and found – have you seen a navy rain mac for aged 7 child? With the name Lenny on the handle. If so then could you let Harvey Tuckey's parents know*

## *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](mailto:office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz)*

## Catch the train on Car-Free Day

You will have all heard about the train by now, here is the confirmed timetable which is a little different: leaving Waitati 7:30am and Dunedin 5:30pm

## Tuesday 22nd Sept

Last time was a gorgeous misty silvery mix of community and our beautiful coastline, let's enjoy it again

Depart Waitati	7.30	Depart Dunedin	5.30
Michies Crossing	7.35	Maia	5.40
Osbourne	7.50	Sawyers Bay	5.45
Purakanui	7.55	Mihiwaka	6.00
Mihiwaka	8am	Purakanui	6.05
Sawyers Bay	8.15	Osbourne	6.10
Maia	8.20	Michies Crossing	6.25
Dunedin	8.30	Waitati	6.30

## Biodynamic Fruit

Tom and Ingrid in Marahau still have some fruit for sale. Green kiwis \$2/kg, Grapefruit \$3/kg. \$15 freight for a 14kg box. Complete box orders only please so if you can't eat 14kg combine with others. Please send orders direct to Tom: [ingridandtom@gmail.com](mailto:ingridandtom@gmail.com) or 03 527 8200.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

University of  
**Otago**

Department of Music

presents  
**Fazal Qureshi - tabla**  
with Greg Booth (University of Auckland)

7.30 pm  
Friday 25th September 2009  
Marama Hall

ADMISSION: Adults \$20/Students \$5  
door sales only

[www.otago.ac.nz/music](http://www.otago.ac.nz/music) Telephone 479 8885



UNIVERSITY  
**OTAGO**  
NEW ZEALAND