

# NEWSLETTER

## RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

### OTAGO

TERM1 #3  
 15 FEBRUARY 2010  
 471-2163  
 office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz  
 www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February, 7.30- 8.30pm	Parent Class evening, Class 2 & 3	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm	Proprietors meeting.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February, 7.30- 8.30pm	Parent Class evening, Class 4	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 1pm	Kindergarten Management Committee meeting.
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> and	Otago Anniversary day.	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March, 7.15pm	Board of trustees meeting.
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Teacher only day – school and kindergarten.		
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 7pm	Quiz Night Port Chalmers Golf Club		

### FROM THE OFFICE

If you haven't returned your parent update of information forms please do so ASAP.

#### Board of Trustees elections – May 2010

In May the school parents will elect new parent representatives onto the Board of Trustees. We hold these elections every three years. Some of our existing board members will put themselves forward for nomination and election again this time while others may not. The Board is legally responsible for the school : "Our role is to watch the far horizon, to support the school's direction as a Steiner school, and to ensure it arrives safely within the law. The Board provides guidelines within which the staff manage the school".

Being a board member gives parents a chance to have direct involvement in the school and to gain an insight into how it works. Each Board member takes a particular area of interest – such as personnel or health and safety. The Board meets 9 times in the year – on the second Thursday of the month from 7.15pm. In addition to this meeting time you may need to spend some background time working on your area of responsibility. If you are interested then please speak to Clare.

#### Paid Work Available

The primary school toilets need a daily clean. Half an hour a day Monday – Thursday. Please see Clare by next Monday (the 22<sup>nd</sup>) if you are interested in this.

#### Climbing

Thank you to Angela Oswald for arranging the climbing wall which is now installed and ready for action. She also organised the fundraiser last term which raised much of the money for it. The balance of \$100 has kindly been donated by the Graft Group. Dave Brash, who is a rock climbing instructor and climbing wall designer has installed it. The wall is for school use and climbing plans and games will be provided by Dave, Kindergarten children may also use it but only outside of kindergarten hours when they are under the supervision of their parents.

Now that we have a specific place for climbing, we would also ask that children not climb on any of the school fences so that we can extend the life of the fences. Children are not permitted to climb on the fence around the climbing tree by the bottom gate (where the kindergarten children congregate after kindergarten) as it is a big drop to the concrete below. Parents are responsible for their children once they have been collected from their rooms.

### **Quiz Night**

Thank you to Elan Chenault (raffles) and Olive McRae (poster) who have volunteered to help for the quiz night. Could we please have another volunteer to help Elan with the raffles. Another person to help with the general organisation of the quiz night would be greatly appreciated. Speak to Clare if you can help with these jobs.

### **Recruitment and Promotion Group**

We would like to start a working group who look at ways to promote our school and recruit more children. If we can increase our roll, we will get more funding for our teachers which may enable us to reduce the donation requirements. If you would like to be part of this group, or have some ideas to share, please contact Tracy 467 9877.

### **National Standards for Primary Schools**

We are still collecting signatures for the national petition requesting that National Standards be trialled before their introduction. Please sign the petition if you are a supporter. Extra forms are available if you can take some away to collect more signatures.

### **Blooming Bulbs**

Katje (Tamatea's mother) will be taking orders for bulbs this year in the Blooming Bulb fundraiser. Only a couple of families have indicated they want catalogues for this. Please support this fundraiser by getting a catalogue which will enable you to collect orders from your friends and families. The list is in the office to add your name to.

### **Staff Biography**

Thank you Ros for providing this biography. We hope you are enjoying your time with us.

Kia ora koutou,  
Ko Hokonui te mauka  
Ko Mataura te awa  
Ko Te Moana nui-a-Kiwa te moana  
No Waikaka ahau  
Ko Ros Craven ahau  
No reira...

Two years ago my family and I moved to Dunedin from Arrowtown where we had been settled for over 20 years. In Arrowtown I worked with 3 and 4 year old children at the Arrowtown Community Preschool.

In Dunedin I worked at the Otago University Fulltime Childcare Centre where I enjoyed my work with students, academic staff and their families.

My own personal involvement with Steiner Education began when my son, who is now 18 years old, attended Kotuku Kindergarten. As a keen gardener, this was my first introduction to biodynamic farming and gardening, and a short course in biodynamics at Taruna sparked my ongoing interest in other aspects of anthroposophical thought. I therefore feel very fortunate to be working within your school and kindergarten community.

Nga whakaaro mahana ki a koutou, warm regards, whaea Ros

### **Trade Aid Fair Trade Fundraising**

We hope to do our first order of Trade Aid products next week. Prices include freight from Christchurch and should be the same as you would find at the supermarket.

25% of the price goes to our school-kindergarten!! Please ask your friends and family to buy through us. We'll see how much interest there is and then decide how often we will make an order.

Next Monday we'll try to send an order form with the newsletter.

### **Price List - All Organic**

**Coffee** 200g \$9.20    **Medium ground** : Mexican, Nicaraguan, Espresso Blend, Timor, Ethiopian, Espresso blend    **Espresso ground** : Impact Blend    **Beans** : Espresso blend, Impact blend

**Decaf** medium ground Mexican 200g \$10.50

**Tea**                    50 teabags \$4    Black, Green, Black loose tea 125g \$5, Rooibos loose tea 40g \$4

**Hot Chocolate** 336g \$8.60 **Cocoa** 224g \$8.60  
**Chocolate** 100g \$6 Dark 70% cocoa, Orange, Almond, Peppermint Crisp, Milk chocolate mocha  
**Rice** 1kg \$6 White Jasmine, Brown Jasmine

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Please do come to the parent class evenings. These are an excellent opportunity to sit with the other parents and hear about what your child will be doing this year and to ask questions of the teacher. Class 2 & 3 is this Tuesday and Class 4 has been postponed until next Wednesday.

### **Telephone Tree**

Class 1 and Class 2/3 have their own telephone list which may need to be used by the class teacher to pass messages on. Please follow this process:

The teacher calls the first parent on the list. They then need to call the next person on the list. If the person is not home, leave a message if you can, and then call the next person on the list. Keep going until you have spoken to a person and leave messages with others if you can. The last person on the list should call back the teacher to confirm the message has got through. The class lists will be out this week in hard copy.

For class 4 and 6, Jane and Lee will contact the parents directly if and when they need to.

### **Class 1, 2 and 3 Felting - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

Wet felting with craft group parents. Each child needs to bring their own old bath towel and bar of soap.

### **School Yard**

The tree house is not to be used until we have completed it as we don't want anyone falling out of it.

### **Class 1**

The Lieth Police dismisseth us, I'm thankful, sir, to say,  
The Lieth Police dismisseth us, at first we had to stay,  
The Lieth Police dismitteth us, a fine we had to pay,  
The Lieth police dismisseth us, and sent us on our way!

Good diction is the foundation of good spelling, so each day we speak a tongue twister along with our other recitations. Tongue twisters often become races but we keep the focus on clarity rather than speed. Standing tall and straight, speaking strongly (which is different from loudly!) with each sound clearly articulated, the first grade practices speech. We are just beginning to take turns in small groups, reciting poems or playing our flutes for the others. What courage this takes!

We do have a dance that speeds up though. Slip one and two, from Mrs. Hawke. Ask your children to teach it to you and see how fast YOU can go!

P.S. First grade homework: jumping rope

### **Class 2/3**

The children have settled into school very well indeed and I look forward to our parent evening tomorrow night in our yurt. Please read the 3 curriculum attachments so you are aware of the class's schedules in Main Lessons and in literacy and numeracy for the year as well as an overview of term 1 work. There will be opportunities to answer questions and look together at how the year may proceed as a composite class. Topics such as reading, maths, class camp, support for learning, and dress-ups will, I am sure engender lively conversation. I will take the opportunity to explain the Extra Lesson to you - its use both in the classroom and for individual children, and to sample and explain some of the exercises. It would be lovely to begin the year by sharing a cup of tea, so I will have the kettle brewing on our woodfire.

### **Music**

Orchestra will only be happening in term 4. Please bring instruments only on Tuesdays for individual lessons. We will have choir in that middle session in term 2 and practice lessons in term 1 and term 3.

## Class 4 and 6

Class 4 and 6 will do boating 3 times this term – February 26<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of March.

## Yurt Cleaning Roster

The Xu, Cain and Miles-Seeley families are on yurt duty this week.

Cls	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5	Wk 6	Wk 7	Wk 8	Wk 9
1	Dunroy	Xu	Barton	Tamang	Furnell	Holmes	Algar	Henderson
2/3	Walrond	Cain	Wood	Schweikert	Stevenson	Cunningham	Oswald	Holoway
4	Stichnoth	Miles - Seeley	Noyes	Cohen	Degas	Tapealava	Barriga	Whitehead

Reserve families: Botica, MacDonald

Yurt Cleaning Duty consists of sweeping the yurt twice during the week (preferably on Tuesday and Thursday) either before or after school. Each yurt has its own broom, dustpan and brush. The duty family also needs to bring a bag of kindling for fire starting during the week.

Please arrange someone to swap with or speak to the reserve families if you are unable to complete your duty.

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

### Kowhai Room

Tena koutou

We have many people to thank for work that was done in the Kowhai room during the holidays.

The curtains and drapery in the rooms were all taken down, washed and ironed. Our floors have been resurfaced and they look beautiful. Clare and Kate – thank you for your hard work.

Mrs Plant, Matua Nick, Liqin and myself had the pleasure of meeting Daniel and Rita while we were attending Taruna in January. They graciously welcomed us to their home and we enjoyed their company in the garden/orchard. We left with gifts of books and lovely memories of kind and generous people.

Dorlie and Walti gave bags of apricots to the school community. They were delicious and went to homes quickly because they were so ripe.

Joan and Colin must have worked very hard during the summer. Some days were windy, cold and wet but still they came and worked on the new garden area. Joan will be talking to the kindergarten staff this afternoon to explain the shape of the garden and the appropriate plants for the children.

Thanks you to Hannah and Carla (our German visitors) for all of the extra cleaning they have done in the kindergarten cloak room.

The little quail chicks have been a wonderful addition to the room. They have grown so quickly in the two and a half weeks since they hatched.

Lastly a big thank you to those people who have contributed to the making of our new baking aprons. They are lovely. Our art aprons came back dyed in new colours and the older children like seeing them back in the room.

Te Reo word (kupu) list.

Jam	-	hami
Gardener	-	paruauru
Friend(s)	-	(nga) hoa
Bird	-	manu
Floor	-	tapapa

## Rata Room

Nga mihi mahaa ki a koutou. Warm greetings to everyone from the Rata room.

Welcome to Aila and Solomon who started last week.

We thought parents might like to know the songs and poems the children are learning in the morning circle. The first is:

Good morning dear earth  
Good morning dear sun  
Good morning dear stones  
And the flowers everyone  
Good morning dera birds  
And leaves on the trees  
Good morning to you  
And good morning to me

We'll add more songs each week so you can slowly build up.

A wee reminder to please have children picked up by 1pm, to ensure a smooth transition for teachers moving into the Kowhai room. Thank you.

-Matua Nick, Whaea Ros and Whaea Liqin.

## PLAYGROUP NEWS

Welcome back to playgroup! It has been a joy to come together again after a wonderful break. We are welcoming many new families to our various sessions this term, and have had to say goodbye to a few friends who have moved overseas or to other cities- we will miss them!

There are likely to be a few spaces still available- possibly two in the Wednesday 1:30-3:30 session (Maia), and one each in the Thursday 10-12 (yacht club) and Friday 11-1 (Maia). Please speak to Cecil to enquire about a space, or if you need to change the session your child is currently enrolled in. Thanks, Cecil 472-8683

## CRAFTGROUP NEWS

Dear all,

We would like to welcome **everyone** to our craft group session: kindergarten and school parents, playgroup parents and their babies. We usually meet every fortnight, Tuesdays morning from 9am to 1pm at the Ravensbourne town hall. Also we organise some special workshops on some Sundays.

The craft group is a place of learning and sharing all sorts of craft skills, through social interaction, creativity and fun. All the sales from the display will go to the Steiner Community. Everybody is welcome to share ideas, to take part in some projects and to help take some of the decisions.

Please, for any of these, talk to Marie (471 21 81) or Izumi (472 85 98) who currently organise the craft group, and who definitely would like some help ! This term we will focus on the school and kindergarten needs (if there is some). Look at the calendar for workshop and location, and **what to bring**.

See you, this Tuesday 16 Feb, assisting school children to make their own wet-felted cushion. Please bring one or two towels , a plastic bag and some soap. We will meet at the first class yurt (Alex's yurt) at 9 am. Marie

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 9:00 – 13:00	<i>class one</i> Yurt	Wet-felt cushion making with school children. Please bring a big towel or 2, a plastic bag and some soap and a pair of rubber gloves. Bring your lunch too!
--	-----------------------	--

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 9:00 – 12:45	Ravensbourne Hall	Flax weaving with Marie. Please bring about a dozen leaves, a pair of scissors, a kitchen knife and 8 clothes pegs. <i>Also bring your lunch.</i> \$3 donation for beginners and anyone who wants to take the box at home.
---	-------------------	--

## 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).

### **Jars**

Marie is always looking for jars and their top, please leave them in the office in a bag, with your name.

For 10/15 empty jars, you will get one full of jam !

Thank you,

Marie 471 21 81

### **Walking Bus**

To get the walking bus idea started, I propose we start with **Walking Wednesdays**.

We can meet at the Maia bus stop at the bottom of Jesse St at 8.35am to start walking at 8.40am. It would also be good to walk down the hill at the end of the day to reduce traffic congestion around pick up. We will meet at the top gate of the field. Children can be collected from the Maia bus stop at 3.20. I am happy for school children to join in without prior arrangement.

Initially it would be helpful to know how many kindergarten children are coming if their parents will not be with them so a helper can collect them from the room and bring them to the top field. Phone or email Tracy 467 9877 , [tracy@sculpture.co.nz](mailto:tracy@sculpture.co.nz)

I think it would be good to have 2 parents for the morning and 2 for the afternoon. Please speak to me if you are interested in helping.

Please advise your children that if they are joining the walking bus they will be required to walk with the group even if they are usually independent with road crossing etc.

### **Bike Day**

This Wednesday is also "go by bike day" as part of Cycle wise month. Why not cycle the cycle way and then meet the walking bus?