

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

OTAGO

TERM1 #4
 22 FEBRUARY 2010
 471-2163
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 www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

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

FROM THE OFFICE

"Our national spotlight should clearly be on the crib-
 not on the criminal - if we are to change the future.
 Infants who do not receive a warm welcome into the world
 will seek their revenge."

Dr. Ken Magid and Cole McKelvey

School transport Assistance

This is available from the Ministry of Education for families coming in from more than 2.4km away. It is worth claiming. For example; families coming 6.5km can get \$4.72/day. Ask for a form from the office.

Accommodation for Menno

Do we have any other families who would like to host Menno before he leaves in July? Many people can vouch for him as an excellent house guest. If you have space for him in May or June, then let Clare know.

Boating permission Forms

These were sent home last Tuesday and need to be returned URGENTLY. The first boating and canoeing day is scheduled for this Friday.

Health and Safety Policies and Procedures

We have started a review of our Health and Safety Policies and Procedures – these are reviewed at least every 3 years and we ask for input from the parent community. Policies will be sent home or emailed this week for review. These include the Health and Safety Policy, the policy on Alcohol and Drugs at the school and at school events, Behaviour Management policy and Child Protection policy. If you feel that amendments should be made then please me at the office by Wednesday 3 March. The policies and procedures are always available to you in the office if you would like to look.

Car safety

When we ask for parent helps with travel, we ask the drivers to specify what car seats and seat belts they have. So that we ensure that your child is seated in the safe position that you want them then please let us know on your permission slip if you have specific requirements – eg: your child must have a booster seat and not to be seated without a sash belt.

Quiz Night Update

We still really need a few more hands to help organise raffles. We are having a QUIZ MEETING tomorrow
-Tuesday at 2.30pm Please consider joining our little team
More general news about the quiz next week.

Recruitment and Promotion Group

Cecil and Tracy have put themselves forward for this group. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved please speak to us. Tracy 467 9877 Cecil 472 8683

Blooming Bulbs

Katje (Tamatea's mother) will be taking orders for bulbs this year in the Blooming Bulb fundraiser. We still only have a few families who 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.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Please do come to the parent class evening. This is 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. This week is **Class 4 on Wednesday at 7.30.**

Class 2/3

Our new reading program begins on Monday. I have made a tentative timetable for parent helpers, based on what I remembered from Tuesday night's meeting. Please let me know if I have put you down for the wrong day or if you are able to offer any help not yet on the timetable. Help will consist of listening to class 3 children read and assisting them where needed or helping a class 2 child learn the letter sounds. It is all very easy and straight-forward and the children love having a grown up all to themselves.

Timetable for Reading Assistance 9.00 – 9.25

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Kirsten	Junko	Janine	Lisa
Peter H	Angela		Pamala

Excursion:

As part of our farming main lesson I have organised a visit to a farm at Karitane. Vince, the farmer, has sheep, cattle, horses, pigs, chickens and bees. He will be teaching us all about animal farming. The class 2 focus is on looking after animals; the class 3 on farming – the relationship of the farmer to society, to the seasons and to the animals and the land. The children need a hearty lunch!

Wednesday 24 February

10.30 am – 3 pm

Vince McLoughlin's farm

201 Merton Station Road, Karitane

We still need another driver to help please.

If you have not already returned your form, please make sure you do on Tuesday. *Brenda*

Music

Dear Parents,

It is very exciting to be back teaching Cello. The intermediate group are already on their way to mastering scales and new pieces. The beginner children are learning how to hold their cello and bow, quite a mammoth task. On Tuesday 23/2/10 at 3pm, I am holding a meeting in Lee's room about ways you can help your child learn the cello at home. Hopefully this will enlighten you a little about the techniques of string playing.

Could all children please bring a clear file to cello class.

Kia ora

Whaea Jocelyn Amarantha

Look forward to seeing you Tuesday 23/2/10

Yurt Cleaning Roster

The Barton, Wood and Noyes 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	Holloway
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

Thank you children for your lovely gifts to the nature table: a cicada from Ruby, a snail from Menno, a dragonfly from Aries and the lovely little Japanese Quails from Whaea Sandra. We will be having a little break from the young birds for a while. They may be back later in the year.

Marjorie Theyer (Steiner Federation kindergarten advisor) will visit us in June this year and we would like all parents to attend her talk. She usually gives a talk to parents in the evening and can answer questions and offer advice. Perhaps there is a topic that you would like Marjorie to speak about? Let the kindergarten teacher know your thoughts.

Thank you parents for your early preparation with wet weather clothing. We were back into gumboots and jackets last Thursday and the tamariki went out and played as usual.

Parents please talk to the kindergarten teachers if your child(ren) have specific needs for medication and please follow up with the office if there are any changes to your child's timetables.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Activity	Painting	Preparing soup	Making Bread	Preparing fruit	Craft/Baking
Food	rice	Vegetable Soup	Bread	Fruit soup/salad	Popcorn / fruit
Please bring		A vegetable		A piece of fruit	A piece of fruit

Thanks

Whaea Violet and Whaea Sandra

Rata Room

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

Welcome to Mia who starts in the Rata room today.

Here is the 2nd part of our morning circle continuing from last week:

The earth is firm beneath my feet
The sun shines bright above
And here stand I so strong and straight
All things to know and love

-Matua Nick, Whaea Ros and Whaea Liqin.

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Our playgroups are continuing to thrive, as we all enjoy getting back into the swing of things! There are still a few spaces available in the Wednesday afternoon and Friday 11-1 sessions. Now is a good time to invite friends who may be interested to come along for a visit while there is still room for a few new families...

We have confirmed our Autumn Festival for Friday March 19 from 11-1 in the Rata Room. Join us for a Marionette show and shared lunch!

If anyone would like to participate in creating our marionette show, please speak to Cecil 472-8683. Thanks, from the playgroup facilitators Anna, Cecil, Elan, Jorinde, Ros and Tace.

CRAFTGROUP NEWS

Thank you for all those came to the wet-felting session last week. With so many helping hands and lovely sunny weather, felting with school children went extremely well!

Next week, we are making small flax box. A great introduction to flax weaving for beginners. All welcome. Please check what to bring. If you don't know how to collect leaves etc., please ring Marie (471-2181) or Izumi (472-8598).

After that, we have two toy-making workshops, both of which are very good projects for kindergarten and playgroup parents. We will be making cloth gnomes with Cecil, and cloth snails with Motoko.

Tuesday 2 nd March 9:00 – 12:45	Ravensbourne Hall	Flax weaving with Marie. Please bring about a dozen leaves, a pair of scissors, and a kitchen knife and 8 clothes pegs. Also bring your lunch. \$3 donation for beginners and anyone who wants to take the box at home.
Tuesday 16 th March 9:00 – 12:45	Ravensbourne Hall	Gnome making with Cecil. Bring your own sewing kit.
Tuesday 2 nd April 9:00 – 12:45	Ravensbourne Hall	Cloth snail making with Motoko. Bring your own sewing kit, and if you would like to recycle cotton or wool cloths, bring them with you too.

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.

Te Ra School and Te Rawhiti Kindergarten petition

Te Ra School and Te Rawhiti Kindergarten petition will be strongly affected by the proposed expressway on the Kapiti Coast (going either close by or through the school). There is more information and a petition in the office. Please offer your signature to support our fellow Steiner school.

Te Aroha: Homebased Steiner Childcare

We invite anyone interested in providing homebased Steiner childcare to join our group! An information sheet for prospective care providers is available from the office, or by emailing angela.oswald@vodafone.co.nz. There are many families within the Steiner community seeking care that is aligned with their philosophy! Thanks, from Cecil and Angela

Organic co-op

Tracy has been trying to resign from this role for over a year. Could someone (or some two) **please** give me a call about taking on the organising of our bulk food orders. The job involves collecting

orders from families, collating and placing a bulk order, divvying up goods and calculating and collecting payments. I can help with the payment end if numbers are not your thing. Perhaps a small levy that went to the person doing the work would make this job more enticing? Call Tracy 467 9877 or tracy@sculpture.co.nz.

Walking Bus

Thanks to those who got involved in our inaugural walking bus last Wednesday. I missed the bus as Mila was sick but am keen to be there this week for the morning trip up and Clare will do the afternoon run. It would be great to have more children joining the bus. Lots of benefits for all.

We will meet at the Maia bus stop at the bottom of Jesse St at 8.35am to start walking at 8.40am. In the afternoon 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

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.

Gymnastics

Open Day on Children's Day

When: Sunday 7 March 10.30am - 12.30pm

Where: Southern Gymnastics Academy, 256b Vogel Street, Dunedin

Three 40 minute sessions.

Active, fun and free!!

Children's Choir

University of Otago College of Education CHILDREN'S CHOIR 2010 open to children age 7-13.

Starts Thursday 25th Feb, 4pm in the music suite. Then every Thursday of school term from 4-5.15pm.

No auditions are required. Regular attendance and a commitment to attend arranged performances is expected.

Contact Carole Randall for more info: 479 4243 or carole.randall@otacgo.ac.nz

Helios retreat

Tauhara Retreat Centre overlooking Lake Taupo. Feb 27-March19 2010.

An anthroposophical medicine retreat for people suffering from chronic health conditions. More info and flyers in the office.