

NEWSLETTER

RUDOLF STEINER TRUST

OTAGO

TERM1 #5
 1ST MARCH 2010
 471-2163
 office@dunedin.steiner.school.nz
 www.dunedin.steiner.school.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS		MEETINGS	
Monday 1 st March 7.30pm	Dorli Bohn talk for Kindergarten parents		
Monday 15 th March 3.15-4pm	Pete Hodgson Visit	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		

"The past throwing its shadows, the future fraught with the germs of a new reality meet in the human being; and their meeting constitutes the human life of present time"
 - Rudolf Steiner

FROM THE OFFICE

A big thank you to Frank Jakobs (from the Dunedin Anthroposophical Reading group). He has donated three very handsome Pongas for the kindergarten garden. The Pongas are beautiful specimens and are already standing about 4 ft tall. Mrs Rawle will plant them on Monday with the children in the new fenced garden.

We also thank Lee Vandervis and Merrall MacNeille who have been labouring hard to get the electric cable running up to the yurts. Lee has also dug up a stretch of ground under the Class 2/3 yurt ready for planting an orchard.

Vision Hearing Team Visit

On Tuesday the 30th March we will have a visit from the public health Vision and Hearing Team. The following children will be tested; 4 yr olds, Class 1 and Class 6 (in general – there may be exceptions who have been tested recently). Also, if you would like to request that your child be tested if you have specific concerns please speak to the office.

Peter Hodgson Visit (labour MP)

Mr Hodgson will be visiting the school next Monday. He was very supportive of our school when we were getting our roll cap lifted, something we will need to address again at some stage. The hot topic at the moment is also the National Standards. Please come along to meet with him and share your questions and views.

National Standards Petition

We have a petition in the office about the National Standards. This petition is independent of the NZEI petition. It endeavours to give parents a voice in the current debate. Please read it and sign if you are supportive.

Fundraising: Trade Aid Order

Hopefully everyone has ordered their Trade aid products by putting the order form in the Trade Aid box in the office. I'll collect the order forms tomorrow so you have one more day to get them in -

remember to ask your neighbours! The school gets 25% of the price. Please make sure you include payment -either a cheque -made out to Linda Miles or to my bank account 03 1729 0021601 00
All food items are **organic** except for the dried fruit and nuts, olive oil and 50g chocolates. In the order form it doesn't specify this properly. Sorry about this confusion! *Linda*

Quiz Night information

The Quiz night will be held on Friday 30 April at 7pm at the Port Chalmers Golf Club in Sawyers Bay. Please note this is an adults event. There are many people in the West Harbour area who regularly go to these social evenings put on as fundraisers by various groups in the area. This is the first one of the year so hopefully we will attract crowds. All participants must belong to a team and numbers are limited to twenty teams of four players. Each team pays \$20 to enter (\$5 per person) and money is collected on the night.

Tracy and Elan are approaching our loyal sponsors for raffle prizes this week and we hope to have three or four wonderful raffles organised by the end of term. We will ask all families to sell some of these raffles over the the April school holidays and the remainder will be sold, and the winners, drawn on Quiz Night. We will also have an "Organic Raffle" with ticket sales only available on Quiz Night -we need to start collecting non-perishable organic goodies again! (perhaps we need a permanent box in the office!). We are also hoping that the craft group will have a stall at the quiz night and any contributions would be very welcome.

We are really fortunate to have the services of Steve Walker and Liana who help many organisations in the area run these enjoyable evenings and raise money. Steve will be the MC for the evening and is the quiz master -we may have a round of Steineresque questions as well!!

School families can contribute in many and various ways!!!

1 You can form a team - bring lots of non-Steiner people so that this event will be bringing money in from outside our community. Teams need to have a name! and you need to register your team with Linda as soon as possible.(There are several ex-school teams registered already so be quick)

2 You can donate a prize. We need 4 first, second and third prizes as well as several spot prizes and bobby prizes! Prizes are normally quite generous I am told -within the vicinity of \$60-80 for first prizes. We need a lot of these -Please contact Linda to donate prizes. If you are involved with or know of a business that you think may be happy to donate a prize please let Tracy or Elan know and they can approach them or give you a letter to take from the school if you would like to approach them yourself.

3 You can bring a plate of healthy snacks on the night. The bar at the Golf Club will be open for drinks

4 You can help Elan, Tracy and Linda with organising and more ideas

5 You can help on the night -raffle selling, craft selling and clean up afterwards *Linda*

Board of Trustees Election

We are looking for parent reps to join our school Board of Trustees from May 2010. The Board meet monthly in term time. This is an interesting way of being involved in the school. There are 5 positions in total including some held by people who may put themselves forward again. Contact Clare, Manfred or Anne-Louise if you are interested. Nominations should be in the office by March 15th.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Chamber Music Concerts

As part of our music programme this year we are offering children in class 3,4 &6 the chance to attend Chamber Music New Zealand concerts free of charge. These concerts feature international chamber musicians -stunning and electrifying performances -the best classical chamber music you can find anywhere. These are also serious affairs and children must be able to sit through pieces without any noise or movement at all. They are all being held in the Town Hall this year and we have 9 childrens seats available to each of the 6 concerts. The concerts are on: Tuesday 9 March, Tuesday 4 May, Friday 5 June, Wednesday 8 September, Wednesday 13 October and Sunday 31 October. All week day concerts are at 7.30 pm finishing approximately at 9.45. The Sunday concert is at 3pm. Details of all the concerts can be found at www.chambermusic.co.nz

We have decided to limit class 3 children to the Friday evening and Sunday afternoon concerts as the times are more appropriate. Class 4 and 6 children can attend whichever concerts they prefer. If we do not fill up the 9 seats we will open it up to older siblings. Hopefully not all children will want to go to the same concerts

Nine tickets are available for next week's first concert by the Russian "Borodin Quartet", a string quartet comprising 2 violins, viola and cello on Tuesday 9th of March at 7.30. Class 4 and 6 children may attend this concert and parents need to let me (Linda) know. E-mailing me at robz@ihug.co.nz is probably clearest and easiest but you can ring me or see me at school if you'd like. If you have older children who may like to attend tell me and they might get a ticket if we don't fill up the 9 seats with our own children. First come has to be first served. There will always be one teacher going to the concerts with the children. Children will need to be dropped off at 7.15 at the Town Hall and picked up promptly after the concert. We will meet outside at 7.15 and go in together at 7.25. It is possible for some children to attend only the first half of the concert if you think their concentration wouldn't last! The parent would need to come in to the Town Hall foyer during the interval (approx 8.30) to pick them up.

This is an amazing opportunity for us -hope you can encourage your children to go. A rest before the concert would be a good idea for all attending -there will be bleary eyes the next day!
Linda (472-7646)

News from Class 6

Hestia, in all dwellings of men and immortals
Yours is the highest honour, the sweet wine offered
First and last at the feast, poured out to you duly.
Never without you can gods or mortals hold banquet.

We are now half-way through our first Roman Main Lesson and have heard, seen, felt, acted and written our way through its rocky beginnings, lurching from the tyrannical to the divine and back again with each successive king – polarities of goodness and evil are really becoming clear!

This week begins with the First of March - the first day of the Ancient Roman year and the day of 'Matronalia', or Juno's Day - the Goddess of Womanhood. In the heart of Rome, the Vestal Virgins would rekindle the sacred fire of the Temple of Vesta on this day. The Roman goddess Vesta (analogous to Hestia in Greek mythology) and her sacred fire were considered tightly bound to the fortunes of the city, and failure to show proper respect for either was punishable by death. Vesta's fire could only be rekindled by a burning glass, or by friction on a piece of wood from a fruit tree. In Roman homes, a small cake would be thrown on the fire for Vesta, and it was considered a good omen if it burnt with a crackle.

We've marked the occasion today with a lighting of our own Vestal fire. The sun wasn't shining, unfortunately! After a furious 20 minutes of trying to kindle the fire by rolling a twig between our palms we managed to blacken the end and get a delicate whiff of smoke, but eventually settled to kindling our fire the modern way. A tasty cake for us and a smaller, spicy cake for the sacrificial fire were shared at morning tea. We have also settled on Class 6 Citizens *Duodecim Tabularum*, or Twelve Tablets – laws that we will be bound to for the duration of the year.

We'll be continuing our studies of Rome for a further two weeks, finishing with the life of Emperor Augustus and the state of the Roman Empire at the time of Christ's birth before moving on to our first Compass-Geometry Main Lesson. **As mentioned at the C6 Parents' Night, children will require a good quality compass for this block;** John Hanson informs us he is able to source a top-notch Engineer's compass at a wholesale price to this end - details will follow.

Boating:

The first of our Boating Excursions took place on Friday - and what a day that was! Class 4 and 6, with the help of a select-group of enthusiastic and helpful parents had a magical time on the harbour in exquisite conditions. All the children had opportunity to paddle the harbour in fibreglass kayak's; Sarah and Eden also had a turn in a double-canoe (requiring some serious teamwork and synchronisation - well done, you two!) and some lucky C4&6'ers had a blast trying out the optimist yachts, including challenging their reputation as being virtually 'unsinkable'!! A big thank-you must go to organiser,

Dennis and his team of safety-men who ensured the children received excellent instruction and supervision. And our thoughts and sympathy go out to Mr Gary Bain, the fellow who took us last year and worked so wonderfully with the class, who, we learned late last week, has recently suffered a heart-attack. The C6 will take the time this week to make cards for him and his wife ahead of our next boating-session in a fortnight (weather, as always, permitting). *Lee*

Maori

We are learning a mihi. Could Class 2,3 and 6 please bring information on the following things:

The boat or plane their ancestors came on to NZ (if born in NZ)

A mountain or hill special to their family/area

The body of water (sea, river, lake) that is significant to their family/area

The names of their parents and grandparents

Kia ora, Jocelyn

Music

Thank you to all the parents who attended the cello meeting. I am scheduling another one on bow hold soon.

Whaea Jocelyn

Yurt Cleaning Roster

The Tamang, Schweikert and Cohen 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.

For Class 1 duty – could one of the sweeps please be Friday afternoon or Monday morning so the week starts with a clean Yurt.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kowhai Room

Tena koutou. Dorli Bohn will be visiting our kindergarten to observe the three teachers undergoing the Taruna training for Steiner Kindergarten teachers. Dorli will be giving a talk for parents at 7.30pm tonight. Parents please do come along to hear more about Steiner kindergarten. Dorli will be happy to answer questions from parents who have them.

We have a new garden thanks to Mrs Rawle and her Monday gardening group with Class 1,2 and 3. We are looking for some new vegetable plants to grow in the new beds. If you have any spare, we would be grateful to have them. We have; chamomile, artichokes, rhubarb, beans, mint, dill, lemon balm and nasturtium. We would like to plant; onions, cabbages, cauliflower, silver beet, perpetual spinach, carrots. Looking forward to a productive garden.

Word list	-	Te Reo kupu
Thirsty	-	hiainu
Hungry	-	hiakai
Hot	-	wera
Cold	-	makariri
Happy	-	harikoa

Thanks *Whaea Violet and Whaea Sandra*

Rata Room

We are all settling in nicely in the Rata room.

The 3rd part of our morning circle continuing from last week:

Teno koe – hello to one
Tena korua – hello to two
Tena koutou – hello to all
Haere mai everyone – welcome everyone.

Ka kite,
-Matua Nick, Whaea Ros and Whaea Liqin.

PLAYGROUP NEWS

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

- Cecil

CRAFTGROUP NEWS

This 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.

Musical Instruments

I have the following adult sized instruments which need playing (could be borrowed)

Flute, tenor saxophone, violin

Please contact Kanuka Simpson; 472 8293

Organic co-op

Tracy has now passed over the organisation of the Organic Food Co-op orders to Fran Hammond. For those families new this year, we have a community food co-op which orders bulk dried goods directly from the wholesalers Ceres and Chantal. If enough people order commonly purchased items, we can buy in 25kg sacks and split them up to achieve worthwhile savings. One order will be done from each at the start of each term. As Fran does not visit the school, orders will need to be sent to her on an order form spreadsheet via email. The goods will be delivered to the school and payment is made directly into the coops bank account. An order will be placed with Chantal at the end of next week so if you would like to order anything, or look at what is available, please email Fran for a catalogue and order form. (franclark@clear.net.nz)

Walking Bus

We had 8 children on our morning bus and we all thoroughly enjoyed our walk up the hill. This week is "WALK TO WORK WEEK" – so a great time to join our walking bus. You could even link on after the train (see below).

I approached Sport Otago for safety vests for the walking bus. These used to be fully subsidised but funding has been cut so now are only partly subsidised. We can get reflective safety vests via Sport Otago/DCC for \$7.50 each. I intend to place an order at the end of the week so please contact me if you want one, let me know which size you will need. This includes adult ones too.

Again, 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.

from "Get the Train" group

Walk 2 work week with the commuter train is this week, Wednesday 10th March. This is our chance to show that North Coast Dunedin wants a train, make it a day, and please pass the word, send this email on.

No bookings required, \$5 cash each way on the train. Bike compartment available.

Timetable as follows:

Waitati	dep	7.40am
Michies Crossing		7.45am
Osborne		7.55am
Purakaunui		8.00am
Mihiwaka		8.05am
Port Chalmers Upper		8.10am
Sawyers Bay		8.15am
Maia		8.25am
Dunedin	arr	8.40am
Dunedin	dep	5.30pm
Maia		5.40pm
Sawyers Bay		5.50pm
Port Chalmers Upper		6.00pm
Mihiwaka		6.15pm
Purakaunui		6.17pm
Osborne		6.20pm
Michies Crossing		6.25pm
Waitati	arr	6.30pm

getthetrain.blogspot.com

The Great Dunedin Coastal Clean up

Sunday 14th March as part of Sea Week. Flyer on the notice board for more info.

Children's Library 100th Birthday

Come and celebrate with us. Meet local children's authors and illustrators. Be spellbound by the magician and musicians. Hug Geronimo! Story telling and fun activities all day.

FREE Saturday march 13 11-4pm , ground floor City Library.