



"We can find nature outside us only if we have first learned to know her within us. What is akin to her with us must be our guide. This marks out our path of enquiry."

Rudolf Steiner



Class Kea - Camp action

NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 DATES

School

Tuesday 7 th November	6 -7:30 pm Parent evening - Lower Classrooms
Friday 17 th November	School Disco - Lower Classrooms
Friday 1st December	Teachers Only Day - school closed, kindy open
Friday 15 th December	Last day of school

Governance

Thursday 9 th November	6 pm Proprietors meeting - Kea classroom
Tuesday 14 th November	5:30 pm Board meeting - Kea classroom

Other

Wednesday 8 th November	6 pm Anthroposophical Nursing Support Session
Wednesday 29 th November	6 pm Anthroposophical Nursing Support Session

Playgroup

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

Kia ora e te whānau,

term 4 is well underway and the children are enjoying more and more outside time for lunch and class activities and the school grounds are filling up with colours of blooming flowers and trees. Class Kea has returned from camp and the children have many stories to tell. They even thought they would get snowed in on the last day but despite a little dusting on the ground in the morning, the roads were clear and safe for everyone to travel home – much to the disappointment of at least some of the children. While I am writing this, class Kererū is still on camp at Whare Flats and are blessed with good weather for all the activities they have planned – we are looking forward to the sharing of their memories when they return.

I have spent three days last week in Taupō with the Steiner fellowship (principals of Steiner schools in New Zealand) and while it is never easy to be away from school, the three days were full of rich discussion about Steiner schools in today's world, sharing stories and challenges and learning from each other. It is heartening to see the way of education we believe in so strongly alive and well all over the country and a big will to support each other – the view of the bigger picture was strong and encouraging.

One big part of the ongoing conversation with the fellowship and SEANZ is our Steiner curriculum, especially in light of the curriculum refresh and the common practice model, which has some parents concerned so I wanted to clarify what the changes mean for us: While we follow the New Zealand Curriculum, we have a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Education, which allows us to consider any changes in light of our special character. We will go through a process of considering which changes fit within our special character and which do not and then apply to the Ministry of Education for exemptions as needed. This applies to the curriculum content as well as the way of teaching, e.g. the common practice model.

As always, we welcome your feedback, thoughts or concerns about this at any time.

Ngā mihi maioha,

Anna Noble

Tumuaki/Principal

HOUSEKEEPING

School Teachers Only Day

Please take note of the teachers only day (TOD) on the 1st of December, which means the school will be closed but the kindergarten will remain open.

Class 1 Teacher 2024

We are looking for our new class 1 teacher for 2024. If you know who that is, please make sure they apply for the position.

Thieves Alley Market

We are still looking for a couple of people to take on the Thieves Alley Market and the deadline is getting closer. If we do not have people coming forward, we will not be represented at the Thieves Alley Market next year. Here is the information again: We would like to have a stall at the Thieves Alley Market next year and will need three or four parents to help with this. We usually have a stall with our beautiful craft products and information about the school and are there to speak to the wider community about who we are and what we are about. It is a lovely day out and a great opportunity to show who we are. We will have to register soon and we can only do this with community support so please let us know if you could help out.

Parent Evening Tuesday, 7th of November, 6 - 7:30 pm

Another reminder of the coming up parent evening. The teachers invite you to an evening of experiencing the Steiner curriculum by learning and trying out some of the visual art experiences our children have throughout their school life. We will talk about the developmental steps of the children and how the visual arts curriculum addresses this and you will be able to experience it yourself, by trying some of the techniques and ways the children are developing through the visual arts. Parents only please. RSVP to the office so we know how many people to expect.

Browse School Websites Free Via Zero Data Portal

To encourage everyone to access school | kura websites on their mobile devices without being charged for data, the multi-agency Zero Data initiative has added over 2,000 kura and school websites to the updated Zero Data portal. Our school website is available and so you can access important updates from your school - such as on our "What's on" page regardless of whether you have data credit or not. To get this free access you need to go through: <https://www.zero.govt.nz/>

Anthroposophical Nursing Support Sessions

The last two sessions for the year have been booked for Wednesdays the 8th and 29th of November. \$20 per session.

SCHOOL – Class Kea

Kia ora e te whānau,

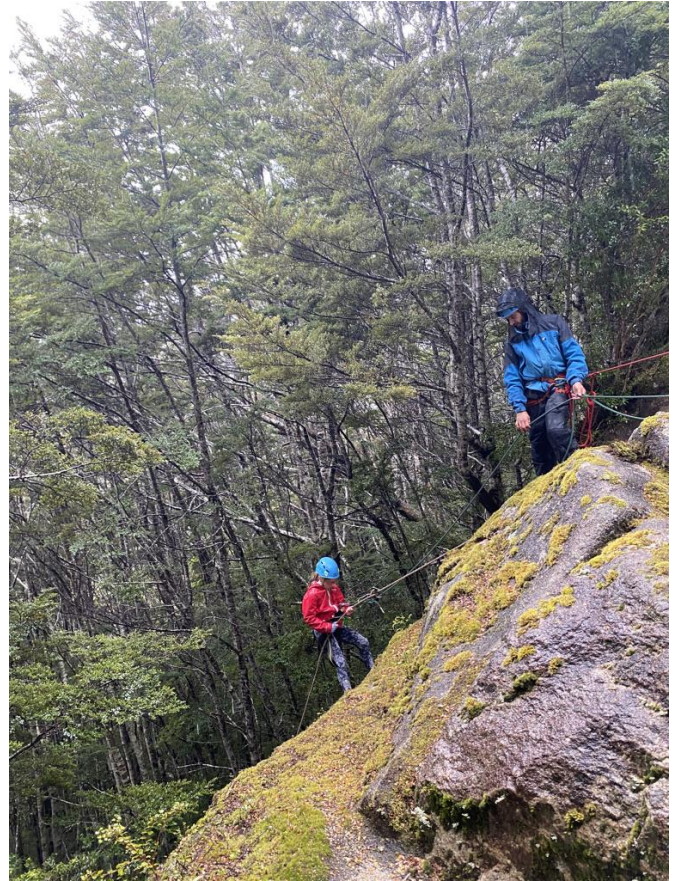
Last week Class Kea went on camp to Borland Lodge near Monowai in beautiful Fiordland! We spent our time exploring the beech forest, roasting marshmallows on the fire, abseiling, rock climbing, and kayaking!



It was very rainy, but the children persevered, and we had a great time! We even got lucky and got to see some beautiful snow on our last day! See here some photos of the camp.

Class Kea







KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora e te whānau,

The term is well underway, and the children are busy in their rooms, busy and engaged with play and learning. The social aspect of Kindergarten is a huge part of your child's day and takes a lot out of them.

Negotiating in play is a foundational social skill that forms the bedrock of future interactions in a group setting. At the end of a Kindergarten day, children are often exhausted, and need some quiet time to reset. A gentle activity or audiobooks are a great way for them to unwind.

Often, children will say 'Nothing', when asked what they have been doing during their day. This is completely normal, as young children live so in the moment, that only what is currently happening is of importance to them. It takes time for them to process events, and it may be a few days later when they are quiet and calm (such as at bedtime) that they may talk about things that have happened.

Some of the Tuakana are needing a firm hand at the moment, which is something we usually see at this time of year. They are aware that they are on the way to leaving Kindergarten, and this awareness is accompanied by a mixture of both trepidation and excitement. This can result in some boundary-pushing behaviour,

and it is our job as adults to provide the firm guidance that will allow them to feel secure, as challenging as this can be!

Just a reminder to please remove lunch box items from wrappers where possible. It really helps with a distraction-free lunchtime for the children. You might be surprised at the power of a packet to cause problems and 'lunchbox envy' amongst the children. While we are on this topic, again, a gentle reminder that 'party food' such as chips and chocolate be saved for after Kindy, and not put in lunch boxes.

Ngā mihinui,

Julie, Bex, Pamala, Hannah, Junko, Peggy, Alida and Joella

PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup sessions follow a predictable rhythm, which offers both focused times when we gather as a group, and periods of spontaneous free play. From time to time our reflection on the needs of a group leads us to consider making adjustments to our rhythm.

In this spirit, our Monday group is going to be trialling moving the puppet story and circle to the beginning of the session for the rest of the term. We will be collecting our observations on the change all term and welcome input from attending whānau. Our Wednesday session will remain unchanged giving us the opportunity to notice differences. At the end of the year we will reach out to regular attendees for feedback and decide how to proceed for 2024.

The proposed rhythm looks as follows: After families arrive and settle in, Lizzie will gather everyone for a simple story, followed by a circle of verses, songs, and movement games. Following circle time, interested children and adults can move to the table to shape wholemeal buns for our shared morning tea. The children transition from there into indoor free-play. When the cleaning song begins, we all put away the toys, and gather at the table for tea. We share fresh-baked buns, chopped fruit, and chamomile tea. After tea time we will get dressed and go to play outdoors. Families say goodbye when they are ready to go home. Ka Kite Ano! We'll see you again!

Alida and Miriam

Arohanui, Millie, Lizzie, Jen, Alida & Miriam

CRAFT GROUP

Craft group is having a break for now. Keep an eye on this space for future updates.

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@dunedinsteiner.nz. We charge \$10 for an advert and need ads in by the Monday prior to the Wednesday publication date. You can pay by direct internet banking to 03-0903-0437318-00

Disclaimer: This space is open to advertisers and the school does not make any guarantees or endorsement on their behalf.

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Affordable Music Classes: Open days Wednesday 8 November after school, Elmgrove School, Mosgiel and Saturday 11 November morning George Street Normal School and Bathgate Park School. www.smmcotago.nz

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NZSO Open Doors: Sat, 04 Nov, 10am - 4.30pm, Glenroy Auditorium, Dunedin Town Hall.
10am Tamariki Time: A free concert designed for the smallest members of your whānau up to the age of 10. 11.30am Relaxed Concert: A free accessibility concert designed for audiences with sensory needs who may feel uncomfortable in a traditional concert environment. 1.30pm Orchestra Jam: A super fun and informal opportunity to play through several easy or intermediate pieces with some of our NZSO musicians.

3pm Masterclasses: NZSO Assistant Principal Cello, Ian Greenberg and Violist, Beatrix Francis host Masterclasses for young local musicians. Masterclasses are open to the public, so come and join us to watch the next generation of performers.

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CCS Disability Action is still in urgent need of safe and nurturing caregivers to provide homes to some very special children across the Dunedin region. Please also see our website for more information. <https://www.ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz/become-a-foster-carer>

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Pringboard & Platform Diving Club: book a child for a free 'have a go'. Classes held at Moana Pool. www.divingotakou.org.nz contact divingotakou@gmail.com



Class 1 teacher vacancy 2024 Dunedin Steiner School

We seek a committed and enthusiastic qualified teacher who will work within our Steiner special character to join our growing school. The school is situated a short drive from Dunedin town centre in a beautiful semi-rural setting, overlooking the harbour. The onsite kindergarten and playgroups are all part of our special community. The ideal applicant will have a commitment to Steiner pedagogy, the ability to work with composite classes and flexibility that suits a smaller school.

Applications close 5pm Wednesday 15th November.

An application form and job description can be found on our website www.dunedinsteiner.nz

For any questions, please contact the office at office@dunedinsteiner.nz or phone 03 471 2163