



Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora
ai te iwi

*With your food basket and my food basket the
people will thrive*



Class Kererū on camp

NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 DATES

School

Friday 17 th November	5.30 – 6.45pm School Disco - Lower Classrooms
Friday 1st December	Teachers Only Day - school closed, kindy open
Friday 15 th December	Last day of school

Governance

Tuesday 21 st November	5:30 pm Proprietors meeting - Kea classroom
Tuesday 12 th December	5.30pm Board meeting - Kea classroom

Other

Monday, 27 th of November	9:15 and 6pm Parent meeting Lower Classrooms
Wednesday 29 th November	6 pm Anthroposophical Nursing Support Session
Friday 24 th November	3.30pm Strings Concert – Class Kererū

Playgroup

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

Kia ora e te whānau,

The whakatauki on the first page speaks to the work being the work of many and everyone has something to contribute, which is a vital part of our community. Practically it is a huge undertaking and has not become easier as society has changed and impacted our lives and the way we are in the world. And yet, community is one of the most valued areas of our school and kindergarten – a community where everyone can find their place and contribute to the bigger picture in a way that is meaningful to them.

This week we have added and have been added to the wider whānau of our bicultural heritage. Please read below a little bit more about our connection to the Puketeraki Marae from Angela (board member):



Anna Noble and Angela Clark standing at the waharoa at Puketeraki Marae following the signing of the Memorandum of Partnership (MoP) between the Rudolf Steiner School and Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki.

Celebrating a Meaningful Partnership Milestone

“On Monday 13 November, three representatives of the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School were welcomed onto Puketeraki Marae at Karitāne to co-sign a Memorandum of Partnership (MoP), which reflects the cooperation between our kura and Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki.

This MoP is a formal recognition of this collaboration, setting the foundation for support, mutual exchange of activities, and shared resource materials. Suzanne Ellison, Rūnaka Manager, warmly welcomed the formalisation of our partnership, emphasising that the well-being and future of all tamariki—Māori and tauwiwi alike—are at the heart of our collaborative journey. Our partnership status will undergo regular review and renewal every three years, and recognises that te Rūnanga o Ōtākou and Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki as having mana whenua in their rohe.

On behalf of the School Board, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Anna for her unwavering dedication, boundless energy, and months of meticulous planning to facilitate this partnership. Her efforts have been fundamental in guiding the School to this moment, marking an exciting new phase in our transformative bicultural journey.”

This partnership not only enriches the educational experience for our tamariki but also strengthens the ties between our community and the local rūnaka. We look forward to the positive impact this partnership will have on our shared goals for the development of our tamariki and whānau.

Parent evening

I would also like to thank the parents who came to the parent evening last week, please see how Rob (class 1 parent) experienced the evening below:



“As one of the lucky parents who attended the Parent Evening held on November 7th, I would like to thank the staff for giving up their time and energy to share their knowledge and skills with us. We were guided through a painting lesson with James and then a form drawing exercise with Emily. As well as getting to try out the techniques and experience the artistic enjoyment, we were given insights into how and why the two activities really meet the children in a nourishing and age-

appropriate way, i.e. how they align with the generative impulse of that particular Class. As a parent who has taught in Steiner schools, I love it when the community can get a sense of what makes the school special in an experiential way. Without spending time in a Steiner classroom it is hard to appreciate just how enriching, inspiring and fun the curriculum is. Please take a chance to come to the next Parent Meeting when the date is announced. “

The colour experience in class 1 is a special one in which the children learn the dynamics of the colours and how they relate to them as well as what happens between colours. Even on the parent night it became clear, how different people were relating to the yellow, the blue and the red and how they placed them on the paper. At the early stages of exploring colour it is not about creating a particular item but rather to experience colour for what it is and what it can be.

The form drawing in class 4 speaks to the development of the child as they find their way through all the parts that make them who they are, they learn about strong characters and will start relating to parts of the characters they hear about; they will learn fractions and how they make a whole and form drawing goes through the same journey; a woven form drawing becomes a whole at the end of the drawing. A will exercise as much as addressing development and identity, form drawing is a rich and challenging experience throughout the years in Steiner education.

Lastly I would like to say thank you to those who filled out the survey, it has been exciting and thought provoking to read the thoughts and comments, some practical, some philosophical, and all very valuable. Community and growth were the two big themes that have come through and many other insightful ideas that we will look at over the next few weeks, in some cases months and years.

We hope you have the chance to enjoy the sunshine, please remember the sunhat for your child.

Please also take note of the housekeeping notes and invitations below.

Ngā mihi maioha,

Anna Noble
Tumuaki/Principal

INVITATION FOR PARENTS

In order to strengthen parent involvement, I would like to invite all parents (school and kindergarten) to an informal get together, in which we will have the time and space to share some thoughts about:

- What parent involvement could look like?
- What is realistic in general and for your personal circumstances?
- How can we remove barriers?
- (Dare I say it) Make a start on the fair...

I am proposing two times so we can hopefully cater for parents that are restricted by work hours and others that are more flexible:

Monday, 27th of November, 9:15 am and 6pm.

Please note that this is the start of a conversation and no commitment at this stage but hopefully a meeting that will inspire to get involved to the level everyone is able to. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

HOUSEKEEPING

Disco THIS FRIDAY 5:30-6:45pm

The children are very excited about the disco this Friday and are getting ready to welcome everyone. Just a few reminders:

- The disco is for school children – you are welcome to bring your other children along but please have them with you in the whānau room under your supervision.
- We are asking for a gold coin donation on entry so we can cover our costs for the food the classes have prepared.
- There will be fingerfood and some drinks and cups of tea.
- The children are welcome to dress up in a way that is appropriate to the occasion and location, please assist your child with this.

We look forward to seeing many of you there – it will be a colourful night!!

Speed around schools is 30km per hour

The speed limit around the school is 30km per hour. Please ensure that you drive carefully and considerately particularly around the blind corner at the top. We also encourage parents to park further away from the school - for example in Isabel Street on the right as you approach Fern Road. This will ease congestion and reduce risk of someone getting hurt.

Walking Bus

We are looking at a walking bus coming up from the Maia bus stop in the mornings. Please get in touch with the office if you are interested to be part of organising this and/or have a child that would like to be part of a walking bus

Anthroposophical Nursing Support Sessions

The last session for the year is on Wednesday the 29th of November. \$20 per session. All welcome.

Strings concert

Linda (violin teacher) and I (Jocelyn the cello teacher) are very happy to finally be having our annual string concert on Friday the 24th of November. This annual event is to help fundraise for buying instruments for the school music programme.

DATE: 24/11/23

COST: \$15 per family. (inclusive of extended family and friends)

VENUE: Kereru room.

TIME: 3.30pm

Please bring a plate of finger food to celebrate your child's musical journey.
Look forward to seeing you there.

DSO concert

The DSO has kindly provided us with discount vouchers for children and their caregiver to attend the final International concert for 2023: 'Tchaikovsky's Piano on Saturday, 2 December, 7.30 pm at the Dunedin Town Hall. If you are interested please come to the office to collect one.

Photos School and Kindergarten photos should be ready to order by the end of the week – we will be in touch.

News from the Proprietors Trust – and an invitation

Kia ora Steiner whānau, spring greetings to you all.

In reflecting on the fast approaching end of year I have found myself reverently grateful for the community that surrounds Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School.

While you hope your kids make nice friends at a new school it caught me by surprise to make so many of my own while rushing in and out during pick up and drop off, or pushing a wheelbarrow around on a working bee.

I've heard it said that it takes a community to raise a child. Ours has certainly worked diligently for the benefit of all our children.

In recent years individuals in our community have taken it upon themselves to work for the communal good. The new classroom buildings and the after school care programme are two recent examples of years of work whose fruition will benefit many generations of Steiner tamariki.

We hope to soon install a flow form and no doubt many of you will dig the dirt, plant the landscape and weed the garden that will live forever in the memories of our children. Thank you for work.

The Proprietors Trust holds an important role in the governance and guardianship of the school land, buildings and kindergarten as well as safeguarding the special character of the school.

I would like to extend an invitation to you all to consider joining the Proprietors Trust. The decisions that you will help us come to directly affect the environment the kids enjoy during the school day, we only meet once a month and the work is rewarding.

I can tell you from experience that there is never an "easy time to join", life is always busy. But many hands make light work and spring is the time for new growth.

I hope that you consider taking up this wero – come along to our next meeting or contact me if you are interested. Thank you for the ongoing support of our DRSS community.

Sincerely

Kussi Hurtado

Proprietors Trust Chair – proprietors@dunedinsteiner.nz



Thriving garden bed from Class Kākāpō

SCHOOL

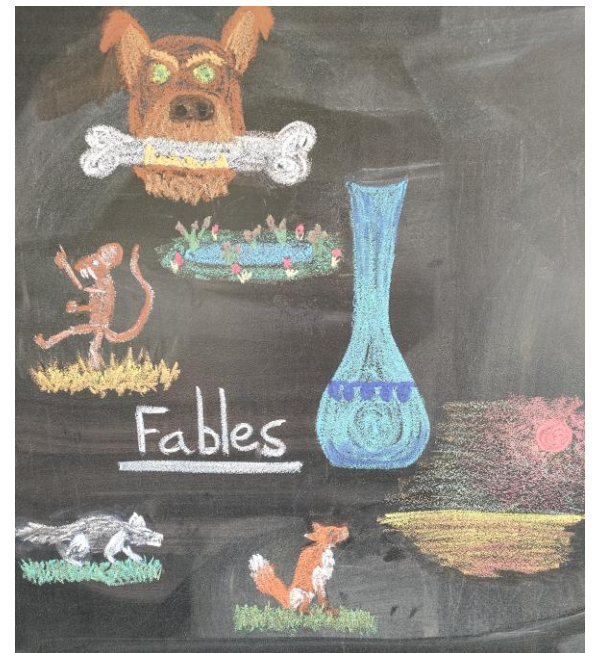
Hello everyone,

The Class Kākāpō members have been diving deep into the spring vibe. We have been taking as many opportunities as possible to play outside in the warming



weather. We are playing more recorder outside, which is great because it lets the students space out and work on some improvising for a change (they do this individually, or for more experienced players sometimes in pairs). We finished a series of paintings on spring flowers, then we moved onto other aspects of springtime – the weather. We painted rain, and also skiescapes with the sun and little clouds.

On the more academic side, we have just finished a Main Lesson on Fables. This was a first taste for Class One but the second Main Lesson block on this topic for Class 2. Perhaps the main point the students take away from a fables Main Lesson is that fables are weird, disappointingly short stories. Even still, they strongly catch the imagination of the children who often see the ‘moral’ or ‘point’ of the story straight away. We have written about the fables in a variety of ways: a classic retelling, through poetry, from the perspective of a character, and what we might say to a character to persuade them to for or against a course of action.



Enjoy the end of Spring,
Until next time,
James

Kia ora koutou from Class Kererū,
We have lots of photos to share with you from the exciting variety of activities we've been up to. We've done so much science this term, beginning with Polytech Design students visiting to share with us the fun experimental designs they had created ... it inspired our Acoustics Main lesson in which we also experimented with sound. More recently we went to the Science Roadshow to explore even more wonderful science wonders!



The West Harbour Sports Day was a lot of fun and definitely got everyone very active... with plenty of sore muscles the day after! Of course the highlight this term has been our class camp at the Waiora Scout Camp. We had 3 packed days with some new activities like archery and mountain biking, plus the wicked waterslide and swimming in the river. We enjoyed trekking in the native bush surrounding hills and Abseiling challenged our comfort zone and the fact that we were there on Halloween gave a flavour never to forget with our 'Talent for a Treat' night torch walk. It was a fantastic team-building and personal self-confidence building experience for us all.





Ka kite, from Trisha and Class Kererū

Tennis

Ben, from Class Kererū, represented the Steiner school at the Otago Primary and Intermediate tennis tournament on Friday 3rd November. With a couple of tight matches, Ben won the tournament on countback of sets won. A great effort and determination to get the result, whilst having fun and making friends with the other competitors there.

Ben now plays this coming Friday in the Southern Tournament at the Edgar Centre, representing both the Steiner School and the Otago region.



KINDERGARTEN

HEARTFELT APPRECIATION FOR THE KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

I want to share my appreciation of my colleagues here in the Kindergarten.



We are blessed to have Bex, Pamala, Hannah, Junko and Peggy with the children each day. They truly are the best teachers a child and whānau could wish for. Thank you also to Joella and Alida who work with us on Fridays.

Along with the many rewarding aspects and moments that come with being a Kindergarten teacher, there are, of course, also many challenging times that accompany working with young children.

Our wonderful staff are dedicated, loving and kind. The support, respect and collegiality demonstrated in our Kindergarten means that not only do we have a wonderful workplace, but the children benefit from the positive and authentic relationships around them.

It is people who make a place, and we couldn't wish for better than our wonderful team.

With much love and gratitude,

Ngā mihinui,

Julie



PLAYGROUP

Our playgroup space has been undergoing a spring refresh. With a new rug, some kitchen shelving and storage and the beginnings of an upgraded parent library wall. We have also started to receive some more of the special bi-cultural play resources we have been ordering this year. Our dolls can now rest peacefully in their new wahakura and the tangata whenua peg dolls have been busy riding in our trucks, caring for the wooden kararehe and making themselves generally at home on our windowsills. Thank you also to whaea Jocelyn for the gift of a new wooden doll bed. Some of our dolls have been on an extended respite holiday and are preparing to return soon with new outfits, clean hair and rosy cheeks.

Alida and Miriam

CRAFT GROUP

Craft group is having a break for now. Keep an eye on this space for future updates. Remember to pop into the craft shop at the office for special handmade gifts and for candles.

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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Dunedin Playground feedback - Dunedin City Council is asking for feedback on our concept plans for destination playgrounds at Marlow Park (the Dinosaur Park), Woodhaugh Gardens and Mosgiel Memorial Gardens. People can provide their feedback online and the DCC is holding several open days and drop-ins if they would like to talk to us in person about the playgrounds.

You can see the plans, and flythrough videos and fill in the feedback form at www.dunedin.govt.nz/destination-play

You can also email parksconsulting@dcc.govt.nz if you would like the DCC to send you the feedback form, poster and Facebook tile to help you share the destination playground information with your families. Feedback closes on Monday, 4 December 2023.

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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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The Port Chalmers Swimming Club will be hosting its annual Swimathon fundraising event on Sunday 19th November. This event is based at the local pool, is family-friendly and lots of fun!

