



"The angels want to enable us to come to the spirit by way of our thinking, to bridge the abyss of the physical world and the spiritual realm with our thinking."

Rudolf Steiner



NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 DATES

School

Friday 1st December	Teachers Only Day - school closed, kindy open
Thursday, 7 th December	Parent teacher interviews In classrooms
Friday 15 th December	Last day of school

Governance

Thursday 5 th December	5:30 pm Proprietors meeting TBC - Kea classroom
Tuesday 12 th December	5:30 pm Board meeting - Kea classroom

Other

Wednesday 29 th November	6 pm Anthroposophical Nursing Support Session
Saturday 2 nd December	10:45-11:45 pm Violin busking – Farmers Market
Monday 4 th December	9am Fair meeting - Lower classroom

Playgroup

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

Kia ora e te whānau,

It has been a busy two weeks, and it feels like summer is not only in the air but there is also a real impulse for moving forward as a community – which is very exciting, especially this late in the year, where energies often run out. Thank you to everyone who came to the parent engagement meetings and has shared ideas and thoughts about how we can make sure we can engage with each other for the better of the school and every individual. In the next newsletter we will share a few things and ideas that have come out of these meetings that you can take into the summer so please keep an eye out for that. It was delightful to see the parents at the disco organising the whānau room and connecting with each other, while the children enjoyed the disco.

And with music we continue as we enjoyed the musical performances from all the violin and cello players from our current students and even some alumni. A big thank you to our violin teacher Linda and our cello teacher Jocelyn, who share their knowledge and passion for the string instruments every week – we are very lucky to have them as part of our community.

Please read this newsletter carefully as there is a lot of important and nourishing information for you and note the teacher only day this Friday and our first fair meeting next Monday!

I will leave you with some thoughts on angels – we all know they are among us!

Noho ora mai, *Anna Noble* Tumuaki/Principal

Angels: Angel is a word that is used quite widely in the English language in many different contexts from the higher being to a more casual description of a good person. Being from Germany, where the word ‘Engel’ is used less casually (and always having been interested in languages), this has been a thought that has stuck with me since our last college meeting. Children often hear about their guardian angel and this can bring solace and safety for many, may it be at night or during hard times, may it be in their everyday ventures of nature walks or looking at the sky. We are lucky here at the school that angels are part of our work. If you wanted to create a picture we could visualise them standing behind us in an equally supportive and guiding way, helping us to seek unity, courage, wisdom and light.

After School Care 2024

We are delighted that it has been decided to continue this service in 2024. It would help us if you would indicate what hours you may be seeking in 2024. At this stage

it looks like we will offer from 3pm to 5 or 5:30pm each day, but your feedback will be helpful. Please reply direct to the office or on this link: [After School Care Survey](#)

Cleaner Required 2024

Our weekend school cleaner is leaving at the end of this year. The work takes around 3 to 3.5 hours each weekend in term time for the school classrooms and ancillary spaces only. If you are interested please contact the office by 8th December with a letter or email explaining why you are the person for the job.

After School Care Workers Required

We are also recruiting new after school care workers for 2024. The hours are from 2.45 to 5pm (possibly 5:30pm) – with some flexibility.

Both the cleaner position and the after school care workers are advertised on our website with job descriptions. <https://www.dunedinsteiner.nz/noticeboard.html>

Violin Busking this Saturday

Linda's violin classes will be busking at the farmers' market this Saturday 10.45-11.45. Come and support them! Proceeds towards new bows, shoulder rests, cases and strings for our violins!

Parking around the School - Road Safety

We would like to encourage families to consider parking in Isabel Road (a right hand off Manapouri as you come up to the school). This would ease congestion. Please do not park on the yellow lines or the school driveways. We also would like to congratulate all those who walk up the hill from the Maia bus stop - what a healthy way to start the day!

SCHOOL – Class Kererū

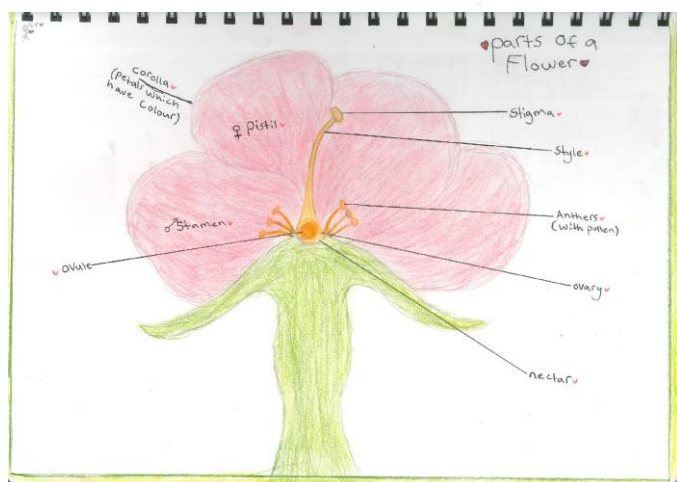
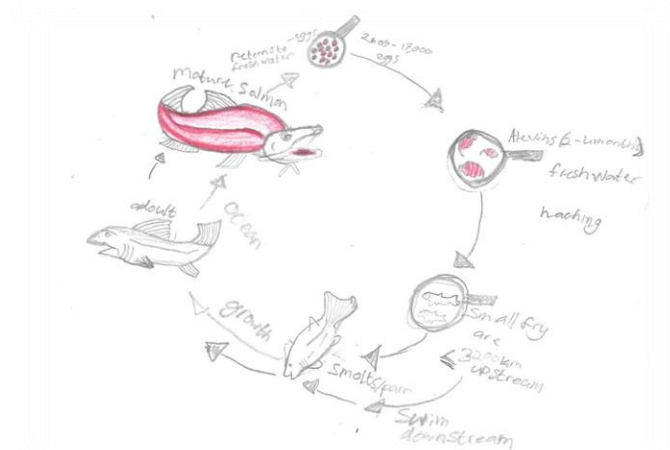
Kia ora,

It's such a busy term and we are learning lots amongst all the happenings. Here are a few samples from our Main Lessons this term, as we've been embarking on discovering more in depth awareness of the main phases of Life cycles and why they matter. We have been enjoying writing with an emphasis on expressive writing. Have a look at a few here.

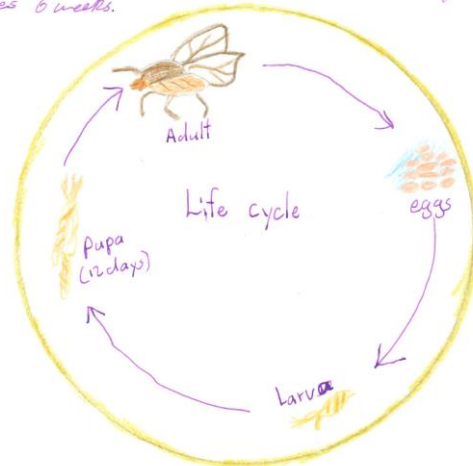
Hope you enjoy our sharing.

Ka kite,

Life Cycle of a Salmon



There are 18 types of sandflies, only 3 species can bite and only the females bite. Because they need the blood to produce eggs, they mostly bite in early morning or late afternoon although they may bite during the day. Females are bigger than males. Females lay their eggs in damp moist ^{places} often in water but not to deep, then when the eggs hatch their food is already there for them, eat tiny particles that are in the water. Their lifespan is between 1-3 months depending on their environment. The whole process takes 6 weeks.



By Buster

*With both my ears ringing
I can hear the birds singing
Interesting noises all around
Pine rustling, making a sound
Many trees around a log
Trees slowly sinking in the bog
Back to class, onto math
If you fail you'll feel wrath (only joking!)*

By Muriwai

When you're only six, a diving board feels like it's as tall as the Eiffel Tower.

I watched as my friends Lena, Vivi and Cassi jumped off the 3-metre diving board. When Cassi, Vivi's big sister came out of the water she asked me "Are you too scared to jump little baby?" How dare she I thought. How dare she call me a baby!

I thought that if I jumped, I would not be a baby. So, with shaking hands and thumping heart, I walked up the ladder, jumped off the end and ... it felt like I was flying. It was epic. I guess it was not as high as the Eiffel Tower after all.

By Will

Considering that I was only seven and I was scared of heights, you couldn't judge that I was stuck at the top of a dark climbing wall freaking out. I was nowhere near brave and tough enough to jump, what looked like one thousand miles down. What if I hit my head? What if I twist my ankle? ... clearly lost in thought.

"Come on Will", my dad called. "You can do it. Just jump!" Clearly terrified, like a cat getting chased by a dog, I gripped onto one of the handle-holds tightly and looked down... It was probably the worst idea because I was scared of heights. The ground looked so far down.

Finally, my dad said, "If you jump down, I'll get you a chocolate bar." The second I heard the word chocolate, I had to take a deep breath and closed my eyes, opened my eyes, looked down, BAD IDEA! I almost lost my grip to my safe spot. After millions of hesitations, I finally covered my eyes with my hands and as slow as a snail, I half climbed, half slid down, still trembling.

I still got my clear, sweet chocolate bar, but considering I was seven, I was pretty brave. Agreed?

The scary sleepover

It maybe isn't the best idea to watch scary movies before bed. Especially on a dark winter night. But I was with my best friend Eve, and I was five and she was eight, and, well, we accidentally clicked on a scary movie. Looking back on it now, it wasn't actually very scary at all, but we were terrified. We sat there frozen, absolutely petrified. It was about a girl who's watching tv and she sees a monster on tv, with wierd, breathing like Darth Vader. It was saying "I'm coming closer! I'm coming closer!"

After the movie was finished, our mums came to say goodnight and then left. Oh dear. We lay there in the dark, clutching each other and trembling. A bird screeched outside and we screamed. A branch tapped the window and we cowered under the covers. Finally, finally we fell asleep.

Around midnight I woke up in the dark. "Eve! Eve!" I whispered, shaking her. "What is it?" She mumbled. "Listen!" She listened. We could both hear it. A wierd sound. Like... "The monster!" We screamed. It sounded just like the monster from the movie. "You go look!" I hissed, trying to shove her out of bed. "No!" She yelped "you go look!" It went on like that for a while. Eventually we just tried to forget about it and go to sleep.

Finally it was morning. We got up and went to breakfast, our eyes drooping. "Morning girls, how did you sleep?" My mum asked. Anna, Eve's mum, got up and came over to us. "I hope you weren't kept awake by me!" "Huh?" We looked at each other, confused. "I was

snoring." She said. "Ohhhhh!" We felt stupid. The scary noise had been Anna snoring. Because after all, it maybe isn't the best idea to watch scary movies before bed. Especially on a dark winter night.

by Lena

KINDERGARTEN

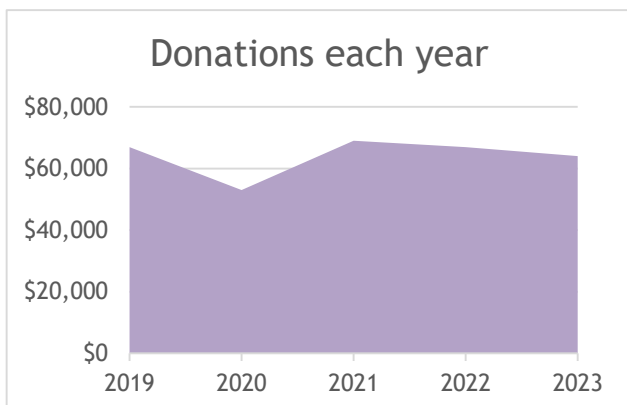
Kia ora e te whānau,

Here is a little glimpse of the Koru room children visiting the Kōwhai room to look at the tuakana making their crowns for the ceremony at the end of the year. Kā mihi nui, *Julie*



Kindergarten Financial Matters

Sometimes people turn away when financial matters are up for discussion. Please read on. Without money our kindergarten will close. This would be a worse outcome than reading about money matters! I am preparing the kindergarten budget for next year and also reviewing where we are at now. Kindergarten is in need of more resources – and our community contributions make a real difference. What concerns me at the moment is that **our financial contributions seem to be on something of a downward trend**, while we all know that the cost to run the kindergarten has increased over the years.



What can you do? I ask everyone to **re-evaluate what you are able to contribute**, check the statements of what you pledged and what you paid, and see if you can **fulfil your pledge** – or even look to increase it. At the moment our income for 2023 or 2024 is not looking like it will cover our costs.

Our other source of funding is the government. This is **our biggest source of funding**. The kindergarten is funded according to the number of hours each child attends. If a child is absent we still receive funding until the absence is repeated three times. So if your child is repeatedly not attending a part of the day the kindergarten loses its funding. Come for the hours booked and help us to maximise our resources.

There are significant **paperwork requirements** to ensure we receive the funding we are due. If the office is chasing you for a signature, **please come in as soon as you can**, to allow us to work effectively.

And as the kindergarten funding is mostly based on the number of children attending each hour, then **spread the word, encourage other interested families** to look at whether this is the right place for their child too. **We have spaces available in 2024.**

Kā mihi, Clare

PLAYGROUP

We have had some parents interested in touring the school and kindergarten. So if you would like to join me next week, I would be happy to show you around.

Monday 4th December 11:30 am, meet in the playgroup garden or 2 pm in the playgroup room. I will be happy to answer any questions about continuing Steiner education through the kindergarten, primary and intermediate school years.

Alida

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.

.....
The Christmas Eve Festival – Christmas event for all Dunedin families: Date: Sunday 24 December 2023

Time: 2.00pm-3.15pm followed by Christmas Service & Carols 3.15-4.00pm, Where: Montecillo Park, 40 Eglinton Road, Dunedin. FREE: Face Painting, BBQ, Popcorn, Bouncy Castles, Field Games and petting some live animals. Hosted by: Hope Church Dunedin & Mornington Presbyterian Church. <https://www.facebook.com/hopechurchdunedin>

.....
Port Chalmers Library: There will be a Kids Book Club next Monday 4th December. Kids can come along to the library and see us after school for snacks and a fun activity (3:15pm – 4:30pm)

.....
Oranga Tamariki Caregiver Support team (CGRS) – Dunedin is looking for potential caregivers for children in need of emergency, respite, and long-term placements. If this interests you, come to the school office and we will give you a flier with more information.



"FINDING CALM IN A CHAOTIC WORLD: and nurturing your inner wellbeing"

In Person Focusing Workshop: Discover the foundational skills of Focusing from which you'll come away with a self-directed process to support you in any part of your life: your family, your relationships, your career, your community, and beyond. Helps with: stress and anxiety / overwhelming feelings / inner critic / tuning in to your body's wisdom / increasing self-compassion /

Focusing partnership VISIT Website: www.wellbeingway.squarespace.com (and go to Services, then Live events to register your interest. Or contact Trisha on 0277123222)

.....



Positions Available: Weekend Cleaner from 2024 and After School Care Workers

Our weekend school cleaner is leaving at the end of this year. The work takes around 3 to 3.5 hours each weekend in term time for the school classrooms and ancillary spaces only.

We are also recruiting new after school care workers for 2024. The hours are from 2.45 to 5pm (possibly 5:30)– with some flexibility.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the office by 8th December with a letter or email explaining why you are the person for the job. More details on our school website <https://www.dunedinsteiner.nz/noticeboard.html>

.....



COME JOIN US FOR THREE FULL DAYS OF EURYTHMY
IN THE BEAUTIFUL SETTING OF TARUNA!

This summer workshop offers three full days from the 9th – 11th of January immerse oneself in the dynamic movements of visible speech and music. The workshop is open to all those interested in or passionate about eurythmy no matter what age, profession or field of interest.

