



I feel strange power, bearing fruit
And gaining strength to give myself
to me.
I sense the seed maturing
And expectation, light-filled, weaving
Within me on my selfhood's power.

Rudolf Steiner



NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 DATES

School

Tuesday 27 th February	6pm Parent experience meeting
Tuesday 9 th April	9:30 am and 12pm, School tours
Wednesday 12 th April	St. Michael's play

Kindergarten

Wednesday 21 st February	2pm Kindy picnic
Monday 26 th February	2pm Kindy parents & guests talk: Intro to Steiner Ed.
Monday 8 th April	12:30 to 1pm, Kindy open afternoon
Thursday 11 th April	Kindy harvest festival

Governance

Tuesday, 12 th March	5:30pm Board meeting
Tuesday, 19 th March	5:30pm Proprietors meeting

Other

Saturday, 24 th February	10am-4pm Thieves Alley Market
Saturday, 9 th March	8-12pm Farmers Market Fair stall
Sunday, 17 th March	11-3pm Fair – Fair - Fair Everywhere
Fri – Sat, 22 nd -23 rd March	Community Camping Opportunity - Naseby

Playgroup

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

Kia ora e te whānau,

I can't believe it has already been two weeks since the last newsletter, it feels longer and at the same time it has flown by!

Thank you to everyone who came to the working bee, it was a lovely afternoon with incredible adult and children helpers and coming back to school, it was hard to believe how much we have achieved in such a short timeframe! It was lovely hearing the conversations and laughter around the place and seeing the children giving us adults a run for our money – they were unstoppable! It has led to a new found enthusiasm around school and we have had quite a few of our children asking for some tools to do some gardening, cleaning up and generally looking after their grounds, which is so lovely to see. The sandpit has been used very well by the younger children in particular and is looked after by the older children, which cements the tuakana teina relationships around the school even further.

Please read below about some of the upcoming events and opportunities and we hope to see as many of you there as possible!

Thieves Alley Market (Saturday, 24th of February, 10am-4pm): We have booked a stall at the Thieves Alley Market this year, as this is a great opportunity to be seen in the wider community and to spread the word about who we are and what we do. There is still room for a couple more people to come and look after the stall but even if you cannot stay there, please come and visit us and have a look!

Parent Experience Evening (Tuesday, 27th of February, 6-7:30pm): Please come along to our parent experience evening, where we will learn more about the arts curriculum in the older classes. Please let us know if you are planning on coming so we can make sure we have the right space prepared!

Otago Farmers Market (9th of March, 8am -12pm): We will have a stall at the Farmers Market to advertise our fair and generally the school. If you are able to join us for some of that time, please let us know – it is usually a lovely time among the good people at the Farmers Market!

Raffle sales at New World Gardens (12th and 14th of march from 12 to 2pm): Can you mind a table sell raffles and hand out flyers for the school fair to those who are interested? This is an easy and relaxed job if you have the time availability.

Fair Emails: Please keep an eye out for our fair emails, the countdown is on and if everyone can do a little bit, we will be able to showcase the best our community has to offer!

Community Camping Opportunity (22nd-23rd of March): if you managed to miss Jenny's email about this lovely idea, please have a look at the details below:

- Book your own spot at the Naseby campground: <https://nasebyhp.nz/>
- Spend the weekend with other families from the community
- Experience the beautiful Naseby with its walking tracks, biking tracks, swimming and more.

Anna Noble

Tumuaki/Principal

Special Character thoughts:

Today we are going to take a closer look into ingredient number 1:

'The curriculum unfolds over time, is wide and richly experiential: not merely designed towards narrowly-defined 'achievement' but intended to promote capability for the art of living.'

What a strength this is in our curriculum; not only does it allow the children to learn with all their senses but it also allows them the time they need to master certain skills. Sometimes this is mistaken with a 'child led' curriculum, however it is about child readiness and the curriculum allowing the time for each child to go at their own pace. The other aspect to this is the focus on the 'art of living' rather than achievement – starting with the focus on learning to be a learner and being comfortable with experiencing themselves as learners and leading into a content rich curriculum which is lived and therefore experienced in all its depths. Achievement falls out of this quite naturally and without anxiety for the children – something that sets the children up for living a life with capabilities and readiness.

Anna Noble Tumuaki/Principal

Te reo Māori focus of the week

Te reo Māori – kei te kōrero tonu tātou

We hope your tamariki are sharing some of their reo with you at home. The primary teachers have moved on to ask "how are you?" and to provide a selection of responses. Ask your child – kei te pēhea koe? (how are you?) and you may hear back:

Kei te pai ahau – I am good | Kei te ora ahau – I am well

Fill in the gaps from the choices below:-

Kei te _____ ahau

Or you may ask your child “Kei te hiakai koe?” Are you hungry? “kei te hiainu koe?” Are you thirsty?

Ngenge	tired	Mataku	scared / frightened
Hiakai	hungry	Hiamo	excited
Hiainu	thirsty	Māuiui	sick
Harikoa	happy	Pōuri	sad

Ko taku reo, taku ohoooho, ko taku reo taku mapihi mauria.

My language is my awakening; my language is the window to my soul.

News from Proprietors Trust

The Trust welcomed two new members this year. Daniel Roberts, father of Owen and Sylvie in school and kindy, has joined together with João Machado, who has Piper in kindy. Welcome to both. We thanked Jenny Wigley for her work on the Trust - she has stepped back from being a Trustee. The Trust safeguards special character, governs the kindergarten and is the owner of the land and buildings. Key issues discussed in the last meeting were how to fill our kindergarten spaces and looking to consolidate our site plan as we look into future needs.

After School Care

Our after school care programme continues this year working out of the playgroup room. There are two staff working with the children most days. Our staff team is Fatima, Poppy and Sydelle.

Meet our Board Presiding Member – Angel Clark

Kia ora, I'm Angela Clark, the Presiding Member on the School Board. Originally from the UK, my journey led me to Germany during my childhood and back to England, before finally finding a home here in Ōtepoti in 2009. In my professional life, I am a forensic anthropologist. Dunedin became my home when I embarked on my PhD at the University of Otago. I also run a small company, *The Science of Crime*.



My connection with the Steiner community began in 2017 when my daughter was six months old, she is now 7 years old and a proud taura in Class Kiokio.

As Presiding Chair, I am excited to bring my knowledge of governance to the board and look forward to developing new relationships and partnerships on our transformative bicultural journey. In this spirit, you will also read the call for

nominations notice in this newsletter, as we are actively seeking passionate individuals to join our growing board.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Jerry Hsu, our immediate past Presiding Chair, who stepped away from the role in December. Additionally, I extend a sincere thank you to Michelle McGrath, who has diligently undertaken the Personnel portfolio on the board over the past year. On behalf of the Board and the executive staff, kā mihi maioha kōrua for your time and commitment to these crucial roles.

I hope to connect with all members of our community, nurture the growth and well-being of our tamariki, and help steer our Steiner community towards continued success. Feel free to reach out in person or by email (Theboard@dunedinsteiner.nz), at any point.

Naku iti noā, nā,

Angela Clark - Presiding Member, Steiner School Board

School Board Election – by election

Parent Election Notice

Nominations are open for the election of 1 parent representative to the school board. All eligible voters will receive a nomination form. Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided with the nomination form. If you need more nomination forms, contact the school office. Nominations close at **noon** on *25 March*. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination. The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours. As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day, which you can view. Voting closes at **4pm** on *29 April*.

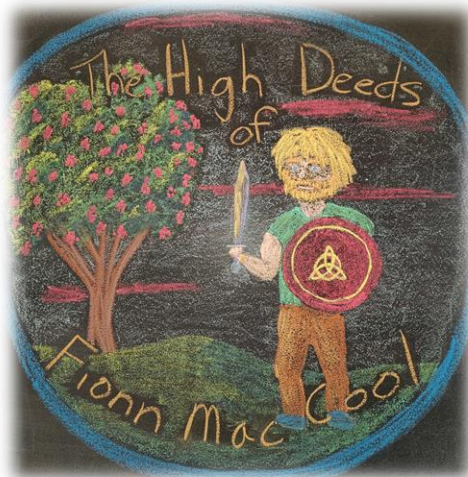
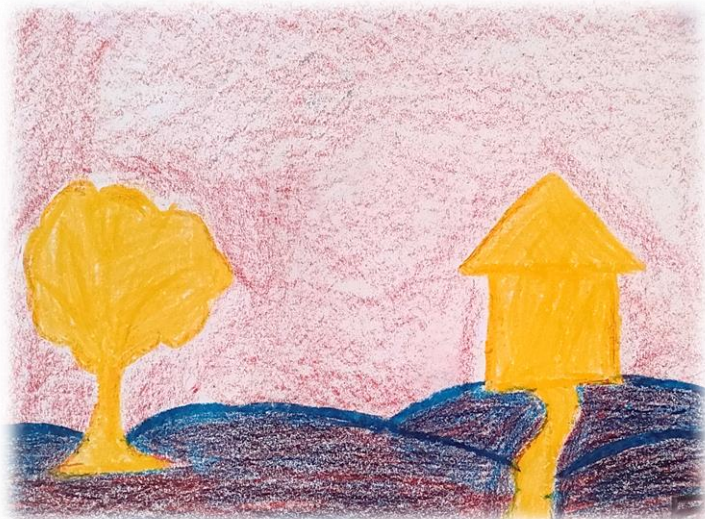
Clare Ridout - Returning Officer

SCHOOL – Class Kākāpō (Class 2 & 3)

Tēnā koutou katoa,

The class has been enjoying the abundance of fruit. Our 'little fruit' sharing has become a 'regular fruit' where everyone gets 1 (or even more) plums to themselves. This naturally led us into talking about the slowly changing season and how we are moving into late summer. Many class members are already starting to see ripe apples and other tidings of Autumn.

We are exploring colour combinations in art at the moment. Because we want a 'clean' yellow colour, we have been making the yellow section first and then colouring around that. This is technically much more difficult than painting the background first. We have a whole wall awash with the colours purple and gold.



We have just started a Main Lesson on the Irish story 'The High Deeds of Fionn Mac Cool'. Already the class is excited by the different portrayal of the Fairy Folk, and the wonderful and different sounding names of the various characters in the story.

I hope the end of summer, and the start of Autumn, treats you well.

That's all for now. Be Well, *James*

KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome to Drake and his parents Priscilla and Torin, to Jonas (brother of Anja in Class 3) and Eadie (sister to William in Class 5). They have started in our kindy this term.

We welcome you all to a whānau picnic today Wednesday the 21st of February at 2pm, weather permitting.

On Monday 26th of February at 2pm, we will hold a parent talk: **Introduction to Steiner Education**. We highly encourage you to attend and hope to see you there.

We need your help as we are experiencing an issue with clip-on bag attachments. These are becoming a problem as they induce competition and distraction from their play. Please leave these at home!

Nutrition: Steiner education recognises the importance of good nutrition as a foundational aspect of good health and wellbeing. We provide organic staples for the regular morning teas provided and do rely on each family bringing their daily contribution. Children take pride in bringing their fruit and vegetables along. This adds to their sense of rhythm and routine, which in turn assists in strengthening their etheric bodies (their life-forces).

Just to remind everyone, children are to **bring a fruit every day** they attend, as well as the following:

Tuesday - a vegetable for soup

Thursday - an extra fruit for the crumble

Friday - a vegetable suitable for roasting.

Please do remember to bring your contribution - it ensures that all children are able eat their fill. Many children ask for seconds, and unfortunately there is often not enough!

Kā mihi nui, *kindy kaiako*

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup is back on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30.

See you all then! *Alida and Jenny* dunedinsteinerplaygroup@gmail.com

CRAFTGROUP

Calling all crafters We have prepared some kits with the instructions and material necessary. They are felted animals and are easy to do. You can help by taking a kit home and bringing back the item when ready. The kits are at the office, just drop in and get one. Thanks, *Jen and Miho*

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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Valley Kids Lego & Craft Club: This term's dates for the club are: Wednesday Feb 21st, 3-4:30pm and Wednesday March 20th, 3-4:30pm at the valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Road.

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Harbourside Junior Football Club Registration is open. Welcome to the 2024 Season. Harbourside Football Club provides Junior Football in the West Harbour area from Ravensbourne to Aramoana. Our players range from 5 through to 13. Registration is now open and will close at the end of March – the season starts at the end of April. Here is the link to register online - <https://forms.gle/5bJwKrwXktyB9L5u8> You can access the registration form from our facebook page or by emailing the club harboursidefootball@gmail.com or contact Caro Timms on 0211435550 for additional information.

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Otago Rugby is excited to hold the Spirit Sisters Rippa Tournament again on Monday 11th March at Forsyth Barr Stadium. This is a FREE girls-only event for Years 3-8 students, focused on participating and having fun. It's also a great opportunity for students to experience playing under the roof at the stadium! The event briefing will be at 9.00 am, with play starting directly after that. The event should be wrapped up around 2.00 pm. Please register here: <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/285583> Registrations close at 5.00 pm on Monday 4 March 2024. Further details will be provided once registrations closes.

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Are you wondering what you will do when your children reach high school age? Do you wish there was another option in Dunedin? Something more in line with your experiences here at Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School, Kindergarten and Playgroup? Something that will meet the needs of and inspire teenagers and young adults to be their best selves? Well, so do we! We are a few parents that have young children (some not even in kindy yet) and in the new year we want to invite you to a social get together to talk about High School. To swap stories about our own experiences, our hopes and visions for the future.

Perhaps there we can plant the seed for a High School Development Group. Together we hope we can find a feasible path to an inspiring secondary school option for Dunedin in the next few years.

So start the conversation with your partner or friends and keep a lookout for our invitation in the next newsletter. And if this sparks your interest, let us know. Alida Harris, Jenny Pentelow and Jenny Wigley