



Some of class 4 & 5 in action

In misty, moisty autumn air,
 Summer lingers still through mellow
 days,
 And light which glimmers gold and fair
 Is dimmed and dulled by gentle veils of
 haze.

I myself can clearly see
 How autumn, soft and slow, is creeping.
 Summer gave herself to me
 And now departs for winter-sleeping.

Michael Hedley Burton



NEWSLETTER

DIARY OF DATES

Tuesday 12 th March	7 pm Proprietors meeting
Monday 11 th March	6 pm Kindergarten Parent evening
Monday 11 th March	3 pm class 7 Parent evening
Thursday 14 th March	7 pm Launch of the Capital Campaign - Toitu Settlers Museum
Thursday 4 th April	Kindergarten Harvest Festival

PLAYGROUP TIMES

Mondays 10 to 12 pm	Mixed age children - Pine Hill
Wednesdays 10 to 12 pm	Mixed age children - Pine Hill
Fridays 10 to 12 pm	Te Reo Maori - Mixed age children - Pine Hill

Kia ora koutou,

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Principals' Hui in Wellington for all the Steiner schools in Aotearoa.

Coming relatively recently from the Steiner world in UK and Europe, I can share my excitement and appreciation of the earnest professional endeavour of the movement here in New Zealand.

There are so many working groups and new pathways being forged, all with the goal of refining and redefining the Special Character of our Education and how it fits and works in the context of today.

Although we are small and only a primary school, we are engaged with all this work; Jane attends a literacy working group and James attends a similar Maths group and as Acting Principal I go to the appropriate gatherings.

All the work and research of course has its foundation in our understanding of the developing child as well as our recognition of the need for academic excellence suited to the diversity of needs of children of today.

Filled with this positive impression, I come back to Dunedin and I see the children here and experience the warmth of our small community and I am heartened.

We are a great little school in a great little city and we are even having amazing weather.

So, as the pledges start to flow and we begin our fundraising campaign to finance our classroom needs, it feels like the place to be!!

There is a separate article update on the campaign so it needs not to be said here, but I would like to stress that the style of campaigning is deliberately pitched to respect and embrace the freedom of the individual. This is not a social exercise about who gives what, but an inward reflection for each individual/ family to determine what they might/ or not pledge out of total personal freedom.

I invite you to come and chat/ share your thoughts about how you are experiencing the quite specialised personal campaign method as we rely on your feedback to keep us on a positive course.

We all have a common goal and are aspiring for an inclusive community undertaking.

Thank you to everyone who has already given time to the campaign and of course the money you may have pledged

Please remember I am available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays if you have something to discuss - or just pop in and say hello.

Pene

Capital Fundraising campaign – An open letter by Silke Templeton

Become a team member – Please join our meeting today at 7 pm in the Kowhai Room or tomorrow at 1.30 pm at Ravensbourne Hall

We are only one week away from our Big Capital Fundraising Launch – 14 March at Toitu from 7pm to 8pm! Many of our people including myself are busy getting it organized. There are a lot of different roles and tasks that people have taken on. I have signed up to be a fundraising team leader and fundraiser. **Thanks to everyone who has signed up for this crucial part of the campaign!**

Let's face it – we all need the new school buildings and without asking for money there won't be one. It is that simple really. Having worked in a marketing and fundraising campaign office a decade ago, hanging on the phone to big businesses and corporations all day long, I quickly discovered that without having valuable connections to a person or a cause it was hard to even get past the receptionist. There are a million good causes out there that need financial support, all worthy and all needed.

We have an amazing project in front of us – an amazing opportunity to grow our education within Dunedin to give more parents the opportunity to send their children to our school. The money for this will be coming from the heart, it will be coming through connections – in small amounts and in bigger amounts depending on individual financial ability. Every bit counts.

Right now, what is most important is TRUST. Steiner education in Dunedin takes trust. 4 years ago my husband and I took a leap of trust when we decided to send our oldest child (Luka) to class 1. We had a lot of concerns and questions – and we have not regret our decision for one day – not for Luka nor for Liam or Finn.

Today I like to ask everyone for a leap of trust for this campaign. Trust that everyone who has been involved in this project has done their homework and research over the last 4 years and that all decisions have been made to best knowledge.

Let's build our new classrooms. Let's make this happen. Thanks Silke

Drive Carefully Please

Please drive responsibly around the school. We have received a complaint from a local family about the speed at which parents are driving. Thanks.

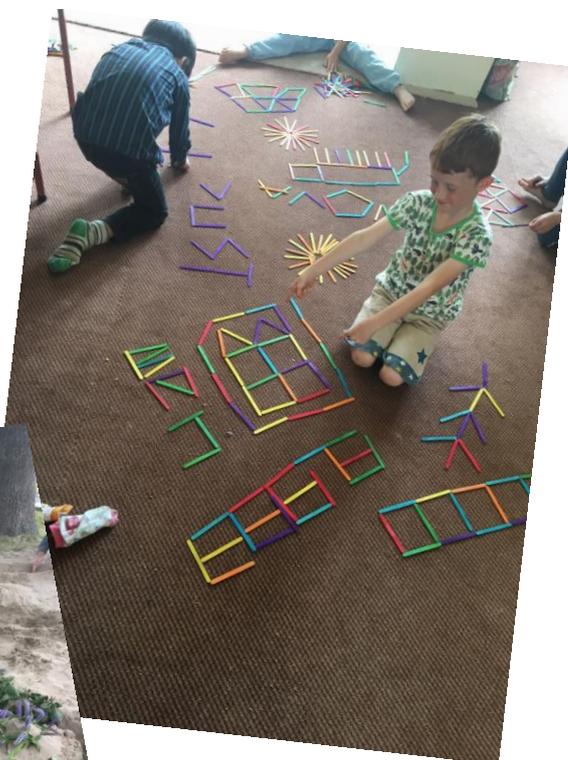
Casual relievers for the Kindergarten

Our kindergarten is looking for people available for casual relieving. Please contact Julie for more details or to register your interest.

SCHOOL NEWS

Class 1 & 2

Lots of action in our youngest classes.



Class 5 & 6

Kia ora koutou,

Class 5 & 6 has been busy so far this term.

We started the term by looking at Borromean rings, triangles, and other shapes. The Main Lesson after that was Ancient China. That Main Lesson followed the

growth of millet farming in the yellow river valley, past the introduction of flood control and wall building, through several dynasties, and the warring states period, to the conquest of the Chin state and the first emperor of China.

Alongside the story of Ancient China we have been exploring the 4 arts of the Junzi, which are said to help one develop a feeling for the flow of the Dao: Painting, Calligraphy, Music, and Weiqi (Go).



This week we have begun our second look at Human and Animal. We will investigate more types of animals (last time we looked at Mammals, Reptiles, and Insects). We will also explore how animals can 'speak' to us about human character - Coyote the trickster, for example.

Our garden has been abundant this term, and we enjoyed a feast made with produce from it. We combined our garden produce with millet, like they ate long ago in the yellow river valley, and it was a hit with the class!

Oh, we also were very happy to receive new storage for our room. In such a small space better solutions are always welcome.

Enjoy the term. James

Class 7

Thank you Petra!

After many years of parenting at DRSS and then many years as TA accompanying one child through the Primary school, Petra helped to usher in the new class one with Trisha, as a final stage of working for the school.

However, I believe she is still helping out with the new class one and two for certain lessons so I suspect we will be seeing more of her.

Being so much a part of the fabric of the school, one tends to take things for granted but I can certainly say that Petra was an excellent colleague throughout the years we worked together, with extraordinary patience, empathy and courage in her sometimes challenging role.

Just as Lukas is missed, the children will miss her kind presence around the school and as teachers we will miss her reliability and the capacity to be unobtrusively active in the classroom.

So thank you Petra for all your service to the school.

We can all see her on Saturday mornings on the platform at Market selling very healthy smoothies right next to the local Wine merchant!!

Pene Johnstone

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Dear Whanau,

Welcome Faith & Jona and their whanau to the Koro room.

This Thursday we will begin our whanau catch-up chats in which we will discuss what you see as important for your child this year. These are short 15minute slots, so it would be helpful if you are prompt.

Our parent talk is next Monday evening at 6pm. We will be focusing on supporting your child at their appropriate developmental stage.

We are currently reviewing our Kindergarten Philosophy, which is particularly valuable with the expansion of the kindergarten and new staff. We will of course provide the new document once it is complete.

Our focus this term is 'Connections'. Each room is contributing valuable ideas and working with the children in many different ways to support the deepening of this goal.

Julie

Do you listen to podcasts? We highly recommend you check out the Simplicity Parenting podcasts (Which link to the excellent book of the same name) by Kim John Payne. These short (10-minute) gems into ways to positively support children come out weekly. You can find them at: <https://www.simplicityparenting.com/>, [itunes](#), or wherever you get your podcasts.



Your Kindy Teachers, *Juile, Kate, Sandra, Aleisha, Junko and Alida.*

P.S. Please keep cartoon clothing for the weekends, if you find your child's t-shirt turned inside out, this is why. We are occasionally required to find creative ways to make sure our clothing policy is implemented in the kindergarten.

Our new visitor to Kowhai room.
A big thank you to Susie

PLAYGROUP

It has been lovely having our Pinehill space enjoyed by more children and parents now all our sessions have moved up there. It is a beautiful space already set up for playgroup each week, we have been enjoying the sunny days so far this term and the increased outdoor space which has been expanded to meet the needs of both playgroup and our wonderful friends at Aurora Tamariki next door.

All our playgroup sessions are now at Pinehill for mixed age groups on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 - 12.

For any further information about any of our playgroups please feel free to get in touch at dunedinsteinerplaygroup@gmail.com.

Bex and Alida

CRAFT GROUP

Honey is now available in the craft shop.

Craft shop purchases generate funds that can be used for school projects. In the past, this has included the planting of fruit trees and this year funds have gone towards beautiful new storage units for the yurt classroom.

Please make craft shop purchase payments in cash in the box in the drawer and note down your name, the date and what was purchased along with the total to pay. Payments can also be made online to the Rudolf Steiner School Trust Otago account 03-1726-0004961-05.

If you have previously made payments to a 00 suffix account please now change this on your saved account numbers as we wish to close this account.

We have a receipt form that you can fill in if you are paying online

Self-Issued Receipt – Dunedin Steiner School Craft Group Shop

Date: // Purchase Amount: _____

Account details: Rudolf Steiner School Trust **03-1726-0004961-05**

Please put your date of purchase and name/initials in the reference line of the payment.

Payment by bank transfer expected within three (3) working days of purchase. Thanks!

Many Thanks *Sharyn* sharyn285@gmail.com.

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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.



Harbourside Junior Football Club: Registrations are now open and will close on Sunday March the 10. Contact either **Tim Cook** on 4728024 (email timrcc@yahoo.co.nz) or **Ian Landreth** (email ian_landreth@yahoo.com) on 4728381 to register or for further information.

Tennis Otago: 2019 Otago Junior Open – enter now for Otago’s premier Tier 3 junior tennis tournament! Online entry only – click on the following link: <http://bit.ly/2019OtagoJuniorOpen> Phone: 021 02577898

GirlGuiding NZ is looking for fun, energetic leaders that will provide positive support to girls aged 5 – 17 years old while delivering exciting programmes once a week. Group meetings run for up to 2 hours once a week during school terms. We have developed an amazing programme that uses fun, adventure and friendship to build girls’ confidence and life skills to help grow the next generation of female leaders. All support and training is provided by a dedicated team to help you do a great job. You can choose the age group you work with and you can take on a level of commitment that suits. You just need to bring a drive and a passion to empower girls and lead them towards a bright future! If this sounds like you, find out more information here <https://www.girlguidingnz.org.nz/join-us/leaders-volunteers>. Alternatively, you can email Andrea on andrea.mcclean@girlguidingnz.org.nz to talk about the different options.”

Dunedin Southern Children’s Choir: Have fun with friends singing a variety of music genres under the tutelage of professional musicians. Children aged 9 to 13 years welcome to join now. Email southernchildrenschoir@gmail.com for details.



Parent Help is a non-profit organisation **supporting parents** to build resilient and positive families/whānau. We run a free confidential **parenting Helpline** for parents and caregivers. The Helpline is available from 9am – 9pm, 7 days a week, providing advice, support and practical strategies on any parenting concern.

Positions Vacant



Kindergarten Teacher

Michael Park Kindergarten – Auckland, New Zealand

We seek a creative teacher to work with a group of 3-4 years olds and their whanau. A commitment to working with our philosophy and teacher registration will be essential. Full time or part time (0.8) is open to discussion. The position begins at the end of April 2019. Remuneration as per the ASCA <http://ppta.org.nz/collective-agreements/area-school-teachers-collective-agreement-astca/>

For further information please contact centre manager Karen Affleck karena@michaelpark.school.nz ph 095258996
To apply send CV and letter of application to danam@michaelpark.school.nz