



The Light from world expanses
 Lives on within me forcefully:
 Transforms to light of soul
 And shines into the Spirit depths,
 To liberate the fruit
 That may let ripen human self
 In course of time from cosmic Self.

Rudolf Steiner Tr. by Daisy Aldan



Veil painting created in last night's workshop

NEWSLETTER

2025 TERM 1

School

Rāmere/Friday 21 st Mar	Teachers only day – school closed, kindy open
Rāhina/Monday 24 th Mar	Otago Anniversary – public holiday
Rāmere/Friday 11 st Apr	Saint Michael's play

Kindergarten

Rāhina/Monday 24 th Mar	Otago Anniversary – public holiday
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Governance

Rātū/Tuesday 25 th Mar	5:30pm Proprietors meeting
Rātū/Tuesday 6 th May	5:30pm Board meeting

Other

Rātapu/Sunday 4 th May (Term 2)	11am to 2pm FAIR DAY
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Playgroup	Rāhina/Mondays and Rōapa/Wednesdays	9:30 to 11:30 am
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Kia ora e te whānau,

The weather is giving us glimpses of both late summer and windy autumn so please make sure your child is prepared for all eventualities with sun hats, gumboots and warm clothing!

Last night we hosted a very well attended veil painting workshop (also see the special character thoughts) and we would like to thank Benno Nijhuis for his generous offer to lead us through the experience of veil painting, it was a very enjoyable evening!



The fair preparations are in full swing and it is amazing to see the enthusiasm and work going into it – thank you to all! It will take everyone's help to advertise the fair going forward so please make sure to hang up the poster once you receive it and share the online posts as they come up. Let's create the vibrancy around the fair that it deserves!

Please also keep an eye out for the fair emails, they do contain a lot of important information and the fair relies on us as a community to make it happen!

Reminder of our teacher only day on Friday, the kindergarten will remain open but the school will be closed.

Have a great long weekend everyone!

Kā mihi, Anna Noble, Tumuaki/Principal

Special Character Thoughts - Veil painting

Most people, who have visited Steiner schools around the world, will have seen veil paintings, sometimes covering entire walls or staircases and sometimes beautifully framed in a prominent place. The lightness and depth of the painting style keeps the eye interested as it works its way through the layers of colours.

Last night, we had the pleasure to welcome Benno Nijhuis to learn more about veil painting, work on our own painting and be part of the experience of how a painting comes to light. Benno introduced us to the techniques and guided us individually as we were discovering layer upon layer, how the effect comes to light and how the tiniest little strokes make a



difference to the overall impact. Starting with the first layer, ensuring the layer is dry before applying the next layer allowed for reflection, conversation and togetherness. The painting process is a process which takes mindfulness in the approach and a quick brush in the application to create even colours with strong edges. It was a very enjoyable way to learn something new that is yet so familiar and to hopefully share it further! Thank you for your generosity with your time and knowledge, Benno!

SCHOOL – CLASS KERERŪ

Kia ora e te whānau,

Our senior Class Kererū have been enjoying the privileges of being the tuakana and having a smaller class this year. Such things as creating delicious garden to table produce (coleslaw with 'vegannaise', rhubarb apple & lemon pie, and the occasional hot chocolate!).



We are also giving four lunchtimes a week between us, to offer fun activities for the whole school, which are going really well.

Yes, we do get work done as well and have been learning all about the early Māori coming from Hawaiki to Aotearoa, while learning Māori stick games, hand string games and recreating the original double hulled waka out of flax, bamboo and willow sticks. Our plan is to try them out on the sea water when we go on our class trip to climb

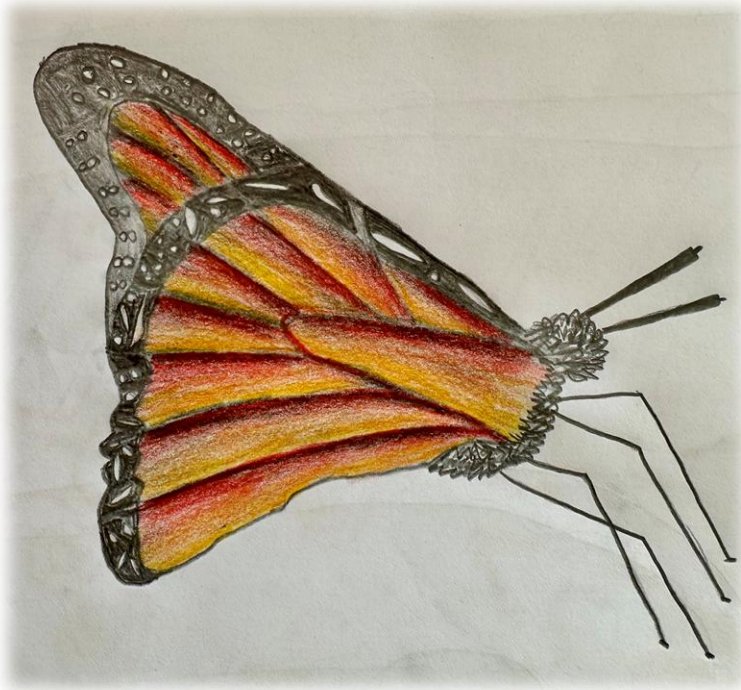
Hikaroroa, where the legend tells of all the ancestors that have turned to stone in the landscape!

Now, we are studying the Great Explorers of the past and discovering what inspired them on these dangerous journeys.

Our art has been working through Steiner's 12 painting exercises which work with blending dark to light in different directions and with different colours.



We've also been inspired by the recent monarch butterflies eclosion from the chrysalises.



Until next time, ka kite, *Trisha and Class Kererū*

KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora whānau,

The children have been busy practicing their harvest festival songs and we hope you are hearing them at home too! The children love to use gestures and movement to express themselves. The Kaiako use a range of gestures and movements worthy of imitation by tamariki. For example, simple hand signals indicate a place to sit or stand. Stories, circles and the intentions behind each gesture of

purposeful
work in the
room support
and enhance
the movements
and

expressions of tamariki. Finger rhymes are used to settle and gather children as necessary. Tamariki express themselves through their free self directed play.



Strong relationships are developing with the tamariki, ensuring that the children feel comfortable to express their feelings through play. Emotional expression is seen through artistic activities such as painting, drawing, song, poetry, dance and movement. The children are enjoying hearing stories and then re-telling them or organising them for others to enjoy using open ended resources as props.

We would love to know if there is any interest in our kindy community, if anyone would like to become a proprietor? We come together once a month and discuss as a team how kindy is going and striving for future goals. If this is of interest to you, please come and talk to Hannah.

Love, *the Kindy Kaiako*

PLAYGROUP

Last week we submitted our regular operational funding application to the Ministry of Education. Playgroup is funded at a rate of \$1.83 per child based on average attendance over a period of 10 weeks. After much discussion we requested to change our funded hours from 2 hours (9.30-11.30) to 3 hours (9-12) to better reflect our "open hours" although our sessions will remain to be facilitated from 9.30-11.30. While this will not bring in a huge amount of additional operational funding, every little bit helps. For this funding round I am anticipating we will be granted Ministry Operational Funding of approximately \$640.00.

Playgroup currently operates at about a 2/3 deficit and this is something we would like to remedy so that it is financially sustainable, ideally without the generous support of the Proprietors Trust that it currently relies on. The 1/3 of its operating cost that playgroup is covering itself is made up of a combination of Ministry operational funding and parental financial contributions.

Consistent attendance at Playgroup not only benefits the young child but directly brings up our Ministry of Education funding, and regular parental contributions are vital also. So we would like to thank our playgroup community for your continued commitment.

Ngā mihi, *Alida and Jenny*

CRAFTGROUP

If you enjoy a chat while doing some hand work come and join our group. This term we will be meeting every Tuesday from 9 to 11am in the playgroup room. Join us!

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.

Autumn Equinox Retreat: Creating Balance in Your Life. Immerse yourself in nature's tranquillity to foster clarity, connection and well-being on St Martin's Island, Dunedin. Weekend Retreat Friday 21st March- Sunday 23rd March. 5 Day Retreat Friday 21st March - Wednesday 26th March. With Kovido Maddick, Eric Chagnon and Sally Evison. This retreat will be in the stunning natural environment of St Martin's Island, which lies surrounded by the Otago harbour and peninsula.

<https://quarantineisland.org.nz/index.php/about-us/st-martin-lodge/>

Rest, reflect and reset. An opportunity to create balance in your life between work and play; aloneness and togetherness; activity and rest; nourishing yourself and helping others and the environment. Set at the Autumn Equinox, a time when night and day are in balance, it proposes silence to foster inner work and immersion with nature, and also gives time for doing directed activities to enhance connections with others. So for half the day, from the end of the evening meditation to lunchtime, there will be silence. Then for the other half, from lunchtime until bedtime, there will be more talking and dialogue. There will be yummy vegetarian food, with the choice of vegan/gluten free option on request, provided by our amazing, Sally Evison. For more info go go

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/1117016128309?aff=oddtcreator>

or contact Kovido Maddick, Human being, phone: 0273572884, email: kovidomaddick@gmail.com



We're looking for more people to provide short-term and respite care for tamariki and rangatahi in Dunedin, as part of our support of whānau in Dunedin. If possible, we'd really appreciate it if you could include the attached advert in your school newsletter to help us reach potential caregivers. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at 03 477 0801. Ngā mihi, Rose Scott, Caregiver Liaison Social Worker

Short Term Accommodation needed in May & June 2025: Kia ora Dunedin Steiner School community – I am a teacher at the Bush Kindergarten at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School in West Auckland. I am looking for short term accommodation during May & June 2025. This could be a housesit, tiny house, campervan or small rental. I am open to any offers that you may have. I am coming south to support my family who are moving to Dunedin, and my husband will be able to be there some of the time, but not all of it. I love the outdoors and nature's beauty and very much looking forward to being in your neighbourhood. Please contact Tina at t.dean@titirangi.steiner.school.nz or 0274 895042. Thank you!

Friends of the Burns Reserve seeks volunteers: Every three weeks a team from the Friends of the Burns Reserve works on Gerry's Rock above the school, clearing barberry and other invasive weeds. If you are interested in joining us then contact daywalk@xtra.co.nz. The group meets at 9am on the Signal Hill Road on the bend in the road just past the stone walled farm buildings and there is a 30 minute walk in to that part of the reserve. A level of fitness and agility is required. Have appropriate clothes, snack, drink, gloves and loppers, or secateurs or similar. Herbicide gel is used on barberry. The group is finished by 12.30. The next meet is 22 March and then the time changes to 9.30 on 12 April, 3 May, 24 May, 14 June. If you would like to join the Friends group to receive two monthly updates then email burnsreserve@gmail.com

Wild Dunedin NZ Festival of Nature 10 – 22 April 2025. Are you looking for things to do in the school holidays? Check out the [Wild Dunedin](http://www.wilddunedin.nz) festival for free and fun activities about nature for all ages plus great deals on boat trips, albatross and penguin viewing, and the Orokonui Ecosanctuary. This year's theme – *Ōtepoti Dunedin Rocks!* – focuses on Dunedin's geology and the vital contribution it makes to our environment. Discover what makes Otepoti Dunedin the wildlife capital of New Zealand. See the full programme and book here: www.wilddunedin.nz Lesley Smith | Festival Coordinator, Phone 021 054 8887 coordinator@wilddunedin.nz

Dunedin Netball Holiday Programme Years 1-8: In 2025 Dunedin Netball will be running holiday programmes in April and July. This programme has been enjoyed by many over the years.

Every day is different, and every programme will be different with heaps of netball specific activities, game play and fun "downtime" activities. April Holiday Programme: Date: Monday 14, Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 April, Time: 9am - 3pm, Venue: Edgar Centre, Cost: \$150 for 3 days, or \$60 per day Ages: Year 1-8

Registrations close 8 April – please use the following link to register

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/339869>

Pōtaka Nautilus & Pepe in the Dunedin Arts Festival 2025. One night only at the Glenroy Auditorium, Saturday March 29th, 7:00PM (50 mins). The festival have created a special price that we are sharing with the Runaka and family in Ōtepoti for our show. You are welcome to share this link and pass on to friends and whanau <https://www.ticketmaster.co.nz/event/2400622786900B31?did=offer> tickets are \$25 each as opposed to the normal \$45 price. Pōtaka Nautilus & Pepe offer a cultural time capsule focussing on the musicianship and beauty of taonga pūoro (traditional Māori musical instruments) with contemporary dance film. Taonga pūoro musician-composers Te Tumu Toi Arts Laureate Ariana Tikao, Mahina Kingi-Kauai, Dr Ruby Solly and Alistair Fraser perform live to our large-format film projections, activating a stage and cinema experience. It has been an absolute joy to work with these wonderful artists to develop the projects, including an incredible dance team: choreographer-dancers Amit Noy, Christina Guieb, Airu Matsuda, Samara Reweti, Taane Mete and Nancy Wijohn perform in the digital cinema of Pōtaka Nautilus & Pepe. Pōtaka Nautilus & Pepe have travelled to film festivals worldwide, so it feels really special to bring them home with the musicians playing live onstage. We are very grateful to arts icon Kuia Gillian Karawe Whitehead for her guidance, and to our funders and the festival whose amazing support is making this show possible.

<https://www.goodcompanyarts.com/about-gca-2025>

<https://www.facebook.com/GoodCompanyArts/>



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curriculum

Harnessing
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Learning

IS YOUR CHILD TURNING 5 ?

Seamless education from playgroup to the end of Intermediate school. The healthy development of the individual child is our central impulse.

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Learning with head, heart and hands