



Oneself, the shining light of thinking
 To kindle forcefully within,
 Imbuing life with meaning
 From cosmic Spirit's spring of strength,
 For me is Summer heritage,
 Is Fall's repose and also Winter hope.
Rudolf Steiner Tr. by Daisy Aldan



NEWSLETTER

2025 TERM 2

School

Rāhina/Monday 28th April

Term 2 starts

Rāmere/Friday 30th May

Teacher only day- School closed, Kindy open

Kindergarten

Rāhina/Monday 28th April

Term 2 starts

Other

Governance

Rātū/Tuesday 27th May

5:30pm Proprietors meeting

Rātū/Tuesday 10th June

5:30pm Board meeting

Playgroup

Rāhina/Mondays and Rāapa/Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 AM

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

And what a whānau feeling it has been! What a show of community who are proud to show their school and our special character through activities and products, through the way the fair was set up and the way everyone was welcomed and the way everyone was supportive of each other to make the day what it was and put the kindergarten and school back together to be ready for Monday! To each and everyone of you, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Please fill in the feedback survey and share some photos so we can keep those memories for generations to come!

As much as the focus has been on the fair, a lot of other things have been happening as well: at the end of last term, a delegation of five of us were lucky enough to travel to the beautiful Hawkes Bay to attend the Kolisko conference at the Taikura Steiner School. The long days were full of nourishment, physically and spiritually, full of learning and full of connecting. It was a beautiful four days and I can recommend the Kolisko conference to the highest degree for anyone interested in Steiner education.

The classes have settled back into the business of school and kindergarten and we have welcomed Mia into class Kea. The children are clearly pleased to be back with their friends and the classes are hard at work in between the play times. There are a lot of exciting projects on the horizon so watch this space!

We are looking forward to a rich and warming term two!

Anna Noble, Tumuaki/Principal

Special Character Thoughts - The Life Sense

The life sense is described by Steiner as the sense through which we experience our constitution. We all have an experience of how we feel and yet it is not easy to experience the life sense by itself, separate from all the other sense impressions we have. Most days this sense goes unnoticed as we only tend to pay attention to it when we are not feeling well. This feeling of 'not well' is not necessarily a physical ailment and can, depending on how in touch someone is with their life sense, be hard to describe or find within your body.

For children, the life sense is closely connected to rhythm; the internal rhythm of breathing, the heart beat and circulation and the well-being comes from the inner rhythm being in tune with the outer rhythms. We tend to attune to the strongest rhythm around us, which is one of the reasons why you often hear teachers sing rather than speak – there is rhythm in singing and this will create a very different response from a child. Something to try at home – sing your way to cleaning up the rooms, bring your life sense into balance and harmony and music into the clean house...

Literacy and Numeracy in our school - report from the Board

The Board is delighted to share our literacy and numeracy results with the wider community. The assessments from 2024 show that children are achieving at levels higher than the national norms with 84% at and above in reading, 69% at and above in writing and 70% at and above in maths. There are no concerns in terms of gender or ethnicity and the school addresses the needs of children who are not at these achievement levels. This is testament to the work of our staff and to the Steiner curriculum. Our school provides a well-rounded curriculum that addresses the development of the whole child, and literacy and numeracy is just one part of this.

Waterblasting - Could you help?

Our yurt pad could do with a waterblast each term and we wonder if there is anyone in the community who may have the time and equipment to do this before the end of term? Please let the office know.

KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to the start of term 2! The tamariki have settled in nicely with the older Koru room children slowly moving into the kowhai room space. This has been a really positive outcome and the children still feel very connected to the Koru room as we start the day all together before moving through. The Rata room tamariki are picking up where they left off last term and the children are happy to be back with all their friends. We want to welcome Charlotte to the Koru room and her lovely whānau, and being a part of our kindy community.



This term we will be focusing on autumn to winter and gearing up for those shorter days and longer nights as we transition into another season soon. This term we will be having our lantern festival and spiral walk which we will provide more information about closer to the time!

This term we will also be saying farewell to Hannah as she goes on maternity leave for a year, her last day will be Friday the 16th of May. We wish her all the best for what the future brings!

Please ensure that your child has a warm hat and jacket as the temperature is starting to feel much colder, and extra changes of clothes for your children. We look forward to an amazing term 2 with lots of exciting things to come later in the term.

Love, *the Kindy Kaiako*

PLAYGROUP

Kia ora, playgroup continues to run on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30am. Miriam is our facilitator on Mondays and Jenny on Wednesdays. Feel free to contact Alida, the playgroup coordinator if you have any queries. playgroup@dunedinsteiner.nz

Kā mihi, *Miriam, 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!

FAIR CELEBRATION

Thank you all once again for creating such a lovely Fair day!!! Here is a sample of what the day was like.









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.

Basketball Otago: April Holiday Camp 2025, Tuesday 15th - Thursday 17th April, 9am to 12pm. \$35 per day or \$90 for all three. <https://membership.mygameday.app/regofrm.cgi?formID=117993>

Dunedin Concerto Competition Finalists' Concert – Rising Stars, taking place on Friday, 16 May 2025, at 7:30 PM in the Dunedin Town Hall. This is a highly anticipated event for young musicians and audiences alike in Otago and Southland. It will showcase three outstanding young musicians accompanied by the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra and Dunedin Youth Orchestra under the baton of Maestro James Judd, Principal Guest Conductor of the DSO. Here are the ticket link : <https://www.dunedinconcerto.com/finalists-concert-rising-stars>

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



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We would like to share a very special initiative with you, one that we believe will resonate with your community. **The Centro Educativo Pachamama in Medellín, Colombia**, <https://centroeducativopachamama.edu.co>, a Waldorf school committed to education in harmony with nature—is building its secondary school campus. To make this possible, we are launching a global fundraising campaign. We kindly ask for your support in sharing the following message with the parents in your Waldorf community. Every donation, no matter the amount, brings us one step closer to a more just and peaceful future for our youth.

"In the mountains of Medellín, children and teenagers grow up surrounded by nature and creativity at Centro Educativo Pachamama. This magical space is building its secondary school campus so that more young people can receive a transformative Waldorf education" Help us make this dream a reality! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uunlpVlkBkl> (Choose the subtitles in your language in the configuration options). **Every donation, starting from \$5, is a step toward a more just and peaceful future.** Donate today: <https://corporacionamigosdepachamama.com/apoyanos/>
We appreciate your support, Junta Directiva Corporacion Amigos de Panchamama