



In mystery, the bygone treasure
 To feel with newly risen selfhood
 Revived within my inner life:
 Into my life's external deeds,
 In sparking cosmic forces, it shall pour,
 Evolving, grave me in existence.



Rudolf Steiner, translation by—Daisy Aldan

NEWSLETTER

2026 TERM 2

School

Rāmere/Friday 29th May	Teacher Only Day – school closed and kindy open
Rāapa/Wed 24 th June	Parent teacher interviews
Rāmere/Friday 3 rd July	1pm Matariki Celebration

Kindergarten

Rātu/Tuesday 2 nd June	5:30pm Kindy Lantern walk
Rāpare/Thursday 18 th June	5:30pm Kindy spiral walk

Governance

Rātū/Tuesday 9 th June	5:30pm Board meeting
Rātū/Tuesday 23 rd June	5:30pm Proprietors meeting

Other

Rāhina/Monday 1 st June	King's birthday Public holiday – we are closed
Rāmere/Friday 12 th June	9:30am-1pm – Community cooking

Playgroup	Rāhina/Mondays and Rāapa/Wednesdays	9:30 to 11:30 am
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Craftgroup	Rātū/Tuesday	9 to 11am
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Kia ora e te whānau,

While the weather has given us beautifully calm and sunny days over the last couple of weeks, we are navigating a few more weather changes in our staffing area: Sickness has crept its way into our kindergarten and school staff, Alida has finished as planned as our kindergarten manager, Judith from class Kiokio had to leave early to be with her family due to a bereavement and our teacher aide Molly will be leaving us at the end of the term to start her training as a teacher. These are times where we come closer together to navigate changes, hold on to our rhythms and support and look after each other and stay true to what a healthy community does: show kindness and care!

There are also plenty of positive and nourishing things happening around the place; the workshop has got new stools and the beautifying of the new outside space that happened during the working bee has given it a fresh look, ready for the children to work in this new space inside and outside once the weather warms up. The classes have all been more than busy: two day trips over the last two weeks for class Kākāpō, who have been exploring their local and personal geography, class Kiokio who are exploring literacy through drama, Miro who will be diving into their first lantern making as a class 1 and Kea, who are finding their way into the Renaissance – the rich learning is alive and well in our kura!

Please continue to engage with community events and take note of the upcoming events for the term.

Nākau, nā

Anna Noble

Tumuaki

Special Character Thoughts: Main Lesson

One of the vital building blocks of our special character is the main lesson. Topics for main lessons have been carefully crafted and adapted over the years to support the development of the children and are consistently reviewed and refined by the Fellowship, lately in particular with a view of localisation and biculturalism. Parent evenings and communication from the teachers throughout the year often speak to the development of the child and how the curriculum addresses the needs and guides the changes that occur as the tamariki grow up.

Main lessons are designed to engage the entire child, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. It stretches over three to four weeks and follows three parts within a lesson and also a three-day rhythm for its delivery. Part one of a lesson is engaging the heart through rhythmic exercises, this may be poetry, waiata, games, even

mathematical rhythms wrapped in practical activities. Part two engages the head as it is often the thinking part of the lesson; this is where the teacher presents new information to the children e.g. a new story or a new historical event. The third part is for the hands; children will do something with what they have learnt, e.g. write, draw or create.

The first day of the three day rhythm is the day when new material is presented. The second day the new material is repeated and becomes a friend to the children by engaging with it more deeply. One more sleep and the children revisit the material one last time and turn it into their own work, this may be their final page in their main lesson book that refers to this new work or a practical piece of art etc. This way the child has gone from meeting a new friend to having a new friend, becoming familiar and finally part of the new concept or content. This is the deep learning the children do with their head, heart and hands and why we refer to the main lesson as being something fundamentally important to our special character.

World Vision 40 hour Challenge

The World Vision 40 hour Challenge will run during the weekend of the 19th - 21st June and class Kakapo and class Kea students have been invited to sign up! This year all proceeds raised will go to the Solomon Islands - one of the world's most disaster-prone countries where 1 in 6 tamariki live in severe child food poverty. All children interested in taking part have been given a parent consent form by their World Vision student reps. Please can these be returned to Katie so we know who to support. All fundraising can be done online this year - instructions on how to set this up are on the parent consent form or can be found on the World Vision Website.

Farewell words from Molly

Kia ora,

I am writing to let you know that I will be finishing my role at the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School at the end of Term 2.

Over the past five years I have worked within the social services sector, and for the last two years within education. My time at Rudolf Steiner, immersing myself in the community, learning about the Steiner ethos, and working alongside such wonderful tamariki and kaiako, has inspired me to take the next step in my career and apply for postgraduate teaching study.

This opportunity has come about quite quickly, and I have been offered a year-long full-time teaching placement in Ōtepoti beginning next term. Because of this, I have had to make the difficult decision to leave my position at the end of this term.

I understand this comes during a time of change within the Kiokio class, but I feel this is an opportunity I cannot let pass by.

Although I will be leaving my role, I am not leaving Dunedin and fully intend to remain part of the Steiner community and continue attending community events while I complete my studies over the next year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Rudolf Steiner and am incredibly grateful to Anna and all the staff for their ongoing support and encouragement throughout my journey.

I will do all I can over the coming weeks to help make this transition as smooth as possible and to ensure the tamariki feel supported through this change.

Ngā mihi nui, *Molly Meehan*

SCHOOL-CLASS KEA

Marine Science Centre

On Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th April, class Kea went on a class trip to the University of Otago Marine Science Centre out at Portbello. Our mission: to learn about plankton and take part in a field survey to find out just what lives in the water of our harbour.





When we looked at water samples underneath microscopes, there were many screeches of surprise (and disgust!) from krill to worms to eggs, anthropoids, zoeia and even a baby seahorse, there was so much to see. For many, a highlight was getting to interact with crabs, sea stars and anemones in the feel tanks on the second day. For others, it was the plankton surface area challenge in which one team created a story of an underwater world.



Story Writing

When we got back to school, we continued to think about our little plankton friends. If they could speak what would they say? What would be their big problems or adventures? This was the starting point for our children's stories - from plankton who want to see the world or grow to be 'normal' size or those who seek to rid the ocean of plastic, we are hoping to share our exciting adventures with class Miro just as soon as they are published.

Art

In art, we have been learning about tints and tones. It's amazing the effect that adding white or black has to a single colour. We have been using this technique to create underwater scenes that link to our plankton stories.



Kā mihi from
Katie and class kea

KINDERGARTEN



♪ *The sunlight fast is dwindling
My little lamp needs kindling
Its beams shine bright in darkest night
Dear lantern guide me with your light* ♪

Dear Kindy whānau,

We are looking forward to our **Lantern festival next Tuesday 2nd June 5:30pm** at kindergarten. We will gather outside the kindergarten rooms to light our lanterns all together before walking through the school grounds and returning to Kindy for the traditional star biscuit and a warm drink. The children will bring home invitations with a song sheet this week.

In staffing news, we wanted to acknowledge and warmly thank Alida for stepping into the management role for the past year to cover Hannah's maternity leave. Alida was able to easily step into the role with all her years of experience at kindergarten; she brought impressive organisational skills, attention to detail, artistic flare and led us through a very positive ERO experience, all while juggling managing Aurora Tamariki at the same time! Alida is still very much involved in our kindergarten community as a parent and through our collegial relationship with Aurora Tamariki, so this is not goodbye, but merely an acknowledgement of all she has done over the last year. Thank you Alida!

Warmly,

The Kindy Kaiako

PLAYGROUP

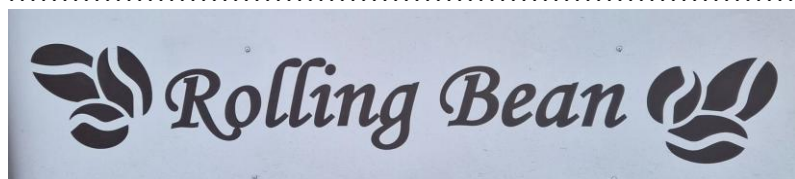
Miriam Marler is facilitating our playgroup sessions on Mondays and Wednesday sessions. The sessions run from 9:30 to 11:30am. You can contact playgroup emailing playgroup@dunedinsteiner.nz

CRAFTGROUP

We meet on Tuesdays after drop-off in the playgroup room. If you have some spare time and enjoy handwork, join us for a lovely social time. Thanks, Miho-0211294323

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.**



Brighten your mornings! Pop by the Maia Bus Stop just down the road for fresh barista coffee, hot drinks and gourmet cookies from our Coffee Cart every Wednesday, 6:30am-12:00pm. Perfect for

a pre-school drop-off or pick-me-up on the way home. Cash and card accepted. See you there!

International Youth Initiative Program We would like to share that the applications for the 19th edition of YIP are now open. YIP is an Anthroposophically inspired 10-month residential, holistic education program in societal entrepreneurship for 18–28 year-olds. Surrounded by the beautiful natural sceneries in Ytterjärna, Sweden, young people from different countries come to encounter not only each other and the world, but also themselves. YIP aims to strengthen young people's capacity to take personal and collective initiative in the face of current global realities and to find their authentic task in the world. Participants live and learn together to explore the current challenges of our time, grow their personal awareness as well as their ability to work together. They meet inspiring individuals who are working on the cutting edge of finding creative and future orientated solutions to the complexity of the difficulties we see in the world in the realm of governance and activism, food sovereignty and initiative and initiation and much, much more.

The final deadline to submit an application for YIP19 is the 15th of June, 2026. Apply now through the provided link: <https://yip.se/application/> For more information, please visit our [website](#) or email us at info@yip.se!

**Steiner Education
Open Day**

- Education free of digital devices
- A holistic child centered curriculum
- Seamlessly providing for playgroup, kindy, primary and intermediate years

Open Day August 6th

School Tour 9:30am

Kindergarten Talk 10:45

Come and learn more about our school and kindergarten!

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School
Aotearoa | New Zealand
Learning with head, heart and hands
www.dunedinsteiner.nz