



The light from depths of spirit
Strives outward like the sun itself:
Becomes the force of will-to-live
And shines into the senses' dullness,
To liberate the forces,
Whereby creative powers ripen
From soul incentives in the works of Man.

Rudolf Steiner translated by Daisy Aldan



NEWSLETTER

2025 TERM 2

School

Rāmere/Friday 30th May Teacher only day- School closed, Kindy open

Kindergarten

Rāpare/Thursday 5th June 5.30pm Kindy Lantern Walk

Other

Rāhina/Monday 2nd June King's birthday holiday-school and kindy closed

Rāhoroi/Saturday 14th June **Working Bee**

Governance

Rātū/Tuesday 27th May 5:30pm Proprietors meeting

Rātū/Tuesday 10th June 5:30pm Board meeting

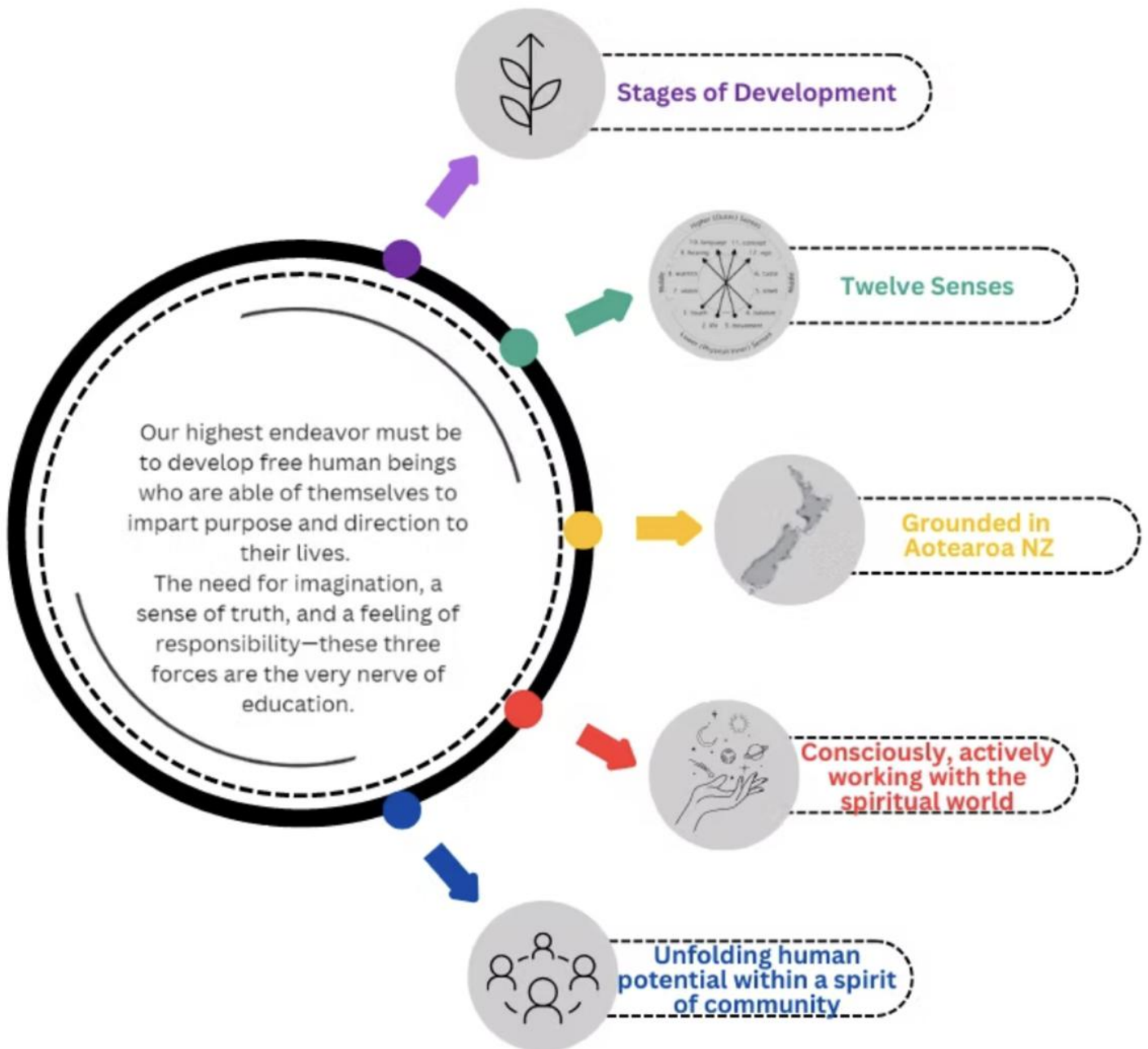
Playgroup

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

Kia ora e te whanau,

Last week I had the pleasure of joining the other Steiner school principals from across the motu for one of our face to face meetings. The Steiner School principals meet regularly online for study and other meetings and it is a group of passionate, knowledgeable and dedicated professionals, who want the best for not only their own context but also the bigger picture of Steiner Education. Last year our work ended in

the graphic you see below; a shared understanding of the underlying principles of Steiner Education we all work out of.



While I was away, the school and kindergarten continued to be busy and you may have heard things about a slack line making an appearance among other things. We are focusing on school ground development and are hoping for high engagement from parents, the children and our Imaginative Playground Improvement Group (IPIG – sounds very close to EPIC...). This will be some of the work for our next **working bee, 14th of June**, so please keep this day free in your calendars! We are hoping for a beautiful day with entertainment for the children (just to have a break from the hard work they are going to do), food and singing and hopefully lots of work being done!

We have farewelled Hannah from kindergarten as she is going on maternity leave and wish her all the best for this magical chapter in her life.

Kā mihi nui, Anna Noble, Tumuaki/Principal

Special Character Thoughts - Movement

In kindergarten and school we actively work with the 12 senses. They are sorted into lower senses, middle senses and higher senses with the lower senses being prevalent in years 0-7, the middle senses 7-14 and the higher senses 14-21. This means that the kindergarten actively works with the lower senses, which are the sense of touch, life, movement and balance. So far we have covered the sense of touch and the life sense and today I will introduce the sense of movement to you.

When we think about movement, we often think about the movements we see or how well someone moves. While that is the outward portrayal of movement, the sense of movement is much more about the feeling of our own movement and how we perceive movement internally. Steiner is quoted (August 1916) to say the following about movement:

“Through the movement sense we can perceive the movements of our limbs relative to each other. I am not speaking of the movements of the body as a whole: that is something different. I mean that when you bend an arm or a leg, or when you speak (for then there is movement in the larynx), you perceive the inner movements, the inner changes of position of the different limbs, and you perceive them with the sense of movement.”

The movement is a sense that develops over time and if you think about observing a baby at birth, the first movements are instinctual and not voluntary. You can literally see a baby bringing their will into their movement and experiencing their limbs in relation to other limbs and their surroundings. This process continues very clearly in kindergarten where the children rely on their will to experience the sense of movement and develop to be able to do more and more complex tasks. These tasks are asked of the child through drawing, playing with objects of different shapes, grounds that challenge the footwork and more fine motor skills like cutting vegetables to help prepare meals. The development of the sense of movement is important preparation for school – how else can a child start to write if they do not know how to move their hands and fingers in relation to the page?

Housekeeping

- Please make sure your child has enough warm clothing for the day. If their energy has to go into warming their bodies, there will be less energy for learning.
- Staying with clothing: thank you to everyone who is keeping an eye on what your child is wearing, we have seen a great improvement in the appropriateness of the clothing the children bring to school. However, there are a few things sneaking in again so if you could partner with us to ensure that we stay away from words and images on children's clothing, that would be much appreciated!

- We are nourishing the whole child and a big part of this is the food they eat for morning tea and lunch. If we can ensure that children have balanced healthy foods in their lunches (and do something for the planet by staying away from prepacked foods), your child's learning will thank you for it!

Wellea Fundraising Orders

We're excited to be able to order from Weleda's fantastic range of natural beauty, first aid, and remedial products at a special discounted rate of 78% of the RRP. This bulk order, placed once per term, also serves as a fundraiser to support our school. A small selection of Weleda products are available from the craft shop, but you can order from their full range. To receive a product and price list or for more details, please email Xaviera at xavieratrebley@gmail.com. All orders must be submitted by May 30, 2025.

Parent School Board Member – Health and Safety Portfolio

It seems almost unreal that my three-year school board membership will have come to an end in several months. I remember very clearly the first meeting as it was a bit overwhelming. I was not only a newcomer to the board, but also to Dunedin. Everyone was very welcoming and helpful, so it all got easier and easier with every subsequent meeting, and I learnt the ropes quite quickly.



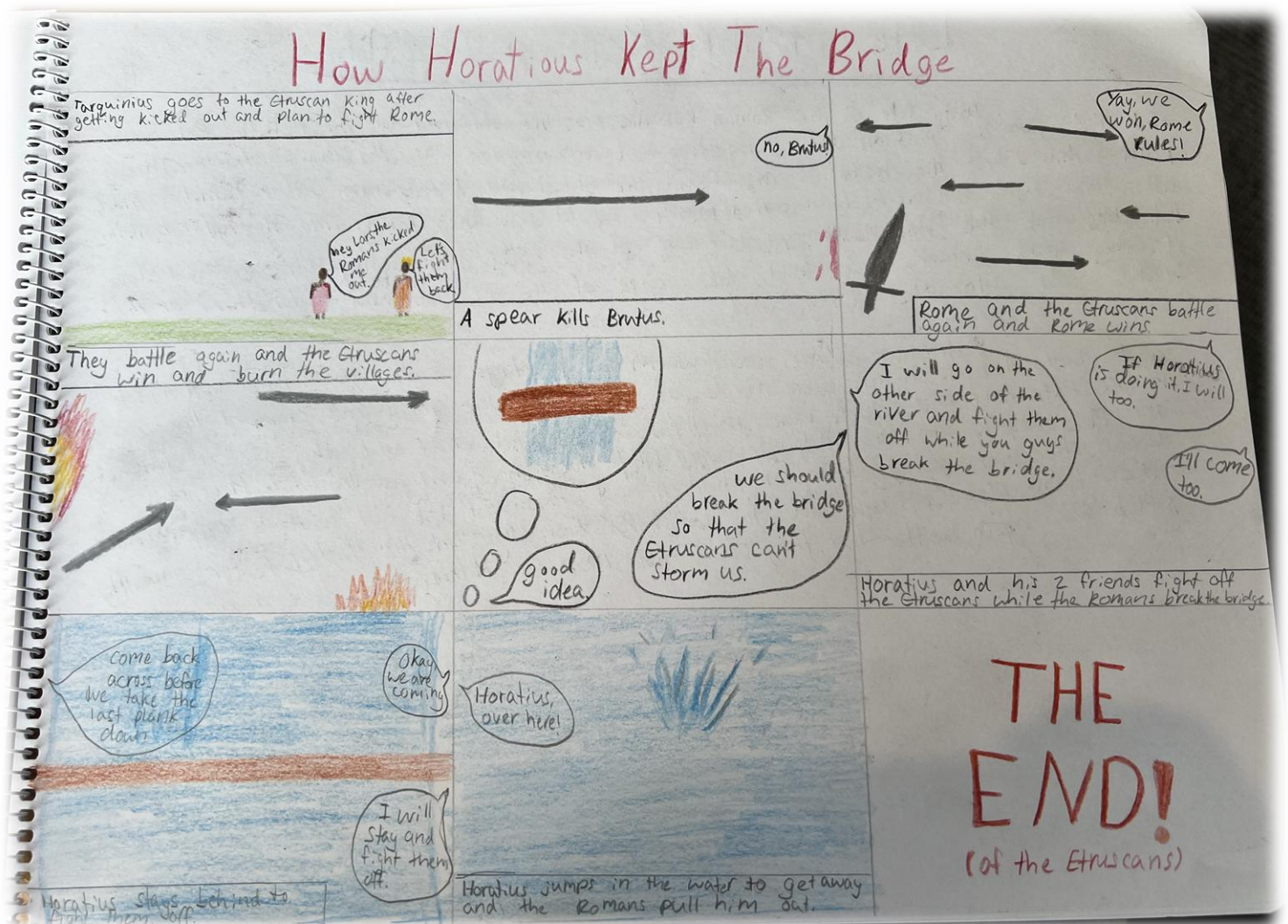
Attending a workshop for new board members organized by NZSBA (New Zealand School Boards Association / Te Whakarōputanga) was worthwhile too. As a former teacher and current customer services representative, I felt that the Health and Safety portfolio would be the right fit for me as I have a fair amount of knowledge and experience in health and safety responsibilities from my workplaces.

The health and safety portfolio of the school board comprises monitoring, reviewing, and updating of health and safety school policies, including updating the school grounds hazard register and providing an overview of the RAMS (risk analysis management systems) of class camps. However, the whole board is responsible for creating a safe and healthy environment for the whole community, and if I needed any extra assistance with any issue, I could always consult with NZSBA.

SCHOOL – CLASS KEA

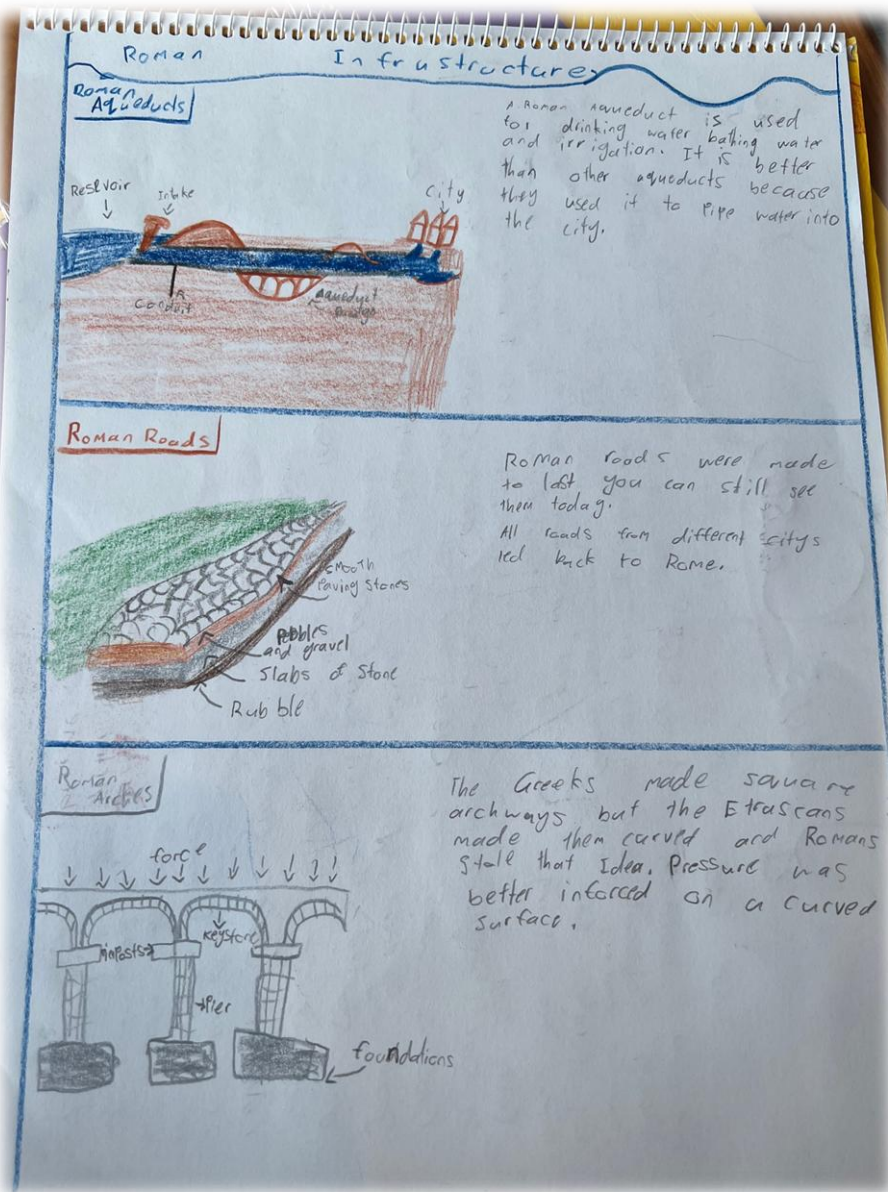
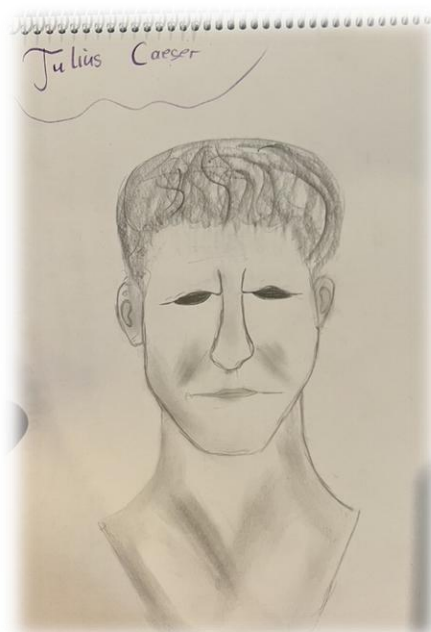
Kia ora e te whānau,

Class Kea has begun Term 2 with our first Roman main lesson, exploring from the Roman Kingdom to the end of the Roman Republic. The main lesson begins heavily in myth but slowly moves into recorded history, allowing the students to really understand what it was like to be a Roman at that time. We have explored the stories of and the downfall of the Kingdom, Roman life, political systems, key figures such as Julius Caesar, and military might.



As the students are near or in their intermediate years, our main lesson work is heavily based on students listening to information, taking notes, engaging in conversation, and

then responding to a variety of key questions. As the students have had years of listening to and summarising stories, they are ready for this next step and enjoying including their own thoughts to their work.



We are currently finishing this main lesson by creating our own animal mosaics using coloured paper. Stay tuned for this and you are very welcome to come look at them in our classroom next week!

As we settle into the cold weather we are enjoying using the new slackline on sunny days. A very fun challenge for the older children!



KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora whānau,

There are some temporary changes to our staffing at the moment. We farewelled our dear Hannah last week, off to prepare for and welcome her baby due soon. Jenny is currently on a placement for 4 weeks up at Aurora for her studies. Joella who was the lead teacher at the holiday kindy, will be helping in the koru room alongside Peggy. Once Jenny has finished her placement, she will be returning to the koru room. We have welcomed back Junko who has slotted right in and taken the lead with the older Koru children. They have been making the most of the space and novel toys in the Kowhai room on busy days. Betty will be coming in for 3 days a week and supporting our rhythm to help cover breaks. The children are familiar with Betty and have been enjoying seeing her when she comes in. Alida will be taking on part of the managerial role and will be able to be a point of contact as is the office.



The kaiako are more than happy to answer any questions you have and feel free to chat to any of us about these changes.

We would like to warmly welcome a new family to the Koru room. Kian and his parents Ciara and Raffi, plus their extended whānau have recently moved from Auckland. We hope they enjoy their new lives in Otepoti and being a part of our kindergarten community.

This term we have 2 evening festivals to celebrate. Our lantern walk is planned for Thursday 5th June at 5.30pm. This is our whole kindy coming together to capture the last of the autumn light with our lanterns as we approach the longest night.

For the older children, those in the Rata room, we will mark the seasons turning at the solstice with our traditional spiral walk. The date is tbd but it will fall as close to the solstice as is practical.

The children have been enjoying the puppet story of The Autumn Blanket, where Mother Earth weaves a blanket full of warmth and light to keep the children warm during the dark days of winter.

Thanks, *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!

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

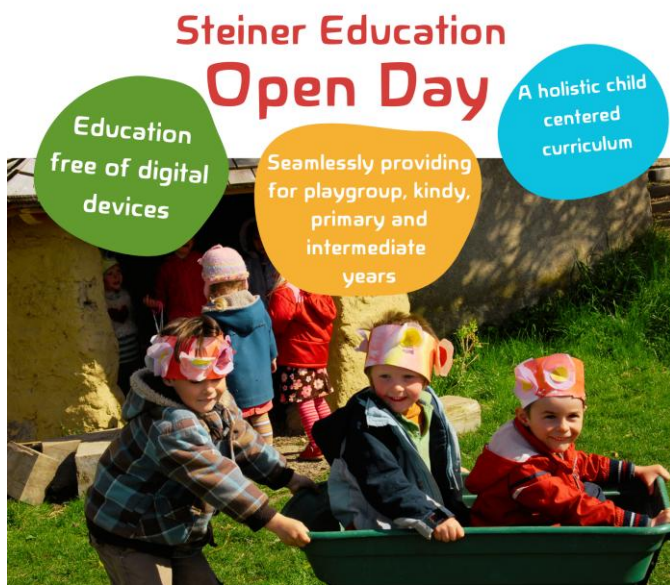
COMMUNITY NOTICES

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 is delighted to announce that registrations for our U14 Rep Trials are now open! Details for registrations are below. Players must be born in 2012, 2013 or 2014.

<https://membership.mygameday.app/regofrm.cgi?formID=117151>



**Steiner Education
Open Day**

Education free of digital devices

Seamlessly providing for playgroup, kindy, primary and intermediate years

A holistic child centered curriculum

Kindergarten Open Afternoon Tuesday, 20th May, 2pm
Tuesday 17th June, 12pm

School Tour Monday, 9th June, 9:30am

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

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