

Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o Koputai – greetings to all families of Koputai (Port Chalmers) School.

Staffing 2017

Vicki Nicolson Principal
 Jared Roddick Deputy Principal
 Peta Hill Assistant Principal

Class Teachers

Ian Landreth Rm 5 Yr 1
 Peta Hill Rm 7 Yr 2/3
 Marnie Waaka/Christine Rm 8 Yr 3/4
 Donnelly
 Henrica Schieving Rm 3 Yr 5/6
 Jared Roddick Rm 2 7/8
 Christine Donnelly Special Needs

Support Staff

Katy Gray Administration
 Roger McLaughlin Caretaker
 Robert Scott/Carol Dewar/Michelle Meaclem/
 Charlotte MacShane/Maureen Mauger/Andrea Clarke
 Teacher Aides

The staff are delighted to welcome you back to school for 2017. We look forward to another exciting year of learning for all members of our community. We particularly welcome our new pupils and their families to Port Chalmers School. I know that you will all make these families feel welcome in our learning community.

We welcome Henrica Schieving back from the University. She is teaching the Year 5 & 6 learners in Room 3. We also welcome Andrea Clarke who is a teacher aide in Room 8.

It is great to be back at school. This year we will continue with our focus on our values - the 4 C's - courtesy, co-operation, caring and common sense. Our 4 C's really encompass the qualities that we want to see in all the interactions we have with each other and our environment. We are also adding three Maori values to our focus this year - Whanaungatanga (belonging), Ako (to learn) and Manaaki (show respect).

We believe in an open door policy at school. Please come and talk to us, as we know that when families, schools and learners are closely linked, magic happens. I love today. It is so exciting to see all 'our' students back at school, happy and excited to be involved in such a great learning community. Thank you for sharing your children with us!
 Ka kite ano.

Learning is....

Yesterday the teaching team spent some time putting themselves into situations where they were learners. The results were fascinating; however, everyone was able to make a balloon sausage dog. Photos are included at the end of the newsletter.

Our focus for teacher learning this year is student engagement and ownership of learning. This will include exploring our new spaces, which should hopefully be developed before too long.

Welcome

Welcome to Tye in Room 7, Frankie and Vinnie in Room 8 and Tayla-Rose and Claude Room 3. We are sure you will enjoy your time here at Port Chalmers School. 😊😊

Absences

Children are checked for attendance at the start of each day. If your child is absent please ring the school to let us know. If we haven't heard from you explaining the absence, we will ring you to confirm that your child is safe. This is to ensure the safety of all our students. You can also text your absences on 027 697 3596 before 9.30am. The Ministry of Education requires a reason for your child's absence; please include this in messages left on the answerphone or cell phone.

Term Dates for 2017

Term 1 – Tuesday 31st Jan to Thursday 13th April
 Term 2 – Monday 1st May Friday 7th July
 Term 3 – Monday 24th July to Friday 29th September
 Term 4 – Monday 16th October to Friday 15th December

Public Holidays that occur in term time

Waitangi Day Monday 6th February
Otago Anniversary Day Monday 20th March
Good Friday Friday 17th April
Queen's Birthday Monday 5th June
Labour Day Monday 23rd October

Face Book

We do have a Face Book page where we will be posting information and news. Please like and follow us on www.facebook.com/portchalmers.school

School Times

Children are expected to be in their classrooms by 9:00am ready for learning for the day.
 8:30 am Supervision provided
 9:00 am Classes begin
 10:40-11:00 am Morning Tea
 12:30-1:30 pm Lunch
 3:00 pm School finishes



Library

We have some overdue books from 2016. Please return any books found over the holiday clean up. The cost of any lost books will be added to family accounts.

Stationery

Stationery lists were issued at the end of last year. The office has spare copies if you have lost yours, or you can download it from our website. Please try to have the stationery by Tuesday 7th February.

Compliments or Concerns

If you have compliments or concerns to share please contact us. We want to listen and share all the things that are happening in our school.

Cell phones – Electronics – Toys

If cell phones and iPods etc. must come to school, then they need to be turned off and handed in to the office. Thank you.
We do encourage children to leave toys and valuables at home. They become a distraction to learning.

Swimming

Swimming is part of the N.Z. Curriculum and all children are required to participate. We start on Thursday the 9th February (next week). A note is required if a child is unwell and unable to swim. If you are able to help out at swimming time please speak to your child's teacher.

Room 8 10:30 – 11:00
 Room 3 11:00 – 11:30
 Room 2 11:30 – 12:00
 Room 5 1:45 – 2:15
 Room 7 2:15 – 2:45

Newsletters

Thursday is our usual day for newsletters, starting Thursday 9th February. They are distributed to the youngest family member at school. All school events are advertised in the weekly newsletter so please ask for it each week and avoid nasty surprises. We do aim to provide good communication to families with relevant information and updates on curriculum and school events. Community news is also included. If you would like to get a copy of the newsletter emailed, please email office@portchalmers.school.nz with "newsletter" in the subject line and we will send it down the wire to you.

Technology (Years 7 & 8 Students)

The children will travel to Dunedin North Intermediate School each Wednesday starting 8th February, leaving school at 8:40am. Please note that the students will need to be at school by 8:40am on Wednesday mornings to catch the bus into DNI. Children will receive instruction in food technology and hard and soft materials technology. DNI have a separate charge for pupils who attend technology, which covers the cost of materials. This has been set at \$90.00 for 2017. This will need to be paid by the end of term 1 as it covers the take home component of the things the students make at technology.

School Bus

The school bus is available for families who have completed an eligibility form from the Ministry of Education. Children who are not enrolled through the Ministry of Education Transport Scheme are not eligible to travel on the school bus. Mr Roddick is the teacher in charge of the bus and checks attendance on the bus. Please advise him if your children are not going on the bus on a particular day.



Family Accounts

Our school donation for 2017 is \$15 per term per child (\$60.00 a year) with a family paying no more than \$120.00 a year. We use this donation to pay for visiting artists, shows, bus trips, entry into museums etc. We rely on this donation to assist with the ever increasing costs of providing a wide range of activities for our students. Our Year 7 & 8 students are required to pay a take home component of the technology programme delivered at DNI of \$90 (Yrs. 7 & 8) You are able to claim a third of your donation back through Inland Revenue each year. We welcome internet payments.
 Our bank account number is 060901 02167 4900.

Lunchtimes

A phone call or a note is required from home before children leave the school for lunch. This concern does not apply to children who regularly go home for lunch; parents take responsibility for their safety. The Board of Trustees have decided that children are not to leave the school to purchase lunches.

Lunch Orders –Starting Tuesday 7th of February

Port Chalmers New World
\$3.00 with a choice of:

Nachos Spaghetti Bolognaise
 Pizza Macaroni Cheese.

It would be appreciated if you could pack a fork as we do not have a supply of these.



Please have the **correct change** for these lunches.

Calendar of Events

6 February	Waitangi Day (School closed)
7 February	4 Square Lunches begin
8 February	Technology starts for Yr 7 & 8 at 8:40am
9 February	Swimming Starts
13 February	Girls Smash Cricket (4:00pm Mondays)
20 February	Have a Go Sailing
20 March	Otago Anniversary Day (school closed)
29 March	El Gregoe Show
13 April	End of Term 1

Balloon Fun

