

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

A number of our staff have had the opportunity to hear Nathan Mikaere-Wallis. Nathan has a rich background in education and social services and is a recognised international expert on brain development with a natural ability to make neuroscience accessible to all. Nathan shared the implications of the latest neuroscience findings for learning, frequently reiterating the importance of oral language, whanau relationships and imaginative play. Research now shows conclusively that these 3 elements form the foundation for the development of resilience and, social and emotional well-being.

Nathan referred to the brain as an upside down pyramid of 4 parts

1. Brainstem - survival/attachment brain
2. Midbrain - movement/coordination -
3. Limbic - emotional brain

4. Frontal Cortex - learning and thinking brain
Development of the brain is neuro-sequential starting with the brainstem. In order to effectively engage in learning the needs of the 3 preceding brains must be met.

Neuroscience research shows the centrality of family time for fostering and maintaining emotional well-being, simple things like time spent talking about thoughts, feelings and ideas at the dinner table, sharing stories and engaging in everyday experiences like going for a walk in the bush or along the beach are of immeasurable value. It is important to remember that what we choose to value, focus on and give energy to be what our children reflect back to us. The conversations that you have with your children about their day are a wonderful example of this. You could ask:

- What made you smile today?
- Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
- What did you do that was creative?
- What was the best thing that happened today?
- Did you help anyone today?
- Did you tell anyone “thank you?”

There are more ideas on the following website
<https://herveviewfromhome.com/50-questions-to-ask-your-kids-instead-of-asking-how-was-your-day/>

Paid Union Meeting Tuesday 20 March from 12:30pm

The NZEI has a planned paid union meeting for all union members on Tuesday 20th March in the afternoon. All union members are entitled to attend this meeting, which means there will be only some cover at school. The Board of Trustees are asking families to pick up their children by 1:00pm on this day, if they can, so teachers can attend. Children who are not able to be picked up will have an alternative programme at school. We thank you in anticipation.

Attached with today’s newsletter is an intention form, which we are asking you to fill in for your children so we know what is happening for them on the afternoon of the 20th March. No child will be able to leave the school unless we have this form returned and signed by you.

Dunedin Primary and Intermediate Schools Triathlon

On Wednesday 14th March (Friday 16th March postponement date) the above triathlon will be happening around Watson Park, the Port Chalmers Pool and the streets surrounding from 9:00am. Please be mindful of traffic on this morning as families will be dropping children off to compete in the triathlon.

Whanau Hui

We successfully started a whanau hui group of parents wanting to support tikanga māori and te reo at our school. The group helped organise the matariki breakfast last year and supported the kapa haka group. We are keen to continue with this group and invite whānau interested to meet in the staffroom next Wednesday evening for kai and korero. Tamariki are most welcome and we will have childcare organised for them. The hui will finish by 7:30pm.

“E hara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini”
(My strength is not as a individual, but as a collective.)

PTA Easter Raffle

The PTA is again going to run a raffle for Easter. We are gratefully receiving items for this raffle at the Office. Raffle cards will go home to each family next Thursday. Thank you.

Harbourside Junior Football Club Registrations

Harbourside Football Club provides Junior Football in the West Harbour areas from Ravensbourne to Aramoana. Our players range from 5 through to 12. Registrations are now open and will close on March 11th. Contact either Tim Cook on 4728024 or Ian Landreth on 4728381 for further information.

New World and Kellogg’s are currently running a promotion that you can help out with! When you shop at New World and buy 2 Kellogg’s products, place your receipt in the box near the check outs marked with your school name on it, and you have helped! For every receipt that has 2 Kellogg’s products on it, Port Chalmers School library will get a book!

This is only until March 31st, so let everyone know and let’s get on board with this awesome promotion.

Parent Reading Programme

Thank you for the response to our request for parent readers. We do still have one gap on a Wednesday morning. The task involves listening to 5 children read for 15 minutes on a Wednesday morning. If you can spare an hour and a quarter of your time please contact Ian Landreth. Thank you ☺

Easter Holiday in term time

Occasionally the Easter holiday happens during term 1 of the school year. 2018 is a year where this will happen. Please note that all schools in New Zealand will be shut on Easter Tuesday.

Head Lice

Please be vigilant in your weekly check of your child’s hair. One egg left starts the breeding cycle all over again.
We are asking if children with long hair could have it tied up or in a bun.
Using a bandana can also help reduce the incidence of head lice spreading.



HAVE A GO SAILING



Calendar of Events

14 th March (postponement 16 th March)	Dunedin Primary and Intermediate Schools Triathlon
14 th March 6:00pm	Whanau Hui (in the staffroom)
20 th March 1:00pm	Paid Union Meeting
21 st March 1:40pm	El Gregoe Show
26 th March	Otago Anniversary Day
29 th March	Uke-Ed-Ate Octagon (Room 4)
30 th March, 2 nd April, 3 rd April	Easter Break (school closed), including Tuesday
9 th April	Outdoor Ed Week (Yr. 1 – 6) Yrs. 7&8 Camp
13 th April	End of Term 1

Assembly Timetable

March 16 th	Room 2
March 23 rd	Rooms 5 & 7

Boating Timetable

13 th March	1pm
27 th March	1 pm
10 th April	1pm Yrs.4,5 & 6

Swimming Timetable

Swimming is part of the N.Z. Curriculum and all children are required to participate. . 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.

Rm 8	10:30 – 11:00
Rm 4	11:00 – 11:30
Rm 2	11:30 – 12:00
Rm 5	1:45-----2:15
Rm 7	2:15----- 2:45

☺ Caught Doing Great Learning in Week 6☺

Writing Rex Rm 5	Jaxon Rm 7 Moana Rm 7 Amelia Rm 7
------------------	---

Tino Pai