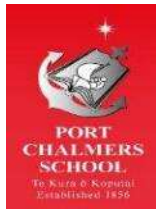


Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o Koputai – greetings to all families of Koputai (Port Chalmers) School.



TUMUAKI NEWS

COVID-19

We are aware that there are a number of people being tested in Dunedin North for the COVID-19 virus, however the advice from the Ministry of Education and Health is that unless we have a student or staff member testing positive, Port Chalmers School will remain open.

We are open for all children who are well, and we do not expect this to change unless the Ministry of Health advises otherwise.

We are conscious that these are unprecedented times and that some whānau are especially vulnerable and therefore taking additional precautions. While we do understand why people are opting to do this, at this time we are very much snowed under with the additional workload COVID-19 has created and as such individual requests to provide school work for those opting to self-isolate as a precaution, rather than a requirement, is beyond our capacity. We are aware that whānau may be requiring some support at home, so have begun to develop a "Home Learning Hub" on the school website. This will be up and running at some stage next week. There will be links to websites and other activities that you as a whānau may do if you are at home.

As you can imagine we have a lot of children off school at present and we thank you for responding to our request to keep sick children at home, and ask you to follow normal absence procedures and let the school know if your child is not going to be present. The volume of absence has greatly increased and therefore if families haven't contacted us, we are spending a huge amount of time each morning contacting you. We have included a flyer with today's newsletter about how to talk to your child about COVID-19. Thank you for your support in these uncertain times.

Outdoor Education Week

What a wonderful week all of our learners had last week. The Year 7 & 8 Camp at Bannockburn was a fabulous week. Our thanks to all the adults who accompanied the campers, without all of you our camps can't happen.

The learners left at school also had a wonderful week. I know you saw some of the photos last week. We are grateful to our teachers who worked hard to give everyone a fabulous week.

Assemblies

We are following guidance from the Ministry of Health and Education and cancelling our Assemblies for the rest of this term.

As it is a long weekend I hope you get a chance to get outdoors and enjoy some time away from the hustle and bustle of what has been a very busy and stressful week. Ka kite ano

School Working Bee and Tidy Up



We are going to have a school working bee on Saturday 28th of March from 9:30 am. Please consider coming to help us get the gardens in order and woodchips spread in the playground.

Breakfast Club

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered for Breakfast Club. We are almost fully covered; however, we are looking for one volunteer to help with Breakfast Club on a **Thursday** morning. Please let the office know if you can help.



Our final game of the season was cancelled. A very big thank you to Mr Landreth and the Parents who helped with transport. :)

Health Snippet

Protecting Yourself and Others against Respiratory Illness
Handwashing is the most important thing you can do to protect yourself.

- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, preferably with your elbow
- If you use a tissue dispose of this in the bin immediately
- Always wash your hands after coughing and sneezing and disposing of tissues
- Keep your hands away from your mouth, nose and eyes
- Avoid contact with people who have virus-like symptoms

Sea Poems

Sea
The sea is blue
Blue like the sky
The sea is beautiful
Like the stars at night
By Riyle



Twinkling water
 Sparkling like the sun
 I like the sea and rock pools
 I am a dolphin
 That lives in the sea
 My home has no fences
 And I am free
 I am a crab
 If you have to pick me up,
 go gently and let me go
 under rocks to hide



By Millie

Play Pod

We are looking for extra "loose parts" to top up our play pod ...

- Piping
 - Guttering
 - Planks of Wood (no nails)
 - Netting
 - Plastic Tubing of different sizes
 - Wheels
 - Baskets
 - Crates
 - Bins
 - Ropes
 - Hose
- Please drop off at school. Thank you.

Outdoor Ed Week by room 7

Last week we did lots of different activities. We did these because the Year 7 and 8's were away on camp.

Room 5 and 7 walked to the Port Chalmers library on Monday morning. We went to story-time. After the library we visited the Maritime Museum across the road. There were two cannons and cannonballs to look at. There were models of ships and boats. We could see what was happening at Port Otago. There was a cruise ship and container ship by the wharf. In the afternoon most people went swimming in Mussel Bay. Some people thought the water was warm but other people thought it was cold!

Ness found a sea worm in the water by the shore. On Thursday in groups we got to do 5 rotations. They were pitching tents, cooking pancakes and making warm milo (with marshmallows), making tracks and signs with rocks and sticks, gardening and first aid. These were all fun to do.

The Year 5 and 6's organised camp games for us on Friday. We did tug of war, 3-legged races, egg and spoon races (except we used golf balls instead), gumboot throwing, leap frog, wheelbarrow races and sack races too.

We finished our week with a camp fire and songs in the hall.

Everybody sat around in a big circle. In the middle was the fire (it wasn't real). We sang songs like Alice the Camel, Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar, BINGO and Teddy Bears picnic. We all had a fun week.

Shared writing by Room 7

A Special Visitor

Dusty and Ross came to school on Wednesday the 18th March to teach us about how to be safe around dogs. If a dog is running around, stand like a tree and cross your arms in front of your face. If you pat a dog on its head it puts up with it but the dog doesn't like it. They do like when you pat them under their chin or on their chest. **By Rosa and Romy.**



Te Reo	
Days of the Week	Kupu Arotau
Monday	Rāhina
Tuesday	Ratu
Wednesday	Rāapu
Thursday	Rāpare
Friday	Rāmere
Saturday	Rāhoroi
Sunday	Rātapu

Legal Documents

It is a legal requirement that to enrol in a New Zealand School, a New Zealand or Australian Birth Certificate or New Zealand or Australian Passport is presented at or before enrolment so a copy can be taken to keep on our records. If you are a time bound visitor to our country, I will need to take a copy of your Visa. If you have not provided any of these, Katy will be ringing families asking for this documentation.

Thank you to those families who have already done this.

BOATING	
Tues 31 st March	12-2.45pm
ASSEMBLY TIMETABLE	
Rooms 5 & 7	Cancelled
Room 2	Cancelled
Room 4	Cancelled
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
19 th March & 26 March	Room 4 & 2 swimming
23 rd March	Otago Anniversary Day (School closed)
28 th March	Working Bee
2 nd April	HPV for Year 8's
9 th April	Last day of term
28 th April (Tuesday)	Term 2 Begins

Vicki Nicolson Principal
www.portchalmers.school.nz