



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

Last Thursday, the Senior pupils enjoyed a superb day of boating out in Mussel Bay. As we have not had any sessions of note for two years, the majority of pupils had not even seen boating in action let alone taken part in the activity. Therefore, it was important that we had a few 'land-based sessions' first, to get used to the equipment and the watercraft. Pupils learned and practised putting on life jackets properly, employed the correct methods for entering and exiting kayaks and the three main strokes used in propelling and steering kayaks. They also learned how to row and control dinghies and practised our routines for moving gear in and out of the boatshed. These sessions prepared the pupils really well for their first session and as they knew what was expected of them, they just got stuck in and did the mahi and enjoyed the experience. We will continue to do more land-based work over the next few weeks to help pupils understand how to operate paddle boards, Canadian canoes and Optimist yachts and we will also be learning about the winds and the tides.

These sessions could not take place safely without the work of a number of people. During the last month or so, we have had our committee members busy repairing and replacing components on trailers, testing motors, repairing sails and rigging and preparing the rescue boats and dinghies for operation. We usually have four rescue boats out on the water for a group of this size. Two motorboats staffed by two committee members on each and two row boats with a member in each of these. We keep in communication using UHF radios, so the pupils are kept safe as usually there is a boat close by to help them if they are in need.

In addition to our committee members on the water, we were blessed to have about 10 volunteer helpers from the school community who were on hand on the beach to help the pupils and to also keep an eye on what was happening from the shore. This help is invaluable when we are putting nearly 50 pupils on the water at once! We look forward to seeing some of you back for our next session on Tuesday 14th at 10.30 am.

Mā te Wā

Jared Roddick (Deputy Principal)

**Whakamana tamariki, whakamana kaiako –  
Message from NZEI**

We all want the best for our kids.

Our teachers love what they do, but not enough funding for schools means that they don't have the time they would like to support all kids to thrive.

We can fix this though. NZEI Te Riu Roa primary teacher and principal members are making the case to Government for the best investment in tamariki. Smaller class sizes, more time for individual students and more specialist learning support staffing would make a huge difference.

Keeping and retaining teachers is top of mind right now, and this term, our teachers will also be meeting to consider a pay offer – and assessing if it's enough to make sure that teaching is valued and is an attractive profession.

When we support our children to learn and succeed, we are supporting whānau and communities to thrive. We look forward to another great year in 2023 – and together with your support building the case for better investment in our tamariki.

At present our teachers and Principals are voting whether to take strike action about our current pay which they have rejected. The outcome of this vote will be known in the next couple of days. If the strike is to go ahead it will be on the 16th March. We will keep you informed of the decision.



### PTA Cottage Bakehouse Order

The PTA have once again secured a fundraising delivery from Cottage Bakehouse. An order form has gone home with all whānau today. Orders, with money need to be returned to school by 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Delivery will be on 30/03/2023.

Items available are:

Steak, Mince, Apple, Apricot/Apple, Blueberry/Apple, Cinnamon/Apple Pies (\$10.00 each)

Meat Lovers, Combination, Hawaiian Pizzas (\$10.00 each)

Cheese rolls (10 Jumbo pack) \$12

Savouries (12 pack) \$12

Chocolate, Raspberry Lamington (6 pack) \$8.00

# Te Reo Māori

**kapa haka** (cultural group)

**waiata** (song or chant)

**haka** (vigorous dance with actions and rhythmically shouted words)

**poi** (light ball to toss and swing)

**rākau** (challenge stick)

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/maori-language-week/365-maori-words>



### Advanced Notice Teacher Only Day 24<sup>th</sup> April

The Board of Trustees have approved a teacher only day on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April

### Futsal



Futsal fees are now due. Please use our school bank account 06 0901 0216749 00 with futsal and your child's name as reference. \$50 per player. Thank you.



REMEMBER  
ONCE A WEEK,  
TAKE A PEEK

We have had a couple of cases reported. Please can you check your child's hair and treat as necessary.

## Easter Raffle



We are holding our annual Easter Raffle. For this to be a success, we are asking for donations of Easter treats please. These may be left at the office. Thank you.



We have celebrated Sea Week. Some classes went down to Mussel Bay to look at the sea life living among the rocks and in the sea.

We also took our red buckets down and gathered rubbish.



Rūma Pipi and Rūma Tepetepe made their own aquarium.



Sea Week Dress Ups.

### Calendar of Events

20 <sup>th</sup> March	Otago Anniversary Day (school closed)
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Rūma Pāua Bike Skills course
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Yrs. 8 HPV
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of Term
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Teacher Only Day
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 2 Begins

### Assembly Timetable

March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Rūma Wheke
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Rūma Pāua
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Rūma Mangō

### Boating Timetable

Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am - 12.30pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	1pm - 3pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am - 12.30pm
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	1pm - 3pm