



Matthew Tofia

PRINCIPAL

p. 03 455 8347

m. 027 353 8260

e. principal@saracohen.school.nz

www.saracohen.school.nz

44 Rutherford Street, Caversham, Dunedin 9012

Newsletter

May 13th 2022

Term 2 No.1

From the Desk of the Principal

Kia ora Sara Cohen Community,

We have had a brilliant start to Term 2 and the students have arrived back settled, rested and ready to work.

We come back to life in the Orange traffic light setting. For us at school this means that we will be returning back to learning that will closely resemble how we operated pre-Covid.

- We will continue to wear masks in the senior school, especially in classes that have students who are immunocompromised.
- Our classes are now expanding the places that they visit and activities that they participate in. These activities include swimming, sports, libraries, buses and shops.
- External therapists and visitors will be allowed back on site.
- We will continue with RAT surveillance testing of staff on a twice weekly basis.

Our main focus is that we continue to remain open for face to face learning for our students.

If there is a Covid case in class and the possible risk of infection, we will inform parents/caregivers of this so that they are able to keep a close eye on their child.

We are currently working on a review of our goals and reporting platform, Seesaw. Attached to this newsletter is a rationale and breakdown of the Seesaw programme. Please take the time to read this. I will be surveying our community about the appropriateness of goals and ease of use of this platform in relation to our previous reporting on 'Educa'.

We have had some progress with the construction projects at our Pikopiko/Kakano satellites at Concord School and the new base build. At Pikopiko/Kakano the project has begun. The contractors are doing the Concord School work before they move on to completing our new satellite class. We also built a new amazing accessible sandpit which the children are enjoying. A huge thank you to Foodstuffs and Centre City New World for the grant money that made this possible. Thank you to our Board who made up the difference and to Kelly for putting in the application.

It looks like we may have a contractor for the Base build and we await finalisation of this. We are still on track for construction to begin this year.

I hope that everyone has a great weekend.

Matt

SCHOOL OFFICE

03 455 8347-2 or 027 3538 244

office@saracohen.school.nz

Term Dates 2022

Term 2: Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

Term 3: Monday 25th July – Friday 30th
September

Term 4: Monday 17th October – Wednesday 14th
December

Board of Trustees Report – Meeting held 2nd May 2022

Anna Taylor – Parent Engagement

- 17 views Educa, 279 – See Saw views
- 2022 to date See Saw engagement - posts going up daily, posts liked. 2 families have not engaged and paper reports are being sent home weekly.
- Feedback from parents has been fantastic, they are all engaged daily and can talk to their children about what they did at school that day.

Specialist Services Review – Gary McClintock

- Provider Annual Assurance Statement – Pathway presented
- **Staffing** - Over April we have had less staff off. We have gone from having 20+ per day absence to approx. 10 per day.

Concord new Satellite class -

- New sandpit at Concord School has been completed.
- Building work has begun on the Concord Project.

Covid - Sara Cohen School at Orange

- On the 13th of April the motu was moved into the Orange traffic light

This means at school we will;

- expand the programmes available to students
- allow external visitors
- continue to encourage staff to wear masks
- follow our risk assessment
- Board of Trustee Elections 2022 – Returning Officer appointed
- Election date – Wednesday 7th September, 2022 – common date

The Matariki Glow Show – Regent Theatre, Saturday 2nd July 11am

The Matariki Glow Show tells the gorgeous story of te kāhui whetu ō Matariki (the star cluster/whānau of Matariki) as they gather to light up the skies for Te Tau Hou Māori (Māori New Year). But where is the smallest star Waipuna-a-rangi? Could she be lost in the moana? The show brings mythical magic to life with its unique puppets, which glow under UV lights in a black box theatre and intrigue Tamariki wherever they go. One day only, so don't miss out! Book at www.glowshow.co.nz/bookings. \$17.50 per person + fees. You can email us for more information at hello@glowshow.co.nz

Karamu were busy last week making Mother Day gifts, they looked fantastic – we hope you enjoyed yours!



SPECIAL OLYMPICS - Information Evening

Monday 16th May, 7.30pm at Blind Low Vision NZ, 458 Hillside Road, South Dunedin. RSVP to 027 5437096 or email: lsirsc@specialolympics.org.nz

Special Olympics New Zealand provides year-round sports training, competition, and social connection opportunities for Tamariki, rangatahi and adults with an intellectual disability. Currently our students are engaged through the Otago Secondary Schools Sports Association Adaptive Wednesday Sports. While we provide students many sporting engagement opportunities through the school system, we are very keen to continue offering these opportunities outside of, and after a student leaves school. The club programme offers weeknight training and weekend competitions. These include regular coaching, training and competition, supporting athletes to improve their physical fitness, develop a range of skills, gain confidence and self-esteem, make new friends – widen social networks, increase independence, earn recognition and acceptance, enjoy active, healthy lifestyles. Come join us for supper, networking, and to find out how Special Olympics can help provide a social and recreational opportunity outside of school.

Sara Cohen's Goal Setting and Reporting System

In the middle of last year we began our new system of setting goals and reporting to families. I thought it was a good time to remind people about how these work and see if anybody had any questions or feedback they wanted to share.

We have replaced our twice yearly reports with an ongoing reporting system using Seesaw. Goals will be continually reported on and updated during the term. We still have our twice yearly face to face CLP meetings.

Below is an explanation of how Seesaw is used at Sara Cohen School:

Seesaw Accounts	
Daily Posts	Reporting Posts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every day you will see one or more posts about your students day. This could be anything from a fun moment, an interaction with a peer, a snapshot of an activity/learning or a class outing.• We are able to share photos and short videos.• These posts can be created by both teachers and support staff.	<p>During the term, teachers will update you on your students progress using reporting posts. These will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State the goal at the top of the post• Either have information about how the goal is progressing or Let you know that the goal has been achieved and what the next step is.
<p>You are able to click 'like' or comment on these posts and we love hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to use Seesaw as a way to communicate, ask questions and share any ideas or concerns you might have.</p>	

Goal setting and learning plans:

CLP - Collaborative Learning Plans (Individual goals created for your student. Their individual learning program is prepared around these goals)			
Previously we created goals around:			
Maths	English	2 Key Competencies (either 'Managing Self', 'Participating and Contributing' or 'Relating to Others')	
We currently create goals around:			
Communication	Social Skills	Recreation/Leisure and Sport	
Plus any of the below that fits where your students current priorities and needs lie.			
Functional Literacy	Functional Maths	Health and Personal Cares	Community Access
Life Skills	Personal Safety	Food Preparation	

Why did we change?

We felt that our old system did not reflect our students' needs or reflect their potential and skills. We wanted a broader system where we could focus on the wide variety of skills needed in daily life and to help our students fulfil their true potential and to lead full and happy lives.

It is fantastic to see our families engaging with the Seesaw platform and we have received lots of positive feedback. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments.

Ngā mihi,

Anna Taylor

anna.taylor@saracohen.school.nz





Speak UP
**STAND TOGETHER
STOP BULLYING**

KŌRERO MAI, KŌRERO ATU, MAURI TŪ, MAURI ORA

FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022

JOIN THE MOVEMENT:
WWW.PINKSHIRTDAY.ORG.NZ
#PINKSHIRTDAYNZ

 **Mental Health Foundation**
mauri tū, mauri ora OF NEW ZEALAND



Dunedin Orienteering School Series 2022

- **Introductory warm up events – Sunday 8th May, 2022**
 - Introductory Session for anyone wanting to give orienteering a go for the first time – 9am Bishops Court Car park
 - OY1 Sprint, Balmacewen/Columba College – 10am Bishops Court car park.

- **Mountain Bike Rogaine – Alexandra Sunday 15th May**

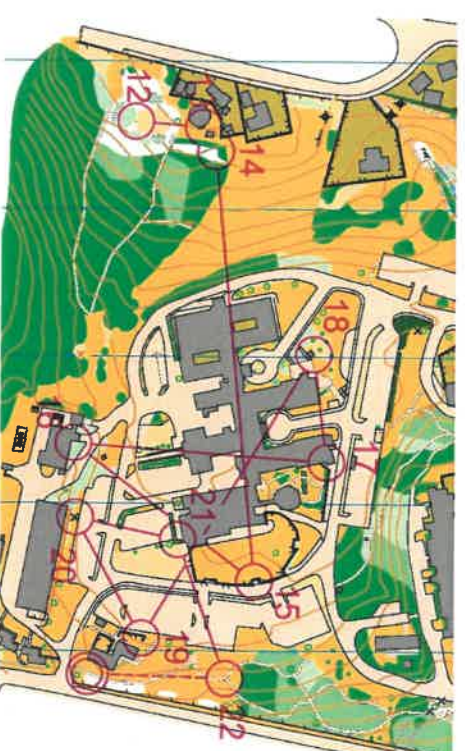
- Check the *Dunedin Orienteering website for details*

- **School Series – three events:**

- Chingford Park – 10am Sunday 22nd May
- Forrester Park – 10am Sunday 29th May
- Ocean Grove – 10am Sunday 12th June

- **Otago School Champs and OY1 Classic Events – Sunday 19th June:**

- Two events on two new maps:
 - Cedar Creek (middle) -
 - John McGlashan College (sprint)



Check the website for location details and further information: www.dunedinorienteering.org