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44 Rutherford Street, Caversham, Dunedin 9012

Newsletter

August 9th 2021

Term 3 No 1

From the Desk of the Principal

SCHOOL OFFICE
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Kia orana Sara Cohen whanau

Last week the students have enjoyed a celebration of Cook Island language and culture over the Cook Island Language Week. Classes have produced art and food and experienced music and language from the Cook Island culture. Kia orana everybody.

On the 24th and 25th of August we will have our term 3 CLP meetings. These meetings are an important opportunity for teachers, whanau and therapists to come together and discuss your child's learning. Teachers will be in contact with parents and caregivers to arrange times for these meetings.

I will be sending out a survey to parents and caregivers that is about Reporting and Assessment. This will come out in an email with a link to a Google Form. It is essential that we get parent voice in this as we continue our journey to improving our reporting systems. Please take the time to complete this very short survey.

I hope everybody has enjoyed watching New Zealand's success at the recent Tokyo Olympics. We now have the ParaOlympics to look forward to with our own world record holder, Holly Robinson, competing in the women's javelin. I hope everyone had the opportunity to see the TV One sports news article about Holly and her work at Sara Cohen. Well done to two of our students, Eli and Cole, for their brilliant interview skills. If you haven't seen it, please follow this link to view it <https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/kiwi-paralympian-gets-special-sendoff-students-in-dunedin>

We are going to have a Sara Cohen Fun Olympic Day on the 31st August. Classes will choose a country that may be reflective of some of the students within their class that acknowledges their culture. This will be followed up by a barbeque lunch and medal ceremony at school.

We are gearing up for the roll out of school lunches. Sara Cohen has become eligible for Ministry funded 'Lunches in Schools'. This will allow us to provide an opportunity for our students to broaden their palate and to participate in the making of their own lunches. More information will follow soon.

Hope you are rugging up warm on these cold mornings.

Aere ra,
Matthew

If snow threatens the viability of safe transport of students and teachers to and from school, especially from Dunedin's hill suburbs or with the closure of the northern or southern motorways, a notice about a late start or cancellation of school for the day will be made over the following radio stations from 7.00am:

- **Radio More FM - 97.4 FM** and www.morefm.co.nz - [Facebook](#)
- **Radio Dunedin – 1305 AM or 99.8 FM** and www.radiodunedin.co.nz - [Facebook](#)
- **Radio The Hits – 89.4 FM** and www.thehits.co.nz - [Facebook](#)

ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent, please make sure you contact the school to let us know. The absence line number is 03 4558347 extension 1. If we have not heard from you contact will be made to determine the whereabouts of your child. This is a very important safety matter for us all.

TERM DATES 2021

Term 3: Monday 26th July – Friday 1st October

Term 4: Monday 18th October – Tuesday 14th December

Therapy Corner

Communication strategy – the power of 'waiting'



Waiting is a powerful tool and it provides your child with the opportunity to communicate. Waiting gives your child time to process, initiate or to show interest in something.

When we wait, we are not necessarily waiting for a word. We are waiting for a child to communicate in their own way. This may be looking, pointing, making a sound or using a communication device.

All children need different amounts of waiting time during interactions. Start by trying to wait for 5-10 seconds after you ask a question or make a comment to give your child the chance to communicate.