



Hi everyone.

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We have had a very action-packed two weeks here at school since the last newsletter. There have been lots of exciting things happening. The fortnight got off to a great start with our Long Beach run and visit to Anika's goats and Taika's horses. It was difficult to leave the horses as they needed a lot of cuddling and patting. We then had a very special visit from children's authors Robyn Belton and Kathryn van Beek. It was wonderful to have such expertise in our midst and the kids were enthralled when Robyn did some 'live' illustrating. Kathryn also shared a really cool method for structuring and composing a story. The ODT accompanied this visit and it was awesome to see ourselves in the ODT last Friday in quite a major article. This was perfect timing considering we are doing a media studies topic! We had an awesome day in town on Tuesday and the Cross-Country event well, see below for more information. We also thoroughly enjoyed some live theatre down at Port Chalmers school with the touring NZ Playhouse show about Antarctica. It was very entertaining and there were lots of laughs. The kids have been noticeably inspired by all of these experiences and we have lots of special experiences to write about.



Visiting Taika's horses Cruz and Gandalf following our Long Beach run.

August 14, 2020

Term 3#2

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Cross Country - Waikouaiti Domain

The Cross Country took place in cool but clear conditions last week. It was great to gather together with our coastal cluster schools. The kids all did their best and ran the course with a smile on their faces. I was impressed with the positive attitude the kids displayed toward the whole event. Well done to Lawrence for his 2nd place, despite getting lost! He can look forward to the Otago Champs in early September. Lachie and Nicole also did very well as they both finished 10th. All of their hard work during training paid off. The journey to Waikouaiti in the van was lots of fun. Thanks to Cooke Howlison Toyota for lending us the van.



Cross Country at the Waikouaiti Domain - it's a big event!

Trip to ODT and Art Gallery

This was a very special day out. It all went very smoothly and the kids were thoroughly engaged all day. The kids loved the bus ride into town, and there was quite a lot of interest in our outing, so it was a fun way to interact with the wider community. The tour of the ODT was terrific. We had 2 guides for 2 hours and we learned a great deal. We met reporters and photographers which was cool as we had recently been featured in an ODT article. We also got to see the machinery in action as a print started up during our tour. The ODT building was a very interesting old building to explore as well. After a quick bite to eat in the Octagon we went into the Art Gallery for a brilliant 2 hour session with John Neumegen who is the resident educator at the gallery. He took us on a quick tour around the gallery to discuss some of the works and then we had fun in his studio letting our creativity free. The day ended with a whole school visit to the UBS to choose some more books for our library which was a blast. This was thanks to some further funding from the Otago Community Trust which was matched by the Pūrākaunui School BOT. Big thanks to both those entities for making this book purchase possible and making our library the best and most up to date little library ever.



Discussing art with John at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery

Fluffy Ducks

The latest recipients of Fluffy Duck are Nicholas and Anika.

Nicholas

Nicholas received Fluffy for his efforts during week 2 of the term where he worked really hard all week. He had missed a bit of week 1 due to illness and it was great to see him get stuck back into work with such a positive attitude.

Anika

Anika has been a fantastic Tuakana (big buddy) in the literacy world of late. She often volunteers to take two Teina at a time for reading, and has also begun to be a writing buddy at times when needed in the junior room. She is always very helpful and the juniors love her gentle caring nature.



Board of Trustees News

On behalf of the BOT I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Kim Romeril for her efforts as a BOT member. Kim has been on the BOT since early 2016. Kim resigned recently which has created a vacancy on the BOT so if anyone is interested, or knows anyone who might be interested in becoming part of the BOT, please contact Katherine Dixon, our BOT Chairperson.

Covid 19 - Level Two status

As we are now suddenly back into level 2 we are keeping a close eye on announcements that are coming through from the Ministry of Education. Rest assured we will immediately pass on any news that affects the school. In the meantime, we are making sure good hand hygiene practices are being followed before eating.

Dental Unit at Port Chalmers School

Just a heads up that the dental unit is now set up in Port Chalmers School as per previous years and they will be there for the remainder of Term 3. There have been some issues in the past around communication and bookings but I understand that there will be a postal appointment initially followed by a text reminder closer to the time. I have checked their list of student details for our school and everything was correct so look out for those appointments in the post. Some of our kids have been missed in the past so I am keen to make sure everyone is seen this year. Any questions please feel free to ask.

Dates for your Diary

East Otago Kapahaka - Wednesday September 9th -**Cancelled**
Quiz Night - Friday September 18th
End of Term Assembly - Thursday September 24th
Term Three Ends - Friday September 25th

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Dates for your Diary

Cross Country - Thursday August 6th

NZ Playhouse Show - Port Chalmers School - Friday August 7th

Trip to ODT and Art Gallery - Tuesday August 11th

East Otago Kapahaka - Wednesday September 9th

Quiz Night - Friday September 18th

End of Term Assembly - Thursday September 24th

Term Three Ends - Friday September 25th

Tim Cook
Principal