Dear Parents/Caregivers,

28 May 2013

On Monday in Room 1 we began our day together with a mihiwhakatau and liturgy to welcome Mr Alan Tutbury and Mrs Susanne Lewis from the Education Review Office who are currently conducting a review of our school. Schools are reviewed every three years to ensure that they are meeting national curriculum and Ministry of Education guidelines.

As mentioned last week, we are pleased to have the review team with us looking at how our school operates. Our aim has always been to provide your child/ren with high quality learning experiences and sound teaching in the key areas of Literacy and Numeracy/Mathematics and we hope that the reviewers feel we are achieving this aim.

Last week we warmly welcomed Sophie Deernees to our school. We feel like we have known Sophie for some time but seeing her arrive at school for the first time in school uniform made us realise that she was now one of our “school kids”. We are very happy to welcome Sophie into our school family and wish her very well in her school days.

Due to early miniball games, the odd time now on a Thursday after school staff may be away by 3:20. Could you please ensure that if your children are walking, that they head off from school directly, or if they are being picked up that it is done so as promptly as possible. On that note however thank you to our school parents for the safe and sensible manner in which they drive and park around our main exit.

Yesterday’s snow came as a bit of a surprise, although it was forecast often the snow still doesn’t come. We hope our children had a lovely day in the beautiful winter white out.

Liana certainly enjoy her snow!!

Have a lovely week.

Richard Duffy
Wine and Cheese evening at Rhubarb, Thursday 20 June at 7pm

Tickets are now on sale at $30 a ticket. Lucky prize draw on the night to win a $30 voucher from Rhubarb. This is a great opportunity for parents, caregivers and staff to get together socially. Feel free to ask friends along too.

If you would like tickets, please complete the slip and return with payment in an envelope addressed to Holly Wilson. Feel free to see Holly if you have any queries.

Name: _____________________ I would like to buy ________ tickets to the Wine and Cheese evening at Rhubarb.

Please find enclosed $ ______________________

Complete cut-off slip and put in envelope with payment, addressed to Holly Wilson

Cheese Rolls

Forms for these have been sent home today. Cheese Rolls will be made on Sunday 30 June at Balmacewen Intermediate school. Please keep this date free at some time during the day. We would like to set up a roster of parents throughout the day. There’s lots of free parking; and plenty of space for the children to play.

Many hands make light work.

Snow Postponements/Cancellations

After yesterday’s white out it is worth mentioning procedures around postponements and cancellations of school. School closures are made by a member of the Otago Primary Principal’s Association in conjunction with the Dunedin Police. These are broadcast usually from 6:30 am on most local Dunedin radio stations eg. Classic Hits 89.4 fm, More FM 97.4 fm.

The same decisions can be made for late starts due to weather however on occasions individual schools can make the decision for a late start. If (or when this type of thing happens) we intend to post this information on the Home page of our school website as well as on local radio stations.

Wood Raffle

There are plenty of cards still available in the office, if you would like a second or even third one please come and get one. Money and cards need to be back at school by next Tuesday 4th June

Profits from this fundraiser will go towards the costs of camp.

Dates for your Diaries

Assembly Friday 31 May 2:30 pm
Queen’s Birthday Monday 3 June (no school)
Wood Raffle Tickets and Money Back Tuesday 4 June (Drawn Friday 7 June)
Museum Trip Wednesday 5 June
First Friday Mass Friday 7 June
Wine and Cheese evening Thursday 20 June 7 pm $30@Rhubarb
BOT Meeting Monday 24 June
Cheese Roll making Sunday 30 June

Sausage sizzle/Milo’s

Sausage Sizzle Order
Name ________________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each _______________

Milo, with marshmallows $1 each ________ (only 1 per child.)
Sacramental Programme - *Parent Meetings TONIGHT!*

Baptism 5.30-6.00pm
Confirmation 6.00 - 6.30pm

Lessons begin next Tuesday

**Situations Vacant**

With the retirement of our beloved cleaner, we are looking for someone special to fill her shoes. It involves cleaning toilets and the day to day of keeping the school clean and tidy. It would involve approximately 7 hours of work a week. If this sounds like something you could do, please send in your CV with a covering letter to Office Administrator by Thursday 30 May.

**Working Bee**

Thank you to those parents in our school community who were able to come along to our working bee on Saturday. We managed to cut the hedge, have a clean-up in the basement and put metal chips and a tyre path from our playground up to the field area above. We still have a desire to develop a garden out by the school gate and might have a go at this sometime later this year.

**Bags for Firewood**

We have bone dry manuka firewood that is about the diameter of a softball bat in thickness. We are wanting to sell this firewood to raise money for our 2013 school camp. If you have old coal bags or large bags that we could use to put this firewood in, could you please bring them to school.

*Sam, for the Year 6 Exec*

**School Trip to Museum**

Next Wednesday 5th June, as part of our topic ‘Chemical Reactions’ both classes will be visiting the Otago Museum to participate in a workshop called ‘Lotions and Potions’.

We will require help with transporting the children to and from the Museum and with supervision of small groups of children. The workshop will be lab and experiment intensive.

If you can help provide transport and supervision, please fill in the form below and return it to school by this Friday.

Thank you for your support, Michelle Tili

I can provide supervision and transport to and from the Museum for ________ children in Room 3 from 9.15am till 11.00. (Starting time 9.30)

I can provide supervision and transport to and from the Museum for ________ children in Room 2 from 11.15 till 1.00pm. (Starting time 11.30)

Your name ____________________________________________________________
Room 3 News

In maths we have been given some new websites to go on and practice different skills we have been learning with numbers. We were given a sentence starter in writing recently and had to create an interesting piece of writing from this.

For our context of chemical reactions we are planning our own topic on what we want to try and create from a chemical reaction. Everyone has different ideas and we are carefully putting our plans together before we begin.

We enjoyed having Ginny, our sports activator with us last week teaching us about different types of rolls and balance activities in gymnastics.

We are very to have met Mr Tutbury and Mrs Lucas, and welcome them in our school yesterday. We hope they enjoy their time at school with us.

Liana and Victoria

In the words of Pope Francis...

Crossing the threshold of faith is acting, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit present in the Church and who is also manifest in the signs of the times; it is accompanying the constant movement of life and of history without falling into the paralyzing defeatism that regards any time in the past as being better; it is a sense of urgency to think of something new, to contribute something new, to create something new, kneading into life "the new leaven of justice and holiness" (cf. 1 Cor. 5:8), the virtue of charity and our vocation.