



Issue 3

Newsletter

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9 March 2018

School Newsletter

'Room 4 enjoyed the 'Have a Go Day' at the Edgar Sports Centre on Thursday 8 March.

I will praise you Lord with all my heart. Psalm 138:1

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## Dear Parents/Caregivers

We enjoyed the opportunity to share our numeracy teaching and learning programme with the small group of parents who were able to attend our Mathematics Matters parent forum this week. If you were not able to attend the evening session but would like to know more about our numeracy programme, please get in contact with me and we may be able to organise a mini session one afternoon during school hours.

Our year 3 & 4 students attended a Have a Go Day at the Edgar stadium on Thursday morning. They had fun having a go at a mix of winter sports with children from other schools. Thank you to the parents who helped with supervision, it was great to have you along.

You may have noticed we have increased our road safety precautions at the school gate. We now have cones helping to keep the gate and yellow-line areas clear of cars. We have observed an increase in the speed traffic moves along Pine Hill Road, and many cars come around the Hillary Street corner very fast too. We expect children to remain inside the school gate until a parent arrives to take them home. Please help your child/ren to be vigilant about road safety if they need to cross the road to walk home or get to the car.



Serving Christ together  
Ngā mihi nui

Fiona Sizemore  
Principal

### LCS Term Dates 2018

- 1 Monday 31 January to Friday 13 April (11 weeks)
- 2 Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July (10 weeks)
- 3 Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September (10 weeks)
- 4 Monday 15 October to Thursday 13 December (9 weeks)

### 2017 Parent Survey Summary Report from the Board of Trustees

The board of trustees greatly appreciated the response to the term 4 parent survey. This was the first time an online survey had been used and the considerably higher response level suggests that this is a successful method to gauge parent views on some areas of school life. There were twelve questions in the survey and the board received forty-six responses.

For the questions in the survey that related to our learning environment and operational aspects of the school (safety, home and school partnership, future schooling preparation, communication) the responses were very positive ranging from 98%-100% affirming we are doing well. A number of encouraging comments or suggestions for improvement were made across these topics and these are appreciated and have generated further conversation at the staff and board level.

Question 3 asked about the information you receive regarding your child's progress and learning. 87% were satisfied with the information we provide. We will be reviewing our written report formats this year and hope we can improve the information we provide further.

The question that generated the biggest response was question 7, "if LCS provided for year 9 & 10 would you consider keeping your child at the school past year 8?" Fifty percent of respondents said yes, 26% maybe and 24% no. The board of trustees and our proprietor the Dunedin Christian Schools Association have both agreed in principle that this response requires more investigation needs to be made into the feasibility of this for our school and the operational implications.

Recently a small group visited Timaru Christian school to see what their year 9 & 10 class looks like and to gather information. During term 2 we will host a meeting for parents who are interested to know more, and to answer some of the many questions raised in the survey around this topic.

The final four questions asked about our areas of strength and weakness concerning curriculum and our future planning. The high number of comments gave the board encouraging confirmation in many areas and a broad range of ideas to think through as well.

If you would like to talk to someone about the survey or your responses to it, please contact Fiona Sizemore or a member of the board of trustees. Thank you again for taking the time to complete the survey. The information provided to the board of trustees is valued and helps the board understand what we are doing well and where we can work to do better.



A big welcome to our new student Edmund Daley who commenced on Thursday 1 March 2018 as a new entrant in the Junior Class

### Nzmaths family link

If you would like to know more about the numeracy programme and support your child's learning further at home, log onto the nzmaths web site at [www.nzmaths.co.nz/families](http://www.nzmaths.co.nz/families) where you will find practical games and activities for parents to do with children to promote numeracy skills.

## Board of Trustees Policy Review Cycle

This term we are reviewing three policies as part of our three-year cycle. The policies are posted on the notice board in the office foyer for parent comment. Please contact Fiona or a board of trustees member if you would like to discuss a policy further.

- Allocation of management units
- Entertainment, gifts and travel
- Internal financial control

The board of trustees is also working to develop new policy and procedures on Physical Restraint as required under the Education Act. Documentation will be advised after the next board of trustees meeting.



## Rippa Team feature: Liberton Leopards Year 5 & 6

The Liberton Leopards are managed by Mrs Paton. They are a great team with lots of energy. So far this season they have had two wins and two losses which is providing them with a good level of competition.

## School Diary

### Term 1 2018 Calendar

12 March	HPV health nurse talk for year 8's 2.15pm
13 March	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
15 March	R3 EOTC farm visit (full day out)
19 March	ERO visit commences
26 March	Otago Anniversary Day
27 March	DCSA annual meeting 7.30pm
29 March	St Marks Easter service 11am
30 Mar	Good Friday
2-3 April	Easter holidays
11-13 April	NZACS leaders conference in Rotorua (Fiona, Alan)
13 April	Last day of term 1

### Term 2 Calendar

30 April	First day of term 2
3 May	Swimming session #1
10 May	Swimming session #2
15 May	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
17 May	Swimming session #3
24 May	Swimming session #4
28 May	NYLD @ Town Hall Year 8's
31 May	Swimming session #5
4 June	Queen's Birthday
8 June	Famine sleepover
14 June	Asthma show 2pm
18 June	Elegregoe Show 1.40pm
25/26 June	Life Education Trust programme
26 June	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
6 July	Last day of term 2

## Activity Donations

We have not yet requested an activity donation from our families this year as we have been waiting to see if the new government would implement its pre-election promise of paying schools \$150 per student if the school did not request an activity donation. Our understanding is that this will be made known as part of the government budget announcements in April. Thank you to the small number of families who have paid an activity donation without being asked! We will refund you if the government makes the payment.



## Attitude Intermediate Programme: Tackling Technology

Our year 7 & 8 students enjoyed a presentation from the Attitude Team on Monday 5 March.

## Dunedin Christian Schools Association News

The Dunedin Christian Schools Association will be holding their annual meeting on Tuesday 27 March in the staffroom. New association members are always welcome and the membership form is available at the office.

## HPV Vaccination: Year 8's

The HPV vaccination is able to be delivered at school to year 8 girls and boys. A meeting with the year 8 students and parents (optional) is scheduled for Monday 12 March at 2.15pm. The Public Health Nurse will discuss the HPV vaccine and handout a consent/decline form. A separate letter has been circulated to all year 8 parents with more information.

## Prayer

### POP in and PRAY Tuesday mornings 9.00am – 9.20am in the staffroom

Whether you can give ten or twenty minutes, come and join us as we pray for our school as it seeks to live out its vision in our community and for the kids, families and staff that are part of it. We are very grateful to all those who uphold the school in prayer.

### Prayer Points

Give thanks for: -

- each one of our students and families
- education outside the classroom opportunities
- the many Christian schools in NZ

Please pray for:-

- the Ferguson family and supporters
- our school to glorify God in **all** ways and remain faithful to the vision set down by our founders
- the DCSA annual meeting and membership growth

## Term 1 Value Focus: Respect

Love expressed through Respect – A willingness to treat with courtesy, to hold in high regard; to honour, to care about yourself and others, and the environment.

*Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor. 1 Peter 2v17*