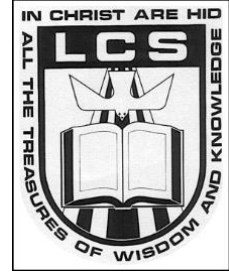


# LIBERTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 8  
Friday 25 March 2022

*Dear Parents and Whānau*

*Over the last week or so we have seen a rise in student absence due to covid self-isolation and other illnesses, including a gastric bug. We do appreciate the vigilance that you are showing by keeping symptomatic children home which helps protect our staff and other students. We have had up to 20% student absence this week. Thank you for upholding us and our community in prayer as we work through this time. We can see God's goodness to us each day.*

*The government has announced changes to the COVID-19 Protection Framework which will take effect from tomorrow. This is good news for us all and we look forward to being further through the pandemic. As Dunedin is yet to peak in the current Omicron outbreak, we will be maintaining our current settings at school until the daily case number is dropping and the risk of an outbreak in the school is reduced. We hope we will have fewer restrictions when we begin term 2.*

*Next term I have been granted a sabbatical and our school will be in the excellent care of Mr Peacock as acting principal. This sabbatical has been postponed for two years due to the covid pandemic! During the sabbatical I will be doing a small research project and taking a period of refreshment leave. I will provide more information in the next newsletter.*

*Blessings in Christ,  
Ngā mihi nui | Warm regards  
Fiona Sizemore*

RIGHT: Miss Corry teaching a reading group from self-isolation!  
(Don't worry, there was a teacher in the room 3 classroom too!)



LEFT: Room 4 students giving their 'Grass Heads' a first haircut recently.

## 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 king. 1 Peter 2v17

### GAUGING THE IMPORTANCE OF KAPA HAKA IN KURA

Our school is part of the Ōtepoti ki Te Raki Kāhui Ako (Community of Learning). This group includes most of the schools and pre-schools in the North Dunedin zone. One of the Across Schools Teachers (these are teachers who are released to do work on behalf of the whole Kāhui Ako) has been working on a project to gain Ministry of Education funding for kapa haka within schools, as this is currently not available. Part of the purpose is to recognise that teachers of kapa haka should be paid so the work is recognised and can become an actual work or career opportunity. Schools are typically trying to find parent volunteers to undertake this work which is often difficult for busy families to commit to in addition to their other work or family life.

Within our own school, finding experts to support us to learn kapa haka or prepare for the PolyFest can be challenging. We are good at singing so we can do well with Māori and Pasifika waiata, but we would love to have a kapa haka group in our school. There would be many benefits; it could enhance our students' understanding of the position of Māori as tangata whenua in our country's bicultural heritage, develop dance, rhythm and movement skills, increase confidence and knowledge in Te Reo and tikanga Māori.

We know we have students who would appreciate the opportunity to learn kapa haka at school. This could be similar to our band and choir that practise each week with a specialist teacher. As shown with our 2021 PolyFest performances, bringing together Māori and Pasifika song and performance with our Christian worldview is a natural fusion.

We have been asked to share the link below with whānau Māori **(and now our whole parent community)** to gauge support for this initiative. The local Ministry of Education office supports the idea in principle but needs more information to



take to the Wellington office. It will not be a quick fix! But there is the possibility that our Kāhui Ako could be used as a pilot to test the concept of paid kapa haka teachers working in schools.

Please complete the Community of Learning survey if you are interested in supporting this cause: Here is the survey link: [Careers in Kapa Haka](#)

### WINTER SPORTS: NETBALL AND BASKETBALL

Karen has circulated google forms to gauge interest in both netball and basketball for the upcoming winter sports season. With the relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions we can expect the season to run more smoothly! Please respond to the google form if you would like your child/ren to play.

### HONEY FUNDRAISER:

Orders are being taken at the office for the popular Pure Taieri Honey. Please have your order in by 31 March to the office or email Karen. Online payment to the Liberton Fundraisers account 11 8337 0088665 11



### DENTAL CLINIC CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any concerns about your child's dental health, please contact: Donna van der Hurk, Administrator Clinics, Faculty of Dentistry  
Phone: 479 7189 or email [donna.vanderhurk@otago.ac.nz](mailto:donna.vanderhurk@otago.ac.nz)

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY REVIEW CYCLE

This term the board of trustees is 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.

- Staff Appraisals and Development
- Smoke and Drug Free
- Attendance

They will be discussed at the board meeting scheduled for Tuesday 5 April.

### SICKNESS, ABSENCE AND COVID-19

- In the RED CPF setting, any sign of a runny nose or illness means a child must stay home from school.
- The most common early symptoms of the Omicron variant are a sore or scratchy throat, and a runny nose. The Ministry of Health is asking us to send children with any signs of illness home as quickly as possible.
- The Ministry of Health requests anyone who has Omicron symptoms to get a covid test.

*Confirmed COVID-19 cases and their household members must self-isolate for **seven** days. Other close contacts do not need to isolate.*

*If anyone in your family is confirmed as having COVID-19, you will be asked to notify your close contacts yourself. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can if your child has tested positive for COVID-19. We will send notifications out to the school community when we have students with COVID-19 in a class (no names) who were likely to be contagious at school to help families be vigilant in watching for symptoms.*

*When your family is required to self-isolate we will offer home-learning support for the children. It may take a day or two for home-learning support to be organised for the junior classes (years 1-4) as packs are made up individually. Children in years 5-8 will be able to borrow a chrome book to continue their class learning online.*



### THE DUNEDIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Dunedin Christian Schools Association (DCSA) is holding its annual meeting on Tuesday 29 March at 7.30pm, via zoom. Members and friends of the school are encouraged to attend as we reflect on and celebrate together the previous year of work and achievement.

The Zoom meeting details are as follows:

To join the Zoom Meeting click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9650406527>

## PRAYER POINTS:

Please pray for us! We are very grateful to all those who uphold the school in prayer.

Give thanks for: -

- God's continuing faithfulness and amazing grace over our school
- God's protection and care over those who are sick
- The Dunedin Christian Schools Association who continue the work of our founders

Please pray for:-

- Our students as they develop their understanding of Christ-centred Respect
- Families who are impacted by illness and self-isolation for covid
- Our school to glorify God in all ways and remain faithful to the vision set down by our founders

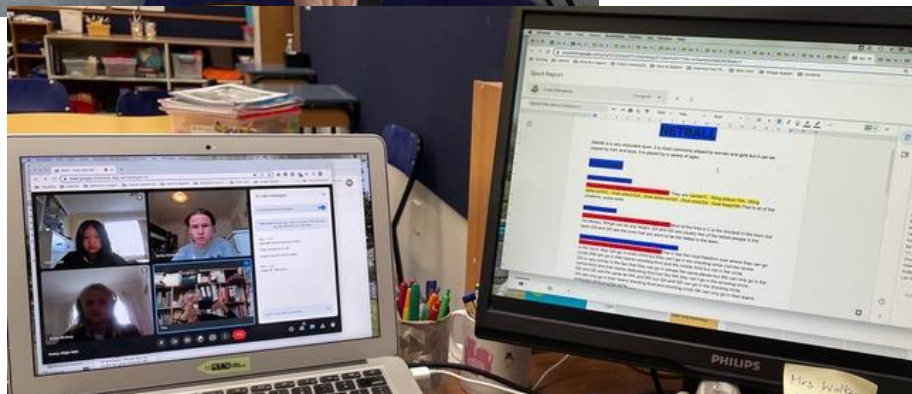
## TERM 1 2022 CALENDAR <http://www.libertonchristian.school.nz/calendar/>

When you click on the event in the online calendar more information may be available in the notes.

29 March	DCSA Annual Meeting 7.30pm
5 April	HPV vaccination first round
5 April	BoT meeting 7pm
14 April	Last day of term 1



The mix of online and in class learning happening in Room 5 this week.



NOTICES FROM  
OUTSIDE THE  
SCHOOL

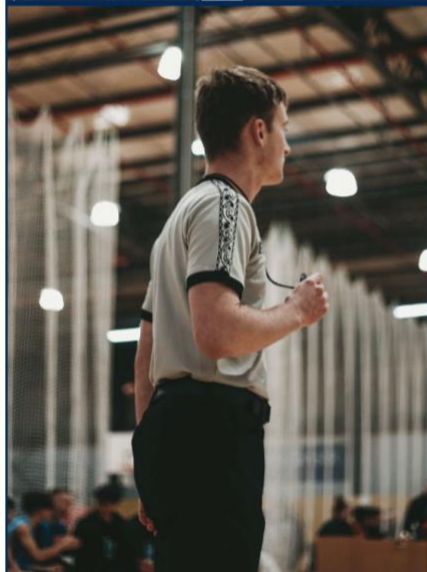


# KIWI HOOPS REFEREE COURSE

**WHERE?** EDGAR CENTRE

**WHEN?** TUESDAY 22ND MARCH  
2022, 4PM - 6PM //  
SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 2022,  
10:30AM - 12:30PM

**WHO?** ANYONE WHO WOULD  
LIKE TO START REFEREEING  
IN 2022



REGISTER VIA THIS  
[LINK](#) OR QR CODE



EMAIL:  
[REBECCA@OTAGO.BASKETBALL](mailto:REBECCA@OTAGO.BASKETBALL)



OTAGO.BASKETBALL

**KELLY SPORTS** HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

CONTACT  
**SOPHIE RUSSELL**  
DUNEDIN@KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ  
**027 695 8004**  
BOOK ONLINE AT  
**KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ**