

# Year 3-6 Duathlon at School

## Friday 5 April; 1230pm start

Bike drop off from 800am  
on Big Field

### PARTICIPATE



For our school  
Participate means  
**JOIN IN.**

**P**ARTICIPATE  
**R**ESPECT  
**I**NIATIVE  
**D**ETERMINATION  
**E**MPATHY



We need three parents to be marshals/encouragers on the course. If you can help with this please phone Felicity. Thank-you.

## Dunsandel School News and Notes

The Weekly Family Newsletter

Wednesday 3 April 2024

### PRIDE



**PRIDE IN OURSELVES,  
OUR LEARNING AND  
OUR COMMUNITY.**

### Key Information in this Newsletter

- Year 3-6 Duathlon this Friday

### News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa

We had an awesome day last Friday with our Wear Your House Colours Day and the Ronald McDonald House Charities House to House Appeal Walk. We managed to walk well over 500km as a school and we are sending \$500 to this charity on behalf of our school students and staff and our PTA who agreed to match the schools fundraising effort. Thank-you to everyone who supported this day with us.



Our Duathlon is for our Year 3-6 (Rooms 3-5) students which is held on Friday. We are looking forward to all our Year 3-6 students taking part. For those who do very well, they have an opportunity to enter the Canterbury Duathlon held at Ruapuna Raceway on Monday 4 September.

**Our event will be held on the big school field. Start time will be 12:30pm.**

This is an exciting event where we focus primarily on participation. For many of our children, riding a bike for a set distance through grass, coupled with two runs is something they only see other athletes do.

Below are some points to note regarding the day:

**TIMETABLE & POINTS**

8.00am-11.30am –Bikes to be dropped off at school (big field)

**11.30am - All bikes MUST be in the transition area by this time**

- All bikes will be supervised during the morning.
- All children must have their PRIDE T-shirts for this event.
- **All children must have a safe bike and helmet.**

**There are still some children/families who haven't returned our Duathlon form – this can be done online from our school website.**

If you have any questions, please see your child's classroom teacher.

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**Lions basketball** – We are looking for one more player for our teams. If your child is interested, please phone Felicity at the school office.

**Assembly** – We have our final term 1 Assembly on Friday 12 April which is the last day of Term 1. The awesome children in Room 3 will be sharing.

Ngā mihi



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

**Term Dates for 2024**

[Click here](#) for our School Calendar on Google. School Calendar can be accessed on our School App.

**Dunsandel School**

Irvines Road,  
RD2  
Dunsandel 7682  
Phone 033254079  
[www.dunsandel.school.nz](http://www.dunsandel.school.nz)  
**Office Email**  
[admin@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:admin@dunsandel.school.nz)  
**Principal**  
Dave Robinson  
[principal@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:principal@dunsandel.school.nz)  
**Deputy Principal**  
Tracey Harrold  
[tracey@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:tracey@dunsandel.school.nz)  
**School Secretary**  
Felicity Pluck  
[felicity@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:felicity@dunsandel.school.nz)  
**Board Presiding Member**  
Mick O'Connor  
**PTA President**  
Katharine Sheppard  
**School Account Number**  
02-0860-0049250-000

**Community News and Notes**

**Winter P. Js and Thermals – Selwyn St Vincent de Paul Conference**

Selwyn St Vincent de Paul Conference is in a position to assist some local families with winter pyjamas and thermals during the winter months. If you genuinely need assistance with this, please get in touch with Felicity before Wednesday 10 April for more information on how to receive them. You can email

[felicity@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:felicity@dunsandel.school.nz)

## Music Lessons – Term 2 2024

Our music program will continue in Term 2 starting in week one, after the school holidays.

Mrs Birnie has added the recorder to our program as well as the ukulele.

The recorder is a great way to introduce children to reading notation which leads to playing the violin, flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, horn, trumpet, cornet, xylophone, mandolin, bagpipes, guitar and piano.

Mrs Chamberlain will continue teaching the piano.

The cost for these lessons are \$20 per lesson and once signed up, your child is committed until the end of the term.

Please follow the guidelines so we can continue having our fabulous music teachers return.

If your child is interested in one of these lessons, complete the form and return back to the school office by Friday 12 April.

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**Student name**.....

Yes – my children would like to take part in the Term 2 2024 itinerant music programme.

- I understand my child will be out of class for no more than 30 minutes
- Payments must be made to the school office by the third lesson, unless prior arrangement is made.
- Our school bank account number is 02-0860-0049250-000 – use your child's name as reference and music
- I understand my child will continue to do lessons until the end of the term.
- An instrument is required at home in order to practice. (*Speak with the music teacher if instrument required*).

My child would like to learn how to play the:      Ukulele                  Piano                  Recorder

*Circle one*

Parent name.....



# Presiding Member Comment

The Dunsandel School Board of Trustees meet on Tuesday 26th March to discuss the following:

- Planned continuation of the Year 6 School Camp to Mt Cook in term 4
- Discussed the Dunsandel School Strategic Plan report for Term 1, Komodo Programme with the use of the Chrome Books proving successful for our students
- Student attendance is sitting at 90% (as at 18/03/24), this shows we have a highly engaged group of students and families at our school, the national average for Year 1-8 students sits at 48.9%
- School role expected to grow from 112 to 126 by the end of August, the Boards focus is to be well planned and placed to make an appointment of another teacher if required.
- We are still waiting for external contractors to make a start on the school classroom and hall upgrades, I would like to thank Dave for his persistence with following up this project, extremely frustrating.
- Board Parent Representative Jennifer Davidson has stepped down effective immediately due to family commitments, I would like to thank her for her service to the School Board

Term 1 has been extremely busy for our school, thank you to all of the staff and parents who have helped facilitate extra circular activities and school trips.

I hope all of our staff and school families had an enjoyable Easter.

If you have any concerns or ideas please get in touch, always happy to chat.

Thanks,

Mick O'Connor; Dunsandel School Board Presiding Member.

## DUNSANDEL SCHOOL 2024-2025

<b>Vision</b>	<b>PRIDE in Ourselves, Our Learning and Our Community.</b>			
<b>Values</b>				
<b>Strategic Goals</b>	Optimise programmes and practices across the school that emphasises student and staff well-being by the end of 2025. <small>HELP Priority # 1</small>	Advance our Teaching and Learning Strategies for continued growth of our School Community. <small>HELP Priority # 2, 4, 5 and 6</small>	Enhance our partnerships across the school and our community, based on our school values and creating new connections. <small>HELP Priority # 3</small>	
<b>Strategic Initiatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess and review our Wellbeing Education at Dunsandel School programmes and processes.</li> <li>Develop a culture of Hauora and Wellbeing across our staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To build the capacity of staff through dedicated professional learning and development opportunities.</li> <li>Review, revise and continue to develop the Dunsandel School Curriculum by the end of 2025 including addressing the Curriculum Refresh.</li> <li>Develop ways in which we give positive affect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi by the end of 2024.</li> <li>Digital tools are used in a purposeful way to improve engagement and innovation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue with effective engagement in our partnership with Ngā Mātāpuna o te Waihora Kāhui Ako.</li> <li>Opportunities are made to connect with our wider school community.</li> </ul>	
<b>Success</b>	Our students and staff feel confident in themselves and positive about school.	All teaching and learning will be targeted and responsive to student, staff and school needs.	All groups feel a connectedness to our school and our values.	

<b>PARTICIPATE</b>	<b>RESPECT</b>	<b>INITIATIVE</b>	<b>DETERMINATION</b>	<b>EMPATHY</b>
For our school Participate means <b>JOIN IN.</b>	For our school Respect means <b>TREAT OTHERS LIKE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED.</b>	For our school Initiative means <b>THINK FOR YOURSELF.</b>	For our school Determination means <b>TRY HARD AND DON'T GIVE UP.</b>	For our school Empathy means <b>THINK OF OTHERS.</b>



## Strategic Goal 1

Optimise programmes and practices across the school that emphasises student and staff well-being by the end of 2025.

## Are we on Track?

**What has happened in first 7 weeks of 2024 to move our Strategic Plan forward?**

- We have rolled out 2 Komodo surveys to our R2-5 students. Staff went through the question bank and we have refined a couple of questions - we have been able to link the work done in Life Education to a bullying question. It has helped give the children a good definition of bullying which can be applied to the question.
- Our total wellbeing score since July 2023 is 89%. When comparing this the primary school data from the past 12 months we fall into the top 25% of scores. Research tell us primary schools represent a higher average overall wellbeing naturally. According to the 2023 Komodo report younger students are usually happier in school at these ages due to less pressure.
- All classes are using the Bounce Back programme.

We have made a positive start to our Strategic Plan work in 2024 considering we are only 7 weeks into the school year. Our Wellbeing programmes are embedded into what we do - we are now using this information to help us with individuals and groups of children. We remain committed to the work the Kāhui Ako is doing and look forward to working with Leadership Lab/Mana Facilitation. We have had a number of events that provide connect with our community

## Strategic Goal 2

Advance our Teaching and Learning Strategies for continued growth of our School Community.

**What has happened in first 7 weeks of 2024 to move our Strategic Plan forward?**

- All chromebooks have been rolled out to Rooms 3-5. An ICT agreement had to be signed by the student and their parent before they have access. DR went through with the classes the the procedure for turning on/off etc. Each child has been allocated their own Chromebook for the year. (The best response I got was in Room 3 when they opened their Chromebook for the first time and it had their name on the screen...the excitement was palpable! Also recently when I went through with the Year 5 and 6 children the Kaha Award website and Google spreadsheet everything ran smoothly in terms of them being able to follow instructions to get to a page etc).
- Kapahaka - our 2 junior classes have begun their weekly Kapahaka sessions with FP. Our three classes have had 3 introductory sessions and now we have moved to the opt in part - we currently have 56 students taking part which is great.

Establish programmes that provide students with a variety of opportunities and experiences by the end of 2023.

## Strategic Goal 3

**What has happened in first 7 weeks of 2024 to move our Strategic Plan forward?**

- School Picnic held 1.2.24.
- Our Friday Assembly programme has seen all classes present this term.
- Parent Teacher Interviews were held on 11 and 12 March. There were a total of 88 meeting held out of a possible 108 - 81.4%.
- International Students Session with staff and Board held.
- Kāhui Ako Partnership - The Within School Teacher group (Lizzie Ewing) have met to start their planning of our Strategic Goal Initiatives for 2024. This group has 7 WSTs plus the Across School Teacher.
- Kaha Award Partnership - We will continue to engage with the local Fire and Emergency group for this work.
- There is good engagement with Facebook posts that include photos of our events eg PRIDE Day, Friday Assembly, Bike Safety.



## Student Roll

As at 18.3.24

Roll = 111

Ethnicity Breakdown %age of Roll

NZ	61
Maori	10
Filipino	26
Fijian	5
Latin America	1
Sri Lankan	3
Indian	3
British	1
Other	1

## Student Attendance

### 2024 Term 1 up to 18.3.24

Attendance Rate 90.2%; Justified Absence 3.6% Unjustified Absence 6.2%

Truancy Service Referrals in T1 - 0

### 2024 YTD

Attendance rate for 2024 90.2%; Justified Absence 3.6% Unjustified Absence 6.2%

Truancy Service Referrals in 2024 - 0

Student Attendance Term 3 2023 compared to National Report for Term 3 2023

Dunsandel School Term 3 2023 - Attendance Rate 88.2% National Average for Years 1-8 schools 48.9%

Percentage of Absence by reason at Dunsandel School (11.8%)

Illness 69.2% Other Justified 4.2%

Holiday 12.4%, Other Unjustified 4.9% Unknown 9.3%

Our Average attendance by term T4 22 91.9% T1 23 89.9%; T2 23 88.2%; T3 23 88.2%;