

COMING UP

School Picnic

**Thursday 30 January 2025
500pm-700pm**



All Dunsandel School families and staff are invited to a 'back to school' picnic on Thursday 30 January 5:00pm - 7:00pm, at our school. There will be a free sausage sizzle and the swimming pool will be open.

Please remember to pack some extra picnic treats, a rug to sit on and sun hats. A great way to start the new school year and to catch up with others in our school community.



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| PARTICIPATE | RESPECT | INITIATIVE | DETERMINATION | EMPATHY | PRIDE |
| For our school Participate means JOIN IN. | For our school Respect means TREAT OTHERS LIKE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED. | For our school Initiative means THINK FOR YOURSELF. | For our school Determination means TRY HARD AND DON'T GIVE UP. | For our school Empathy means THINK OF OTHERS. | PRIDE IN OURSELVES, OUR LEARNING AND OUR COMMUNITY. |

Dunsandel School Picnic THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2025

Family Name

Number intending to come to our School Picnic

.....

To be Returned to school

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Emergency Contacts Form with After School routines, Bus service and Online consents | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Child Information Sheet | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| School Picnic Return | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

The Weekly
Family Newsletter



PARTICIPATE RESPECT INITIATIVE DETERMINATION EMPATHY



For our school
Participate means
JOIN IN.

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For our school
Respect means
**TREAT OTHERS
LIKE YOU WOULD
LIKE TO BE
TREATED.**

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For our school
Initiative means
**THINK FOR
YOURSELF.**

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For our school
Determination means
**TRY HARD
AND DON'T
GIVE UP.**

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For our school
Empathy means
**THINK OF
OTHERS.**

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Tuesday 28 January 2025

- Welcome, classroom changes.
- School Picnic
- Key information for the school year

News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

Welcome to the first weekly Dunsandel School News and Notes Newsletter for 2025. There is a lot of information coming home today and I encourage you to take time to read through it all.

A special welcome to **Miss Esther Weir** and **Mrs Kim Jones** who join our teaching team. Esther begins her teaching career with us and will be in Room 4 and Kim will be teaching in Room 6 Monday to Thursday. We have seen Kim around our school in 2024 as a reliever. I know everyone will make our two new teachers feel welcome at our school. **I would also like to welcome all our new children and families to Dunsandel School** – we hope you enjoy being part of our school and community.

Our **Dunsandel School Information Booklet for 2025** can be found on our website – under the Parent Information banner and there is also a link on the home page (www.dunsandel.school.nz). This booklet includes our Bus Service information and online release information.

Some class room changes have happened over the holidays. We were fortunate to have new carpet, acoustic panels, lighting upgrade and electrical plug upgrades done to all classrooms during the holiday period through the Improving Classrooms in Small or Remote Schools programme. This programme is funded by the Ministry of Education and has no cost attached to the school. This means we have been able to move Room 1 and 2 back to their original classrooms – they look great with the internal upgrades that have been done as well. Room 3 will remain as is with Room 4 now in where Room 1 has been. Rooms 5 and 6 are down the far end of the school. The room we were using for Room 2 in recent times will be used as a music room.

This Thursday we have a School Picnic from 500-700pm at school. My staff and I look forward to seeing you there. Thank-you to those who have responded to the email sent out last week. To help us with the sausage and bread buying please complete the online link from the email or return the form attached to this newsletter by tomorrow 900am please. Further information in the graphic in this newsletter.

School Stationery

Thank you to those who have organised stationery over the holidays. If you still need to purchase stationery, you will find the list on our website www.dunsandelschool.co.nz. You still have time to order through OfficeMax. All the information is on our website. Please only purchase the items on the list.

Uniform

You can purchase our school uniform from our supplier <https://www.mainlanduniforms.nz/241-dunsandel-school> School hats are compulsory during Term's 1 and 4 – we have a limited supply at school for \$13, if your child doesn't have a hat, they are required to play in the shade.

Absences

It is expected that parents will make every endeavour to have children at school before classes begin. Children need time to prepare their belongings first thing in the morning and this should be kept in mind. If your child is to be absent from school, please ring the school office or use the school app service before 8:55am so the school is aware of your child's whereabouts. All Absences are marked electronically at the start of the day – if your child arrives late to school they must go through the office and let Mrs Pluck know they have arrived. For safety reasons, you will be contacted by the school if we are unsure of the whereabouts of your child.

For 2025 we are required to submit our attendance records to the Ministry of Education each day – this is a change for 2025; this includes if a child is late to school.

Information

With this newsletter is

- Our Pink Emergency Contacts form – please fill in both sides and return to the school office as soon as possible.
- The Child Information Sheet can be returned to your child's class teacher.

Have a great week everyone and I look forward to seeing you at our School Picnic on Thursday.

Ngā mihi



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

Key information to start the School Year

Staffing

We have **six classrooms** operating this year – our staffing is based on school roll numbers.

Room 1 – Mrs Lizzie Ewing (Year 0/1)

Room 2 – Mrs Anna Robinson (Year 1/2)

Room 3 – Miss Lydia Wilson (Year 2/3)

Room 4 – Miss Esther Weir (Year 3/4)

Room 5 – Miss Tracey Harrold (Year 4/5)

Room 6 – Mrs Kim Jones (M-Th) and Mrs Linda Douglas (F) (Year 5/6).

We have been fortunate to receive some extra staffing for Structured Literacy teaching - Mrs Linda Douglas will be doing this work. Mrs Jane Righton and Mrs Donna Webb will be teaching in class that attract Beginning Teacher Release, Special needs release and Deputy Principal Release.

Our Support Staff are – Mrs Felicity Pluck (School Secretary), Mrs Mel Stenhouse (Learning Support Co-ordinator), Mrs Sonia Colenso (Principal PA), Mrs Heather Burgess (Teacher Aide), Mr Craig Happer (Teacher Aide/Sports Support/Caretaker), Mrs Liz Hurst (Teacher Aide), Mrs Kath Gilmour (Teacher Aide/Library), Mrs Georgina Luvenitoga (Teacher Aide) and the PRIDE Lion Roary (Mascot).

Online Release Information

Our school has a website and dedicated school Facebook page on the internet. Please read and complete the consent form on the Emergency Contacts form page 2. We found in 2024 our Facebook posts which included photos of our events with the children were well received and enjoyed by our community.



In the interest of safety and security we require parents to give consent before publication – we update every year so the consent you give is up-to-date and current for the year.

Safety Vests

All children are issued with a school safety vest when they begin school. This is expected to be worn when your child is travelling to and from school whether it be by bus, car, bike, walking etc. Also, they are to be worn on school trips. These can be washed at home.

Please ensure your child looks after their vests as they cost \$20 to replace.

Term 1 Key Dates

Tuesday 28 January - Day 1 Term 1 2025
Thursday 30 January - School Picnic
Thursday 6 February - Waitangi Day; School closed
Thursday 13 February - Leadership Assembly
Thursday 13 February - PTA AGM
Friday 14 February - Senior swimming Sports
Friday 21 February - Assembly R2 sharing
Friday 28 February - Assembly R3 sharing
Wednesday 5 March - Ellesmere Zone Swimming Sports
Friday 7 March - Assembly R5 sharing
Monday 10 March - Parent Teacher Interviews Day 1
Tuesday 11 March - Parent Teacher Interviews Day 2
Friday 14 March - Assembly R1 sharing
Friday 21 March - Assembly R6 sharing
Friday 28 March - Year 3-6 Duathlon
Thursday 3 April - Canterbury Primary Schools Swimming
Friday 4 April - Assembly R4 sharing
Friday 11 April - Last day of Term 1



Our weekly School News and Notes will have information about all upcoming events.



Health and Safety

We have a child at Dunsandel School who has an allergy to peanuts and peanut base products. If this child comes into contact with peanuts or peanut based products, even touch some peanut residue left on surfaces, they can have a life-threatening allergic reaction.

To avoid such an emergency, we are asking for your help.

We recognise that many children love peanuts and peanut butter. However, we ask that, whenever possible, you would limit the amount of peanut butter you send to school with your child. Also, if your child has eaten peanut butter or any peanut based products before going to school, we ask that you ensure



that your child's hands and face have been thoroughly washed prior to leaving the house, so that any residual nuts on hands is not accidentally transferred to items in the classroom causing accidental exposure.

At school the staff will be:

- Continuing to encourage all children to wash their hands after they have eaten
- Wiping down tables and surfaces after lunch
- Discouraging children from 'sharing' or swapping food
- Making the children aware of how we can help each other and keep each other safe.

If you ever bring any treats to school to share with the class, please ensure that it does not contain peanuts or peanut based products.

We want to provide a safe and healthy environment for all of our children, so we appreciate your co-operation with this potentially life-threatening situation. We will continue to regularly monitor these measures.

End of Day Procedure

Our end of day procedure (3.00pm) is as follows:-

- Bus children to meet in the school hall in their bus teams where they will be organised by teachers and the bus monitors.

- Children being picked up from school, walking home or biking home are to leave through the gate at the end of the school hall. This is so all children can be sighted by a staff member.

The expectation is that all children will leave the school grounds via the gate at the end of the school hall after school. On the emergency contacts form there is a section that asks you what will be the normal procedure for your children on each week day. If there is a change to this, it is important you let the school know eg when sports practices start. We are aware that circumstances change each term (eg sports practices) so we will ask you each term what the normal procedure will be for your child.

School Donations

For 2025 we will continue to be part of the School Donations Scheme which means we will not be asking for donations or fees for normal everyday school curriculum activities.

Schools are still able to ask for contributions for overnight camps and also extra-curricular activities that are outside the core learning programme. In addition, parents are still expected to purchase stationery items for their children. Your school account will be sent home twice a term – online payments can be paid online or at the school office. Our school account number is at the bottom of the school newsletter; please ensure you use your child's name for reference.

Our school will still be able to fundraise through existing channels and organisations, including our PTA. Our PTA are highly valued members of our school community and make regular significant contributions to a range of important experiences. Going forward we will continue to rely on our PTA contributions and I urge you to support future PTA events. In helping to support the PTA you will be helping to enrich the learning experiences of all our children.

Calendar

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

Buying Uniform

Go to the **Mainland Uniforms** website - personalised page for our school: -

<https://www.mainlanduniforms.nz/241-dunsandel-school>

This link is also on the home page of our school website.

Dunsandel School

Irvines Road, RD2
Dunsandel 7682
Phone 03 3254079

www.dunsandel.school.nz

Office Email

admin@dunsandel.school.nz

Principal

Dave Robinson

principal@dunsandel.school.nz

Deputy Principal

Tracey Harrold



We are a 100% smoke free school in accordance with the Smokefree Environments Act. This means the whole school is smoke and vape free - indoors and on the school grounds.

tracey@dunsandel.school.nz

School Secretary

Felicity Pluck

felicity@dunsandel.school.nz

Board Presiding Member

Mick O'Connor

PTA President

Katharine Sheppard

School Account Number

02-0860-0049250-000

Music Lessons Term 1 2025

Once again our music teachers will be offering Piano lessons with Ms Chamberlain on Tuesdays and Ukulele lessons with Mrs Birnie on Wednesdays.

These lessons cost \$180 during term 1 and once signed up they are committed for the rest of the term. Payments need to be paid before their third lesson unless arrangements have been organised through the office.

If your child is interested in lessons, please complete the form below and return by Monday 3 February.

Music Lessons Term 1 2025

Childs name.....

My child is interested in **Piano** **Ukulele** *circle one*

Parent sign


Dunsandel Volunteer Fire Brigade

Dunsandel Fire Brigade are seeking new members to join the team. If you would like to be part of something bigger, please get in touch with Ken Lee – ken.lee@fireandemergency.nz

Be part of something bigger, protect your roots

Pitch in to protect.
Join the Dunsandel team.

DUNSANDEL VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE



FIRE EMERGENCY
NEW ZEALAND

DUNSANDEL VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE
ARE RECRUITING NOW

Become part of our crew and get behind the Dunsandel community.
Join our team.



We need more volunteers

We need more people to join our team so that our brigade can help keep our community safe. We have a range of roles available including **Firefighters, Medical First Responders, Operational Support** and **Brigade Support (administration)**.

Serve your community

We provide an important service when people need us most. We attend around **80** call-outs per year – about **35%** of our call-outs are to fires. We also respond to medical incidents, motor vehicle collisions and other requests for help.

What do we need?

We are looking for team-players who are keen to give back to the community, we will teach you the rest!

What are the benefits?

Volunteering with us is a rewarding way to help our community. As well as the feel-good factor, volunteers receive free health checks, an annual reimbursement and discounts.

SOUND LIKE YOU? COME ALONG TO TRAINING

Wednesdays 7pm at Dunsandel Fire Station

INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE?

If you're aged 18+ (or 16-17 with permission from your caregiver), a team player, and would like to contribute in your community, contact

KEN LEE | CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
027 546 1516 | KEN.LEE@FIREANDEMERGENCY.NZ