

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

The Weekly
Family Newsletter



PARTICIPATE RESPECT INITIATIVE DETERMINATION EMPATHY



Monday 30 March 2026

- Swimming Success
- Padder Tennis Captain
- Lions Basketball

News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

Special Congratulations to Miah who finished SECOND in the Year 5/6 Girls Open Butterfly and THIRD in the Year 6 Girls Freestyle last Wednesday at the Canterbury Primary School Swimming Sports. She also made the final of the Year 6 Girls Breaststroke. Absolutely fantastic!! This was held at the new swimming complex – Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre in Christchurch.

Tomorrow our Year 5 and 6 Padder Tennis teams take on their counterparts from Leeston. It was a pleasure to announce **Sophie as our Padder Tennis captain for 2026.** I know she will lead the team with all the PRIDE values.

Lions Year 5/6 Basketball - Our intention is to enter the Lions into the local Selwyn Hawks Basketball competition again in Term 2 & 3. So, we have an idea of how many children are wanting to play, please click on the link on our school website home page and fill in the Google Form. A reminder the games are 3v3 on a half court and are played on a Monday afternoon (anytime between 330pm and 700pm, times vary). There is a commitment from parents to get their children to the games which are held at the Selwyn Sports Centre in Rolleston. The competition starts Monday 18 May and finishes on Monday 24 August. The cost will be around \$70 for the season – this will be confirmed. All players are required to wear a mouth guard. For this programme to work for our players we do need parents to be responsible for the teams on game day. **Please register interest by Thursday 2 April.** Once teams have been finalised there will be an option to purchase Lions Basketball hoodies which will cost approximately \$70. Note, it is not compulsory to purchase the Lions basketball hoodie.

Assembly – Thank you to everyone who came along to our final Friday Assembly for the term. We have appreciated the support of everyone who comes along and shares this time with us.

School Shorts Sale - We are currently clearing out our remaining stock of our old school shorts at discounted prices. This is a fantastic opportunity to grab some brand-new shorts, whether you need a spare set for the muddiest months or your child has outgrown their current size, now is the time to purchase while saving money. Please note that stock is strictly limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Once these items are gone, they will no longer be available. Size ranges from 6-16. **Cost \$15 each.**



"Paws and Reflect" Online safety with the PRIDE Lion



This week

Tuesday 30 March Annual Padder Tennis Tournament v Leeston @ Dunsandel

Thursday 2 April Last day of Term One

This is the final newsletter for term 1. On behalf of myself and my staff, I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past ten weeks. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday break. We start again on Monday 20 April.

Ngā mihi nui

DRobinson

Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

PRIDE Awards

Room 1 – Evie - Evie, you are such a superstar in Room 1! You have had the best start to school and I am so, so proud of you. You are a total reading whiz, and you are amazing at using your spelling fingers to write great sentences and stories. You are also a kind and caring friend and have been such a fantastic helper to the children visiting room 1 this week. We are so lucky to have a cool, kind kid like you in our class. Keep up the great work!

Room 2 – Sadie - Sadie, this award is for you because you are an absolute star in our class. You have the best kind of happy energy, and you are always very positive about your learning. I love how hard you try with everything that you do - even if it is tricky, you don't ever give up. You are doing fantastic things with all of your schoolwork and you are a great friend to everyone in Room 2. Thank you for being the kind, caring and gorgeous girl that you are Sadie! 😊

Room 3 – Nova - Nova, what an amazing term you have had in Room 3.

I am impressed to see that you are a sound blending whizz and a word reading expert.

As well as that, you are able to calculate tricky maths equations and win challenging skip counting games. You sketch the best pictures and you are the kindest friend to us all.

Ka pai Nova, you are a star!



Room 4 – Mila - This PRIDE award goes to you Mila, for your amazing determination in duathlon. I was so impressed by the way you picked yourself up and pushed through to the end. You didn't give up when things got hard or when things didn't go the way you planned. I am very proud of you for that. I have loved seeing this determination shine through in learning times too, you are taking challenges head on and always have that gorgeous smile on your face. You rock. I also love the way you are always treating others with kindness and respect, making sure everyone feels valued, supported, and heard by you. Keep shining.

Room 5 – Athalia - Athalia, you live the PRIDE values. Not only do you always give everything a go, but you try your hardest at everything you do and you are making fabulous progress with your learning as a result of all of your hard work. You are also a kind, caring and considerate friend to all in Room 5 - you are everyone's biggest cheerleader and you're super helpful, too. I can't wait to see what the rest of 2026 has in store for you - amazing things, I am sure! Keep being awesome, Athalia!

Room 6 – Sophie - Sophie, you are such a valued member of Room 6 and a fantastic role model. Your kind and caring nature shines through as you patiently support your classmates, always ready with a helping hand or a kind word. We love how much effort you put into all school events, such as Padder Tennis and the Duathlon, as well as your work in class

You give everything your best effort and lead by example, showing what it truly means to be a Dunsandel School leader. We are so proud of you and feel so very lucky to have you in Room 6!

PTA News

Hello all.

It's the last week of school for term 1 and I would like to officially invite you to the Dunsandel PTA Quiz night!

Check out the flyer in this newsletter for more details but the key thing is **22nd of May** save the date!.

Last year we had a record 21 teams can we do it again?

I hope everyone has something fun planned for their holidays and has a very Happy Easter.

Our next meeting is planned for Thursday 30th April 7:15 pm. Come along and see what it's all about.

Until then if you want to get in touch with the PTA, Either email ptadunsandel@gmail.com or Phone/ txt me 0273355020

Enjoy the break

Shae

Itinerant Music lessons – Term 2

Name.....

Yes, I give permission for my child to take part in music lessons in Term 2

- I understand my child will be out of the class for no longer than 30 minutes for lessons
- I understand payment needs to be paid before the third lesson.
- My child is committed to the program for the term.
- My child would like to learn the Piano or ukulele or recorder (*circle one*)

Sign parent name and signature.

Calendar

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

Buying Uniform

Dunsandel School

Irvines Road, RD2
Dunsandel 7682
Phone 03 3254079

www.dunsandel.school.nz

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.



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.

Office Email

admin@dunsandel.school.nz

Principal

Dave Robinson

principal@dunsandel.school.nz

Deputy Principal

Tracey Harrold

tracey@dunsandel.school.nz

School Secretary

Felicity Pluck

felicity@dunsandel.school.nz

Board Presiding Member

Mick O'Connor

PTA President

Shae Brown

School Account Number

Board of Trustees 02-0860-0049250-00

Community News and Notes

BURGERS, BINGO & BIG PRIZES! 🔥

Get ready, Dunsandel—this is a night you don't want to miss! 🍔🎰

📍 Dunsandel Bowls Club

📅 14 10th, 17th & 24th of April

💰 \$25 – burger, chips & bingo included

🕒 Doors open 6pm, Bingo starts 6:30pm

💰 \$60 if you prebook all three nights and pay

🏉 Plus—Super Rugby LIVE on the TV! Catch the game while you play!

🎟️ Raffles and awesome prizes up for grabs!

Extra bingo cards available to purchase on the night.

Round up your crew, bring your game face, and get ready for a fun-filled night of laughs, good food, and a bit of friendly competition!

All while supporting the Dunsandel Skytower Team raising funds for Blood Cancer NZ ❤️

Spots will fill fast—don't miss out!

👉 Message us now on our Dunsandel Fire brigade

Facebook page to lock in your seat!

Door sales on the night EFTPOS Available.

🍔 Good food. Great company. Awesome cause



JOHN'S TENNIS COACHING
GROUP SESSIONS FOR BEGINNERS,
INTERMEDIATE OR ADVANCED PLAYERS

PRIVATE/SEMI PRIVATE (ONE ON TWO)
SESSIONS AVAILABLE



4 years - Adult
Monday - Friday at a location near you

Qualified Coach

John20140628@gmail.com

0226430071



Methven Scarecrow Trail

Saturday April 4 - Sunday April 19

Awesome school holiday activity
Only \$15 - eftpos or cash please
Info & Maps available from the
Methven ihub & Methven Four Square



COME ALONG TO
DUNSANDEL SCHOOL PTA'S ANNUAL



FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM FOR 6:30 START
DUNSANDEL COMMUNITY
CENTRE

Have a fun night full of challenges and win prizes! Theme your
team (prize for the best dressed team)

\$20 per person or \$60 / team of up to 4.

Payable to Dunsandel PTA 02 0860 0040555 00

Bring cash for raffles/ games, bar will be open (with EFTPOS),
supper provided by PTA

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!

email ptadunsandel@gmail.com

Ellesmere Easter Morning Fun

Sunday, 5 April - 8.00am - 9.00am

Anderson Square, Leeston

Three competitions - something for everyone

McRae and Knowler Great Easter Egg Hunt

Two Sections

- Hop Squad - under 10
- Egg Masters - 10+



- Complete your sheet
- Collect your marshmallow egg
- Enter the draw for a prize from First Class Accounts (1 for each section)

Little Boutique Easter Hat or Crown Competition

Prize for:

- Best Hat (Adult)
- Best Crown (Child)



LITTLE BOUTIQUE

- Complete at home
- Drop off to Little Boutique by Wed 1 April
- Clearly label - name, contact, age (child)
- Pick up at Anderson Square Sunday morning

The Makery Easter Basket Competition

Prize for:

- Best Adult Basket
- Best Child Basket



- Complete at home
- Bring with you to Anderson Square on the day



Coordinated and run by Ellesmere Promotions Trust

Bringing community events to Ellesmere

Thank you to our wonderful local sponsors!



Ellesmere Promotions Trust



<https://eptrust.nz/ep>

