

COMING UP

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL DUATHLON (YR3-6)

TAKE YOUR MARKS, GET SET, GO AS FAST AS YOU CAN....



8.00AM-1130AM –BIKES TO BE DROPPED OFF AT
SCHOOL (BIG FIELD)
1130AM - ALL BIKES MUST BE IN THE TRANSITION
AREA BY THIS TIME

FRIDAY 20 MARCH AT SCHOOL.
RACING START TIME 12:30PM

PARTICIPATE RESPECT INITIATIVE DETERMINATION EMPATHY PRIDE

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.	 For our school Empathy means PRIDE IN OURSELVES, OUR LEARNING AND OUR COMMUNITY.

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

The Weekly
Family Newsletter



PARTICIPATE RESPECT INITIATIVE DETERMINATION EMPATHY

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Monday 16 March 2026

- Duathlon – Friday 20 March @ 12:30pm start

News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

Our **Duathlon** for our Year 3-6 students which is to be 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 7 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.

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

For this day to run smoothly, we require parent helpers. If you can lend a hand and help direct children in the right direction, please email Felicity – felicity@dunsandel.school.nz or complete the form below.

Parent Teacher Interviews are being held today and tomorrow. Thank-you to all the parents and caregivers who have made time to come along and meet with our teachers.

Our Room 5-6 children had an awesome time at Lake Rua. This Thursday our Year 1-2 children head to Ashburton for a fun day at EA Networks Pool. Thank-you to all parents and caregivers who have or are coming along to support our teachers and tamariki on these trips. Your support is appreciated and valued.

Assembly - Thank-you to everyone who came along to our Assembly on Friday; there is no Assembly this Friday with the Year 3-6 Duathlon scheduled.

Swimming – We have closed our pool for the season. Thank-you to Mr Happer for making sure the pool was ready for swimming each day.

Last week there was information in our **News and Notes about Online Safety and the Dunsandel School Online Safety Hub** – this is offered as part of our partnership with Linewize who provide the online filtering for our Chromebooks at school. I do encourage you to have a look at this site and access the resources they have available. As part of our commitment to online safety, I will share some graphics (“**Paws and Reflect**” **Online safety with the PRIDE Lion**) in our News and Notes that may spark your interest to find out more from our Hub.

"PAWS & REFLECT"
ONLINE SAFETY WITH THE PRIDE LION
ROARING TIPS FOR A SAFER DIGITAL WORLD

ROBLOX

ROBLOX IS AN ONLINE GAMING PLATFORM AND APP THAT ALLOWS USERS TO PLAY AND CREATE GAMES, OR EXPERIENCES

ROBLOX USERS CAN SEND MESSAGES AND CHAT TO OTHERS IN-GAME AS WELL AS ON THE ROBLOX APP OR WEBSITE. ROBLOX DOES HAVE FEATURES TO PROTECT KIDS FROM PROBLEM INTERACTIONS ON THE PLATFORM. FOR EXAMPLE YOU CAN DISABLE YOUR CHILD'S CHAT OR SET TO FRIENDS-ONLY

WHY DO KIDS LIKE ROBLOX: IS ROBLOX SAFE FOR KIDS; AND WHAT PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW.....
FIND OUT AT OUR ONLINE SAFETY HUB

ACCORDING TO QUSTODIO'S 2023'S ANNUAL DATA REPORT, 1 IN EVERY 2 KIDS USE ROBLOX (MAKING IT THE MOST POPULAR APP OVERALL) AND SPEND AN AVERAGE OF 2 HOURS 10 MINUTES DAILY PLAYING AND CREATING GAMES ON THE PLATFORM.

This week

Monday 16 March Parent Teacher Interviews Day 1

Tuesday 17 March Parent Teacher Interviews Day 2

Thursday 19 March Junior Swimming Trip to Ashburton

Friday 20 March Year 3-6 Duathlon

Coming Up

Wednesday 25 March Canterbury Primary Schools Swimming Sports

Thursday 26 March Board Meeting #2

Friday 27 March Assembly R6 sharing

Enjoy the week ahead.

Ngā mihi nui



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

PRIDE Awards

Room One – Tyson - Tyson, what an awesome start you have made to school. You've worked super hard and have learned all of the yellow alphabet sounds. Now you're working even harder to blend those sounds into words – how incredible! You've also shown what a big, independent school boy you are by unpacking and packing up all by yourself, moving between stations and getting things sorted to do those tricky learning tasks – go you! Keep shining bright, Tyson – you're a star!

Room Three – Oscar - Oscar, This PRIDE award is for the awesome attitude you have towards all of your learning. I love the way you make sure you are always involved in answering questions and offering your opinion. You are a number expert, a spelling whizz and a general knowledge champ. To top it off you are the kindest boy who is always helpful to us all. Keep up the fantastic work Oscar, you make me proud to be your teacher.

Room Four – Nara - This PRIDE award goes to Nara. You are spectacular. I have loved seeing you grow as a learner and as a leader this year. Taking your role in the student council very seriously and doing amazingly. I am loving working with you in this. It makes me so proud to see the way you are always treating others with respect and kindness and always tackling challenges with your head held high. You have started this year off with a bang. Keep it up!

Room Five – Blake - Blake, you can be so proud of yourself for the fantastic start that you have made to your Year 5 year. You put so much effort and determination into all of your learning, you listen extremely carefully and you always use your initiative to ask for help when you need it. You are also a kind and caring classmate to everyone in Room 5. We are lucky to have a friend like you looking out for us.

Room Six – Isaac - Isaac, you are a real bright spark in Room 6 who brightens everyone's day! With your wicked sense of humour, you always manage to make us smile and bring such a fun energy to our classroom. Isaac, you also impress us with your amazing geography knowledge and your willingness to share your thoughts and ideas during class discussions. We thoroughly enjoy your contributions, which help make our learning even more interesting.

We absolutely love having you in Room 6 and think you are the best. Keep being your awesome self and continue to **slay every single day**, Isaac!



PTA News

Hello everyone.

Firstly thank you to everyone who joined us at our meeting last Monday night. Great turn out with just a few empty seats in the meeting room.

We had a great discussion around Quiz night and also a bit of a talk about our annual food fundraiser which will be happening at the end of term 2.

If you're wondering how you can help, for now Quiz is our focus and we are looking for donation of goods or services for prizes and raffles. Even cash donations are greatly appreciated. Every little bit helps and we love to promote all our sponsors.

More information on entries and helpers needed will come in the following weeks until then keep the 22nd May free in your calendar.

It was great to see the room 5 and 6 kids out at Lake Rua last week and to know what we are doing as a PTA helps make these events happen.

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

Until next week

Shae

PTA President 2026

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.



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.

Dunsandel School

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Board Presiding Member

Mick O'Connor

PTA President

Shae Brown

School Account Number

02-0860-0049250-00

Duathlon Parent Helper

Parent name..... help for Duathlon.

Yes, I can help and support on Friday 20 March with the Dunsandel Duathlon.

I can meet Mr R over on the big field at 12:20pm.