

COMING UP



Who are these superheroes?

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

The Weekly
Family Newsletter



PARTICIPATE RESPECT INITIATIVE DETERMINATION EMPATHY



Monday 25 May 2026

- Our Support Staff Superheroes.
- Lincoln Rotary and PTA Quiz success.

News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

These are our support staff superheroes. School support staff are the unsung heroes of the education system. They are the professionals in a school who are absolutely essential - they provide great support to our children and teachers with a diverse range of duties. Without them, teachers couldn't teach, and schools couldn't function. We celebrated Support Staff day last week.

From Left to Right – Mrs Pluck, Mr Happer, Mrs Burgess, Mrs Pircher, Mrs Birnie, Mrs Hurst and Mrs Luvenitoga (Mrs Gilmour absent)



Staffing Update

We have some wonderful news to share with our school community, along with some upcoming classroom transitions for the remainder of the year.

Room 1 Update: We are absolutely thrilled to announce that Lizzie Ewing is expecting a baby! We know you will all join us in sending her and Mitch our warmest congratulations as they prepare for this exciting new chapter. To ensure a wonderful, stable learning environment for our Room 1 students, Donna Webb will be stepping in to teach Room 1 from Term 3 while Lizzie is on Maternity Leave. Donna is already a familiar face around the school and is excited to keep the classroom's great momentum going.

Room 6 Update: The baby boom continues! We are also delighted to share that Kim Jones is pregnant. We wish Kim and Mike all the absolute best as she prepares for her upcoming maternity leave. Linda Douglas will take over the teaching responsibilities in Room 6 starting on 24 August. Linda already does the release in Room 6 so it will be a smooth transition.

Heather Burgess will take over some of Linda's Structured Literacy work for this time to ensure we continue this programme. We are working to fill the release gaps that will be open with Donna and Linda teaching full time.

Our absolute priority is making sure our students feel supported and secure during these changes. Both Donna and Linda are already collaborating with Lizzie and Kim behind the scenes to ensure that classroom routines, learning plans, and smiles remain uninterrupted.

Lincoln Rotary Quiz

Special Congratulations to Austin and Qyl for winning the Year 5/6 quiz at Lincoln last Tuesday – an awesome effort.

PTA Quiz Night

Thank-you to our awesome PTA for organising the PTA Quiz which was held on Friday evening. And thank-you to everyone who was able to support this event.

Assembly

Thank-you to everyone who came along to our Assembly on Friday – we appreciate your support. Our next Assembly will be on Friday 5 June with the children from Room 6 sharing.

Wellness

As we head into the colder months, we are seeing an increase in coughs, colds, and seasonal illnesses. To help keep everyone well, please keep your child at home if they are unwell, especially if they have a fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, or persistent cough. Good hand hygiene, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when sick all help protect our school community. If your child is absent from school, you can leave a message on our school phone line, on the school app or email the school office.

Coming up

Monday 1 June King's Birthday Holiday – school closed

Tuesday 2 June School Cohort entry T2 Entry 2

Friday 5 June Assembly 220pm Room 6 sharing

A reminder we will be closed next Monday for King's Birthday.

Enjoy the week ahead!

Ngā mihi nui



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro



PRIDE AWARDS

Room 1 – Manya - Manya you are a bright light in Room 1 and we are very lucky to have such a kind, caring girl like you in our classroom. Lately, I have been incredibly impressed by your amazing reading skills and the way you are stretching and blending your Stage 1 yellow sounds like a champ! You are also a wonderful friend who always puts your hand up to help and welcome new children to our classroom. Keep up the great work, Manya—I think you're a star!

Room 2 – Maddie - Maddie, this award is for you because you are actually incredible! I could not be prouder of you for the energy you put into your school days. You start and finish the day with the biggest smile and you are absolutely flying through your school work. I love how you love learning and you are so, so, so very kind and helpful. Keep it up Maddie - you are amazing!

Room 3 – Alfie - Alfie you are just the best! Every day you come into school ready to learn and work hard. Your enthusiasm for learning is infectious and I admire the way you can support your ideas with more information to answer questions and convince others. I love your sense of humour and the kind way you treat us all in Room Three.

Alfie, keep being the kind and caring boy that you are because the world needs more people like you!

Room 4 – Lottie - Lottie, you make our day brighter. I love hearing your jokes and the giggle that follows. I have loved seeing you come out of your shell in the last few weeks. Your confidence and humour shine like a ray of sunshine. You are always showing empathy and respect to those around you and I have noticed you are always trying to make sure everyone feels included and valued. I was so impressed by

you in the duathlon, running like a cheetah and leaving a trail of dust behind you. I loved seeing your determination as you pushed yourself all the way to the finish line. Go you!

Albie - Albie, this PRIDE award is for you. I have loved being your teacher. You are such an awesome dude and so fun to be around. You brighten every room you walk into with your big, cheeky smile. I love the way you are always showing determination and trying your hardest in everything you do. I am so proud of all you have done, from your amazing stories in writing, to your outstanding performances in any sporting thing you take part in. I love seeing the way you are so kind and friendly to people



around you. Albie, you have left your mark on all of us at Dunsandel School and we will miss you so much! Don't stop shining your light, and keep that lovely smile on your face.

Room 5 – Daniel - Daniel, what an awesome start to the term you have made. You arrive at class everyday with a smile on your face and are always up for a chat. Your bubbly, enthusiastic personality shines through in all aspects of school life. You have great ideas and are always willing to share these during class discussions and your ideas are truly valued. You are also a great listener to your classmates during these discussions. Daniel, you have been trying really hard during our ukulele sessions with Mrs Birnie and are always eager to learn new songs. We look forward to watching you and the rest of room 5 at Strum Strike Blow later in the year. Daniel, we are so lucky to have you in Room 5. Keep up all the awesome work you are doing.

Room 6 – Austin - Austin, you absolutely smashed the Rotary Quiz alongside your awesome teammate Qyl! You worked incredibly well as a team, showed all of our PRIDE values, and represented our school in such a respectful and positive manner that it made us extremely proud. Your determination, teamwork, and attitude stood out throughout the whole event.

On top of that, you are such a kind, caring, and wonderful person who always looks out for others. Your witty sense of humour brings so much laughter and positivity to Room 6, and you have a fantastic way of making those around you smile. We are so lucky to have you in our class and think you are simply the best. Keep being the amazing person you are, Austin, we are so so proud of you!

PTA

Hello everyone

What a fantastic evening we had at Friday's PTA Quiz Night! It was wonderful to see so many people come along, enjoy themselves, and help make the night such a great success.

Congratulations to our winning team, *The Mac Attack*, who claimed the top spot on the night! And a special mention to our teachers — 4th place is not a bad effort from the people educating our kids every day!

Thank you to everyone who attended and for your generosity and support throughout the evening. The energy in the room was amazing, and it was great to see everyone getting involved and having fun.

We are also incredibly grateful to all of our sponsors for their generous support – please support the businesses that so kindly support our school community.



Backroad Fit - Rachel Scott

A huge thank you to the amazing PTA team behind the scenes who put in so much work leading up to the event and on the night itself. Events like this simply couldn't happen without your time and dedication. Finally, thank you to Louise for being our duty manager and keeping everyone well watered throughout the evening, and to Bec for being a fantastic quiz master and creating some great questions that kept us all entertained.

Thank you again to everyone who helped make the evening such a memorable one!

As one event wraps up, we are already straight into our next PTA fundraiser — our Food Fundraiser! We'd love your support once again and look forward to everyone getting involved to help continue raising funds for our school and students.

Have a great week

Shae

PTA President

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.

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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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PTA President

Shae Brown

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Community News and Notes

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2026 Food Fundraiser

Dunsandel School PTA



Naked Baker Family Pies,
\$8.50 each (8 flavours)

Frozen Croissants, \$27 (20/bag)



Pasta Vera Family Meals 1.3kg
Lasagne (Beef or Chicken & Basil) \$24.99 ea
Mac & Cheese \$21.99



Orders in by 15th June

