

30th October

Issue 34



*Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki
te whānau o te Kura o Kōpūtai
- greetings to all families
of Kōpūtai (Port Chalmers)*

Kia Ora folks

With the weather warming up, it's a suitable time to remind everyone about the vital importance of learning to swim and being safe around water. In New Zealand, water is a huge part of our lifestyle, but it also presents a significant risk.

The Importance of Water Competency

Swimming lessons are much more than just a fun activity; they are a **life skill**. We encourage all students to make consistent progress in the main strokes—freestyle (crawl), backstroke, and survival strokes. Having strong, efficient strokes and knowing basic water survival skills builds the competence and confidence necessary to handle unexpected situations in the water.

Be Ready to Swim

Please help your children get the most out of their swimming time by ensuring they come to school prepared every day. They must have their swimming togs and a towel. If your child is unable to swim, please provide a suitable reason by way of a note to the child's teacher or a call or text to our school office.

Preventable Drowning Statistics

The statistics on preventable drownings in Aotearoa are sobering and reinforce why this education is so important.

Drowning is the third-leading cause of death from unintentional injury in New Zealand children aged 0-14. On average, 8 children die from unintentional drowning every year, while another 26 children suffer non-fatal injuries. For every one fatal drowning, there are multiple non-fatal incidents requiring hospitalisation.

By supporting our school swimming programme and encouraging safe water behaviour, we work together to keep our tamariki safe. Let's make every effort to turn these statistics around.

Mā te Wā

Jared

Calendar of Events	
28 th Oct to 7 th Nov	Swimming Daily
6 th November	PTA Disco - Rainbow Rave 6pm
26 th November	School Board Meeting 7pm
17 th December	Last day of the year
Boating Rūma Māngo & Rūma Pāua	
13 th November	1pm - 3pm
20 th November	1pm - 3pm
4 th December	1pm - 3pm
Swimming 28/10 - 7/11	
Rūma Tepetepe	9.30am
Rūma Wheke	10.00am
Rūma Pāua	10.30am
Rūma Māngo	11.00am

Futsal Teams

We have 2 teams sorted for Futsal this term. The fee is \$50.00. We would appreciate prompt payment as we have a no pay no play policy. Thank you.

Welcome to Jordan in Rūma Tepetepe and her Whānau. We are sure you will enjoy being a part of our learning community.

Port Chalmers School PTA 2025 Tea Towels

Our bi-annual tea towels are ready for printing! Check out the picture below of the 2025-year group.

If you would like to order some tea towels, complete this [form](#)

They are \$15 each. Payment can be made in cash to the office or Internet banking into the Port Chalmers School account which is 06 0901

Orders due by 14th November



Last Friday, eight Year 6-8 pupils attended a golf session at Sawyers Bay Golf Course. Melanie Harper, who came to take the whole school for golf sessions last term, took us through putting, chipping and driving and taught us more about the various clubs to use in certain situations and also how to swing and connect with the ball properly.

We played a few skill sharpening games on the green and surrounds, then we headed out to the course to play a few holes.

We are lucky to have such a super golf course on our doorsteps and the club is keen to attract more young players. If you would like to know more about joining the club (child membership is very cheap at \$25), please email portchalmersgolf.co.nz





Artist in Residence 2025!



COME & MEET BEAU!
THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER
1.45PM AT THE SCHOOL HALL

2025 artist Beau Cotton will:

- tell us about his experience of becoming a maker
- let us see and touch some wearable sculptures
- talk about this year's project
- give each child a special pouch for collecting taonga

BEAU & OUR KIDS WILL
MAKE STUFF TOGETHER
9AM-3PM **MONDAY 17**
TO FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER

JOIN WHACT!

WE NEED NEW PEOPLE ON
THE TRUST FOR 2026!
OUR AGM WILL BE ON
TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER
7PM CAREYS BAY HOTEL
PLEASE COME ALONG

CALLING ALL WHĀNAU
& CAREGIVERS:
PLEASE COME & HELP OUT!
JUST TURN UP &
ENJOY THE CREATION!

Exhibition & Community Fair
Sunday 23 Nov 12-2pm
at Port Chalmers School
See you then!



REMEMBER
ONCE A WEEK,
TAKE A PEEK

Attendance Matters

**1 or 2 days absent a week doesn't seem like much.
But think of it this way**

If your child misses	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling that's
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

If my child is 10 minutes late a day- surely that won't affect my child's learning

If your child misses	That equals	Which is	Over 13 years of schooling that's
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 1/2 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hr 40 mins per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 week's per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 Day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years