

Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o Koputai – greetings to all families of Kōpūtai (Port Chalmers) School.

Staffing 2024

Vicki Nicolson Principal
 Jared Roddick Deputy Principal
 Peta Hill Assistant Principal

Class Teachers

Ian Landreth & Lee Davis Rūma Pipi (Rm 5) Yr 1
 Peta Hill Rūma Tepetepe (Rm7) Yr 2/3
 Marnie Waaka Rūma Wheke (Rm 8) Yr 3/4
 Brooke Flannery Rūma Pāua (Rm 4) Yr 5/6
 Jared Roddick Rūma Mangō (Rm 2) Yr 6/7/8
 Lucy McConnon

Support Staff

Katy Gray Office Administrator
 Roger McLaughlin Caretaker
 Charlotte Macshane Learning Assistant
 Michelle Meaclem Learning Assistant

It is great to be back at school. This year we will continue with our focus on our values - courtesy, co-operation, caring, common sense, whanaungatanga (belonging), ako (to learn), and manaakitanga (show respect).

Staff for 2024 is mostly the same as it was last year. I will be continuing in my role of Lead Principal in the Otepoti ki Te Raki (Dunedin North) Kāhui Ako. It will mean that on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday I will be at Port Chalmers School doing what I normally do. On Thursday and Friday, I will be leading our kāhui ako. Jared Roddick and Peta Hill are going to step up as Acting Principal. Luci McConnon, who was a Master's student at our school last year will be the teacher in Rūma Tepetepe and Rūma Mangō on alternative Thursday's.

We want to welcome back our whānau into classrooms at the beginning of the day (between 8:30am and 9:00am) and at the end of the day (after 3:00 pm) for drop off and pick up. Come in and see what your tamariki have been learning and chat to the kaiako about the day.

I love today. It is so exciting to see all 'our' learners back at school, happy and excited to be involved in such a great learning community. Thank you for sharing your children with us!

All children were issued with new sunhats today. They look fabulous. Thank you to the PTA for funding this important safety feature for all our tamariki and kaiako.

Heoi anō tāku mō ināianeī - That's all for now
 Nāku noa nā. - Yours sincerely
 Vicki Nicolson
www.portchalmers.school.nz

Welcome

Nau mai haere mai –
 Welcome to Aquilla and Isabella in Rūma Mangō, Nahoa in Rūma Pāua, Artemis and Carlos in Rūma Pipi and their whānau. We are sure you will enjoy your time here as part of our learning community.

Compliments or Concerns

If you have compliments or concerns to share please contact us. We want to listen and share all the things that are happening in our school.

Absences

Children are checked for attendance at the start of each day. If your child is absent, please ring the school to let us know. If we haven't heard from you explaining the absence, we will ring you to confirm that your child is safe. This is to ensure the safety of all our students. You can also text your absences on 027 697 3596 before 9:15 am or use the **Skool Loop app**. The Ministry of Education requires a reason for your child's absence; please include this in message. Some days the checking for safety of where children are takes a huge amount of time. Please be respectful of our need to know your children are safe so please let us know via one of the options above.

Term Dates for 2024

Term 1 Wednesday 31st January - Friday 12 April
Term 2 Monday 29 April - Friday 05 July
Term 3 Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September 2024
Term 4 Monday 14 October – TBA

Public Holidays in term time for 2024

Waitangi Day	February 6 th
Otago Anniversary Day	March 25 th
Good Friday	March 29 th
Easter Monday	April 1 st
Easter Tuesday	April 2 nd
King's Birthday	June 3 rd
Matariki	June 28 th
Labour Day	October 28 th

School Times

Children are expected to be in their rooms by 9:00am ready for learning for the day.
 8:30 am Supervision begins
 9:00 am Classes begin
 10:40-11:00 am Morning Tea
 12:30-1:30 pm Lunch
 3:00 pm School finishes

Library

Stocktake has now been done. We have some overdue and non-issued books outstanding from 2023. Please return any books found over the holidays. The cost of any lost books will be added to family accounts.

Donations

The Board of Trustees has opted into the government donation scheme, and therefore you will not be asked for a donation this year.

School Bus



The school bus is available for families who live within the eligibility area dictated by the Ministry of Education. Children who do not live in this area are not able to travel on the school bus to Aramoana. Mr Roddick is the teacher in charge of the bus and checks afternoon attendance on the bus. Please advise him if your children are not going home on the bus on a particular day.



Lunch online with Subway will restart on Friday the 10th February. If you haven't used this online lunch ordering system, please register at <https://www.lunchonline.co.nz/>

Sushi Johnny Starting Wednesday, 7th February.



Orders will need to be in at the Office before school in a named envelope with room number and choice, and correct change. We will order the lunches which will then be picked up and given out at 12:30pm.

Please ensure you choose Chicken or Vegetarian

Price List

Teriyaki Chicken or Vegetarian Rice Balls \$4.50
 Teriyaki Chicken or Vegetarian 5-piece sushi \$6.00

Can you please tell your child they must eat their Sushi at lunchtime and not leave in their lunchbox for later. Sushi is great when it's fresh but may cause food poisoning if consumed after being left in a lunch box for hours.

It would be appreciated if the correct money is sent to school as we do not have cash on hand.

Swimming

Swimming is part of the N.Z. Curriculum, and all children are required to participate. Swimming dates for term 1 are:
 Monday 5th February – Friday 9th February
 Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

Port Otago is sponsoring swimming lessons for the whole school.

Newsletter Day

Newsletters will generally go out on a Thursday. Our next newsletter will be on Thursday 8th February.

Cell phones – Electronics – Toys

If cell phones must come to school, then they need to be turned off and handed in to the office. The new government mandate for cell phones includes our school. The message is cell phones "away for the day". Thank you.
We do encourage children to leave toys and valuables at home. They become a distraction to learning. We will not be responsible should anything happen to them.

Stationery

Stationery lists were issued at the end of last year. The office has spare copies if you have lost yours, or you can download it from our website. Please try to have the stationery by Wednesday 7th February.

Technology (Years 7 & 8 Students)

We have a change in time for technology in 2024, it will now be each Wednesday afternoon. The Year 7 & 8 students will travel to Dunedin North Intermediate School each Wednesday starting 14th February, leaving school at 12:30pm. Children will receive instruction in food technology, hard and soft materials technology, and digital technology. DNI have a separate charge for pupils who attend technology, which covers the cost of materials. This has been set at \$115.00 for 2024. This will need to be paid by the end of term 1 as it covers the take home component of the things the students make at technology.

Skool Loop

Skool Loop is the app we use to keep you informed of what is happening in our school. Please download this app from either the App store or Google Play and select Port Chalmers School. You will then need to select the groups you want to belong to. Always select general and then the classes your children are in. If you already have Skool Loop downloaded you may need to change the groups you belong to, as your child may have changed class.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO NOTICE GROUPS



TO JOIN YOUR SKOOL LOOP APP NOTICE GROUPS, SIMPLY FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:

- Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
- Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
- Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
- You're good to go - you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

NEED MORE INFO?

Call Skool Loop Aus on 1800 203 493
 Call Skool Loop NZ on 0800 238 379



Calendar of Events

5 th February	Swimming starts (for two weeks)
6 th February	Waitangi Day (School closed)
12 th February 5:30pm–6:30pm	Family Picnic at school (weather dependent)
23 rd February 1:30 pm	Elgregoe Show
20 th March	Otago Anniversary Day (school closed)
21 st March	Rūma Pāua Bike Skills course
8 th -12 th April	Year 7 & 8 Camp Bannockburn
12 th April	Last Day of Term