

31st July

Issue 22



PORT CHALMERS SCHOOL
Te Kura o Kōpūtai
EST 1886

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

Kia Ora folks

Port Chalmers School is the only full Primary State School in the West Harbour. I am sometimes asked what the advantages are of pupils continuing their education at a full Primary School as opposed to them attending an Intermediate School.

Our Year 7 & 8 pupils enjoy many similar experiences to those who attend Intermediate Schools, and they have opportunities to demonstrate real leadership skills in a smaller (and for many, a 'safer' environment), than in a much larger school. The continuity of learning is guaranteed as they move through the school. Our teachers know our pupils well and as such, pupil's social, emotional, physical and academic needs are catered for and nurtured well, right up until they are ready to make the transition to High School.

For some pupils, making two transitions in three years can be quite challenging and learning traction is lost as they get used to navigating new systems, different teachers and the bigger environment. Then, when they have 'found their feet' again, it's time for the High School transition.

Pupils at Year 7 & 8 (11-13 years) are going through an important phase in their cognitive, physical, social and emotional development and, for most, having the grounding of a full primary allows them to grow well, as they can see themselves in their place and feel important and valued, without the added complication of finding themselves in their place again.

Currently, our Year 8 pupils are attending local high school Open Days for them to choose the school that is the 'right fit' for them. Our Year 8 pupils will be well equipped socially and academically to move on to high school at the end of this year as they have had numerous opportunities over their senior years to develop in their confidence, their leadership ability and in their personal and social skills.

On Wednesday 13th August between 5pm-6.30 pm we will host a 'Drop in' session to discuss Year 7&8 opportunities and learning for 2026, for existing and new pupils. We hope to see you there!

Mā te Wā

Jared Roddick

(Deputy Principal)

**OUR CYBER-SAFE COMMUNITY
VISIT OUR HUB AT**

portchalmers.onlinesafetyhub.nz

Qustodio Parent App for Families

- Filter and block apps and content parents don't want their children to access
- Customise what children can access during homework hours
- Balance screen time by setting time limits on devices as well as for specific apps
- Protect screen-free moments such as mealtimes and bedtimes
- See who children are talking to and what content they are seeing in real-time

How to get started

1. Visit the Online Safety Hub.
2. Create your account
3. Install Qustodio on your child's devices

We will have Chromebooks available in the administration area on Tuesday and Wednesday while we have learning conferences happening. If you want support to set up your account, please come. Vicki will be there to help.

Learning Conferences 5th & 6th August

Our mid-year learning conferences will happen on Tuesday and Wednesday the 5th and 6th of August which is next week. Bookings are open now through Skool Loop. In the Skool Loop app, you will find times available for learning conferences under the bookings button.

Please contact the office if you want to make a booking and not use Skool Loop (email: office@portchalmers.school.nz) Rūma Pāua and Mangō will have slots on Tuesday afternoon 1:30 - 3:00 pm to help support the large number of Conferences that need to be done in these classes. Children in these classes will be working with Vicki on Tuesday afternoon to allow their teachers to use this time for conferences.

This is an important chance to support your learner and find ways to help at home.

Calendar of Events	
1 st August 2:30pm	Mihi Whakatau (to welcome new whānau)
30th July 7.00 pm	BOT Meeting
5th & 6th August	Learning Conferences
7th August 9am	Pre-School Open Morning
13 th August 5:00 - 6:30 pm	Coffee, Cake and Chat about Yr 7 & 8
29th August	Colour Fun Run
5th September (12:12pm)	Polyfest Performance
16 th & 17 th September	School Photos
19th September	Last day of term
6th October	Term 4 Begins
Assembly Timetable 2.30 pm	
15th August	Rūma Tepetepe
22nd August	Rūma Mangō
12th September	Rūma Wheke
19th September	Rūma Pāua

Mihi Whakatau Friday 1st August 2:30 pm

A mihi whakatau is a Māori welcome ceremony. It's a way of showing respect and making visitors feel welcome. It usually involves speeches, songs, and shaking hands or hongi. It's a beautiful and meaningful way to connect with people and the culture.

We are excited to have our mihi whakatau next Friday 1st August at 2:30 pm. If you are a new whānau to our community, please gather at the gate by the kindy from 2:15pm. Tim Cook and Wendy Currie will meet you there and will be your guide as you come onto the school grounds. If you are a whānau who have been at our school please gather on the court, where we will guide you to your seat. Coffee and cake will be served at the end of our welcome!

Port Chalmers School School Board Elections

Nominations are open for the election of 5 parent representatives to the school board. All eligible voters will have received a nomination form. Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided with this notice and the nomination form.

If you need more nomination forms, contact the school office.

Nominations close at noon on **Wednesday the 6th August 2025**. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination.

The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day, which you can view.

Voting closes at **4pm on Wednesday 10th September 2025**

The roll is displayed in the office.

Signed Katy Gray
Returning Officer



Get on board!

Nominate yourself or someone you know
to be a school board member.

Returning Officer: Katy Gray
email office@portchalmers.school.nz



PORT CHALMERS SCHOOL
Te Kura o Kōpūtai
EST. 1856



SCHOOL BOARD
ELECTIONS

Te Kura o Koputai

**PORT CHALMERS
SCHOOL**
COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT
ABOUT YEAR 7 & 8
13TH AUGUST
5:00 - 6:30 PM

A full primary school on the shores of Otago Harbour

- Boating programme - children learn to sail!
- Annual Artist in Residence programme and art parade
- After-school care and Breakfast Club
- Small class sizes
- Play-based learning
- Kapa haka, ukulele and marimba groups
- Swimming at the pool next door
- Enviroschool with vege garden
- Spacious grounds with native birds and trees
- Inclusive and close school community

Intermediate years

- Complete education right through to high school
- Students learn leadership skills
- Senior Camp
- Science programmes
- Music programmes
- Technology programme
- Buddy programme

Contact Vicki Nicolson



03 4728685

office@portchalmers.school.nz

