



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

Welcome to the last edition of our newsletter for this term, celebrating the magic of books and the joy of reading!

Book Week is a highlight on our school calendar, and it's a wonderful opportunity to immerse ourselves in the world of stories, characters, and new ideas.

Reading is more than just a school subject; it's a foundational skill for lifelong learning and a source of incredible pleasure. It allows us to travel to new worlds, meet fascinating people, and understand different perspectives, all from the comfort of a book.



This newsletter is a celebration of reading and an invitation for you to join us in encouraging this vital habit at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support in nurturing a love of reading in the children. What a buzz today as many arrived dressed as a book character. There were some creative costumes in classrooms.

Our Book Week has been packed with exciting activities designed to inspire everyone this week in class and during lunchtimes.

### How to Encourage Reading at Home

We know how busy family life can be, but even 10-15 minutes of reading time each day can make a significant difference. Here are some simple, yet effective, ways to make reading a regular and enjoyable part of your home life:

- **Make Reading a Family Habit:** Set aside a specific time each day for "Family Reading Time." Everyone can grab a book—whether it's a novel, a magazine, or a comic—and read together. This models good reading behaviour and shows children that reading is a valuable activity for all ages.

- **Visit the Library:** A regular trip to the local public library is a great way to provide a constant supply of new and exciting books. Let your child choose what they want to read—even if it's a graphic novel or a non-fiction book about a hobby. Giving them a choice empowers them and makes reading more fun.
- **Create a Cosy Reading Space:** Designate a special, comfortable spot in your home with good lighting where your child can curl up with a book. Pillows, blankets, and a soft chair can make the space more inviting.
- **Read Aloud (Even to Older Children):** Reading aloud to your child, regardless of their age, helps build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. It's also a wonderful way to connect and share a story together.
- **Talk About Books:** Engage your child in conversations about what they're reading. Ask questions like, "What do you think will happen next?" or "Why do you think that character made that choice?" This helps them think critically and reflect on the story.

### Happy Reading!

Calendar of Events	
15 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Book Week Dress up as a book character day (Thursday)
18 <sup>th</sup> September	School Board Meeting 7pm
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Last day of term
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Term 4 Begins
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Industrial Action School Closed
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of the year
Assembly Timetable 2.30 pm	
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Rūma Pāua

All Holiday Programmes are on our Website.  
<https://www.portchalmers.school.nz/information/community/holiday-programmes/>

### Stepping Out

Rūma Wheke and Tepetepe children have been participating in 'Stepping Out', a Road Safety programme developed by the NZ Police. It teaches them how to behave safely as pedestrians and passengers.

Children have had the opportunity to practise walking safely along the footpath looking for sneaky driveways, crossing roads safely (using the kerb drill - step back, look/listen then decide if it is safe to cross) and using the pedestrian crossing.

Adults are important role models for children. It is especially important that you always model safe pedestrian and passenger behaviour yourself. This includes things like putting on your seatbelt and crossing at a pedestrian crossing or safely if there isn't a crossing nearby.



We wish to thank all the helpers we have had this term. Also, to all the whanau and friends of the school who have supported our fundraisers this term.

### BOOK WEEK

Here are some pics from our book week. There were activities each day.

#### Scavenger Hunt





## FOUND

A beautiful piece of greenstone/Jade has been handed in. Please claim from the office. You will need to be able to describe it. Thank you.

## A Visit to the Port Chalmers Library



## Book Character Dress- Ups









**EXPLORING SLEEP, COGNITIVE ENGAGEMENT,  
AND CHILD FUNCTIONING**



Do you have a child **aged 6 to 10 years** who is **inattentive, hyperactive, a daydreamer, and/or sleepy**?  
We'd love to have you take part in our study!

What is required:

- ★ A brief log about your child's sleep for one week
- ★ A one-off 3 to 4 hour visit (or two ~2-hour sessions) at the University with your child.

Parents/caregivers will receive \$40 and children will receive \$20 as a thank you for your participation.

**Weekend and school holiday sessions available!**

INTERESTED?  
Email: [selfregulationresearchcentre@gmail.com](mailto:selfregulationresearchcentre@gmail.com)  
Phone: 021 279 0549

ETHICS REFERENCE NUMBER: H22/116





# Snow White and the Seven Cool Kids



**20 - 28  
September  
2025**

**11am & 2pm\***

\*20, 21, 28 September  
at 2pm only

**Tickets  
\$10  
each**

**[theatretickets.co.nz/shows/playhouse](http://theatretickets.co.nz/shows/playhouse)**