



Concord School

"Our Year Together"



CONFIDENTIAL TO Māta
AND RESPECTFUL Whāia Kōhā
RESPONSIBLE Tūka
AND STRIVE FOR
EXCELLENCE! Whāia to Hōanga

December 2025

Kia ora whānau and friends of Concord School

Thank you to the Concord community for your continued support throughout the year.

We've packed in a lot of learning opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom, and all our tamariki have done exceptionally well.

We are always happy to welcome new families to our school community, so if you would like to come and have a look around our school please contact me to arrange a time.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and we look forward to building on the hard mahi of this year. See you in 2026!

Ngā mihi nui,

Glen Beadle, Principal



Big Day Out – We had an incredible day at our Big Day Out in February! It was wonderful to see our tamariki shine beyond the school grounds, embracing new experiences and challenges. All our students proudly upheld the Concord C.A.R.E. Code as they explored and enjoyed a range of activities at the Botanical Gardens.

Some of the highlights included exploring the aviary and spotting the birds, tackling the orienteering course through the gardens, feeding the ducks and playing on the new playground.



Gardens – This year we have been developing our māra kai (food garden), with help from one of our amazing parents, Lauren. It even has a beehive! Once complete, it will provide another exciting learning area within our school, offering hands-on opportunities for students to explore nature sustainability, and growth.



Farewell – At the end of this year, we will be farewelling Whaea Tenaya, who is moving on to an exciting new opportunity at Queen's High School, allowing her to further develop her passion and skills in the arts, an area where she truly shines. We have greatly enjoyed having Whaea Tenaya as part of our school whānau this year. Her creativity, energy, and care for our students have made a real impact and we wish her all the best for this next step in her teaching journey.



Sports – We have had a busy year of sports, with students taking part in our duathlon, athletics, cross country, cricket, basketball (with the Otago Nuggets!) and swimming lessons, as well as enjoying the after school competitions of futsal, touch rugby, and kiwihoops.

CARE Celebrations – This year we have had a variety of CARE Celebrations, voted on by students during the term as they earn CARE tokens. These have included a water fight (with help from the Fire Service!), a PJ Day, a Wheels Afternoon, a games afternoon at Emerson Park and a Teddy Bears Picnic.



Free Healthy School Lunches (Ka Ora/Ka Ako) – We are fortunate that all our students are eligible to receive daily healthy and delicious school lunches, provided by 'Time 4 Lunch' this year. Subway and Pita Pit have been contracted to serve primary school lunches in the Otago area in 2026.

Music – This year we have made music a major focus, and we are delighted to have Hiliako back in the classroom teaching music to all our students. We have also expanded our collection of musical instruments, thanks to a generous grant from The Dunedin Orphans and Entertainers Club, as well as a fundraising raffle and supportive whānau.

In August, we hosted our 'Arts at Concord' celebration which was a real highlight of the year. Our students showed resilience and confidence as they performed and shared their skills with us.

The evening included performances from our Concord Kapa Haka group and our new school band 'Plug In', who took to the stage with energy and enthusiasm.



This was an excellent opportunity for them all to perform in front of a live audience as they prepared for both Bandquest and Polyfest.

Bandquest – Our talented musicians in our school band, Plug In! gave an exceptional performance at Bandquest in August. They played with confidence, energy, and passion – and most importantly, had an amazing time on stage! Special mention to Arnold Reddy who won the Rock-solid Bassist Award for his performance on the bass guitar!



Polyfest – The whole school Once again took part in the annual Polyfest at the Edgar Centre in September. Our tamariki did exceptionally well and truly enjoyed themselves on the big stage – we were so proud of them all!



Art Gallery & Toitū Visits – In August all students spent a fantastic day exploring the Art Gallery and Toitū Otago Settlers Museum. At Toitū, they learned all about the history of Dunedin and had lots of fun dressing up in old-fashioned clothes, stepping back in time to imagine what life was like in the past. At the Art Gallery, students enjoyed getting creative and producing their own art.



Camp – The Year 5 & 6 camp was held at the Waiora Scout Camp in November. Activities included learning how to shoot a bow and arrow, a slug gun, and a BB gun. Orienteering was another excellent challenge, as well as tackling the confidence course, and taking part in a Search and Rescue challenge with Constable Eddie, working in groups to locate very well-hidden “patients”. Camp was an awesome opportunity for our senior students.



Year 6 School Leavers for 2025

Arnold Brooke Axel
Emily Jakob Hannah
Isabella Latesha
Levi Matty Luca
Nikos Nono



We wish them well for 2026 and beyond!

Check out our website, www.concord.school.nz, or visit our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/concordschooldunedin for current information, photos, events & newsletters.

New Teacher - We are delighted to welcome Phill Carroll to Concord School as the new kaiako/teacher in Kōwhai, starting in 2026. Phill is excited to begin his teaching career with us and I'm sure our Concord community will make him feel very welcome.



Production and Prize Giving - What a great night last Monday! Thank you to all our parents and whānau who joined us for our Production and Prizegiving. It was an awesome night, and we truly appreciated your support.

Our students shone on the big stage as they shared their learning through our production on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Their confidence, creativity, and teamwork made us incredibly proud. It was also a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many achievements of our tamariki throughout the year. Thank you to all our whānau for being part of this special evening, and for your ongoing support of our school community.

Wheako - The Wheako Programme has been a weekly highlight for our students, providing a diverse range of learning opportunities that support the needs of our tamariki. This year, it has been offered to students from Year 2 to Year 6, including sessions that prepare older students for transitions, develop leadership skills, build confidence in younger students, explore friendship qualities, and guide students through planning and completing meaningful projects. The year's final project—a thoughtfully designed guitar stand—was generously donated back to the school for all to use.

We are extremely grateful to the Wheako team for providing such valuable learning experiences and opportunities for our students.



The first day of school for 2026 is Tuesday 3rd February. The office will also be open on Monday morning 2nd February 2026 for any enquiries.



CLEVER CATS

My name is Sue Howard and I am the New Entrant/Yr 1 teacher in Rūma Makomako at Concord School. I run 'Clever Cats', a transition programme for children aged 4½ and above, designed to introduce them to school life, routines and their future classmates. routines,

Sessions are held every second Friday (starts February 13th) from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. During Clever Cats children visit the school library, meet their 'buddies' - senior students from Rūma Rātā - who read with them and help them choose a book to take home, and share stories and participate in follow-up activities in our classroom

If you would like more information about Clever Cats, please contact the school office. I would be delighted to arrange a time to talk with you.