

# Newsletter



Timaru Harbour



## MATARIKI AND PUAKA

The second year of marking Matariki as a national holiday has come and gone. These tamariki will grow up with a clear understanding of why this holiday is special to all the people living in Aoteroa New Zealand but also why it was important to Māori in our area. Puaka is the special star that we celebrate in South Canterbury.

## HERITAGE EDUCATION

Some kaiako will have known of and used our service for a number of years (18.5 to be exact!) and to some we will be an unknown quantity.

We have a contract with the Ministry of Education to provide experiences for ECE, Primary and Secondary School students.

This service is FREE and makes use of local museums and other heritage sites as well as natural history sites.

We have a large number of programmes that kaiako can make use of to fit in with their plan for the year. These are listed on the South Canterbury Museum website.

If you don't see what your class needs, our team can create a programme that will suit your needs.

Keep reading to see what we have been up to this year....

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



## SPOTLIGHT ON ECE



Matariki/Puaka has been a popular topic for our pre-school tamariki and their kaiako this year. The retelling of a legend with props gives tamariki the opportunity to practise taking turns, listening and retelling a story, increasing their te reo Māori and learning about an important whetū (star).

Our contract with the Ministry of Education allows us to visit ECE centres; for centres to visit the South Canterbury Museum or for our educators to meet you and your tamariki at a local site.

We have 5 programmes that are available at this stage:

- Matariki/Puaka
- Pūrakau (legends)
- Insects
- Rocks and Fossils
- Tropical Shells

Each programme comes with a pūrakau, hands on objects or costumes and a knowledgeable educator.

Allow 30 minutes for programmes at your centre with a recommendation of 20 or less tamariki in a group. If you are visiting the museum or a natural history site please discuss the programme length with one of our educators.

**We really appreciate that the Museum can come into our kindergartens as costs of travel and logistics due to our full day where tamariki are arriving and leaving throughout the day plus the challenges in getting parent help when many of our whanau work are prohibitive in us going out into the community. We also appreciate Keely visiting as she is amazing with tamariki, keeping them engaged and highlighting their own knowledge.**

**- Westend Kindergarten**

# PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

Teaching the new Histories Curriculum is getting underway with schools wanting to find out more about local stories. This can be a daunting task for teachers especially if they are new to the area. We are happy to help early in the planning stage as well as the actual programmes.

Several schools have made contact with our educators to attend a syndicate meeting and help with deciding which local topics fit into the curriculum and also suit the schools individual needs.

Our relationships with local marae, museums, galleries and natural history sites mean that we can help direct teachers to topics that cover the Know, Understand and Do section of the new curriculum.

## TERM 4 ACTIVITIES

Book in now for your Term 4 activities. This is a busy time for schools and heritage education. We can organise a programme for your students at a local history site including the Botanic Gardens, Caroline Bay, Waitarakao rocky shore and the Scenic Reserve.

We also work with groups including the Pleasant Point Railway and Geraldine Vintage Car Museum and can organise an enjoyable programme for your students.

Contact us to secure your dates now!



## SPOTLIGHT ON GEOLOGY

Basalt, limestone and greywacke - Geology has been a popular programme at the South Canterbury Museum and out in the field.

South Canterbury has some very interesting rocks and fossil sites including a volcano and limestone shelters which link to the rock art in our area.



# SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

## SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL COUNCIL

A new programme involving visiting the Timaru District Council Chambers has been taken up by two local high Schools. This programme gives students a chance to visit the chambers and learn about how local government works. Depending on the timing of the programme students can also meet the Mayor or a counselor.



Recent changes in our contract with the Ministry of Education have meant that we can now visit schools as part of our Enriching Local Curriculum (ELC) programmes. This has made a big difference for secondary schools who have struggled to fit field trips into their timetable. While nothing beats visiting historic sites we can now bring some of our projects into schools.

Science programmes including hands on stone tools (early local Māori); drama lessons involving role plays (Tiriti o Waitangi) and an interactive Matariki/Puaka lesson have all been popular this year and can be tailored to fit in the time frame you have available.

**Wonderful and well adapted to the specialist programme I wanted - Mt View High**



**Contact us:**

**Phone: 03 6877212**

**Email: [scmed@timdc.govt.nz](mailto:scmed@timdc.govt.nz)**

**<https://museum.timaru.govt.nz>**