

EDUCATION WEEK



Part of the community

There is a strong focus on the community and being involved in it at Carisbrook Primary School.

This year the school has introduced philanthropic studies which teaches students about the broad spectrum of their place in the community.

Principal Barb Wilson said she was excited about the new subject.

"We're really excited to have introduced this year, as a pilot project, a philanthropy project," she said.

"We're seeking to connect our senior students to community organisations."

The overall aim of the new philanthropy classes is to link the students to community organisations and to help them find their place in the community, the principal says.

"But equally as important is that they learn to give back to the community," she says.

"We are saying to our students and our community 'actually we can contribute to a productive society as well' and we think that's part of our role to help our students do that. So that's been really exciting."



GIVING BACK: Philanthropy teacher Deb Sonenberg works with senior Carisbrook Primary School students.

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This year is a review year for the primary school which will guide the school for the coming years.

"This is a review year for us so we're working with our families, students and community to determine our direction for the next four years," Ms Wilson says.

"But we've also done a lot of work in the meantime so we have a lunch time club and we're also working with some of our

community groups — Carisbrook Football Netball Club, Carisbrook Squash Club — and some of our parents to provide activities to engage kids during lunch time," she says.

This year is Ms Wilson's first year at Carisbrook Primary.

"I'm loving it. I really like the focus on community. I love being in a school and community where there's strong engagement."