



Email: [office@balfour.school.nz](mailto:office@balfour.school.nz)

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 31 May 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

### WEEKLY CERTIFICATE WINNERS

**Fergus** - always upholding the Balfour School values inside and outside the classroom.  
**Kaylee** - being a kind, well mannered member of room 2  
**Isla H** - being independent in maths and giving it a go before asking the teacher.  
**Zoe** - for great place value knowledge and Basic facts.  
**Aiden M** - fantastic Maths results this term  
**Zabien** - making good links between reading, writing and personal knowledge  
**Liam** - excellent sharing of your knowledge during science  
**Stella** - awesome writing about our Water Topic  
**Riley** - for presenting beautiful handwriting.  
**Matilda** - your unassisted writing recount was awesome!  
**Emily** - good job for remembering to use your 'hand timer' at oral language time.  
**Haylee** - your unassisted writing recount was awesome!  
**Maycie** - your rich oral language and eagerness to share ideas is dazzling.

### VALUES AWARD RECIPIENT

**Lexi Dickson**

Our value this term is **Honesty** but Lexi embodies all of the Balfour School Values.

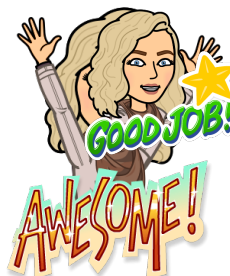
Lexi is **kind** to everyone she meets. She listens when others are talking and has a big compassionate heart. She talks to others in a **respectful** tone and makes compromises to ensure that the people around her are happy.

Lexi shows **responsibility** for her learning by ensuring all her work is completed on time. She always puts classroom equipment away in the correct place and keeps her working space organised and tidy, at all times.

When asked, Lexi shares her thinking **Honestly** and because of this, she is starting to take more risks in her learning.

Lexi, you are a very sweet girl and Balfour School is lucky to have you!

whakawhetai koe Lexi!



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Fletcher

## FAREWELL

Sadly we say farewell to Sophie Hayden this week. Sophie and her family are moving away. We will miss your smiley wee face Sophie and wish you well at Catlins Area School.

Today is also the last day at Balfour School for Sammy, Zoe and Charlie Whitlock. We wish you well in your move to Lumsden and we will miss you all.

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Monday 3 June -	Queens Birthday holiday (no school)
Tuesday 4 June -	Teacher Only Day (no school)
Thursday 6 June -	Northern Cross Country
Friday 7 June -	Home & School Sausage Sizzle
Tuesday 25 June -	Marae Visit
Friday 5 July -	Last day term 2

## ASSEMBLY

The Assembly group for next week will be room:  
Reminder assembly commences at 10.00am.  
You are welcome to join the staff for morning tea following assembly.



## SCHOOL PHOTOS

Photo proofs and order forms were sent home with your children earlier this week. Can we please have the orders and payment included, handed into the office by Wednesday 5 June. The orders will be sent to the photographer on Thursday 6 June so any orders not handed in by then will be up to you to get them to him.

## SPORTS UNIFORMS AND TRACKSUITS

With our growing numbers in the school we have recently purchased new uniforms and tracksuits. We would like to sincerely thank the Home and School for their kindness in purchasing these uniforms. Our old tracksuits are all contained in individual numbered waterproof bags to keep them protected and in a tidy condition. These bags were all sponsored by a local business with their logo printed on the bags when they were purchased and we would like to know if there is anybody out there who would like to sponsor the new bags for the new tracksuits. There will need to be 13 bags purchased. Please contact the office if you are able to help with this.

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Home and School are organising a sausage sizzle at lunchtime next Friday 7 June. This is a fundraiser for school camp. Please bring a Gold coin donation.

## RECENT FUNDRAISERS

We would like to thank everyone for their kind donations in our two recent fundraisers. Both of these were for very worthy causes. Ronald McDonald House in Invercargill and The Otago Westpac Rescue Helicopter Trust which also services Southland. We raised \$175.20 for Ronald McDonald House and \$105.30 for The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Trust. We also had a fun time dressing up for these theme days!

## TEACHER ONLY DAY - Tuesday 4 June

Reminder that there will be no school on Tuesday 4 June as the teachers are all going to be away attending several different workshops at Northern Southland College.

## PRINCIPALS REPORT

“BETTER THAN A THOUSAND DAYS OF DILIGENT STUDY IS ONE DAY WITH A GREAT TEACHER.”

—*Japanese proverb*

Thank you to my colleagues who attended marches on Wednesday, who continue to send valid and vital messages that go unheard. You retain your passion for Teaching and your dedication towards getting the best for our tamariki. Your efforts are appreciated.

I have borrowed the words of my good friend and colleague George Barry from Hokitika who still has the energy to write...

‘Our Government are naive to the complexities, which exist in every classroom throughout Aotearoa. Ignorant at the sheer multi-faceted levels of learning, behavioural, emotional, social, self-regulatory, sensory (I could go on) needs of the students that every dedicated teacher faces day in, day out. Teachers possess special personality traits that instil them with determination, patience, motivation, self-preservation, empathy, calmness, humour, kindness, intuition, enthusiasm, imagination, creativity, perseverance, tolerance, understanding and wisdom. Taking advantage of these qualities by failing to provide such an amazing workforce with adequate funding, resources and time, insults their integrity, morality and self-efficacy. Over time, this has led members of our professional body to feel devalued, demoralised, demotivated, dejected, despondent, disappointed, discouraged and disenfranchised. This is simply NOT good enough. Teachers need to hear a genuine acknowledgement of their crisis from this Government, they need hope, something that reassures them that some positive changes are being planned for.....right now. Changes that will begin to address the daily challenges they face and changes that acknowledge the quandary they exist in, when seeking to do good in the face of adversity. Changes that combat their struggle to successfully function and thrive, in an inherently flawed system, that requires them to perform and accomplish, whilst undertaking overly demanding roles, duties and responsibilities within an education system that is clearly in a dilemma. Whilst the Government are inevitably 'hearing' about which issues need to be resolved, they are simply not actively listening, understanding or caring.....there is no evidence in anything that they have offered or announced, to contradict this.....it is time for this apathy to end.....for the sake of our profession, our tamariki, their whanau and our society.’

Thank you George

Here are some words from the children on what they think Teachers need

*“I would make Mrs Leach a card saying “Did you have a good strike day?” Xavier*

*“The Teachers need to have some rest” Raven*

*“Teachers need more money so they can buy more stuff for the school.”Summer*

*“I would give the Teachers a big bag of chocolate”. Fletcher*

*“The Teachers deserve more money so that they can Teach kids more and help the school buy the things they need” Maverick*

*"Teachers don't get paid much and they should get more because they look after us and teach us. We will have a better future if Teachers can teach more" Max*

*"If Teachers don't get paid properly we won't get the learning we need. Teachers might start quitting their jobs." Riley S*

*"Teachers teach us all that we need to know. They teach us from the heart." Sammie*

Congratulations to our seniors who have been selected to attend the Youth Leadership Forum today in Dunedin; Jacob, Ollie, Carly and Kyle. I am sure you will have an enjoyable day and come home inspired and ready to lead in the very best ways. Thank you, Mrs Leach, for organising this special event and Miss Allen for accompanying them.

Sadly this week we have farewelled Sophie Haydon and Charlie, Zoe and Sammy Whitlock. Good luck at your new schools girls. We will miss you.

On Tuesday The Fiordland and Northern Southland Schools are all attending a Digitech Jumbo training day. We are looking forward to extending our knowledge and 'catching up' with the fast-paced learning required to be digitally able these days.

Enjoy your long weekend everyone. Stay safe and warm and we will see you back on Wednesday.

Noho ora mai

Kind regards

**L Stevenson**

## **BARNADOS EARLY LEARNING**

**You are invited to an Open Home at Miemie's**

**Come and meet Miemie our new Educator, at her home in Wendonside. See where your children can come for Home-based care and education,**

**Saturday 8th June 11.00am - 2.00pm**

**'Midlands' 610 Plains Station Road**

**Wendonside 9777 (The white house on the corner)**

**To RSVP or for further information please contact**

**Ruth Lieshout**

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