



Email: office@balfour.school.nz

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 17 May 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

WEEKLY CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Eli - for amazing handwriting

Sammy - working extremely hard in reading and writing this entire week

Jud - for becoming a lot more independent in all curriculum areas

Nyah - for producing some very descriptive Autumn writing in class

Fletcher D - for great Key word hunting during reading

Tiarahi - for fantastic attitude when learning new things

Quinn - for amazing effort in Cross Country training. Maths and writing

Clara - for amazing knowledge of fractions and use of your basic facts

Bryn - well done for a positive attitude to work and play

Annabel C - your recounts are awesome

Alice - for awesome handwriting

Charlotte - Wow you can write all by yourself

Ollie T - for a huge improvement in your writing

Fletcher Duff - super thinking in your Maths

VALUES AWARD RECIPIENT

Sam McLean

It is such a pleasure to have you as a super role model in Room 3.

You are honest in your interactions.

With a cheeky grin, you honestly admit if you need to put more effort into your work and then quickly settle to complete your tasks.

At news time, you are always the first person with your hand up to ask a question. You ask questions to gain further knowledge and this shows that you honestly value what the person talking about has to say. Ka pai - this is a wonderful trait to have.

You have put considerable effort into understanding that covering for your friends is not honest. You now deal in facts and give your honest summary of why things happened like they did. This is a huge concept to grasp and it is quite remarkable that at the age of 5 you have this sorted!

With your kind, caring, honest nature - you are quickly becoming a boy for everyone to look up to in Room 3.

Super duper effort - Sam McLean

You are our Room 3



Superstar.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Amelia

Riley G

WELCOME TO BALFOUR SCHOOL

We would like to warmly welcome Riley Gilkison to Balfour School. Riley turned five this week and has joined Mrs Leach and the cute wee bunch of room 3 children.



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Monday 20 May -	Home & School meeting 7.30pm in the staffroom
Thursday 23 May	Waimea Cross Country (more information to come)
Tuesday 28 May -	National Flag Day (more information to come)
Wednesday 29 May -	Teacher Strike Day (no School)
Monday 3 June -	Queens Birthday holiday (no school)
Tuesday 4 June -	Teacher Only Day (no school)

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.



Waimea Cross Country



The Waimea Cross Country will be held on **Thursday 23 May** in Waikaia. (There is no postponement date - this event will proceed regardless of weather). The event is held on Ray and Louise Ferguson's property and is Sign Posted from the Waikaia Bridge turn off. You will need to make arrangements to have your child in Waikaia ready to race by 12.45pm. Racing will start promptly at 1pm. The course will be open from 12.30pm for children to walk around and get familiar (if need be).

Children are to attend school as usual in the morning. We would appreciate all children being collected between 12 and 12.15pm. If you are unable to transport your child/ren to the cross country, please make arrangements for someone else to take them.

Buses from Balfour School will NOT be running on Thursday afternoon.

Children will be given their sports uniform at school on Wednesday. Sports uniforms are to be returned to school on Friday - UNWASHED. We appreciate the swift return of uniforms so our parent helpers can get them washed over the weekend. Thank you in advance for caring for our sports uniforms which are expensive to replace.

Children need practical footwear for running the cross country in. (No spikes, sprigs, bare feet or socks permitted). We recommend that children have a spare set of clothing to change into after the cross country.

Judging by all the training that has been happening at school, this should be a rewarding day for many of our students.

Whole School Trip to Te Rau Aroha Marae in Bluff



On Tuesday 25 June 2019 we will be visiting Bluff Marae. We anticipate leaving school at 9am and will return in time for afternoon buses.

This is a special location to visit and will enhance everyone's knowledge of Maori culture, tikanga and te reo.

We will be taking buses to Bluff.

There is a \$10 koha per person to attend this trip. (This cost includes a delicious morning tea).

Any parent who is interested in attending with us, please contact Paulette to register your interest.

paulette@balfour.school.nz

Further information will be sent home prior to the trip.00

HOME AND SCHOOL

The Home and School AGM is to be held on Monday 20 May at 7.30pm. In the school staffroom It would be great to see some new faces.

Thanks to everyone who put in the time and energy in this year to help out with all the fundraising jobs and organising events to make it all happen.

I have spoken with other schools recently and this has made me realise that all our hard work as a Home and School has a very positive effect on our children and how good they are having it here at Balfour School and I am sure this must be an advantage for them after they leave here.

There are a few major jobs coming up with the school pool, the heating needs upgraded and the roof has past its use by date.

I would like to put a plan in place at Monday night's' meeting to see of we can make this happen in the next 18 months. I hope to see lots of you there on Monday as we are working for all the children here at Balfour School, including yours and we need new ideas and people to make this all happen.

See you on Monday.

John van Vliet

TOILET PAPER FUNDRAISER

Can we please have all toilet paper orders in on Monday. Jody will arrange a day for pick up from the school. A big thank you to Paul Heslip for freighting this for us to Balfour.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

We apologise for the postponement of photos on Wednesday but with the atrocious weather we were having we thought it the best option. These will now be held this coming Wednesday morning school photos starting at 9.30am. Families have been notified of their time slot. If this does not suit please let us know as soon as possible. If anybody else would like family photos there are still times available.

Please phone the office.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Kia ora koutou,

It has been an exciting week at school at management and governance level. The plans for the upgrade to Rooms 1 and 2 have arrived and gone out to tender, two school camps, a Marae visit and a winter fun day have been

proposed, the schoolhouse is up for a makeover and 20 new Chromebooks have been purchased by the board. It was a very busy meeting with lots of creative initiatives that will enhance and extend our teaching and learning. We are very grateful for the new devices. This will allow classes to run the programmes that we have been itching to do with all our Google training last year. The Board have also approved a new student management system and cloud phone system. This will make our entire record keeping and data system easier and more efficient and will also improve communication with our whanau.

The Board have also approved the closing of the school on the 29th of May for the national strike - negotiations are still underway. I know that you are sick of all this. I am sick of it. It has been drawn out over a year and while the Teacher shortage is ongoing the Teachers already employed are picking up the slack. Junior teachers just down the road are teaching 30 5 & 6-year-olds and many of my colleagues further north are struggling with the regular pressures of Principalship and covering classes and other roles. Over 6000 overseas based Teachers have been targeted and \$5 million invested in relocation grants and finders fees with huge dollars to be invested this year announced recently. While I applaud the Ministry's plan to attract new Teachers I am increasingly frustrated at their lack of response to those of us currently in the workforce. Ten years without a pay rise is just not right. Today the children are all set for another fun day with their wacky hair. Thanks to all the families who have spent time this morning arranging locks into some creative and artistic hairdos. The money raised will go towards the Westpac Rescue Helicopter 'Chopper Appeal'.

Kind regards

Louise Stevenson

SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool is now closed for the season. **Please return your keys** to the school office as soon as possible please. Please let Maree know if you would like to receive your \$10 bond.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Nomination forms have been posted to all parents and caregivers. If you are interested in standing for the Board of Trustees then please fill out your nomination form and either post back to 'The Returning Officer PO Box 96 Balfour 9746 or drop into the Office. Please note that nomination forms need to be received by Friday 24 May at 12.00 noon. There is a Board of Trustees meeting on Monday 13 May at 7.30pm in the staffroom. if you are interested please come along.

Board of Trustees Elections - Timeline

Friday 24 May - Nominations Close 12.00 noon

Wednesday 29 May - Voting papers sent

Friday 7 June - Election Day (Voting Closes)

Thursday 13 June Votes Counted

Friday 14 June Elected Trustees take office

Reminder if you wish to stand for the Board of Trustees please have your nomination forms handed into the office before 12.00 noon on Friday 24th.

SHOW DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

14th, 15th, 20th, 21st, 22nd JUNE 2019

Contact Ziggy on 0274448353

For tickets. \$60 per person which includes
Show and a Meal