

Tena koutou, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Fakalofa lahi atu, Bula vinaka, Ciao, Namaste, Al Salaam a'alaykum, Ni hao, Merhaba, Konnichiwa, Hola, Annyong hasayo, Greetings



BALMORAL
PRIMARY + INTERMEDIATE

Balmoral Primary

Te Kura o te Roto a Rangi

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www.balmoral.school.nz

Vision

To value diversity and to develop curious, confident and connected learners.

Friday 21 September 2018

Primary Dates to Diary

Netsafe Parent Evening	Monday 19 November 6pm Staffroom
Primary Assembly	Friday 23 November 9.15am
Orientation Day Year 7 2019	Wednesday 28 November 9.15 – 12.30pm
Primary Xmas Disco	Tuesday 4 December
Mahira Athletics	Thursday 6 December 9.15am
Primary Picnic	Friday 7 December – Cornwall Park
Koru Fun Athletics	Monday 10 December 9.15am
Canteen Closes for the year	Friday 7 December – last day
Year Six Poroporoaki	Tuesday 11 December 9am – 10.40am
Year Six Pool Party	Tuesday 11 December 5 – 6.30pm
School closes for the year	Friday 14 December 1pm

Primary Whanau Blogs

Koru	http://korusharingspace.blogspot.co.nz/
Mahira	http://mahirasyndicate.blogspot.co.nz/
Whetu	http://fabulouswhetu.blogspot.co.nz/
Hiringa	https://hiringabalmoral.blogspot.co.nz/

Canteen Days Wednesday, Thursday, Friday only **Closes 7 December**
Reopens Wednesday 13 February

Please check the calendar on our school website (www.balmoral.school.nz) for up-to-date events and times

Tena koutou e te whanau, he mihi nui kia koutou katoa

Dear Parents, Whānau and Caregivers

In the last newsletter, I wrote about the [OECD Learning Framework for 2030](#). This document summarises the expected outcomes for children entering school in 2018. The OECD believe that by 2030, citizens will need to abandon the notion that resources are limitless and are there to be exploited; they will need to value common prosperity, sustainability and well-being.

These children, who are going to be citizens in the new world, will need a broad range of skills, including cognitive and meta-cognitive skills (e.g. critical thinking, creative thinking, learning to learn and self-regulation); social and emotional skills (e.g. empathy, self-efficacy and collaboration); and practical and physical skills (e.g. using new information and communication technology devices

Interestingly, these ideas are also being reinforced by brain research. Pushing 3 to 7 year olds towards early reading, writing or maths will not improve their long-term chances of success, says educator, researcher and parenting commentator Nathan Mikaere-Wallis of X-Factor Education. He says it's far more important to foster positive social and emotional skills. Listen to this [podcast](#) on National Radio from Nathan on this.

The challenge not only for educators but also for our communities is to realise and accept that maybe the world is different. That it is no longer a knowledge economy (thanks to Google) but an economy where these other skills are important. We all need to work together to reframe how we teach or what we offer our students.

Our school is attempting to do this through continuing to enhance our inquiry model and next year to further inquire into how we can further embed play into our discovery processes at school. This is a very exciting time to be an educator.

Kia pai to mutunga wiki (Have a good weekend)

Naku noa

Malcolm Milner

Principal (Te Tumuaki)

**Staff Day
Thank you**

On Tuesday, the staff had morning tea provided by the community but coordinated by the PTA. The eighty staff at our school were very appreciative of this effort and the amazing home-made food that was produced at an incredibly busy time of the year.

Thanks to all members of our community who helped make this happen and in doing so make our staff feel incredibly valued.

Vandalism at School

Last weekend we had further incidents of vandalism. On Friday night one of the night lights outside room 29 was torn off and the cabling pulled out and tied to the playground. A parent checked it with a multimeter and the exposed cabling wasn't live, but would likely have been live if the night sensor was triggered and the lights had turned on. We were contacted on Saturday and came in and isolated the power to this cable.

I would once again encourage you all to immediately dial 111 if you do see any acts of vandalism in our school during the weekend. We would be very reluctant to lock our gates and prevent entry to our grounds out of hours but if events such as these continue to occur, we will have little option but to do this.

School Property Development

Over the last two weeks Liz and I have been reviewing the tender documents. On Tuesday we met with the MoE team and rated the tenders. The MoE have now gone back to some of the tender companies to clarify the tags. We hope to have all this completed in the next two weeks.

We have also asked the MoE and the architects to produce some drawings of the final design which we can share with you. As soon as these are available we will let you know.

The project team plan to demolish the intermediate classrooms at Christmas time in order to begin construction in January February 2019. This is incredibly exciting place to be at and is a result of seven years of work from our BoT and our leadership team.

We also need to prepare the classrooms for 2019. During the last two weeks of term some classes will need to be relocated in preparation for the start of the new year.

Staffing

Early this term we welcomed Kerry Hales back as a part time teacher in Room 22. It was great to be able to employ Kerry again as she has an extensive knowledge of our school. This appointment has enabled Adrienne Brown to further support classroom teachers in the development of their classroom inquiry programme.

This month we also received a resignation from Alyshia Jacobson who has been on maternity leave since term 1. Alyshia has decided that she would like to stay at home with her young son.

We are fully staffed for 2019 and I would like to welcome the following teachers to our school, Steph Slaven, Kelbe Bishop, Dao Evans, Sarah Hogg, Albertien Chignell, Bhavana Mehta, Helena Orr, and Krysten Schroeder.

Strike Action

Many thanks to parents and their whānau for having our pupils at home on Monday during the strike.

Media reports about the offer that has been presented to the teachers was misleading. Reports said "most teachers will receive a \$10,000 salary increase" but this is inaccurate. At our school, the increase in teachers wages ranged from \$19 (Beginning Teacher) to \$27 (a teacher with 10 years experience) per week.

The ongoing shortage of teaching staff and the need to support new teachers puts huge pressures on both the support staff, teaching staff and the leadership teams. Let's also not forget those children whose classes are split when we cannot find relievers and the disruption this causes.

The claim is not only about money but it is also about smaller class sizes and time to teach. The government has announced additional support for learning needs and this was a positive move.

However we do have a crisis. Filling our schools with lots of teachers from overseas is not sustainable. Our state funded education system is under serious threat and as a society we do need to take some bold actions and do something to fix this crisis.

I also have concerns for striking teachers and parents who went without pay on Monday to care for our pupils. This puts additional stress on everyone to meet commitments on a lower wage.

I can only hope that with continued support from our community we will see an improvement in the offer without further industrial action.

Orientation Day

Balmoral Intermediate School Orientation Day

On **Wednesday, 28 November** we will be holding our **Orientation Day for Year 6 students** who are going to attend Balmoral Intermediate School in 2019. Students are invited to meet in the school hall at **9.15am** and will be ready to leave by **12.20pm**. They will need to **bring their morning tea** with them. Unless students did not attend Open Evening or Day with their parents earlier in the year, parents are not required to remain for the morning.

We very much look forward to seeing your child at our Orientation Day and to meeting and working with you in the future.

Netsafe parent evening 19th November 2018 6pm-7pm school staffroom

Our evening will cover:

- Who Netsafe is and how we can support parents/ young people
- The Harmful Digital Communications Act and how it gives guidance around appropriate use of online spaces
- Challenges young people face online (sharing, privacy, social media etc)
- Challenges for parents (screentime, social media etc)
- How parents can support young people online
- An open forum to end

New Singing Teacher

We'd like to introduce our new singing teacher, lanetta Solomon-Brown to the community. You may have heard from your children about her amazing performances at assembly in the last few weeks. We know it's near the end of term but there is still an opportunity for you to sign up for a few lessons before school finishes. Perhaps get an idea of what to expect for next year?

Ianetta is a graduate of Baradene College where she excelled in music and in her community.

While at school she arranged singing groups did, vocal coaching and was a finalist at the Stand Up, Stand Out competition in 2015. In addition she is a great songwriter and was in the top 40 nationwide in the Play It Strange competition, 3 years in a row.

She has experience with children from working in the Pasifika Power Up programme (a programme that mentors primary school children in reading) and doing volunteer work at Barnados

She currently studies Music at Auckland University where she is aiming for a Performance degree

Here is an example of lanetta's voice and songwriting skills with her song 'Let The'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmJr66DWu6s>

Please direct any enquiries towards Alex in the music department

alex@balmoral.school.nz

News from the Primary School

To value diversity and to develop curious, confident and connected learners

Kia ora e te Whānau o Te Roto a Rangi,

As Malcolm wrote, we would like to reiterate our thanks for the wonderful morning tea that the community and the PTA organised for us – we appreciate your time and effort! There were lots of full tummies and happy faces on Tuesday morning!

We're looking forward to watching the school band, Kapa Haka group and Cultural Groups perform tomorrow morning, at Rocket Park. The students and teachers have put in lots of hard work, across the year, to get to this point and I'm sure it will be a great morning. Many thanks to the team of teachers who gave up their Friday night last week for extra practice and a sleepover...it was a great, if not chatty, night!

As the end of term approaches, if you know that your child won't be attending our school next year, could you please inform your child's class teacher, or the office, as soon as you can.

Keep your eyes posted on the school website for all of the end of term events!

Ngā mihi

Katy and the Primary Team

News from Whānau Whetu



Room 29 has spent the year looking at the injustice of our past community, our ancestors and our tangata whenua; losing our language, land and ancestors.

Through Inquiry we are trying to fix this injustice by sharing our voice through song. We created a song called 'E tü' and have started sharing our voice by performing in front of people in our school and hopefully in our community.

You are welcome to come and listen to our song at Fia Fia night on the 5th of December from 6.00-7.30pm in the hall.



Christmas Disco & Snow (Free event)!

Tuesday 4th December 5-7pm



At a time when your diary is madder than ever, there is one event you do not want to miss:
our beloved school's Christmas Disco!

What better way to end the year than getting together with your friends and families one more time in 2018, enjoy some seasonal fun and yummy foods, have a boogie on some cool beats, buy some freshly baked Christmas goods or capture the moment with a snapshot to take home with you afterwards.

Entertainment will include: Disco with DJ Anthony, **2 tones of fresh snow for kids to play with and slide on (a little mountain, courtesy of SKIDS!)**, festive face painting, Instax photo in Santa's Grotto, baked goods stall, and all that makes our school community one in a million every time we all come together.

Also, since Christmas and the holidays mean nothing if we are not sharing, we will collect gifts for less fortunate children and will donate these to both Women Refuge and Auckland City Mission.

So mark your calendars now and look out for the Christmas Disco flyer and the Friends of PTA help request that will hit your inbox soon!



Nosy NEIGHBOURS

We trust all of our Nosy Neighbours ticket holders enjoyed the opportunity to wander through and nosy at some of the beautiful newly renovated homes in our neighbourhood!

A huge thank you again to our sponsors **Andre and Cheryl from Bayleys Mt Eden** and to our wonderful home owners who opened up their homes for all of us to view. We managed to raise **\$14,000** (inc GST) and the money will be used to buy developmental gear including all sorts of construction equipment from blocks of all sizes to lego and tables and chairs as well as gardening equipment and wheelbarrows. Additionally the school will be purchasing iPads specifically for use in the music department so the kids become familiar with online music making tools.

Special thanks to **Emma McDowall** for doing such a wonderful job of redesigning the Nosy Neighbours magazine!

Proudly supported by

 **André & Cheryl**


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TEACHERS DAY

We organised a morning tea for our wonderful teaching and support staff on Tuesday this week. Thanks to many of you from our school community who made time to help out on playground duty as well as contributing items for goodie bags and lots of delicious home baking for the morning tea. As well as home baked treats, all staff at the school received a goodie bag which included delicious cherry tomatoes from Sabato, a coffee card from the lovely folk at Divine Morsels cafe on K Road, an eco-friendly bamboo toothbrush from Toothcrush and packets of yummy Smooshed Balls and blueberry & yoghurt snacks from Tasti. An additional thank you to Louise Garbett who got together some kids from school to make over 70 beautiful handmade citrus, kiwi and coffee scented hand made soaps. It was a lovely morning tea and much appreciated by the staff especially as it took place the day after the Teachers strike on Monday.

Community Notices

WEETBIX TRYATHLON



Are you planning on competing in next year's Weetbix Tryathlon? Have you thought about running it as part of a team? <https://tryathlon.co.nz/>

We will be having a team represent our school at the Weetbix Tryathlon on 10th Feb 2019. You are invited to run as part of the school team. Swim, Cycle and run manageable distances, all while supported by your teammates from school.

On the day we will have the Balmoral school tent at the event, with parental support available. It will be a lovely day out for the whole family.

Register on your own or with a friend here:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=31836&G=68515>

Any questions call Louise Garbett 021468800

Balmoral Weetbix Tryathlon Parent CoOrdinator

Host Families needed for Mount Albert Grammar School

We are looking for kind and caring families to host international students arriving from the end of January 2019. These students are from Mexico, Europe, Japan, China, Vietnam and Thailand. The length of stay is from 1 term to a full year. Host families are reimbursed \$290 .00 per week.

For more information or to register your interest please email-

homestay@mags.school.nz or phone 8462044 extn 8123

THE **IMPROV**

DEC 2018 & JAN 2019

School Holiday Programme is Back!

Mt Eden War Memorial, 489 Dominion Rd, Mt Eden

Gretchen says: "Callum came home every day telling me he wished it would never end! FIVE STARS"

Carina says: "Ollie was really nervous at the start but was buzzing at the end of each day. He especially liked Nik the head teacher."

Miles says: "Our two girls loved the programme."



8 - 12 year olds

DECEMBER:

Mon 17th - Thurs 20th

JANUARY:

Mon 21st - Thurs 24th

9am - 3pm with a
6pm - 7pm performance
on Thursday

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