

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

19 Brixton Road, Mt Eden Auckland 1024

Phone 638 7960 Fax 630 1944

Email office@balmoral.school.nz

www.balmoral.school.nz

Vision

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

Friday 21 February 2020

Primary Dates to Diary

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

Dental Screening	23 March – 3 April
Mangere Mountain Y 3/4	Monday 23 March (Rms 17 & 16)
Pupil Conferences - Cancelled	Tuesday 24 March 3.15pm – 5.45pm
Mangere Mountain Y 3/4	Wednesday 25 March (Rms 11 & 12)
Pupil Conferences - Cancelled	Thursday 26 March 1.00pm – 6.45pm (School Closes at 12.30pm)

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

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

In the face of the current COVID-19 situation and the unusual times we all find ourselves in, we would like to reassure our community that we are continuously monitoring the situation. Where necessary we will make decisions to continue to protect our community. This may mean we will postpone or cancel some school and community events.

I would also like to acknowledge those parents who have actively supported us through this time by providing classrooms with hand sanitisers, soap, disinfectant, paper towels

and reinforcing good hygiene messages at home. We are finding that suppliers are running short of supplies.

Some parents who have returned from overseas have also elected to keep their children at home in self-isolation for 14 days. This is greatly appreciated by us all, as it is important that we care for people in our community who could be affected badly by contracting this virus. **He waka eke noa.** We are all in this together.

Some parents have also asked about how to respond to the questions about Covid-19 from their child. Our advice is to avoid discussing the latest numbers of people diagnosed, the shortage of medical equipment or disinfecting products in front of children. If a child asks questions, answer just the question honestly but keep it brief and reassure them. Please don't offer statistics or share your fears. The [video](#) from Nano Girl explains it in simple language to children.

For older children you could share this graphic from The Washington Post on the effects of limiting social interaction on Covid-19

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/>

Use these opportunities to further develop your relationship with your children. Try to focus on their interests and enjoy the additional time you may get with your family. Also please gauge the anxiety levels in your child and try and reassure them. [A useful resource for parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers talking about the virus with children and young people can be found here](#)

Medical Officers of Health have the authority to close a school. We have seen two temporary closures following direction from a Medical Officer of Health. This was following confirmation a student had been tested positive of COVID-19. At the first school the student is self-isolating and all their close contact (150 students and staff) have been tested for the virus and all of those tests have come back negative.

If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

At our school we are also continuously reviewing our staffing and assessing the risk to our staff.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Rest assured, we have robust communications and processes in place to keep ahead of the situation pro-actively.

In the meantime, we wish our whānau safety and health.

Conferences Cancelled

Unfortunately we had to cancel the student teacher conferences for next week. The staff are available by email to discuss your child's learning if you wish. Please contact them individually by email to take up this offer.

School Library

Our school librarians will be available everyday next week from 8.00am - 8.30am and 3.00pm - 3.30pm each day next while school is open if parents come in with their children. We have also extended the number of books that are issued to children. We would ask that parents ensure these books are well cared for and are eventually returned to us.

Ski Training and Competing Opportunity (Parent Led, School Endorsed)

Please provide expressions of interest for an Intermediate Balmoral Ski team. (not open to snow boarders) & potentially a development programme for older primary kids. Years 5 & 6.

This will entail :

- Weekly ski race training sessions at Snow Planet (1.5hrs on the snow) during school hours after lunch.
- One week ski race at the North Island Intermediate ski race champs (Whakapapa) end of August. Accommodation at a Club Lodge on the mountain for the week.

The children must be able to ski well, Blue to Red run ability or over as this is not a learn to ski programme. Parents must also be able to ski with the children for the event, and be available to assist up the mountain for the whole week of the Nationals. Furthermore you will need to be able to help with getting the kids to Snow Planet each week or share between those attending.

This is not a school run event, but it supported by the school, so all those interested will work with each other, cover the usual costs associated with skiing and the gear required, which includes the Ski event costs and accommodation up the mountain.

We are wanting to be competitive and active participation is expected. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience ski racing, and hone their skills with weekly race training.

The Primary School programme will be for the race training only. We will consider the option of attending the ski race on the mountain if the circumstances permit.

Register your interest with Richard Furze richard@furze.co.nz/021811339 & Julie O'Toole jotoole@coca-cola.com/021567106. Both have attended the races in previous years, are very keen skiers and have the logistics underway.

Regards Richard and Julie

A few weeks ago Whanau Mahira children took a trip to Long Bay. We had a wonderful day at the beach using our senses. We listened to the sounds of the beach; we looked closely at all the things we could see and using our sense of touch we gathered an assortment of objects. We learnt about biodiversity and that there are all sorts of living things at the beach. Here is a song that Room 26 wrote about our trip.

Going to the Beach *(to the tune Mummy Taking me to the Zoo tomorrow)*

Mahira's going to the beach tomorrow,

beach tomorrow, beach tomorrow.

Mahira's going to the beach tomorrow,

We're going to stay all day.

Chorus:

We're off to Long Bay, Bay, Bay

To learn and play, play, play

And stay all day, day, day

We're off to Long Bay, Bay, Bay.

See the sandy beach with the big waves crashing,

Hear cicadas singing and bare feet splashing,

Rockpool fun with sea creatures dashing,

We can stay all day.

Chorus:

Room 25

Following on from our successful hatching and release of 23 Monarch butterflies in Room 25, the children became interested in the aphids. "Are they alive?" was the question. "Yes, because they are moving."

We have then been investigating living and non-living things. We have come to the conclusion that living things move, breathe, grow, poo, pee, eat and have babies! We have also been creating insects using modelling clay.



Room 26:

We have been doing lots of learning about bubbles in Room 26. This interest has come out of the children's play and has grown into our class Inquiry. The children's curiosity has led them to explore the nature of bubbles and they are creatively experimenting with what they can do with them. It has been great seeing them using their skills of careful looking and critical thinking. We are beginning to think about where else we see different kinds of bubbles and how they are made.

Room 27

Room 27 had a trip to the Worm Farm last week at school. Lyndsey explained about where the worms live with a bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. We have been collecting worm food after lunch and feeding Worm Farm Two. The children have shown an interest about homes. We read *Hermit Crab* by Eric Carle and that prompted questions like *why do they need a shell?* *Can a hermit crab survive without a shell?* We are hoping to set up a worm house in the classroom, but first of all need to find out what we will need. We are going to look at what lives here at school. During our Long Bay trip the children were introduced to the word 'biodiversity'. This fits beautifully with the notion of the variety of life that could live at Balmoral. We would appreciate it if there are any experts among our community who could help with this, please get in touch with Deborah in Room 27.

Working through these extraordinary times, our key objective is to keep our community safe. With this in mind we've chosen to cancel a number of up and coming fundraising events. We will still be keeping you in the loop with school news and celebrating the fun stuff on our Facebook page. If you haven't joined it yet then you'll find us under PTA Friends of Balmoral School. Look after yourselves and each other.

Anna, PTA Chair

CANCELLATIONS

Duathlon - 29 March

Parent Info Evening - 22 April

Comedy Night

Thanks

At our recent AGM we farewellled our Chairperson of the past 3 years, Kristen DeMonchy, along with Leadership Team members Debbie Campbell and Catherine Evans, and our joint Treasurer Sarah Gaskell.

Kristen has been an amazing Chairperson, with a focus on bringing our community together. Deb has been integral to the PTA and will continue as a PTA member being involved across a number of activities and events.

We wish to thank them all for their huge contribution.



What a great evening we had at Whānau on the Field. Great to see so many families come together to enjoy the last of the summer sun. Thanks to Steven and the Skids team for all the great games and prizes.

New Team

Following the AGM we are very pleased to announce your new PTA team:

Chairperson: Anna Morton

Leadership Team: Emma McDowall, Josie Sutherland

Treasurer: Tracy Peirce

Secretary: Leanne Corkill

Smiths Sports Shoes Fundraiser Sale - 25 March

Grab up to 50% off a new pair of sports shoes for you or the kids. 10% of all sales comes back to our School PTA to be used towards extra resources for our school.

**FUNDRAISER**
40% & 50% off 2,500 Pairs (All Floor stock)
plus 20% off all other stock - ONE DAY ONLY

FAMILY & FRIENDS FUNDRAISER - 10% Back To Balmoral School



ONE DAY ONLY - Wednesday March 25th 9am to 8pm





**193 DOMINION RD - MT EDEN**
PH 630 3561 FREE PARKING OFF ONSLOW RD



Sign up to the Friends of Balmoral
Sign up to our database and we'll keep you up to date with event info and let you know what you can do to help. Simply let us know if you're free and what task you're happy to help with. Just email your name, and phone number to pta@balmoral.school.nz

Can you help?
We're looking for a new team member to help with our sponsorships management.
Please email anna.morton@xtra.co.nz if you'd like more details.

If you have anything you'd like to discuss with your PTA, thoughts, ideas or feedback please send us an email at PTA@balmoral.school.nz

Community Notices



sKIDS Balmoral
19 Brixton Road,
Balmoral

Term 1 Activities

4 FEB - 9 APR 2020

From our parents:
"sKIDS team are great with my child and she loves attending"

Before School Care | 7:30am to 8:30am
After School Care | 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Week 1

Waitangi

We're kicking off the year celebrating our national day with heaps of Waitangi themed activities!



Week 2

Valentine's Day

Share the love this week and get ready for warm fuzzies on Friday for Valentine's Day!



Week 3

Leap Year



2020 has an extra day! Leap on in for a week of fun!

Week 4

NZ Children's Day

Check out what the craze is about with our national Children's Day this Sunday

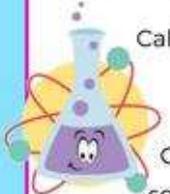


Week 5

Weird Science

Calling all mad scientists!!!

Get along for some exciting experimental fun!



Week 6

Pasifika

Sample some Pacific cultures with Pasifika-inspired activities this week!



Week 7

St Patrick's Day

Rainbows, pots o'gold and leprechauns!

What's your favourite St Paddy's Day theme?



Week 8

Eco Festival

Learn about living sustainably as part of EcoFest 2020!



Week 9

Autumn

The leaves have started to change their colours...

Pop in to see what we're up to this week...



Week 10

Easter

Hop along for a special treat to celebrate Easter and the end of term!



JUNIORS

Monday:

Born to Move
Arts & Crafts

Tuesday:
FoodStorm

Wednesday:
Born to Move
sKIDS Active

Thursday:
Drama & Music Games

Friday:
Challenge Board

SENIORS

Monday:

Drama / Theatre Sports

Tuesday:

sKIDS Active

Wednesday:

FoodStorm

Thursday:

Sphero

Friday:

Challenge Board

Email: balmoral@skids.co.nz | On-site Mobile: 021 975 632

Book now at www.sKIDS.co.nz click on Parent Login

MSD-Approved
Work & income NZ OSCAR Subsidy available!

CONSCIOUS KIDS

Little Seeds for a Better Future

are excited to announce

Our 100% Nature based School Holiday Programme

@ WESTERN SPRINGS PARK and MEOLA REEF RESERVE



APRIL HOLIDAYS 2020

\$70/child per day

Week 1 / 14th to 17th - Week 2 / 20th to 24th

9am - 4pm for children aged 5yrs - 12yrs

Conscious Kids is proud to be safeguarding children's right to free play in nature. Our Holiday Programmes are designed as an antidote to the fast paced technology filled world our children now inhabit. A chance to unwind and play as their parents did, climbing trees, building huts, exploring and of course playing bullrush!

Book now!

Spaces are strictly limited.

For more information visit our website or email holidays@consciouskids.co.nz

www.consciouskids.co.nz



WEIGH IN & REGISTRATION REMINDER

Sat 14th March
- 1pm - 4pm

***Midweek Weigh-In
-Registration***

Thursday 19th March
- 5.30 - 7pm

Tuesday 24th March
- 5.30 - 7pm



***EDEN RUGBY
JUNIORS***

www.eden.rugby





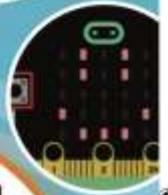
SCRATCHPAD
TECHNOLOGY LEARNING CENTRES

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES 14 - 24 APRIL

➔ GET YOUR KIDS EXCITED ABOUT TECHNOLOGY WITH THESE 12 AWESOME HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES



- ⊕ Robotics using Edison
- ⊕ Minecraft Modding
- ⊕ Android Apps
- ⊕ Graphic Designing
- ⊕ 3D Printing
- ⊕ Microbit
- ⊕ Python
- ⊕ HTML/CSS
- ⊕ Makey Makey
- ⊕ Robotics using Mbot
- ⊕ Roblox Programming
- ⊕ Let us Code



WIN

a HP CHROMEBOOK

Everybody that signs up to our April school holiday programme goes in the draw to win!

Value **\$429**

Harvey Norman COMMERCIAL DIVISION



DON'T MISS OUT, BOOK NOW!
SCRATCHPAD.CO.NZ

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TUTORING
CONFIDENCE
RESULTS

