Friday 9 September, 2016

**Intermediate Dates to Diary**

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<td>PTA Christmas Tree Sales</td>
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**Canteen Days**  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**Dear Parents, Whānau and Caregivers**

At Balmoral School we teach Philosophy through P4C. We are one of a very small number of NZ schools firmly committed to P4C and have been for over 15 years.

We believe education is far broader than Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We often hear that children need these skills to participate in the workforce but at a deeper level we need to ask ourselves whether we want to create young people who are job workers or who are job creators.

While Reading, Writing and Mathematics are important for an individual to participate in any society, education for full participation in a modern society is much broader and deeper.

We see teaching of P4C to every child is vitally important if we want to develop citizens who are critical, caring and creative thinkers. When citizens
behave in such a manner we believe that beliefs and prejudices will be challenged, critically thought through and creative solutions found. If this happens we will have a thoughtful progressive democracy.

Interestingly the President of Ireland Michael Higgens recently gave a speech reported in The Irish Times about the importance of teaching philosophy to children.

Teaching philosophy in schools, and promoting it in society, is urgently needed to enable citizens “to discriminate between truthful language and illusory rhetoric”, President Michael D Higgins said. The President expressed concern about an “an anti-intellectualism that has fed a populism among the insecure and the excluded”.

Discussing a “post-truth” society, he asked how we might all contribute to a “reflective atmosphere in the classrooms, in our media, in our public space”.

“The dissemination, at all levels of society, of the tools, language and methods of philosophical enquiry can, I believe, provide a meaningful component in any concerted attempt at offering a long-term and holistic response to our current predicament.”

“The teaching of philosophy is one of the most powerful tools we have at our disposal to empower children into acting as free and responsible subjects in an ever more complex, interconnected and uncertain world,”

Read the full article here in the Irish Times.

Kia pai to mutunga wiki (Have a good weekend)
Naku noa
Malcolm Milner
Principal (Te Tumuaki)

View sports photos online:
www.schoolmemories.co.nz
Click on Galleries and Balmoral School
BOOK by 30 November 2016

Cultural Celebrations
Eden Albert Cultural Festival
Saturday 26 November

A variety of our groups are performing at the Eden-Albert Cultural Festival this Saturday 26th, at Rocket Park in Mt Albert. Thirsty schools from the surrounding area will be performing dance and music from all around the world. This is a free, family event that would easily fill a morning! There are food stalls and jumping castles for the kids.
Our school’s performance are Kapa Haka - 9.45 am, Cultural Groups (Indoor) - 10.45am, Pasifika Band 11.30am.

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Balmoral Farmers’ Market

The Balmoral Farmers’ Market

3pm Friday 2 December
Middle Courts (by the staffroom)

Donations of fruit, vegetables and potted plants, arts, crafts, and anything Out Of Your Backyard, locally grown, home baking will be greatly appreciated. Please bring home grown produce (vegetables, fruit, plants) to Rebecca in Room 17 or your own classroom Friday morning 2 December.

Bring cash and recycled bags

Thanks for your support, on behalf of the Sustainability Team. All profit goes back into school gardens and other sustainability projects.

Please think of the environment before printing out or turn me over and use me as recycled piece of paper.
Tēnā koutou Intermediate Whanau,

Yesterday we had very good reasons to feel proud of our intermediate students. Our athletics team competed well at the Central Zone Athletics competition, with results yet to come in.

Our Fiafia night was also held yesterday evening and the children spoke and performed to an audience of more than 200 people! The Kapa Haka group performed first and were fantastic! The Boys’ Cultural group were both amazing and humorously entertaining and the Girls’ Cultural group sang and danced beautifully. Well done to all the children who spoke.

Special mention needs to be made of Kellie who has worked hard with the Kapa Haka group and to Jesse for all his hard work with both cultural groups and for overall organisation of the event.

Thank you also to the many parents who have volunteered their time to bring the Fiafia night together.

I look forward to seeing some of you at Rocket Park tomorrow to see our performers in action again.

Kia pai tō rā whakatā  (Have a great weekend)

Kate and the Intermediate Team

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Student Council News

Posters for our intermediate “Fun Day” are up around the school. There will be lots of fun free activities; take a dip in the pool, compete in the three legged race or the sack race, throw a wet sponge at a teacher and much more!

It will also be a mufti day, so we ask that you bring a gold coin donation for our school legacies.

Student Councillors
PTA News

Ice block Fridays are here!

Summer is nearly here and we’re celebrating with Ice block Fridays!

Every Friday from November 25, the PTA team will be outside Katy’s office with delicious ice blocks for sale at just $2 each. What a wonderful way to end the week.

And we’ll also have beautifully wrapped copies of the Balmoral School cookbook *Everyday Easy Eats* for sale at just $30. Get a few as Christmas gifts for the special people in your life!

If you can help on the ice block stall or with selling cookbooks, please contact Anna on anna.morton@xtra.co.nz

It’s disco time

Tickets are now selling for the Balmoral School Christmas Disco! You can buy $10 tickets outside Katy’s office before 9am on November 25, 28 and 30 for the December 1 Disco extravaganza!

Tickets get you disco entry, one meal item, an ice block, a raffle ticket and face painting.

Remember to bring along a gift to place under our “Giving Tree” to give to needy families via the Auckland City Mission.

If you can help out on the night email Nicky: gadsdonfamily@vodafone.co.nz

Order your Christmas tree now

Order forms for Christmas trees should have come home with your child so please return yours to the PTA box in the office by Friday December 2.

Then pick up your perfect tree from school on Saturday December 3. So easy!

Balmoral School PTA receives a donation for every tree sold. If you haven’t received your order form, please contact Kristen on rene_krissy@xtra.co.nz
Summer Cookbook Rollout!

We still have copies of our beautiful Balmoral School Cookbook, *Everyday Easy Eats* available and we need your help to sell the remaining stock.

We’d love it if every school family could pick up two copies to sell over the next few weeks.

Every dollar from the sale of these books goes directly to our Balmoral school pool, a fantastic community resource that we can all enjoy.

Cookbooks are just $30 for the Christmas period! For more information, to place larger orders, or to collect books to sell please email LeeAnn at collected@leeannyare.co.nz

You can also purchase books from the Balmoral School Office.

It’s not too late to get your favourite biscuits

The Auckland Girl Guides still have packs of their delicious biscuits available. Packs are $3.50 each or you can get a carton containing 18 packs. Pick up in a Mt Eden location or delivery can be arranged. Please contact Gabrielle on 09 638 9076 ext 773 or at Auckland.Biscuits@girlguidingnz.org.nz to order and support this great community organisation.

Community News

Make a booking for car servicing before the “silly season” and that way you will be ready to drive away on holiday. Get in early as December is busy! For all your WOF’s, vehicle servicing & maintenance. All makes & models old or new. See your friendly local team.

**PH: 6387866**

385 Dominion Rd, Mt Eden
(Behind g.a.s petrol station. Entrance on Paice Ave)

[www.balmoralautorepairs.co.nz](http://www.balmoralautorepairs.co.nz)
Choose your wedding or event location for romance, beauty and memories. Able to go where traditional marquees can’t, a Stretch Tent allows a marquee or canopy solution specific to your needs, site and budget.

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[www.stretchtents.co.nz](http://www.stretchtents.co.nz)
Albert-Eden Schools
Cultural Festival 2016
SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER
9am-3:30pm
Rocket Park, Mt Albert

See our school perform

KAPA HAKA 9.45 AM (OUTDOOR)
Performance Details:
CULTURAL GROUPS 10.45 AM (INDOOR)
PASIFIKA BANO 11.30 AM (OUTDOOR)

OVER 30 SCHOOLS PERFORMING!
Food Stalls
FREE, FUN, FAMILY DAY