

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 Intermediate Newsletter

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 8 March, 2018

Intermediate Dates to Diary

PTA Meeting AGM	Tuesday 12 March 7.30pm (Library)
Ice Block and Muffi Day for Oxfam	Tuesday 12 March \$2 per ice block, gold coin
Polyfest	Friday 15 March
BoT Meeting	Tuesday 19 March 7.30pm (Admin Block)
Dental Screening	Mon 25 March – Fri 5 April
PTA Triathlon	Sunday 7 April
End of Term 1	Friday 12 April
Term 2 begins	Monday 29 April
Year 8 Camp	Tuesday 30 April – Friday 3 May
Readers/Writers	Monday 13 May

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

Intermediate Whanau Blogs

Turanga

<http://whanauturanga.blogspot.co.nz/>

Aparangi

<https://aparangibalmoral.blogspot.co.nz/>

- Check our blog to find Year 8 camp information

Canteen Days: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday only

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

Dear Parents, Whānau and Caregivers

Emerging neuroscientific evidence is giving us some important understandings about the working of the brain. This research is so significant it should bring about a shift in the ways we teach, talk to children, parent our children, and run schools.

In the past we used to dismiss people as exceptions who were unsuccessful early learners at school yet went on to become significant entrepreneurs, mathematicians and scientists in our society – including Albert Einstein and Maryam Mirzakhani. What these people demonstrated was that they were successful ongoing learners, they just may have been late starters and had a growth mindset.

Over the last several decades brain research has demonstrated that our brains have enormous capacity to grow and change throughout life. The initial studies of black cab drivers found that the spatial training to memorise streets and landmarks caused areas of the hippocampus to significantly increase. What they also noticed was that when these drivers stopped driving in London this part of the brain shrunk.

Later the scientists discovered that the optimum times for brain growth and change are when people are working on challenging content, making mistakes, correcting them, moving on, making more mistakes, and continually being challenged.

Currently some teachers and parents feel that their children should be correct all of the time and get the right answer. Sometimes when adults see children struggle they quickly jump in and save them. This results in a reduction or removal of the cognitive challenge. Not only do we do this in cognitively challenging situations but we also do this in emotionally challenging situations.

If we are wanting children to effectively manage self maybe we should stand back when there is sibling disagreement, only interfering if there is serious harm. As Celia Lashlie once said 'Stand back, stop the hovering, the overprotective nurturing; let them walk on that bridge themselves.'

In classes we establish good ground rules and model behaviour. We also identify that it isn't always fair what happens and that sometimes someone else's needs matter more than another. We want the children to practice negotiating, to share and to talk to each other. We want to try to encourage those important lifelong skills and in doing so develop empathy and care for others as well as to practise forgiveness. Being able to successfully resolve and navigate these situations is a huge step in a child's emotional growth and maturity.

There may be times that these strategies won't work and it is then we should look for further professional help.

So the next time your child comes home and complains about something that happened to them, take the time at the end to ask them 'What did you do?' Then decide if they can take some responsibility for what happened, can help to fix it themselves and if necessary you could provide some suggestions to enable this fix.

When we are able to create environments in which children feel safe being wrong, make mistakes, have the opportunity to fix mistakes, are valued for sharing incorrect ideas, try new things, then children will start to embrace struggle, which will unlock their incredible learning pathways.

Kia pai tō rā whakatā (Have a good weekend)

Naku noa

Malcolm Milner

Principal (Te Tumuaki)

**PAID UNION MEETING (PUM)
Friday 22 March from 12.30pm
School Canteen Closed also**

On the afternoon Friday 22 March our teachers are attending a Paid Union Meeting. We do request that parents pick their children up from school at 12.30pm as there will be a very small number of support staff at school.

While this meeting is disruptive for both parents and our school, staff are legally entitled to attend.

It is extremely difficult to staff our school with qualified teachers. We currently have a teaching position advertised from the beginning of December that we have not yet filled.

Something has to be done immediately to incentivise teaching as a profession to ensure that our school and our pupils have access to a high quality workforce.

Further information about the PUM will come home on Monday 11 March.

Visitors to School

All visitors to the school are required to sign in at school office and wear a visitors tag while on school grounds.

**Tomorrow Schools Review
Community Meeting**

There has been much debate around the future of schooling in New Zealand in response to the Tomorrow's Schools Review prepared by an independent taskforce.

The proposals develop from the belief that as a nation we can provide a higher quality education system for all.

The members of [Our Schooling Futures: Stronger Together | Whiria Ngā Kura Tūātitini](#) are very keen to receive feedback from as many people as possible to help them complete their final recommendations and report to the Minister of Education in late April 2019.

There was a meeting last night at the Holy Trinity Cathedral with the taskforce to discuss these reforms. Other meeting dates can be found [here](#).

Furthermore, you have an opportunity to make a submission on your views to tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz.

The Build

A lot of work has been going on preparing for the rebuild of the intermediate block and the establishment of our new gymnasium. Unfortunately we had to cut down the trees above the school pool in preparation for this development. We have also had scaffolding placed over the school pool to protect it during the build.

Southbase have cut holes in the building site security fence and covered these with perspex so that the pupils can view what is happening behind those walls. The contractors site offices have also been placed on the school field



Dental Screening

The Dental Clinic will begin screening children, starting with Year 8, during the week that begins Monday 25th March. If you DO NOT want your child to be seen at this time, please contact the Dental Clinic on 623 4537.

Extended Library Hours Choose a good book to read together as a family

Liz is our new school librarian and an avid reader. Liz will be working in our school library on a Monday, Thursday and Friday.

On a Monday the school library is open until 3.30pm for parents and children to choose a good book to read together. We know that when parents read good literature with children that they become better readers, writers and listeners. Liz will be present to help with your selection.

Parents and Children Book Happy ½ Hour
Library Open until 3.30pm Mondays

Netball News

We received some welcome news from Auckland Netball this week about one of our parent supporters. At the end of the Balmoral Blazes' recent game, a Balmoral Dad had delighted one of the opposition players by telling her that they were the nicest team his daughter's team had ever played. The email we received from Auckland Netball commented that 'This is what sport for our children should be all about in contrast to being so score focused. We as adults need to look for these opportunities to bring out the so many positives that sport has to offer our young players. This dad is an example of what we desire on our sidelines.'

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to coach, manage or be a supportive presence on the sidelines for all of our sports teams.

News from the Intermediate School

Tēnā koutou Intermediate Whānau,

As you will see in the report below, the Whānau Turanga children had a wonderful time at camp last week, participating in a wide variety of activities, sleeping in tents, which proved to be a bit chilly at night after the clear, blue days, and generally getting to know each other a bit better. We cannot provide this type of experience without hours and hours of work beforehand from the teachers, and twenty-four hour a day commitment from both the teachers and parents who were at Tui Ridge. Our thanks go to all of them.

We have had a smattering of social media issues this week, particularly with group chats on Instagram. These issues are happening outside school hours, then the after effects of them spill over into school. Our digital education programmes include many conversations with our students about how to be a good digital citizen, and how you can keep yourself safe online. It can be very difficult to remember these things though, when you are 12 or 13 and the pressures from your friends are pervasive. Netsafe has a number of good resources that you can access to start conversations at home <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/>

This discussion on Nine To Noon with Dr Vanya Kovach, who works at the University of Auckland, and is heavily involved with our Philosophy programme here at school, is a great way to understand why philosophy for children is so important, and how it looks in a school setting. All our teachers train for two days to become P4C facilitators, and many go on to get more advanced training over time.

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetonoon/audio/2018685503/playground-plato-the-benefits-of-teaching-kids-philosophy>

Nā mātou noa, nā

Trish and the Intermediate Team

News From Whānau Turanga

Team Turanga went to Tui Ridge camp last week. We came back with great memories and a new appreciation for all that our parents do for us! Some of our highlights were the awesome bush tramp and survival skills. We learnt how to make a stretcher using resources only from our backpack and the great kiwi bush. Another highlight was all the amazing activities like abseiling, mountain biking, rock climbing, orienteering and archery. Some challenges for us were planning breakfast and lunch, and of course setting and packing up the tents. But we can all agree the best part was spotlight, burma trail and karaoke. We also loved laughing and making new friends. Thanks so much to the teachers and parents, we couldn't have had that much fun without them!!

Written by Tessa and Alex Shire 1, and Alice Shire 5







BALMORAL SCHOOL **DUATHLON** AND FAMILY FUN DAY



RUN > BIKE > RUN

SUNDAY 7th APRIL • EDEN PARK • 9am-1pm

CATEGORIES TO SUIT ALL AGES!

TSHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION IS BACK!

ENTRIES OPEN FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2019

**FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COME!**

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LEONIE STABLER

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LATEST UPDATES: www.facebook.com/balmoralschoolpta

Announcing the PTA Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 12th March 2019

On Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 7.30pm, the PTA will hold its AGM in the school library. This is great opportunity for all parents (particularly any new parents) to come along and hear what the PTA got up to last year, how much money was raised for the school, what the school spent the money on and of course meet some new people in a relaxed atmosphere (wine and nibbles are included!).

Formal elections of the PTA's executive committee for 2019 will also take place at the AGM – the Chairperson, Leadership Group, Treasurer, Secretary and Staff Representative.

Nominations for any of these roles must be received by the PTA Secretary, Sarah Jack at pta@balmoral.school.nz no less than 72 hours prior to the AGM (so, *no later than 7.30pm on Saturday 9th March 2019*). No late nominations will be accepted.

Any parent, caregiver, teacher or interested adult is eligible to vote on the appointment of the executive committee and each attendee at the AGM has one vote. Where there is more than one nomination for a role on the executive committee, proxy votes will be allowed provided that they are received by the PTA Secretary in writing (including email) by 5pm on the date of the AGM.

The PTA team always enjoys having new people joining us at any of our monthly meetings – it's certainly a case of 'the more the merrier'. Hope to see you there.

Community Notices

Twenty year old female Japanese student is seeking homestay accommodation with a family in the Sandringham/Mt Eden/Three Kings area beginning 5 April 2019. She will be studying English in a school in the city for five months. If you interested, and you would like to know more, please contact Owen Alexander 021313309.

Your children are amazing already. We just help them prove it.

numberworksandwords.com/nz

Royal Oak
New Lynn

Ph 625 8091
Ph 828 8090

**NumberWorks
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BALIMORAL MUSIC TEACHERS



IANETTA SOLOMON-BROWN VOCAL TEACHER

IANETTA IS A GRADUATE OF BARADENE COLLEGE WHERE SHE EXCELLED IN VOCALS AND SONGWRITING WHILE AT SCHOOL SHE ARRANGED SINGING GROUPS, DID VOCAL COACHING AND WAS A FINALIST IN 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 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 AT AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY WHERE SHE IS AIMING FOR A BMUS (PERFORMANCE)

CONTACTS

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ALISTAIR DEVERICK DRUM TEACHER

HI! MY NAME IS ALISTAIR DEVERICK I HAVE BEEN PLAYING SINCE I WAS 14 AT AVONDALE COLLEGE, I DIDN'T DO LESSONS BEFORE THAT, JUST A BIT OF PIANO. I STUDIED JAZZ AT AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY AND GRADUATED IN 2008.

I ESTIMATE THAT I'VE PLAYED WITH WELL OVER 100 BANDS IN MY LIFE! SOME LIFE HIGHLIGHTS HAVE BEEN PLAYING WITH NEIL FINN FOR HIS 'DIZZY HEIGHTS' WORLD TOUR THAT INCLUDED EDDIE VEDDER FROM PEARL JAM I AM ALSO PLAYING WITH TIM FINN THIS YEAR AND OFTEN PLAY WITH LAWRENCE ARABIA, ANIKA MOA AND MANY OTHERS.

I ALSO PRODUCE AND COMPOSE MUSIC SO HAVE A VERY HOLISTIC VIEW. I AM VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT MUSIC AND ITS ABILITY TO INSPIRE AND MY GOAL IS TO INSTILL THIS ENTHUSIASM IN MY STUDENTS! I HAVE A PATIENT AND FRIENDLY TEACHING STYLE.

HIGH SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN THE BULK OF MY TEACHING LIFE SO FAR BUT I TAUGHT FOR TWO YEARS RECENTLY AT ELIM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND STARTED MY TEACHING CAREER AT GREEN BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL SO I HAVE A GOOD WAY AND EXPERIENCE WITH YOUNGER KIDS TOO.

CONTACTS

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PLAY JUNIOR RUGBY

AT
EDEN
RUGBY CLUB



NEW GRADES IN 2019
U9/U11 Girls Rippla - U13 Girls Tackle
REGISTER ONLINE www.eden.rugby



REGO & WEIGH IN DAYS
SAT 2nd & Sat 9th March 1-4pm
Eden Rugby Clubrooms - Gribblehurst Park