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Balfour



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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 17 October 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers



Charlie - for taking responsibility and showing growth in behaviour and effort.
Jerrol - for a great improvement in attitude and behaviour.
Donnalily - for always being kind and supportive of classmates.
Cyra - for always being kind and supportive of others.
Bjorn - for going above and beyond the expectation with your sentence writing
Hugo - for excellent handwriting

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday this week to Monty Blakely, and Charlotte McFelin and Waelyn Dysart who were both absent for last week's Birthday certificates. We hope you all had super fun birthday celebrations.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

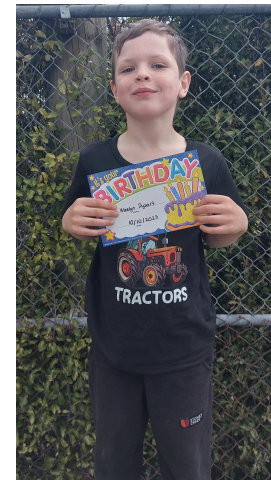
This week, the Attendance Award goes to room Korimako with 93.86%

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Everly Dillon - continues to impress with excellent conduct and respect for others.

Ollie Weatherall - for staying on task and completing your work to a high standard.

Karter Heads - for being able to recognise different emotions and showing you care about others.



ASSEMBLY

There will be no assembly next week due to Agri Day being this day.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Friday 24th October	- Agri Day
Tuesday 28th - 31st October	- Y5/6 camp top Stewart Island
Saturday 1st November	- Community Mural painting
Wednesday 5th - 7th November	- Y3/4 Camp Columba
Wednesday 17th December	- Leavers assembly - afternoon - time to be confirmed

TERM DATES

Wednesday 17th Dec	- last day term 4
Monday 2nd February 2026	- first day of Term 1

BOARD MEETING DATES

Please find below the meeting dates for the rest of 2025.

Meeting time 7pm	Term 4	22nd October	26th November
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You are welcome to attend any of these meetings.

SUNHATS AND SUNSCREEN

We would like to remind everyone of the importance of sun hats and sunscreen and full water bottles, with the warmer sunny days and Summer approaching. We hope!!!

The Children are required to wear a sunhat while outside at morning break and lunch. We have sunhats here at school for sale for \$10. The home and School kindly subsidises these sun hats.

Caps are not allowed. However, children may bring a sunhat from home as long as it has a wide brim that goes all the way around the hat.

Please also put sunscreen on your children in the morning. We do have sunscreen here at school that they can re apply during the day.

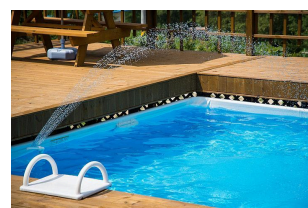
Also ensure their drink bottles are full when they leave home.

EDGE APP

Please upload the EDGE APP onto your phone or device as this is now our means of communication for notices and information. You are able to access your child's account and other information regarding your children. You will be sent an email as well but Edge is now our App. Please find at the end of the newsletter instructions to upload and sign in. I have also emailed it to you today as well. The email has more detailed instructions if you are struggling to do this. It is very important to upload this app.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY POOL

The swimming pool is now open and can be used by the public after school hours during the week, or anytime during the weekends. **We have a brand new cover over the pool and a new heating system which is heating the pool well. And the building has been reclad.**



Keys are available for sale from the office during school hours. After school hours keys will be available from the Balfour Store and Tavern. The price for keys for the season has been set at \$80 this includes \$60 seasonal pool use plus a \$20 refundable bond when you return your key at the end of the season. You may purchase a key just for the day if you wish. Cost for this is \$20 with \$10 bond refunded on return of the key.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Kia Ora Parents & Whanau,

It's been another busy week at school, and the children are full of excitement as they prepare for Agri Day, which is just around the corner. Everyone is looking forward to this special event, and we're expecting a wonderful variety of pets to attend – from lambs, dogs, cats, calves, guinea pigs, horses, goats, and chickens, to the more unusual entries like a pet rock! Let's hope the weather is kind!

Westpac will be generously running a barbecue, which will be free of charge for everyone to enjoy. For those wanting a sweet treat or a caffeine fix, Mr Whippy will be on site with ice creams, and Carly's Kitchen will be serving coffee – please remember to send your child with some money if they'd like to purchase anything from these stalls.

In addition to the animals, there are plenty of other categories for children to enter, including model building, baking, photography, and flower arranging competitions. There will be prizes awarded for all categories, and the much-anticipated Supreme Animal Trophy will be presented during the day. Following the grand parade, we'll be holding the ever-popular Dad's Cake Auction – a highlight not to be missed!

Please note that Agri Day will take place next Friday, the day after the school staff strike on Thursday 23rd October which has now been confirmed by the union.

Looking ahead, we'd love your help on Friday, 1st November from 9am to 1pm as we prepare the covered area for a special mural project. Local artist Meg Cloete from Skoodles will be bringing her creative flair to the space, and the ideas gathered from the recent parent survey have been passed on to her for inspiration. We invite you to join us for a community painting session – just bring along a paintbrush and wear old clothes you don't mind getting messy. We do need a raised platform, ideally to fit around the space; if you think you could help, please let us know.

Finally, we're pleased to let you know that the school swimming pool will be open from next week. Teachers will be in touch to let you know when your child's class will be swimming, so please keep an eye out for those updates.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mihi mahana,

Andrea Holt

Hot Chocolate Recipients

Elliott, Donnalily and Harrison

George and Sienna



NATIONAL FIJI DAY

Last week we celebrated National Fiji Day. Mr Krishna and Mrs Schriek raised the Fijian Flag and then the Fijian National Anthem was sung. Mr Krishna and Ayaansh spoke about Fiji.





KORIMAKO - We have now completed the second week of Term 4, and it has been another productive and engaging week for our class. In



English, the children have been learning about poetry. In Maths, we focused on measuring and drawing angles using a protractor. The students have been practising accuracy and learning to identify different types of angles in real-life shapes.

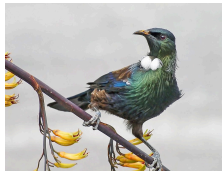
Our Year 6 students also visited Northern Southland College for their transition day. It was a great opportunity for them to experience what college life will be like next year.

Ngā mihi nui,
Anish Krishna
Korimako Class Teacher



PIWAKAWAKA - This week in maths, students are continuing to explore money where they are learning to combine different coins and notes to make the same total. They are developing an understanding of equivalent values through real-world currency. These activities help build confidence in handling money and strengthen number fluency. We have looked at the different types of habitats within New Zealand. We've also found out fun facts about two native birds. The Pūkeko and the Kererū. We learned what they look like, where they live and what makes them special. The students are very excited that Agri day is next week and they are looking forward to showing us their pets.

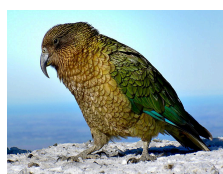
Ngā mihi,
Jo Bright
Room Piwakawaka Kaiako



TUI - We have been busy this week in Tui with writing, measuring, and technology. With our writing, we have been focusing on expanding our sentences to make sure we include the who, what, where, and when to provide a full picture for the reader. For technology, Tui and Kea are going to be building their own playground for Coco and Kristoff, our class pets. We have been using measuring and weights to explore what materials would be useful for our designs to make sure they can fit on them. Thank you to those who have already brought some building materials in; it is much appreciated!

Here are two quotes that we have used this week to remind ourselves that what we are doing is good and we are giving it our best go. "Sometimes we win, and sometimes we learn" and "Go as fast as you can, but as slow as you must"

Ngā mihi,
Natasha Humphrey
Room Tui Kaiako



KEA - Kea class students are continuing to make good progress in their learning. This week we talked about honesty and obedience. We have been looking at partitioning 5, (making number bonds), - five can be made of what numbers? Also, we are continuing to practise our tidiness in writing numbers and letters.

Ngā mihi,

Judy Finlayson
Room Kea

PRIMARY SCHOOL GOLF

Our “School Pupils” Golf Club will begin again on Friday 16th October. For the benefit of any new players, I have outlined some of the details about this activity below.

This Club is open to all pupils from year 3 and above, and will meet at the Riversdale Golf

Course each Friday during the summer terms.

Session times will be 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm for primary school pupils and 4:45 – 6:00pm for older pupils. There is no cost for these Friday sessions and all gear is provided. But children may bring their own if they have it.

If your child is interested in being part of this activity, or if you have any questions about this club, please do not hesitate to phone me.

Debbie Schriek, 0210462596



Caregiver Portal

Parents and caregivers are able to access their child's attendance, assessment reporting and make school payments via the Caregiver Portal on our Student Management System Edge.

We encourage you to login to the Edge Caregiver Portal now to access information regarding your child/children.



How to Log In



To log on, you must use the same email address that the school holds for you. This will be the one you provided with your child's enrolment, and which you receive newsletters and other email notices from the school on.


Go to <https://parent.edgelearning.co.nz/> or scan the QR code.

1. Enter your email details into the email field.
2. Click on “Reset Password?” to receive an email from MUSAC with a ‘reset password’ link.
3. Enter and save your password, then close that window and put your new password into the log in page.
4. Once you have access to the caregiver portal, you are then able to click on the name of your child and access their information regarding attendance, student reports and school payments.

Balfour School's

AGRI DAY

Save the date...
**Friday 24
October**

 <i>Machinery Display</i>	8.30am	Pets start arriving at school.	 <i>Favourite Stuffed Toys</i>
	9.00am	Machinery Display at the rugby grounds	
	10.15am	Morning Tea	
	10.45am	Judging of Pets/Stuffed Animals Judging of models/crafts Judging of photo competition <i>(show farming in our area)</i> Judging of baking <i>(Muffins/cupcakes, slice or biscuits)</i> Judging of flower arrangements <i>(in a recycled container)</i> *All items to be prepared at home and brought in for judging.	
 <i>Pets</i>	12.15pm	Lunch	 <i>Farming Photography</i>
	1.15pm	Best Animal Tricks	
 <i>Best Pet Tricks</i>	1.35pm	Supreme Animal Trophy presentation	 <i>Cupcakes, Muffins, Slices, Biscuits</i>
	1.45pm	Grand Parade <i>Dress up to match your pet or stuffed animal and join us in the Pet Parade.</i>	
	2pm	Dad's Cake Auction <i>Whip out your cookbooks and start mastering your recipes now. All proceeds raised will be donated to our local RDA (riding for the disabled group).</i>	
			 <i>Flower Arrangements</i>

Balfour School Staff and Students warmly invite families and members of our local community to join us for our bi-annual Agri Day.

Balfour School Children and Local Pre-Schoolers have the opportunity to bring their special pet or stuffed animal for judging alongside our other categories.

All categories are optional for entering. You may enter as many or few as you like. Please let us know what pet/s you are bringing.



BALFOUR SCHOOL POOL

INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR A

HALLOWEEN DISCO

OCTOBER 31ST, 5PM TO LATE

Bring the whole family for a fun night!

GOLD COIN ENTRY

WITH FUNDS GOING TO THE POOL

SNACKS, DRINKS,
GLOWSTICKS FOR SALE

BEST DRESSED PRIZES FOR KIDS AND ADULTS

BALFOUR SPORTSGROUND PAVILLION



BALFOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY MURAL DAY

JOIN US FOR A FUN AND CREATIVE
MORNING AS WE PREPARE THE COVERED AREA
FOR OUR NEW SCHOOL MURAL.

WE WILL BE PAINTING THE BASE COATS AND
GETTING READY FOR OUR ARTWORK TO SHINE.

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

9AM - 1PM

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
Wear old clothes and bring a paintbrush!

IN COLLABORATION WITH MEG FROM SKOODLES
<https://www.skoodles.net>



WEEKLY Art Classes in Waikaia

8 Weeks of continuous Art Fun.
2 Artists to inspire.

Perfect for ages 6-13, this fun and creative 8-week programme offers weekly painting classes where students will explore the work of two inspiring artists. They'll learn the basics of painting and complete two exciting art projects along the way. Classes are designed for all skill levels—no experience needed!

Cost: \$200 for all 8 weeks. Students must book in for the full programme. All materials included.

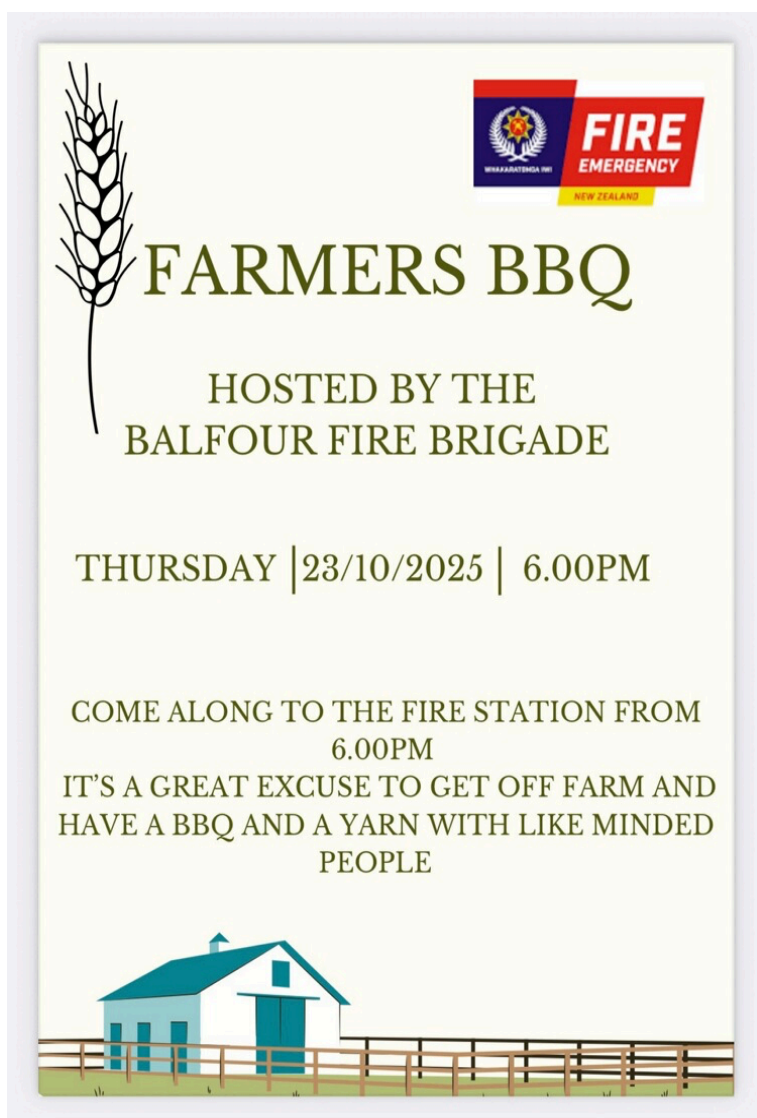
Starts **Wednesday, 15th of October**

From 15:30 - 16:45

At Waikaia School Artroom

To book your place:

Message 0210 655 067 or email
reanda.debeer@gmail.com



FARMERS BBQ

HOSTED BY THE
BALFOUR FIRE BRIGADE

THURSDAY | 23/10/2025 | 6.00PM

COME ALONG TO THE FIRE STATION FROM
6.00PM

IT'S A GREAT EXCUSE TO GET OFF FARM AND
HAVE A BBQ AND A YARN WITH LIKE MINDED
PEOPLE





TWILIGHT GOLF

RIVERSDALE GOLF COURSE

9 holes, 2 person fun ambrose

Starts Wednesday 30th October

Every Wednesday night

High School age and above

6pm tee off

\$5 entry

Everyone wins a prize

Come for a night of social golf

Queries: Debbie Schriek 0210462596

FOR SALE - RURAL DELIVERY MAIL RUN

Dipton / Balfour Area

Please phone Wayne on 03230617

Or 021464597



SOUTHERN ARTISAN CHRISTMAS *fete*



THE FOOD, THE FRIENDS AND THE SHOPPING – IT'S ALL THERE!



Saturday 22nd November
10AM – 4PM

Over 170 top quality artisan stallholders

Free parking on site

Live music

Restaurant on site plus a range of delicious food stalls & Pimms

Browse the beautiful gardens of The Hideaway 201 while shopping

\$20 entry or \$50 pre-ordered gourmet lunch box
New Caterer - Cannonhill Gourmet

Support local & New Zealand made!

Follow us **TheSouthernArtisanChristmasFete**

jane@southernfete.co.nz **southernfete.co.nz**

