RIVERSDALE SCHOOL
Inspiring Excellence

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5 November 2026 **Term 4 Week 4**

Kia Ora, Kamusta, Āyubōvan, Sata srī akāla, Namaskāra,
Hallå, Dia dhuit, Kam na mauri, Mālō e Lelei, Hello

Kia Ora Parents and Whānau,

We are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to our newest ākonga who started with us this week: Hunter, along with his parents Carma and Adrian, and Archie, along with his parents Kate and Jarrod. We are so pleased to have both boys and their whānau join our Riversdale School community!

Our school golfers gave us plenty to celebrate this week after an incredible performance on the course. A huge congratulations goes out to our Yellow team — Bayden, James, Crisen, and Sam — who played brilliantly to take out 1st place in the competition! Our Pink team of Jessie, Cooper, Jack, and Harry also put in a fantastic effort, showing great sportsmanship and determination to finish 6th overall. Ka pai, team! Both teams have qualified for the Southland Golf tournament coming up in two weeks, and we wish them all the very best as they prepare for the next round.

Tomorrow is one of the absolute highlights of our school calendar — Pet Day! We are all looking forward to seeing the wonderful animals, creative projects, and hard mahi our tamariki have put into preparing for the day. Make sure to bring your appetite along, as the Pool Committee will be running a BBQ to keep everyone fed, and the Home and School Committee will be hosting their annual Cake Auction. It is always a high-energy event and a delicious way to support our school.

While you are enjoying the pets and stalls tomorrow, please take a moment to pop over to the Board gazebo. Our Board of Trustees will be there and would love to have a casual chat to gather your thoughts, feedback, and ideas for our 2027–2028 strategic plan. Your input is vital in shaping the future direction of our school, so please do drop by and share your perspective.

We had a fabulous day with Chris Knight yesterday learning the fundamentals of Athletics. He will be back in two weeks to work with the older classes.

As a quick reminder for our bus families, if your child will not be on the bus in the morning, please remember to contact your driver directly.

As always, keep an eye on the Hero app calendar to stay up to date with upcoming dates and events.

Nga mihi,
Bronwyn, and the Riversdale Staff

Ngaua te pae hamuti

Rise to the challenge, get stuck in

Kei te pai - Well done! You all displayed the school values so well.

Certificates from Week 3



	STAR OF THE WEEK	Te Reo Māori Learner of the Week
Room 7	Kate	Lachie
Room 6	Indie	Max
Room 5	Harley	Ollie
Room 4	Joseph	Harley
Room 3	Blaire	Bryn
Room 2	Eli	Colton
Room 1	Charlie	Aiden

News from the Board

The new playground is on the way. We are expecting the ground preparation to be done near the end of November and the new playground to be installed during December - check out the plans on the staffroom window

on pet day.

Our new water bore will be drilled behind the Library near the end of November - please keep clear of the area once the job starts.

2027-28 Strategic planning will get underway at Pet Day - pop along to the gazebo and share your thoughts. Be in to win a $100 grocery voucher.

We are getting quotes for painting the exterior of the school to be completed sometime during 2027. All the broken weatherboards have been replaced ready for painting.

Coming Up….

Term 4 (keep an eye on the Hero Calendar)

6 November	Riversdale School Pet Day
7 December	Riversdale School Board meeting
14 December	Year 8 Graduation
16 December	Year 8 Fun Day
18 December	Last day of school for 2026

Term 1, 2027

2 February	First day of school 2027



The Riversdale School Golf Team



First Place Yellow Team



Sixth Place Pink Team

SchoolDocs
Policies and Procedures

Parents, Caregivers and Whanau are invited to visit the SchoolDocs site to read our school policies. Each term the Board reviews a number of policies and procedures. Parents, Whanau and Families are invited to read and make comment when these come up for review. To read any of our policies follow the steps below

To review policy documents:

1. Visit the website link: https://policies.schooldocs.co.nz/riversdale
2. Click into the *Parents Quick Links* tab to easily find the policy you require.

Riversdale School Flat
TO RENT

The board has a two bedroom attached flat to rent.

2 Bedrooms | Attached Flat | Riversdale

If you or you know of anyone who would like to rent this, please contact

Peter Johnson
027 251 3913

School Buses

Our four bus drivers are Jan Robertson, Michael Lobb, Craig Hamilton and Susanne Davis

Please inform the driver if your child is off the bus in the morning.

Jan Robertson – 027 6088203 (Waipounamu - Blue Bus)
Michael Lobb – 027 3725785 (Wendon - Green Bus)
Craig Hamilton - 027 6372583 (Kaweku - Yellow Bus)
Susanne Davis - 022 1363509 (Mandeville - Red Bus)

Please do not make any alternative arrangements with your child's bus driver without first checking with the school as our bus routes are set by the Ministry of Education and we are unable to go outside of our transport zone to drop students in different places. We are aware that some of our buses do travel past houses on the driver's way home, unfortunately this does not mean they are able to drop off students. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to be in touch with the school.

Pinecones For Sale

We still have heaps of bags of pineconces for sale. Winter is coming! If you would like to purchase pinecones, come on down and grab them from school. **They are 1x bag for $5 and 4x bags for $15.**



Heads Up: **Pet Day 6th November 2026**
For children who bring pets:

1. Calves entering from Rutland Street and are located by the swings.
2. Horses entering from Kent Street are located at the Kent St side of the rugby field.
3. Lambs entering from Rutland Street are by the rugby posts at Rutland St end.
   All these pets need to be tied up please (bring a standard or suitable trailer/vehicle/post to tie them to).
4. Dogs tied up on the tennis courts (with a water container and doggy poo bags).
5. Small pets in cages in the play shed.
6. Other animals (goats, pigs etc) are behind the play shed, entering off Kent Street.

Please see the map below.

We have lots of activities for all children to enter. **All children enter at least two hall events, as well as bringing a pet if they want to.** There is no need to return an entry form, as your child makes their entries at home. There will be entry forms in the school hall first thing in the morning for you to grab and pop on the entry details.

We will have a small break for lunch – but children can eat on the run between events, if we are running late. As always, please be prepared to bid generously on a fabulous cake for your family to enjoy. The cake auction is a big fundraiser for the Home and School. **Please ask your child's teacher if you have any questions about this day.**

There will be a BBQ available on the day from 11.30am. This is a swimming pool fundraiser. There will be buns, patties and coleslaw available along with other treats. **Please see attached flyer.**

There is also a coffee car on site from 10am.

Please let us and the bus driver know if your child will be off the bus in the morning.

Buses run as normal. Please advise your bus driver if your child is off the bus.

Be aware that times are approximate and you may need to be flexible with these on the day.

9.00–9.20am - children take entries to the hall and display them.

9.20 am	**All pets must be at school by this time.**
9.30 am	- **Hall closed for judging.** No children allowed in until 11am.
9.30 am	- Grand Parade – on the soccer field in front of the hall.
9.45 am	- Lamb Drinking race
9.50 am	- Pet/Human look alike competition (Pet & Human dressed up the same)
10 am	- All children go with pets for judging. Those without pets, please go and support a friend with a pet.
11am	- Hall open. Children do not remove certificates or any items please, or touch any of the displayed items.
11.30 am	- Cake auction

Short lunch break (BBQ available on the day, coffee car available from 10am)

12.30pm	- Bike events on the soccer field.
1.00pm	- Remote controlled car race.
1.30pm	- Ag Sports Teams event.

End of day – please collect up all your belongings and you may go home.

Schedule of Events – Students must enter at least two Hall events.

If the weather is wet, all Hall events will continue in the morning, but pet events will not occur.

Event Groups:

Years 0 – 2 Years 5-6
Years 3 – 4 Years 7-8

Note – Please complete the entry slip that will be in the hall. One slip to go with each entry. Attach to your entry face down and place that entry in the correct section in the school hall before 9.30am.

Event Groups:

Years 0 – 2 Years 5-6
Years 3 – 4 Years 7-8

Pony Events

⬜ Event 1 **Pony sack race** – please bring your own sack. Ride pony quarter way down the rugby field to the cones, dismount and get into the sack, and hop/jump while leading pony back to the finish line.

Pony Barrel race – ride pony halfway down the rugby field, around a desk, and back to the finish line.

☐ Event 2 Best presented pony.

Pets – Children to be able to answer questions orally and must be able to explain how they look after it. **Dogs must bring doggy-doo-doo bags**

☐ Event 3 Best presented pet lamb.
☐ Event 4 Best presented calf.
☐ Event 5 Best presented dog.
☐ Event 6 Best presented for any other animal (rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, fish, crocodiles etc.) other than the above, in or large animals e.g. goats behind the play shed.

Best Trained Pets The pets in this section need to show that they follow their owner's commands.

☐ Event 7 Best trained lamb – follows its owner.
☐ Event 8 Best trained calf – on a lead.
☐ Event 9 Best trained dog. Responds to 'sit' command. Walks with on lead for short distance. Other commands as shown to judges.

☐ Event 10 Lamb drinking race – 300ml milk in own bottle.
☐ Event 11 Pet Human Look Alike (Pet & Human dress the same)

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Hall Events (Children must enter at least two of these events)

The following sections will be judged in age groups. All entries are completed at home. All items below go into the hall.

Pet Diaries Without Pets

☐ Event 12 Diary/scrapbook kept by the child about their pet that is not at the show. (Great for cats rather than bringing them on the day).

Flowers

☐ Event 13 Y0 to Y2 and Y3 to Y4 – Sand Saucer. (Flowers arranged in a sand saucer)
☐ Event 14 Flowers in an unusual container.
☐ Event 15 Vase arrangement of flowers.
☐ Event 16 Environment/scene in sand (e.g. plastic dinosaurs in pre-historic times, farm scenes, barbie scene, beach scene, motocross etc).

Crafts and Novelty

☐ Event 17 Vegetable Animal.
☐ Event 18 An item made from recycled material.
☐ Event 19 Lego type (i.e. Duplo, Lego, Lego Technics, K'nex or similar construction equipment).
☐ Event 20 Best dressed doll.
☐ Event 21 Best dressed bear.
☐ Event 22 Best handcraft by child e.g. Sewing, knitting, cross-stitch

⬜ Event 23 Colouring Competition - given out at school and coloured in at school.

Baking

⬜ Event 24 Best Chocolate Cake (to be auctioned on the day)
⬜ Event 25 Chocolate chippie biscuits (3 on a plate)
⬜ Event 26 Best Decorated Cake (to be auctioned on the day.)
⬜ Event 27 Best other baked goods e.g. carrot cake, loaf (to be auctioned on the day.)
⬜ Event 28 Best decorated cupcakes (3 on a plate)

Wearable Art – Recycled Materials

⬜ Event 29 Wearable Art – display on a coat hanger or free standing.

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Bikes and remote controlled cars.

⬜ Event 30 Best decorated bike. (These are displayed around the elm tree on the front lawn).
⬜ Event 31 Slow bike race. (After lunch on back field) Children must have a helmet.
⬜ Event 32 Fastest bike races. (After lunch on back field) Children must have a helmet.
⬜ Event 33 Remote control car race.

Ag Sports Team of 3 - mixed ages – Years 4 - 8

⬜ Event 34 Put up an electric fence – 3 standards – and take it down





RIVERSDALE SCHOOL & COMMUNITY POOL

The Riversdale School and Community Pool is running a battery collection fundraiser. Collecting use car and machinery batteries. These will be on sold to be recycled. Helps clear the yard, while raising much needed funds for our pool. Please get in touch with Jo Russell 0273635768 for more info or collection.





RIVERSDALE SCHOOL
Home & School Association

BAKING MIXES - help needed packing

We will be packing baking mixes on Sunday 29th November and need helpers please!

For those that are new - it's putting flour/sugar etc into the baking mix bags. Everything is supplied and it's at the community hall in Riversdale.

Two sessions - afternoon 2-5pm and an evening session 6-8.30pm , but we're set up the whole time from 2pm onwards so plenty of flexibility in what works best for you - even if it's just an hour or so, everything helps! Senior school children are welcome to come help also.

Please RSVP on our facebook page or to Kelly-Anne 0274857877 so we can make sure we have enough people.

Thankyou!

Riversdale Beanies - $35

To order email riversdalehas@gmail.com

Facebook Page

Please join our Facebook page ‘Riversdale Home and School’ to keep up to date with all our latest info.

Thanks

Home & School Committee

Community Notices









