RIVERSDALE SCHOOL
Inspiring Excellence

28 Rutland St
PO Box 51
Riversdale 9744

Phone: 03 2025814
027 5553534
Email: office@riversdale.school.nz

23 October 2026

Term 4 Week 2

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

Kia Ora Parents and Whānau

As spring work continues across the paddocks and throughout our community, our tamariki have been putting fantastic effort into all areas of school life. It is wonderful to see our core values of Respect (Whakaute), Responsibility (Takohanga), and Resilience (Manawaroa) on display each day as our ākonga strive towards our vision of Inspiring excellence — Today's learners, Tomorrow's leaders.

A huge well done to all of our tennis players who competed recently. Special congratulations to Lexi, Jack, and Ashlyn, who have qualified to represent us at Southland next week! We are super proud of your hard work and determination. We also send our very best wishes to our 4 senior Golf teams heading off to Mossburn next Wednesday. Have a fantastic day on the course and represent Riversdale with pride!

Please keep the following notices and upcoming events in mind for the week ahead:

- **Labour Day:** School will be closed on **Monday** for Labour Day. We hope everyone gets to enjoy a safe, relaxing long weekend with whānau and friends.
- **School Photos:** Photos are taking place next **Friday**. Sibling photo requests online have now closed; if you missed booking, please pop into the school office to complete a paper form. Please note that all sibling photos involving preschoolers need to be at school by **8:30am** on Friday morning.
- **Riversdale School Pet Day:** Pet Day is coming up soon! Always a highlight on our rural calendar, detailed information and schedules will be shared below.
- **Pool Committee BBQ:** The Pool Committee will be running a BBQ fundraiser during Pet Day to support our community pool.
- Additionally, the **Pool Committee is running Pie Day Friday** starting on **13 November**. Order forms will be sent home next week, so keep an eye out for those!

Nga mihi,
Bronwyn, and the Riversdale Staff

He kuaka mārangaranga, kotahi manu e tau ki te tāhuna, tau atu, tau atu, tau atu

The godwits have swooped up into the air, one lands on the sandbank and the others follow (leaders and followers work together).

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

Certificates from Week 1



	STAR OF THE WEEK	Te Reo Māori Learner of the Week
Room 7	Campbell	Harry
Room 6	Archer	Crisen
Room 5	Toby R	Aroha
Room 4	Noah	Meila
Room 3	Freya	Aeron
Room 2	Isabella	Willa
Room 1	Arlo	Shriji

Coming Up….

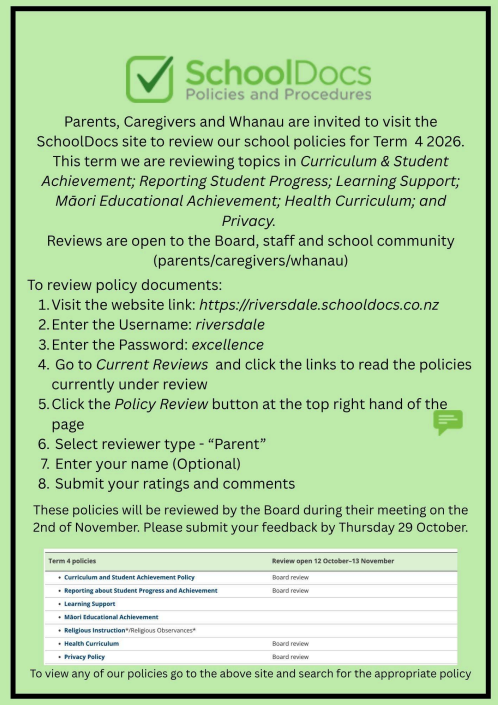
Term 4 (keep an eye on the Hero Calendar)

28th October	Golf Tournament at Mossburn
22nd October	Touch starts in Gore
26th October	Labour Day - school is closed
28th October	Golf Tournament
30th October	School Photos
2 November	Riversdale School Board meeting
6 November	Riversdale School Pet Day

7 December	Riversdale School Board meeting
14 December	Year 8 Graduation
18 December	Last day of school for 2026

Term 1, 2027

2 February	First day of school 2027



SchoolDocs
Policies and Procedures

Parents, Caregivers and Whanau are invited to visit the SchoolDocs site to review our school policies for Term 4 2026. This term we are reviewing topics in *Curriculum & Student Achievement; Reporting Student Progress; Learning Support; Māori Educational Achievement; Health Curriculum; and Privacy.*

Reviews are open to the Board, staff and school community (parents/caregivers/whanau)

To review policy documents:

1. Visit the website link: *https://riversdale.schooldocs.co.nz*
2. Enter the Username: *riversdale*
3. Enter the Password: *excellence*
4. Go to *Current Reviews* and click the links to read the policies currently under review
5. Click the *Policy Review* button at the top right hand of the page
6. Select reviewer type - "Parent"
7. Enter your name (Optional)
8. Submit your ratings and comments

These policies will be reviewed by the Board during their meeting on the 2nd of November. Please submit your feedback by Thursday 29 October.

Term 4 policies	Review open 12 October–13 November
• Curriculum and Student Achievement Policy	Board review
• Reporting about Student Progress and Achievement	Board review
• Learning Support	
• Māori Educational Achievement	
• Religious Instruction*/Religious Observances*	
• Health Curriculum	Board review
• Privacy Policy	Board review

To view any of our policies go to the above site and search for the appropriate policy

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.**

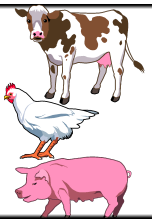
School Buses

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.



RIVERSDALE SCHOOL PET SHOW
TO BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON
Friday 6th November, 2026



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)

****

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.

****

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


Pet Day 2026
calf and sheep entry
Rutland St
Dogs tennis court
decorated bikes
Piversdale School
sheep
Berwick St
small animals
Rutland St
calves
horses
other animals
Horse and other animal entry
Hull St
hall entries
Kent St


RIVERSDALE
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY
POOL
SNACKS & DRINKS
PET DAY 2026
Sprite
MEAT PATTY & COLESLAW BUN
$6
LOLLY BAG
$2
CAN OF DRINK
$2

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

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

Junior Riversdale Golf

Children's golf will start on
Friday 23rd October @ 3.30pm until 4.45pm
at the Riversdale Golf Club.

Clubs and golf balls are provided
but children are welcome to bring their own.

For any enquiries, please call Debbie Schriek,
0210462596

RIVERSDALE TENNIS CLUB
AGM

Tuesday 27th October 2026
5pm

Hammond Davidson
69 Newcastle Street
Riversdale

All Welcome

Apologies to clarkeandmegan@huntlyfarm.co.nz





Riversdale Lions Club

CAR BOOT SALE

Entry $10 - Car or Stall
Also a Donation Stall

SATURDAY - 7 NOVEMBER at the Riversdale Community Carpark

From 10.00am to 2.00pm

Set-up Time:
From 8.30am

Refreshments Available....

BBQ ...
Run by the Lions Club ... Also ...
Cake Stall





Come along, grab a bargain and support great causes!!

CONTACT:
Bert Henson - Phone: 027 763 9538
OR
Rhys Houghton - Phone: 027 392 9687

Inside stalls in the Mavor Room
- $20 per stall -

Rural Support · beef+lamb new zealand · Forsyth Barr Investment Advice · Rabobank · Bayleys · Ballance

12TH NOV • 630PM

RIDE • YARN • RECHARGE

This months BBQ Sponsors:

ARGYLE STATION
UMBRELLA RANGE ANGUS

CHALLENGE!

REGISTER & RIDE INFO:
www.waikaiaforesttrails.co.nz/ruralriders

waikaia forest trails

RURAL RIDERS

A CHANGE OF GEAR



Skoodles Illustration

COLLABORATIVE FLORAL PAINTING Workshop



Book Now!
riversdalearts.co.nz



Riversdale Arts with Skoodles Illustration

10am-1pm
28th November
Riversdale Arts Centre

Collaboratively create a stunning floral art piece using pencils, paint and pastels

$40pp
All materials supplied

Riversdale Arts

Miss Reid's CRAFTS

MISS REID'S KID'S CREATE Workshop



Book Now!
riversdalearts.co.nz



Riversdale Arts with Miss Reid's Crafts

11am-12:30pm
29th November
Riversdale Arts Centre

Exclusively for Kids 5+ years!
Create a CHRISTMAS MASTERPIECE!

$45pp
All materials supplied

Riversdale Arts

Miss Reid's CRAFTS

Miss Reid's PAINT & SIP Workshop



2pm-4pm
29th November
Riversdale Arts Centre

BYO 18+
An adult creative session.

Relax with a paintbrush in one hand & a refreshment in the other!

Nibbles & art materials supplied **$75pp**

Book Now!
riversdalearts.co.nz

Riversdale Arts

Sara Cohen School

CENTENARY CELEBRATION 100 YEARS

1926-2026

Celebrating a Century of Education, Community, and Care

LUNCH INVITATION

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026
AT 12:30PM

TE WHIRIKA SCHOOL
38 RISELAW ROAD, CALTON HILL

JOIN US IN OUR CENTENARY YEAR

Celebrate

Email centenary@saracohen.school.nz
for more information

*Sara Cohen School is now proudly known as Te Whirika – Sara Cohen Specialist School.