



RIVERSDALE SCHOOL
Inspiring Excellence

Our School Values:

We are:

Respectful - Whakaute

Responsible - Kawenga

Resilient – Manawaroa

Our Well-being – Hauora, supports these.

Principal: Kay Stevens

Chairperson: Sonia

Phone: (03) 202 5814

E-Mail: office@riversdale.school.nz

30 March 2023

Riversdale School Newsletter – **Term 1 Week 8**

Tena Koutou Parents, Caregivers and Whanau.
Hello everyone,
Kia ora e hoa mā.

**Whakaute
Respect**

We had a lovely assembly yesterday to farewell Miss P, Max and Izzy from our school and community. It is a sad time for us, and them, but also a very exciting time. Tiffany has been with us, on and off, since 2006 when I employed her as a beginning teacher from her home in London, Ontario. We have seen Tiffany's development into being an expert teacher, and then leader within our school. We have been part of the journey when she had Max and Izzy. So much of your life story to date has been with us Tiffany, and we will miss you. We presented Tiffany with a gift voucher and flowers at the assembly on behalf of the Board, staff, Home and School, tamariki and all of you, our whanau, and know that she will get something lovely that will remind her of this school and community.

Respect people's feelings. Even if it does not mean anything to you, it could mean everything to them.

It was a pleasure to catch up with our athletes at the Southland Athletics on Saturday. The day was warm and fine, and the children performed amazingly well, with many achieving personal bests or placings. Top marks to Amanda Cruickshank 1st in Long Jump, and Isabella Houghton 1st in Shotput. Meila Scully achieved second place in the 1500m race. These are super achievements, as the competition at Southland is certainly much tougher than at Northern level. We are proud of everyone who competed there and did their best. Their results and some photos are at the end of this newsletter.

Board meeting news...

At its meeting on Monday 27 March the Board of Trustees discussed the following items:

- Our roll is currently 139 lovely tamariki. The Board approved the submission of the 1 March Roll return at 141 children.
- Teachers have been working with Lauren Latimer on literacy development and Raiha Johnson on cultural competency development. The Board contracts these private people to enhance the skills and knowledge of teachers, and this then impacts positively on their classroom practice. Both Lauren and Raiha are highly skilled in their fields, and the teachers are very grateful to the Board for this investment in their continued professional learning.
- The Board is working on the ERO School Improvement Framework in the area of Stewardship. Suzanne Lewis comes on 8 May to discuss this with Kay.
- Victoria Tremaine led the review of some legislative policies and procedures. The Board also minuted the new Minimising Physical Restraint policy, alongside two new policies: Reducing Student Distress and Acceptable Physical Contact.
- The Board confirmed the appointment of Georgia Callander to the Assistant Principal position. Congratulations Georgia, we are delighted to have you join the leadership team.
- The Board discussed staffing of Room 7 for Term 2, and Room 5 (1) for Term 3. They will advise whanau and tamariki as soon as possible about who the teacher of Room 1B (7) will be for Term 2.
- The Board has got a number of community businesses who have kindly agreed to sponsor the resurfacing of the netball/tennis/basketball courts. We really appreciate your support of this project.
- Sonia attended the Pool Committee meeting. Remember that this is run by volunteers, and if you have any time at all you can put your hand up to help out. The pool is having fire alarm, emergency exit and a switchboard upgrade done, and will be fundraising in the future to cover the costs associated with this.
- The principal appointment process is well underway, and the Board will keep you informed as this moves forward.
- The next meeting is Monday 22 May at 7pm in the staffroom.

Congratulations to our super swimming representatives who are off to Northern swimming at Te Anau tomorrow. A very [big thank you to Miss Stevenson for coaching the swimmers across the last few weeks. Jessica has given up lunchtimes to take our children for additional coaching sessions.](#)

The following children are competing tomorrow:

George Hammond, Rylan Dillon, Monty Tremaine, Ryan Wing, Jayden McLeay, Brendan McLeay, Hunter Mackey, Kieran Waite, Jaxson McCleery, Harrison McCleery, Meila Scully, Ruby Marshall, Nicole Polglaze, Lily Hawker, Georgia Martin, Ashlyn Dillon, Campbell Tremaine, Ella Johnstone, Bayden Waite and Sam Rossiter.

Coming Up....

31 March	Northern Swimming
4-6 April	Years 5 and 6 Camp
6 April	Last day of Term 1.
7 April	Good Friday. School holidays for the next two weeks.
Monday 24 April	Teacher Only Day.
Tuesday 25 April	ANZAC Day. We would like all children to attend the 10am service at the Riversdale Community Centre, as they perform in the school choir for the community at this very important community service.
26 April	First day of Term 2 for tamariki.

The students below received certificates for displaying the values of being respectful, resilient, and responsible, at Riversdale School, last week.

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

	Manawaroa-Resilience	Whakaute-Respect	Kawenga-Responsible
Room 1	<i>Mihai</i>	<i>Amelia</i>	<i>James</i>
Room 7	<i>Jahziah</i>	<i>Hazel</i>	<i>Odin</i>
Room 6	<i>Yuri</i>	<i>Emma H</i>	<i>Rubee</i>
Room 3	<i>Crisen</i>	<i>Daisy</i>	<i>Ruby</i>
Room 4	<i>Hayden</i>	<i>Skylar</i>	<i>Ollie</i>
Room 5	<i>Lawrence</i>	<i>Edmund</i>	<i>Meads</i>

School Buses

Our four bus drivers are Jan Robertson, Michael Lobb, Robin Sherratt and James Nicolson.

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

Jan Robertson – 027 6088203

James Nicolson – 027 2848816

Robin Sherratt – 021 2930631

Michael Lobb – 027 3725785

Attendance letters... my apologies if these caused you undue stress and anxiety. The Ministry of Education (and ERO) asks schools to monitor attendance – this is of special concern since Covid and the amount of lost learning across those times. The statistics sent to you included illness (justified), bereavement (justified) and events like sports events (justified) and dentist or eye appointments (also justified). If your child has had 3 or 4 sick days this term it will have put their absence at just less than 90%, and so you will have received the letter, but this is justified. Prolonged illness is a worry as it is hard for children to ‘catch up’ lost learning, and we would be in touch with you to try and help around this. What we really worry about is absence due to sleep-ins, staying at home for the day, holidays during term time, shopping trips etc. We want to make sure that your children make the most learning progress possible, and this is best done through consecutive days at school across the term. Thank you to those people who got in touch and asked questions or expressed their concerns around this letter. Hopefully this information is helpful.

Some of our amazing athletes who competed at Southland





Restricted to Open Fire Season

Kia ora koutou

From 8am on Wednesday, 29 March 2023, the Southland Fire District will move to an Open Fire Season. This means permits will no longer be required to light open air fires. This does however exclude plantation forests, Awarua Wetlands, and Department of Conservation land, which remain in a restricted fire season. A restricted fire season means a permit is required to light a fire in the open air. You can apply for a permit at www.checkitsalright.nz.

Fire lighters are still responsible for their fires and need to take care by checking conditions before lighting and ensuring they have adequate resources on hand to control their fires.

A post that we ask you to share can be found on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SouthlandFENZ>

Ngā mihi nui

On behalf of

Community Readiness & Recovery Team – Southland

E: SouthlandReadinessRecovery@fireandemergency.nz

W: www.fireandemergency.nz

46 Jed St Invercargill 9810

PO Box 192 Invercargill 9840

RIVERSDALE JUNIOR RUGBY

It's time to sign up for Junior rugby this year - please register at this link below for Riversdale Rugby Club.

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/riversdalerugby/registration-forms-1/junior-players>

Rugby will start Saturday 13th May 2023. Ripa and C grade play in Mossburn each week and B & A grade play in different locations each week.

Follow the Riversdale Junior Rugby Facebook page for more details.