



8 February 2024


Term 1 Week 1

Kia Ora Parents and Whanau

Welcome to the new school year. We hope you all got a summer break, relaxing in the sun. We have welcomed several new students and their families to our school community; Blake Sloane, Carter Wilson (and parents Julie and Gavin) and Amalia Trent (and parents Jordyn and Shannon). We have also welcomed new teachers Miss Keralee Marshall (in Room 7) and Mrs Jo Smith (in Room 5). This year we also have a student teacher working in the school 2 days per week in Room 1, Miss Alice Hishon.

On Monday 12th February, 10am, we are holding a Mihi Whakatau to welcome our new students and staff to Riversdale School. All parents are welcome to attend. A Mihi Whakatau is a Māori welcome similar to a powhiri on a marae, but less formal. We intend to do this twice a year to welcome our new families and staff. Please feel free to come along and stay for morning tea at the conclusion.

On Tuesday 20th February and Thursday 22nd February we are planning to hold Teacher/Student/Parent Conferences for parents to come in and talk with your child's teacher to share information, meet each other and develop a couple of goals to work on for the year. We do encourage you to bring your children along so they can become part of the decision making process. The teachers will be working with the students in class to discuss possible goals as well. Click this link <https://forms.gle/xphwQ4rdnnhgogfG7> to book in your 10 minute time slot.

This year we have moved to a new student management system called Hero. In this system we keep student information, parent contact details, check attendance and much more. This system is also a platform to communicate with parents. In the past we have used School Stream to send out notices, newsletter, alerts etc, and this will still be used till March of this year. This communication will now be done through Hero. We are still learning how to use it ourselves, so there are bound to be some teething problems. Also through Hero you can report student absences. We would encourage you to go to your App Store and download the Hero App 

- Search for **Hero by linc-ed** and download onto your phone
- Open up and type in your email address, click **next**
- Click **new user**. An email will be sent to set your password.
- Once set you will see your child's/children's photo and be able to access the parent portal.

If you have any difficulties please let us know and Miss McCall can help you out.

We are beginning our refresher Pause Breathe Smile lessons on Monday afternoons starting on the 12th of February, until the end of the term. Pause Breathe Smile is a healthy mind programme that teaches the students (and adults) ways of reducing anxiety and stress. It helps children to build self awareness, develop focused attention and to better cope with the normal ups and downs of life. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Coming up on the **29th of February are the Waimea Athletics**. This involves Riversdale, Balfour, Waikaia and Gartson (only their year 7&8s) Schools. We will all meet together at the Riversdale Sports ground on this date (1st March is our postponement day). Please save the date in your calendars and we will send out more information closer to the time. We will hold a working bee on Sunday 25th February at the grounds, time to be confirmed. We would appreciate helpers.

The new Government has recently communicated to us that there is a ban on students using cellphones at school. This has long been the policy at Riversdale School, but we would like to remind parents and students that cellphones are not necessary at school. If you need to contact your child throughout the day you can do so through the school office. We understand that there are times when your child may need to bring their phone to school, especially if there are afternoon sports/cultural activities. If they do bring them the phone is to stay in the school bag for the entirety of the day, or be handed in to the office to be picked up at 3:00pm. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Our School has a sun protection policy that requires students to wear sun hats when outside during Terms 1 and 4 when the sun is at its fiercest. These hats are to be either brimmed (bucket hat style) or a legionnaires style, with flaps down the back to cover the ears and neck. Caps are not acceptable sun hat protection. Please ensure all students have their hats at school every day. We have a number of shade spaces around the school where students can get respite from the heat and sun. Even on cloudy days the UV intensity can be high.

We also require our students to wear their hi-vis safety vests to and from school daily. When your child enrolls at Riversdale School the Home and School gift a vest, once that is too small or needs to be replaced this is a family responsibility. These can either be purchased from the Home and School for \$10 (cash only) or at Southern Workwear. Please ensure you help us to keep your children safe.

As always if you have any concerns regarding your child at school please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. If the matter needs further discussion then the principal will be brought into the conversation. We want to partner with you in your child's education, when we can talk about small things and resolve them we can stop big situations or issues from happening.

Nga mihi,

Bronwyn and the Riversdale Staff

Coming Up....

Term 1

10 February	Mihi Whakatau, school hall 10am
12 February	Year 7 & 8 Manual starts
20 & 22 February	Meet the Teacher/Goal Setting Conferences
25 February	Athletics working bee
29 February	Waimea Athletics
4-8 March	REAP Water Safety lessons - week 1
12-14 March	Life Education Bus visit
13 March	Northern Zone Athletics

18-22 March	REAP Water Safety lessons - week 2
24 March	Southland Athletics
26 March	Community Assembly 1:30-3:00pm
28 March	Northern Swimming Sports
29 March - 2 April	School closed for Easter break
4 April	Farm Safety Day with Waikaia and Otama Schools
12 April	Term 1 ends
25 April	ANZAC Day
29 April	Term 2 begins
29 April - 3 May	Year 7&8 Deep Cove Camp

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

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.

Scholastic Book Club Pamphlets

Due to the school no longer dealing with cheques and cash for this, you will have to order online please. The books will still come to school and we will hand them out as before. Remember if you want them as a gift to indicate on the form and we will phone you when they arrive.

SCHOOL VESTS

The Home & School provide each new student at Riversdale School with a vest.

If you need to replace yours - they are now available to purchase in a range of sizes from Mrs Mann in the school office for \$10 (cash payments only).



Country Schools Netball 2024

We are getting ready for another season of Netball!

Year 7 and 8s, boy's and girl's welcome!

We will also allow 1 Year 6 player. Please submit your interest should you child wish to be considered for this spot.

Games are held at the MLT Event Centre in Gore Saturdays from April through to August 2023

If your child is interested in playing Netball this year, please contact me for more information or to submit your interest.

Melissa 027 537 2483 or email

melissa.jeremy@outlook.co.nz



Community Notices

RIVERSDALE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY POOL

POOL FUNDRAISER

Food wrap	300m x 33cm = \$24
	600m X 33cm = \$36
Roll foil	90m x 44cm = \$23
	150m x 30cm = \$23
Baking Paper	100m X 30cm = \$31

Bank Account: 03-0915-0285905-00

Available from the school office.



PRIMARY SCHOOL GOLF

Our “School Pupils” Golf Club will begin again on Friday 9th February. 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.

Sessions 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.

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 at 021 2037547.

Kind regards
Stuart Riordan

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PARADE & MARKET DAY

HEADLINE ACT - THE TOPP TWINS

2ND MARCH 2024
GATES OPEN 10AM
ADULTS \$10 CASH AT GATE | KIDS/TEENS FREE

WINDING TRAILS TO
WAIKAIA
CAVALCADE 2024

GRAND CAVALCADE STREET PARADE 12 NOON . CRAFT STALLS .
LICENCED BAR . LIVE ENTERTAINMENT DURING THE DAY FROM TOPP TWINS, KAYLA
MAHON & HALTON HART. COWBOY CHALLENGE . KANINE KAOS . FOOD STALLS

FREE KIDS ENTERTAINMENT
PONY RIDES | FACEPAINTING | BOUNCY CASTLES | GAMES!

Catalyst
Performance
Agronomy

Community
Trust South
TE POU ARATAKI POUNAMU O MURIHIKU

jolly
elephant
DESIGN STUDIO

WWW.WAIKAIA.CO.NZ | FACEBOOK: WAIKAIA CAVALCADE 2024

Creative Connections - Term 1

Metal Embossing & Mix Medium - Textured Art

METAL EMBOSsing - LEARN THE ART OF EMBOSsing AND DEBOSSING ON METAL. DESIGN YOUR OWN PATTERN OR BRING A CHOSEN PICTURE ALONG AND CREATE YOUR OWN UNIQUE ART PIECE.

MIX MEDIUM TEXTURE ART - LEARN TO USE AND PUT TOGETHER VARIOUS MEDIUMS LIKE PAINT, PASTE, MATERIALS, PICTURES AND OTHER ITEMS TO BE EXPRESSIVE AND CREATIVE TO DESIGN YOUR OWN PIECE OF ART.



DATES:

8, 15, 22, 29 FEB
7, 14, 21, 28 MARCH
4 APRIL

6.30PM - 8.30PM

SOUTHERN REAP 6 FAIRFIELD ST, GORE

\$50 FOR THE 9 WEEKS



To enrol for these fun & relaxed lessons,
please phone Southern REAP: 0800 111 117 or email: info@reap.co.nz

INVERCARGILL MUSICAL THEATRE

presents

nickelodeon

THE
**SPONGEBOB
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youth
edition

14 - 16 MARCH 2024

CIVIC THEATRE INVERCARGILL

TICKETEK



SOUTHLAND A&P SHOW

Saturday 2nd March
Donovan Park



SCARECROW Creations

Are you needing something creative to add to your term one planner? Sections include: Preschool, Year 0-4 & Year 5-13. Check out our schedule of classes online to see further details!



HOME Industries

Be sure to check out the attached schedule of classes, there is literally something for everyone to be involved in!



COLOURING Competition

Our colouring competitions are on our website for children to complete if they wish. The children must bring them along to the show so please encourage them to do this!



For more information check out our website
www.southlandapshow.co.nz



Find us on Facebook

FUN TIMES FOR
7 - 10
YEAR OLDS

I am ME WORKSHOP

Discover your unique strengths and
what goals you are going to score in 2024

SATURDAY 17TH FEB
\$75 FOR 5 HOURS 10 - 3PM

VENUE GORE

To book contact

clairewarren75@hotmail.com

