



**RIVERSDALE SCHOOL**  
Inspiring Excellence

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16th October 2025

**Term 4 Week 2**

**Kia Ora, Kamusta, Āyubōvan, Sata srī akāla, Namaskāra,  
Hallå, Dia dhuit, Kam na mauri, Hallo, Hello**

Kia Ora Parents and Whānau,

We love photos day! Thanks to all those that came promptly this morning for family photos.

You may have noticed 3 large containers sitting out by our Hull St entrance. These are filled with materials for our latest building project that starts on Monday, and will last for a couple of weeks. All classes will be getting new lights, electrical sockets, acoustic panels and insulation over the next couple of weeks. This will mean a bit of disruption as the students will need to move out of their classes for a couple of days while the work is being carried out. While out of their classes they will either be in the Library or the Hall. As much as we can we will keep disruptions to a minimum.

A reminder that the school will be closed on Thursday as Education staff, both Primary and Secondary, go on strike to press our collective employment contracts to provide high quality education for all our tamariki | children. For more information please see below.

From Monday 20th October it will be compulsory for the students to wear their sunhats when outside either at break times or for outdoor lessons. Sunhats must have a brim all the way around to shade their faces, ears and neck, caps are not acceptable. [To read our policy click here.](#)

Coming up on Monday is the Northern Golf Tournament. All participants and managers have received information via Hero. On Tuesday the Junior Speeches will be held. Check in with your child's teacher on timings so you can pop in and watch your child.

Don't forget to get your pool key and renew your subscription for the 2025/26 season. Key fobs are available at Austins. A huge thank you to the Pool committee for the enormous amount of work done to get the pool ready for the new season.

Because of the strike day next Thursday there will be no newsletter next week.

Have a wonderful weekend.

*Nga mihi nui,  
Bronwyn and the Riversdale Staff*

Tini whetū ki te rangi, he iti te pōkēao ka ngaro  
A small cloud overhead will obscure the stars  
A small group can overcome the multitude, can overcome a myriad of difficulties

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

Certificates from Term 4 Week 1



|        | Manawaroa<br>Resilience   | Whakaute<br>Respect | Kawenga<br>Responsible | Te Reo Māori Learner of<br>the Week |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Room 7 | Jaxson                    | Ashlyn              | Leyana                 | Lexi                                |
| Room 6 | Aria-Lea                  | Emma H              | Grayson                | Grayson                             |
| Room 5 | All the Year 5&6s on Camp |                     |                        |                                     |
| Room 4 | Hadley                    | Leigh               | Jack J                 | Kaiden                              |
| Room 3 | Resandi                   | Lawrence            | Meads                  |                                     |
| Room 2 | Dejh                      | Callum              | Scout                  | Sophie                              |
| Room 1 | Mitchell                  | Colton              | Hugo                   | James                               |

## Coming Up....

### Term 4

|                 |                                             |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 20 October      | Northern Golf                               |
| 21 October      | Junior (years 0-5) Speeches                 |
| 23 October      | Teachers/Support Staff/Principal Strike day |
| 27 October      | Labour Day                                  |
| 12 November     | Room 3 & 4 Glow worm trip                   |
| 17 November     | Rotary Young Achievers                      |
| 20 November     | Community Assembly                          |
| 21 November     | Athletics with Chris Knight                 |
| 25 November     | Earthquake Simulator                        |
| 1 December      | Board meeting, 7pm, staffroom               |
| 15 December     | Year 8 Graduation Night                     |
| 19 December     | Last day of school                          |
| 9 February 2026 | First day of Term 1                         |

## Education Strike Day

You may have seen in the news that educators across Aotearoa are taking part in a historic national strike on **Thursday 23rd October**. For the first time, principals, teachers, support staff, and Ministry specialists (including both Primary and Secondary school) are standing together to call for better support in schools, fair pay, and the resources our tamariki need to thrive. It is important to note that this action is about more than just pay. Health, Education, and Emergency Services are key pillars of our society, and they are all under-funded and under-resourced. Pay is important, but our schools, like hospitals and frontline services, are not failing because of the people working in them. They are struggling because they are not being given the real investment needed to meet the needs of our communities. In education, this means making sure tamariki have the support of a teacher aide in every classroom, valuing educators fairly and giving them secure work, upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in education, and defending quality early childhood education. These things alone would go a long way to relieving pressure on the education system, and on my role as a Principal. At Riversdale School, our focus will always remain on caring for our students and ensuring they are safe and supported. On the day of strike action, our school will be closed for instruction. We encourage families to make alternative arrangements for the care of your children. We understand that this may cause disruption, and we thank you for your understanding and support. The decision to take this action is not made lightly, but it reflects the seriousness of the challenges facing education, and the urgent need for change.

## **News From The Riversdale School Board**

On Tuesday night the Board had its first meeting with our new members. At the meeting our Presiding Member (chairperson) Sonia Dillon tendered her resignation from the board. Sonia has been on the Riversdale School board for 11 years and has been a faithful member of the team. We thank her for her service, wisdom and insight in the years she has been on the Board.

The Riversdale School Board's new Presiding Member is Victoria Tremaine. We look forward to working together. The other portfolios were also decided: Property - Peter Johnstone, Finance and Self Review - Sarah Crooks, and Health and Safety - Gemma Sloane.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Gavin Tayles who was on our Board for 9 years. Gavin, like Sonia, brought much wisdom and insight to this governance role and served this school community faithfully.

The Board, in conjunction with the Home and School, are going to replace the Biig Adventure playground over the coming months. This is a big task with step 1 being removing the old play structures. The students are being asked for their ideas about what the new playground will look like. A sub-committee including members of the Board, Staff and Home and School will be set up to lead this project.

While the playground is going to be taken down we will use this opportunity to make some running repairs to the flying fox.

The Board is also going to organise a working bee for later this term to give the grounds a good clean up before the end of the year. Keep an eye out for the date in upcoming newsletters - many hands make light work!

Below are the policies that will be reviewed this term. Feel free to have a look and send through any comments or suggestions.

The next Board meeting will be on Monday 1st December, 7pm in the staffroom.



Parents, Caregivers and Whanau are invited to visit the SchoolDocs site to review our school policies for Term 4 2025. This term we are reviewing topics in Health, Safety and Welfare Policy section.

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

| Term 4 policies                                         | Review opens 6 October |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • <b>Bullying and Harassment</b>                        | Board review           |
| • <b>Behaviour Management</b>                           | Board review           |
| • <b>Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property</b> |                        |
| • <b>Minimising Physical Restraint</b>                  | Board review           |
| • <b>Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion</b>          |                        |
| • <b>Staff Wellbeing and Safety</b>                     |                        |

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

**Congratulations Georgia Martin for winning the New Zealand Country Music Association Junior Entertainer of the Year in Tauranga at the end of the school holidays.**



### **School Buses**

**Our four bus drivers are Jan Robertson, Michael Lobb, Rhonda Wilson and Anne Brown**  
**Please inform the driver if your child is off the bus in the morning.**

Jan Robertson – 027 6088203

Michael Lobb – 027 3725785

Rhonda Wilson - 027 2578895

Anne Brown - 027 2085448

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

Home & School Association

### HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm in the staff room.

We're starting the journey toward a new playground and need our school community input for ideas to make it happen. Fresh ideas and new faces are welcome – we'd love to see as many of you as possible to help put together a 2026-27 fundraising plan for this project.

### BAKING MIXES

Order forms went home with children this week. Please support our biggest fundraiser for 2025! Email [riversdalehas@gmail.com](mailto:riversdalehas@gmail.com) if you didn't get a form and we can send one through.

RIVERSDALE HOME & SCHOOL

# Baking Mixes

Each pack contains the dry ingredients for the recipe...simply add the wet ingredients e.g. butter/eggs – so easy and delicious!

CHOCOLATE BROWNIE – PANCAKES – CITRUS YOGHURT CAKE  
FRUIT MUFFINS – BANANA LOAF – CHOC CHIP BISCUITS

Plus Our Deluxe Pack this year – SEED CRACKERS!  
Delicious crispy crunchy crackers full of seeds! \$13/pack



Orders Close Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October

\$8 EACH  
OR  
3 FOR \$23



### Home & School Fundraiser

### RIVERSDALE BEANIES – \$33

*\$3 from each beanie goes to Home & School*

To order email [riversdalehas@gmail.com](mailto:riversdalehas@gmail.com)

*\*Comes with a second beanie that was misprinted RIVESDALE*

## 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).



## Community Notices

### New Price List as of 7 October 2025



Baking Paper 100m x 30cm.....\$35

Roll Foil 90m x 44cm.....\$30

Roll Foil 150m x 30cm.....\$30

Food Wrap 300m x 33cm.....\$26

Food Wrap 600m x 33cm.....\$36



Use Description and Last Name as reference

Payment to: 03 0915 0285905 00

# Childrens Golf

## Friday after School

Childrens golf will start on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October , @ 3,30pm, at the Riversdale golf club, until 4.45pm.

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

For any enquiries please call Debbie Schriek, 0210462596



### **TWILIGHT GOLF**

#### **RIVERSDALE GOLF COURSE**

**9 holes, 2 person fun ambrose**

Starts Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> 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

## **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**



*Gore Musical Theatre Presents*  
*2025 Theatre Restaurant*  
*ALPHABET SOUP*

Location: Gore Town & Country Stadium  
14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd Nov 2025  
Start 7:00pm

This school has it all: cringeworthy names, a principal's explosive clash with a student, teachers desperate to escape, an arson attempt, toilet humour, a camp where everyone seems high, mean girls with ugly personalities, cheerleaders with a secret weapon—and a climactic fight scene with a twist.

Adult: \$75.00 | Table of 8: \$600.00  
[www.iticket.co.nz/events/2025/nov/gmt-alphabet-soup](https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2025/nov/gmt-alphabet-soup)

**ITICKET**