



BALMACEWEN
INTERMEDIATE

BALMACEWEN NEWS

MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2009
TERM 1 - No. 2

Newsletter Kindly sponsored by
"Back in Motion"

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We've had a fantastic first week!

The school has been full of excitement and anticipation as everyone gets used to their new surroundings.

Well done to all Year 7 students for the start they have made. Already we have been very impressed by the friendly and cooperative attitudes on display.

I look forward to seeing you all at our **Meet the Teacher** evening next Wednesday 11 February 7 - 8pm.

As always, if you have any concerns or issues to discuss, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards, Andrew Hunter

YEAR 8 NEWS

Kia Ora Families and Friends of our Year 8 Students.

This first week has whizzed by and everyone is refreshed and looking forward to this term's programme. Our major focus for this term is our integrated topic 'Survivor!'

Highlights of this integrated unit will be:

1. Visiting the Portobello Aquarium to study a sea community for our science focus.
2. Holding a School Powhiri where the Year 8 Students, as leaders of the school, welcome the Year 7 Students
3. Having a triathlon where all students will participate, either in a team or as an individual.

Further newsletters will follow outlining the specifics of our Year 8 trips this term.

The important focus questions we will be referring to throughout this term are...
What are our changing roles and expectations? And
How and why do the fittest survive?

We look forward to working with you in your child's schooling this year, and discussing our class programmes at the **Meet the Teacher Evening** is a fantastic way to begin this process.

Kind Regards
Year 8 Staff

TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE PILATES

You and a friend can both try a Pilates session at one of our Studios



10% of the proceeds will go back to your school!



YEAR 7 NEWS

A big welcome to the Year 7 students for 2009. The students have made a great start to the term and are settling nicely in to their new classrooms. They are also looking very smart in their uniforms.

This term will be action packed with a range of activities planned for both the teachers and the pupils to get to know each other.

Year 7 classes are heading off to camp this term, which is always a lot of fun. Shortly you will receive a camp newsletter highlighting your child's camp details to Waihola. This will be a tremendous opportunity for the students to get to know each other.

Our topic for this for term is 'Identity' where we will be learning about ourselves and our past. We have also planned excursions to the Early Settlers Museum to extend our learning.

We look forward to catching up with you all at Meet the Teacher and hopefully will see lots of you out at camp.

Charlotte Cooper

SCHOOL HOURS

8.50 a.m. Class - Session 1
10.25 a.m. Interval
10.45 a.m. Class - Session 2
12.15 p.m. Lunch
1.10 p.m. Class - Session 3
3.00 p.m. School finishes

2007 TERM DATES

Term 1 = Monday 2 February to Thursday 9 April
Term 2 = Monday 27 April to Friday 3 July

Term 3 = Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September

Term 4 = Monday 12 October to mid December (TBC)

SCHOOL DONATION

Unfortunately an oversight went home in the last newsletter. The quarterly payments were set at \$18.50, this should have read as \$20 over the four terms. Our apologies if we have created any confusion.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

The school canteen is open from 8.30 - 9.00 a.m. so children can order a hot lunch. It is then open at interval and from 12.25 - 12.45 p.m. so children can purchase items. Prices of items have been sent home via class teachers.

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP CHILDREN

Chapman Street is very busy before and after school. Please take care and avoid those dotted yellow lines. We would suggest that the best place to pick up your child would be at the Kaikorai Rugby Football Club car park. This would easily be the safest and easiest place to collect your child.

HOMEWORK

It is normal for our students to be given approximately 30 minutes per night. This work is usually a mix of known theme work and retention and practice. If you would not like your child to receive homework then please contact your child's teacher.

TERM CALENDER

11 Feb = Meet the teacher evening
11 Feb = Year 8 Camp Meeting
11 Feb = Room 23 and 2 Golf Lessons
13 Feb = Itinerant Music Teachers Assembly

16 - 18 Feb = Room 1 Camp
18 - 20 Feb = Room 7 Camp
17 Feb = Room 5, 13, 10 Golf Lessons
18 Feb = Room 3 and 9 Golf Lessons
19 Feb = Motivational Speaker
23 - 25 Feb = Room 5 Camp
25 - 27 Feb = Room 3 Camp
25 Feb = Room 6 and 7 Golf
2 - 4 March = Room 24 Camp
4 - 6 March = Room 10 Camp
9 - 11 March = Room 11 Camp
11 - 13 March = Room 13 Camp
13 March = School Swimming Sports
28 March = Year 8 Triathlon
10 April = Good Friday

SCHOOL HOUSES

We have 4 school house, these are Lynn - Yellow, Chapman - Blue, Shetland - Red and Highgate - Green. Each child will be placed into a house and compete for the sports shield in a range of events. Every Friday after assembly we have house sports and the first major event will be the school swimming on 13 of March. The houses are to encourage children to mix and meet children from other classrooms and year groups.

MUSIC

Students will be bringing home a notice next Friday about the options available for learning musical instruments at school. Students will also be given the chance to sign up for a range of cultural groups such as the school choir (all-comers choir), special choir (audition only), orchestra and Kapa Haka group over the coming week.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Each Friday at 1.15pm we have a school assembly which gives each class an opportunity to share the wonderful work they are doing. We would love to see

parents and caregivers join us for these occasions.

WEB SITE and RED TOP TV

The Balmacewen website www.balmacewen.school.nz has a wealth of information on it. It has an up to date calendar, students' work can be viewed in the art gallery, classroom activities can be found in the blog link, if your child should lose the newsletter which comes out on the last Friday of each month then these can be found here. For the last two years we have had our own television station, Red Top TV. All of last year's and this year's episode can be found on the Red Top TV link.

We hope to have online soon our curriculum topics that we cover so that you can see the topics that your child is learning.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

At Balmacewen we are aware of our responsibility to the environment. Classes are encouraged to recycle and also take on community work. We have been actively involved in water quality testing and developing the Kaikorai Common. We have invested heavily in ICT equipment not only to improve your child's learning but also to reduce the huge amount paper and most importantly paper which ends up in the bin.

We would encourage you to consider receiving the monthly newsletter via email. If you would like to receive future newsletters digitally then please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and give it to your child's teacher.

SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

These are taking place during the 17th and 19th of March. Information will come home later.

CHAT BUS

Balmacewen Intermediate offers a counselling service to our students. Averil Pierce, a qualified counsellor and teacher, runs the "Chat Bus" for students to have a private and confidential chat about issues they may be facing. The "Chat Bus" runs on Mondays 1.30-3pm, Wednesdays 9.30-12.00 and Fridays 9.30-12.00. You can contact Averil at chatbustrust@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC CLASSES

Enrolments are now being taken for classes at George St Normal School, Macandrew Intermediate and Elmgrove School.

Times:

George Street Normal 9.30 - 11.30am Saturday 7th February

Macandrew Intermediate 9.30 - 11.30am Saturday 7th February

Elmgrove School 3.30 - 4.30 Wednesday 11th February

GYMNASTIC COACHING COURSES

Our gymnastic club, Northern Gymnastic Club, is hosting a weekend of coaching courses in March. These courses would be great for school's to participate in who run gymnastics as part of their physical education programme.

All of the information is included in the

flyers which may be obtained from your school office.

The courses are great at introducing gymnastics basics or solidifying current knowledge. Most people decide to do both courses in one weekend, but as neither the Recreation Course or Starting Out in Coaching have prerequisites you may decide to just do one of the courses.

Contact Elise Williamson for further information about the course content:

elisewilliamson@gymsportsnz.com.

The forms must be returned to Northern Gymnastic Club by Friday 20th of February at 5p.m.

Thank you, Erin Day
Head Coach, Committee Member
Northern Gymnastic Club

Anglicanfamilycare Manaaki whanau

CAREGIVERS WANTED

Have you got room in your family for one more?

Anglican Family Care urgently needs caregivers to provide short term and respite care for children and young people 0-16 years who for a variety of reasons need time out from their home situations.

Quality training and support are provided. Remuneration by way of a Board Payment.

For more information please contact:
Ginnie Ravell on 03 477 0801.

I would be happy to receive the newsletter via Email.

Name _____ Class _____

Signed _____