



BALMACEWEN  
INTERMEDIATE

## BALMACEWEN NEWS

Wednesday 13th MARCH 2009  
TERM 1 - No. 3

Newsletter Kindly sponsored by  
**"Back in Motion"**

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We are halfway through Term One already! By now I hope your child is becoming well settled into the routines of their classroom. Coming up you will have a chance to meet your child's teacher for an interview. This is an opportunity to discuss early progress and share information that will assist your child in their learning. If you have not received an interview notice please contact school.

Thank you to all parents and helpers who have assisted with class outings and camps so for this term. We couldn't do these activities without your support!

I am very pleased with the early efforts of all students both in and out of the classrooms and look forward to the many exciting events still to come this term.

As always, please contact me if you would like to discuss any issues or concerns.

Kind regards, Andrew Hunter.

## REFLECTIONS

### YEAR 8 NEWS

Kia Ora and welcome to all Year 8 friends and families. All Year 8 classes have been building positive relationships with one another and the children have settled in really well with their new class and routines.

A big thank you to all the parents and caregivers who helped with our Year 8 Class visits to the Portobello Aquarium. The students particularly enjoyed the squid dissection and the opportunity to get up close to numerous rocky shore creatures. This trip has provided a fabulous opportunity to investigate our topic in an out of school context.

The Dates for our Year 8 Berwick Camps are:

#### Term 1

Week 9 - 30<sup>th</sup> March - 3<sup>rd</sup> April Room 23

#### Term 2

Week 3 - 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May Room 2

Week 4 - 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May Room 9

Week 5 - 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May Room 6

#### Term 3

Week 6 - 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> August Room 4

Week 8 - 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> September Room 8

Week 9 - 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> September Room 14

This outdoor experience is sure to be a major highlight of your child's time at Balmacewen. The cost of this week at camp is \$125, which can be paid off at the school office. If you are experiencing difficulty with the cost of this activity then please contact Mr. Hunter, as it is our wish that all students take part in this activity.

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Our next major event is the Year 8 Triathlon. A detailed newsletter should be at home with all the relevant information regarding this activity. Once again your assistance in providing your child with a range of experiences is required. Please return the permission slip and indicate whether you can help transport bikes. All students get a buzz out of completing a triathlon, whether individually or as part of a team.

Thanks once again for all your support.

Year 8 Staff.

### 2009 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 16 December

### TERM CALENDER

18 March = Room 8 & 4 at Golf

19 March = Room 10 at Settlers Museum

19 March = Southland Boys and Girls Exchange

19 March = HPV Vaccinations

**23 March = School Closed, Otago Anniversary Day**

25 March = Room 24 and 1 Golf Sessions

28 March = Year 8 Triathlon

30 March = Room 5 at Settlers Museum

30 - 3 April = Room 23 at Camp

1 April = HPV Vaccination Follow Up

10 April = Good Friday

### INDIVIDUAL SUCCESSES

It has been wonderful to see so many students perform admirably in a variety of outer school activities.

#### South Island Colgate Games

Meg McKay - Gold Medal Relay  
- Silver High Jump  
- Bronze Walk Race

Chris McNoe-Gold - Medley Relay  
-Gold - 800m  
-Silver - 1500m  
-Silver - Shot Putt  
-Silver - 4x100m Relay

Zak Watt -Gold - Medley Relay  
-Silver - 4x100m Relay

Josh Vou -Silver - Hurdles  
-Silver - 4x100m Relay

Lilly Purdon -Bronze - 4x100m Relay

Sydney Evans-Tobata - Bronze 4x100m

Sam Angus -Silver - 4x100m Relay

Sophie Russell- Gold - Medley Relay

Josh Askin - represented Otago at National Squash Champs in Whakatane and came 2<sup>nd</sup>

Bailey Brandham - Otago Surf Champions= 1st in Board Race, 1st in Surf Swim, 1st in Diamond (Swim & Board!) 1st in Tube Rescue, 1st in Board Relay, 1st in Beach Relay

Mitchell Finnie - Otago Softball U13  
Aleisha Ruske - Otago Swimming Rep at Junior Nationals

Daniel Cleminson - Otago Badminton U15

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<b>1</b> session feel different	<b>6</b> sessions look different	<b>20</b> sessions be different
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## FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

The students of Balmacewen were very lucky to have the cast from the Dunedin production of **High School Musical** join us today for assembly. They discussed their personal journeys into the arts and they even got the whole school dancing. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month, Room 23 will be presenting the assembly.

## WEB SITE and RED TOP TV

Most of the classes have set up their blogs with many having some great examples of student work and the programmes which are being run. Red Top TV has also started producing episodes. This year we have 9 people involved in Red Top TV and they are thoroughly looking forward to bringing you all of the events at school. These can both be found at [www.balmacewen.school.nz](http://www.balmacewen.school.nz)

## SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The School Dental Service main office (and all of Public Health South) has moved from Hanover Street, Dunedin, to Main Block, Level 2, Wakari Hospital, Taieri Rd, Dunedin 9010. The phone numbers are: Manager 476 9896, Admin. Asst 476 9835 and Snr Public Health Dentist 476 5836.

## THANK YOU

A big thank you to Greg Fox at the Country Cobbler in Mornington for repairing our guitar cases free of charge.

## UP COMING EVENTS

### OTAGO ANNIVERSARY DAY

The school will be observing Otago Anniversary Day on March 23 and therefore will be closed.

### SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

These are taking place during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of March.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

It is an exciting time at Balmacewen at the moment with many programmes getting into full swing. Not least of these is the School Council. Each class has elected a representative with a deputy to assist and the meetings are underway. In conjunction with the School Council a Gifted and Talented Leadership initiative has commenced which is designed to assist the council members in coming to terms with their new roles. This initiative culminates with the Young Leaders Conference to which the Council has been invited in the second term.

Tony Martin

### GIFTED AND TALENTED

Other Gifted and Talented initiatives which have started are in the areas of Drama and Hip Hop Dance. Both of these initiatives are now fully underway and are proving to be highly successful in challenging the students involved as they prepare for major public performances. Noted author, Sandy McKay, has generously written a play specifically for the students of Balmacewen to perform. We have enlisted the talented Sylvia Duff to direct along with Susan Frame and Sue Mepham as musical directors.

Tony Martin

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## STUDENTS WORK

### *In the dark...*

*My partner and I snuck around the corner of the hall and hid behind Ms. Downie's car as a parent walked past. We waited 'till the coast was clear and we ran like two leopards bounding through the night and lay down in the sandpit. The sand scraped my face, as I waited my partner hid behind a nearby tree. Then there was a snap of a twig and the cracking of dead leaves we saw a bright light I drew in a sharp breath and held it. My heart was pounding so hard I was surprised it did not give us away. The light came closer and closer and closer and closer and a person emerged from the shadows,*

*"Hello?"*

*"Ben!" my partner whispered urgently,*

*"Keep it down!"*

*I sighed in relief as he walked out of sight. We turned to go back checked the way and ran like two sneaky fox's. The night was as black as ink and as quiet as a ghost, we counted to three and bolted around the corner just as I thought that we were going to make it a voice shouted*

*"SPOTLIGHT!" It was unfair a parent was guarding the hall.*

*Jessica Mason Room 7*

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### OTAGO SCHOOL OF PIPING AND DRUMMING

The Otago School of Piping and Drumming was formed in 2005 they train pipers and drummers for the City of Dunedin Pipe Band, the City of Dunedin Scotia Pipe Band and the City of Dunedin Juvenile Pipe Band. For more information please phone the Director on 489 1650.

### SHARLOTTE'S SCHOOL OF ARTS

Vacancies are available for students in:  
Piano - Trinity College, St Celia or Royal Schools

Flute - Trinity College, St Celia or Royal Schools

Speech and Drama - Trinity College or NZSB  
Phone inquiries: Sharlotte McKenzie (Diploma in St Celia) 021 02300121

### HELENE O'GRADY CHILDREN'S DRAMA ACADEMY

We operate classes throughout the world with thousands of students attending classes weekly. Our self development drama programme has been helping children (5-17 years) to act confidently and speak clearly. For more information please contact Helen Wilson on 465 8412 or go to the website [www.helenogrady.co.nz](http://www.helenogrady.co.nz)

### BARNARDOS PARENTING PROGRAMMES

Current and upcoming programmes are: "Parenting Through Separation", "Conscious Parenting" and "Creative Parenting". For more information please contact Barnardos on 471 4330 or email [otago.amu@barnardos.org.nz](mailto:otago.amu@barnardos.org.nz)

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