

Balclutha Kindergarten Newsletter



September/October 2022



Important Dates

26th September

Kindergarten closed (Queen's remembrance)

30th September

(all end of term cleaning jobs to be completed please)

1st October

Working Bee (all hands on deck!)

14th October

Kindergarten closed (Teachers only day)

24th October

Kindergarten Closed (Labour Day)



Kia ora we are excited to welcome Milky and Olivia, Meihana, Katana, EZ, Dylan, Joan and Archie to our kindergarten whanau.

A big farewell to Harvey, Hine and Tyrone who are leaving us this term to go to school.

Group Plan

This term we are learning about how we can care for Papatuanuku. Caring for Papatuanuku means she can care for us. We have been sowing seeds for our maara kai (vegetable garden), and learning that they need water, warmth and soil to grow well. We hope to grow lots of nutritious kai for our whanau. We welcome our families to join us with our learning in the garden. Next term we will be planting our seedlings, so it would be great to have you join us!

We also value having conversations about your child's learning. Please make a time after 3pm if you would like to chat with us.

We need to know numbers for the traditional term break to organise staffing—please let us know ASAP if your child will/will not be attending kindergarten during the weeks

Naked Lunch Boxes

This is simply food without packaging and instead using reusable containers for example.

By using reusable containers or bags this enables you to buy food items in bulk and can be more cost effective as well. Any rubbish will go home. We encourage families to purchase food items with less packaging.

Balclutha Kindergarten supports and encourages healthy food choices.

Some healthy food choice ideas are:

Sandwiches/wraps/roti/naan bread

Rice/sushi

Yoghurt

Plain/homemade biscuits/cake/muffin

Fruit/Vegetable portions

Crackers/cheese

If your child is sick—please keep your child at home and text the Kindergarten phone (0212420430) to let us know about the absence.

Please remember our session times are:

9am - 3pm

This is a Ministry of Education requirement

THANK YOU!!!

To everyone who helped with our very successful BINGO night fundraiser. What a great night!

We have had a lot of positive feedback, and this is something we could consider doing on a regular basis. We have not yet had a final tally up of our profit, but we estimate we have raised about \$5,000! An amazing effort! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!

Clothing

Next term we will have lots of water play in the environment as the weather warms up. Your child will need AT LEAST TWO FULL CHANGES OF CLOTHING packed every day. They will also need a sunhat. PLEASE NAME ALL YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING. This makes it easier for us to get it back to you. Please also purchase a wet bag for your child's wet clothing to go home in. We have these available here to purchase for \$5. This is an essential item for kindergarten.

Sunscreen

Beginning next term, you will need to apply sunscreen to your child's skin each morning. Teachers reapply sunscreen after lunch. This is an association policy. Please see the attached Sunsmart Procedure we use at Balclutha Kindergarten.

Tissues and Wipes

Can each family please donate a box of tissues and packet of wipes. This helps keeps our costs down and we really appreciate this, thank you. If your child uses nappies/diapers, can you please donate an extra packet of wet wipes.

Whanau Help Roster

Next term we are reinstating our parent help roster. Every day we will invite a member of your child's family in to give the teachers a hand, or just spend time with the children. There are so many jobs that need done throughout the day, cleaning, stacking/unstacking the dishwasher, sorting lost property, sweeping, washing, clearing weeds...the list is endless! Teachers really appreciate your help, and it has been some time since we have been able to fully invite family in to the centre to work alongside us. Keep an eye out in your child's newsletter pocket to check which day you are rostered on.

Working Bee

Saturday Morning on the 1st October, we are having a "working Bee" here at kindy. This is where we all (teachers and parents/family) come along and get all those big jobs done, especially the outdoor jobs, like gardening, taking rubbish to the dump, cleaning out the shed. Please come and help us! We are only asking for an hour or two of your time...Starting at 9am.

If you have any concerns please don't hesitate to contact the Kindy or speak to one of our teachers.

Kindy Contact details:

Phone: 4180330 Cell phone: 0212420430

Address: 1 Lanark Street, Balclutha

Email: balclutha@sokindergartens.org.nz

**Bank Account Number for Expected Payments: Westpac: 03 0905 0322661-00
(Please use your child's name as a reference)**

**He waka eke noa
we are all in this together**

Your Teaching Team

Jolene, Katie, Carmen, Faylyn, Donna, Kayla, and Natalie

Meet your teaching team.....

I am Jolene Barclay, partner to Shane and mother of two grown men, Kane and Bailey. I have been teaching for 12-16 years in a variety of roles. I love the great outdoors and spend all my spare time mountain biking, hiking or jogging. I also have a passion for te reo me ona tikianga Maori/ Maori language and culture. I really enjoy learning and sharing this passion with everyone.

Nga mihi nui

Jolene



Hi, I'm Carmen Gray. I have been teaching at Balclutha Kindergarten for 15 years. I am passionate about children's learning, and I like to share with the children my interest in gardening and growing kai. Your children may have heard me talking about my chickens and my cat Ginge. I have 3 children/ young adults, Jesse, Sam and Patrick. I especially enjoy learning about children's home cultures, and I love the diversity we have at Balclutha kindergarten.



Kia Ora I'm Katie MacPherson. I have lived in South Otago all my life, grew up in the gemstone town of Kaka Point. I live with my two amazing side kicks, Harper 10 and Miles 8 our crazy Jack Russel Wallace and our Kitten Lulu. I love teaching at Balclutha Kindy where every-day is fun, bright and completely different to the day before. There is some thing so magical about this age group, they light you up and there's no better feeling in the world than being part of that magic and wonder. In my spare time I love getting out for a good hike with friends, mountain biking with my boys, going on adventures and catching up with friends and family!



Natalie Wark is our support Kaiako. She supports the team by doing our ESW hours and also our targeted funding. Natalie has a background in Speech/ Language, and lives in Waitahuna with her husband Dan, and children Lachie (14) and Mason (10). In her spare time she loves to be outside on the farm and mountain biking.



Kia ora, my name is Faylyn Milne. I am from a long line of Kai girls. I am married to Tony and we have three beautiful girls—Zara (16), and Ava and Miley (13). I love to spend time with friends and family I live in Kaitangata. You might get a chance to see my garden if your child attends forest Kindergarten



Kia ora, My name is Kayla James and I have two beautiful children, Lucy and Carter. I am an in-training teacher and I am studying with Te Rito Maioha. In my spare time I love to catch up with friends, bake and enjoy op- shopping. I also love helping people, so if there is anything, please don't be afraid to yell out.



BON VOYAGE !

At the end of this term we farewell Donna Pettitt, who has been our long term reliever for the past 18 months. Donna and her husband Marcus are travelling to India in October, and returning on Christmas day. We hope to see Donna return in the new year. We will really miss your smiling face, expertise, and sense of humour Donna!

Donna would like to invite all our families and tamariki to join us for afternoon tea on

FRIDAY 30th September

At 1.30pm

To mark her time with us, and wish her farewell on her travels.



SUN SMART PROCEDURE

(SECTION FIVE - HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE)

Objective:

Sunburn and prolong exposure to sunlight is a well established cause of eye damage and skin cancers including melanoma. The purpose of this procedure is to protect children and workers from over exposure to the sun whilst also being manageable for teachers to carry out on a busy day.

Standards:

NZ/AS 2604 Sunscreen

AS/NZS 1067 Sunglasses and Fashion Spectacles

Practice:

Between Labour Day and Good Friday children and staff that attend South Otago Kindergartens are to wear sunhats outside unless teachers use their discretion and inform the children that they do not have too, for example if it is raining. a daily Check on the UV index (on the kindy phone) will indicate if sunscreen is necessary.

Children will be encouraged to bring their own named hats to kindergarten each day. If the children do not have their own hat with them, the kindergarten will have a supply of washable hats for the children to wear.

Parents are expected to apply sunscreen to their child before they arrive at kindergarten. A supply of sunscreen is available at the kindergarten (SPF 30+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen that complies with the NZ/AS 2604 standard). Teachers or where possible the individual child will re-apply to those children staying for school day or full day sessions after lunch on sunny days, and/or apply sunscreen to any child they believe is at high risk on an as need basis. Sunscreen application will be discussed with families on enrolment.

A daily Check on the UV index (Check weather app on phone) will indicate if sunscreen is necessary especially on cloudy days. UV rating of 1-2 does not require sunscreen.

The strategy for teaching children to apply their own sunscreen is by putting a small amount of sunscreen in the palm of the hand and applying with the opposite hand by dotting on their face and rubbing in with both hands.

Sunscreen application records are required in all kindergartens and records will be held for 3 years. To create a form use **infocare** REPORTS – CHILD DETAILS – BASIC, and you will get a 5 column sheet with all children who attend kindy – add date to each column and tick when sunscreen is applied.

Teachers will ensure children do not have an allergy before applying sunscreen.

Children will be discouraged from wearing singlets when the sun is at the highest risk between 11am and 3pm.

Teachers will endeavour to encourage sun smart practice throughout the programme using songs, books, discussion and educational material.

Management will continually assess shade provisions and will ensure there are sufficient numbers of shelters and trees providing shade areas where children are protected from the sun while playing outdoors.