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**BISSET HONDA** SHOP

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116 Main Street, Pahiatua (06) 376 8829

The advertisement shows the exterior of a Bisset Honda store. The storefront is modern with large glass windows and a prominent red curved sign above the entrance that says 'HONDA'. Several red Honda ATVs are parked in a row outside. Vertical banners for 'STIHL' and 'HONDA' are visible. The text 'KEEPING YOU GOING' is written in large white letters across the bottom of the image, with the address and phone number below it.



Artwork by Levi

<p><b>Meldrum Romney</b> John &amp; Carol Wingate</p>  <p>1930 Castlehill Road RD3 Eketahuna 4996 Phone 06 3750602</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:jandcwingate@xtra.co.nz">jandcwingate@xtra.co.nz</a></p>	<p><b>WATER TANK SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>TOMLIN WATER TANK SERVICES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concrete &amp; Plastic Water Tank Cleaning</li><li>• Concrete Tanks Repairs</li><li>• Chemical Free</li><li>• Professional &amp; Efficient Service offering Competitive Rates</li><li>• Formerly known as Mobi-Kair</li></ul> <p>IAN 021 120 1290   JODI 06 377 2258</p> <p><a href="mailto:braddick1@xtra.co.nz">braddick1@xtra.co.nz</a>   Like us on </p>
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Thank you for your continued support.

## Alfredton School

*Inspiring learning for a lifetime ~ Little acorns to mighty oaks*

**Newsletter ~ Wednesday, 14 August 2024**

**Tohaina ō painga ki tea o  
Share your gifts with the world**

Kia ora,

We would like to welcome Tohu Haddon and Octavia Couling to Alfredton School. Both have joined Tui Class. It is lovely to see so many smiling faces enjoying their learning in our junior room. We would also like to welcome Ocean Batchelor who has joined our staff as a teacher aide in Tui class.

We currently have a vacancy for a driver on one of our school bus runs. We are also looking for relief bus drivers. If you would like to find out more about these positions please contact me as soon as possible. All training and licensing costs are paid for by the school.

Thank you to all parents who have notified us of times when their child will be off the bus at the end of the day. If your child is either leaving school early, or being collected at the end of the day please notify school. If it is a last minute arrangement go with your child to tell the teacher who is responsible for their bus that you are taking them. Yesterday we spent time looking for a child who had been collected but no one had been told. This meant that a run was late leaving. Please continue to let the driver know if your child is off the bus in a morning e.g. sickness or attending an event off site. When children attend sporting events you still need to let the driver know that they are off the bus.

All children who are off the bus should go and tell their 'bus teacher' that they are leaving as arrangements can sometimes change. Fortunately 90% of our children do this.

If your child is absent from school, please email or phone school to tell us and to give a reason why. Notifying the driver is not enough. School has to record a reason on the roll. We have a choice of present, medical, justified (e.g. tangi, special event, appointment - proof of appointment required), unjustified (e.g. hair appointment, their birthday) or truant. If you don't give us a reason we have no option but to put the absence as truant. If you know that your child could have been marked as truant, please email us to let us know why they were absent and we can change the roll.

Notices for learning conversations went home yesterday. There are only spaces left on Tuesday for Huia parents who may still want to make an appointment. Huia parents should come to Kiwi class and Tui parents to Tui class. All appointments will run to time. If you feel that you would like longer than the 10 minutes we can make another appointment for you at a mutually suitable time.

Have a fantastic week.

Nga mihi nui  
Alison

## **Curriculum Changes**

Over the past week you will no doubt have seen in the media that the government is releasing a new updated maths curriculum earlier than planned. This was originally to have been implemented by 2026 however the goal posts have moved yet again and now it is to be implemented at the start of 2025 alongside the revised English curriculum. This will pose a problem for all schools as we are still to receive copies of both the maths and English documents. The draft maths curriculum was released for consultation on August 12th. The

draft English curriculum is set to be released for consultation on the 26th August. Final copies of both curriculums are expected to be in schools by term 4. There will be a Teacher Only Day in term 4 for staff to work on the new curriculum requirements. Natasha will also attend a training session led by Core Education in November to dive deeper into the new English curriculum. I will keep you updated on curriculum changes as they happen.

Despite the data released by the government about the supposed low attainment by Year 8 students I can assure you that this is not the case at Alfredton School. The data was taken from a study carried out by the Curriculum Insights and Progress Study. As explained by Charles Darr, one of the lead researchers involved in the study quoted by the government: "We've been tracking student achievement in mathematics at Year 8 for more than ten years, and in that time, there has been no evidence for improvement or decline. We do have a new draft curriculum, however, and the provisional benchmarking exercise we carried out indicates it requires a higher level of proficiency than the 2007 curriculum."

The government concluded that around 50,000 children in Year 8 failed to meet the expected benchmark last year. This is a very interesting conclusion to reach as only 853 students took part in the study from just 42 schools. For such a conclusion to be reached a larger number of students would have to take part in the study. The students who took part were tested against benchmarks for the new draft curriculum, not the curriculum they had been taught. This also poses data quality issues. Another survey by NMSSA found that 88% of Year 4 children and 45% of Year 8 children were achieving above expected benchmarks.

However flawed the data is, there is obviously a need for the curriculum to change as it is clearly no longer meeting the needs of children in 2024. Rushing to introduce quick changes will only touch the tip of the iceberg and the worry is that a lasting effect will not be seen. Textbooks are not always the answer, especially ones which don't reflect the diversity of the children in our schools as they are imported from overseas.

Having read through the draft maths curriculum I can see that the requirements for each year group has increased. I am hopeful that this will not be a problem for the majority of our children who are all achieving well with our current curriculum. We use national standardised assessments (Easttle) to assess in years 4 to 8 and our children scored well in mid-year assessments with 23% achieving at the expected level and 65% achieving above. There is still work to do but it is not all doom and gloom and what and how we teach maths at Alfredton is obviously working for a significant number of children.

Towards the end of this term and during term 4 Natasha and Kate will be taking part in Structured Literacy PLD. The providers we have chosen to use are Learning Matters. We will be introducing into Tui class what they are learning throughout term 4 and into 2025. This will also complement current teaching where phonics is regularly taught, as are many principles of structured literacy. Natasha will keep Tui parents informed via Class Dojo.

Huia class has been using Writer's Toolbox for two terms. We are already seeing an improvement in their writing. This is very pleasing and we hope to see continued improvement in the second half of the year.

## Dates for your diary

19th August 4pm Board Meeting

20th and 21st August Learning Conversations

29th August School Speech Competition

3rd and 4th September Zero Waste

4th September Bush Speech Competition

26th September Y7/8 Formal Dance (Stadium, Pahiatua)

16th October School Photographs

22nd October EPRO8

23rd October Pets Day

This information can also be found on our school website.

Schooldocs

<https://alfredton.schooldocs.co.nz>

Username: alfredton

Password: mighty

## Tararua Sevens



There will be a wider selection of photos in the Year Book.

## Readers of the Week



## Classroom Awards





## Sports News

The Alfredton Oaks played a very well mannered game against Gladstone On Tuesday. Unfortunately some of our team members were sick, so everyone had to play a full game and gave it their all. It was a close game but Gladstone came away with the win. We have one more game against the same opponents next week.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Next Meeting Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 4pm

## ASCA

You should have received your **Baking Raffle sheets** - it was a really successful fundraiser last year and there is some delicious baking up for grabs for our lucky winners, just in time for docking!

**Quiz Night** - Saturday 14th September - get your teams in for our community quiz night.

## Community News



Tararua College welcomes new enrolments for our 2025 year. Applications need to be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Use this link if to enrol online <http://tararuacollege.nz/enrolments/>  
or our website link: <http://www.tararuacollege.school.nz>)

Please contact the college office on 06 376 8344 ext 600 or email [admin@tc.school.nz](mailto:admin@tc.school.nz) if you have any queries.

**BUSH DISRICTS BOYS & GIRLS AGRICULTURAL CLUB**

To all Schools

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone to come along to our Bush Agricultural Day to be held at **Mangamaire Hall** on **Thursday 14th November 2024**.

We are well sponsored for this day, and so have many prizes to give away to all the children that attend, enough for every child. Each child is also given a Chocolate bar and flavored milk and will receive a ribbon of one kind or another.

The children all have a wonderful time, even if the weather is not on our side.

We have lots of ribbons, with many classes, Champion and Reserve Champion for each age group. We hope this will put more smiles on the children's faces that receive these.

We have the usual sections:

- |               |                      |              |                         |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Calves</i> | - Care & Attention   | <i>Lambs</i> | - Best Pet              |
|               | - Type               |              | - Blackface             |
|               | - Leading            |              | - Romney                |
|               | - Best Friesian      |              | - Other long wool breed |
|               | - Best Jersey        |              |                         |
|               | - Best Other Breeds  |              | - Best White Face       |
|               | - Best Crossbred     |              | Short Wool              |
|               | - Best Beef          |              | - Best Export           |
|               | - School Groups of 3 |              | - School Group of 3     |

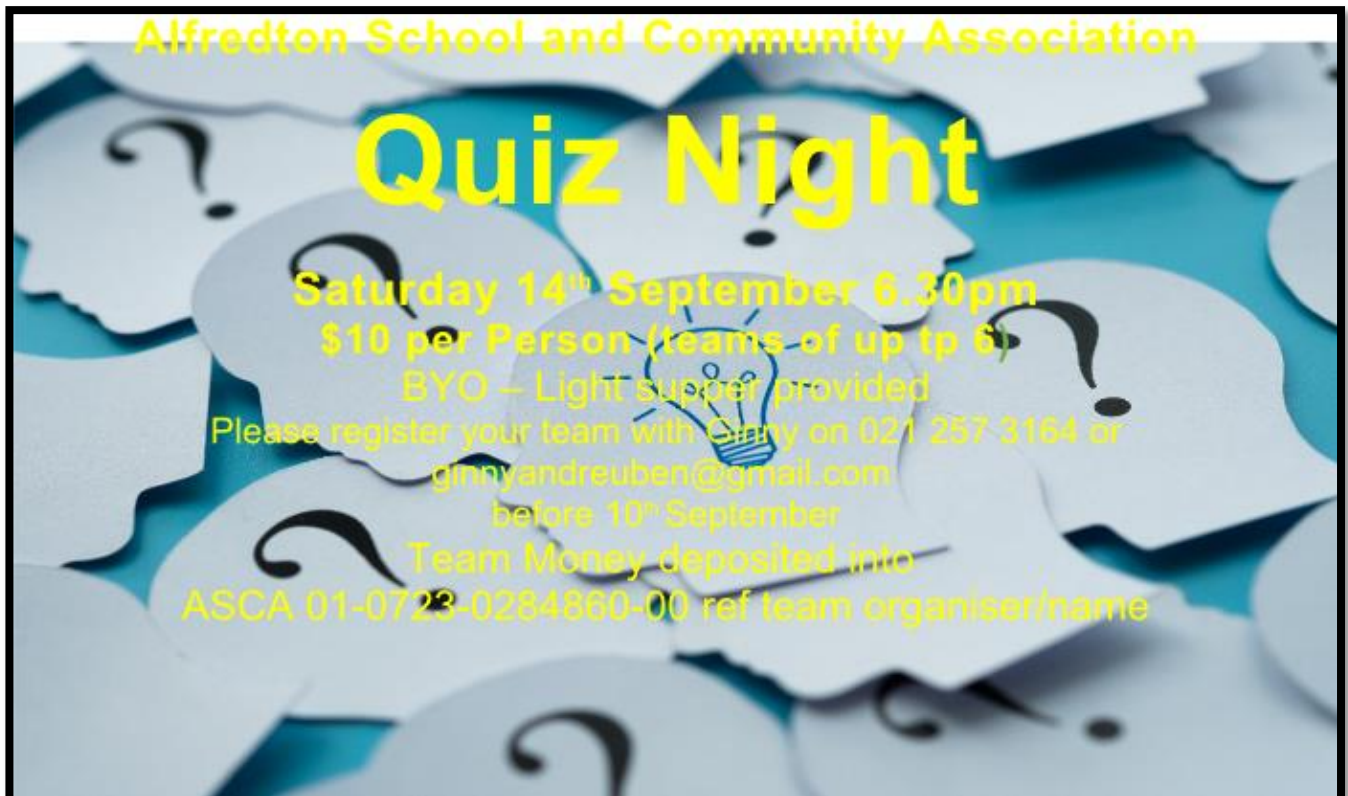
We will have a Sausage Sizzle available on the day, which we sell with a bag of chippies and a drink

We also run a Raffle which prizes are donated from our many wonderful sponsors'

I hope to see as many of you as possible. Please come and enjoy this wonderful day.

Yours truly,

Hazel Schroder



**Alfredton School and Community Association**

# Quiz Night

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 6.30pm**  
**\$10 per Person (teams of up to 6)**  
BYO – Light supper provided  
Please register your team with Ginny on 021 257 3164 or  
ginnyaandreuben@gmail.com  
before 10<sup>th</sup> September  
Team Money deposited into  
ASCA 01-0723-0284860-00 ref team organiser/name





## FREE 2-hour Positive Parenting Courses



*Learn practical, positive strategies you can choose from to add to your parenting tool kit.*



ACROSS Te kotahitanga o te wairua offers free 2-hr Triple P Positive Parenting courses on a variety of different topics such as:

- **Cooperating with Instructions – (Dealing with Disobedience)**  
*(Teaching our children to cooperate and helping us manage difficult behaviours)*
- **Bedtime Routines**  
*(Teaching our children to develop healthy, independent sleep patterns)*
- **Hassel-free Mealtimes** *(Teaching our children mealtime skills and managing mealtime problems)*
- **Expressing feelings without aggression – (Fighting & Aggression)**  
*(Teaching our children to be kind, interact positively and stay calm and helping us manage aggressive behaviours)*
- **Overcoming Fears** *(Helping parents support their children to overcome fears)*
- **Screentime** *(Setting up healthy screentime routines and dealing with screentime challenges)*
- **Toilet Training** *(Helping our children with toilet training skills)*

Courses are available via live Zoom meetings at different times of the day and occasional evenings. We also offer some in-person options at the ACROSS office 294a Church St, Palmerston North.

Email or phone today to find out more and register for a course or scan the QR code and complete the form to let us know what you are interested in.



ACROSS Office (9am-5pm) Phone: 0800 227677 or 0273262848  
Email: [reception@across.org.nz](mailto:reception@across.org.nz)

# SOLWAY COLLEGE & COMAG WAIRARAPA INTERSCHOOLS DRESSAGE

25 September 2024



SOLWAY  
EDUCATION ACADEMY



Solway Showgrounds, Masterton  
Year 1-13, all abilities welcome

More information available online @ [www.main-events.com](http://www.main-events.com)

**Eketahuna**  
**Library**  
every 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday  
10:30—11:00am

**Term 3 2024**

- 25/07 – Winter
- 08/08 – Farm animals
- 22/08 – Trains
- 05/09 – Books
- 19/09 – Magic

Little Ears Storytime for  
preschoolers