Tokomairiro High School Newsletter & Community Noticeboard

Genesis

Wednesday
11th February 2026

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



First Sod Turned in Pool and Library Project

On Tuesday 10th February, Peter and Donald Stewart, Clutha District mayor Jock Martin, Milton Community Pool Project and Bruce Community Facilities Trust members gathered at the site of the new Elsie Stewart Community Library and Pool to witness the turning of the first sod - signalling the official beginning of construction.

Kim Schiller, Community Development Manager for Project Bruce and Secretary of the Bruce Community Facilities Trust welcomed everyone to an event that was a 'milestone' and the 'official beginning' of the construction of the new pool project. She see it as a game-changer for the district, enabling future generations to have an asset they can enjoy for years to come.

Stephen Woodhead, Chairperson of the Bruce Community Facilities Trust outlined the history of the project, from initial responses in the 2018-2022 Our Place Milton Community Plan. He said it 'is pleasing to be at this stage after eight years', but reminded the community that there is still fundraising being done to meet the target.

Elsie Stewart's son Donald thanked the council for honouring his late mother's contribution to the district by naming the facility after her. He commented that many people asked why both his parents were not recognised in the name, and he believed that it has been a way of giving her due credit for her kindness and good deeds in a community where she worked quietly making a difference in the background .

Clutha District mayor Jock Martin thanked the previous council for their commitment to the project and was pleased to see the vision being realised today. He also thanked Calder Stewart and the community for their support.





Above: Donald Stewart turns the first sod in the construction project. Above right: Dignitaries included Marie Smith (Trust Chairperson), Stephen Woodhead, Donald Stewart, Kim Schiller, Jock Martin and Peter Stewart.

Thank You to Fern Energy

Last week we were fortunate to receive a sports equipment package through the Fern Energy Fuel for Schools scheme.

A huge thank you to Reece Winter, Rural Sales Manager for Fern Energy, for delivering the equipment and to the Fern Energy customers who nominated our school. The equipment will be very well used by our students and is greatly appreciated.





Dates to Remember

Wednesday 11th February - School Photos

Monday 16th February - Year 7 & 8 Day Camp

Tuesday 17th February - Athletics Day

Friday 27th March - Swimming Sports

TOKO HIGH PTA

ONLINE AUCTION

AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION

Scan me!

After the Lake to Sea Trail Ride—our school's major annual fundraiser—was cancelled two years in a row, we need your help to fill the coffers and keep amazing opportunities alive for our students!

AUCTIONS RUN FROM:
12PM SUNDAY 25 JAN
UNTIL 12PM SUNDAY 15 FEB

Scan the above QR code or head to:
facebook.com/THSPTAAuction
to **follow** & join the auctions!!

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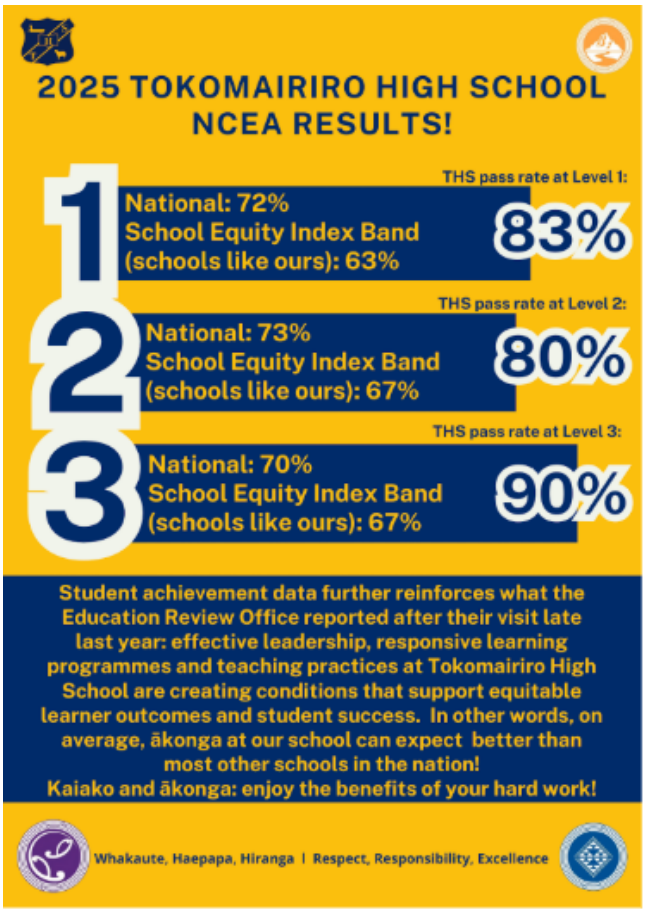
Tokomairiro High School Newsletter...

SCHOOL MISSION: Inspiring Excellence in Education, in Character and in Life.

Tena koutou katoa

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful long weekend and Waitangi Day. Over the weekend, I was delighted to welcome a group of former students back to the school. They visited on Saturday afternoon as part of a reunion they had organised. It was a pleasure to hear them reminiscing about their time at Tokomairiro High School some 40 years ago and to see the strong sense of connection they still hold for the school. Moments like this remind us of the enduring place our school holds in the hearts of our wider whānau and community.



NCEA Success
After careful analysis of our NCEA results, we are very pleased with the achievements of our students. Tokomairiro High School recorded strong pass rates across all three levels of NCEA, with students achieving well at Levels 1, 2 and 3.
Across Levels 1, 2 and 3, students achieved a total of 118 subject endorsements, with many students attaining multiple subject endorsements. This reflects sustained effort and consistency across the year.
At Level 1, 91% of students gained at least one subject endorsement, an outstanding result that highlights the strength of achievement across the cohort. At Level 2, 62% of students achieved an endorsement, and at Level 3, 41% of students gained an endorsement. These results represent solid achievement across the senior school as expectations increase at each level.
We are very proud of our ākonga and grateful to our dedicated kaiako who support them to achieve their best.

Assembly Celebrations and House Captains
At assembly this week, we acknowledged all students who gained an NCEA endorsement in 2025. This is a wonderful achievement that deserves recognition. We also announced our 2026 House Captains, who will play an important leadership role within the school next year. Congratulations to:

- **Ayson House**: Millanian Potae, Rory Lister, Dominic Dobson and James Walker
- **Ross House**: Ivy Clarke, Ben Scott, Thomas Lee and Lilly Taylor
- **Malcolm House:** George Stark, Sioeli Pulu, Eli Wicks and Aanya Naidu
- **Reid House:** Saffron Healey, Troy Mallon, Kayden McDonald-Rouse and Piki-Rangipa Kohunui-Eketone

The first house competition of the year will be Athletics Day next Tuesday and we are looking forward to a day of participation, school spirit and healthy competition.

PTA Auction – Final Days
The final few days of the PTA Auction are here, with the auction closing on Sunday 15th. There has been plenty of activity across the auction lots and it has been great to see such strong community support.
Funds raised through the auction are used by the PTA to support students across the school, including contributing to school trips, updating sports kits and purchasing resources that we would otherwise not be able to afford. We encourage everyone to jump online and place a bid before the auction closes.

Whole School Production – The Addams Family
It has been some time since we last staged a whole school production but following the success of the Year 7 and 8 production of Aladdin at the end of last year, we are excited to be preparing for a whole school production of The Addams Family.
Auditions are taking place this week, with the production scheduled for May. We look forward to seeing many of our ākonga involved both on stage and behind the scenes as this exciting production comes together.

Ngā mihi nui, ***Vicki Wish, Principal | Tumuaki***

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Genesis

The Genesis is a free publication, delivered weekly to homes and businesses in Milton, and is available on the school website, Facebook or via email. The Genesis office is open Tuesday 8:30am - 3:30pm and Wednesday 8:30-12. If the office is unattended, any articles, advertising or payments can be taken to the school office or left in the secure box in the office door.
Genesis Deadlines: Advertising and Articles - **Monday 12 noon**. These can be emailed to the Editor at genesis@tokohigh.school.nz.
Genesis is delivered FREE to your letterbox on Wednesday afternoons. Any payments or donations can be made to *Tokomairiro High School,* account number *03 1736 0009803 000.* Please use GENESIS and your name as reference. - *Carolyn Shanks*, Genesis Editor

Attendance Matters



Regular attendance at school plays a vital role in student learning and wellbeing. We ask that families please contact the school whenever a student is away so we can ensure our attendance records are accurate and that we are able to support students appropriately.

Under the Government's new STAR attendance measures, fewer than five days absent in a term is considered regular attendance. Absences of five to nine days are classed as an early concern, 10 to 14 days as a moderate concern and more than 15 days as a severe concern.
We appreciate the support of our whānau in helping students attend regularly and stay connected to learning. Working together, we can ensure our ākonga are present, engaged and able to succeed.

Celebrate Valentine's Day!! Roses $3



The prefect team are selling roses to celebrate Valentine's Day!

Order on Kindo or at the canteen on Wednesday and Thursday.

Roses will be delivered on Friday during house group time.



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Bible Reading for the Week

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"
- Mark 12:30

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)

All students are expected to have access to a suitable digital device for learning. The use of digital tools is now a regular part of classroom teaching and learning across the school.
Please note that we no longer have devices available for students to loan on a lesson-by-lesson basis. It is important that students come to school each day with their device fully charged and ready for use.
Information about acceptable devices is available through Noel Leeming, who can provide guidance on devices that meet school requirements.
If there are any concerns about accessing a device, we encourage caregivers to contact the school as soon as possible so we can discuss available options and support.



School Contact Details

School Office: 03 417 8620 School Cellphone: 027 268 3362
Office email: office@tokohigh.school.nz

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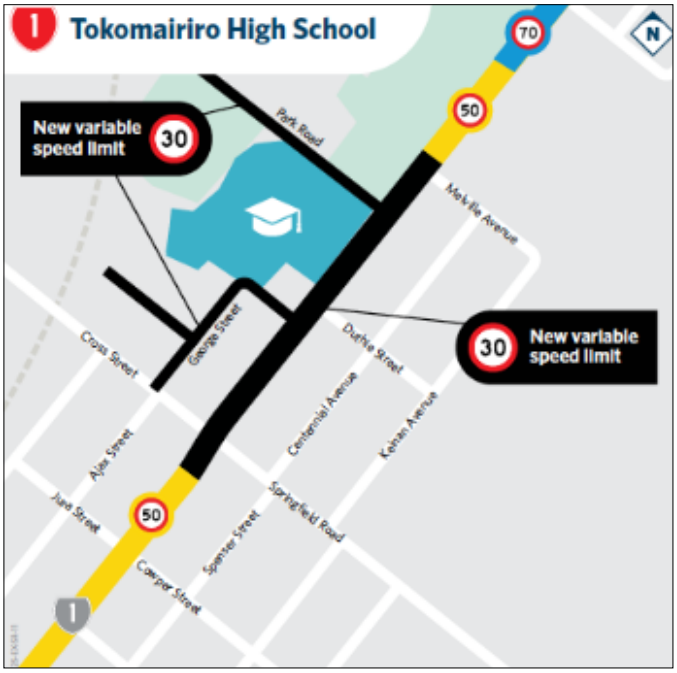
Roadworks and Safety Update

The planned drainage roadworks along Union Street have been slightly delayed and will not be taking place this week. We will continue to keep the community informed as new dates are confirmed.

In addition, a variable speed limit will soon be introduced on Union Street during peak school times, operating from 8.00–8.50am and 2.50–3.30pm. New electronic speed signs will be installed and these can also be activated manually by the school on days such as early dismissals. This initiative is designed to improve safety for students, staff and the wider community.



Lovells Flat Women's Institute

We finished the year off with a pot luck luncheon with four ladies from the Clydevale Institute joining with us.

2026 has begun with the A.G.M. The Annual Report reflected on the activities of 2025. Our dedicated band have enjoyed many activities and raised funds to assist others in the community. Volunteer hours included knitting for babies, Baking for Cancer, Sod Cottage care and preschool District playgroup. March gathering will be an outing to Kaka Point.

The Annual District Picnic will be held on 20th of this month in the Church Grounds on Station Road from 6 p.m.

RSA News from the Trenches...

Just starting off this column with a reminder of the Special General Meeting held this Thursday at 6.15pm to discuss the remit of a lease of the Senior Citizens Rooms. So make sure you are there to vote. Remember this is your club.

Also starting this Friday is our World Famous Super Sports Comp with Highlanders vs Crusaders. Can Brendan Sheath be a Triple Crown champion this year. There are plenty of entries looking to knock him off his perch. We have special rugby jerseys lined up for the leader at halfway point. Let's get it on!!! I have a couple of wagers with various members on a certain number of entrants and I'm confident on breaking these records. Time for the wanted man to be brought to justice.

The joker draw amount is getting higher and higher along with the membership draw which almost hit $300 with Lenny Graham being the latest member to miss out on free money. Don't be like Lenny.

Our Spud Dig competition is rapidly coming to an end on 7th March with plenty of gardening wizards putting the final touches to their magic potions.

Calling all cougars, if you see a couple of RSA members standing on the street corner looking dodgy, they are looking to earn a bit of extra money so throw them a couple of coins.

- *Private Spike Pike*

The Rebus Club of Milton

Nine members were welcomed to the December meeting. The cancellation of the planned trip to the Waitahuna Railway Station was explained. Members shared their plans for Christmas Day and enjoyed a lunch together.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 17th February at 10am at the RSA Hall.

Committee members please meet at 9.30 am.

The speaker is John Hollis from Kaitangata who will speak about his time in Mt Isa.

Toko Golf Club

Ladies Golf - Ecletic ***3rd February 2026***

18 Holes

M Cain	47 - 16	- 31
S Bearman	40 - 8.5	- 31.5
L Mitchell	48 - 16	- 32
H Vollweiler	48 - 15	- 33

Longest putt # & 18 - L Mitchell

9 Holes - Throw Out Golf

N Cubitt	34 - 27 - 7
C Scott	41 - 28 - 13

Euchre

28th January 2026
Winner: Raelene
Loser: Di (Balclutha)
Raffle: Irene (Owaka)

4th February 2026
Winner: Irene (Owaka)
Loser: Di (Balclutha)
Raffle: Di (Balclutha)

Genesis Classifieds ...

Church Notices **Church Notices**



Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish

Sunday 15th February

10am Worship Service in the Milton Church Hall
34 Union Street. All welcome!

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

We are a Christian Faith Bible based Church

Sunday Service—10am
110 Union Street All Welcome!
For more information, follow us on Facebook

YOUTH UNITED

Youth United meets fortnightly on Saturdays in term time for ages 10-18. Check out our Facebook page for events & times.

Articles and Reports

Genesis relies on articles and reports supplied by the community to fill our pages.
Please email these to genesis@tokohigh.school.nz

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Genesis Classifieds ...

Acknowledgement

McELREA, Anthony Malcolm (Tony)



Malcolm, Robyn and family would like to sincerely thank everyone for the wonderful support received following the recent passing of Tony. Your beautiful flowers, cards, messages, baking, and generous offers of help have been very much appreciated and have meant a great deal to the family at this time.
Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

Public Notices

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1/4 hp electric motor
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Public Notices

Articles and Reports

Genesis relies on articles and reports supplied by the community to fill our pages. Please email these to genesis@tokohigh.school.nz so we can share what is happening in our area.



Council Updates & Notices

Updates from the Clutha District Council
Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Infrastructure upgrades for Union Street/State Highway 1, Milton



The wastewater and stormwater renewal work notified in last week's Genesis, originally planned to begin after Waitangi Weekend, has been delayed.

Stage 2 will now commence towards the end of February, to allow time to consult with Heritage NZ about archaeological protocols during the project.

These significant infrastructure upgrades are expected to take about three and half months to complete.

The Four Square will remain open throughout the project and will have periods when access is only available from Springfield Road, as it was during the recent investigative stage.

To read a full overview about this project and keep up to date with progress, please visit our website.

www.cluthadc.govt.nz/union-street-renewals

www.cluthadc.govt.nz | **Phone:** (03) 419 0200 | 0800 801 350
Address: 1 Rosebank Terrace, Balclutha 9230, PO Box 25, Balclutha 9240

Genesis Advertising

Contact the Genesis Office for more information about advertising.
Advertisements start at just $12, and can be run weekly, fortnightly or monthly.
Email genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



Public Notices

Lovells Flat Recreation Reserve

Meeting Monday 16th February
7 pm at the church hall.

Meeting to discuss the future of the school hall.
Open to committee members and all Lovells Flat locals.

Apologies to Bryce Clark 027 417 4820

Public Notices

TOKO RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

NOTICE OF A
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
FOR THE PUROSE OF ADOPTING A NEW CONSTITUTION IN ANTICIPATION OF RE-REGISTERING THE CLUB
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT 2024
7 pm – 19th February 2026
Meeting will be held at the Squash Club

Copies of the draft constitution can be obtained by emailing committeetrfc@gmail.com
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Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

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Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday



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