Tokomairiro High
School Newsletter &
Community Noticeboard

Wednesday
18th February 2026

Genesis

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



Day of Fun Activities at Berwick

On Monday the Year 7 and 8 students (Te Kaika Hub) went to Berwick Camp for a day trip. This was a fun day where the students were split into groups to complete the confidence course, orienteering and initiative activities. It was a great way for the whole hub to mix and build relationships with each other.







Valentine's Day Celebrated

Love was in the air last Friday as students celebrated an early Valentine's Day. Thank you to all the students and parents who purchased roses for the celebration.
The roses were presented to named recipients by the amazing Social Committee. They made sure they were delivered with great care, love and attention.
The proceeds from these events contribute to fund upcoming other student spirit activities which brings enjoyment/ enthusiasm to all participants and the school as a whole.
Any additional proceeds will be donated to local charities at the end of this year.



PTA Online Auction Raises over $10,000

The much anticipated online auction closed at 12 noon on Sunday, with a large number of bidders waiting until the final moment to ensure their bid counted.
Prizes included plants, accommodation packages, sports gear, gardening equipment and plenty of vouchers from retailers and services from near and far.
Thank you to everyone who placed a bid and to those who were successful.
Also a huge thank you to everyone who donated items for prizes. There was a wide range of auctions to choose from which allowed everyone to choose something to their liking.
Prizes are in the school office, ready to be collected.



Dates to Remember

Thursday 19th February - Athletics Day

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th March
L 2 and 3 Ag, Hort and Food Tech Trip

Monday 23rd March Anniversary Day (School closed)

Friday 27th March - Swimming Sports

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Prices valid 16th to 22nd February 2026 or while stocks last.

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$6.99 kg
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(Product of NZ)

Tokomairiro High School Newsletter...

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

Tena koutou katoa

Last week marked our first full week of the school year and it ended on a positive note, with our student social committee delivering Valentine's Day roses to some very pleased recipients on Friday. It was great to see students organising, participating and enjoying something that added a bit of colour to the end of the week.
Moving to this week with the unsettled weather set to continue, we have made the decision to move Athletics Day to the postponement date. Athletics will now be held on Thursday 19th February. Thank you for your understanding as we prioritise student safety and the successful running of the event.

Peer Support - Building Connections and Confidence
We are excited to highlight the fantastic work being done through our Peer Support programme this term. We have a highly dedicated and enthusiastic group of Year 13 students who have stepped up to run these important sessions with our Year 7 students. Peer Support plays a vital role in helping our youngest students transition smoothly into high school, offering them a friendly face, guidance and a safe space to ask questions and build confidence. These sessions foster strong, positive relationships across the school, which is invaluable. On Monday, in a great example of this mentorship in action, our Year 13 leaders headed off at lunchtime to join the Year 7 and 8 students at Berwick Camp for an afternoon of activities, fun, and connection. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to bond outside the classroom setting.

House Sports - Get Ready to Compete!
The highly anticipated Lunchtime House Sports competition is kicking off next week! We're starting with the fast-paced action of 3v3 Basketball in the school gymnasium. House Sports are always popular, providing great entertainment and a chance for students to earn valuable house points during their lunchtime. Every game counts towards the overall House Shield at the end of the year, so we encourage all students to get involved, either by playing or coming along to support their housemates! The quick-fire games will be 15 minutes long and will run on the following days:

- Tuesday: Seniors
- Thursday: Year 9/10's
- Friday: Year 7/8

AKO Weeks
One of the key initiatives for this year is the introduction of AKO Weeks, with the first three-week block of the year starting next week. These dedicated weeks (one block per term) are designed to limit class disruptions as much as possible, ensuring a consistent and focused learning environment. The primary goal is for every student to be present and engaged in every lesson, providing teachers with the confidence to plan and execute essential assessments without interruption. This new approach underscores our commitment to maximising in-class learning time and supporting student achievement.

PTA Auction
The PTA auction has closed. It was a great success and has raised a significant amount of money for the PTA. This was much needed after the Lake to Sea Bike rides were cancelled in 2025 or 2024 due to extreme weather events. The PTA supports every student in our school by subsidising school trips, providing prizes for prize giving, and helping the school to buy some of the 'nice to have' items. We are very grateful for all the businesses and individuals who donated auction lots and to everyone who bidded.

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or our Facebook page!

School Production – The Addams Family
The auditions for our production of The Addams Family have now been completed. We were extremely pleased to see a strong and enthusiastic response, with so many students showing a keen interest in being involved. It is wonderful to have such a depth of talent and commitment, whether students are taking on a main role, a supporting role, or contributing their skills backstage as part of the crew. We are grateful to everyone who put themselves forward. More updates will follow as the cast list is finalised and rehearsals begin.

Roadworks and Safety Update
The planned drainage roadworks along Union Street will be starting soon. We will continue to keep the community informed about potential parking restrictions outside of school.
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.

Attendance Matters
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.
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.

Ngā mihi nui,
Vicki Wish, Principal | Tumuaki

Horticulturists in Training



The Year 9 and 10 Hort class have started the year by creating their gardens and have been propagating celery, lettuce and pak choy ready to be planted.
During the year they will also learn how to take cuttings and safely use herbicides.
Many of the plants they are growing will be sold at the Hort Shop which is open from 1pm-4pm on Wednesdays.

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.



Bible Reading for the Week

"But you, Lord, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me." - ***Psalm 22:19***

Children who are at school:



- have no learning gaps
- know what is happening
- enjoy school more
- can achieve to their full potential
- have increased self-esteem
- establish good relationships with friends and adults

Have You Signed Up for Kindo?

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New to Kindo? Kindo is easy to set up and use. Just visit our website or use the QR code to join. Use the 'create account' option to set up an account.
Have Questions? Call in to the school office, or visit support.mykindo.co.nz and search key words, email hello@mykindo.co.nz or phone (09) 869 5200 or 0508 454 636.

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Quote of the Week:

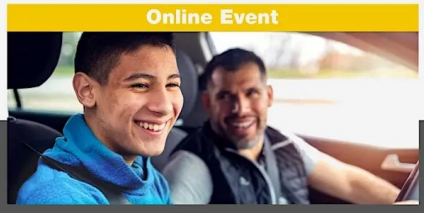
'The trouble with superheroes is what to do between phone booths' - ***Ken Kesey***

RSA News from the Trenches...

Another week has slipped by virtually unnoticed except for the fact that I'm on top of everything that goes on at the RSA. Believe me when I say, it's a full time position detailing all the activities.
Our World Famous Super Rugby Comp has kicked off with almost a record breaking number of entries. Based on this, there are plenty of candidates hunting down the Wanted Person and we all know who this is!!! Speaking of the Wanted Person, I snuck up to the beautiful Toko Golf course on Sunday where I witnessed this person struggling with golf, maybe he's feeling the pressure already. There were other RSA members participating who were fairly confident prior, but may need to find a new sport. Marbles anyone??
I haven't marked the cards for Round 1 but based on the results so far, there is scope for upsets. Usually a couple of heavy hitters play their joker straight away in order to take charge from the start. They may have come unstuck.
Speaking of unstuck, our World Famous Spud Dig competition is arriving on Saturday 7th March. There are a few interesting things planned for this day which guarantees a fun time. Also there is a different category this year and in terms of Spuds, there will be a winner for the Biggest Bush. We have a expert judge on this category. Plenty of entries here with the final loving touches looking to gain the biggest crop.
Just another reminder that 2026 Subs are due and if not paid by end of February, we might have to get our elderly Ninja security team into action. Let's get them paid quick as it takes our security team four hours to get their Ninja suits and mask on!!!
- Private Spike Pike

DRIVER COACH

Helping you support your teen driver



Powered by TOYOTA

ROAD SAFETY Education

FREE online event happening on 26th February, from 6:30pm to 7.30pm (NZDT).

You will learn how to:

* Unlock the Mysteries of the Teenage Brain: What Makes Driving a Challenge?
* Decode Risk Factors for Young Drivers
* Learn the art of Coaching a Learner Driver
* Help you support the transition to solo driving
* Set a plan for collaborating with Driving Instructors

Click the link to register: https://tinyurl.com/5yn97nnf

Genesis Classifieds ...

Public Notices

Public Notices

LAWRENCE

Community Funding Session

WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY | 5:00 PM

SIMPSON PARK REC CENTRE
1 THURSO ST, LAWRENCE

Need funding for a community project?

Come and meet your local funders to learn more about the funding available and how to apply.

OTAGO Community Trust

RSVP ONLINE AT OCT.ORG.NZ OR:
0800 10 12 40 | Info@OCT.ORG.NZ

Genesis Classifieds ...

Church Notices

Church Notices



Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish

Sunday 22nd February

10am Holy Communion Service in the Milton Church Hall, 34 Union Street. All welcome!

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

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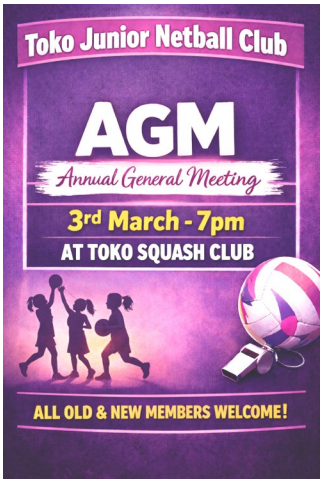
Genesis Classifieds ...

Public Notices



Public Notices

School Magazine 2025

Chock full of over 80 pages of the events, activities and achievements that shaped our school in 2025.

Copies are **$15.** Order via Kindo or call in to the school office.



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
TRFC Club Rooms
298 Union Street; Milton

Public Notices

Tokomairiro Waiora Incorporated

Notice of Special General Meeting

Notice is given that a Special General Meeting of Tokomairiro Waiora Incorporated (TWI) will be held on Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 6:30 pm at Tokomairiro Waiora Office, 4 Shakespeare Street, Milton.

Business to be considered:
1. To adopt a revised constitution that meets the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
2. To approve that TWI re-registers as a society under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

Any person who is recorded as a member of TWI may attend, but must RSVP to office@tokowaiora.co.nz

Public Notices

What's On at the Gym?

Keep Moving
Tuesdays at 2:30pm, $3

Mums with Bubs welcome 10am-2pm

Body Composition - find out what's underneath
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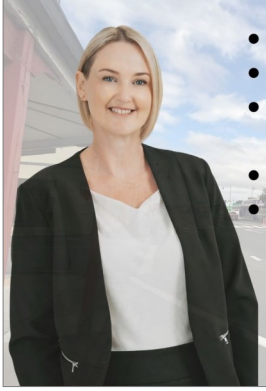

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