Tokomairiro High
School Newsletter &
Community Noticeboard

Genesis

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

25th February 2025

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



Athletics Day 2026

Well, the sun finally made an appearance on Thursday so that our students could enjoy Athletics Day. Enjoy the photos below, results will be published in next week's Genesis.







Ross







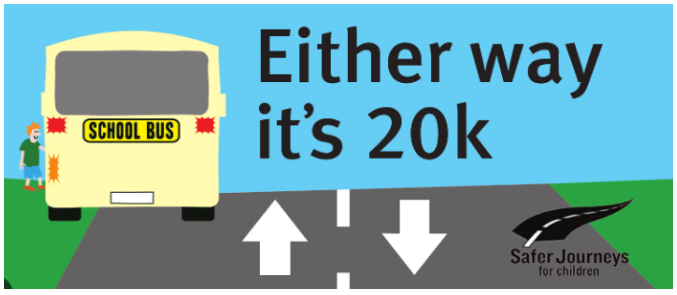
Malcolm

Ayson



Reid





Dates to Remember

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

Monday 23rd March Anniversary Day (School closed)

Wednesday 25th March - Level 2 & 3 Art Trip

Friday 27th March - Swimming Sports

superValue Milton Weeklies

SuperValue Milton: 59 Union Street, Milton
Ph 417 8008 Open 7am - 8pm, 7 days.
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Tokomairiro High School Newsletter...

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

Tena koutou katoa

Last week reminded us that while we cannot control everything, we can control how we respond. From postponing Athletics Day due to weather to finishing early on Friday because of the unexpected water outage, it was a week that required adaptability. I appreciate the way our school community adjusted quickly when plans changed. Students, staff, and whānau alike took the disruptions in their stride. I know the early finish required some quick rearranging at home, and I am grateful for the calm and practical way families responded.

Athletics Day
The sun arrived on Thursday and we were finally able to hold our annual Athletics Day.
What stood out most to me were the smiles — everywhere you looked. It was without doubt one of the most colourful athletics days I have seen, with vibrant house colours on full display across the field. Students competed enthusiastically, supported one another loudly, and made the most of the day.
At the conclusion of events, Ayson House was in the lead. However, a number of points are still to be added, so the overall standings remain very close.
A huge thank you to Mrs Rebecca Mallon, Mrs Erica Milligan and all the staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to make the day run so smoothly. Events like this take significant organisation and coordination and I am grateful for their commitment.

House Sports
Lunchtime House Sports begin this week with fast-paced 3v3 basketball in the gym.
The opening match will see Reid take on Ayson, which should be a great way to start the competition.
Every game contributes to the overall House Shield, and we encourage students to get involved — either on the court or supporting their housemates.
Games (15 minutes each) will run:
* *Tuesday: Seniors*
* *Thursday: Year 9/10's*
* *Friday: Year 7/8*

Turf Update
We received excellent news last week; our Lotto grant application has been approved. This is a significant step forward and brings us closer to realising our turf dream.
All going to plan, installation of the first turf will begin next month. Seeing this move from planning to reality is exciting for our school.
Further fundraising is still required before we can proceed with the second turf, and that work continues.
Thank you to everyone who is helping us make this happen.

Roadworks and Safety Update
Drainage roadworks have begun along Union Street. There is currently no parking available outside the front of the school. For drop-offs and pick-ups, students should use the Elizabeth Street or Park Road exits.
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
Attendance continues to be a strong national focus, and schools are expected to closely monitor and respond to patterns of absence. At Tokomairiro High School, consistent attendance is an expectation. When students are present every day, they are better able to stay connected to their learning and to one another.
If your child is absent, please notify the school promptly so that our records remain accurate. Unexplained absences require follow-up. If there are ongoing barriers affecting attendance, we encourage families to make contact early so that we can work together to support regular attendance.
Every day matters.

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.

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

Challenge Wānaka

Last Friday, Mrs Emily Currall accompanied six students to compete in Challenge Wānaka.
Despite having taken part in Athletics Day the day before, our students performed exceptionally well and finished in the top half of the competition - an excellent effort.



Bible Reading for the Week

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - ***Hebrews 11:1***



Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

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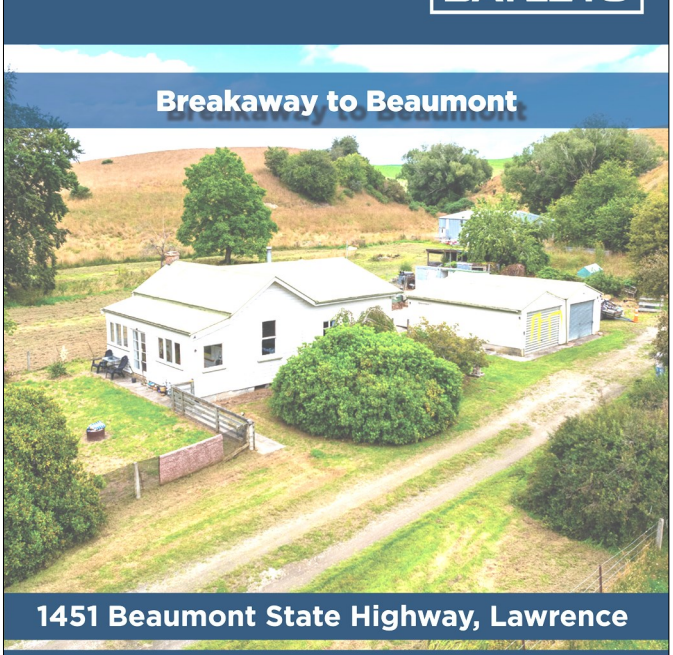

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Community Input Wanted

The Milton District community now has an opportunity to help shape the local online presence as the Milton District Website undergoes an update.

Organisers behind the website refresh are inviting locals, business owners and groups to visit the site and provide feedback on content. The aim of the update is to ensure the site reflects the needs of the district, provides up-to-date information, and acts as a useful reference point for residents and visitors alike.

Tokomairiro Hub Coordinator Sarah Fuller says community input will help ensure the website reflects the people and services that make up Milton and the wider district.

“Community input is essential. We want the website to be as relevant and helpful as possible, so if there’s something that should be added — or removed — we’d love to hear from people,” she says.

The Tokomairiro Hub itself provides a wide range of practical and social support services for the community. Assistance is available for those needing help with forms, access to food donations, and clothing for children aged five and under. The Hub also hosts on-site service providers and weekly groups. Beyond practical help, it serves as a welcoming space where people can connect, have a chat, or seek advice — strengthening community ties and offering a supportive environment for those who need it.

Established and new businesses are also encouraged to get in touch to ensure their information on the site is current or to discuss how they might be included. The initiative forms part of an ongoing effort to support local commerce and strengthen connections across Milton and the wider district.

Those interested in contributing can explore the site at milton-district.co.nz and send feedback or enquiries to the Hub Coordinator during office hours — Mondays and Tuesdays 9.30am to 4.30pm, and Thursdays 9.30am to 3.30pm.

For more information, contact the Tokomairiro Hub at 61 Union Street, Milton, phone 027 596 5988 or email tokohub17@gmail.com

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

News from the Trenches...

The countdown is on!!! Only 10 or so days left to put the finishing touches to your entry for the greatest Spud Dig competition to be held in South Island as voted by Mashed Magazine based in Ireland. This year will be spectacular, much better than last year. Full details will be revealed next week so stay tuned - 7th March will go down as a historical day in terms of Spuds...

Membership draw was struck last Thursday which isn't a surprise as we have been having large crowds for our weekly Thursday night raffles. Congratulations to Debbie who scooped the prize so it's back to the nominal amount for this week. Also bounding along is the Joker Draw amount which is getting dangerously close to reaching the full amount. Candidates are getting nervous when making their selection.

Also just a final reminder to ensure you have paid your 2026 subs so you can fully participate in the fun times associated with RSA. You would be a fool to miss out.

Short rugby comp update as two heavy hitters have played their Joker first round and are making a strong claim for an early break away. I've even had the Wanted Man Dad notice I've been hammering him, so I'm keeping a low profile in case of retribution.

Finally a short story about the author of thus column. Went to a Hardware store in a different town looking for a chainsaw for a friend. Asked sales lady for one that was safe to operate and not lose fingers as I showed them by hand. Her eyes bugging out was enough for me. Apparently I don't write enough stories about myself. Author’s prerogative.

- *Private Spike Pike*

Euchre

11th February 2026
Winner: Pat (Owaka)
Loser: Maureen (Owaka)
Raffle: Wendy

18th February 2026
Winner: Maureen (Owaka)
Loser: Kathy
Raffle: Trish

SPONSOR A SQUARE METRE

For just $150, you can help support the future for our students by sponsoring a square metre of our new turf!

Your name will be recognised on an appreciation board, which will be displayed on the new turf



Tokomairiro High School Account: 03-1736-0009803-000
Code: TurfDon, Reference: Name
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Time out of school adds up

Per Week	½ Day	1 Day	1½ Days
Per Term	5	10	15
Per Year	20	40	60
ATTENDANCE	90%	80%	70%

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

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

Genesis Classifieds ...

Situations Vacant

NZSL Interpreter

We are looking for an NZSL interpreter to work with a student on a casual basis.

A high level of NZSL is required.

To apply in writing or for any enquiries and further details, please contact Sharlene Goodwin, sharlene@tokohigh.school.nz

Applications close on Friday 13th March

Situations Vacant

Teacher Aide Vacancy

We are looking for an enthusiastic part time Teacher Aide, term time only.
The ideal candidate will need to be able to work with a range of students in a variety of settings around the school, be collaborative, encouraging and have a good level of literacy and numeracy.

To apply in writing or for any enquiries and further details ,please contact Sharlene Goodwin, sharlene@tokohigh.school.nz

Applications close on Friday 13th March

Church Notices

Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish 34 Union Street, Milton



Sunday 1st March
10am Worship Service
2:30pm-3:30pm Recovery Church
4pm-6pm Whanau Funday
All welcome!

Waihola Grace Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Service
10.30am at Waihola District School Hall
Cnr Chatham St and Kilgour St

Pastor Alf Bradfield
Phone: 03 417 4373 Cell: 027 230 8820

WAIHOLA Grace Presbyterian Church of New Zealand

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YOUTH UNITED

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

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 ...

Public Notices

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OPEN WEDNESDAYS
1pm-4pm.
Variety of Plants & Shrubs Ready for Planting Now!

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.



Update your contact details: office@tokohigh.school.nz

Public Notices

Lovells Flat Recreation Reserve

Follow-Up Meeting Monday 2nd March
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

TOKOMAIRIRO WAIORA INC.
4 SHAKESPEARE STREET, MILTON

FREE NURSE CLINICS 2026

Next Clinic: Tuesday 3rd March, 2pm-6pm

This **free** mahi is open to **everyone** in the community and offers a wide range of easy-access health support. Whānau are welcome to walk in or make an appointment by phone or email.
Fortnightly clinic available in Balclutha and monthly clinic available in Kaitangata.

Phone: 03 417 7430
Freephone: 0800 184 420
Email: reception@tokowaiora.co.nz

Public Notices

Bruce Community Calendar MARCH 2026

Wednesday 4th March
Lovell's Flat Women's Institute - Outing to Kaka Point
Wednesday 11th March
Tokomairiro Historical Society Meeting, 2pm at the Museum

Wednesdays
WOMEN'S SPACE at the Toko Hub 2-4pm
JP Service Desk at the Library, 3pm-5pm
3:30-4:30 Board Game afternoon @ the Library (starts 11th)
Thursdays
MILTON COMMUNITY SHED behind the Showgrounds
BRIDGE at the Senior Citizens Rooms, 6:45pm—All welcome
TAI CHI at the Milton RSA, 1pm, ph 027 279 1602
Fridays
CROCHET 10-11am @ the Library
Friendship Group meets at 1:30pm at old Senior Citizens Rooms. Ph Christine 021 028 46101

Children & Youth

Every Wednesday 10am-11am
Lovell's Flat Playgroup, Bryce Memorial Hall
Every Thursday 10:30-11:30 Toddler Time-Milton Library
Thursday and Fridays, term time. 9.15-12: Playgroup @ Te Whare Puāwai, 34 Spenser Street, Milton, 0-5yrs, Free, Morning Tea provided

For the full calendar, visit www.projectbruce.org/community-calendar

Public Notices

Council Updates & Notices

Updates from the Clutha District Council
Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Do you have a creative arts project in mind?

You could be eligible for **funding between $200 - 5,000!**

The Clutha District Creative Communities Scheme first funding round for 2026 is **closing soon!**

To qualify projects must:

- Be in the Clutha District.
- Be started and completed within 12 months of funding approval.
- Any group, organisation or individual can apply.

Visit **www.cluthadc.govt.nz/creative-communities** to find out more and get an application form, or phone Council on 0800 801 350.

Applications close 5pm, 27th March 2026.



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

Public Notices

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Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

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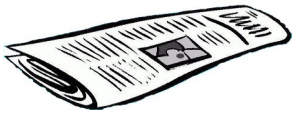

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