Tokomairiro High School Newsletter & Community Noticeboard

Genesis

4th March 2026

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



Students have Fun in Psychology

Our Year 12 & 13 Psychology students have been exploring the different approaches to psychology, and recently put the behavioural approach to the test.

To understand conditioning, students ran a short experiment where participants listened to a list of words… but on one specific word, they were met with a surprise splash from a water pistol.

It was a fun (and memorable!) way to demonstrate how associations are formed and how behaviour can be shaped through experience.

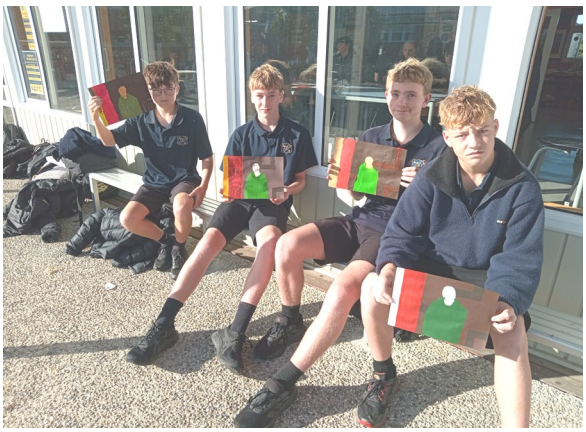
Not even the teachers were immune to the experiment!





Art off to a Great Start!

Kia ora koutou! The art students came in ready to go for 2026. Quick off the mark with drawing, painting and sculpting, it's already shaping up to be a good year. This photo shows Ayson Wardell, Dom Dobson, Brennan Savage and Ben Scott with their works-in-progress based on portraiture by the painter Ayesha Green. We made the most of a few sunny days to get work dry enough to add a second coat of colour.. Getting that flat lay effect perfect.



Mathematical Investigations

Our Year 11 mathematics students have recently been diving into the world of relationship investigations. As part of their learning, they have been exploring how different variables connect and influence one another in real-life contexts.

Students have been developing their statistical inquiry skills by gathering their own data, identifying relevant variables, and organising their findings. They have learned how to create and interpret scatter plots to visually represent relationships between two sets of data. From there, they have been analysing patterns, trends, and correlations to determine whether relationships are positive, negative, or show little association.

A key focus has been on drawing meaningful conclusions. Students are learning how to describe the strength and direction of relationships, justify their reasoning using evidence from graphs, and reflect on the reliability of their data. They are also writing formal investigation reports, clearly communicating their process, findings, and interpretations.

It has been fantastic to see students applying their mathematical thinking to authentic contexts, asking thoughtful questions, and engaging critically with data. These skills are essential not only for NCEA success but also for understanding the increasingly data-driven world around us.





Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 4th March
South Otago Athletics

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

School Contact Details

School Office: 03 417 8620 Mobile phone: 027 268 3362
Email: office@tokohigh.school.nz

supervalue Milton Weeklies

SuperValue Milton: 59 Union Street, Milton
Ph 417 8008 Open 7am - 8pm, 7 days.
Prices valid 2nd to 8th March 2026 or while stocks last.

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Tokomairiro High School Newsletter...

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

Tena koutou katoa

We have reached the halfway point of Term 1 and the energy across the school remains high.
Last week, I had the opportunity to visit the Google offices in Auckland. It was a truly eye-opening experience that provided valuable insights into the future of digital innovation; concepts we continue to embrace here at Tokomairiro High School.
Back at school, we are now in the second week of our first block of AKO weeks. This is a new initiative for 2026 designed to ensure that class disruptions are kept to a minimum. By protecting this time, we are allowing students to focus intently on their core learning and projects within the classroom environment.

Student Achievement: Swimming
A massive congratulations to Jack Scholton for his outstanding performance at the South Otago Swimming Championships last week. Jack won every single one of his races—a phenomenal achievement! Following these results, he is now off to the Otago Championships. We wish him the very best of luck for his upcoming events.

South Otago Athletics
The South Otago Athletics will now be held this Wednesday, 4th March. We wish the best of luck to the 14 Year 7 and 8 students who will be representing Tokomairiro High School. We look forward to seeing some great results from this group.

House Update
Lunchtime House Sports kicked off last week with fast-paced 3v3 basketball in the gym. It was a highly competitive start, with every house managing to secure at least one win. These games are a vital way for students to earn points toward the overall House Shield. Regarding the recent Athletics Day, the final scores are currently being verified and will be officially shared during our assembly next week.

School Production: The Addams Family
The wait is over! Following a series of fantastic auditions, the cast for our school production of The Addams Family has been officially named. We were incredibly impressed by the depth of talent displayed by all who auditioned. Rehearsals begin this week, and we look forward to seeing the hard work of our cast and crew come together over the coming months.

Roadworks and Safety
A reminder that drainage roadworks are ongoing along Union Street.
- Parking: There is currently no parking available directly outside the school front.
- Drop-offs: Please use the Elizabeth Street or Park Road exits for student drop-offs and pick-ups.
- Speed Limits: Plans are in place for electronic variable speed limit signs to be installed outside the school. While they are not yet in place, we expect them to be operational later this month to enhance safety for our students during peak morning and afternoon hours.

Attendance and BYOD
- Every Day Matters: Consistent attendance is essential for students to stay connected to their learning. Please notify the school promptly if your child is absent.
- Device Readiness: As digital tools are a regular part of our daily curriculum, please ensure students bring their BYOD devices fully charged each morning.

Ngā mihi nui,
Vicki Wish,
Principal | Tumuaki

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www.miltonbutchery.co.nz or our Facebook page!

ERO Report

Tokomairiro High School are very pleased to be able to share the report following our Education Review Office visit at the end of last year.
Follow the link or go to our website to read all about it!
https://www.tokohigh.school.nz/ero-report-2026

Public Health Nurse -Abby Brookland

Available Tuesdays and Fridays at Tokomairiro High School
Phone 027 241 1506 to make an appointment.

Props Needed!!

The Props Department of 'The Addams Family' production are on the lookout for a few items.
- A standalone coat rack
- Old thermal Curtains
- Old candlesticks and old candles

Please contact jane@tokohigh.school.nz if you can help!

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

DAIHA COULTER-LAWLOR

SUCCESS PROFILE



L2 CERTIFICATE ENDORSED WITH MERIT

MATHS, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AGRI BUSINESS, ENGLISH, BIOLOGY: ENDORSED WITH MERIT

SIX SUCCESS TRAITS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT:

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

I aimed to go beyond the basics in my assignments. I added extra detail, checked criteria carefully, and pushed myself to reach my goals instead of giving up because "It's too hard or too much work".

MAINTAINING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Even when assessments were challenging, I stayed positive and my teachers were really helpful. Instead of seeing mistakes as failures, I treated them as opportunities to improve.

PUTTING IN THE EFFORT

I started assessments as soon as I received them and worked on them consistently instead of leaving them until the last minute. This gave me time to ask questions, improve my work, and complete tasks efficiently while maintaining a high standard.

BEING COMMITTED

At the beginning of the year, I set a goal to achieve merit or higher in all of my assessments. I stayed focused on that goal and consistently reminded myself why doing well mattered to me. Keeping that purpose in mind helped me stay disciplined throughout the year, and reaching that goal in the end was incredibly fulfilling.

INCLUDING OTHERS

Including others allowed me to gain new perspectives and learning techniques, which helped me stay motivated and improve my work.

BEING CONSISTENT

Success didn't come from cramming before exams. It came from consistent effort throughout the year, actively listening in class, and genuinely being interested in what I was learning. Because I had been working steadily, exam study became revision rather than last-minute learning.

Whakaute, Haepapa, Hiranga
Respect, Responsibility, Excellence

Bible Reading for the Week

"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way." - ***Psalm 25:9***

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Match Fight Tournament

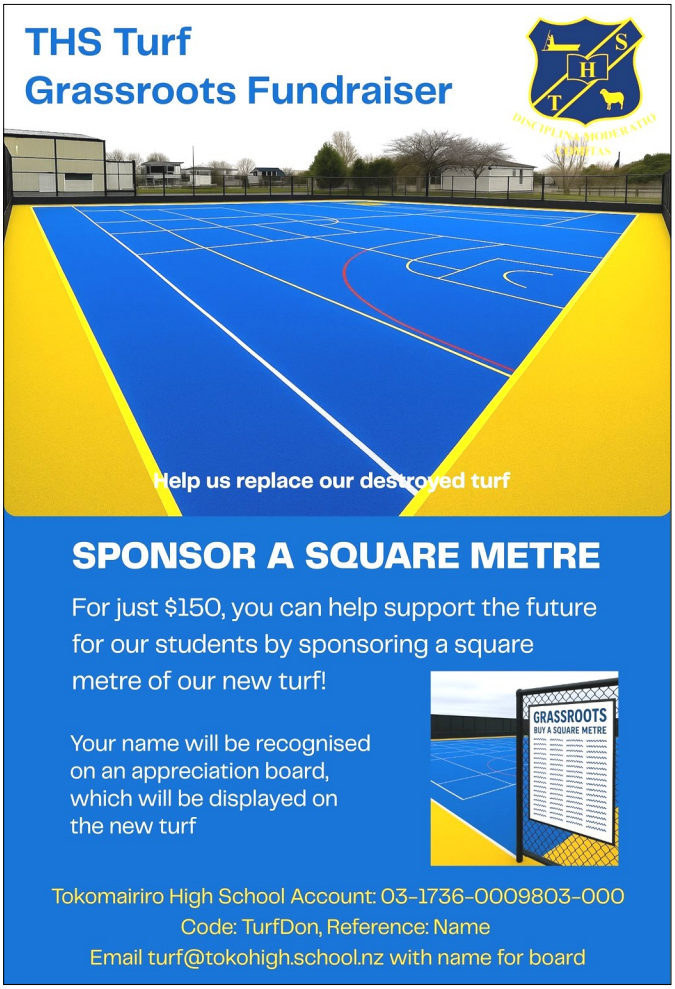
Tokomairiro Kyokushin Karate is proud to host a Kata and Match Fight Tournament here in Milton, on Saturday, 7th March in the Coronation Hall, welcoming competitors from across the South Island, along with several competitors travelling down from the North Island.

The event promises a full day of spirited competition, discipline, and camaraderie in the true tradition of Kyokushin Karate.

Run by dedicated local instructors, Tokomairiro Kyokushin Karate has strong roots in the community, with students from Milton and the wider South Otago area. The club continues to grow, particularly in its junior ranks, reflecting the commitment and enthusiasm of young martial artists in the region.

The tournament will feature competitors of all skill levels, ranging in age from 7 to 54 years old. Divisions include Junior (7–14 years), Colt (15–18 years), and Senior (18 years and over), ensuring fair and competitive matchups across all grades and experience levels. Local students have been training hard over the past eight weeks in preparation for the event. For some, this will be their very first tournament — an exciting milestone in their martial arts journey. Others will be looking to test their skills and measure their progress against strong competition from around the country.

The Tokomairiro Kyokushin Karate Kata and Match Fight Tournament is set to be a fantastic showcase of determination, respect, and the enduring spirit of Kyokushin. Osu!



Making an Appointment

If you would like to see a member of the Senior Leadership Team or your child's Dean or Teacher, please call or email the office to arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time. Although we like to meet with parents/ whanau, we are not always available at short notice and may be teaching or working with students or other staff.

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

Toko Golf

Ladies Golf - 24th February 2026

Results - Sealed Holes

Joan McLeod	32.5
Helen Vollweiler	34.5
Jeanette Jones	34.5
Jenny Good	35
Pam Keddell	35.5

Closest to the Pin 9 & 18: S. Bearman

Leckie Cup - 28th February 2026

J Clark & B Bearman	100 - 34.5 - 65.5
M Cain & P Blacow	97 - 27 - 69
M Scott & L Day	90 - 20.5 - 69.5
W Agnew & D Weyer	86 - 15.5 - 70.5
J Day & R Stringer	88 - 17 - 71
L Adam & B Hill	94 - 22.5 - 71.5

Two's: J Good and M J Adam
Longest putt - J Day

News from the Trenches...

Stand by for details on our Spud Dig competition which is happening this Saturday. Our wee Spud elves called Mashies will be picking up the Spuds on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. The judging will commence at 12pm with plenty of categories lined up including heaviest shawl, biggest whopper and biggest bush. Following this, we will be having a special games afternoon which include a unique game including a team relay. This is guaranteed to being a extremely fun afternoon. So make sure you are there. On top of that we will be showing Highlander vs Force game at 4:30pm as well. So clear the calendar and get yourself on board!

Following on in regards to our Super Rugby Comp, it appears to be a disaster based on the results this week. The odd RSA member was majorly regretting playing the joker.

Later on in March we will be having our wild food night with plenty of delicious delicacies so lock in the 28th March to expand your gastro taste buds.

Finally another RSA public service announcement warning about the danger of running over your cellphone with your ride on lawnmower. On top of this, this member was required to go to an optometrist as they couldn't find the cellphone involved. Some RSA members were discussing their chainsaw size as well, so plenty of helpful advice.

Stand by next week for all the results of the Spud Dig.

- Private Spike Pike

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Sumpter Moore –Barristers & Solicitors

5 Eden Street, (PO Box 16) Milton

For all your legal requirements, contact our friendly team at (03) 417-8004 or email milton@sumptermoore.co.nz

Quote of the Week:

'Correct me if I'm wrong, but hasn't the fine line between sanity and madness gotten finer?' -George Price

Genesis Classifieds ...

Situations Vacant | **Situations Vacant** | **Church Notices** | **Church Notices**

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.

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

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY



Students entering and exiting the bus are vulnerable to passing vehicles, and drivers must take great care when they encounter school buses.

- Reduce speed to **20km/h** when passing a school bus and keep an eye out for children who may walk out onto the road.
- If you are dropping children off or collecting them from a bus stop, stand well back from the edge of the road and out of the way of the bus.
- Wait on the same side of the road to collect your child in a rural area so they don't have to cross.

Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish 34 Union Street, Milton



Sunday 8th March
10am World Day of Prayer Service
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

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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.

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 | **Public Notices** | **Public Notices** | **Public Notices**

TOKO JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB - Registrations Open

Calling all new and returning players to now register using the Rugby Xplorer App.
Parents of new players, please download the App and/or use the link below and follow the instructions to create an account for yourself (parent/caregiver) first *before* creating and linking your child/ren (players) to then register them.
Club Name: ***TOKO (OTAGO) RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB***

All coaches, managers, volunteers and players will need to create an account and register before 13th March. You will get an email confirming your registration from Rugby Xlporer.

Please note: Children need to be 4 years old by 31st March 2026 - to register for the 2026 season.

Non-Contact is Rippa - Junior Non-Contact (Under 7) Contact is tackle rugby - Junior Contact (Year 3 - Year 8)

Open Day 8th March 10-12 @ Toko Squash Club to help new and existing players with Registration and Boot Swap.

2026 SUBS:

Subs are $35.00 per player, plus a $20.00 family donation ($55.00 for 1 child, $90.00 for 2 children etc)
Toko School Boy Rugby 03-1736-0013343-00 (*Use players name and 'subs' as the reference*)

2026 Online Shop: is now open through Promo-X You can now access the online store here:
https://promo-x.co.nz/product-category/toko-rfc/ Password is: TOKO26

Head on over to our Facebook Group - Toko Junior Rugby Club

Enquiries to Junior Secretary: Tess E: tokojuniorrugbyclub@gmail.com P: 0273447066

Genesis Classifieds ...

Acknowledgement

Thomas / Thoemali

I am truly thankful for all the support and the help I got in this sad time.
For the loss of my biggest love in my life, Thomas Fischli.
- Thank you
Regula



Pet Services

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Public Notices

MCC Milton Country Club

The Milton Country Club Bistro will be open Friday 6th and Saturday 7th from 5:30pm with last orders being taken at 7:30pm.
You do not need to be a member to pop on down and enjoy a meal.

Public Notices

Milton Coronation Hall Society

A Special General Meeting will be held on the 12th March 2026 in the Green Room of the Milton Coronation Hall at 7pm to amend the constitution of the Milton Coronation Hall Society Inc.

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

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TG TOKO GYM

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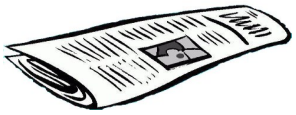

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