Tokomairiro High
School Newsletter &
Community Noticeboard

Genesis

11th March 2026

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz



Athletics Day Results

Following on from a fantastic day of competition, we were pleased to announce our Athletics Champions for 2026 during our assembly on Monday. Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding performance:

- Minor Boy: *Adam Woodhead*
- Minor Girl: *Ramona Kohunui-Paul*
- Junior Boy: *Ty Fraser*
- Junior Girl: *Taya Robinson*
- Intermediate Boy: *Hunter Dodds*
- Intermediate Girl: *Saffron Healey*
- Senior Boy: *Dion Nichol*
- Senior Girl: *Pippa Greene*

In the House standings, competition was fierce! Congratulations to Ayson for taking out 1st place, followed by Ross in 2nd, Reid in 3rd and Malcolm in 4th.

South Otago Athletics

Our Year 7 and 8 students achieved a great deal of success at the recent South Otago Athletics. There were many top three placings across the board and we were very proud of the effort shown by everyone. We are now looking forward to seeing who qualifies for the next stage in Invercargill at the end of the month.



Progress Update: Stage One Secured!

As you may be aware, our previous artificial turf reached the end of its life, leaving our students and local sports groups without a usable space. We have been working tirelessly to replace it with a modern, multi-sport facility, complete with floodlighting, to serve the school, local clubs, youth organisations and the wider Milton community for years to come.

Thanks to the incredible support of our community, local grants, and businesses, we have successfully secured the funding required for Stage One of the project. This is a significant milestone that proves the collective commitment to our rangatahi.

We are now seeking partners for Stage Two and we invite you to get on board.

Scan the QR code below to sponsor 150m² of our new turf or email turf@tokohigh.school.nz for information about Bronze, Silver and Gold sponsorship options.

In the next few weeks the exisitng fence will be removed, Stage One of the turf will be laid and new fencing installed. Toward the end of the year, Stage Two of the turf will be installed.



Dates to Remember

Monday 16th March - Level 1 Art Trip

Tuesday 17th March - St Patrick's Day

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

Thursday 26th March - Level 1 Science Trip

Friday 27th March - Swimming Sports

***Genesis* Deadline** 12 Noon Monday

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
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Prices valid 9th to 15th 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

As we enter the second half of Term 1, it is wonderful to see our students so settled and focused on their mahi. There is a great sense of energy around our kura and still a lot to look forward to as we balance classroom learning with sports, various upcoming trips and house competitions.

AKO Weeks
We are now entering the third of our Term 1 AKO weeks. These weeks are a vital part of our school calendar designed to avoid class disruptions as much as possible so that learning and assessment remain uninterrupted for all students.

Unserious Careers Presentation
Last Wednesday 4th March, our Year 11–13 students attended an inspiring Careers Talk during their Pathways time. We were fortunate to host Alana Kilmartin, founder of 'Unserious Careers' and author of What Else Is Out There?. Alana shared her own career story and encouraged our students to view their future as an adventure rather than an exam. It was a fantastic session that helped our senior students see the vast range of options available to them while removing the pressure of having everything figured out the moment they leave school.



Touch Rugby
Last Saturday, our Touch team took part in the Otago Secondary School Tournament in very hot weather. As this is a new team, it was their first tournament together. They played exceptionally well against some very experienced teams and were involved in several close games.

Park Runs
Monday marked the first day of our Park Runs! These will run two or three lunchtimes per term and are open to all students. It is fantastic to see that the registrations are already huge and we look forward to seeing our students out there being active and enjoying the fresh air.

House Update
Lunchtime House Sports have been in full swing and we have the final results from the 3v3 Basketball:
- 1st Place: Reid
- 2nd Place: Malcolm
- 3rd Place: Ross
- 4th Place: Ayson

Looking ahead, there are many more opportunities for houses to earn points. Alongside our second major event, Swimming Sports, and the House Chess competition, we are also incorporating House Points for attendance, recognitions and our upcoming School Tidy Up.

St Patrick's Day Celebrations
Next Tuesday 17th March, we will be celebrating St Patrick's Day. This will be a green coloured mufti day for our students. There will also be pies and ginger beer for sale; please note that these must be pre-ordered via Kindo or at the canteen this week.

Ngā mihi nui,
Vicki Wish,
Principal | Tumuaki

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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!

Public Health Nurse -Abby Brookland

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



Bible Reading for the Week: *"The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace ."- **Numbers 6:26***

KENDRA CLARK

SUCCESS PROFILE



L2 CERTIFICATE ENDORSED WITH EXCELLENCE

MATHS, ENGLISH, PHYSICS, ART, BIOLOGY: ENDORSED WITH MERIT

SIX SUCCESS TRAITS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT:

BEING PREPARED

Being prepared allows you to approach any task with confidence, because knowing exactly what's required and having the right tools at hand not only makes you feel in control, but also helps you perform efficiently, stay focused, and avoid unnecessary stress, ultimately increasing the quality of your work and your ability to achieve your goals.

SHARING YOUR IDEAS

Sharing your ideas allows you to contribute to discussions, spark new ideas, and create solutions with your peers. By expressing your thoughts, you are opening yourself to other peoples feedback to help refine and strengthen your ideas.

PUTTING IN THE EFFORT

Putting in effort is the difference between just passing and truly achieving well. While many people can meet the minimum requirements, consistently giving your best and building your skills allows you to achieve more than you ever expected.

BEING COACHABLE

Being open to feedback allows me to improve faster than I might have expected. By actively asking questions, considering others' opinions, and applying their feedback to my work, I can excel more quickly and avoid repeating mistakes.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE: DOING MORE THAN WHAT'S REQUIRED

Going that extra mile really helps to differentiate yourself from others. Not only do you improve the quality of your work, you build a positive reputation by showing dedication, reliability, and initiative. Ultimately opening new opportunities for you in the long run.

BEING CONSISTENT

Being consistent means showing up, putting in effort, and maintaining your standards day after day, even when motivation is low. Consistency builds trust, develops habits that lead to long-term success, and ensures that your progress doesn't rely on random bursts of effort, but on steady, reliable action that pays off over time..

Whakaute, Haepapa, Hiranga
Respect, Responsibility, Excellence

Attendance Matters



"School isn't important, you can miss a day!"

Research shows this is highly debatable... Aside from learning essential academic life skills like reading writing and math, school also teaches young people:

- About the world and their place in it
-How to interact with others
-Ways to manage their emotions
-How to be critical thinkers
-Confidence in their abilities
-Ways to problem-solve
-Structure and routine
-Discipline, time management, and good habits

One day matters!

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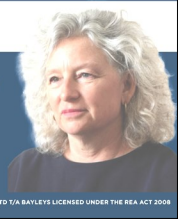

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Unserious Careers Workshop – Inspiring our Future Pathways



Yesterday our Year 11–13 students had the opportunity to take part in the Unserious Careers Workshop with visiting presenter Alana Kilmartin, and it was an absolute highlight of the week.

The session challenged students to rethink the idea that they must have their entire future mapped out before leaving school. Instead, Alana encouraged them to explore opportunities, try different experiences, and focus on discovering what genuinely interests them. The workshop explored ideas such as identifying personal strengths, being open to different career pathways, and understanding that careers are often built through exploration rather than one single decision.

Students were fully engaged throughout the presentation, enjoying the humour, real-life stories, and practical advice about navigating the early years after school. There was plenty of laughter, thoughtful discussion, and some great questions from our students.

Experiences like this help our senior students realise that there are many different pathways to success, whether that be apprenticeships, further study, employment, or exploring opportunities along the way.

A huge thank you to Alana for sharing her insights and helping our students feel more confident about the possibilities ahead.

The future doesn't have to be perfectly planned.

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



WDS Deck Party

Our recent Deck Party at Waihola District School was held to celebrate the completion of our new deck and classroom upgrades. It was a great opportunity to welcome whānau into the school and share the improvements to our learning spaces.

The evening was also a chance for our community to meet two of our newest staff members, Megan, our new senior class teacher, and Corrine, our office administrator. It was lovely for families to put faces to the names of the people working with our students each day.

Events like this are a wonderful reminder of the strong sense of community that makes Waihola District School such a special place. Thank you to everyone who came along to celebrate with us.



Stock Drive to assist Pool Fundraising



Although work has started on site at the Elsie Stewart Community Library and Pool, Stephen Woodhead, committee chairman says ongoing local funding support is essential as we work towards the target of raising two million dollars.

We are calling on our rural community to get behind the project by supporting our Stock Drive.

If you are sending stock away to be processed or sold and are in a position to help, please consider contributing to the project.

All you need to do is contact your stock company representative a few days before sending your stock so arrangements can be made to gift the proceeds to the Bruce Community Facilities Trust. We have accounts set up with the Meat Companies and PGG Wrightson, so whether you are processing or selling your stock there are options available.

If you would like public acknowledgement of your support, visit https://www.brucecommunitypool.nz/ and head to the Donate Now page to download the pledge form or contact the Trust.

The Stock Drive is just one way you can contribute. To find other ways to support the project, visit the website and see how you can help bring this important community facility to life.

Waihola/Clarendon Women`s Institute

2026 got off to a good start - It was our 74th birthday so members travelled to Janefield Hydroponics and Peonies garden. We had the extensive hydroponics system explained to us and what was done with the produce grown there. The size of the strawberries were amazing and also their long growing season was impressive Lunch was had in Mosgiel followed by a short meeting after that. Our March meeting is our AGM and members will also attend the AGM of the Mid Otago Federation later on in the week, where we will hear about the Mid Otago Federation going into recess and what it will mean for local Mid Otago Women`s Institutes. Our entries for the competitions were arranged.

News from the Trenches...

WOW oooh WOW what a stinking hot day it was last Saturday for our annual Spud Dig competition where a large crowd drawn to see who was the best at harvesting Spuds. The runaway winner of the biggest shawl was Georgie Madden who shawl was almost 5kg. Biggest whopper (Spud) was won by Evan Jenkins while the ugliest Spud was ironically called Ronnie as won by Sandra West. We had a new category for the best bush who was judged by an expert and Nick McKay took away that prize. Thank you to all those that helped that day, was another successful day with plenty of fun.

We had a games afternoon following the Spud Dig and the dangerous combo of Bryan Forde and Bruce Graham came out victorious. No one could match this pair. Along with the Highlander victory it was a triple success for RSA. Another highlight was Tony McGee there in full flight so was great to see him after his recent difficulties. Looking good.

Rapidly approaching next is our Wild Foods Night on Saturday 28 March, if this is half as successful as previous nights, there will be a gastro delight. So make sure you are there. Feel free to bring along any interesting food or just turn up to savour our international Chefs and their recipes.

We seem to be getting a surge in people wanting to join our RSA Facebook page which is understandable. If you haven't been confirmed, contact RSA so we can verify your details. Speaking of details our joker draw has hit $3k so that's a reason why our Thurs night raffles are extremely popular. Hard to keep up with all the news.

Finally there is another week of upsets with Sports Comp but a wee birdie mentioned a genius picked Italy to beat England so to end with Grazie and Arrivederci!!!

- Private Spike Pike

Euchre

25th February 2026
Winner: Val (Balclutha)
Loser: Maureen (Owaka)
Raffle: Val (Balclutha)

4th March 2026
Winner: Dawn (Owaka)
Loser: Vivienne (Australia)
Raffle: Vivienne (Australia)

Toko Golf

Toko Ladies Golf Tournament - 5th March 2026

Thank you to our sponsors Berridale Farm and Marion Woodhead, a great day was had.

Best Nett Over the Field: Jenny Good on c/back
J Greene
H Vollweiler

Div 1 0 - 27.3

Best Nett	J Greene	71	
R/up Nett	S Bearman	73	
1st Stableford	K Mercer	34	c/b
R/up Stableford	S Jopson	34	

Div 2 27 - 40.4

Best Nett	H Vollweiler	71	
R/up Nett	J McLeod	73	c/b
	Jan Clark	73	
1st Stableford	Jan Clark	35	
R/up Stableford	M Cain	33	

Longest Putt Over Field - Suzie Bearman
Closest to Pin - Chris Gibson
Hard Luck Prize (Lost four balls) - Glenys Bruce

Cutlers Monthly Medal & Putting - 7th March 2026

Roarers Mug: 1st	M Clark	96 - 8 - 68	
2nd	L Moana	96 - 26 - 69	
3rd	N Clark	76 - 6 - 70	
4th	L Day	95 - 24 - 71	
5th	P Sheath	87 - 16 - 71	
6th	M Mead	90 - 19 - 71	
Putting	M Clark	26 putts	
Longest Putt	9/18 M Clark		
Two's	D Gold		

The Rebus Club of Milton

John and Robyn Hollis talked about their time working in two mines in NW Australia at the February meeting. John was Camp Manager and Robyn worked in the kitchen.

The first mine, Gunpowder, was 125 miles from Mt Isa. Afghan people worked there from the 1860s to mine copper. John had to organise the building of single men's quarters, then a caravan park and a bar, then houses. Temperatures varied from 23 to 52 degrees, ground was very fertile and mangoes flourished. Copper was used for batteries, weapons etc.

Kangaroos were plentiful and intelligent, often becoming pets. Each mine worker took a 5 litre container of water to work each day.

Eventually Gunpowder went out of existence so the Hollis' went to Cannington. Conditions were very basic and lead, silver, copper and gold were mined. A town was established; even a conference centre, as tourists were visiting. 67,000 meals were supplied daily.

Eventually health problems caught up with John and Robyn and they moved to places that had fewer people, better roading, friendly neighbours and no traffic lights.

They were thanked and given a gift.

The next meeting is on Tuesday March 17 at the RSA Hall at 10 am. Committee please meet at 9.30 am. The speakers are Roger and Joy Leslie. Roger will talk about his walk the length of New Zealand.

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.

Genesis Classifieds ...

Situations Vacant **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.

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

Church Notices

Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish 34 Union Street, Milton



Sunday 15th March
10am Worship 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
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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

Council Updates & Notices

Updates from the Clutha District Council
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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!**

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- 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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