Tokomairiro High School Newsletter & Community Noticeboard

Genesis

25th March 2026

238 Union Street
MILTON
T: 03 417 4483

E: genesis@tokohigh.school.nz





Waka Huia Art Trip

In Week 8, the Year 11 art class (left) visited Tūhura Otago Museum to see the Miller's Flat waka huia. This taoka (treasure) was found in 1933 and handed in to the museum. We learned that the origins of the waka huia are unknown, but we were also able to learn how archaeologists use clues to piece together probable theories. It was amazing to see behind the scenes at the museum.
Kā mihi to Gerard and the staff who shared their knowledge with us.



Athletics Results

Last Saturday, a group of Year 7 and 8 students represented our kura at the Southland Primary School Athletics Championships. Our students performed exceptionally well and we are very proud of their results:

- **Mark Senada**: 1st in High Jump
- **Ben Woodhead:** 2nd in High Jump, 2nd in Relay, 6th in 200m and 7th in 100m
- **Adam Woodhead:** 2nd in Relay and 3rd in Shot Put
- **Riley Milligan:** 5th in 200m (achieving a personal best) and 9th in 100m

It was also great to hear of students from the Milton primary schools performing extremely well.



Above: Adam, Riley and Ben celebrate their achievements.

Dates to Remember

Thursday 26th March - Level 1 Science Trip
Friday 27th March - Swimming Sports
Thursday 2nd April - End of Term One
Monday 20th April - Start of Term Two
Monday 20th April - Friday 24th April - SMART Testing Week

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

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Tokomairiro High School Newsletter...

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

Tena koutou katoa

As we head into the final stretch of the term, our kura is certainly a busy place to be. We had some great trips out last week, with our Year 11 Art students visiting the Museum and our Senior AgHort and Food Tech students visiting Central Otago. There is a great deal of energy across the school as we look to fit a lot of exciting activities and final learning goals into these next few days, including our annual Easter Egg Hunt which takes place next week before the term concludes.

Swimming Sports
Our annual Swimming Sports will be held this Friday 27th March. This is always a fantastic day of house spirit and competition, and we look forward to seeing our students giving their best in the water. This event marks the second major house event of the year. At the moment, the overall house competition is incredibly close, so there is everything to 'swim' for!

Signage
Later this week, we are expecting to see the second phase of our school signage being installed. This is another very exciting development and yet another way we are seeing a positive change in our surroundings.

Turf Update
As we get closer to the installation of the first phase of our new turf, the excitement is certainly building. Last week saw the removal of the old fences and the hedge, and the area already feels quite different. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the community who have supported us this far by purchasing a square metre of turf or through business sponsorship. We are still working hard to raise the necessary funds to be able to 'press go' on the second phase of the turf project.

Attendance
Attendance is tracking well across all year levels, and we are now reaching the end of our first term using the new Attendance Management Plan and the STAR framework introduced by the government. We really appreciate the timely communication from our caregivers regarding absences.
Under the STAR framework, student absence levels are categorised into tiers: 5 days of absence moves a student into the yellow tier, 10 days leads to the orange tier, and 15 days reaches the red tier. Because every day matters, it is vital that students catch up on any missed work after an absence to ensure they stay connected with their learning.

SMART Testing
The government is introducing a new assessment tool this year called SMART to track student progress in reading, writing and maths. According to the Ministry of Education, this tool is designed to provide teachers with information that reflects classroom learning to help identify student needs and provide targeted support. All of our students in Year 7 to 10 will be sitting these tests during our SMART testing week, which will take place in Week 1 of Term 2.

Ngā mihi nui,
Vicki Wish, Principal | Tumuaki

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Use the 'create account' option to set up an account.
Call in to the school office, or visit support.mykindo.co.nz, email hello@mykindo.co.nz or phone 0508 454 636.

Genesis Office Hours
Tuesdays 8:30-3:30
Wednesdays 8:30-12 noon

Public Health Nurse -Abby Brookland

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

THS Turf Grassroots Fundraiser



JOELLE DE SEYMOUR

SUCCESS PROFILE



L1 MUSIC

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SIX SUCCESS TRAITS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT:

BEING ON TIME

Being on time is important because it creates a sense of structure and reduces stress. When I arrive early or at the right moment, I don't feel rushed or unprepared. I can take the time to get settled, organise my thoughts, and focus. It also helps build a sense of trust with others. If I'm consistently punctual, people can rely on me, and I show that I value their time as much as my own.

SHOWING KINDNESS

Everyone is going through something we may not see. When we're patient, supportive, and understanding, we create a safer and more positive environment for learning. Kindness is something you practice consistently. Listening when someone talks or encouraging a classmate can build trust and stronger friendships. It also reduces conflict and helps everyone feel more comfortable participating in class.

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS

This helps me stay organised and focused. It shows that I can follow a plan, which is a skill that goes beyond school and into every part of life. Being able to follow instructions means I can complete tasks, meet expectations, and build trust with teachers and others who rely on me.

BEING CONSISTENT

I used to get excited about a task at first but then lose interest halfway through. By not being consistent, I wasn't giving myself the chance to see improvement. I try to be consistent in everything I do, even on days when I don't feel like it. Being consistent has taught me that success is built on the daily actions we take, no matter how small.

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

There are times when finishing the basic requirements would be enough, but I try to push myself a little further. Whether it's adding more detail, studying beyond what will be on the test, or helping a classmate understand the material, that extra effort shows that I care about my work and take pride in what I do.

WORKING HARD

Improvement doesn't happen by accident. Each time I study a little longer, ask questions, or revise my work, I get better. Hard work teaches me patience and determination. When I stay committed to my goals, I build confidence because I know I earned my progress.

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

Bible Reading for the Week:

"Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. ." - ***Hosea 6:1***

Overall zero rates increase in ORC's draft Annual Plan

Balancing important environmental work and finding cost efficiencies were the key focus for the draft 2026–27 Annual Plan.

ORC's draft plan delivers an overall zero rates increase in 2026–27 — a significant drop onthe 8.7% increase forecast during the Long-Term Plan process.

For the average residential property in Dunedin, Clutha, Waitaki and Central Otago, rates drop slightly. In Queenstown, properties that pay a public transport rate will see an increase. This is due to the cost of extra services introduced after public consultation, such as the new Arrowtown to Jack's Point bus service and increased frequency of services on other bus routes.

While there's no increase in the value of the overall rates amount collected, rates for each property vary depending on things like location and the services provided. Some properties will still see a change with rates increasing or decreasing.

See more information about the draft Annual Plan on ORC's website and look up estimated rates at orc.govt.nz/ap2026.

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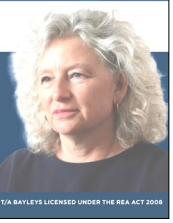

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Cooking Up a Storm in Food Tech!

Our Year 9 and 10 Food Tech students have been incredibly busy in the kitchen lately! From savoury favourites like Marinated Chicken Wraps, Teriyaki Beef, and Fried Rice, to a cozy Sustainable Windfall Apple Crumble and Pikelets, the flavours have been outstanding.

But it's not all just about the eating! Beyond the recipes, students have been getting serious about Health and Safety. They've been sharpening their technical skills by mastering the use of food thermometers and learning the art of safe reheating.

Keep up the great work Chefs.



Euchre

11th March 2026
Winner: Bruce
Loser: Jenny
Raffle: Raelene

18th March 2026
Winner: Maureen (Owaka)
Loser: Cath
Raffle: Irene (Owaka)

News from the Trenches...

The days are starting to cool off and the nights getting darker earlier except at Milton RSA where the social events just keep on rocking!!!

This coming Saturday will see us host the highly anticipated Wild Foods Night which, based on previous years, is always a very popular event. I can highly recommend being there to sample the delicious banquet on offer. MasterChef has nothing on what is being prepared. The courtesy van will be running at 5pm so book your spot.

Another feature is our Super Sports Comp which, based on this week results, could have left another bump in the road for the chasing pack who currently trying to chase Hoot Caleb Tangitau and Bruce Terry Wright who have set a sizzling pace. Kasey (with a K) Irvine is the cunning factor just lurking in the background.

As I'm doing the report on Sunday night, the Club Rugby Draw still hasn't been confirmed based on the possibility of a withdrawal of an iconic club team. Hopefully they manage to hang in there but I'm sure by next weekend I'm hopeful for confirming the rest of the draw. We will be covering the scores in a couple of weeks so the tension builds.

Finally a wee birdy has told me that love is in the air at the RSA with a popular member looking totally in love skipping through the day with new love. Clearly it's the place for new adventures. Before anyone starts thinking it's the author, that would be an emphatic NO!!! That is all.

- Private Spike Pike

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

Genesis Classifieds ...

Church Notices

Church Notices

Tokomairiro Co-Operating Parish 34 Union Street, Milton



Sunday 29th 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
Phone: 03 417 4373 Cell: 027 230 8820

WAIHOLA
Grace Presbyterian Church of New Zealand

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

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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.



Genesis Classifieds ...

Public Notices **Public Notices** **Public Notices** **Public Notices**

Due to the Easter break, there will be no Genesis publication on Wednesday 8th April.



Bruce Community Calendar APRIL 2026

Wednesday 1st April Lovell's Flat Women's Institute - 1:30pm
Wednesday 8th April Museum Meeting, 2pm
Saturday 25th April ANZAC Service - Lovell's Flat 9am

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

Contact the Genesis Office for more information about advertising. Just email genesis@tokohigh.school.nz

Milton Post Centre & Gifts
122 Union Street
MILTON

We would like to thank all our customers over the years that have supported us.
The shop will be closed from noon on Friday 27th March 2026.

The NZ Post will be at the Milton Pharmacy, 71 Union Street.
The Land Transport Motor Registration, Road Users etc will not be in Milton.

The shop will be open on Saturday 21st March and Monday 23rd March from 10am to 12 noon—come in and check out our half price gifts!
All gifts and greeting cards half price - come and get a bargain.

I wish to thank you once again,
it's a shame it had to end like this.

Anne & Staff

Milton Bowling Club

Milton Bowling Club Inc wish to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of our Tournaments and Twilight Bowls this Season. It has been much appreciated.
Bowls New Zealand, Clutha Licensing Trust, Clutha Vets, Great Southern Group, Milton Butchery, Milton Caltex, Milton Four Square, Milton Night N Day, Milton Stihl Shop, PGG Wrightson, Sumpter Moore Lawyers

A reminder our Closing Day is Sunday 29th March at 1.30pm with a fun game of bowls to finish the Season. BBQ to follow. All Welcome.

Milton Primary School Board
Casual vacancy for a parent representative

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative.

The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:
Presiding Member - Nigel Woodhead
Milton Primary School Board
PO Box 73
Milton 9240

by: 17th April 2026

Genesis Deadline 12 Noon Monday

Council Updates & Notices

Updates from the Clutha District Council | Stay Informed, Stay Connected

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

Financial support is available to youth in the district who are looking to pursue personal development and leadership skills.

The Clutha District Youth Development Fund has been set up to ensure our youth can make the most of every opportunity available to them by helping to remove financial limitations.

For more details and an application form phone 0800 801 350 or visit our website: **www.cluthadc.govt.nz/youth-fund.**

Applications close 5pm, Friday 17 April.

The Clutha District Libraries Book Sale begins on Friday! Find us in the old Stirling Sports building:

Friday 27 March, 10am to 6pm,

Saturday 28 March, 10am to 4pm

Sunday 29 March, 10am to 3pm

45 Clyde Street, Balclutha, $5.00 per bag, $10.00 per box, children and teens books are free!

Do you have a creative arts project in mind?

Arts Council New Zealand Toi Aotearoa creative nz

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:

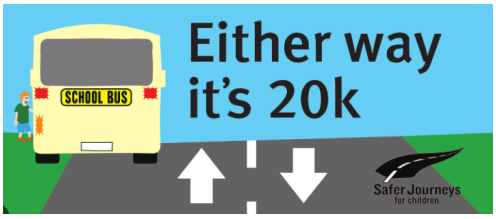
- Be in the Clutha District.
- Be started and completed within 12 months of funding approval.
- Any group, organisation or individual can apply.

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





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Genesis Classifieds ...

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