

TOKOMAIRIRO HIGH SCHOOL
NEWLSETTER AND
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

238 UNION STREET, MILTON
03 417 4483
GENESIS@TOKOHIGH.SCHOOL.NZ

Student Leadership and Democracy in Action

As part of this year's prefect selection process, we are taking the opportunity to give students a practical experience of democracy by setting up a mock polling station.

Students will have the opportunity to experience what it is like to cast a vote in a general election, including the processes involved in voting.

This is a valuable opportunity to help our young people understand how elections work and the importance of participating in the democratic process. Rather than simply learning about voting in a classroom, students will be able to experience the process for themselves.

We are looking forward to seeing our students engage in this experience while also having a voice in the selection of their student leaders for 2027.

Supporting Students Through Exams

With NCEA examinations beginning on 10 November, the next few weeks are an important time for our senior students.

Families can make a real difference by encouraging regular study, helping students establish manageable routines and ensuring they have time for rest, exercise and sleep. Practising past examination questions and focusing on areas that need improvement are particularly effective ways to prepare.

It is als important to keep things in perspective. Examinations can be stressful, and encouragement and reassurance from home can go a long way. If your child is unsure about what to focus on or is feeling overwhelmed, please encourage them to speak with their teachers.

We want our students to approach their examinations feeling confident, supported and as well-prepared as possible.

Enrolment Interviews for 2027

Please email Erica Milligan on erica@tokohigh.school.nz or contact the office to book a time for an enrolment interview.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our new students for 2027.



TOKOMAIRIRO HIGH SCHOOL

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HELP DURING OUR **EXAM PERIOD**
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

INTERESTED? Call the office on 03 417 8620 or email sharlene@tokohigh.school.nz

Upcoming Events

Year 7 & 8 *Inspiring the Futures* Day: Friday 30 October
SMART Testing (Years 7–10): First week of November
NCEA Exams Begin: Tuesday 10th November
Teacher Only Day: Friday 13th November
Year 7 & 8 Camp: Tuesday 17th - Friday 20th November

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Tokomairiro High School Newsletter
21st October 2026

RESPECT WHAKAUTE | RESPONSIBILITY HAEPAPA | EXCELLENCE HIRANGA

Tena koutou katoa,

We have had a great start to our second week of Term 4, and this morning's assembly provided a wonderful reminder of the calibre of young people we have at Tokomairiro High School.
Sixteen students who have applied to become prefects in 2027 spoke to the school about why they would like to take on a leadership role. It takes considerable courage to stand in front of your peers and speak, and all sixteen students represented themselves exceptionally well. It was wonderful to see such strong examples of rangatiratanga among our young people. The standard of candidates is incredibly high, and selecting our prefect team for next year is certainly not going to be an easy task!
Last week also saw our senior students complete their Derived Grade examinations. For some, particularly those who have not previously experienced external examinations, it was quite an eye-opening experience. These examinations provide an important opportunity for students to identify where they need to focus their efforts in the final weeks before NCEA examinations begin.
With plenty still happening across the school, it promises to be a busy and exciting few weeks ahead

Preparing for the 2027 Curriculum
As outlined in last week's newsletter, we are making changes to our Year 9 and 10 programmes in response to the new national curriculum requirements.
From 2027, Year 9 and Year 10 students will be taught in separate year-level classes and will follow a broad curriculum across all required learning areas, rather than selecting individual subjects.
Our staff are continuing to develop programmes that meet the new requirements while providing engaging and meaningful learning experiences for our students.
Our Teacher Only Day on Friday 13 November will provide dedicated time for this work. The school will be closed to students on this day
.

SMART Testing
During the first week of November, students in Years 7–10 will complete their second round of SMART testing in reading, writing and mathematics.
The first round of testing earlier in the year provided valuable information about students' achievement. This second round will allow us to measure the progress students have made throughout the year and identify areas where additional support or extension may be needed.
These assessments are one of the tools we use to monitor student progress and inform our teaching. No special preparation is required.

CAA Results
The first results from the latest round of NCEA Literacy and Numeracy Co-requisite Assessments (CAAs) were released last week, beginning with reading. We were very pleased with these results.
The writing and numeracy results are due to be released on 27 October. Once all results are available, we will have a clearer picture of how our students have progressed across the three areas.

Year 7 and 8 Camp
Excitement is building as preparations continue for our Year 7 and 8 camp at Camp Iona in North Otago from 17–20 November. Students have a fantastic four days ahead of them, with a busy programme that includes kayaking, orienteering, a visit to the Steampunk Museum and a wide range of other activities.
Camps are always a highlight of the school year, providing opportunities for students to challenge themselves, build confidence and strengthen whanaungatanga through shared experiences beyond the classroom. We are looking forward to what promises to be a memorable four days.

BYOD
As we head into Term 4, it is a timely reminder that students in Years 9–13 need to bring a device to school each day, charged and ready to use. Many NCEA assessments are now completed digitally and devices are also used regularly as part of students' everyday learning. With the Black Friday sales coming up, it may also be a good opportunity for families to start thinking ahead to 2027 if a new device is going to be needed.

Ngā mihi,
Vicki Wish
Principal | Tumuaki

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Collaboration Brings Skills, Purpose, and Community Benefit

Bible Reading for the Week

Our Redeemer - the lord almight is his name - is the holy one of Israel. Isaiah 47:4

A meaningful collaboration between Otago Corrections Facility (OCF) and the Bruce Community Facilities Trust (BCFT) is bringing new life, new skills, and new opportunities to the Milton community. Participants in OCF's Industries programme have been hard at work crafting high-quality children's furniture as part of their carpentry and painting training. Each piece, from bedside cabinets to bookcases, milking stools and colourful table-and-chair sets, reflects hours of learning, practical experience and pride. The project provides participants with an opportunity to develop industry-relevant skills, gain hands-on experience, and contribute positively to the community. Building practical employment skills and confidence can play an important role in supporting successful reintegration. The furniture is being gifted to the Bruce Community Facilities Trust as a fundraiser for the new Bruce Community Pool. The Trust will sell the items at a modest margin, with all proceeds supporting projects that benefit families across the Bruce District. Painted designs featuring popular children's characters have already attracted strong interest. BCFT Chairperson Stephen Woodhead says the project demonstrates the value of community partnerships, noting that the collaboration strengthens community connections while supporting rehabilitation pathways. "The men gain real, transferable skills and our community gains beautiful, handcrafted furniture. It's a win-win".



The initiative highlights the positive impact of industry training within Corrections, where practical education helps prepare participants for employment and reintegration. Furniture will be available through Project Bruce, with all funds going directly to the Bruce Community Facilities Trust. Pop into the Tokomairiro Community Hub for more info.

Articles & Reports

Genesis relies on articles and reports supplied by the community to fill our pages. Please email these to genesis@tokohigh.school.nz

Genesis Deadline - Monday at noon

Portfolios Being Completed

That's the face seniors make when they complete their folios! The art students are seeing their final pieces come together, almost ready to submit. Reily Mathieson (below) put the finishing touches on his mahi last week. Ka rawe!



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.



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Sumpter Moore - Barristers & Solicitors

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Knowledge is power, if you know it about the right person".
Ethel Mumford

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

Enrol to vote today – it's easy!

Kia ora koutou and hello to our school whānau,
As you probably know, New Zealand has a general election coming up! What you might not know is that the cut-off date to get enrolled on the main electoral roll is 25 October. To ensure your vote counts smoothly, it's best to be enrolled before this deadline.
Got older teenagers (18+)? If you have rangatahi who have recently turned 18 or will turn 18 before election day, make sure to check if they are enrolled so they can vote in their first election!
How to Enrol: Enrolling is quick and easy online at vote.nz using a photo ID (NZ driver's licence, NZ passport, or RealMe card). If you don't have those types of ID, you can request a paper form to be posted to you (paper forms do not require ID). Don't have the time to do this right now? Fill out this quick form by 350 Aotearoa and get your enrolment and voting reminders sent to you. https://act.350.org/signup/vote-nz/?r=NZ&c=OC
Frequently Asked Questions:

- Am I eligible to vote? If you are 18 or older, currently live in NZ, have lived here for at least one year continuously at some point, and are a NZ citizen or permanent resident, YES, you're eligible!
- Are you trying to tell me who to vote for? Not at all! This is strictly non-partisan. Who you vote for is entirely your choice – all that matters is that your voice and your family's voice are heard.
- What's the point if nothing changes? Real change happens when everyday community members have their say!
- Why should I vote if I don't care about politics? Decisions made by the government directly impact our schools, healthcare, local environment, and power bills. By voting, you help shape a future that supports your kids, whānau, and community.
- Where can I find neutral information on candidates/parties? Independent outlets like RNZ and Policy.nz offer non-partisan guides on party policies.

Enrol to vote today and help guide Aotearoa into a great future!

350 AOTEAROA
350.ORG.NZ

Published 22.09.2026. Authorised by Alva Feldmeier.

Check us out: www.tokohigh.school.nz

Toko Golf Club Results

Tuesday 13th October 2026

Game of the day - Daphne Lee Memorial

18 holes

Best Nett over the field - J. Good 93 - 24 - 69
Runner up to Nett - M. Cain 107 37 70
1st stab D. Matsopoulos 36 stabs
2nd stab S. Bearman 35 stabs
3rd Stab P. Keddell 33 c/b G. Coote.

9 Holes
Best Nett N. Cubitt 58 25 33
1st Stab C. Scott 17
2nd Stab D. Millar 14

Closest to the pin - J. Greene

News from the Trenches

It's all come down to this. Evil Empire Canterbury take on Northland in the NPC final on Monday at 2pm. Come down to the RSA and watch the stress level of people who think they are leading contenders for our NPC Comp with this game worth eight points and be the difference between winning and in the middle of the pack. Our NPC prize giving will be held Saturday 31 October when the winners will be revealed along with the Halloween theme. So get dressed up.
Also getting up is the Thursday night membership draw which hasn't been struck for a few weeks.
In the next couple of weeks details will be revealed to show the launch of the best party in 2027. You know what it is, but stand by, for all the news.
Now I've heard a couple of yarns about a few RSA members that need explanation. First I've heard of stories featuring planes from someone we shall now call Biggles along with his trusty sidekick Tail Gun!!! Also I've heard of a RSA member who travelled to Dunedin specifically for buying tomato plant, unfortunately bought the wrong ones and spent next day going back to Dunedin again.
But the worst yarn is the RSA member who has a pet lamb almost sheep that stays inside and wears a nappy. I'm not making this up...
Finally for Pikes Fact Hunt did you realize Billy Joel invented a way of using urine to light the BBQ. Wee didn't start the fire!!!!
Private Spike Pike



Genesis Classifieds.....Church Notices



Tokomairiro Co operating Parish

34 Union Street, Milton

Sunday 25th October

10am Worship Service in Milton Church Hall,
followed by Annual General Meeting at 11:30am

All Welcome

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

We are a Christian Faith Bible based Church

Sunday Service 10am

110 Union Street, Milton - All Welcome!
For information, follow us on Facebook

YOUTH UNITED

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Genesis Classifieds.....Public Notices

Toko Market / Boot Sale

Labour Weekend
Saturday 24th October.
10am - 1:30pm.

Come and have a look!

- Mr Whippy,
- Dr Honey,
- Repurposed blankets,
- Omor's Tie Dye Clothing. Simone's girls are bringing the toffee apples.
- Damian's etched glass.
- Desiree 's plants.
- Linda's colourful & popular bags.
- Marcela & her repurposed tools.
- Baby clothes.
- Bric a Brac.

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OTAGO Community Trust

16-24yrs? Find out more:
www.oct.org.nz

Happy Anniversary

Dear Bill

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary! Thank- you for sharing your life with me.

Love Kim

PARTY VOTE

NEW ZEALAND FIRST

Mark Patterson
CANDIDATE FOR TAIERI

Authorised by H. Howard, www.nzfirst.nz

Genesis Deadline
Monday at noon

Matthew French

National Party Candidate
for Taieri

National
Building the Future for *Taieri*

Authorised by M French, matthew.french@national.org.nz

Vote
Ingrid Leary
for Taieri

Labour

Better starts now.

ingrid.leary@labour.org.nz | labour.org.nz/ingridleary-2026
/IngridLearyMP @ingrid.leary

Authorised by Rob Salmond, 2 Gilmer Terrace, Wellington.

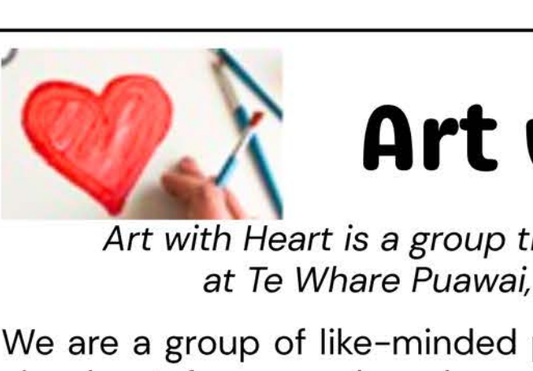
Genesis Classifieds.....Public Notices

Lawrence Heritage Trust's 2026 Heritage Homes Tour:

Sunday 1st November, 11am-3pm.

Tickets $35 pp include morning OR afternoon tea. Pre-bookings highly recommended: heritagetrustlawrence@gmail.com or cash only sales on the day from Museum & Info Centre.

Part of Lawrence Heritage Day festivities



Lawrence HERITAGE CULTURAL CHARITABLE Trust



Art with Heart

Art with Heart is a group that meets Mondays 10am-12pm at Te Whare Puawai, 34 Spenser Street, Milton.

We are a group of like-minded people who come together to explore visual art forms and exchange stories, stimulating discussion and non-judgemental support.

We provide art materials with the generous support of the Creative Communities scheme, and occasional workshops to help improve your techniques. Multiple mediums are available for you to play, explore and express your creative desires.

Beginners welcome. No experience necessary – just a desire to explore visual art.

A small charge of $5 per session is necessary to cover the hire of the venue. Everyone is welcome. We would love to see you there.

For enquiries contact Maggie on 027 374 0921. We look forward to meeting you.

Proudly suppported by: creative nz — Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa

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Gym Open Hours: 8:00am -4:00pm | 24 hour access
www.tokogym.co.nz

ŌWAKA

Community Funding Session

WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER | **3:30 PM**

CATLINS MUSEUM
10 CAMPBELL ST, ŌWAKA

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:
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