

Kia ora e te whānau

A bit of unplanned excitement this week. On Wednesday, we had our first fire evacuation drill; the process newly approved by Fire And Emergency New Zealand (FENZ). Everything went pretty much according to plan; all buildings fully evacuated in under two minutes. So far, so good.

Then - before school on Thursday morning - the alarms went off again; only, this time, it definitely wasn't a drill. By the time the kids started rolling up, there were two fire trucks (DIRE trucks according to some of the signage); parked outside the school while their crews went about locating the source of the trouble.

The problem turned out to be a faulty heat sensor: no smoke; no fire. Even better - no delay to the start of the day. Technicians turned up to replace the offending sensor just as the fire trucks were departing; and everyone else just got on with the day. Except for a couple of lads with over-active imaginations ... busily opening windows "to get rid of the smell of smoke" ... that only they could smell ... apparently.

Our thanks to the staff who stepped into the roles required to lead the appropriate responses: a very good test for our procedures.

Ka pai, Te Pōhā!

Yesterday morning, a small group of our teachers joined others, to report back to representatives of three Murihiku Kāi Tahu runāka on their respective school's progress after the year in the **Te Pōhā** project: *"Te Pōhā Mātauraka o Murihiku is a rūnaka-led, educational base for localised mātauraka. A collaboration between Waihōpai, Awarua and Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka, it will be the educational contact point for schools to support, promote and preserve mātauraka Māori in Murihiku."*

Te Pōhā is a local runāka initiative and all of our classes have been involved; it will remain a cornerstone of our school's curriculum next year too. The project team - just four people - features some familiar names: **Dr Keri Milne-Ihimaera, Wiki Burdon, Raiha Johnson, and Antonia Notoa.**

The summary from our report reads: *"Te Pōhā is really making a difference at Waverley Park School. By working closely with Kāi Tahu mātauraka and our rūnaka partners, we're building a way of teaching and learning that's local, sustainable, and meaningful. It's helping our students connect with their whakapapa, identity, and the place they belong to, and it's strengthening relationships across our school and community."*

Footnote: our current Māori roll includes almost half of our kids (49%). Those with Kāi Tahu heritage are 40% our Māori roll; 20% of the whole school roll: that's one out of every five WPS kids has Kāi Tahu heritage.

Whooping cough...

Unfortunately, it's in our school. The official advice is: "Children with whooping cough are advised not to attend early childhood services, school or other public places for three weeks from when they started coughing or five days after starting antibiotic medicine. Adults are advised not to attend work or public places for the same periods of time.

Close contacts of a person with whooping cough who attend early childhood services, are in contact with infants less than 12 months of age or pregnant women, or who are health care workers, can complete a course of antibiotic medicine to reduce their risk of developing the disease.

A whooping cough booster immunisation will not prevent the disease developing if there has been a recent exposure." You can find out more at:

<https://www.immune.org.nz/diseases/pertussis>

Putangitangi 2025 confirmed...

Thanks to the team at Southland Girls High School providing the venue; Friday 28 November sees Putangitangi going ahead. After all the hard yards that the Tuinga Tahī and Te Piringatahi kids have put into; this is great news.

We will share the day's schedule with you - once we know each of the performance times.

Paying us via internet banking?

A/c number: 12 3154 0103559 00

A/c name: Waverley Park School BOT

Payee: Your child's name

Ref: Event name - eg: netball, camp, marae trip etc

The calendar...

November

24 Scholastic Lucky books close

28 Putangitangi - SGHS - performance time still TBC

December

05 Assembly - Kia Kaha - 10.10am

Hui Whakapūmau - Yr 6 Marae Graduation

09 Board of Trustees - 7.30pm

11 End of year celebration

12 Reports sent home

15 Year 6 Graduation (combined)

16 Last day 12 noon

Waverley Park School
— supported by the generosity of

Community Trust South
TE POU ARATAKI POUNAMU O MURIHIKU

Keeping in touch - easy...



Phone 03 217 9332

Text 022 3179332

admin@waverleypark.school.nz

or use any Messenger, Skool Loop, Seesaw, or Edge app

A true story...

Panicking when her toddler swallowed a tiny magnet, she rushed him to the emergency department.

"He'll be fine," the doctor promised her, "the magnet should pass through his system in a day or two."

"How will I be sure?" she pressed.

"Well," the doctor suggested, "you could stick him on the refrigerator. When he falls off, you'll know."

(Give that doc a raise!)

Until next week, ka kite.

Kerry Hawkins & staff



The Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal 2025

The appeal runs 10 November – 24 December

For the 32nd year, we're supporting The Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal to help those in need at Christmas and beyond, because a little thought goes a long way.

Here's how you can get involved too:

Place a gift under The Kmart Wishing Tree at any Kmart store.

Scan the QR code and make an online contribution.

Click The Wishing Tree logo at the checkout to donate a little extra.

Drop your spare change in a collection box at any register.

Give online at kmart.co.nz/kmartwishingtree



Thanks for helping those in need at Christmas and beyond.

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100% of our collections are distributed to our charity partner, The Salvation Army. To find out more about your donations scan here.

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To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.

BRIDGING THE GAP

The Untapped Benefits of
Grandparents Raising Grandkids



where stories begin and love never ends

♦ 22 November 2025 ♦ 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
♦ Invercargill Public Library, 1st Floor Meeting Room



GRANDPARENTS
RAISING
GRANDCHILDREN

All Grandparent Caregivers are Cordially invited to Attend.
Session Facilitator: Colleen Saunders, GRG Support Group Coordinator

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GLENHAM TRAINWRECK TRAIL



SATURDAY 17 JANUARY 2026
RACES START FROM 10am



10km - Walk, Run or Mountain Bike
15km - Run or Mountain Bike
21km - Run or Mountain Bike
43km - Mountain Bike
43km - E-Bike
Other distances for E-bike recreational only

Register online at:
www.glenhamtrainwreck.co.nz
or on the day from 8.30am at
Glenham Hall
Cash only (No EFTPOS available)

GLENHAM TRAINWRECK TRAIL

Compete in any of the Mountain Bike events and go in the draw to win a
MOUNTAIN BIKE VALUED AT \$2000
thanks to MLT and CrossRoad Cycles

Fundraiser for Glenham Community Centre



FOR AGES
5-18 YEARS
ONLY

MUKA | YOUTH PRINT EXHIBITION

40 original lithographs by 20 prominent artists

GORE - 2 DAYS ONLY:

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 November 2025, 11am - 4pm
Eastern Southland Gallery, 14 Hokonui Drive, Gore

INVERCARGILL - ONE DAY ONLY:

Saturday 6 December, 11am - 3pm
Invercargill Public Library, 50 Dee Street, Invercargill

Prints \$90 | For more details visit: esgallery.co.nz

No-sugar
Fizzy Drinks



These diet drinks...



may be SUGAR-FREE...



but they're NOT ACID-FREE!

Phosphoric Acid
Citric Acid
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Did
you know?

Sugar-free fizzy drinks still
have acids in them. These acids
can wear away our tooth enamel. The
more often we have acid on our teeth, the
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water or plain milk for your everyday drinks!

Health New Zealand
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2025 **SUMMER** **READING CHALLENGE** **Coming Soon!**

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