Poolburn Post

A message from the Principal

Term 4 Week 5
2026

Kia ora koutou,

We are halfway through the term - how has that even happened? It was awesome last Friday to see the Poolburn kids give it their all at the Maniototo athletics. It was a hot day, but it was great to hear of so many personal bests and the enjoyment had by the kids on the day. A big thank you to the organisation that the Maniototo Athletics Committee put into both before and on the day. It's a very slick event. We are lucky to have Frankie, Isla, Poppy, Henry, Leighton and Imogen qualify to go through to the Otago Athletics Champs on Tuesday in Mosgiel. Also a special mention to Olivia Ross who got 3rd equal for the McSkimming Cup, which is a huge achievement! She would have been going to Otago Athletics as well but she is having an operation on her finger today, so that has taken her out of the mix.

At school we are starting to collect, analyse and moderate our end-of-year data, which will see you get your end-of-year report on Hero by week 9 of the term. It's great to be having conversations around our achievements and where we are heading in 2027. This feeds in fabulously to our strategic plan. The Board analysed the data, and now with the help of Andrea Hamilton from Evaluation Associates, we are turning all the feedback analysis and achievement data into a great new strategic plan for 2027-2028. I look forward to sharing it with you when it's ready. I am away to my Māori Achievement Collaborative meeting in Cromwell today and the Ministry of Education Curriculum Roadshow in Dunedin tomorrow.

Have a great week!

Arohanui,

Melissa





Raggedy Range

On Friday, our awesome Juniors absolutely smashed Athletics Day. Even with the blazing sun and hot weather, they turned up with big smiles and gave every activity a go. For our Juniors, the day was all about jumping in, giving things a try, and cheering on their friends and they nailed it. Seeing their determination and awesome sportsmanship throughout the day made us all super proud!

Back in the classroom, we've been busy in Maths with our measuring learning. We've been focusing on volume and capacity, testing out different containers to see which ones hold the most and which hold the least. We also introduced millilitres (ml) and litres (L), and the kids are loving all the estimating and measuring. We're excited to keep the hands-on learning going for the rest of the week!

We had a fantastic Tuesday welcoming our visitors from the Omakau Ophir Playcentre. It was so lovely seeing new faces and our students loved spending time with their wee friends from over the hill.







ROUGH RIDGE NEWS

Kia ora,

On Friday we went to the Maniototo Athletics Day in Ranfurly. Everyone did really well and put in their very best effort. We had lots of people reach the podium for championship awards for their age groups. Congratulations to Bran, Ben, Frankie, Isla, Liv, Poppy and Imogen. This is pretty impressive! From here we have 6 students representing us at the Otago Athletics Championships in Dunedin next week.

On Friday afternoon, Billy and Fred had a big crash on their motorbikes. They hit each other. Billy went to hospital. He won't be at school for a bit but we wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him back.

Last week we did a writing PAT test, the Years 7 & 8 writing topic was "good role models". The Years 5 & 6 topic was their "favourite place in the world". The Year 4's did "why pets should be in school". We also did a reading PAT test and an iDeal (spelling) test. This week we will do our maths PAT. After this the teachers will write the reports. Watch this space.

Ka pai tō wiki,

Fred and Nate





MANIOTOTO ATHLETICS DAY













MANIOTOTO ATHLETICS DAY

















ROUGH RIDGE WRITING

Makayla - My Role Model

My role model is my cousin Makayla. She's my role model because she is so out there doing all the things I want to do when I'm older, like: having a job, going to music concerts, doing musical productions and so much more. She is so special to me and I love her for so many reasons. And if you are wondering why she is so special to me, just read the rest of the text, and you will be begging for someone just like her.

Makayla is funny, kind and loves animals. She picks me up from my musical practice, and we go get ice cream. She has some different jobs, like how she works at ITM, and she also does a little babysitting, plus she umpires my netball games.

She teaches me so much. And although we have a 4-year age gap, she is still one of my favourite people ever and acts like a big kid around me, playing games, baking a cake for my birthday and supporting my dreams of what I want to do when I'm older. She comes to all my sports and cheers me on the whole time. She is so fun to be around because she finds something fun to do and makes it so special.

I remember one time when I was sad and went over to her place for dinner with my parents. She cheered me up so fast, making TikToks, baking random cakes, cooking dinner and letting me choose. One time when I left my lunch at home for rehearsal, she shared hers with me and all her friends gave me some as well. She has so many friends, and they are so kind to me. Whenever I see them in public, they always wave at me and give me a hug.

If you think that that's it, you are wrong, because she is so out there. This year she ran for head girl and had such an amazing speech about it. She also loves musicals and dancing so much that she uses all that money from her jobs to save to go to America with her school for dance and musical things. Makayla gets along with the whole family and makes everyone laugh. At Christmas, she spent 9 hours making macarons for everyone. And brought them the next day like it wasn't a big deal.

By Poppy Gare

ROUGH RIDGE WRITING

Mum and Dad - My Role Models

Today we are talking about role models, who mine are, what they do, and why people look up to them.

My role model is my Dad. My first reason is that he's a good worker. He gets up early, gets ready for a good day at work, and most importantly, he gets the job done. Some people fuss and moan about doing chores like doing the dishwasher. Does Dad? Heavens no! Does Dad do a teenage grunt and continue scrolling? Not in a million years. He's the best worker I've seen.

Did you know that my Dad started a business? He is the CEO of Central Engineering (Cen Eng for short) alongside his wife and my Mum, Kim. They started Cen Eng just less than a decade and a half ago, that's longer than I've been alive! They fix farming machinery, horse floats, and they've even built a rut scraper! They now have fourteen experienced employees and have even made an extension on the shop! A lot of stuff to do.

You'd think with fourteen employees, they'd have a bit of trouble, and they do. Only occasionally, of course. How does he deal with that, you'd probably be thinking. And the only answer I can come to is communication skills. Let's just say some banter went a bit too far; the workers were getting upset and angry. What would Dad do? He'd probably make a calm statement, something like, "This might be getting a bit too far, guys." Then he'd sit a little bit away. And, not just since he's the boss, they'd listen and try to calm things down. He wouldn't make a big fuss about it and turn the anger onto him.

So, in conclusion, we've talked about how he is a good worker, how he started a business and how he has the best communication skills I know. To wrap things up, who is your role model?

By Jack Hore

TUNNEL HOUSE
















Community News

It seems to be the year of change! I am writing to let you know that Steve, our bus driver, has resigned from Go Bus. Steve started driving the Poolburn school bus in November 2014. The company at that stage, was Central Motorways. Go Bus then bought it out in August 2015. He's been our school bus driver for nearly 12 years. A pretty good effort! Over that time he has seen a lot of change and has driven a lot of children around our district. On behalf of our school family we want to wish Steve a fabulous retirement. Hoping he has time to do all the things he enjoys.



STEPS WINNERS

Makaela Nicholl

RITES WINNERS

Ben Rutherford
Aria Rutherford

BUS DRIVER'S CONTACT NUMBER

DARRYL: 021 043 5273

Community News



Casual School Bus Driver required
Poolburn School

This is an ideal chance to make a change in your life and try something different. If you are looking for flexible, part-time work that fits around family, retirement, or other commitments, this role will suit you.

We require a casual school bus driver to support our team and get local students safely to and from school.

You will need –

- Class 2 NZ drivers licence (or willingness to obtain one)
- P (Passenger) Endorsement
- A responsible and caring approach

- ✅ Morning and afternoon runs (3 hours per day)
- ✅ Full training and support provided
- ✅ Make a difference in your local community

Our recruitment process includes a Drug and Alcohol test and Police Vetting check.

Ready to get on board? Enquire today:
Contact Lois Hopper on **021 0869 2921** or
Email **lois.hopper@wearekinetic.com**

Get on board with gobus.co.nz

Register now for term 4!
Clyde Tennis Club
Saturday morning junior group coaching and individual/group after school coaching
contact –
Wally on 0274368562 or email to wallyandmaria3@gmail.com

Omakau & District Senior Citizens

You are Invited to a

Christmas Lunch

with the Omakau & Districts Lions Club

Where: Omakau Bowling Club

When: Sunday 29 November 2026 at 12.00pm

RSVP: to Dawn (021 663124) by 22/11/2026

Lions Christmas Cakes



Support your local Lions Club by purchasing our famous traditional Christmas Fruit Cake.

Very fruity & full of flavour. Not crumbly.

Purchase Online:
Single cakes $26 + $10 freight
1 carton (12 cakes) $312 + $26 freight
(free freight on one carton)
Order at:
www.lionschristmascakes.org.nz

Or from your local Lions Club
Purchase Lions Christmas Cakes from your local Lions Club.
Details below:

Lions Club Contact:
Dawn Mee 021 663 124

Community News

HOLIDAY SWIMMING LESSONS AT POOLBURN

WITH CARMEN

CARMEN MONAGHAN IS AN EXPERIENCED SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR THAT MOVED FROM THE POOL TO THE CLASSROOM; TEACHER AIDING IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS. CARMEN RAN SWIMMING LESONS AT OUR POOL LAST 2 SUMMERS AND THEY WERE AWESOME.

SWIMMING CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY IS SO IMPORTANT. ITS SO GREAT TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO GET LESSONS IN OUR POOL.

LESSONS:
MONDAY JAN 18TH- FRIDAY 22ND JAN

LESSONS ARE OPEN TO SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN. ANY ABILITY OF SWIMMER WELCOME.
LESSONS WILL RUN FOR 30MINS, DEPENDING ON NUMBERS BETWEEN THE TIMES OF 12.30-3.30 EACH DAY
$75 FOR THE WEEKS LESSONS
BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AND SPACES ARE LIMITED SO GROUPS ARE KEPT SMALL.

IF YOU WANT TO BOOK OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT
MELISSA GARE
PRINCIPAL@POOLBURN.SCHOOL.NZ



DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED HELP WITH TAILING?

Poolburn Home and School is seeking two days of tailing work as a fundraiser

Please contact the Poolburn School Office if interested
office@poolburn.school.nz
03 4474866



HOME AND SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR USED BATTERIES FROM CARS/TRACTORS ETC FOR FUNDRAISING

PLEASE CONTACT THE POOLBURN SCHOOL OFFICE IF INTERESTED
OFFICE@POOLBURN.SCHOOL.NZ
03 4474866



2026-2027 Season

JUNIOR GOLF

DUNSTAN GOLF CLUB, CLYDE

8:30am Sundays



- Great prizes to be won
- Suitable for all levels: Novice to Experienced. Ages 4 to 18
- Gain or reduce your handicap
- Junior membership is only $60 and there are no weekly fees

Contact Tania 021 557 427 or Email juniorgolf@dunstangolf.co.nz

Golf Warehouse.nz New Zealand's #1 Golf Retailer
Gold Diggers Mini Golf
GolfProCoach.com KYLE ELMER 021 557 051
Resene the paint the professionals use
Checketts McKay Law
Jamies
Alexandra Tyre Centre
Buffalo's
Tall Poppy
Paper Plus

PHARMEXA LTD

SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL!

Great quality products to help protect you and your whānau this summer, while giving back to your school.



UV GUARD SPF 50+ SUNSCREEN

- High protection SPF 50+
- Broad spectrum UVA & UVB protection
- Hypoallergenic – suitable for sensitive skin
- Non-greasy, rubs in clear & water resistant

20% OF YOUR ORDER VALUE WILL BE DONATED BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL!

MORE THAN SUNSCREEN!

Shop our full range online including:

- Sunscreen
- Insect repellents
- Aloe Vera & after-sun care
- Bite & sting relief
- Lip care
- Head lice products

IT'S EASY TO SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL

1. Visit www.pharmexa.co.nz
2. Place your order online
3. Enter your school's name in the Additional Comments field at checkout.

FUNDRAISER ENDS
30 NOVEMBER 2026

*Donation will be calculated before GST and freight.

Term 4 Calendar

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
WEEK 5	09/11	10/11	11/11	12/11 MAS OTAGO ATHLETICS PRACTICE	13/11 ROBOTICS
WEEK 6	16/11 DUNSTAN TASTER DAY	17/11 GUITAR WITH GEORGE OTAGO ATHLETICS	18/11	19/11	20/11 TECHNOLOGY
WEEK 7	23/11 CO REGIONAL ORCHESTRA VISIT	24/11	25/11	26/11 4 YEAR OLD VISIT	27/11
WEEK 8	30/11	01/12 GUITAR WITH GEORGE	02/12	03/12	04/12 CO CRICKET FESTIVAL
WEEK 9	07/12 BOT MEETING	08/12	09/12 PRODUCTION DRESS REHEARSAL	10/12 PRODUCTION	11/12 YEAR 3 TRANSITION DAY
WEEK 10	14/12 YEAR 8 DAY	15/12 YEAR 8 DINNER	16/12 PRIZE GIVING LAST FULL DAY	17/12 HALF DAY	18/12

FUN

REMINDERS

Just a follow-up reminder there is now no Teacher Only Day this Friday the 13th due to staffing changes

We Encourage You to Support Our Sponsors

PRECISION WORKS

Phone (Jimmy): 027 447 9822
precisionworks@icloud.com
1802 Ida Valley Omakau Road, RD2,
Oturehua

WAINUI CONTRACTING
IDA VALLEY
Bulldozing & Scoop Work
Individual Round Baleage, Medium Square bales and Ag Needs
Robert Rutherford: 0274949034
Hamish Rutherford: 0276719205
Matt Rutherford: 0273184365
wainuifarming@gmail.com



Ray Kean
Rural/Lifestyle Sales Consultant
Dunedin
027 435 7478

Property Brokers
21 Macandrew Road Dunedin
pb.co.nz



A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS!

2027 NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP SPOTS NOW AVAILABLE

PLEASE CONTACT BROOKE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
OFFICE@POOLBURN.SCHOOL.NZ

We Encourage You to Support Our Sponsors

paperplus
My books. My stationery.

paperplus
TICKLE YOUR IMAGINATION





DUNCAN AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTORS LTD

For all your spraying requirements

Phone Tim on 03 4474080

or

0272247540

WSH
W.S HICKEY & SON LTD
41 Leask Street, Main Road, Omakau
PHONE US TODAY (03) 447 3838
OR EMAIL office@hickeywool.co.nz

LSB
RURAL MECHANICAL
LOGAN BYARS
027 964 7929
loganandjess.partnership@gmail.com
REPAIRS | MAINTENANCE | SERVICING
FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS & HEAVY MACHINERY

