



26 March 2026

**Term 1 Week 7**

**Kia Ora, Kamusta, Āyubōvan, Sata srī akāla, Namaskāra,  
Hallå, Dia dhuit, Kam na mauri, Mālō e Lelei, Hello**

Kia Ora Parents and Whanau

On Saturday our students competed at the Southland Primary Schools Athletics in Invercargill. Congratulations to **Kate Cruickshank** who is the **10 year old High Jump Champion**; and Olivia Davis who came third in the 12 year old 100 metres.

On Wednesday a group of 23 students went to the Northern Zone Swimming Sports in Te Anau. Congratulations to the following: Ella Johnstone, 1st Freestyle, 1st Backstroke, 1st Breaststroke; Sam Rossiter 1st Freestyle; Georgia Martin, 2nd Backstroke; Kaiden O'Connor, 2nd Freestyle; James Johnstone, 3rd Backstroke; Jimmy Blatch, 3rd Backstroke; and the 9 year old relay team of Kaiden, Leigh, Bede and Matthew, who came second. All had a great day, learnt new things and were fabulous ambassadors for Riversdale School.

Congratulations to Lachie Kidd who went to the Pipe Band Nationals in New Plymouth last weekend. Lachie plays in the Hokonui Celtic Band and they came 3rd in Medley, 3rd in Street March and 6th Overall.

Community Assembly is this afternoon at 1:30pm - come along!

Next Thursday we are taking the students along to the Maize Maze in their Whanau house groups. Hopefully you have seen the message come through on Hero. We would love for students to dress in the Whānau house colours. They will need a raincoat and gumboots. We also need some extra parent helpers so if you are free, head to the Hero post and indicate on the survey what times you can help out.

Term 1 finishes next Thursday afternoon, Term 2 starts again on Monday 20th April.

Don't forget the Ki O Rahi Tournament tomorrow (Friday) afternoon from 4:40-6:30. Come along and have some fun. We will have the BBQ cranked up.

*Nga mihi,*

*Bronwyn and the Riversdale Staff*

**Te manu kai iro, nōna te ngahere; te manu kai mātauranga,  
nōna te ao**

The bird that eats the miro berries, theirs is the forest; the bird that consumes knowledge, the world is theirs

## News From the Riversdale School Board

At our meeting on Monday night we discussed the impact on student attendance that junior rugby Friday afternoon practices have during terms 2 and 3. This is in line with our Attendance Plan and the Ministry of Education's target of 80% of students attending school 90% of the time. After discussion with the Rugby Club and the Waikaia School Board we have asked the Rugby Club to schedule practices after school.

We also looked at 4 policies: Alcohol and Drugs, Cellphones and other Digital Devices, Digital Technology and Online Safety, and Sun Protection. If you wish to see these policies feel free to go to our SchoolDocs page (see login details below).

The Playground Committee has started the process of gathering information about proposed suppliers for our new playground. The Board and Home and School are working closely to raise money for this big project.

The Deep Cove risk analysis management plans have all been approved ready for camp in the first week of next term.

We discussed a query from the parent community regarding the possibility of a school uniform. Please keep an eye out on Hero for more on this next week.

The next Board meeting will be Monday 4th May.

## Coming Up.....

### Term 1

26 March	Community Assembly, 1:30pm in the school hall
27 March	After School Ki O Rahi tournament
2 April	Visit to the Maize Maze
2 April 2026	Final day of Term 1

### Term 2

20 April	Term 2 begins
20-23 April	Deep Cove Camp - Year 7 & 8's
27 April	Anzac Day Observed - School Closed
4 May	Board Meeting, 7pm - Agenda closes 12 noon Thursday 30 April
21 May	John Parsons visit (cyber safety)
22 May	Waimea Cross Country at Waikaia
2 June	Teachers Only Day
3 June	Northern Cross Country at Waikaia
12 June	Southland Cross Country
3 July	Term 2 Ends

## Kei te pai - Well done to our STARS OF THE WEEK!

You all displayed the school values so well.

Certificates from Term 1, Week 6



	STAR OF THE WEEK	Te Reo Māori Learner of the Week
Room 7	Harry	Emma S
Room 6	Bella	Jimmy
Room 5	Emily	Leigh
Room 4	Jujahr	Angus
Room 3	Victor	Scout
Room 2	Colton	James
Room 1	Willa	Methuki

### **Ki O Rahi Tournament**

Coming up on Friday 27th March we are having a Ki o Rahi tournament for children and parents. The students have loved learning and playing Ki O Rahi the past few years, so we thought it was about time to have another tournament and join it in with an informal meet the teacher evening. Ki O Rahi is a traditional Māori team game. The year 5-8 students have been learning to play Ki O Rahi and the year 1-4s have learnt Tapu Ae which is an adaptation.

Our plan is to run the tournament after school from 4:30-6:30pm. Our Tākaro leaders will be selling sausages and bread (which school will provide) and baking (each family that comes along please bring a batch of baking) for a gold coin. The Tākaro leaders are fundraising for equipment and resources for their lunchtime activities. Family support to help sell sausages and baking would be greatly appreciated, please let me know if you can help out with this.

We would love to have as many families as possible come along and join in the fun. Here is a link to find out more about the games

<https://www.r2r.org.nz/games-activities-maori-youth/ki-o-rahi.html>.

**So we can get a gauge of numbers for the sausage sizzle, please let us know using the form below if you would like to join us - [Are you coming to our tournament?](#)**



**YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR**

# **KI O RAHI TOURNAMENT**

**AT RIVERSDALE SCHOOL BESIDE THE HALL**

**FRIDAY 27TH MARCH FROM: 4:30PM-6:30PM**

**THERE WILL A SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND A BAKING STAND FOR  
AFTERNOON TEA - GOLD COIN FOR EACH.  
IF ATTENDING PLEASE BRING SOME BAKING TO SELL AT THE  
BAKING STAND TO HELP RAISE MONEY FOR OUR TAKARO  
LEADERS.**

**PARENTS BE READY TO PLAY - YOU CAN LEARN ON THE NIGHT.**

**COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN!**



Parents, Caregivers and Whanau are invited to visit the SchoolDocs site to read our school policies. Each term the Board reviews a number of policies and procedures. Parents, Whanau and Families are invited to read and make comment when these come up for review. To read any of our policies follow the steps below

To review policy documents:

1. Visit the website link:  
<https://riversdale.schooldocs.co.nz>
2. Enter the Username: *riversdale*
3. Enter the Password: *excellence*
4. Click into the *Parents Quick Links* tab to easily find the policy you require.

## Consent information YEAR SEVEN VISION SCREENING

The Vision Hearing Technicians from Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora - Southern will be visiting your school to screen all year seven students for distance vision shortly.

### Screening Provided:

**Distance Vision (Amblyopia & Myopia)**

This determines how well your child can see at a distance. It involves reading an eye chart.

The screening results will be given to your child, and a Vision technician will be in contact to discuss any further action, if required.

**If your child WEARS Glasses or is UNDER CARE** for their eyes, there is no need to fill in an Opt-Out form.

We will ask each class if there is anyone already wearing glasses or under care.

- Please let your child know to tell us prior to screening.

They will be given a notification slip to take home. **These children are NOT screened.**

By sharing this consent information, we are providing the opportunity for you to Opt-out of our screening programme.

**If you do not wish your child to be screened, please fill out an opt-out slip, which are available at the school office before our visit.**

**What happens to your child's screening information?** The vision results are recorded on the Ministry of Education data system – ENROL.

This information will also be saved via the Vision and Hearing screening team data system.

You can access your child's information by contacting the Vision Hearing Screening team:

[visionhearing@southernhdb.govt.nz](mailto:visionhearing@southernhdb.govt.nz) or contacting Patient Enquiries:

- Phone: Consumer Experience Feedback Team, phone (03) 214 5738
- E-mail: [feedback@southernhdb.govt.nz](mailto:feedback@southernhdb.govt.nz)
- Website: [www.tewhatauora.govt.nz](http://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz)

All staff with access to this documentation adhere to the Health Information Privacy Code.

**Health New Zealand**  
Te Whatu Ora

Vision Hearing Team

0800885504

[visionhearing@southernhdb.govt.nz](mailto:visionhearing@southernhdb.govt.nz)

National Public Health Service

## School Buses

**Our four bus drivers are Jan Robertson, Michael Lobb, Rhonda Wilson and Paul Eason**

**Please inform the driver if your child is off the bus in the morning.**

Jan Robertson – 027 6088203

Michael Lobb – 027 3725785

Rhonda Wilson - 027 2578895

Paul Eason - 021474580

Please do not make any alternative arrangements with your child's bus driver without first checking with the school as our bus routes are set by the Ministry of Education and we are unable to go outside of our transport zone to drop students in different places. We are aware that some of our buses do travel past houses on the driver's way home, unfortunately this does not mean they are able to drop off students. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to be in touch with the school.



## **Maize Maze**

Our first Maize Maze was a great success – we had over 650 people go through and most of them would have been from outside our usual fundraising circles which is great!

We have 1 more event still to go and are still in need of some additional helpers.

Please message Kelly-Anne Blatch 0274 857 877 if you can help out – all funds raised will be going towards our new school playground.

## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April – RIVERSDALE FIELD OF FEAR**

- Open 5-9pm (arrive 4.15ish for setup)
- 3 more people who can help out on the day (taking money/carparking etc)
- **A DOZEN OR SO SCARERS** - We're looking for brave (and slightly dramatic!) members of our community to help bring Riversdale Fields of Fear to life!
  - o Volunteers to be scare actors inside the maze – hiding in the corn, jumping out, creating spooky scenes, and giving our visitors a night they won't forget!
  - o You'll be stationed in one spot within the maze & children will be paired with an adult supervisor.
  - o Friends can sign up together and plan costumes. Full horror vibes – the scarier the better!
  - o Guaranteed laughs (for you, maybe not for them...)
  - o If you (or your child) are keen to be involved, please get in touch.
- We also need some scary props/costumes – think ghosts/ghouls/chainsaw massacre/bride of chuckie...all ideas welcome – please get in touch if you have any Halloween stuff and may be able to help with this.

**Sponsors** – This maze would not be possible without McClintock Contracting. A big thankyou to Matt & Sarah McClintock who have donated their time, let us spray out some of the Maize paddock and provided machinery & staff for tractor rides on the day. We would also like to acknowledge the following businesses and families who contributed towards the first event - The Warehouse Gore, Carrfields, Millenium Motors Gore, Jolly Elephant Design, Canvart, Naylor Love, Riversdale Lions, Hansen Family, Wilson Baird Building.

# MAIZE MAZE

A fundraiser for Waikaia Forest Trails Grade 3 Blue Trail and  
Riversdale Home and School new School Playground



## FINAL DAYTIME MAZE

**14 MARCH | OPENS 10AM**  
**DIGGER TREASURE HUNT**  
**BBQ - TRACTOR RIDES**

### MAZE ENTRY

ADULTS (13+) - \$10  
KIDS - \$5, UNDER 5 FREE  
\$30 FAMILY  
(2 ADULTS, 3 KIDS)



## RIVERSDALE FIELD OF FEAR

RESTRICTED

13


**18TH APRIL | \$20PP**

IT'S NOT JUST A MAZE ANYMORE...  
THE FIELDS COME  
ALIVE AFTER DARK

CASH PREFERRED - EFTPOS AVAILABLE | 741 MANDEVILLE-KINGSTON CROSSING ROAD

 **RIVERSDALE MAIZE MAZE - FOR MORE INFO**

# RIVERSDALE SCHOOL & COMMUNITY POOL




**POOL FUNDRAISER**

<b>Food wrap</b>	300m x 33cm = \$26
	600m X 33cm =\$36
<b>Roll foil</b>	90m x 44cm =\$23
	150m x 30cm = \$23
<b>Baking Paper</b>	100m X 30cm = \$32

**Bank Account: 03-0915-0285905-00**

**Available from the school office. (new stock just arrived)**



## Pool Annual Food Fundraiser

The Riversdale School and Community Pool is running their annual food fundraiser. This year they are selling frozen asian dumplings & steamed buns. These are a very easy and yummy food to have in the freezer. Some children bring them to school for their lunch in a wee thermos and are still warm at lunch time. Please follow the link below to order or create page and give your friends and family a chance to order. All the information is on the link.

The Pool appreciates all the support it receives. Contact Jo on 0273635768 with any questions.

**Last day of order 5th April**  
Order pick up day is 30th April

<https://riversdaledumplingsbuns.raiseit.co.nz/tgjtvr3s3q>

# Community Notices

Join us for loads of Easter Fun!

Bible Stories Games Snacks  
Crafts Magic Tricks  
And More!

Contact Sarah to Register  
02102588731  
sarahcowan3@gmail.com



## Eggs-travaganza HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Tuesday April 14th -  
Thursday April 16th  
From 1pm-3.30pm

At the Riversdale  
Presbyterian Church

Ages 4-13

\$5 per Day or \$10 for 3 days  
Family Discounts Apply



Easter-It's NO trick!

# MOKOMOKO ORIENTEERING



Start any time between  
**11:30AM-1:00PM**

**SUNDAY 29 MAR 2026**

CLASSIC O NO DOGS

**Classic Orienteering**  
Registration: Mokomoko Rd, Otago

A coastal map featuring maram grass-covered dunes and long bush-covered sand ridges. Good chance to challenge yourself on route choice and navigation.

Mokomoko Road, Otago. Take turn-off to Otago at Greenhills on Bluff Rd and follow the signs.

No dogs please! Register on the day, at the event.  
Suitable for all ages, beginners always welcome!

[www.southlandorienteeingclub.co.nz](http://www.southlandorienteeingclub.co.nz)  
Suitable for all ages, beginners always welcome.




## St James Theatre

Home of Gore Musical Theatre

### APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



**HOPPERS**






## St James Theatre

Home of Gore Musical Theatre

### APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SPECIAL

Looking for something fun to do with the kids (or grandkids) these holidays? We've got you covered!

🍿 Adults at Kids Prices for ALL Kids Movies! 🍿

That's right — bring the whole family along and enjoy the magic of the big screen without breaking the bank.

🎬 Now showing:

- Hopper (from Pixar)
- Super Mario Galaxy Movie
- The Magic Faraway Tree
- GOAT

📅 From Saturday 4th April to Sunday 19th April

👨👩👧👦 Bring the kids, bring the grandparents, and enjoy a movie day together!

Don't miss out — we'll see you at the movies!

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# APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

@ iLT STADIUM  
SOUTHLAND

Sun 12th - Wed 15th April **\$15 each**



iLT STADIUM  
**ADVENTURE PARK**  
BY BOUNCE HOUSE

School holiday fun sorted!

13 - 15 APRIL  
9:30AM - 3PM



iLT STADIUM  
**SPORTS-TASTIC HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**  
\$60 PER DAY  
\$165 ALL THREE DAYS

Tickets available at  
[www.stadiumsouthflicker.co.nz](http://www.stadiumsouthflicker.co.nz)



## BUSHCRAFT & SURVIVAL SKILLS Holiday Experiences

### CHILD VS WILD [5 Days]

7 to 13 year olds  
Invercargill  
9am to 3pm

13th April to 17th April 2026

An Adventure quest in different locations. Children spend four days learning and acquiring bushcraft and survival skills ready to be tested on the final day in a teamwork survival challenge.

### BUSH KIDS [1 Day]

5 to 16 year olds  
Invercargill & Gore  
9am to 3pm

Wednesday 8th April - GORE

Friday 10th April - Invercargill  
One day of bushcraft and survival skills

Advanced fire starting, knife skills, carving, exploring the bush, finding your way, building shelters, cooking over flames, first aid in the wild, plant uses, foraging.  
Every day feels different, shaped by the weather, the place and the season.

### NATURAL CREATORS [1 Day]

5 to 16 year olds  
Invercargill  
9am to 3pm  
9th April 2026

A one day creative cooking experience on a farmlet preparing nourishing meals from scratch. Children will come home enthused, feeling capable and independent as well as having enjoyed feeding the goats and chickens.

### WILD & GAME [1 Day]

11 to 16 year olds  
Invercargill  
10am to 3pm  
Saturday 11th April 2026

A day of connection around the fire, preparing and cooking hunted and gathered foods. Learn how to skin and butcher animals, build hands-on bush skills, and taste a range of nourishing kai. A day just for the older children.

[www.trueinnature.com](http://www.trueinnature.com)



Katie: 0226381497



## 45° Fibre

### Deep South Fibre Festival

10am Saturday 2nd May 2026  
Gore Town & Country Club  
2 Bury Street  
Gore, NZ

- \* Woolcraft
- \* Fibre
- \* Displays
- \* Traders
- \* Food carts
- \* Devonshire teas



Family Friendly  
People Coming Together



## 45° Fibre

### Deep South Fibre Festival

10am 2nd May 2026  
Gore Town & Country Club  
2 Bury Street  
Gore, NZ

## KID'S CRAFT

### Craft Stations

- \* Mermaid Neckless ( shells, beads and diamantes) and also a Plaited Headband - using wool
- \* Felt Purse ( felt template- embroider blanket stitch and embellishments)
- \* Needle Felting- Pumpkin or Apple ( wool and felt needle)
- \* Flax flower using flax as fibre
- \* Dance Sticks ( wood handle, ribbon and decorations)
- \* Pom Pom animals ( wool, felt and cardboard)
- \* \$2 bags to decorate and become the carryall. ( Bags, paint pens)
- \* Sales table

