



NEWSLETTER

Week 1, Term Two, 2026

(03) 433 1366 email: office@ardgowan.school.nz

Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou e te Whānau,

What a joy it was to see everyone back at school today, refreshed and enjoying reconnecting with friends.

We ended last term with some great senior school camps, a huge thank you to teachers for all of the organisation that went into these and parents who supported with these. We could not do these things without your support.

As we head into Term 2, the weather gets colder. Please make sure that children are dressed appropriately and that all uniform items are named. If second hand, please cross out original name and clearly relabel. If you missed second hand polar fleece sales today, feel free to pop in and ask about these.

Winter sports teams are all sorted, thank you to Mrs Hattingh for all the work that has gone into this. We wish everyone the best of luck in their sport (or sports) of choice.

I am looking forward to my time in the Acting Principal role. Please email, call or book a time to see me if there is anything that you need.

Nga mihi nui

Dana Goodall
Acting Principal

Our school is now working with SchoolDocs to provide a website for maintaining, updating, and reviewing our school policies. SchoolDocs updates policies in response to changes in legislation and Ministry guidelines, reviews/requests from schools, and regular research from the SchoolDocs team. Whanau and the community can also feed into any changes of policies that are up for renewal. The process to do this has been included in an attached document.

Our school board has the opportunity to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. We will advise you when policies are up for review and how you can take part in the review.

*We invite you to visit the site at <https://ardgowan.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www."). Our username is **ardgowan** and password **partnership**.*

SchoolDocs
Policies and Procedures

Quick Guide to SchoolDocs for the School Community

Information for school staff, students, parents, and whānau

SchoolDocs is an online policy platform for schools in Aotearoa. Your SchoolDocs site contains policies that are specific to your school and can be accessed by the whole school community.

Using SchoolDocs

Website:
Username:
Password:

Enter the login information for your SchoolDocs site here.

Related policies are grouped together on SchoolDocs, with links to supporting information and resources.

- To find a policy, type a keyword into the search bar, or browse the site using the table of contents. Click the black arrows to open each section.
- Search for **Quick links for staff** and **Quick links for parents and whānau**, which provide links to useful policy information.
- For more information about using SchoolDocs, see the **Help** tab at the top of your SchoolDocs site.

Reviews and feedback

Start your review All SchoolDocs schools follow a 3-year review cycle to keep policies up to date. For review information each term, see **Current Review** at the top of the site.

- You can provide **content feedback** to suggest changes to improve the content of a policy.
- You can provide **implementation feedback** about how the policy is implemented at your school.

If you find information that's incorrect during a review (e.g. location of first aid supplies), **do not** submit this through the review tool. Let the principal or board know that it needs to be updated.

If you'd like to comment on a policy that's not under review, you can use the **feedback button** to send an email to your school. This feedback is not sent to the SchoolDocs team.

Regular attendance at school is very important.

8:40AM	Arriving before class starts means getting settled and ready for class
9:00AM	Arriving late means the start of the lesson could be missed and is likely to unsettle the class
9:05AM	5 minutes late a day means missing 3 days over a school year
9:10AM	10 minutes late a day means almost 7 schools days lost a year
9:15AM	15 minutes late a day means almost 10 schools days lost a year
	Arriving very late is recorded as an absence
Students that are late miss out on learning and can be a disruption to the classroom. If a student regularly late it will affect their learning at school.	

School Notices

Ardgowan School Sunhats are mandatory for ALL children to wear during Terms 1 and 4. Hats are available for purchase at the school office in 4 different sizes for \$23 per hat. Please make sure your child's hat is clearly named as they are easily misplaced.

Drink bottles - these are a must for all children to have every day while at school. Please ensure their drink bottle is full of water, and is in their bag every morning.

Signing out - If your child is leaving school early, or you are collecting your child during school time for any reason, please ensure you come to the office to sign them out. Should we have an emergency, it is vitally important that we know whether your son / daughter is on / off the school grounds.

POLICE VETTING for parents and caregivers.

If you would like to accompany the children on school trips and camps it is a requirement by law that all parents / caregivers be police vetted, and that the vet be current with our school. If you would like to be police vetted to enable you to join in these activities, please contact the school office. We have forms available on paper, or can email out to you if you prefer. Vetting lasts 3 years and there is no cost to you. A primary and Secondary form of ID must be provided on application.

A couple of reminders for families around drop off and pick up times.

The Drop and Drive area is to be used for Drop and Drive only - NO PARKING.

The car park is for parking to drop off and pick up your child only - NO DROP AND DRIVE.

Please help to keep the children safe by using both areas for their intended purpose only as it creates frustration for other users when they are used inappropriately.

Please drive carefully when in and around our school.

Raffles drawn on the night

Bring along your team mates, friends or family

ATHLETIC NETBALL CLUB

Athies Quiz Night

MAY 25

7 PM - LATE

Northstar Restaurant

\$40 PER TEAM

Max 6 players per team

--- Register your interest

SCAN ME

Our school event calendar for the year is on our website:

ardgowan.school.nz/pages/calendar

under the **News and Events Tab** at the top. It is regularly updated with as many dates as possible but please be aware some dates - especially those further on in the year, may change.

SCHEDULE OF LUNCHESES TERM ONE 2026

MONDAY Hot Eaties in the pie warmer.

Items to be securely wrapped in tin foil and named with a vivid. No Bowls as they take up too much room. Items can be taken to class on the morning and put in the class tray to be transferred to the pie warmer. Please have items defrosted.

TUESDAY - OWN LUNCH

WEDNESDAY - OWN LUNCH

THURSDAY Subway orders every week. Please have orders into the school office by Wednesday mornings. Order envelopes are available at the school office. Correct cash please.

FRIDAY Hot Eaties in the pie warmer.

Please ensure that your child has a drink bottle at all times of the year. Our school promotes healthy eating whenever possible, a piece of fruit each day, and choosing healthy snack options for your child's lunchbox is a great way to ensure they get the best out of their day. It also greatly helps to cut down on the amount of plastic packaging we have to send to the tip each week.

UNIFORM PRICES

Polo top Size 6 - 16 \$32.50

Polo top Size S, M, L \$37.00

Polar Fleece Size 4 - 14 \$48.00

Polar Fleece Size S, M, L \$57.00

Sunhats \$23.00

A full range of sizes are now in stock in the office

Changed your address or phone number? Please let the office know.

Important Term 2 Dates for the Diary

School website calendar: ardgowan.school.nz/pages/calendar

April 2026

Monday 20th April - First day of term 2.

Friday 24th April - ANZAC Day mufti Day.

Monday 27th April - ANZAC Day observed.

Thursday 30th April - Ardgowan Home and School AGM 7:30pm at school.

May 2026

Tuesday 5th May - BOT Meeting 5:30pm in the school staffroom

Friday 8th May - Year 8 day - Papakaio

Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May - Tech Year 7 & 8 at OIS

June 2026

Monday 1st June - Kings Birthday - school closed

Thursday 11th June - WRSN speech finals

Tuesday 23rd June - BOT Meeting 5:30pm in the school staffroom

July 2026

Friday 3rd - Last day of Term 2.



Joke / Riddle of the week: I have many keys, but not a single lock can I open. What am I?

ARDGOWAN HOME AND SCHOOL

Ardgowan Home and School would like to thank all our wonderful sponsors who have supported our Grocery Grab Raffle.

We also extend a big thank you to all the families who have sold tickets and returned them to the school office.

Please note that our Derby Night fundraiser has been cancelled.

Our next AGM will be held at 7.30pm on 30th April at Ardgowan School and we welcome anyone who would like to come along.

If you wish to be a part of any of our events or know of a way we can help within our school community, please don't hesitate to reach out, We would love to hear from you.

homeandschool@ardgowan.school.nz

Absentees. Please inform the school via email, phone or Skool Loop if your child is going to be absent or late to school for any reason. Please expect a phone call or email from our school office if you have not contacted us - this is to ensure all children are safe, and is a Ministry of Education requirement which all schools must follow.

Please keep your child home if they are showing signs of sickness and let the office know.

School and Community Feedback Our Board of Trustees really values feedback from our school families and community. If you have any comments or feedback please feel free to email feedback@ardgowan.school.nz all communication is treated confidentially

BUS FAMILIES. If your child is getting off at a different stop in the afternoon to what they would normally, please give Pearsons a call or inform the school office so we can let the bus driver know. For safety reasons they are unable to drop children off at alternative stops unless prior parental permission is given

PLEASE DON'T PARK ON THE BERM! Our neighbours across the road have a lovely area of grass in front of their house, but vehicles parked there cause a considerable safety hazard to the residents and other road users. Tyre marks on their lawn are not appreciated. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

Riddle answer: A Piano.

WORKSHOPS
WASTE FREE WAITAKI

FREE

Workshops have limited spaces so book yours today!

HOW TO CREATE GREAT COMPOST

Four free workshops in 2026:
Sat & Sun May 2 & 3 - Oamaru
Waitaki Community Gardens 1pm - 3pm
Wed May 6 - Hampden Primary 2pm - 3pm
Sun May 10 - Woolshed Lodge, 106 Cattle Valley Rd, Kurow 1pm - 3pm

To find out more, or book your space email wastefreewaitaki@waitaki.govt.nz or phone 03 433 0300

Oamaru to Dunedin

Community shuttle

Runs Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Thursday and Saturday

Oamaru – Dunedin and return (shuttle)		
	Depart	Arrive
Oamaru-Dunedin	9:00am	10:30am
Dunedin-Oamaru	10:45am	12 noon
Oamaru-Dunedin	1:30pm	3:30pm
Dunedin-Oamaru	4:00pm	5:30pm

Tuesday

Shuttle from Oamaru to Palmerston, connect to the Dunedin Orbus

	Depart	Arrive
Oamaru-Palmerston	9:30am	10:45am
Palmerston-Dunedin (Orbus)	11:00am	12 noon
Palmerston-Oamaru	11:00am	12:15am
Oamaru-Palmerston	5:45pm	6:45pm
Dunedin-Palmerston (Orbus)	6:00pm	7:05pm
Palmerston-Oamaru	7:05pm	8:15pm

Shuttle Fares (cash only)

Thursday/Saturday \$15 one way / \$25 return
Tuesday \$10 one way / \$15 return *plus* Orbus fare

All times will be confirmed on booking

SCOUTS Aotearoa

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SEA SCOUTS THIS TERM?

Join our adventure programme for all youth aged 5 to 18! Find us on [facebook.com/scoutsofnewzealand](https://www.facebook.com/scoutsofnewzealand) or [scouts.nz](https://www.scouts.nz) for more info

PICK-UP LOCATIONS

Oamaru:

- North End car park (Frome Street)
- Eden Street bus stop
- Awamoia Park bus stop (just beyond NPD)

Other locations:

- Maheno (SH1 by tavern)
- Herbert (the old shop)
- Hampden (police station)
- Moeraki (tavern)

Stops on request:
SH1 at Waikouaiti, Hawksbury, Evansdale, Waitati

Dunedin:

- Tuesday: Bus Hub
- Thursday/Saturday: SH1 at New World

Bee Cards for the Orbus are available from your shuttle driver and may be topped up on the Orbus (\$5 minimum top-up credit, cash only). Fare and concession information: orc.govt.nz/OamaruShuttle

To book the shuttle, call 027 2144 131

This service is a trial run by the Oamaru Community Shuttle Group



Back to School

2026 School Update
Oamaru Area

Kia ora koutou! Wishing everyone a smooth start to Term One and the school year! The Community Oral Health Service provides free dental care until age 18 and our team is here to support your school community – below are some key updates for the year ahead.

Local Community Clinic:

- Oamaru
43 Exe Street;
Ph: 434 6170

Mobile Dental Unit:

- Waitaki Valley (Kurow)
1 Settlement Road; Ph: 027 479 1733
*From 2 November – 4 December

Keep an eye out for the two handy oral health tips we'll send out each term, for your school to share via newsletters or social media

*Dates subject to change
For appointments outside these dates please call **0800 672 543**