



NEWSLETTER

Week 3, Term Two, 2026

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

Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou e te Whānau,

We have had such a lovely start to the term. We are making the most of the beautiful days and our PALs (physical activity leaders) have started supporting activities in the playground. The gaga pit is very popular!

Please remember that school opens and children are welcome onsite, and in classrooms, at 8.30am. Please wait until this time to send children onsite. Teachers are busy with preparation for the day and meetings before this time.

Thank you to everyone who came to support our first assembly of the term. We were very lucky with the stunning day and Room's 2, 4 and 6 shared some great learning with us all. It was wonderful to celebrate students with Principals Values Awards. Congratulations to everyone who was acknowledged this week.

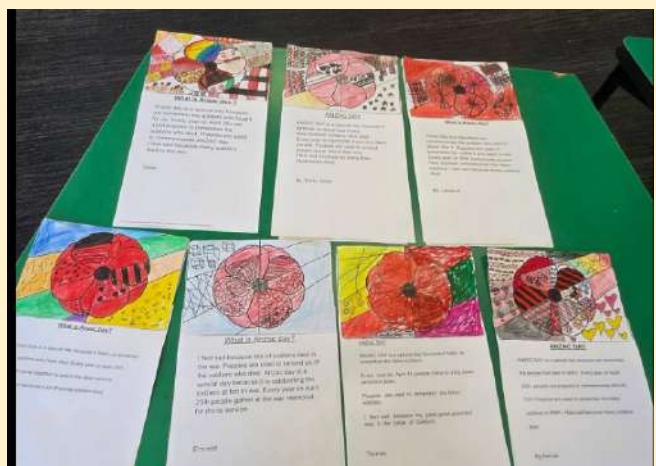
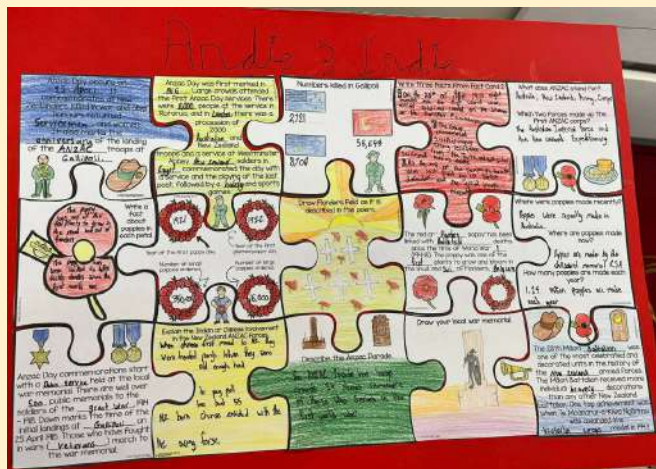
This term we welcome Mrs Kate Baumeister and Becci Kyle to our staff. We also welcome Theodin and Alice to Room 6.

We are participating in Pink Shirt Day next Friday. This is a campaign that focuses on Anti Bullying. Teachers will talk through some important messages around this in classes. Donations are welcome to support The Mental Health Foundation. It would be great to see lots of PINK next Friday.

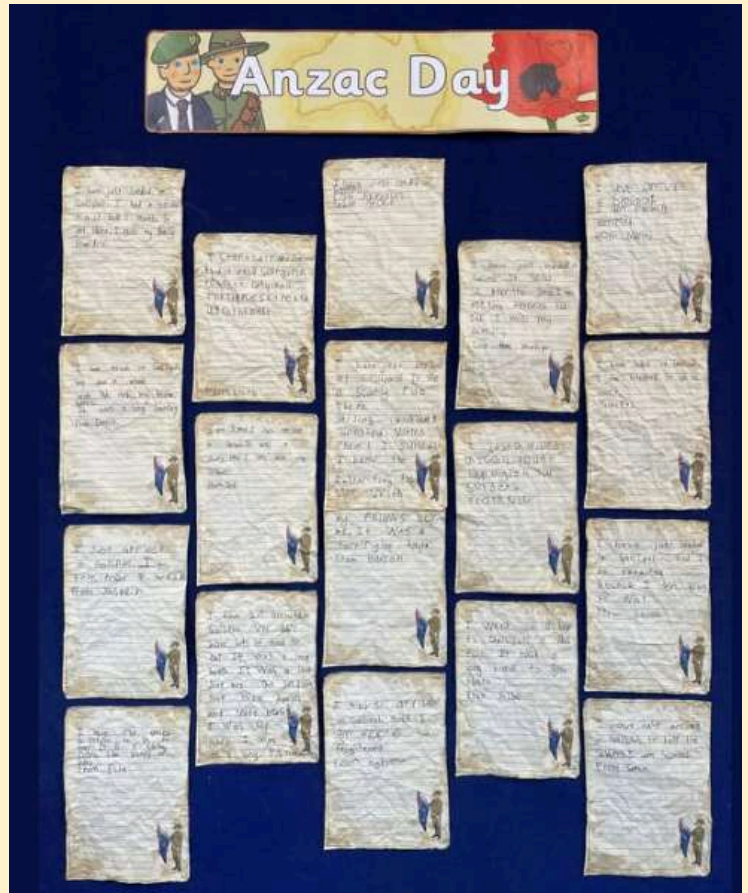
Nga mihi nui
Dana Goodall
Acting Principal

On 24th April our school commemorated ANZAC Day. The classes did some wonderful research into the true meaning of ANZAC.

We Will Remember Them.



Emma and Sadie represented Ardgowan at the Service in Oamaru by laying a wreath. Mrs Creedy also had a key role in the service leading the hymns and anthems. Well done everyone!



Term two started off with some lovely Autumn weather, the children made the most of it for Golden Time activities both inside and out.



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

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Community Oral
Health Service

Talkteeth Southern

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.

Athletic NETBALL CLUB
Athies Quiz Night
MAY 25
7 PM - LATE
Northstar Restaurant
\$40 PER TEAM
Max 6 players per team
--- Register your interest

Raffles drawn on the night

Bring along your team mates, friends or family

SCAN ME

The poster features a central red banner with white text, flanked by two yellow banners with white text. There are also two white dice with black dots. A QR code is in the bottom left corner.

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 LUNCHES 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

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: Why did the gardener plant a light bulb in his garden?

ARDGOWAN HOME AND SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent AGM.

Introducing our office bearers:

President: Jahana Sutherland

Secretary: Lauren Hewett

Treasurer: Blayze Tisdall

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: He was trying to grow a power plant.

Mountainbiking North Otago Chocolate Fish Series

The events are on 10th, 17th and 24th of May

Venue: Reservoir Road Tracks

Start times:

Children

Registration is at 9.30am with 10am start time

Advanced student riders and Adults

Registration is at 10.45am, Start time 11am

All enquiries to Adair Craik 021-309-439



Family Works
Safe, strong and connected

Family Works makes a positive difference to families throughout Otago.

- Safe** means people feel secure and protected.
- Strong** means people have the resources and skills to face challenges with hope.
- Connected** means people feel supported and included in communities.

How we can help

Family Works provides a range of services:

- ✓ Social work
- ✓ Family Works Foodbank (Dunedin)
- ✓ Skillsbank programmes and supports
- ✓ Financial inclusion and capability service
- ✓ Youth and adult mental health support
- ✓ Buddy programme
- ✓ Parent education programmes
- ✓ Child and youth development programmes
- ✓ Family dispute resolution referral support

"You helped me see the light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you for the part you have played in making a positive difference to my family"
- Teveta, Family Works client
*name and image changed.

Family Works Foodbank
Presbyterian Support Centre
407 Moray Place, Dunedin 9054
Email: foodbank@psotago.org.nz
Freephone: 0508 396 678

Family Works
Presbyterian Support Centre
407 Moray Place, Dunedin 9054
Email: familyworks@psotago.org.nz
Freephone: 0508 396 678
www.psotago.org.nz

Introducing Family Works
providing a range of programmes and supports for individuals and whānau.

Safe · Strong · Connected

SKCChapel Choir Movie Fundraiser - help us get to The Big Sing!!

Movie - The Greatest Showman - Singalong Version

When - Thursday 14th May 2026

Time - 6.30pm

Where - Riviera Cinema, Oamaru

Come as you are or dress up!!

How to buy tickets: \$25

From Rose's General Store

OR

Community link - <https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/community-shop/St%20Kevin's%20College%20-%20Oamaru>

Caregiver link -

https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/login?shop=St%20Kevin's%20College%20-%20Oamaru&service=choir_movie_fundraiser

Invitation to Open Night 2026




Date: 21 May 2026
Time: 6 - 7:30 pm
Where: M K Dunning Hall

You are warmly invited to come along to our **Open Evening** to explore everything our school has to offer. Whether you are a prospective student or parent, we'd love to show you around!

At the conclusion, you are invited to the Hall for a refreshment.

Our **Open Day** will be Thursday 30th July 2026 starting at 11am in the MK Dunning Hall.





Coping with Bullying:
Potential Experiences
2026

Are you the parent/ carer of a bullied child?

The COPE project focuses on the experiences of parents when their child is being bullied.



Participate here:



We're looking for parents/ carers to participate in our study

- If you are a parent/ carer of a child who is currently being bullied in school, please consider participating in our survey.
- The survey explores your child's experiences of bullying, your experiences of working with schools to address the bullying, and the impact of the bullying on your well-being.
- The survey is anonymous and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.


More information:
<https://bullyinghoursthe-cope.com/the-cope-project/>



WANT TO LEARN TO TAP DANCE?

Tap Dance Classes

**GREAT FITNESS
BUILDS CONFIDENCE**



6 week Beginners Course for all ages

Adult Classes available

Phone Dianne on 0273032067 for further information


LUZETTE'S ART STUDIO

**TERM 2
AFTER SCHOOL ART CLASSES
ART WORKSHOPS
STARTING 28th APRIL FOR 8 WEEKS
EVERY TUESDAY OF WEDNESDAY
(PAPAIO) 3:30 - 5PM**



**CLASSES ARE SUITED FOR AGES 5 - 11.
8 WEEK BLOCK - \$220
GO TO WWW.LUZETTE.CO.NZ TO BOOK
SPACES ARE LIMITED!**





**TE KAUNIHERA
Ā ROHE O
WAITAKI**

+64 3 433 0300
0800 108 081

service@waitaki.govt.nz

20 Thames Street
Oamaru, 9400

Private Bag 50058
Oamaru 9444, NZ

1 May 2026

Kia ora,

We're getting in touch to let you know that we are seeking feedback from our community about our open spaces.

Why are we seeking your feedback?

Open spaces mean different things to different people — from spending time in nature and staying active, to accessing sports facilities, enjoying local amenities, or simply having a place to relax, reflect, and connect with others.

In Waitaki, our open spaces include all the parks, reserves, sports fields, walking and cycling tracks, cemeteries, and recreation areas that we maintain and manage for our community. They might be the neighbourhood park where your children play, the sports ground where you watch or the scenic spot where you gather for a picnic.

These spaces range from high-use sports grounds to quiet wilderness areas, urban cycleways, public gardens, and more. Together, they play an important role in community life and help make our district a great place to live and visit.

We are developing an **Open Spaces and Recreation Strategy** to guide future planning and care of these places, and we'd value your feedback to help shape this work.

A draft strategy will be shared with the community for further feedback before it is finalised and adopted.

Once this Strategy is adopted, a Reserves Management Plan will be developed to guide how we look after these spaces.

The survey will be live from **4 – 18 May 2026**. You can access it through the QR Code below:

Hard copies will also be available at our service centres for the duration of the survey live period.

Ngā mihi,

Let's Talk Waitaki Team
Waitaki District Council

