



NEWSLETTER

Week 5, Term Two, 2026

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

Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou e te Whānau,

Week 5 is upon us and it has been wonderful to see so many students involved in winter sports, both representing Ardgowan School and local clubs. We wish everyone all the best for the season ahead.

It has been lovely to see so many parents and whanau members at school in the mornings and at pick up in the afternoons. It always brings such a lovely vibe to the school grounds. Thank you to everyone who has made it along to see our students sharing at assemblies and receiving awards.

We have our school speech competition next week. Hopefully you have seen more specific details on times and locations for these with the last classroom newsletter. If not, please see your child's teacher. We understand that some students thrive on presenting speeches but also that this can be a stressful time for others, we are very mindful of this during the competition process.

A special thank you to our Home and School Committee for purchasing leavers hoodies for our Year 8 students. The students love them and they all look very smart wearing them today. We appreciate all you do for our school community.

Nga mihi nui
Dana Goodall
Acting Principal

Rental property wanted. We have a family looking for a property to rent. If you know of a property which is available, or coming up in the near future please contact Kiri in the office with the details. It will be well looked after. 3 bedrooms if possible but open to looking at anything.



Our Whanau Points boxes have been put up in the school office and the Whanau leaders have put the Term 1 tokens in. Thank you to Louis, our wonderful caretaker for his work in putting this together.



Our Year 8 students were visited by leaders from WGHS and WBHS this week. Exciting times for them as they start to plan for the move to High School. We briefly welcomed back past students Jack and Tyler to talk with our boys.



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
<p>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.</p>	

School Notices

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.

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

May 2026

Monday 18th May Home and School meeting 6:30pm at Star and Garter Oamaru. All welcome.

Monday 25th May Year 7 vision testing 9:30am

Monday 25th May Year 7 & 8 speech competition. Starting @ 11:30am.

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

Thursday 28th May - Year 5 & 6 Speech competition. Starting @ 9:15am.

Friday 29th May - Speech competitions - Year 1 & 2 starting @ 9:30am. Year 3 & 4 starting @ 11:30am.

June 2026

Monday 1st June - Kings Birthday - school closed

Friday 5th June - Fluoro Friday - Fundraiser for St John Oamaru building

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 rings, but no fingers. What am I?

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.



ARDGOWAN HOME AND SCHOOL

Next meeting Monday 18th May 6:30pm

Star and Garter, Oamaru.

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 or come to our next meeting. 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 telephone!

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



Childrens BOXFIT
WEDNESDAYS 4:30 PM

Train in a fun, supportive and safe environment

- ✓ Basic boxing techniques
- ✓ Some cardio exercises
- ✓ Heaps of fun
- ✓ Paired, group environment, great for making new friends
- ✓ 45 min session time
- ✓ Age 9 - 14

Boxing gloves & pads available to use!

Term 2 now open for registration

Sign Up Now
Tasha - 0273630873
Saint Lukes Church hall



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"
Terecia, Family Works client
*name and image changed.

Family Works services are available in locations across Otago.

To find out more about the programmes and services in your area, and how you can get involved, visit our website or contact us on the details below:

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

Children's Choir - Update.

Thank you so much for your interest and support for the Waitaki Children's Choir. I truly appreciate the time you've taken to respond and consider being part of this programme.

At this stage, we don't quite have enough regular availability to run rehearsals in Term 2. However, it has been very encouraging to see the interest from students across different schools, even with the many sports and activities happening at this time of

year.
Rather than push through with a small number, we will take a short break this term and use this time to prepare for a stronger restart.

I'm really looking forward to relaunching the choir in Term 3, continuing with our schedule:

Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 PM

Starting 23 July

My hope is that, with a bit more planning and fewer clashes, more students will be able to join us and we can build a vibrant and enjoyable choir together.

I will send out a new invitation towards the end of Term 2, and I would love to welcome your child when we resume.

Thank you again for your support, and I hope to see many of our young singers come together in Term 3.

Ngā mihi nui,

Yuan



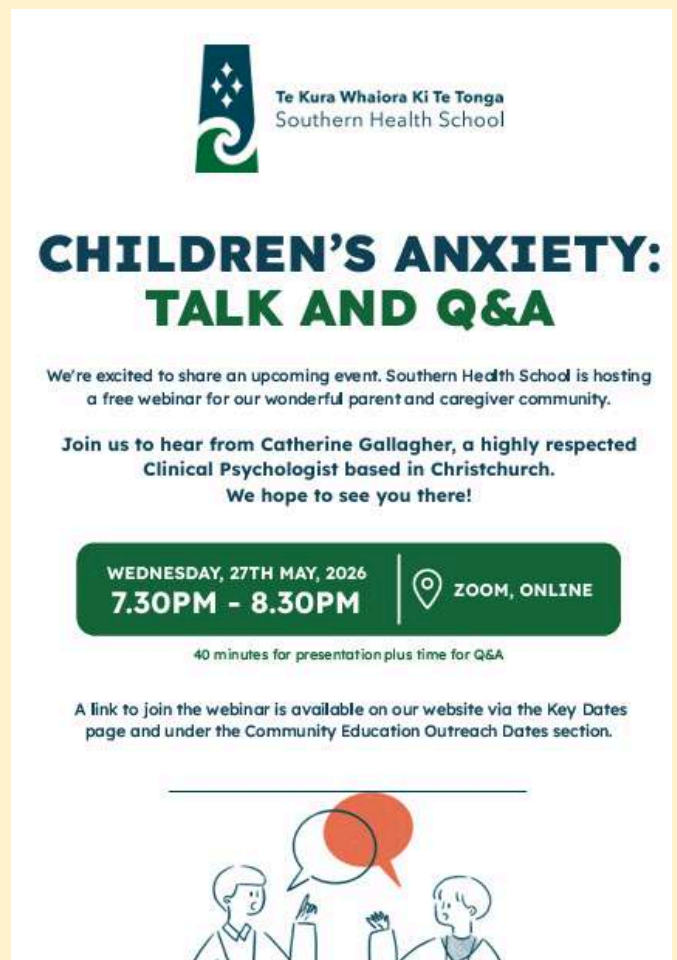
WANT TO LEARN TO TAP DANCE?
Tap Dance Classes
GREAT FITNESS
BUILDS CONFIDENCE
6 week Beginners Course for all ages
Adult Classes available
Phone Dianne on 0273032067 for further information



glow
WAITAKI
A community benefit dinner
Hosted by Otago Medical Research Foundation,
Presbyterian Support Otago & The Wildlife Hospital
Thursday 30 July 2026
Brydone Hotel Oamaru
Tickets: events.humanitix.com/glow-waitaki
With thanks to our sponsors:
BRYDONE VALLI
WILDLIFE HOSPITAL
Otago Medical Research Foundation
Presbyterian Support Otago



Are you the parent/ carer of a bullied child?
The COPE project focuses on the experiences of parents when their child is being bullied.
We're looking for parents/ carers to participate in our study
Participate here:
More information:
<https://bulletin.busehst.co.nz/the-cope-project/>
UNIVERSITY of York



Te Kura Whaiora Ki Te Tonga Southern Health School
CHILDREN'S ANXIETY: TALK AND Q&A
We're excited to share an upcoming event. Southern Health School is hosting a free webinar for our wonderful parent and caregiver community.
Join us to hear from Catherine Gallagher, a highly respected Clinical Psychologist based in Christchurch.
We hope to see you there!
WEDNESDAY, 27TH MAY, 2026
7.30PM - 8.30PM | ZOOM, ONLINE
40 minutes for presentation plus time for Q&A
A link to join the webinar is available on our website via the Key Dates page and under the Community Education Outreach Dates section.

