

Rai Valley Area School

Newsletter



Rai Valley Area School
**Growing and Learning
Towards a Great Future**

Phone: 03 571 6016

Email: office@rai.school.nz

www.rai.school.nz

Rai Valley Area School

Newsletter

Issue No 9 | 25th September 2026

Tumuaki's Report



Kia ora Koutou

It is with mixed thoughts that I write my final newsletter for 2026.

I don't think there is ever a perfect time to take a sabbatical, as schools are always such busy places there is always something going on. However, I am really looking forward to the opportunity to visit other Area Schools in the Central North Island and in the South with a focus on Year 9 and 10 curriculum. There is also an opportunity to do further research and study.

In my absence Dan Waldie will be acting Principal for the term and Jess Massey will be Deputy Principal. Richard Stone has been relieving this term. Next term he will be working with the Secondary classes to enable Dan to step up. Despite some of the local grapevine comments you will definitely see me back in term 1 2027. Most of our senior students are on track for their NCEA qualifications.

I am going to be continuing to monitor the student credits with Dan prior to the exam leave time. The last couple of weeks have been really busy. One of the highlights was the Pelorus speech competition at Waitaria Bay.

Our Details:

Rai Valley Area School

6700 SH6, RD 2 Rai Valley

Marlborough 7192

Telephone: (03) 571 6016

Email office: office@rai.school.nz

Web address: www.rai.school.nz

Our People:

Principal: Maree Furness

Deputy Principal: Dan Waldie

Assistant Principal: Jessica Massey

Secondary Senco: Theresa Shepherd

Primary Senco: Theresa Shepherd

Learning Support Coordinator:
Theresa Shepherd

Executive Officer: Christine McDonald

Receptionist: Pauline Agnew

Caretaker: Shane Dearman

Tumuaki's Report continued

Four students travelled with Mrs Waldie last Friday.

Congratulations to all our students, with a special mention to Bjorn Prattley who won the Year 5 competition and Harriet Leov who was 2nd in the Year 7 competition. Jeorgie Prattley who was highly commended.

A high point for me this term was seeing 14 of our students dressed up for the Tapawera School Ball. For some of them this was really outside their comfort zone but it was an amazing opportunity to socialise with others of their age. Reports back were very positive and they had a really good night. Thank you to Mr Waldie and Mr Macdonald for driving them there and back.

In term 4 the Board of Trustees will begin collecting feedback for our schools 2027-2028 strategic plan. They will try to catch up with as many of you as possible so that they have a wide representation of community views.

Lastly at this time of the year teachers begin making plans for 2027. In the diary world it's the 31st of May and in the Education world it is usually the end of the year.

Sadly Mr and Mrs Waldie have indicated to the Board that their family is going sailing in the Pacific and they will not be returning to RVAS in 2027. In the three years they have been with us they have made a valuable contribution to our school. We will have an opportunity to farewell them at the end of term 4.

On a positive staffing note Lisa Sandrey has accepted a position to teach in the Years 4-6 area in 2027. Lisa is an ex-student who taught for a number of years at Renwick before moving to Queensland and teaching the last two years in Mackay. She returns with an extensive experience and a wide range of skills

We have a number of upcoming events across the school during the term range

- First day of term 4 12th October.
- Wednesday 21st October. National Shakeout Day
- Term 4 Pet Day is planned for Thursday 22nd October
- 23rd October Trades graduation at NMIT.
- Monday 26th October Labour Monday
- Thursday 29th October proposed BOT meeting
- 30th October Pelorus Athletics in Blenheim
- Monday 2nd November Marlborough Anniversary
- Friday 6th November last day for students with exam leave
- 10th November NCEA Examinations begin.
- Monday 16th November Teacher Only day for all students
- 24th-26th Year 9 and 10 Camp at Kaiteriteri with Tapawera
- Sunday 29th November Motocross fundraiser at Carluke Hall and Morrison farm
- 3rd December last day for NCEA Exams
- 4th December Pelorus Schools Supreme team hosted by Rai Valley
- 8th December Prizegiving 6.30pm
- 9th December last day of term 4.
- Monday 1st February first day of term for students 2027



Nga mihi nui
Maree

Secondary News

We made it to the end of Term 3! Many of us can now have a lie-in or two and dust off the book that we promised ourselves we would read, or weed the vegetable patch in eager anticipation of longer days (daylight saving gives us more hours in the day, does it not?) and warmer weather.

We have just concluded our Derived Grade examinations—these exams are precursors to the external assessments that start in the first few weeks of November.

What Derived Grades give us and the students is a real-world indication of where they are at, any areas that students need to look at revising more, as well as a progress marker of what we anticipate the student will achieve. They also serve as an invaluable backup should a student be unable to attend an exam due to illness or a family emergency (in such cases, we can put in a request to NZQA to carry the Derived Grade result forward).

We also held our Common Assessment Activities, and for the first time, we invited our Year 9's to give them a go. The Secondary Syndicate is incredibly proud of the fact that the vast majority gave all of them a go. The results for these should begin to emerge in about four weeks' time.

The majority of our Seniors are wrapping up their internal assessments, with Term 4 normally reserved for a deeper focus on preparation for exams. The first four weeks of Term 4 will see all of our Seniors in school working on finalising their assessments and revising. Students who meet the school requisites of 60 credits at their current NCEA Level (Level 1, 2, or 3) will be signed off to go on "Study Leave." We are obliged to remind students and whānau that this is not an opportunity for them to disappear into the workplace, or spend hours completing that puzzle that has been eluding them. Instead, they need to be revising for any external assessments they are entered into.

For some students, we will be withholding permission to go on study leave as we focus on them gaining enough credits to be independent of reliance on external assessments. (The benchmark for study leave is 60 credits, which is the minimum required to "pass" and be awarded their "Level" in NCEA each year).

Mr Mac and myself also took a travelling contingent of our Seniors to Tapawera for their Senior Ball. Our Senior girls certainly dressed to impress, and we even managed to get some of our Senior boys to extricate themselves from their gumboots and stubby shorts and put on their glad rags!

Outside of Years 11–13, we have had some of our Year 7s and 8s competing at Waitaria Bay School in the Pelorus Speech Competition, with Harriet Leov being invited to the Lions Speech Competition after being awarded a Merit for her speech on the mercurial Swedish pop-folk group ABBA.

We also continued our tradition of sending a team to the EPro8 Science/Technology competition in Nelson.

I would also like to thank Barbs, who runs a highly competitive Ultimate Frisbee session every Friday lunchtime which our Seniors get involved in. Unfortunately, I had to step back last week from the game due to something important that had nothing to do with the fact that I kept throwing the frisbee out because I was getting constantly marked out of the game by my own child!...

Secondary News

As such, I was unable to impose my presence and skill on this occasion, but having played over the last few weeks, it is a great opportunity for our Seniors to not only step up into a leadership role but also compete with and role-model sportsmanship for some of our more junior students.

Talking of stepping up, with Ms Furness having a well-earned sabbatical, I will be sitting in the big chair and may be more prominent in the "Big Boss" office. A significant part of this role is concerned with the day-to-day running of the deeper aspects of the school, but I will endeavour whenever possible to still be out and about amongst our tamariki and trying to be helpful where I can. Shane has been instructed to provide me weekly with a hand-delivered banana and coffee, which appears to be one of the perks of the job.

I am looking forward to stepping up to the challenge and will try my very best to make sure that Rai Valley Area School is navigated through Term 4, with a specific focus on building on and providing the fantastic extracurricular opportunities that make Rai such a great place to be.

As always, enjoy the break and stay safe.
Ngā mihi,
Dan Waldie



Secondary News

MITO BUS TOUR

On Thursday the 24th September, I took 6 Year 11/12 students to Nelson for a MITO bus tour. **MITO** meaning **Motor Industry Training Organisation**, is an industry training pathway that we can offer students with an interest in an Automotive Career. Our students were able to hear from real people in the industry doing the job everyday. Some of these people were apprentices who had worked with MITO tutors online while still at school and were now learning while earning in their chosen field once leaving school having gained an apprenticeship.

Our first stop was at Sun City Paint & Panel in Vanguard Street. They toured the workshop and paint booth. These guys work with a lot of new cars with plastic welding, bonding and electronics. The second stop was at Cable Price, where Cooper was able to jump up into a forestry processor worth just under a million dollars. The boys that did jump up all commented on the amount of buttons and controls they have but the seat is comfy. They showed students through their heavy diesel workshop and spoke about how they don't always work in the workshop, they do a lot of work out in the field on site at all sorts of hours.

Our third and final stop was at SBL (Suburban Bus Lines) new workshop down Lower Queen Street. This facility is set up to service a fleet of approx 300 vehicles around the region, with hoists for the 16m long buses to go onto. It was a very clean workshop because they mostly work with electric vehicles.

The staff that they talked to were employers and staff who had used MITO.

One big take-away for me was that along with doing the MITO courses the main things employers want are people who are going to turn up for work, not play on their phones all day and have a want to learn more on the job.



Secondary News : NZQA NCEA Exams

2026 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE					
Examinations available digitally shown in blue					
Date	Session	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Scholarship
Tue 10 Nov	AM	Mathematics and Statistics	Geography Latin	Dance	Classical Studies
	PM	Te Ao Haka	Japanese	Digital Technologies Samoan	Media Studies
Wed 11 Nov	AM			English	
	PM	Gagana Tokelau Korean	Te Ao Haka	Cook Islands Māori	Geography
Thu 12 Nov	AM		English		Chemistry
	PM	Physics Earth & Space Science	Chinese	Physics Te Ao Haka	French
CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY (Fri 13 Nov)					
WEEKEND					
Mon 16 Nov	AM	French	Lea Faka-Tonga Te Reo Māori	Calculus	Samoan
	PM	Te Reo Māori	Chemistry	German History	Statistics
Tue 17 Nov	AM	English			Accounting
	PM	Geography	Dance Korean	Biology	Art History
Wed 18 Nov	AM	History	Art History	Health Japanese	Physics
	PM		Physics	Economics	Psychology
Thu 19 Nov	AM		Mathematics & Statistics	Making Music Spanish	Economics
	PM	Chemistry & Biology	Accounting		Biology
Fri 20 Nov	AM		Biology	Chinese Drama	
	PM	Religious Studies	Cook Islands Māori Drama	Chemistry	Agricultural & Horticultural Science
WEEKEND					
Mon 23 Nov	AM	Japanese	French	Latin Psychology Te Reo Rangatira	English
	PM	Spanish	Business Studies	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Earth & Space Science
Tue 24 Nov	AM	Commerce	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Statistics	Te Reo Rangatira
	PM		History	Geography	
Wed 25 Nov	AM	Health Studies	Te Reo Rangatira	Lea Faka-Tonga	Calculus
	PM	Science	Classical Studies	Accounting	Drama
Thu 26 Nov	AM	Digital Technologies	Media Studies	Te Reo Māori	
	PM	Vagahau Niue	Health	Media Studies	Chinese
Fri 27 Nov	AM	Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani	Economics	Music Studies	Spanish
	PM		Digital Technologies	Art History	History
WEEKEND					
WESTLAND AND CHATHAM ISLANDS ANNIVERSARY DAYS (Mon 30 Nov)					
Tue 1 Dec	AM	Social Studies	Earth & Space Science	Classical Studies	Te Reo Māori
	PM	Lea Faka-Tonga	Music	Home Economics	Digital Technologies
Wed 2 Dec	AM	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	German Social Studies	French	Japanese
	PM	Gagana Sāmoa		Earth & Space Science	Religious Studies
Thu 3 Dec	AM	German	Home Economics	Korean	
	PM	Chinese	Education for Sustainability Samoan	Business Studies	
Fri 4 Dec	AM		Spanish	Social Studies	German

Primary_{News}

We have made it to the end of another busy term, it's scary how fast the time has gone!

On the 9th of September the Year 3-8s travelled to Havelock School for the Solar Buddy day. There, tamariki learned about poverty and people around the world who live without electricity. The children then worked on putting together a solar powered light to send to children living without electricity in Fiji. We also had an exciting visit from the Westpac Rescue Helicopter. We watched as someone was winched from the helicopter followed by the helicopter landing. Finally, the children learned about airplanes from the lovely people at Airbus. This was a great learning experience outside the classroom. Thank you to the parents who supported this and the organisers of the event.

On the same day we had a group of four year seven students represent Rai Valley Area School at the E-Pro8 competition in Nelson. This is a great competition where students put their problem solving skills and creativity to the test to solve a design brief. Well done to Harriet, Madison, Ivy and Scarlett for your great efforts and Mr Mac for your support.

As we wind down after a busy term, we also look forward to another exciting term. Teachers will be busy planning for Pet Day, assessment, Supreme Team and all of the other craziness that Term 4 brings for us. We will see you after the holidays!

REMINDER

LOST PROPERTY

Our lost property piles are growing rapidly. Please have a look through and see if your child is missing anything. Anything left over at the end of the term will be donated.

HATS

Please ensure your child has a sunhat at school for the start of Term 4 as per our Sun Smart policy.



Primary News - Room 14

It has been an action-packed, creative end to the term in our classroom!

To celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, we dived into the traditional pūrakau **How Māui Slowed the Sun** and created vibrant Tama-nui-te-rā portraits, exploring visual symmetry, heavy oil-pastel pressure, and liquid dye contrast—keep an eye out for these on display at our upcoming Pet Day!

As kaitiaki (guardians) of our land, we also created **NZ Kiwi Forest art**, mixing our primary colours to make secondary colours bring the native bush to life. In science and writing, our classroom sunflowers are shooting up, with tamariki photographing, measuring, and recording weekly observations. We've also been loving story writing this term, with everyone working hard to get their ideas down on paper!

Ngā mihi,
Haley



**Pelorus
Cluster
STEM
SOLAR
BUDDY@
Havelock**



Pet Day 2026 Thursday 22nd October



Pet Day Schedules have gone out to every student. Those students that have entered a peyt already, have been given Pet Diarues to start filling in. These are usually completed over a 6-4 week period.



As mentioned inthe previous newsletter, we re having all of Pet Day judging happen on the one day, **Thursday 22nd of October**
Judging will begin approx. 10.30am on the Thursday morning.

If you would like to volunteer your time to judging or helping out on the day please get in touch with Renee Jope - renee@rai.school.nz or 0277750083



**LAMBS and CALVES MUST
have been born on or after
August 1st 2026**



PELORUS CLUSTER SPEECH COMPETITION

A huge round of applause to Bjorn, Jeorgie, Harriet, and Jason for their outstanding performance in public speaking! After winning their respective year-level divisions at our school speech competition, all four students represented us brilliantly at the regional Pelorus Speech Competition held at Waitaria Bay.

They delivered their speeches with confidence and poise, earning fantastic feedback across the board. Special congratulations go to Bjorn, who was awarded an Excellence, and Harriet, who earned a Merit and has also been invited to present her speech at the upcoming Blenheim Lions Speech-Maker's Contest!

We are incredibly proud of Bjorn, Jeorgie, Harriet, and Jason for their hard work, courage, and impressive achievements. **Congratulations to you all!**



Congratulations!

2027 Art Calendar - Rai Valley Area School Fundraiser

Student Name: _____ Class: _____ **Due October 23rd**



2027 Art Calendar painted by local artist Charlotte Buskin.
Customised with school name and key dates.

21 × 21cm / 21 × 42cm when hanging. Printed on quality 150gsm silk matt paper.

Name:	Contact number:	Quantity:	Paid:	Cash:	Bank Transfer:

\$28 per calendar

\$8 from every calendar sold goes directly to your school - **\$1** from every calendar sold is donated to the NZ Cancer Society

Please make payment to: Rai Valley Area School bank account

12-3165-0348666-000

Ref: CALENDARS26

🎨✨ An art prize pack will be awarded to the three students who sell the most calendars! ✨🎨

www.charlottebuskinart.co.nz

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CARDS

*Featuring original artwork
by Madeline Art*

ONLY
\$7

INCLUDES ONE CARD & ONE ENVELOPE

Universal cards for any occasion

• AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT: •



The Brick Oven
Rai Valley



RVAS
Office



The Coffee House
Rai Valley

Year 13 student Lorna O'Donnell has started up this business as part of The Young Enterprise Scheme for her Business Studies subject.

She would love our support with this.

Great work Lorna!

Community News



Sept / Oct Holiday Camps @ Curious Cove



Enrolments are now open for our camps in the Sept/Oct school holidays.

We have both a Senior Camp (11 – 14 yrs) and Junior Camp (8 – 10 yrs).

There is also a Leaders Training weekend (14 yrs+) for those interested in being a volunteer leader, and a Horse Leadership weekend for those interested in gaining more confidence around horses.

Visit our website (www.curiouscove.org) for more details and to complete an online enrolment to secure a place. You will receive a confirmation email with further details, including what to bring, departure times, etc.

[Sept/Oct Senior Camp 2026](#)

Mon 28th Sept – Fri 2nd Oct 2026
Ages 11 to 14 years

[Click Here to Enrol](#)

[Oct Junior Camp 2026](#)

Mon 5th – Fri 9th Oct 2026
Ages 8 to 10 years

Payment is due on enrolment to our account at Westpac :

A/c Name – Teapot Valley Christian Camp A/c No – 03 0751 0103553 000

Please use your child's name and camp attending (eg: Sen/ Jun/Ldr) as reference.

Tony & Jane Ross
Camp Managers

LOOKING AHEAD

2026

Term 4, last of school, Wednesday 9 December.

2027

TOD, Thursday 28 January,

TOD, Friday 29 January,

First day students back to school, Monday 1 February.

School News

Please return all Pet Day and End of Year Prizegiving Trophies as soon as you can next term please



Student Absence / Buses / After School Arrangements / Students arrive late / Parent deliver or collect students

Could you please notify Pauline, when required as soon as possible, at the school office regarding above issues with a reason, either by phone (03 5716 016) and leave a message or by email (office@rai.school.nz) or personally to the office.

This allows up-to-date recorded information for emergencies. If students are late at school or leaving during school hours: Parents need to sign in or out at the school office.

Thank you in advance. Pauline

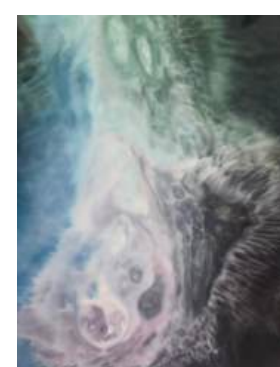
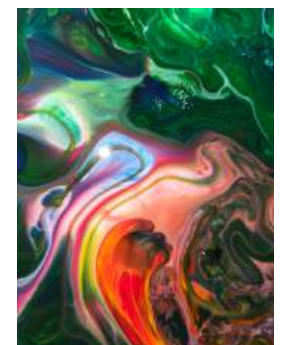
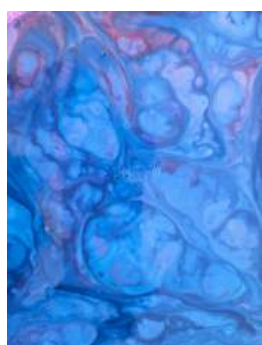
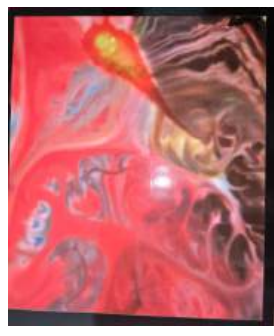
I'M RUNNING LATE

MY KID IS OFF THE BUS



CALL THE OFFICE

Year 9 & 10 Art - Fluid Art



Secondary News - Year 9 / 10 Art



Hunter Hay - Octopus



Quinn Bolton
Pencil & Graphite Art



Sam Hope - Acrylic Art



Tyler Payton - Acrylic Art



WILDFIRE SEASON 2026 SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

KEY MESSAGING:

EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES REMAIN A MAJOR SOURCE OF WILDFIRE RISK.

- Waste-management burning, including burning rubbish, garden waste and vegetation, is the leading cause of open-air fire incidents, accounting for around 43 percent of cases. Common contributing factors include failing to check conditions before lighting a fire, leaving fires to smoulder unattended, and not monitoring burns closely enough.

COMPLACENCY COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES THIS SEASON.

- Fire danger conditions may develop earlier, last longer, and become more severe than people are accustomed to. Assuming conditions are similar to previous years could place people, property and communities at greater risk.

THE BEST TIME TO PREPARE IS BEFORE THERE IS SMOKE IN THE AIR.

- Taking steps now to prepare your property, understand your local fire risk, and make a plan can help reduce the impact of a wildfire on you, your family and your community.

PREPAREDNESS MESSAGING:

- Prepare your home, property and community for the possibility of wildfire using Fire and Emergency's Prepare for Wildfire tool at www.checkitsalright.nz/prepare-for-wildfire
- Check conditions using the Can I Light a Fire? tool at checkitsalright.nz before lighting any outdoor fire and follow fire safety advice.
- Remove dead and dry vegetation from around homes and buildings.
- Ensure accessways for emergency vehicles are at least 4m x 4m and that RAPID numbers are clearly visible.
- Check water supplies, such as tanks and ponds, are accessible and operational if firefighters need to use them.
- Monitor outdoor fires carefully and extinguishing them completely with water.

WIND WARNING:

- Check old burn piles to ensure they are out. Rake over the area to check for hot spots and extinguish them completely with water. Burn piles should be cold to touch.
- Do not light fires outdoors, postpone any planned burns until the wind dies down.
- Check conditions using the Can I Light a Fire? tool at checkitsalright.nz before lighting any outdoor fire and follow fire safety advice.
- Recent fires in Hawke's Bay, Taupo and Wanaka show just how fast a fire can travel when the wind is high. Always visit checkitsalright.nz before lighting an outdoor fire or carrying out hot works and spark generating activity.

KIA ORA KIDS!

THE HELL READING CHALLENGE IS BACK FOR 2026! *READ 7 BOOKS AND GET A FREE 333 KIDS PIZZA*

**For book review slips see your teacher or
Renee in the library.**

**If you need a book review signed off
bring to Renee**

NEW ZEALAND
BOOK AWARDS
FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

Proudly sponsored by

www.nzbookawards.nz/hell-reading-challenge/
www.facebook.com/HELLReadingChallenge/

HELL

Primary News : Hell Pizza reading Challenge Y1-8

GAME ON!

★★★★★

EXTRA LIVES

Interactive Video Game Concert

FREE EVENT

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE



SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER
2026

WHITEHAVEN THEATRE BLENHEIM

2pm 4pm

11 - 16 yr olds 13 - 18 yr olds

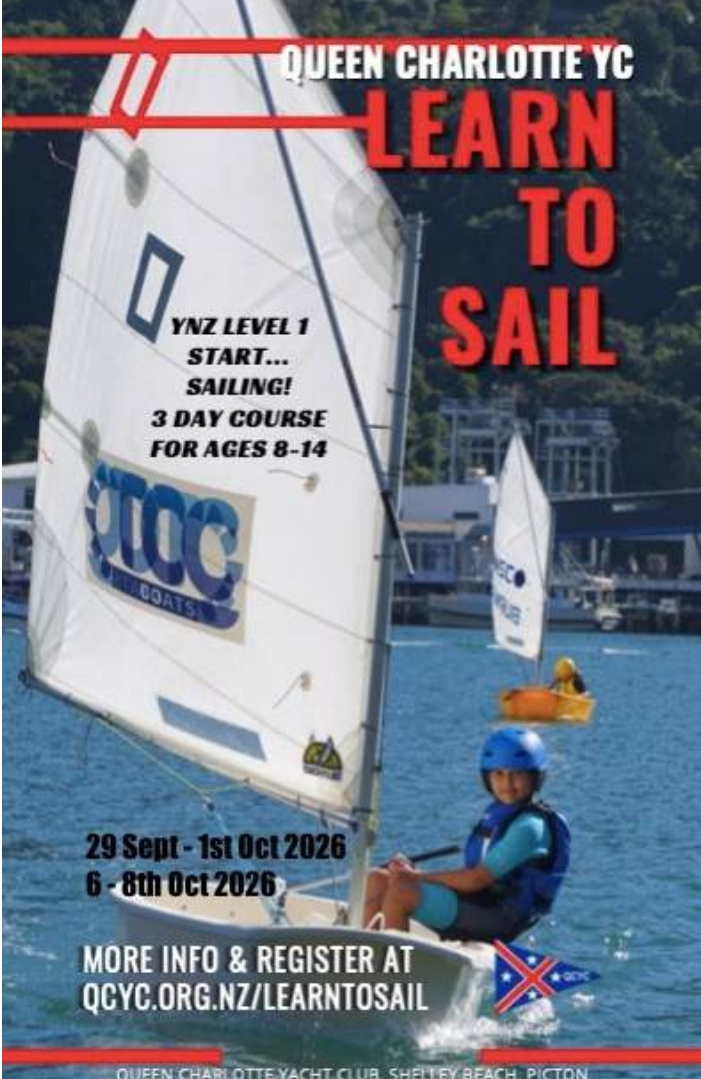
TICKETS FROM WHITEHAVEN
THEATRE & EVENTFINDA

EXTRA LIVES
Interactive Video Game Concert
EXTRALIVES.BAND

MARLBOROUGH
YOUTH COUNCIL

QUEEN CHARLOTTE YC LEARN TO SAIL

YNZ LEVEL 1
START...
SAILING!
3 DAY COURSE
FOR AGES 8-14



29 Sept - 1st Oct 2026
6 - 8th Oct 2026

MORE INFO & REGISTER AT
[QCYC.ORG.NZ/LEARNTO SAIL](https://qcy.org.nz/learntosail)

QUEEN CHARLOTTE YACHT CLUB, SHELLEY BEACH, PICTON



Help your community vote

Register your interest to work
at the 2026 General Election.

We want people from local communities to work in voting places and help people vote. The 2026 General Election will be held on Saturday 7 November and we're taking registrations from people who are interested in working with us.

We need people with different skills and backgrounds right across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Whether you want to work for several weeks or just on election day, there are roles for everybody, from students to experienced leaders.

For more information about the roles available, and to register your interest in working at this important event, visit work.elections.nz today.

 **ELECTORAL
COMMISSION**
TE KAITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI



REC 26 DL ENG TE ĀTI AWA



Mistletoe Bay
Village

OPEN DAY

Wednesday 24 October 2026 1:30pm-4:30pm

*Experience the magic of Mistletoe Bay - a fun family day out!
Free water transfers from Picton thanks to Cougar Line.*

BBQ

Sailing & Kayaking

Ice Creams

Native Planting

Lawn Games

Guest Speakers



Water taxi departs Picton at 1:30PM. Bookings essential:
Cougar Line 03 573 7925 or email info@cougarline.co.nz.



Dear Friends of Mistletoe Bay,

We warmly invite you to join us for a fun and informative day at the **official Mistletoe Bay Open Day for the start of our new season on Sunday, 4 October**.

The open day will be split into 2 sessions:

- 11am depart / 2pm return – Strategic guests - connection, tour and information.
- 1.30pm depart / 4.30pm return – School children, community groups, general public – connection and activities.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Mistletoe Bay, explore our facilities, and discover what is an incredible experience we have to offer. You will gain a better understanding of what it takes to keep our doors open and ensure Mistletoe Bay continues to provide this amazing asset for our community. Find out how you, your friends, or your acquaintances may be able to contribute, support, and continue or become involved in shaping the future of Mistletoe Bay.

At the heart of Mistletoe Bay is our commitment to providing meaningful experiences for young New Zealanders. Through our heavily subsidised school programmes, we help ensure that Kiwi children have the opportunity to experience, explore, and learn about New Zealand's native bush and the unique ecosystem of the Marlborough Sounds. We are also blessed to have the Mistletoe Charitable Foundation behind us who provide access to fully funded trips for any families and children finding themselves in difficult circumstances.



Community News



We would love your help in letting your students know about our exciting Great Biggles Treasure Hunt at the Knights of the Sky WWI Exhibition these school holidays!

Young adventurers can follow the clues throughout the exhibition, and every child who completes the treasure hunt will receive a Flying Glider and a Champion Treasure Hunter Certificate to take home. At \$5.00 per child which is a special local rate, it's a very affordable way to entertain your kids. Parents also get a special local rate of \$20.00 for entry into Knights of the Sky Exhibit. It's a fantastic way for children to have fun, explore history, and enjoy an interactive experience during the holidays.

If possible, we would be incredibly grateful if you could share this with your students and families before the end of the school term. We can't wait to welcome lots of young treasure hunters and their families to the museum and see who earns their Champion Treasure Hunter certificate!

Thank you for your support, and we hope to see your students soon.

Kind regards,

Stephanie Rainbird

Operations & Administrative Manager
Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre

From 9 October
lifejacket laws are
changing across
New Zealand.

The Maritime Transport (Lifejackets on Recreational Craft) Amendment Act has been granted Royal Assent, so from 9 October, people on recreational craft, six metres or less in length, will be required to wear a properly fitted lifejacket while the craft is underway.

The law will apply across all of New Zealand to people using recreational craft such as jet skis, dinghies, sailboats, kayaks, paddleboards, and motorboats.

A huge thank you to everyone that supported this law change, including our partners and friends in the water safety sector, and those in our community that took the time to make a submission.

Lifejackets save lives and we're now a big step closer to keeping all New Zealanders safer on the water.

Find out more at [Maritime NZ's website](https://www.maritime.nz/).

WOMEN IN TRADES



TOOLS AND TALK EVENING

WHAT IS IT?

- ✓ Hear from a panel of BCITO qualified tradeswomen that come from a range of different trades
- ✓ Hear how they got started and tips to get your foot in the door
- ✓ Casual setting, real experiences, your questions answered

WHEN IS IT?

- 📍 BCITO BLenheim OFFICE, 35A MAXWELL ROAD
- 🕒 NIBBLES, 5.30PM
- 🕒 EVENT START, 6.00PM
- 📅 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH 2026
- 👥 SPACES ARE VERY LIMITED
- 📧 REGISTER WITH STUART.CAULFIELD@BCITO.ORG.NZ

BCITO
Building Construction Industry Training Organisation
building people

We're working in your area

Project name	SH6 Granity Narrows
What	Resilience work at Granity Narrows
Where	SH6 Granity Narrows, West of Gowan Valley Road
When	Monday 5 October until April 2027
Contact	NZTA 0800 4 Highways (0800 44 44 49)
On-site contact	Project Manager - Melissa Harte, 027 257 2187. On site supervisor - Stirling Jones, 027 209 3908.

Details: Resilience work will resume on SH6 at Granity Narrows on Monday 5 October after work was paused over late autumn and during winter because of bad weather and wet ground conditions.

Between October and December contractors will continue construction of an embankment below the highway. The embankment will allow the road to be widened and moved further away from the cliff face.

Work at the site will pause over the Christmas and New Year holidays before contractors return to carry out rock protection measures on the rock face above the highway.

This work will be carried out under 24/7 Stop/Go traffic lights. Please plan ahead for delays of up to 15 minutes at this site. A reduced temporary speed limit will be in place 24/7 while this work is undertaken. Please follow all traffic management direction onsite.

The road will reopen to two lanes over the Labour weekend holiday period with a 30km/h temporary speed limit in place.

Emergency services will always be accommodated through the site.
All work is subject to weather and other unforeseen circumstances.

nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh-maintenance-programme



(Work on the embankment on SH6 Granity Narrows in March 2026 before work paused over winter)

SH6 Hope Saddle resilience work

In early 2027 work will commence at a second resilience site on SH6 Hope Saddle, approximately 20 kilometres east of the Granity Narrows site. This project will repair an existing underslip and address ongoing ground movement beneath the highway. The work will include construction of a new retaining wall to stabilise the slope and protect the highway. Drainage improvements, barrier work, and reinstatement of the road shoulder and surrounding area will also be completed. We will provide more information about this work later this year.

Keep up to date

You can keep up to date with our work across the region by subscribing to our summer newsletter which will be sent out each week from Friday 25 September
<https://nzta.govt.nz/maintenance-updates>

This is part of the NZ Transport Agency, Waka Kotahi resilience improvement activities that will reduce the impact of severe weather events on our roading networks.

Get Creating These School Holidays!

Looking for something fun and creative for students these holidays? Get Creating is back these school holidays, with a range of exciting activities and workshops available.

Follow the link to register, but be quick as spaces are filling fast!

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/get-creating-these-school-holidays/nelson>



Community News

JOIN US AT THE EDWIN FOX MARITIME MUSEUM FOR



Pirate School

Edwin Fox 1833

FREE ENTRY
kids under 14 must be accompanied by an adult (\$15)

10am- 2pm
6-8 October

Dress like a pirate
Talk like a pirate
Arts & crafts
Eat & drink like a pirate

edwin.fox@marlborough.govt.nz

AGE CONCERN
Hauora Kaitiaki
Ngā Hāwhaere
Kaitiaki Māori

Nelson Bays Primary Health
Hauora Mātahi ki Te Tai Aorangi

LIVE STRONGER FOR LONGER
PREVENT FALLS & FRACTURES

Steady As You Go

Gentle exercise for a stronger, healthier you

New Class!

All welcome!



- Enjoy gentle exercise in a friendly, social group
- Improve strength and balance
- Reduce the risk of falls
- Stay independent and confident

MONDAYS
11.00AM – 12.00 NOON

RAI VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Just a **Koha** donation to take part

Small Steps Big Benefits

For more information please contact:

Meryl at Age Concern
admin@ageconcernmarlb.org.net
03 579 3457

Leonie
022 322 6102

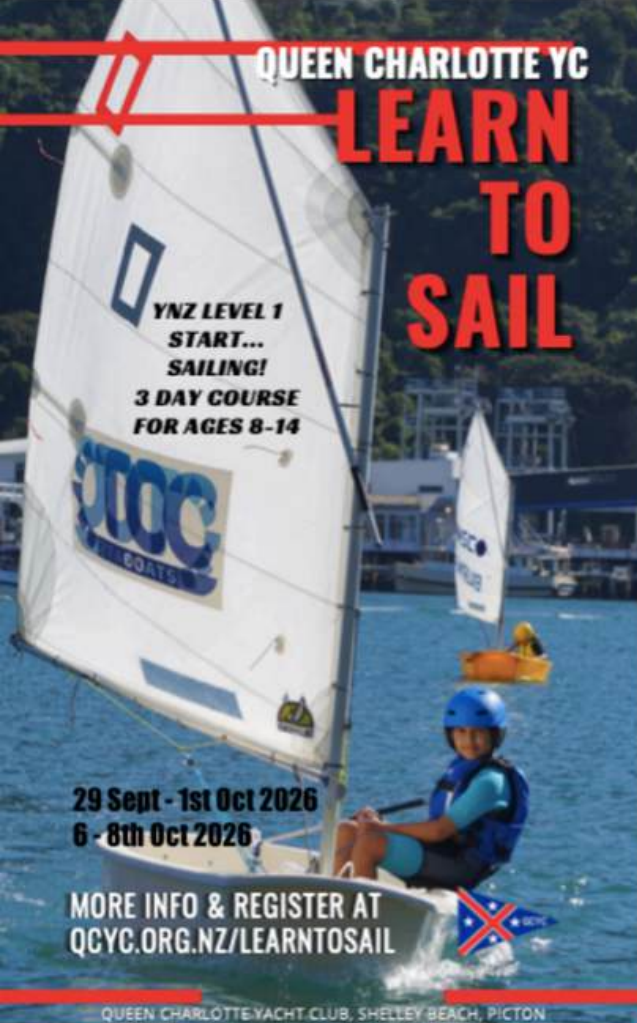
Move Better | Live Brighter | Stay Connected

QUEEN CHARLOTTE YC

LEARN TO SAIL

YNZ LEVEL 1 START... SAILING!

3 DAY COURSE FOR AGES 8-14



29 Sept - 1st Oct 2026
6 - 8th Oct 2026

MORE INFO & REGISTER AT
QCYC.ORG.NZ/LEARNTO SAIL

QUEEN CHARLOTTE YACHT CLUB, SHELLEY BEACH, PICTON

Bridge Valley "Time Warp" Holiday Camps

Get ready to travel back in time at Bridge Valley's Time Warp Holiday Camps! Experience an unforgettable week of adventure, new friendships, and exciting activities.

Junior Time Warp Camp (Ages 8-11): 28 September – 2 October | \$245

Ultimate Time Warp Camp (Ages 11-13): 5-9 October | \$280

Activities can include rock climbing, high ropes, archery, abseiling, the lake flying fox, luge, and much more!



Whole School News



Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

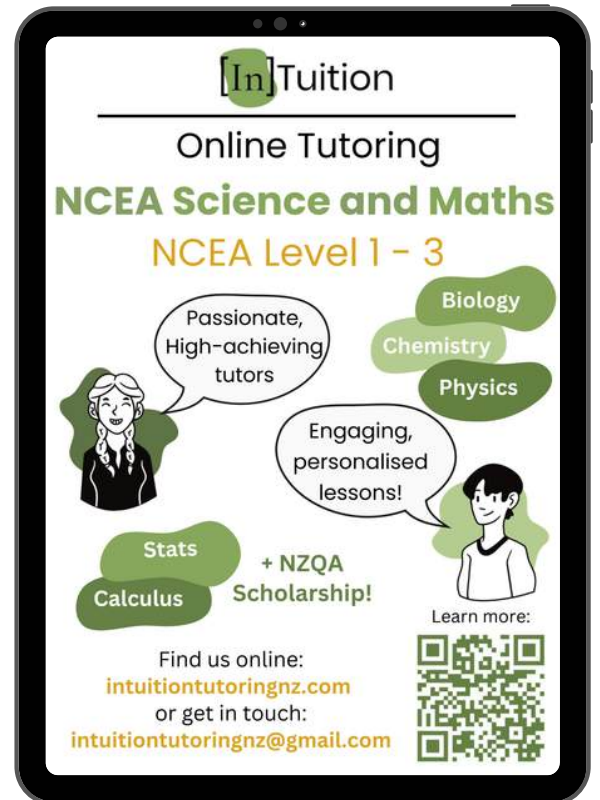
ADDICTION SUPPORT DROP IN

FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH 12PM-2PM
IN J BLOCK/LIBRARY

Want to talk to someone about keeping yourself and others safer around drugs and alcohol?

Come and have a chat with the youth addictions clinician from Wairau Hospital Addiction Service!

Judgement free, confidential, and directed by you!
Come have a chat, ask questions, get some advice, or just check in!



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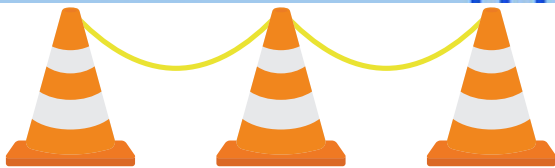


EXPRESS HOME KILL

Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Deer etc



Contact Bruce Anderson
Ph 021 894 411
Listed Operator



Safety for Students is important

Please be aware of vehicles at school and especially at these busy times of before and after school.

At the end of school, students need to wait within the school gate for the parent / caregiver to collect them.

If it is raining, the students can stand on the veranda by the office or be inside the office.





SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDER

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

"Please show you care and do not park outside or near our school"

101 Ways with Wool



FROM THE SHEEP'S BACK To the Shearing Shed Walk!



Saturday
7 November 2026



A & P Showgrounds
Blenheim



DESIGN CHALLENGE

Create a wearable art garment(s) using

90% SHEEP'S WOOL
10% OTHER MATERIALS

(buttons, stiffening, other fibres, etc.)



To assemble at the Marlborough
Rural Women NZ tent for instructions,
time will be advised closer to
the event date



FASHION PARADE

To be modelled by the designer
(or by a chosen model)
on the shearing shed stand
on Saturday



Please choose complimentary
accessories ie shoes to suit
your garment(s).



Models will be required
to walk up steps
so keep this in mind!



JUDGING CRITERIA

Points will be awarded out of 100

Creativity / Design / Fashion	50
Technique / Neatness	25
Wearability / Suitability to model	25

TOTAL

100



IMPORTANT DATES

ENTRIES CLOSE

10th October 2026

GARMENT(S) DESCRIPTION DUE

20th October 2026

Include a short description of the
garment(s), how it was made and
type of wool used (Merino/Xbred etc)
to be read out during modelling.



PRIZES



Winners will be announced
after the fashion parade and
prizes given to the

1st • 2nd • 3rd
placegetters.



Enter Now!

Entries to be in by **10th October** to
the 101 Ways with Wool Committee



Glenda



021 21 666 98



info@soundsreflection.co.nz



Rebecca



tjdsouthland@gmail.com

This Event arranged by Marlborough Provincial Rural Women NZ



101 Ways With Wool





101 Ways with Wool Competition

Marlborough Provincial Rural Women NZ invite
you to create with pure sheep's wool and
showcase your work at the Marlborough A&P
Show, 7 November 2026.

- ECE • Kindergartens • Schools
- Classes • Individual Students

Make: An artwork, sculpture, or fashion accessory

Materials: Use pure sheep's wool, and up to 20% other materials

Maximum base size : A3 — 30 cm x 42 cm (to stand or hang)

ENTRIES CLOSE 10 October 2026

Deliver by 24 October to;
B Black, 60 Whareātea Road, Waiti
or Loch Sloy, 299 Old Renwick Road

For queries contact;
Gwenda Jones
gwendajones484@gmail.com
0212331561

Limited display space: exhibits may be
judged early and only the winners displayed.

ENTER NOW

Use this [entry form link](#) or scan the QR code.

**Be creative! Have fun!
Celebrate wool!**



Online GP Care now **free** for tamariki aged 13 and under

Kia ora koutou,

To support whānau during the current winter illness season, please see the information below and attached resources about healthcare options, including free Online GP Care for children aged 13 and under. Please share with your families as appropriate.

Online GP care now free for all under-14s

With lots of winter illnesses about right now, health services are experiencing very high demand. If you need to speak to a GP and can't get in to your usual doctor or its after hours, Online GP provides a great option for accessing safe and quick care. **The service is available from anywhere in the country, anytime day or night, and is now free for all under-14s.**

Appointments usually take place through a video app or a phone call, and the service can prescribe medicine and send prescriptions to your nearest pharmacy.

It also provides another care option for rural communities, reducing the need to travel.

To learn more visit Online GP Care: <https://www.healthnz.govt.nz/online-gp-care>

Online GP costs for young people

Age	With Community Services Card	With no Community Services Card
0 to 13 years	Free	Free
14 to 17 years	up to \$13.50	up to \$45

For more info on which health service to use when you or your child are unwell visit: www.healthnz.govt.nz/which-health-service-should-i-use

For advice on when you should keep your child home from school or ECE if they're unwell visit: www.healthnz.govt.nz/knowning-if-your-child-is-well-enough-to-go-to-school-guidance-for-parents

Or download this factsheet: <https://healthed.govt.nz/collections/school-guidance/products/should-i-keep-my-child-home-from-school-or-childcare-he7040>

Ngā mihi,

Beverley Banks

Administration Coordinator

National Public Health Service | Te Waipounamu

Nelson Marlborough

Online doctor



- Online or over-the-phone appointment with a doctor any time, including after hours and weekends.
- **Free for children aged 13 and under.**
- Low-cost appointments for ages 14-17 and Community Services Card holders.

Find an online doctor at healthnz.govt.nz/OnlineGP

Care options for you and your whānau

Your usual doctor/GP is the best place to provide you with routine

and follow-up care. You can find a GP at healthpoint.co.nz

There are a range of healthcare options available if you can't see your regular GP. Many are available after hours and at weekends.

Healthline 0800 611 116



- Free over-the-phone health

advice 24/7 from nurses and paramedics.

- Māori clinicians are available from 8am to 8pm weekdays.
- You can send photos or videos to help explain your symptoms.
- Option to ask Healthline to call you back.

Visit info.health.nz/healthline

Online doctor



- Online or over-the-phone

appointment with a doctor if you can't get one with your usual GP, or you don't have a GP.

- Available any time including after hours and weekends.
- Low-cost appointments for children and Community Services Card holders at some providers.

Find an online doctor at info.health.nz/OnlineGP

Pharmacy



- Advice on medications

and minor concerns including colds, rashes and itchy skin.

- Many can also help with eye infections, urinary infections, emergency contraception, vaccinations and more.
- May be able to provide a few days of medication if you run out and need a new prescription.

Find a pharmacy at healthpoint.co.nz

After hours and urgent care clinics



- After hours or urgent care if your GP isn't available and you need to see someone in person.

- For urgent medical issues including breaks, sprains, bad cuts, head knocks, minor burns, eye and ear issues, and if you feel really sick.
- Free appointments for children and low-cost appointments for Community Services Card holders at some clinics.

Find your nearest urgent care clinic at healthpoint.co.nz

Visit info.health.nz for health advice and information on services.

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Vetlife

If you would like to advertise on the Rai Valley Area School

Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com

To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search
'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.



PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US



Kurt Lindsay 027 409 0605
kurt.lindsay@dayles.co.nz

NO.1 RAI VALLEY TEAM TOP 5% RAI VALLEY

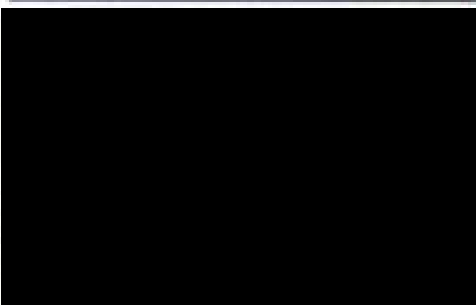
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Havelock

4 FOUR SQUARE SUPERMARKET

68 MAIN RD, HAVELOCK. PH: 03 574 2166




GJ CURRIE ELECTRICAL

027 439 4606 • greg@pelorusvalley.co.nz
PO Box 52, Havelock 7150



Mills Bay MARKET

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Friday 11am-2pm
Saturday 10am-2pm
Sunday 11am-2pm
22 High St, Havelock
Phone: 03 574 2575

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