



WAIKAIA SCHOOL

NURTURE, ENRICH, INSPIRE

18 December 2025

Last Thursday, our students traded the classroom for a day of fun and challenge in Queenstown. The adventure began at the Queenstown Ice Arena, where students laced up their skates and hit the ice with great excitement. The ice bumper cars were a definite crowd favourite, sparking plenty of laughter and friendly fun.

After enjoying a pizza lunch, we made our way to Basecamp Adventures for the climbing session. Students embraced the challenge with determination and courage. Many pushed beyond their comfort zones, showing resilience and celebrating personal achievements along the way.

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful Home and School team. Your continued support makes outings like this possible. It was a fantastic day filled with fun, growth, and great memories for all.

On Tuesday, we came together for our End of Year Prize Giving ceremony. It was a special occasion that recognised the success, effort, and growth of our learners throughout 2025. Congratulations to all our award recipients. We are incredibly proud of what you have achieved this year.

A big thank you to Jacqui, Kyle, Lisa, Mike, and Tessa for helping to create such a memorable evening. Your time and support made the celebration feel truly special for everyone involved.

To our wonderful school community, thank you for your support, kindness, and positivity throughout the year. We wish you all a safe and happy summer break, a joyful Christmas, and a fantastic start to 2026.

See the next page for a special invitation.

School Website



School Facebook



Warmest regards,
Waikaia School

Waikaia Community - You are invited



JOIN US FOR A

CHRISTMAS CRAFT MORNING

AT WAIKAIA SCHOOL

DECEMBER 19, 2025;
FROM 10.30 AM TO 12 PM

Calling all grannies, toddlers, mums, dads,
aunties, uncles, and anyone who can safely
wield a glue stick—you're invited to a
delightfully chaotic Christmas Craft
Morning with Reanda Gerber!

And a huge thank you to Waikaia School
and the community for supporting
Dab-Art-Do this year!



Prize Giving 2025



X-MAS EVE

9-Hole Ambrose

Everyone Welcome

Waikaia Golf Club 12.30pm



4-Person team - no entry fee
Just a bit of fun before santa arrives
BYO Refreshments + Nibbles



VOLUNTEER TRAPPING PROGRAMME



JOIN ANYTIME – START WITH
ONE DAY ON A TRAP LINE



FLEXIBLE, TRAINING AND SUPPORT
PROVIDED

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMME

We warmly invite you to join our volunteer trapping programme. Whether you're eager to learn new skills, connect with others, or simply want to make a difference, we welcome you to join us in protecting our native wildlife. 🌿 By volunteering, you become a kaitiaki tangata (guardian) of the whenua (land) and help safeguard our taonga for future generations.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Purpose: Protect native species and create a healthier environment for both wildlife and people.
- ✓ Learn New Skills: Training and support provided through hands-on experience.
- ✓ Community Connection: Meet like-minded individuals and engage with your local community.
- ✓ Enjoy Nature: A great way to get outdoors and feel a sense of accomplishment.
- ✓ Trap Library: Borrow equipment to set up backyard pest management (possums, rats, stoats, ferrets).

LET'S PROTECT OUR TAONGA TOGETHER

Scan the QR code
for more
information



CONTACT LOIS BISHOP!

✉ lois.bishop@hokonuirunanga.org.nz
📞 021386054



BUSHCRAFT & SURVIVAL SKILLS Holiday Experiences

CHILD VS WILD [5 Days]

7 to 13 year olds
Invercargill
9am to 3pm

15th December to 19th December 2025
19th January to 23rd January 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.

NATURAL CREATORS [1 Day]

5 to 16 year olds
Invercargill
9am to 3pm

22nd December 2025
27th January 2026

A one day **creative cooking** experience preparing nourishing meals in the kitchen from scratch. Children will come home enthused, feeling capable and independent after a day with Geraldine from the Ferment Kitchen.

BUSH KIDS [1 Day]

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

Monday 26th January GORE
Wednesday 28th January Invercargill
Thursday 29th January Invercargill
Friday 30th January Invercargill

A one day bushcraft and survival day experience*:

- Advanced fire starting skills
- Knife work, whittling, carving
- Bush exploration, navigating, orienteering
- Shelter building
- Cooking on gas stoves/ fires
- Survival first aid
- Plant medicine
- Foraging

*Every day brings a different adventure. Activities are weather, location and seasonally dependent.



www.trueinnature.com



Katie: 0226381497

SDC SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Get #ActiveAS with our #FunAS Holiday Programme

LOCATIONS

- Te Anau - Tuesday 13th January
- Lumsden - Wednesday 14th January
- Riverton - Tuesday 20th January
- Otautau - Thursday 22nd January
- Winton - Monday 26th January
- Wyndham - Tuesday 27th January
- Riversdale - Friday 30th January
- Stewart Island - Monday 2nd February

\$6 PER CHILD

5-12 YEARS

10AM - 3PM

Sports

Free play

Swimming

And more

To register, visit our event page on our website: www.activesouthland.co.nz
Registrations close 5pm, 11th January





CHRISTMAS SERVICE + CAROLS ST MARY'S CHURCH WAIKAIA

6PM 18TH DECEMBER 2025

ALL VERY WELCOME



Looking for childcare during the school holidays?

Friday Holiday Club

Fridays through the School Holidays
From January 2nd to February 6th
At the Riversdale Presbyterian Church



Open from 8:30am-4:30pm

Flexible Start & End Times

(extended hours available by request)

8 Hour Day—\$55 per child

6 Hour Day—\$45 per child

4 Hour Day—\$35 per child



Morning & Afternoon Snacks Provided, BYO Lunch




Limited Spaces Available

Bookings Essential

Contact Sarah Cowan

riversdalecare@gmail.com





GORE A&P SHOW

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2026

Kids can enter:

- Baking - Crafts - Art work - Photography -
- Colouring Competition - Flowers - Fresh Produce -

As well as your pets!
You might win a prize or certificate!!

The full schedule is available to download from
- www.goreapshowgrounds.co.nz -

The A&P show in Gore has been going for over 140 years, and incorporates livestock, show jumping, wood chopping, Highland Dancing, market tent as well as loads of free entertainment on the day!

Entry to the show is free to children (under 16) and only \$15 for the grown-ups!

