

Term 4, Week 10 2025



our people. our stories



# Newsletter – Issue #37

## WEEK: 8TH-12TH DECEMBER

Kia ora e te whānau, kumusta, ayubowan,

What a week! We've been swimming most days, and had special visitors pop in to share with us - delicious Mr Whippy soft serves of sherbert, chocolate sprinkles or rainbow sprinkles. Water slides, water balloons, house games, a hydroslide, and rehearsals at a very special place for Carols in the Caves and our end of year prize giving.

As we draw to the close of another year, we are proud of our achievements in academic, sporting and cultural pursuits. We know we punch above our weight, and we are proud of reaching these high standards. Time and time again, we work hard, striving for excellence, and *"Always Our Best/tonu ta tatou pai"* when participating in and competing in a range of opportunities.

This has been shown throughout the year at various events, including Young Einsteins, Invercargill Hockey Competition, Western Cup, Southland Secondary School Triathlon, Western & Southland Athletics, Miharo Polyfest, Ki o Rahi, Western & Southland Cross Country, Western Speeches, Southland Grand Speech Final, and EIS Technology Challenge. Also, it is shown in class in our work through Literacy, Numeracy, H&PE, The Arts, Inquiry Learning. More importantly, we are proud of when our students shine in school and when out and about through the use of their School Values, manners, and Key Competencies. We are continually working to grow great learners and leaders, the BEST in the WEST, so they go well in the world!

### Reading, Writing and Maths Targets

We have hit our targets in reading, writing, and mathematics, with improvements shown across all year levels. There is always progress and achievement along the learning journey, and we have consistently met our reading and maths targets over several years. However, this year we have met our writing target too!

90% of all Hauroko Valley Primary School students are at/above the well-above level in reading.

88% of all Hauroko Valley Primary School students are at/above the well-above level in writing.

85% of all Hauroko Valley Primary School students are at/above the well-above level in mathematics.

Next year, we will be implementing changes to our assessments to ensure they align with the new curriculum. The Ministry of Education is yet to provide guidance on the assessments we are to utilise. Consequently, our report format is likely to differ, and usual measures are unlikely to be comparable to previous reporting. We will keep you updated.

### Water Safety Skills

This week, our children have been involved in sessions from the Water Safety Skills for Life. Across Aotearoa, children head to beaches, rivers, and pools. There are still many children who are unprepared for when things go wrong. Water Skills for Life recognises that no child should be at risk simply because they don't know how to float, recognise hazards, or call for help. In our coverage of essential water skills, we know we are doing our bit to help our children know what to do if ever needed.

### Carols In The Caves/Prize Giving

Thank you (in advance) for joining us for Carols In The Caves. Our classes have prepared a song for you to enjoy. We have also been learning some Christmas songs to share as a whole school. It is a pleasure to see so many of our school families joining us and sharing with our wider school community, including ex-students and their families. Our final newsletter will include those who received recognition at our prize-giving, with merit certificates, academic achievement trophies, best all-round trophies, the HVP Sport/Cultural Trophy, and the HVP Shield.

### HVP Swimming Sports

We will transport all students to the pool on Tuesday, 16th December, for our school's swimming sports. This year, our youngest swimmers will start at 1.00 pm, followed by our 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, 12-, and 13-year-olds. Students will be seated in houses for the event to support one another. You are welcome to collect your children following this. Last year, we arranged for buses to pick up students from the Tuatapere Community Pool to take home, leaving Tuatapere at 3.00 pm. We hope to set this up again.

On behalf of the Hauroko Valley Primary School team,  
Julia Waikato, Principal/Tumuaki



# YEAR 7&8

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December our Year 7&8 students prepared a high tea to be enjoyed by invited guests, special friends, parents and grandparents.

Our learners had taken responsibility for the organisation of the menu, the invitations were designed by Maddi, and recipe sources, including experts, to support preparing for this afternoon high tea.

Items on the menu included a variety of sweet and savoury morsels, smaller in size than a usual afternoon tea.





Options included several different teas with a traditional cup and saucer, thanks to Anne! There was an impressive menu of meringues, pikelets, club sandwiches, scones, banoffee pie, and muffins all prepared by our seniors. Our Year 7 & 8 students learnt the etiquette involved in table settings and serving as part of the learning experience. Well done to all!

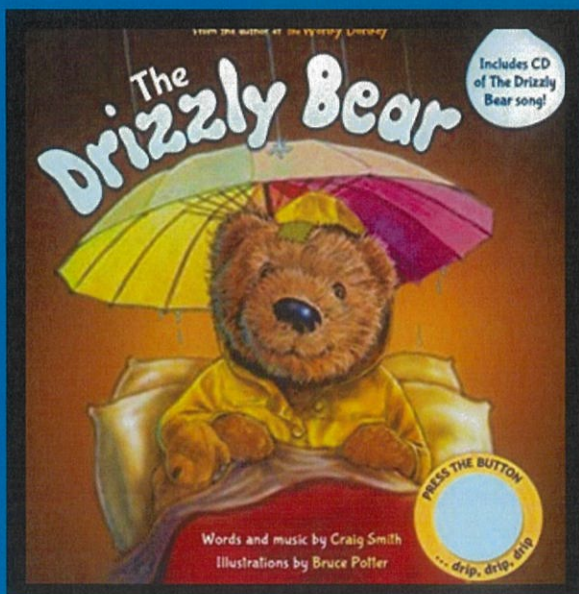


# HIGH TEA





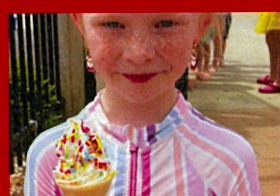
# Craig Smith aka The Wonky Donkey man



This week, we enjoyed a performance from bestselling author and award-winning singer, songwriter Craig Smith (AKA Wonky Donkey Man). He entertained our students for 60 minutes with his books and songs, written to share his life experiences and to incorporate local places and people, such as Monowai. Each family received a book, "The Drizzly Bear". Thank you to Craig for visiting and a special thank you to Cassie, who emailed Craig and set up the visit and performance for us all!

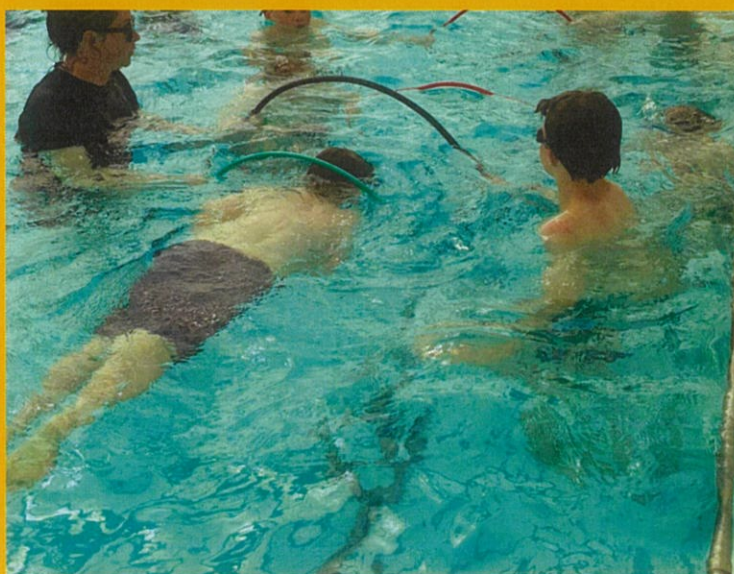
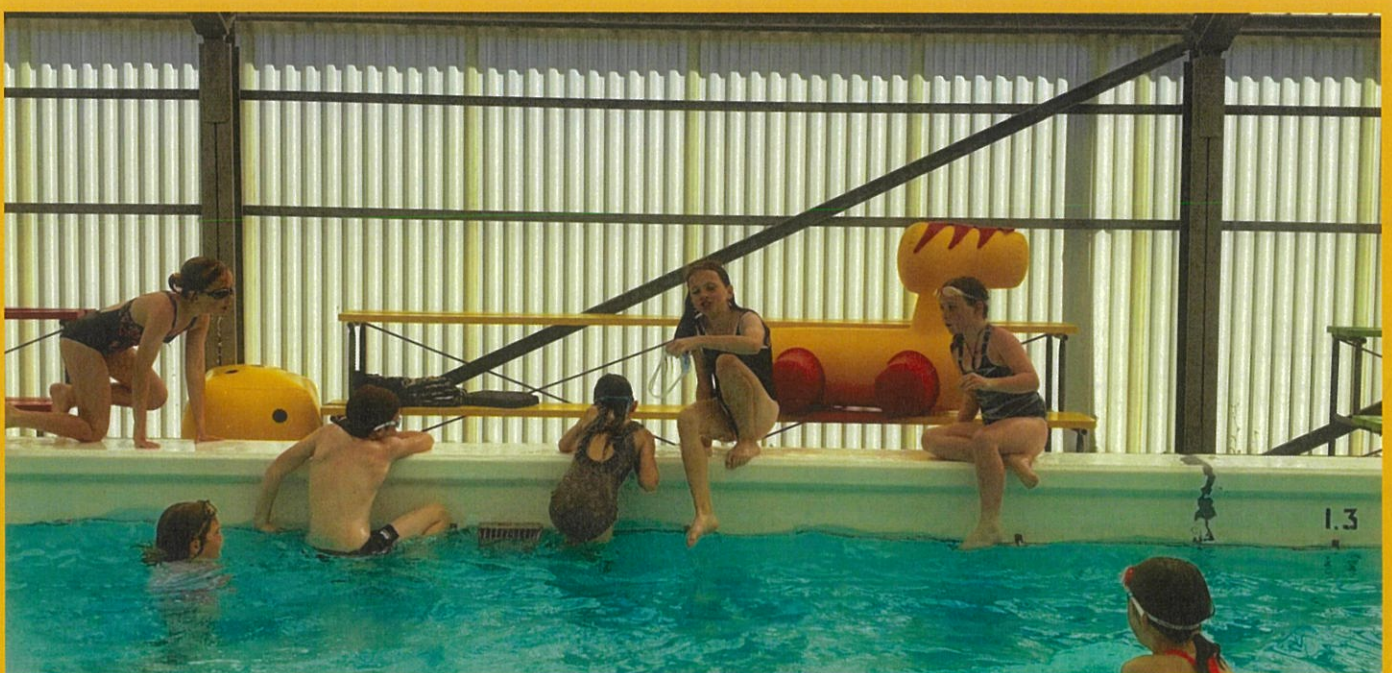
## Thank You







# Water Skills for Life '25





# DATES & EVENTS DECEMBER

## Week 11

- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Year 8 Visual Art at Gallery 65 in Tuatapere
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - HVP Swimming Sports & Final Day of 2025
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Teachers Only Day
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - KSOM - final lessons for music students.

# 2026 DATES

**HVP Teachers Only Days** - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> & Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January

## Term 1

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Thursday 2nd April

**Public Holiday** - Waitangi Day - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

## Term 2

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

**Public Holiday** - Anzac Day - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

**Public Holiday** - King's Birthday - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

## Term 3

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September

## Term 4

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

**Public Holiday** - Labour Day - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October



# SCHOOL NOTICES

## Tui Base Camp

### Friday Lunch Orders

- Sausage & Chips \$6
- Fish Bites & Chips \$5
- Pies \$6
- Chicken Nuggets & Chips \$5
- Chips \$3
- Bacon & Egg Sandwich \$6
- Dagwood \$6
- Muffin \$5
- Cheese Roll \$3
- Scone \$5
- Sausage Roll \$5



## School Account

If paying accounts by

internet banking,

please do so to

Hauroko Valley Primary School

Westpac:

03 1748 0030028 000

To see your child's account, download the Hero App. Register with your email address that we have for you in our records.



**KSOM**  
**STUDIO**  
*and*  
**IN-SCHOOL**  
*Music Lessons*

*Studio Lessons*

Guitar | Ukulele | Keyboard | Bass | First Beat | Drums  
Vocals | Build a Band | Preschool Lesson

*At Hauroko Valley*

Guitar | Ukulele | Keyboard | Bass | Vocals | Drums

**SIGN UP NOW** **INFO@KSOM.NZ**

**CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS**  
**KSOM**  
GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC  
TO YOUR LOVED ONES

EMAIL US AT  
INFO@KSOM.NZ



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## GLENHAM TRAINWRECK TRAIL



**SATURDAY 17 JANUARY 2026**  
RACES START FROM 10am

10km - Walk, Run or Mountain Bike  
15km - Run or Mountain Bike  
21km - Run or Mountain Bike  
43km - Mountain Bike  
43km - E-Bike  
Other distances for E-bike recreational only

Register online at:  
[www.glenhamtrainwreck.co.nz](http://www.glenhamtrainwreck.co.nz)  
or on the day from 8.30am at  
Glenham Hall  
Cash only (No EFTPOS available)

Facebook: GLENHAM TRAINWRECK TRAIL

Compete in any of the Mountain Bike events and go in the draw to win a  
**MOUNTAIN BIKE VALUED AT \$2000**  
thanks to MLT and CrossRoad Cycles

Fundraiser for Glenham Community Centre

**Sponsors:** VETCO, BRUCE DICKENS TREE TOPPING LTD, C-ROADS, VetSouth, PGG Wrightson Seeds, MALLOCH McCLEAN, CROSSROAD CYCLES, THREE RIVERS, MATAURA LICENSING TRUST, WYNTHAM, ENSIGN.

## SDC SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Get #ActiveAS with our #FunAS Holiday Programme

**\$6 PER CHILD**

**5-12 YEARS**

**Free play**

**10AM - 3PM**

**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

Activities: Sports, Free play, Swimming, And more

To register, visit our event page on our website: [www.activesouthland.co.nz](http://www.activesouthland.co.nz)  
Registrations close 5pm, 11th January

**Sponsors:** SOUTHLAND COUNCIL, SOUTHERN REAP, Active Southland.

## 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](http://www.trueinnature.com) Facebook: trueinnature Katie: 0226381497

## Travelling overseas in the school holidays?

You must do a New Zealand Traveller Declaration when you come back

[TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz](http://TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz)

**New Zealand Traveller Declaration**  
New Zealand Government

**Whakapuakanga Tangata Haere ki Aotearoa**