
Newsletter

Maniototo Area School

	APRIL 2025	
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Dear parents and caregivers

A very busy term one is drawing to a close. Today is my last day in the office before departing on the Vietnam trip. We have worked on this for 14 months - it's hard to believe it is now a reality.

I am on sabbatical leave in term 2 and leave the school in the capable hands of Miss Lucia Dowling who will be Acting Principal. Mrs Ann Marie Paterson joins the leadership team as Acting Deputy Principal.

Finally, I want to thank all families for your support of book week. Students embraced this with enthusiasm. Friday was such a highlight with amazing dress ups and some pretty special shared reading time.

Melissa Bell
Principal



Maniototo Area School

Book Week



Maniototo Area School



Book Week



Maniototo Area School

Outward Bound

Outward Bound is a life-changing experience, well for me. I gained new friends, learned to embrace some changes, embrace the uncomfortable to be comfortable, let go of fear, and trust in growth, not just the plan. Because if you adapt with grace, you will stand.

Each day pushed me beyond my comfort zone I thought I knew. The physical challenges were intense, but the real journey wasn't about conquering outside obstacles. It was about understanding those quiet moments of reflection, the team challenges that required me to both follow and lead. That made me think that the unfiltered environment they had transformed me in ways I could never have seen.

If I was to ask to do the Outward Bound course again – I would do it again in a heartbeat. One of the best memories I made this year!

Thea Torres



Maniototo Area School

Year 12 Biology Field Trip

Portobello offered a stunning day for the Year 12 Biology day trip. We attended a field trip along with Lawrence Area School and Roxburgh Area School, and each school bringing three like minded students. We studied the animal gas exchange system in Cancer Crabs and Squid, and learnt about adaptations for survival in their habitats. The second half of the day was spent on the rocky shore intertidal zone, and students were taught how to conduct a shoreline survey and collect data from a transect line. This data will be used back in the classroom where students write a report about specific intertidal species distribution and adaptations for survival. Highlights of the day were the interesting aquarium displays and the touch tanks where students overcame their fear of slimy, starfish.



Maniototo Area School

Science Academy

On the 19th of January, I travelled to Dunedin to attend the first week of the Otago Universities Science Academy Program. This program is for those incredibly interested in science and especially those who would like an inside look into sciences at Otago University. Everyone will be put into groups for each day based on their choices which were picked when applying. Monday through to Friday I attended both Chemistry and Sports Sciences classes which were organised for only the Science Academy Students. However on Wednesday we all attended a short program on an elective of our choice, mine was psychology.

All through the week we stayed at the Hayward hall of residence and were able to use their facilities, which included both the Hayward gym and the University Gym on campus, the kitchen and common areas at the hall and got to see just how close most of these halls are to the University Campus.

I absolutely loved attending this and I am very excited to go back in the last week of June for the second week. Anyone who is interested in applying for this should definitely go for it and make the absolute most of the inside look.



Grace Farquhar

Here is a snapshot of what we got to do:

← Chemistry



Sports & Exercise Science



Maniototo Area School



Basketball



Kudos to Charlie for being chosen for the Otago U18 Girls' Basketball team! It's especially impressive as she's the sole player from outside Dunedin. What a remarkable accomplishment and a fantastic chance for her!

Sports Dates

Friday 9 May, Road Race, Ranfurly
Monday 28 April to Monday 23 June, COSSA Senior Boys Basketball Competition
Monday 28 April to Monday 23 June, COSSA Girls Y9 - Y13 Basketball Competition
Wednesday 14-Friday 16 May, Area Schools Tournament - Catlins
Friday 16 May, Dunstan Zone Ripa Rugby Tournament, Alexandra
Sunday 8 - Monday 9 June, Otago Secondary Schools Netball Competition, Dunedin

Term Dates 2025

Term 1 : 3rd February to 11th April
Teacher Only Day - 21st March
Otago Anniversary Day - 24th March

Term 2 : 28th April - 27th June
Kings Birthday - 2nd June
Matariki - 20th June

Term 3: 14th July - 19th September

Term 4: 6th October - 11th December

Event Calendar - 2025

8 - 22 April - Vietnam Trip
11 April - Last Day of Term 1
14 April - Dental Bus due to arrive on site
28 April - Term 2 commences
2 May - Waste Free Wanda
2 May - School Anzac Service
5 & 6 May - Parent Interviews
7 May BOT Meeting
9 May - Road Race

TAONGA TŪTURU:
MĀORI ARTEFACT CATALOGUINGFREE
EVENT

8-12 APRIL

Cromwell, Clyde, Alexandra

TŪHURA
Otago Museum**TIME TRAVEL THROUGH CENTRAL OTAGO'S INCREDIBLE HISTORY!**

Touch, examine & learn about REAL ancient Māori stone tools, watch expert curators solve historical mysteries, learn how ancient tools were made & used, discover the incredible stories hidden in stone artifacts & learn about your own local history.

MEET EXPERT EXPLORERS!

Meet Dr. Gerard O'Regan & Lana Arun (Taonga Māori curators) & Kane Fleury (Natural History curator), all experts from Tūhura Otago Museum.

This event is suitable for all ages, with hands-on experiences.

Found any weird rocks or artifacts while exploring? Bring them along! The museum experts will help you uncover their secrets.

Visit centralstories.com for dates & information

NOW: SONGWRITING COMPETITIONS (Online)

The 2025 Play It Strange songwriting competitions are now open.

Visit playitstrange.org.nz/competition

3 APRIL: AUTHOR TALK & BOOK SIGNING (Alexandra & Ranfurly)

Be inspired by the stories behind the fashion, photography & writing of the new Eden Hore couture collection book.

Visit centralapp.nz ('What's On' page)

5 APRIL-4 MAY: NZ PASTEL ARTISTS EXHIBITION (Alexandra)

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to appreciate the skill & variety of Pastel Artists of NZ's annual exhibition.

Visit centralstories.com

7 APRIL-12 MAY: TŪHURA PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION (Online)

Entries open on 7 April for the Tūhura Otago Museum's prestigious photography competition.

Visit otagomuseum.nz for more details

12-27 APRIL: SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES (Alexandra)

Join us for an exciting school holiday programme, including arts & craft activities to celebrate our two visiting Otago skinks. Hop down over Easter to take part in some Easter challenges & on Easter Saturday only, you can decorate your own Easter biscuit!

Visit centralstories.com for more information

14 APRIL: IHC ART AWARDS ENTRIES OPEN (Online)

These awards provide artists with an intellectual disability the opportunity to have their talent recognised & their voices heard. The Youth category is for 13-17 year olds.

Visit ihc.org.nz/get-involved/art-awards

23 APRIL: LIAM WOODING (Bannockburn)

Versatile concert pianist Liam Wooding is known for his eclectic performances & is the recipient of numerous awards.

Visit artscentral.co.nz for tickets & information

24-27 APRIL: ARROWTOWN AUTUMN FESTIVAL

This fun community festival offers creative workshops in rock painting, juggling, circus performance, art & balloon art. Come & enjoy storytelling, street performances, comedy & music.

Visit arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz

24 APRIL-18 MAY: HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (Clyde)

Waiata Theatre Productions is proud to present this musical based on the Victor Hugo novel & songs from the Disney film.

Visit iticket.co.nz

26 APRIL: SIX STRINGS AT SIX (Alexandra)

Classical guitarist Braden Southee leaves a lasting impression with his profound musical interpretations & technical finesse.

Visit eventfinda.co.nz/2025/six-strings-at-six/Alexandra

30 APRIL: STEAM COMPETITION ENTRIES OPEN (Online)

The Solve for Tomorrow competition challenges year 7-13 students to show how design thinking can be applied to help improve their communities.

Visit samsung.com/nz/solvefortomorrow

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS: TAKE A LOOK

Rockquest, Tangata Beats, Bandquest, OnScreen, Stills

Visit rqp.co.nz

NZ Youth Film Festival Competition (online)

This competition celebrates & empowers Aotearoa's next generation of filmmakers. It's free for youth aged 15-24 years.

Visit nzyff.com

BOOK NOW:

13 & 16 May: The Big Bike Film Night (Alexandra)

24 & 25 May: RNZB: The Firebird with My Brilliant Career (Dunedin)

1 & 4 July: Daniel Champagne (Lowburn & Alexandra)