Aparima College Newsletter

ISSUE SIX: NOVEMBER 2026



Congratulations to our Year 12 student, Amber Liddicoat who has been selected to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum in Auckland in January 2027.

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He kupu mai i te teepu tumuaki

(a word from the Principal's desk)

As we approach the end of another successful year at Aparima College, it is a fitting time to reflect on the many achievements, challenges, and celebrations that have shaped our school community throughout 2026.

One of our key priorities this year has continued to be improving student attendance. Regular attendance remains one of the strongest predictors of academic success, wellbeing, and positive future outcomes. I would like to sincerely thank our parents and whānau for the vital role you play in supporting your young people to attend school every day. Your partnership makes a significant difference. Together, we have continued to improve our overall attendance, with 2026 reflecting our highest rates of regular attendance in the past five years. This is an achievement our entire community should be proud of. We must not settle as we remain far below the Government target of 80%, continued focus and effort is required.

We also have much to celebrate academically. This year we achieved our highest levels of success in the Literacy and Numeracy Co-requisite examinations since their introduction in 2023. This reflects the commitment of our students, the dedication of our staff, and the support of families working alongside us to ensure every learner has the opportunity to succeed.

For our senior students, this week marks the beginning of exam leave. We wish all those undertaking NCEA external examinations every success in the weeks ahead. Remember our school value: **Taumata - strive for excellence.** Trust in your preparation, do your very best, and make the most of every opportunity to demonstrate what you know and can do.

We also congratulate those senior students who have already completed their schooling journey and successfully secured employment, apprenticeships, and training opportunities. We are proud of the pathways you have chosen and wish you every success for the future.

Our Young Enterprise Scheme students have once again showcased the innovation and entrepreneurial spirit that thrives at Aparima College. To have four of the six finalists in this year's regional finals coming from our school is an outstanding achievement. You should be incredibly proud of yourselves, and our community should be proud of what you have accomplished.

Sport continues to be an important part of life at Aparima College, and I would like to acknowledge the many students who have represented our school throughout the year. Whether competing locally, regionally, or simply giving their best for their team, your commitment, sportsmanship, and school pride have been outstanding. Well done to all involved.

To our Year 8-10 students, we wish you all the very best for your upcoming camps. These experiences provide wonderful opportunities for challenge, personal growth, teamwork, and making lasting memories with friends. Looking back on 2026, it has been a year filled with achievement, opportunity, and connection. We have celebrated many successes together, stood close and supported one another through difficult times, and continually encouraged each other to be the very best we can be.

Aparima College continues to demonstrate that size is no barrier to success. We are a small school that consistently punches above our weight, and that is something every student, staff member, parent, and whānau member should be proud of.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year. I wish all our students, staff, and families a safe, restful, and enjoyable holiday period, and I look forward to the opportunities and successes that await us in 2027.

Ngā mihi nui,
Aloma Williams
Principal

HAUORA WEEK

On September 14th, Aparima College got together by joining in Hauora Week. Hauora Week is created by the Hauora Committee. On every day of the week, the students are given a given theme to wear on the day. Within these days, there are activities held by the Hauora Group.

On Monday, there was future career day. Around the school, we could see students dressed up as they pursued careers. On Tuesday, we had class choice where every class had dressed up as characters from the same movie. The best class won fish n chips, won by the year 10s, dressed up as Men in Black!



On Wednesday, we had a cultural day. We allowed students and teachers to dress up in their culture. During lunch, the Diversity Club held a Cultural Gathering in the hall. Members of the DC created boards from around the world with food samples. Students also performed songs and dances from their countries with a beautiful performance from the Kapa haka group.





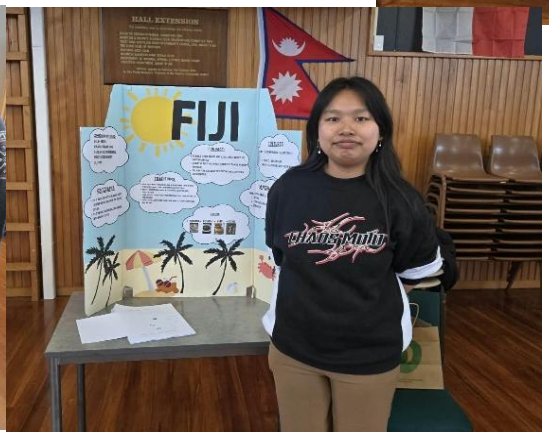


On Thursday there was sports day- dress up as your favourite sports person, or come dressed up supporting a team. We had volleyball in the gym and captured the flag out on the field. Then lastly, on Friday we ended the week with a food drive and Aparimas Got Talent!

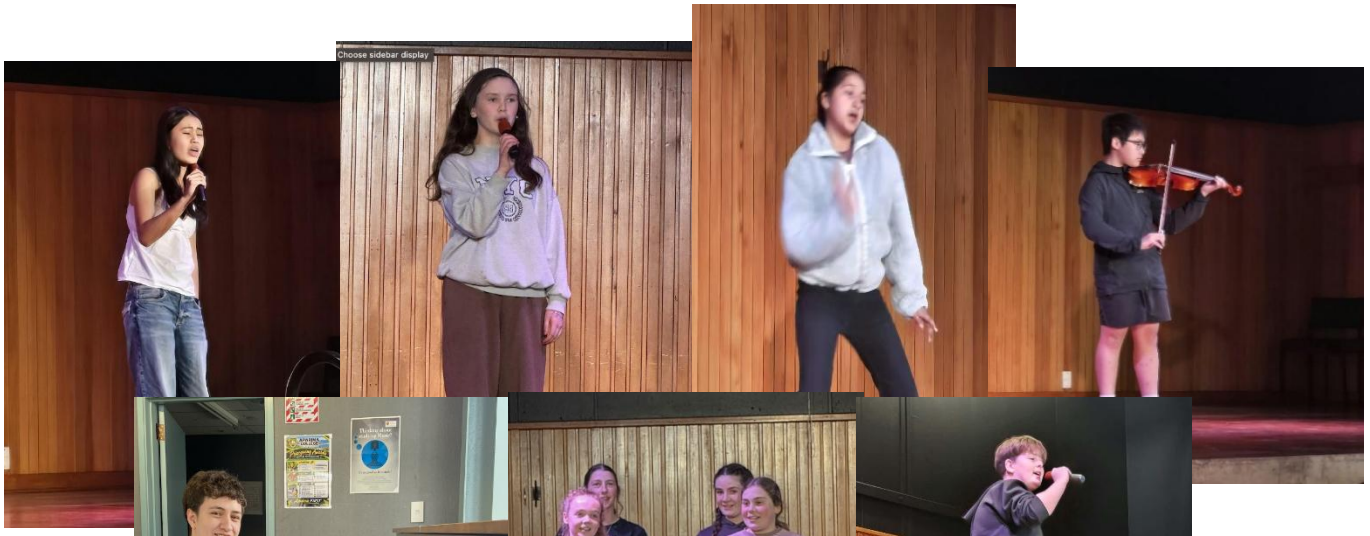


During lunch, we had seven amazing contestants that all performed amazingly. We also had popcorn, drinks and lollies up for sale before the performances. We had singers, dancers and students playing instruments. We were all blown with their performances. Megui sang “If I Ain’t Got You” by Mariah Carey, winning the students' choice vote. In third place was Peter Li with his violin performance, then Megui coming second. First place was given to Hemi Bailey with his spectacular performance on the piano.





All seven contestants performed so well and were definitely a hard choice to make. Thank you to all the MC’s, people in charge of music and managers for making it happen.





Western Golf Tournament

Held recently at the Riverton Golf Club. Aparima College Team - "Fairway Diggers" were placed 6th out of 32 teams and have made a spot into the finals. Well, done to this team. Also well done to all the Aparima College students who participated in this tournament.



Aparima College Prize Giving 2026

This is being held on Thursday 10 December 2026 at 7:00pm in the school hall.

Everyone to please be seated by 6:50pm

All students, Year 7 – 13 are to attend and to be in full correct school uniform

All Parents/Caregivers and family members are welcome.

Young Enterprise



On Wednesday evening, our wonderful coordinator Jessica Black organised the Young Enterprise scheme regional final for Southland's schools at the Workingmen's Club. This year, Aparima College companies were chosen for four out of the six top spots. These companies pitched to become Southland Company of the Year and to represent the region in Wellington in December. All the pitches were professional and impressive but eventually the top honour went to The Lost Larder from St Peter's, Gore. However, our companies did receive numerous nominations for regional honours and won regional excellence prizes. Our students also helped run the event, with Blaze leading karakia and Hemi entertaining on keyboard. Many of our parents and teachers attended to support our students as well. In fact, there was so much representation from Aparima, that the judges jokingly renamed it 'The Aparima Event'.



Results:

Teams chosen for the top 6- Nifty, Poshkit, Unity Jewels,

We walk on water





Excellence awards -

Poshkit (Jasmine) for Sales and Marketing

Nifty (Nina) also gained an honourable mention for Sales and Marketing



Otautau United (Manasseh) for Social Enterprise

Ebony as runner-up Young Entrepreneur of the year.

We would like to thank all our sponsors, customers, mentors and supporters. The students put in a lot of mahi, but, without you, their successes would not be possible.







Year 10 Te Ara a Kiwa Pewter Pendant Project

As part of the project, students draw on their personal connection to the symbols and meanings within the *pūrākau* of *Te Ara a Kiwa*, students created unique pendant designs that reflected the aspects of the story most significant to them.

Through trialing different mould designs and casting techniques, students explored how to achieve flat, curved, and rounded 3D forms, evaluating each method to determine which best met their design intentions.

The finished pendants showcase both technical skill and creativity, highlighting each student's individual interpretation of the *pūrākau* and their ability to transform ideas into a meaningful and well-crafted final product.











Science Roadshow

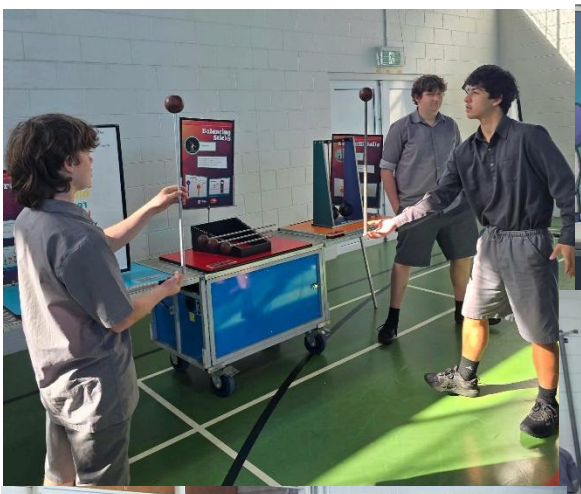


The Science Roadshow visited Aparima College today, giving all Year 7–10 students the opportunity to take part in two engaging shows: MRS GREN Life Processes and Kitchen Chemistry.

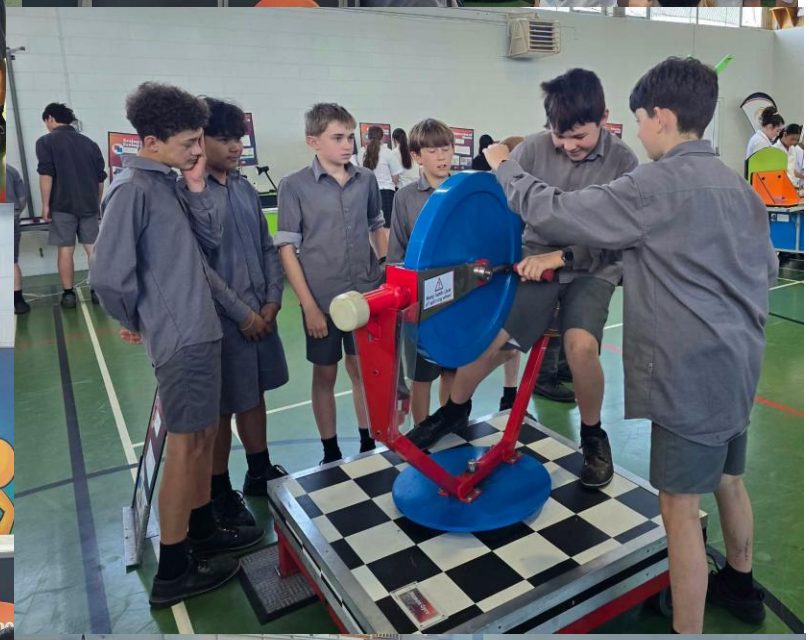
Students also explored a wide variety of scientific equipment and experiments, providing a fantastic hands-on learning experience and bringing science to life!

A big thank you to the Science Roadshow for an exciting and educational opportunity. Also a thank you to our Year 10 helpers, who spent the day demonstrating experiments and helping make the experience enjoyable for the other students.













Art Students

Jackson Irvine photographing still life sculptures for his year 13 Photography boards. He uses a “zoom-track” technique to create an effect of inward or outward rushing movement. Add his resulting picture (“zoom track 1”) as well 😊





Year 11 students pose with their completed level 1 art boards. There was a lot of hard work and perseverance shown by all those who finished them. Well done and congratulations Year 11 students, great work!



Library News

Come check out our awesome bird book display in the library, made by the newest library ninja.

You can learn heaps about our native birds like the Kiwi and White Heron. Also the Bald Eagle native to America, and many more!



Dan Davin Literacy

Sigourney got a 'commended' at the Dan Davin in the Open Poetry division - no kids division so up against the adults. Well done Sigourney





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

Good Luck to our Senior Students sitting Exams!

APARIMA COLLEGE

External Examination Information – NCEA Exams 2026

Morning Exams: 9:30 am | **Afternoon Exams:** 2:00 pm | **Duration:** 3 Hours

Arrival Time: Be outside the hall **20 minutes before** start time (**30 minutes prior** for digital exams).

WHAT TO BRING

- **Admission Slip:** Must show both sides at entry. Get a stamped replacement from school if lost before the exam.
- **Exam Materials:** Blue or black pens only, brought in a *clear plastic bag*. Required device or headphones for digital exams.
- **Emergency Pack:** Phone (switched OFF), watch, keys, and money inside a clear plastic bag placed under your desk.
- **Calculator:** Must be cleared and checked by a teacher beforehand (if required).
- **Water:** Permitted in a clear plastic bottle only.

WHAT NOT TO BRING (PROHIBITED)

- **Unapproved Devices:** NO smartwatches, mobile phones on your person, or electronic devices (except approved cleared calculators).
- **Prohibited Items:** NO blank paper, refill paper, correction fluid, dictionaries, or notes of any form.

Important Conduct Reminders:

- **No Communication:** Do not talk, communicate, or disturb others.
- **No Copying:** Do not look at or copy work from others.
- **Stay Seated:** You may NOT leave in the first 45 or last 15 minutes.
- **Need Assistance?:** Raise your hand to notify a supervisor.

DIGITAL EXAMS

- **Login Preparedness:** Ensure you can access the digital platform and know your login & password before exam day.
- **NZQA Website:** Visit **www.nzqa.govt.nz** for platform details.
- **Powerpack:** Keep a portable powerpack in your emergency pack if needed.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Illness on Exam Day:** Contact the school immediately if you are sick.
- **Late Arrival:** Entry allowed up to 30 mins late (report to supervisor at the door). *No extra time given.*
- **Follow Guidance:** Listen to supervisor instructions and do your best!

Aparima College NCEA Examinations 2026 • Please retain this information sheet for student and family reference.





Office Hours & Opening Information 2026/2027

Last day for Students is Thursday 10 December 2026

Office Hours, End of 2026

- **Friday 11 December 2026 – the office will be <u>open from 9:00am to 11:00am only</u> (closed for the rest of the day)**
- **Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 December 2026 - open from 9:00am – 3:00pm**

The Office will be closed from Wednesday 16 December 2026

Office Hours Start of 2027

- **From Wednesday 28 January the office will be open from 8:00am – 4:00pm.**

Student Information for the start of 2027

- **Thursday 28 January –** Year 11 to 13 Course Confirmation – this is only for senior students who get an email from management requesting them to come in.
- **Thursday 28 January –** Year 7 students are invited to come in and meet their teacher between 11am & 1pm
- **Friday 29 January 2027 –** Year 13 students Only
- **Monday 1 February** – ALL STUDENTS Year 7 – 13 TO ATTEND **(buses will start on this day)**

Students must bring their stationery with them on the first day of school and the stationery lists with the required items are available through - OfficeMax - https://www.myschool.co.nz/

Note: all students must be in their form class each day by 8:40am and school finishes at 3:00pm.

UP AND COMING EVENTS

6 November 2026	Last day for Seniors
13 November 2026	**TEACHER ONLY DAY**
17 November 2026	Year 8 Camp – Te Anau
18 November 2026	BOT Meeting 5pm in Room 9-10
20 November 2026	Jonty Carran Tackle 10s Memorial Tournament
24 - 26 November 2026	Year 9/10 Camp – Lakeland Park Queenstown
26 November 2026	Senior Dinner
2 December 2026	Orientation Day
2 December 2026	Taster Day Year 10s
7 December 2026	Senior ESOL Trip
10 December 2026	Prize Giving



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ngā ratonga ki te manawa o te whenua
Heartland Services

RIVERTON Community House

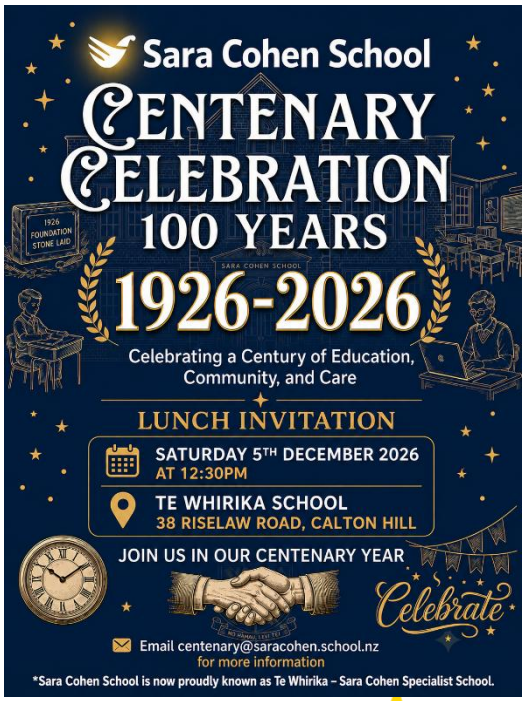
37 Napier Street
Riverton
Ph: (03) 234 8206
info@rivchouse.nz

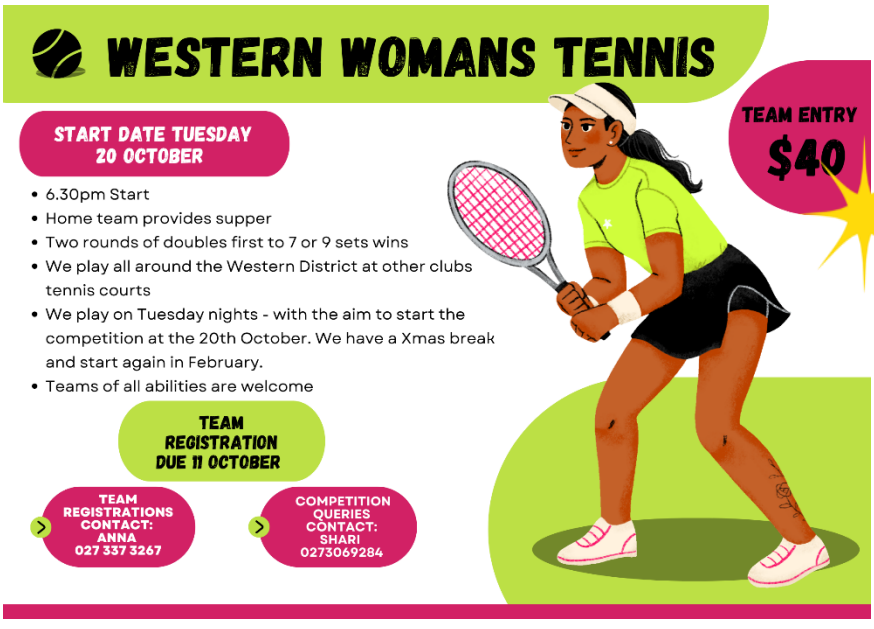
NOVEMBER

Work and Income Te Hiranga Tangata	**LOUISE MCCLOY CASE MANAGER**	WEDNESDSAY BY APPOINTMENT 03 234 8206	04/11/2026
jubilee BUDGET ADVISORY SERVICE	**JENNY BUDGET ADVISOR**	THURSDAY BY APPOINTMENT 0800 582 4533	05/11/2026 19/11/2026
nkmp NGA KETE MATAURANGA POUNAMU CHARITABLE TRUST	**Manawa Ora Nurse**	WEDNESDAY DROPIN 9.30am - 12.30pm 2pm - 4pm	18/11/2026 04/11/2026
JP Service Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 12.00pm	**EILEEN CLEAVER**	EVERY TUESDAY 12 - 1.30pm	
Alzheimers New Zealand Aparima Support Group	**APARIMA SUPPORT GROUP** office@alzheimerssocietysouthland.org.nz	MONDAY 10.30am at Bupa	16/11/2026
Ngā ratonga ki te manawa o te whenua Heartland Services	**OREPUKI OUTREACH - OREPUKI FIRE BRIGADE**	WEDNESDAY 10.30am - 11.30pm	25/11/2026

We can help you get in contact with the right people!
Our Service is friendly, free and Confidential to all
INDIVIDUALS - FAMILY - YOUTH - ELDERLY - GROUPS


SOUTHLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Incorporated
SOUTHLAND SOFTBALL
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
2026/27 SEASON
Southland Softball is seeking Expressions of Interest from players interested in representing the Southland U17 Girls for the 2026/27 season.
We're looking for players who are ready to work hard, develop their game, support their teammates and represent Southland with pride.
Whether you were part of last season's squad or are looking to step into the representative programme for the first time, we want to hear from you!
U17 GIRLS
REPRESENTATIVE SQUAD
MAINLAND SOFTBALL
MAINLAND SHIELD
NATIONALS
CAMPAIGN
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!
REGISTER:
@ southlandsoftball.co.nz
TRIAL INFORMATION:
TO BE CONFIRMED
REPRESENT THE SOUTH
PRIDE • COMMITMENT • TEAMWORK
SOUTHLAND SOFTBALL


Sara Cohen School
CENTENARY CELEBRATION
100 YEARS
1926-2026
Celebrating a Century of Education, Community, and Care
LUNCH INVITATION
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026
AT 12:30PM
TE WHIRIKA SCHOOL
38 RISELAW ROAD, CALTON HILL
JOIN US IN OUR CENTENARY YEAR
Celebrate
Email centenary@saracohen.school.nz
for more information
*Sara Cohen School is now proudly known as Te Whirika – Sara Cohen Specialist School.


WESTERN WOMANS TENNIS
START DATE TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER
TEAM ENTRY $40
• 6.30pm Start
• Home team provides supper
• Two rounds of doubles first to 7 or 9 sets wins
• We play all around the Western District at other clubs tennis courts
• We play on Tuesday nights - with the aim to start the competition at the 20th October. We have a Xmas break and start again in February.
• Teams of all abilities are welcome
TEAM REGISTRATION DUE 11 OCTOBER
TEAM REGISTRATIONS CONTACT: ANNA 027 337 3267
COMPETITION QUERIES CONTACT: SHARI 0273069284