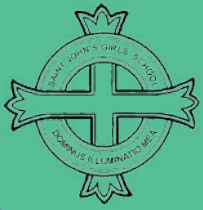




NEWSLETTER

St John's Girls' School

27 June 2025



Greetings from the Principal

Kia Ora koutou,
Ola, Bonjour

Whakatauki - Māori Proverb

**Ehara taku toa i
te toa takitahi,
engari he toa
takitini**

*Success is not the work
of an individual, but the
work of many.*

It is hard to believe we are officially halfway through the school year. Term 2 may have been shorter than usual, but it has been just as busy at our kura!

This term, as we celebrate the many successes across our kura, the whakatauki to the left perfectly captures our journey. It is a powerful reminder that our achievements are not just about individual mahi, but the incredible collective hard work and dedication of everyone in our school community. Each success story, big or small, highlights the combined efforts of our tamariki, kaiako, support staff, and whānau. This shared commitment is truly the foundation for how we continue to grow, learn, and thrive together.

Speech Exams

We have had five days of speech exams over the past two weeks, expertly assessed by Mrs Gwenda Benjamin. Six of our classes have been involved, and that has taken a great deal of teaching, guidance and support. Thank you to our wonderful speech teachers who have provided our girls with the confidence to deliver their speeches.

I would like to make a special mention of Mrs McIlwrick, who was tasked with guiding five of our speech classes! She also worked behind the scenes, liaising with the Speech Board to ensure our week ran smoothly. Thank you, Mrs McIlwrick, for your mahi!

Dance Exams

Miss Gina was very impressed with the way our girls were prepared for their dance exams this week. The girls were excited [particularly our Year 3 group!] and proud of their achievements too. Thank you for your support with hair braiding; it is always a mammoth task!

St John's Girls' School Portal

You should have received an email this week inviting you to the St John's Girls' School Portal. This portal, powered by our student management system, is designed to be your one-stop shop for all things related to your daughter's school life!

Once logged in, you can conveniently view the school calendar, check your daughter's personal details, school reports [starting with the upcoming Term 2 report], and attendance at any time. You'll also be able to update your daughter's information if needed and submit absence forms directly through the portal.

We will be adding even more information to the Portal over time. I highly encourage you to log in and explore the site. Many local high schools use similar portals to share information, so this will also be great practice for the future!

Our school portal address is: <https://stjohnsgirls.school.kiwi>



Values Cup Recipients



Reports

Your daughter's school report will be emailed to you this afternoon, as well as published to the St John's Portal. As mentioned in our last newsletter, our reporting processes have been updated to reflect recent curriculum changes. You will find a brief outline of these changes included in the report email.

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held early next term. These interviews will be focused on your daughter's report, offering a valuable opportunity to discuss this with her classroom teacher/s.

Attendance

At St John's, we strongly emphasise punctuality and regular attendance because we know it is fundamental to your daughter's success. Being at school on time, every day, not only supports academic progress but also helps build crucial social connections and develop essential life skills. Regular attendance ensures our girls do not miss valuable learning experiences and fosters a vital sense of belonging and community, which is so important for their overall well-being. Regular attendance means your daughter is present at school for more than 90% of the term.

You may be aware of the Government's current drive to improve school attendance nationwide. To boost regular attendance rates, a target has been set: by 2030, 80% of students will be present for more than 90% of the term. As a school, we are required to carefully monitor attendance and report this information to the Ministry of Education.

For Term 2, St John's achieved the government attendance target, with exactly 80% of our girls attending 90% of the time.

Please understand that if your daughter's attendance rate is discussed with you, it is always from a place of support. We are all working together to ensure every one of our girls has the very best chance to succeed and thrive.

We understand that absences are sometimes unavoidable due to illness or other reasons. However, we encourage prioritising attendance at school whenever possible. We also ask that you communicate with us about any challenges your daughter might be facing that affect her attendance. Please inform the school office of any planned absences, such as holidays, well in advance.

Interschools Speech Competition

This annual event showcases the best speakers from Years 5-8 across Southland. The competition progresses through four rounds: the school competition, the cluster schools competition, the Invercargill Area Final, and finally, the Southland Grand Final.

Our senior girls have received the competition criteria and marking sheet to help them decide if they wish to enter. Our school competition will be held during the first week of August. Four girls will be selected to represent St John's at the cluster competition: two from Year 7-8 and two from Year 5-6. The cluster final this year is being held on Stewart Island!

To be eligible for the Cultural Stripe, Year 7-8 girls must enter the school competition.



Katie Milne
Room 4



Amelia Kemna
Room 6



Harriet Telfer
Room 1



Millie Dobbie
Room 3



Production Sponsorship

We are thrilled to announce that our school production, 'Pirates of the Curry Bean,' has been cast! Get ready to mark your calendars, as we will be presenting this exciting show in the final week of Term 3.

Staging a production of this scale offers our girls a truly authentic theatre experience, but it does come with significant costs. To help manage these expenses and keep ticket prices affordable for our community, we are actively seeking sponsorship from local businesses.

If you have any contacts who may be interested in supporting our production, please contact the school for a sponsorship letter. Your support in making this incredible experience possible for our students is greatly appreciated.

Staffing

Mrs Lee Stewart will remain Acting Deputy Principal, and Mrs Sarah Jagoutz will continue as Acting Junior Syndicate Leader through to the end of the year.

Mrs Amy Vaughan will also maintain her Christian Education teaching role for Term 3.

Term 3 Invoices

Starting next term, you will notice a change in how you receive your school fee invoices.

You will now receive three separate invoices:

- Board of Trustees Activity Donation
- Board of Proprietors Donation
- Attendance Dues [also for the Board of Proprietors]

Please note, there has been no increase in overall fees. This change simply separates the Board of Proprietors fees into two invoices.

Your prompt payment of these invoices is crucial. Your contributions are vital, as they directly ensure we can continue to provide the wide range of opportunities and resources that benefit your daughter.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this term. We look forward to welcoming the girls back well-rested and safe after the break.

Ngā mihi nui

Holly Bradshaw
Tumuaki - Principal



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS



St John's Girls' School

Te Kura Kōtiro o Hato Hoani

349 Dee Street - Invercargill 9810 - Phone 03-218 7759 - Email—office@stjohnsgirls.school.nz

27 June 2025

Re: St John's Girls' School Board Elections – Notice of Election

Nominations are open for the election of five [5] parent representatives to the school board.

All eligible voters will receive a nomination form via email at the beginning of term three. Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided with this notice and the nomination form.

Nominations close at noon on Wednesday 6 August 2025. You will be required to provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination.

The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

As nominations are received there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day which you can view.

Voting closes at 4pm on Wednesday 10 September 2025.

Nic Roberts

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nic Roberts'.

Returning Officer
St John's Girls' School

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

People who are not eligible to be school board members

The following people are not eligible to be school board members. A person who:

- is an undischarged bankrupt; or
- is prohibited from being a director or promoter of, or being concerned or taking part in the management of, an incorporated or unincorporated body under the [Companies Act 1993](#), or the [Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013](#), or the [Takeovers Act 1993](#); or
- is a permanently appointed member of the Board staff, unless they are standing for election as a staff representative; or
- contracts or sub-contracts with the Board without the approval of the Secretary of Education and receives payments exceeding \$25,000 in any financial year. This would also cover situations where a person has a 10% or more shareholding in the contracting company or a company that controls the contracting company; or
- is subject to a property order under the [Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988](#); or
- has been convicted of a specified offence identified in [Schedule 2](#) of the Children's Act 2014, unless that person has obtained a pardon or been granted an exemption; or
- is a person in respect of whom a personal order has been made under that Act that either the person is not competent to manage his or her own property affairs, or does not have the capacity to communicate/make decisions relating to his/her welfare/personal care; or
- is a person who has been convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for 2 years or more, or who has been sentenced to imprisonment for any other offence, unless that person has obtained a pardon, served the sentence, or otherwise suffered the penalty imposed on the person; or
- is not a New Zealand citizen, **and** is –
 - a person to whom [section 15](#) or [16](#) of the Immigration Act 2009 applies; or
 - a person obliged, by or pursuant to that Act, to leave New Zealand immediately or within a specified time, being a time that was less than 12 months; or
 - deemed for the purposes of that Act to be in New Zealand unlawfully.

A returning officer for an election (or by elections) of board members is not eligible to be nominated as a candidate in that election.

For more information:

- see clauses 9 and 10 of [Schedule 23](#) of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the list below is a summary of these clauses).
- call NZSBA Advisory and Support Centre 0800 782 435, option 1.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- **14** First Day of Term 3
- **22** Parents' Association Mtg [7pm]
- **23** Parent/Teacher Interviews [2.15pm - **School finishes at 2pm**]
- **24** Parent/Teacher Interviews [3.15pm - **School finishes at 3pm**]
- **31** Staff Only Day [**School Closed**]

OCTOBER

- **6** First Day of Term 4
- **14** Parents' Association Meeting [7pm]
- **16** BoT Meeting
- **27** Labour Day [**School Closed**]
- **28** Staff Only Day [**School Closed**]

AUGUST

- **6** BoT Parent Nominations Close [**noon**]
- **19** Polyfest Performance - Stadium Southland [2.10pm]
- **21** BoT Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]

NOVEMBER

- **12** Last day of dance
BoP Meeting [5.30pm]

SEPTEMBER

- **2** Science Fair
- **10** BoT Election Day
BoP Meeting - Staffroom [5.30pm]
- **16** Production - Dress Rehearsal
- **17** Production Performance - 7.00pm
[CentreStage]
- **18** Production Performance - 7.00pm
[CentreStage]
- **19** Last Day of Term 3



WEEKLY AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

ROOM 1

Gypsee Stephens, Lara Valli, Lily Vaughan, Quinn Botting,
Maisie Freiberg, Olive Johnstone

ROOM 2

Amelia Gladwin, Evie Bradshaw, Elliece Goodwright, Charlotte Risk,
Isabelle Miskimmin, Heidi Lawson

ROOM 3

Grace McLeod-Young, Lilly Stalker, Ava Davies, Mahya Gilmete,
Emily Sewpersad, Amelia Maxwell

ROOM 4

Kyla Howden, Nikita Zeestraten, Mia Hitchcock, Charlee Miles,
Maggie Mulqueen, Katie Milne

ROOM 6

Sophia Lillo-Dockerty, Lauren Baird, Avery Botting, Laura van Westrenen,
Scarlett Anderson, Hannah Sloan

ROOM 7

Emily Bulling, Samantha Parry, Briar Nicholl, Samantha Parry,

ROOM 8

Nakaysha Fraser, Paige Robertson, Mia Padgett, Neveah Roughan,
Zoe McMillan, Gracie Dennis

VALUES CUP

Rm 1	Harriet Telfer
Rm 3	Millie Dobbie
Rm 4	Katie Milne
Rm 6	Amelia Kemna



PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Rm 1	Harriet Telfer, Lara Valli
Rm 2	Georgia Cochrane, Olive Reilly, Isabelle Miskimmin, Mackenzie Smithies
Rm 3	Penny Sloan, Mahya Gilmete
Rm 4	Madeline Davison
Rm 6	Lydia O'Brien, Simone Paganelli
Rm 7	Emily Bulling
Rm 8	Isla Patterson

STRIPES & BONUS POINTS

TERM 2 2025

GREEN WORK STRIPE

Bailey Cooper, Evie Erskine, Indi Howden, Emily Laughton, Briar McKenzie, Briar Nicholl, Samantha Parry, Morrigan Parsons, Charlotte Beer, Sophie Crosbie, Gracie Dennis, Nakaysha Fraser, Meila Iosefo, Maisie Korteweg, Zoe McMillan, Tayla Nel, Isla Patterson, Drew Peddie, Paige Robertson, Abby Unahi, Luna Welsh

RED WORK STRIPE

Willow Murray, Greer Pine, Maya Preininger, Martina Bosma, Willow Harper, Mia Padgett, Mia Reilly, Gwynedd Ryder

WHITE SPORT STRIPE

Mia Padgett, Isla Patterson, Neveah Roughan

GOLD SPORT STRIPE

Martina Bosma

STUDENT BONUS POINTS

Harriet Telfer, Kate McEwan, Pippa Vaughan, Lara Preininger, Lydia O'Brien, Briar Nicholl, Mia Padgett

HOUSE BONUS POINTS

1st	Enderby
2nd	Marchant
3rd	Lester
4th	Alabaster





From Your Kaiarahi

MATARIKI

Last week the school was learning and sharing lots of information and stories of Matariki....

ASSEMBLIES

Each class presented something every day:

- Rm 1 and the Pacifica Group shared a Matariki song in Samoan
- Rm 2 shared their wonderful art about Matariki
- Rm 3 shared a dance called the Matariki Macarena
- Rm 4 shared about Matariki around the world
- Rm 6 talked about the stars and what they meant
- Rm 7 shared a Matariki play
- Rm 8 shared a Matariki Quiz for the school





SHARED KAI

The senior girls brought a sweet treat or a savoury one for morning tea last Thursday. All the girls went into their House groups, said a prayer, then shared some lovely kai.

WHAT WE LEARNED

The school learned about the nine stars of Matariki and what they mean, as well as the different ways the world celebrates Matariki.

INTERVIEWS

We interviewed three girls from Room 2. They had been working on Matariki art and we asked them why they did their artwork.

Indy Frost

"We learnt about the nine stars of Matariki. I did a girl reaching for the stars and footsteps into the past. And the coloured sky."

McKenzie Kyle

"I did the nine stars of Matariki and I did the aurora with green, yellow, pink, red, and blue, and a family from many generations coming together."

Heidi Lawson

"I drew two sisters together looking at the sky."

We also interviewed some girls from Room 3 and asked them what they liked about the Matariki assembly:

Pippa Vaughan

"I liked the quiz that the Room 8 girls did and I liked the questions they asked us."

Charlotte Farley

"I liked the quiz because we got to be in our House groups and answered the questions together."

Emily Sewpersad

"I enjoyed listening to the Matariki around the world."

THANK YOU!

The Kaiarahi and the whole school would just like to thank Mrs Stewart for making this all happen. We could not have done this without her. We would also like to thank the senior girls for bringing all the delicious kai !!!



Room 1 News

Special Visitor

Room 1 had a special visitor. Police Officer Rosie Marchant came to talk to us about being safe when we are online. Rosie was amazed at how well Room 1 read all of their labels that let them know what information about themselves we should not share to people we do not know.



Writing about Matariki

Harriet wrote:

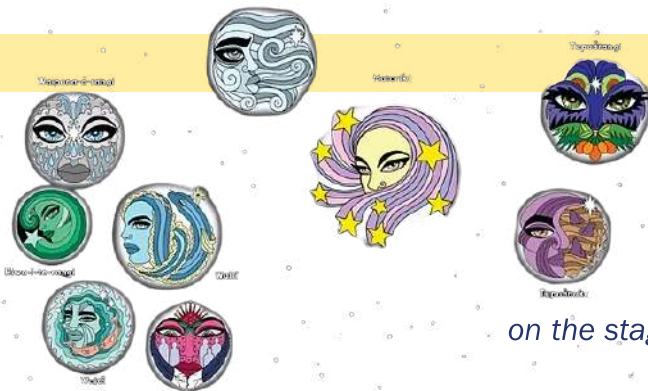
"Matariki is about the stars. You make a wish."

Lily wrote:

"Matariki is about the stars and in the hall, I went on the stage. I've also learned about the names of the stars."

Lara wrote:

"Matariki is about the stars. it is about your family. You have a feast. You can make a wish."



Matariki Celebrations

Last week was big with many different ways to mark and celebrate Matariki. Room 1 made Matariki lanterns with 9 stars on them. We all made them together and carefully followed the instructions.



Room 2 News

Lots Happening!

We can hardly believe our fun filled term of so many learning opportunities has come to an end!

Everyone gave their all in the cross country and can be proud of their effort.

The beautiful colours of autumn inspired us to create mixed media paintings of trees shown from the perspective of looking up from the base of the trunks. We created poems showing the contrast between summer days and autumn days.



Life Education Bus

We have all been so excited to visit the Life Education bus and see Harold, of course! Our learning about Food and Nutrition has complemented our Healthy Eating unit.

Science

Our science focus on Forces has generated a lot of interest and opportunities to test out friction, magnetism and gravity. We loved having a scientist join us for some experiments. She was very impressed with the girls' knowledge.

We learned how to magnetise a needle to create a compass. The follow-up writing was wonderful! Our gravity investigations included making parachutes with 'spider men' type skydivers. We learnt so much about gravity, air resistance and surface area.



Matariki

To cap off our term we loved creating artistic interpretations of our understandings of Matariki. We included the 9 stars and representations of each star's meaning - whanau, gratitude and a time for reflection were included.



Autumn Poems

Hello - Goodbye

Hello Autumn,
Goodbye Summer.
Hello leaves, goodbye jandals.
Hello crunchy leaves, goodbye
summer days.
Hello slippers, goodbye water.
Hello frosty breath, goodbye
T-shirts.
Hello goosebumps, goodbye
yellow blossom.
Hello hot milo, hullo Autumn.
We are glad you are here!

Addison

Hello - Goodbye

Hello Autumn,
Goodbye Summer.
Hello cold nose, goodbye sweet
coconuts.
Hello wet grass, goodbye paddle
pools.
Hello snowflakes, goodbye birds
singing.
Hello chilly days.
Hello autumn colours, we are
here.

Georgia

Hello - Goodbye

Hello Autumn,
Goodbye Summer.
Hello goosebumps, goodbye
sunscreen.
Hello frosty fingers, goodbye
warm beds,
Hello crinkly leaves and North
wind, goodbye glistening lakes,
Hello rain and wind, goodbye
sunburn.
Hello Autumn, we are glad you
are here!

Oriana

**We appreciate all of your effort and contributions this term.
Happy holidays everyone!**

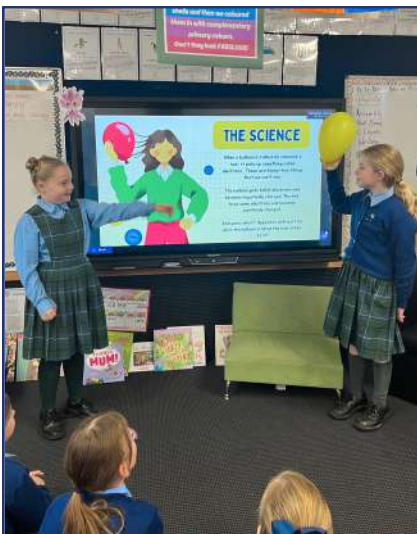
Room 3 News

Room 3 is Amazing!

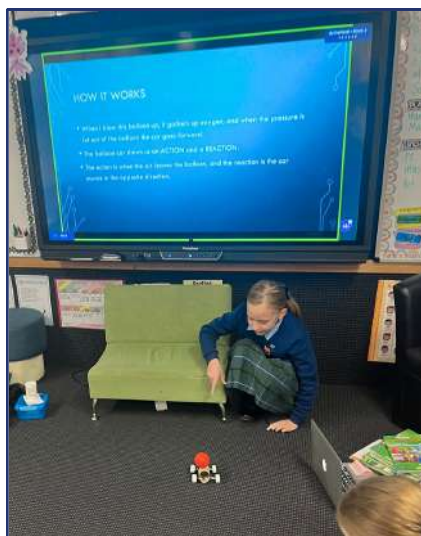
Room 3 has been a wonderful place to be. The girls have amazed us with their resilience and perseverance, especially with the business of the end of term. We just love how they have stepped up, got the job done, continue to make great choices and all with a smile and positive attitude to match.

Check out some of the fabulous mahi that has been keeping us engaged the past few weeks.

Current Events / Science



Mrs McIlwrick was blown away by the level of learning, researching, inquiring and understanding that went into Current Events this term. Science was well and truly brought to life and we all enjoyed the varied scientific topics that were presented. Well done Room 3! There are many budding scientists amongst you!



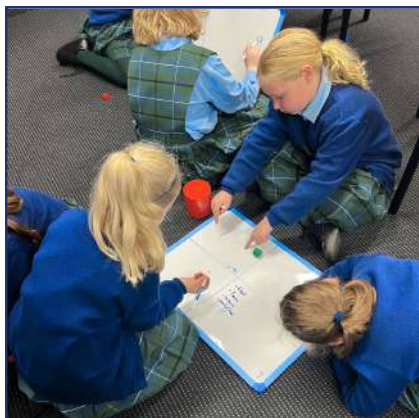
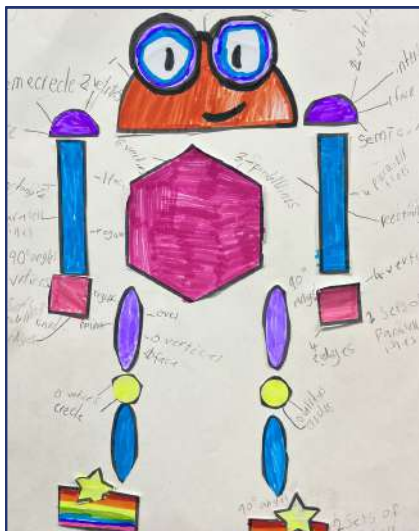
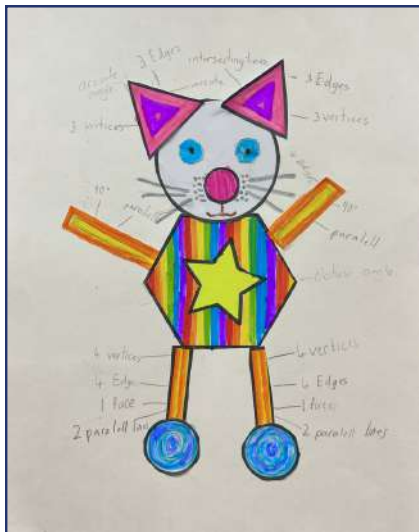
Speech



WOW! We were so impressed with how the girls presented themselves in their speech exams. They were well prepared and delivered their content with confidence.



We enjoyed sharing our practice together giving each other feedback along the way.



Maths

Part of our Maths programme this term included investigating 2D and 3D shapes. We explored shape by labeling their properties. This includes recognising lines, angles, faces, edges, vertices and faces. We created fun 2D shape robots and worked in groups to explore varieties of different shapes.

ICT

Something really exciting happened in Room 3 this term. With the amazing support of our wonderful Parents' Association, we were able to get 12 touch screen chrome books! The girls have loved learning about how to use them. We have enjoyed having Jason from the ILT Interact helping in our new learning, teaching us many new tricks and ICT awareness. We are excited to continue this next term.



Southland Hug A Rig

Taking People of all ages with Special Needs
Or Life long Medical Conditions
For a ride in a Big Rig, Classic Car or Hot Rod

VENUE: Southern Field Days Site, Waimumu

9th August 2025. 12pm till 3pm

Food and Drink provided on the day by
Rapid Relief Team.
Moreish food and coffee & Bees Bites.



Tickets available to purchase on the day

Anyone wanting to Volunteer
their Time, Truck or Car to help out on the day
please contact Dianne 027 7732700 or Ian on 0204 335500
Check out our Facebook Page : Southland Hug a Rig Day

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



Royal Rhythms
Explore a Variety of Instruments
Ages 5-16 year



The Art of Piano Composition
Composition Workshop
Ages 12 year+



Boogie Beats
Music and Movement
Ages 0-5 year olds



Guitar Heroes
Guitar Workshop
Ages 7 year+



Curtains Up
Musical Theatre Workshop
Ages 8 years+



Drum Camp
Drum Workshop
Ages 5 year +



And So Much More...
Join us these Holidays for **Music**,
Creativity, and **Fun-Filled**
Adventures!



TRUE
IN
NATURE

JULY HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES



WILD WOMEN

Fri 11th July, 6pm-8pm Invercargill

A wild evening for the ladies, mums and grandmums.
A night around the fire and some fun night orienteering!

A nature immersion experience combining
bushcraft with meditation, gentle movement
and personal reflection.

LIMITED TO
15 PLACES
EACH DAY!

BUSH CRAFT

(Ages 7-16) & (Ages 11-16)
Invercargill and Gore

Adventures, Challenges and Connection to Nature.

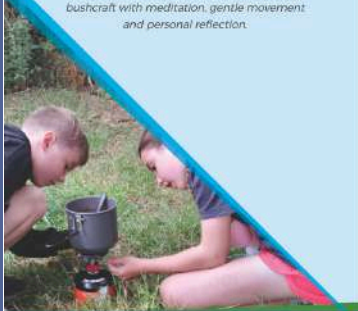
One day and three day options (not overnight)
Fire starting, cooking on fires and gas stoves, whittling
navigation, team survival challenges, foraging, nature
discovery, exploration in the bush, at the beach and
down at the estuary and much more.

CHILD VS WILD (7-13)
Mon 30th June to Wed 2nd July Invercargill

BUSH KIDS (7-16)
Thurs 3rd July Invercargill
Fri 4th July Gore
Mon 7th July Invercargill

A WILD DAY OUT (11-16)
Tues 8th July Invercargill

CHILD VS WILD (7-13)
Wed 9th July to Fri 11th July Invercargill



Gareth and Katie Oliver at: GarethandKatie@trueinnature.com
www.trueinnature.com Phone: 0226381497

STAYING IN INVERCARGILL THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO?



JUMP N FUN

- Trampoline Park
- Laser tag
- Mini golf
- Arcade games
- Pixel Parkour

The brand-new Pixel Parkour, open just in time for
the school holidays.

Leap, dash, walk and run through a neon jungle.
Pixel Parkour is a high-octane, retro-futuristic game
where every pixel counts, and every jump could be
your last.

School holiday hours: Monday to Sunday 10am
to 5pm, after hours bookings available for
groups of 10 or more

jumpnfun.co.nz



INVERCARGILL CITY LIBRARIES

Bluff Activity - 2nd July
10am - 12pm
1pm - 3pm

Digi Activity - Otautau
Kids Fun Friday
Saturday 4th July
Sunday 5th July

Drop-in Activity - The Pod
10th July, 1pm - 4pm

library.co.nz



SPORTS-TASTIC HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

\$65 PER DAY
\$190 ALL THREE DAYS

WWW.STADIUMSOUTH.CO.NZ | 03 219 9310

ILT STADIUM SOUTHLAND

Events

Steel v Magic - Saturday 28 June
Doors open 1.45, curtain raiser match
Southern Blast v WBOP Steel v Magic 4pm
(book online)

Sharks v Whai - Sunday 29 June
(book online)

Activities

Sports-tastic Holiday Programme
30 June to 2 July
(book online)

Clip n Climb
All holidays (book online)

Circus of Illusion
8 July (book online)

Multi-Wall
(call to book)

Pickleball
(call to book)

Casual shots
Available most days

Free walking track around top of velodrome

stadiumsouth.co.nz/programmes-activities-1