

# Aparima College Newsletter

ISSUE EIGHT: DECEMBER 2024



## National YES Winners!!!



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## *He kupu mai i te teepu tumuaki* (a word from the Principal's desk)

Kia ora whānau,

As we approach the end of another remarkable year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the achievements and milestones we have reached together. This year has been a testament to the resilience, creativity, and dedication of our students, staff, and community.

One of the standout highlights of 2024 has been the extraordinary success of our student-led company, **Treet Yourself Contracting**. Winning the National Title from a pool of over 5000 students from across New Zealand. This innovative business, founded by Brodie Murdoch and Caleb Diprose, has not only won the prestigious 2024 National Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) title but has also made significant strides in promoting sustainability and environmental restoration. Their focus on planting native trees to restore New Zealand's natural landscapes has resonated deeply with many, and their use of AI-generated visuals to showcase their projects has set a new standard in the industry.

The growth of Treet Yourself has been nothing short of phenomenal. From a turnover of \$6,000 in 2023 to an impressive \$22,000 in 2024, and with \$60,000 in sales already lined up for 2025, Brodie and Caleb have demonstrated exceptional business acumen and dedication. Their achievements have been recognized with multiple awards in the Southland region, including financial excellence and sales and marketing, culminating in being named Southland Company of the Year 2024.

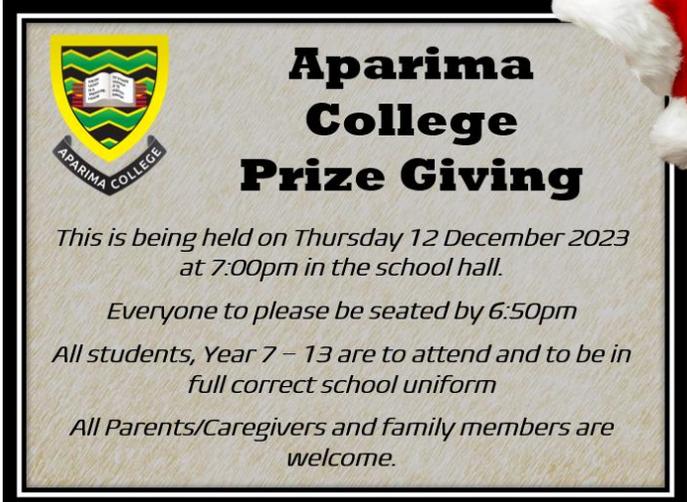
This success story is a shining example of what our students can achieve with hard work, creativity, and the support of our community. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and support of Lynne Grove our inspiring Business Studies teacher and the mentorship from the Southland Business Chamber. Brodie and Caleb plan to continue managing their business while pursuing higher education at the University of Otago, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our students, staff, and families for their unwavering support and commitment throughout the year. Together, we have created a nurturing and inspiring environment that empowers our students to reach their full potential. We wish all our school leavers the very best as they head off into the world of work, further study and adventures.

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Ngā mihi nui,

Aloma  
Principal



 **Aparima  
College  
Prize Giving**

*This is being held on Thursday 12 December 2023  
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.*

## YES success

Our Aparima College YES company Treet Yourself was formed last year with a focus on planting native trees for people who lacked time and resources to plant in their gardens, lifestyle blocks and community areas. The four Year 12 team members learned many lessons about ground preparation, tree survival, useful tools and managing labour, plus recognised the massive demand for planting around Southland. They won the regional competition and pitched in Wellington. They did not place in the competition but one judge advised them to scale up the company and 'go gangbusters' in 2024. Which is what they did.

In 2024, Brodie Murdoch and Caleb Diprose continued with YES, rebranding the company as Treet Yourself Contracting, with a focus on seeking native planting solutions for Southland's farmers and employing contractors to do quality planting in return for good wages. Planet and People. And also technology: they started integrating AI and drone technology into their offering, and collecting useful data on tree survival that could be utilised by farmers for future planning. They enjoyed significant support from Aparima College staff, Western Southland locals, Thriving Southland, the Chamber of Commerce and many other community groups. They ran a stall at the Field Days and spoke at many community meetings, culminating in a second win at the regional finals and another chance to pitch in Wellington at the national competition. And they won! Treet Yourself was crowned 2024 Company of the Year over 1270 teams and 5000 students across Aotearoa. They won \$3000 investment and \$2000 for College, \$5000 scholarships for University, and were offered numerous planting contracts. They spent the day-after playing 'business golf' in Wellington, networking and discussing their future vision for the company they plan to run in 'the real world' in 2025 and beyond. Their first contracts include planting at the Yellow-eyed penguin colony in Dunedin, now run by a YES alumnus.

So, if you want any native trees planted at your place, get in touch with them on Facebook (Treet Yourself) and/or [treetyourselves@gmail.com](mailto:treetyourselves@gmail.com).



# Hauora Week - Cultural Day

Our School hosted our first ever Hauora Week. Each day of the week is associated with the Māori concept of well-being called Te Whare Tapa wha. The concepts are Taha wairua (spiritual), Taha hīnengaro (mental and emotional), Taha Tinana (physical), Taha whānau (family and social) and Whenua (land and roots). To strengthen our spiritual well being we valued the belief of giving, by doing good deeds around our community. We nourished our taha tinana by running around playing ki-o-rahi and volleyball. To support our social well-being we gathered with our friends to come up with creative costumes. Many people came dressed up with flags, gumboots and traditional clothes to proudly show our roots and where we feel we belong. Throughout the whole week we were focussing on taha hīnengaro by uplifting the end of the year with plenty of fun by dressing up and amusing activities. Our aim was to help the students as well as the teacher's Hauora flourish and we achieved that.

*By Amber Liddicoat*





**THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER**

**STUDENTS ARE TO COME  
TO SCHOOL IN NON  
UNIFORM SO THEIR  
UNIFORMS ARE CLEAN FOR  
PRIZE GIVING THAT  
EVENING.**



# Adventure Race

Well done to our Adventure Race teams last Wednesday, results from the day are:

Our Yr 7&8 teams placed 29th, 30th, 56th, 57th, 84th & 91st out of 122

Our Yr 9 & 10 team placed 21st out of 70 Yr 9 & 10 teams.

An awesome effort put in by all team members.

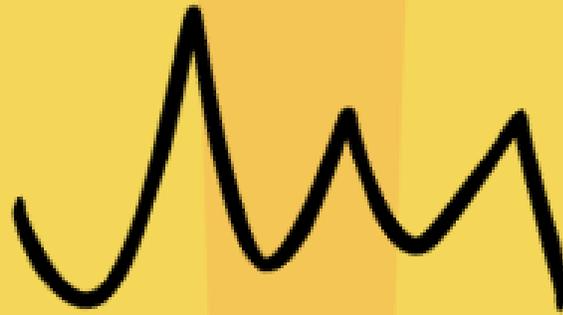
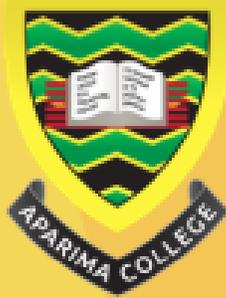


# Beach Walk

On Monday 18th of November, the ESOL class went on a beach walk. The goal of the beach walk was quite simple, it was meant to show us around Riverton and historical places in Riverton. We left school and started heading towards Taramea Bay at 10:00am. Firstly we visited the historical monument that had a captain's ship anchor. We had a quick break there and headed to the beach. After reaching the beach some played in the water and some played Volleyball. Soon we reached a park with a blue slide, and we had some fun on the slide. We bought food from the Taramea Bay store and had a lunch break. Soon we started heading back to school because it was time. We had quite a lot of fun.

*By Sohail Khan*





# THANK YOU



A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the School this year, coaching sports teams, mentoring, fundraising, organising school events - we really appreciate you !!



# Market Day

The Junior School recently held its market evening and has spent the remainder of this week learning about liquidation, profits, and expenditure. They want to thank the community for coming along and supporting them in their business ventures.

Our students made a grand total of \$2138.17. The students need to decide what they want to put it towards. Previously, students have donated to a charity and invested back in the Junior School for things they want or need. It will be interesting to see what this lot decide.



## THE U SHOP®



### OPEN HOURS | Term 1, 2025

6 Jan - 25 Apr

**Monday - Friday**

9.00am - 5.00pm

**Saturday** (except 19 Apr\*)

9.00am - 4.00pm

Thursday 6 February - Waitangi Day - CLOSED

Friday 18 April - Good Friday - CLOSED

Saturday 19 April - CLOSED

Monday 21 April - Easter Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday 22 April - Southland Anniversary - CLOSED

Friday 25 April - Anzac Day - CLOSED

Open Hours may be subject to change.

Closed on Public Holidays.

Visit for more info: [www.shopinv.uniformgroup.co.nz](http://www.shopinv.uniformgroup.co.nz)



UNIFORM GROUP  
CREATING IDENTITY

THE U SHOP operated by UNIFORM GROUP



# 2024



# Year 8 Camp

Day one:

Once everyone had arrived at school, we started packing our gear into the trailers and food into the baskets. When everything was packed, we got into the vans and were ready to head off to Te Anau for three days. We took three vans; Miss Wilson's van was the best, in my opinion.

Once we got to Te Anau, we headed to our campsite and started unpacking the trailers and vans, and we got to pick up our cabins. When we were done putting our gear into the cabins, we decided to go biscuiting on the lake since the lake looked good and the weather was warm. When we got down to the beach, some people were brave enough to go in shorts, but most were in wetsuits. Mrs Bond also took some people to the pontoon to go swimming. Mostly, everyone had a go at the biscuits. Once we were done at the beach, we headed back to the campsite.

We were told to get changed and be ready for the glow worm caves. Once we got changed, we hopped back in the vans and headed for the glow worm boat departure place. When we got on the boat, we were told the safety briefing and were allowed to go on top of the boat. Once we left, the lake started to build chop and wind. The wind was strong enough to hold someone up.

Once we reached the glowworm caves, docked the boat, and went inside the cabin, we got told to do another safety briefing to be safe and have fun inside the caves. We got split into three groups the first group got to go in the caves first well other two got to go on a walk through the bush we reached this wall with information about takahes then we left for the caves. The caves were cool when the glowworms were active. It looked like a galaxy full of stars. When we had finished touring the cave, we went back to the boat and then to the campsite.

Once we arrived back at the camp, we were told we were allowed to just chill and relax around the camp. When we finished tea, we were told we were going to do a scavenger hunt around Te Anau. We got split into five groups with 6-7 people inside each group. Our first task was to make a square using different shapes. We had many fun challenges around Te Anau that involved running and thinking. Once we were finished, everyone was allowed to have pudding, then go to sleep.

**Day two:**

We woke up at around 7:30 to have breakfast. Once breakfast was served and finished, our teachers told us what was going on for the day. First, we were split up into groups of 10 for rotations of kayaking, Ultimate Archery, and Mini Golf.

For kayaking, we took our van down to the lake, which had the kayaks on the trailer; when we got to the lake, we unloaded our kayaks onto the edge of the sand, and Mr Fraser gave us a Safety briefing before we went out onto the kayaks. Once we set sail into the lake we paddled around the lake's edges and headed towards the float plane on water which was about 600 Meters away. After hard paddling, we got back to the plane, then we played there on the kayaks for a while, and then we set off again. After even more hard paddling, we got back to where we started, then Mr. Fraser gave us an option to play piano keys, which is trying to run across the Kayaks or jump off the wharf.

After Kayaking was Ultimate Archery, which was taking place at the back of the campsite. Ultimate archery is when you have a mask, bow, and arrow, but the arrow has a circle black ball at the end of it. First was target practice, in which there were cones about 5 Meters away from where we were standing, a couple of shots later. We played dodgeball but the Ultimate Archery version, then Mrs. Bond took us into the bushes, and we played free for all.

When we got to the mini golf course, ten students were put into groups. There were a couple of cheap shots into the bushes, but we finally got there in the end.

When everyone returned from their rotations, it was off to the lake for some boating. Mr Fraser and Glen Halder tried their best to get some of us off the ski biscuit. Some of us also went swimming on the pontoon.

We went downtown and went to the theater to watch Red One. We walked around town for a bit and then headed back to the theater. When we got our popcorn one by one, we headed into the cinema. When we got out, we got back into the van, and we went back to the campsite, got ready for bed, and went to sleep.

**Day three:**

After a late start, we packed up camp and prepared for our slower-paced day before heading home. However, Mrs Bond had to wake a few up with the sound of pot lids crashing. Prize Giving for the Scavenger/Adventure Race took place after breakfast, with Glen Halder's team (the Camo team) being the fastest back. However, Holly McKenzie and Renea's team (pink) took out the fair play winners—overall winners.

We said goodbye to our living quarters for the past couple of days and headed to Lions Park to stretch our legs before starting our trip home.

Fraser's Beach was our lunch stop, where a mad Austin Bevin decided to take a dip in the cold water. Then it was back home, with many students much quieter than on the trip to camp.

*Written by Austin Bevin and Nixon Morrell*



# Swimming

We held our swimming sports on Monday - perfect place to be out of this weather!!!

Congratulations to our champion swimmers:

Maleia Pou Year 7/8 Girls

Nixon Morrell Year 7/8 Boys

Keita Thomas Year 9 and 10 Girls

Baxter Wills Year 9 and 10 Boys

House points from the day are:

Wallace 340

Ngapuhatu 298

Oraka 233

Longwood 177

Teachers won the Paddle Challenge - the Year 13 students were too scared to show!



## Don't forget to get your stationery

Stationery lists for 2025 are now available – you will find these by going to <https://www.myschool.co.nz/aparima>  
 Reminder that it a good idea to order your stationery sooner than later. Remember the later you leave it you run the chance of it not arriving on time. All students need to have all their stationery with them on their first day in 2025.

**get back to school ready!**

**Order your Back to School stationery in December**

**WIN \$1000 CASH 5x TO BE WON**

**Give them the best start possible**

We know getting ready for the first day back at school can be a challenge for parents and kids. That's why we've made your back to school shop super easy. Do it early and give them the best possible start.

Your child's class list is already loaded, just jump on to [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz). Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm – and we'll get your delivery underway.

**OfficeMax MySCHOOL**

**ZIP** Pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks

**free delivery**

**myschool.co.nz**  
0800 724 440

**Ordering is super easy**

**ORDER IN DECEMBER AND BEAT THE RUSH...**

**Choose how you pay**

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Plus, we've partnered with Zip, so you can pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks and still get your order right away.

**Pick when you want it**

Whether you want your order delivered before Christmas, or in the new year – the OfficeMax team will make it happen.

**Help your school**

Earn School Rewards with every order. It's our way of giving back to the community, and it helps your school get the extra things they really need.

**Order in December and be in to WIN \$1000\***

**OfficeMax MySCHOOL**

**Click to go** Go to [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) to find your school list

**Tick** Check that you want everything on the list

**Pay** Enter your details and choose how to pay

**Pick** Pick when you want your order delivered, before Christmas or in the new year

**and go!** Your delivery is under way plus you're in to win \$1,000 cash\*

\*Only if the retailer in question meets our criteria and subject to completion of all delivery requirements. For more information see [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) or contact our helpline 0800 724 440. Excludes all schools in the South Islands.

Please note: School donations and charges will be charged when you place your order. You cannot use Zip to pay for school donations and charges.

\*PROMOTION TERMS & CONDITIONS: 1. - 31st December 2024. The promotion (Promotion) gives you the option to order in December and choose whether you receive the goods in December 2024 or January 2025. 2. The Promotion is only available for orders placed online at [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) in December 2024. 3. Payment options include internet banking, credit card, Zip Co. NZ, Zip Co. NZ Finance Limited (PSP 5589955). 4. School donations and other charges will be charged when you place your order. These are paid direct to the school and will show as a separate transaction. 5. Payment for school donations and other charges can only be made by internet banking. 6. Your school has spaces for this year's promotion on your class list card. 4. If you buy in December 2024 you will be automatically entered into the draw. The prize is \$1000 cash. 5. To be won. The winners will be notified by 24th January 2025 by telephone or email. 6. Ability to contact any winner by close of business on 31st January 2025 will result in the prize being forfeited and a further draw will be conducted. Winner's consent to their name and photo being used for public relations purposes relating to this promotion. 7. School stationery lists are published as soon as your school has approved them for publication. OfficeMax is not responsible if the Promotion is discontinued due to any delay in OfficeMax receiving approved lists. 8. The Promoter is OfficeMax New Zealand Limited, 30 St. Wood Street, Drive, East Tamaki, Auckland.

# NZQA

NZQA have begun producing a series of short articles aimed at parents and whānau that cover off some key questions and areas of interest, supposable in a clear, easy-to-read way.

The articles are available in a new Resources for parents and whānau section on their website:

<https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/whanau/>

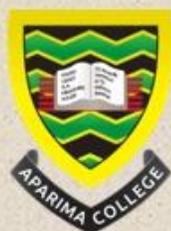
The first topics covered are:

- How NCEA Works - a short summary of the recently refreshed Guide to NCEA resource,
- Choosing a Tertiary Provider - some key considerations whānau might have when helping a young person consider tertiary education.
- Understanding the Code for International Learners in New Zealand - The key information you need to know about the Code that supports the wellbeing and safety of tertiary and international learners enrolled with New Zealand education providers.

Are we able to have the link and any other information added to the newsletter, maybe even our website. Possibly at the start of the new year?

Ngā mihi

**Brook Grimwood**  
**Aparima College**



## Office Hours & Opening Information 2024/2025

### Office Hours, End of 2024

- Friday 13 December 2024 – the office will be open from 9:00am to 11:00am only (closed for the rest of the day)
- Monday 16 December and Tuesday 17 December 2024 the office will be open from 9:00am – 3:00pm

**Office closed from Wednesday 18 December 2024**

### Office Hours 2025

- Wednesday 29 January the office will be open from 9:00am – 3:00pm.
- Thursday 30 January (Teacher Only Day) the office will be open from 9:00am – 3:00pm
- Friday 31 January onwards the office will be open 8am – 4pm

### Student Information for the start of 2025

- **Wednesday 29 January – Year 11 – 13 Course Confirmation** (students will be sent an email if they are required to come in on this day)
- **Thursday 30 January – Teacher Only Day.**
- **Friday 31 January – ONLY** the Year 13 students to attend on this day.
- **Monday 3 February** all students Year 7 – 13 to attend

*Students must bring their stationery with them on the first day of school and the items required 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

12 December 2024

PRIZEGIVING

29 January 2025

Course Consultation for Year 11-13 (students who need to come will be notified)

30 January 2025

TEACHER ONLY DAY

31 January 2025

Peer Support Training (only Year 13 students to attend school)

3 February 2025

ALL STUDENTS YEAR 7-13 TO ATTEND

6 February 2025

Waitangi Day

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



LEARNING OUTDOORS  
TRUE IN NATURE

WWW.TRUEINNATURE.COM

CHILD VS WILD  
7-13 year olds



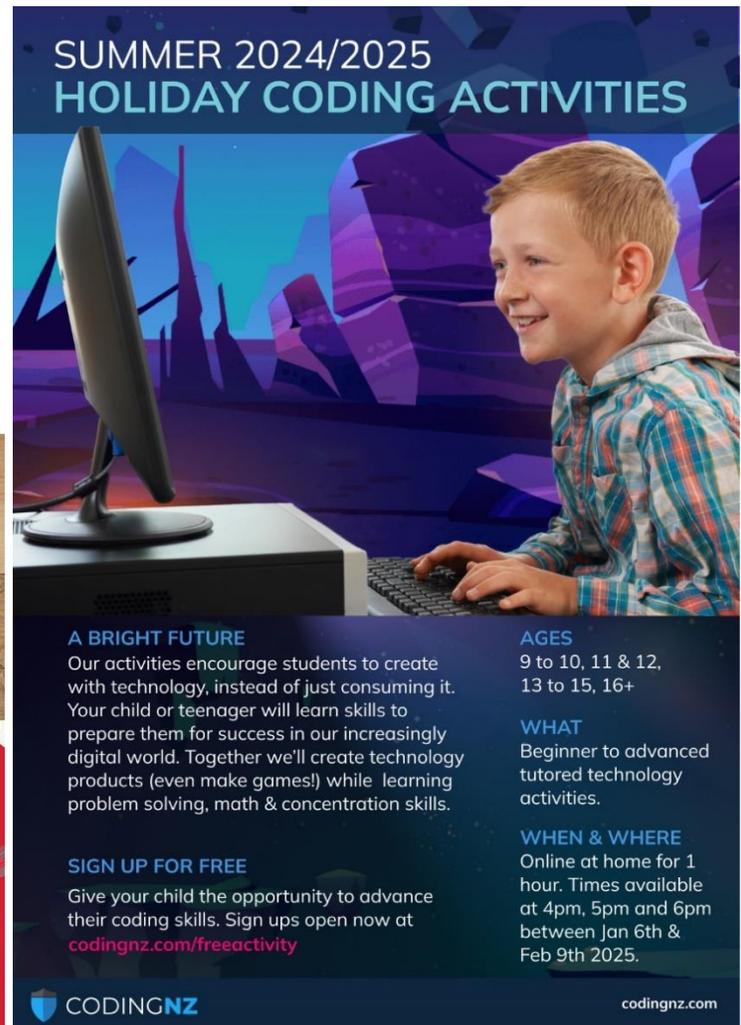
NATURAL CREATORS  
16th-20th December

THREE days of MAKING, BAKING AND CREATING Festive Gifts and Decorations made with Natural materials, textiles, plants, flowers and wholesome ingredients

INSPIRED BY:

- Felting
- Balms
- Candle Making
- Origami
- Clay creations
- Nourishing food

0226381497 | www.trueinnature.com | garethandkatie@trueinnature.com | Invercargill



SUMMER 2024/2025  
HOLIDAY CODING ACTIVITIES

A BRIGHT FUTURE  
Our activities encourage students to create with technology, instead of just consuming it. Your child or teenager will learn skills to prepare them for success in our increasingly digital world. Together we'll create technology products (even make games!) while learning problem solving, math & concentration skills.

AGES  
9 to 10, 11 & 12,  
13 to 15, 16+

WHAT  
Beginner to advanced tutored technology activities.

WHEN & WHERE  
Online at home for 1 hour. Times available at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm between Jan 6th & Feb 9th 2025.

SIGN UP FOR FREE  
Give your child the opportunity to advance their coding skills. Sign ups open now at [codingnz.com/freeactivity](https://codingnz.com/freeactivity)

CODINGNZ | codingnz.com



# SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



## NATURAL CREATORS

(Ages 5-16)  
Invercargill

### Creating and Cooking

Join us for an inspiring day of creating through arts and cooking

Your child's imagination will be truly ignited as they bring their creativity to life using a variety of NATURAL materials and textiles such as clay, wool, flowers and plants to explore as well as preparing nutritious meals to enjoy and that they can cook at home.

Children will go home feeling fulfilled, inspired, capable and independent.

**Natural Christmas Creators** (3 days)  
16th-18th December

**Natural Creators**  
15th & 16th January

**Bush, Make and Make**  
Natural Creators and Bush Kids combined, 27th January

## BUSH CRAFT

(Ages 7-13) & (Ages 11-16)  
Invercargill, Gore and Otautau

### 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) Invercargill  
16th - 20th December (5 days)  
15th - 17th January (3 days)

**A WILD DAY OUT** (11-16) Invercargill  
20th January (1 day)

**BUSH KIDS** (7-13) (1 day) Invercargill  
21st & 22nd January

**BUSH, MAKE & MAKE**  
(Bush Kids & Natural Creators combined)  
27th January

**BUSH KIDS** (7-13) (1 day) Gore  
23rd & 24th January

**BUSH KIDS** (7-13) (1 day) Otautau  
28th January