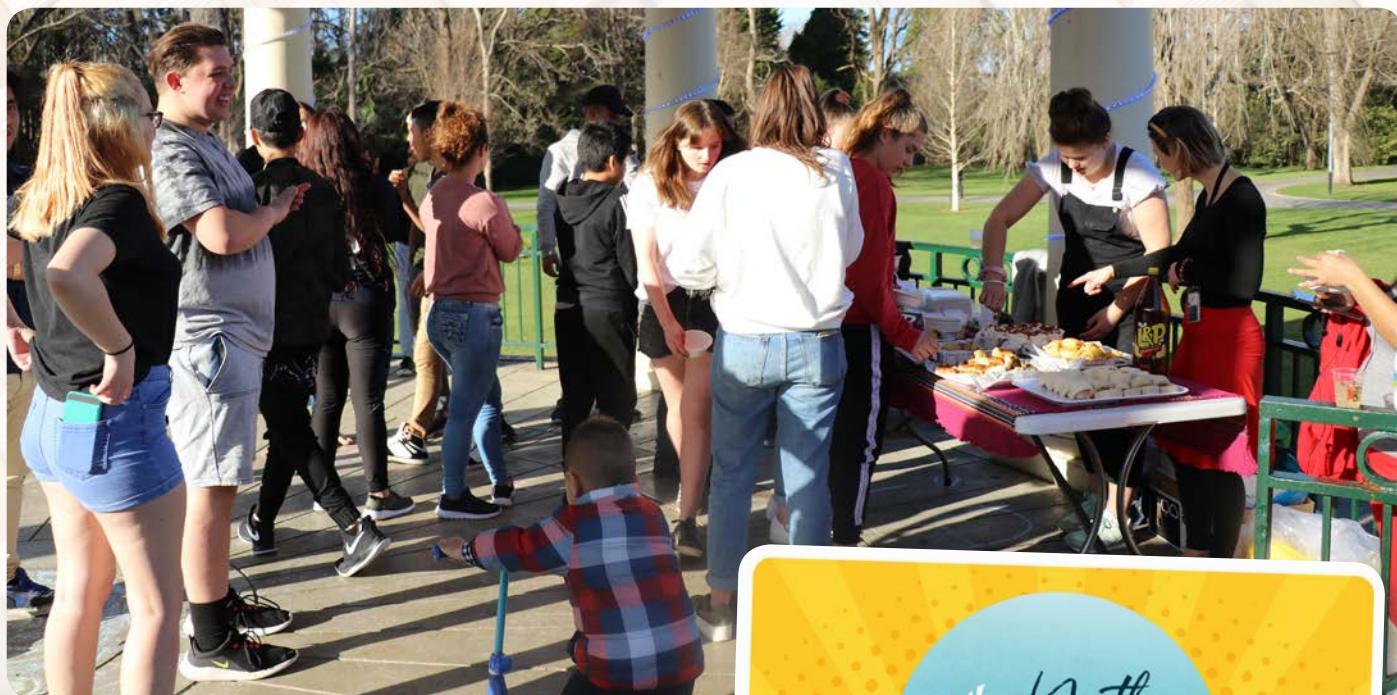


Youth Council welcomes former refugees



BY LIBBY FLETT

Invercargill Youth Councillor

INVERCARGILL is home to over 140 Colombian former refugees and to make sure they feel welcome the Invercargill Youth Council United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Committee decided to organise a 'picnic in the park' at Queens Park for the Colombian Youth on the afternoon of Friday the 20th of September.

Luckily it was good weather and over fifty Colombians came and played outdoor games, talked, and ate as the Youth Councillors got to experience a bit of their friendly culture.

The language barrier proved little problem as everyone participated in the many games, from noughts and crosses, to their favourite, soccer.

It seemed everyone would have happily stayed longer had we not had to pack up and overall the event was a great success and is hopefully something to be repeated.



APPLY FOR 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Civics

What is the Council planning?

Provide a youth voice

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 14 OCTOBER 2019

www.icc.govt.nz - 021 391 674

www.facebook.com/InvercargillYouthCouncil

School collects 220kg of rubbish



PICTURED: Invercargill City Council Parks Performance Manager Zealan Simpkins was delighted to be photographed with part of the team from Otatara School during the school's annual clean up day.

PARKS and Recreation staff stumbled across a fantastic community initiative earlier this month, when they met Otatara School pupils committed to keeping New Zealand beautiful.

Otatara School Principal Sharon Livingstone said the school undertook an annual clean up at various locations throughout Otatara and surrounds as part of Keep New Zealand Beautiful Week.

Sharon said more than 200kg of rubbish was collected from Sandy Point, other reserves, the school itself, and the streets surrounding the school.

Year 3 pupil Bodie Gilmour said: "Ryan and I went with Mrs Green and carried on through the squishy mud. We squelched through the salty waterside and found a faded boot."

Year 2 pupil Lachlan Arthur explained: "On Friday Room 11 and 12 jumped on the bus excitedly, we were going to Fossbender Park to pick up rubbish. I was in Gretchen Ledington's group and before we started picking up rubbish we got to have a photo with the Park Rangers. We found a lot of rubbish alongside the bush line. The weirdest piece of rubbish we found was a green broken umbrella. I also found some full to the brim alcohol bottles and beer cans. Someone from my group and I found a tyre wedged into the ground."

So we must say a huge thank you to everyone at Otatara School for their community spirit and commitment to our environment!

OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!



MONDAY 30 SEP

Spring into Storytime
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning Space

Here mai koutou to 30 minutes of great stories that have been specially picked by our enthusiastic librarians. All ages.

Board Game Extravaganza
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Do you love board games like Chess, Checkers or Snakes and Ladders? Then this is the activity for you. Come and play with other tamariki for hours of fun. All ages.

TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER

Active Rhyming
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning & Activity Space

A special holiday edition of this interactive programme that promotes akoranga (learning). This session will involve rhymes, acting, and musical bells. Ages 2 - 5 years.

LEGO Build
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Its Lego afternoon at the Wharepukapuka. Create lego constructions using our pattern books or make your own amazing creation. All ages.

WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER

Spring into Storytime
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning Space

Here mai koutou to 30 minutes of great stories that have been specially picked by our enthusiastic librarians. All ages.

Beat Saber
2:00 - 4:00pm
Teen Space

Dive into an immersive rhythm experience and slash your way through the beats of adrenaline-pumping music! Ages 13+.

Storytime in Bluff
11:00 - 11:30am
Bluff Public Library

Fantastic stories for your tamariki or mokopuna at the Bluff Library. Here mai katoa. All ages.

Digi Games
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

If Minecraft is your thing or you like inventing instead we have a digi game for you on our i-papa (tablets). All ages.

THURSDAY 3 OCT

Babytime
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning Space

Bring your pēpē to this fun half hour of songs, rhymes, books and bubbles. It's a guaranteed baby good time. Ages 0 - 2 years.

Robot Springtime
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Put our robots through their paces, driving around objects and along paths. Half-hour bookable sessions. Ages 5+.

REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED

FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER

Storytime in Queens Park
10:30 - 11:00am
Queens Park Castle (Band Rotunda if wet)

The Park in spring is autia (magnificent). Match that with some great stories at the castle and your day is made. Bring a rug and make a picnic with your tamariki and/or mokopuna. All ages.

Spring Art
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Create a spring diorama using our arty bits and pieces. We have coloured paper, cardboard, pens and glue to make your mahi toi look ka rawe. All ages.

MONDAY 7 OCTOBER

Spring into Storytime
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning Space

Here mai koutou to 30 minutes of great stories that have been specially picked by our enthusiastic librarians. All ages.

Board Game Extravaganza
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Do you love board games like Chess, Checkers or Snakes and Ladders? Then this is the activity for you. Come and play with other tamariki for hours of fun. All ages.

TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER

Active Rhyming
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning & Activity Space

A special holiday edition of this interactive programme that promotes akoranga (learning). This session will involve rhymes, acting, and musical bells. Ages 2 - 5 years.

Digi Games
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

If Minecraft is your thing or you like inventing instead we have a digi game for you on our i-papa (tablets). Drop in anytime between 1 and 4pm. All ages.

WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER

Puppet Show and Puppet Making Workshop
10:30 - 11:30am
Learning & Activity Space

Bear awakes from a long sleep excited to experience his first spring. He sets out to find it with the help of his friends. Come and be entertained with this puppet show and then make your own sock puppet to take home. Materials supplied. All ages.

Slime Time
2:00 - 4:00pm
Learning Space

Create cool and wonderful slime in a variety of colours. Glitter is optional. Ages 12+.

Big Games
1:00 - 4:00pm
Activity Space

Jenga, Chess, Connect Four and more. Also introducing our 'blue' blocks for building big whatever. Come and try them out! All ages.

THURSDAY 10 OCT

Babytime
10:30 - 11:00am
Learning Space

Bring your pēpē to this fun half hour of songs, rhymes, books and bubbles. It's a guaranteed baby good time. Ages 0 - 2 years.

LEGO Build
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Its Lego afternoon at the Wharepukapuka. Create lego constructions using our pattern books or make your own amazing creation. All ages.

FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER

Storytime in Russell Square
10:30 - 11:00am
Russell Square (The Pod if wet)

Listen to stories and waista in the fresh Spring air of Russell Square. Bring a rug and make a picnic with your tamariki and/or mokopuna. All ages.

Spring Art
1:00 - 4:00pm
Learning & Activity Space

Let your arty side out by painting a Spring picture. Will it be realistic or impressionist? You choose. Paper and paint supplied. All ages.

COLOURING COMPS!

SCAVENGER HUNT!

Government announces Regional Skills Leadership Groups proposal

ON Thursday, Minister of Education Chris Hipkins, Minister of Immigration Iain Lees-Galloway, and Minister of Employment Willie Jackson announced plans for a regional approach to skills planning.

The Government has launched targeted consultation on the design of 15 Regional Skills Leadership Groups (RSLGs), which are expected to be in place from mid-2020. They support changes to temporary work visas and the Reform of Vocational Education.

“The Regional Skills Leadership Groups will identify workforce and skills needs in their region, both now and in the future, and advise on actions to cultivate these,” Hipkins said.

“The Groups will feature regional industry leaders, economic development agencies, worker representatives, iwi, and government organisations.

“They will develop Regional Workforce Plans, which will project labour supply needs and outline how to create better and more attractive jobs across the region.

“Our employer, education, welfare and immigration systems can act on this advice to make sure these skills are developed and available.”

The Tertiary Education Commission will take RSLGs’ advice into account when making vocational education investment decisions, he said.

Jackson said a regional approach will mean more localised and aligned decision-making by employers, workers, educators and agencies.

“Training and education providers will know what skills are in demand, and

can tailor their programmes to deliver on these. Our welfare system can support skill-matched employment opportunities and referrals that move people into long-term, fulfilling careers.

“Employers can act on this advice to tackle barriers to employment and productivity growth, by pooling resources and offering attractive job opportunities.

“A coordinated approach will support growing businesses, good jobs for workers and thriving regions.”

Lees-Galloway said the Regional Skills Leadership Groups also link with the recently-announced reform of temporary work visas.

“Our immigration reforms will help regions get the workers they need, while also ensuring that New Zealanders are first in line for jobs. With proper planning at a regional level, immigration can help address skills shortages in the short term, while training more New Zealanders with the skills our workforces need.”

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is seeking feedback on the design of the Regional Skills Leadership Groups, to make sure they work for each region, and link to and co-ordinate with the various planning initiatives already in place for some regions.

The Groups are expected to be established by mid-2020 and will deliver their first Regional Workforce Plans by the end of 2020, ahead of vocational education and temporary work visa changes coming fully into effect.

For more information visit:
www.mbie.govt.nz/RSLG

NZTA begins road renewals for deep south



PICTURED: The entrance to Invercargill, SH1, safely managed by friendly Traffic Manager Jess Wilson.

WITH spring hopefully bringing warmer weather, alongside comes the beginning of renewal works on Southland state highways by Highways South, for the NZ Transport Agency.

These works include road reconstructions involving several layers of roading material and resealing and will take place until autumn 2020.

- SH6 at Dome Creek, near Five Rivers Cafe
- SH1 Ascot roundabout
- SH1 near Dacre at four sites
- SH98 near Mill Rd North
- SH93 at Dish Channel Corner/ Dodds Rd
- SH96 near Maitai
- SH6 at Tothills Creek/Gap Rd near Winton
- SH99 at Steele Road

Highways South and the Transport Agency acknowledge that this work will cause some disruption for road users and appreciates everyone's patience. If there are concerns or questions, road users can call 03 211 1561 to speak with the Highways South team, or sign up for email updates on interruptions on Southland highways via this Facebook page www.facebook.com/HighwaysSouthNZ



The illustration features a large, dark, stylized tombstone in the center. On top of the tombstone is a black cat with glowing yellow eyes. To the right of the tombstone is a full moon with a witch flying on a broomstick. The tombstone has the Invercargill City Council logo on its top arch. The text 'Spooky Saturday' is written in a large, orange, cursive font across the top of the tombstone. Below it, 'IN THE CBD!' is written in a white, blocky, distressed font. The background is a dark green with silhouettes of tombstones and grass. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with white text.

Spooky Saturday
IN THE
CBD!

**Looking for something to do
with your little goblins and ghouls this Halloween?**

Dress up in your best costume, grab your jack-o-lantern and enjoy a spooky Saturday in the city centre from 10am to 2pm, Saturday 26 October.

All children under 12 are welcome to join in the fun and follow the play trail to gather stamps on a spooky passport leading them to their destination and a chance to win an amazing prize.

Pick up a Spooky Craft Kit from participating stores or the Invercargill Public Library. Return them by Friday 18 October so we can decorate the streets with your creations!