



*Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou*  
**Learning for Life and Making it Count**

## Welcome Back!

A new year, a fresh start, and lots more to look forward to at Ouruhia in 2020! We hope you have had a lovely break with lots of good quality time with whānau and friends over the holiday season.

What a delight our concert and prize-giving was at Kaiapoi High School at the end of last year! **Jack & The Beanstalk** featured every child at the school, with some of our children stepping up and excelling in solo singing and acting. These are memories they (and I) will treasure forever...hopefully you have seen Michelle McConnell's lovely photos on Facebook.





Our school roll is soon going to reach 83...just ahead of our number at the start of last year. A **special welcome** to our new enrolments, Tony, Lachlan and Caitlin (with 3 more coming soon) and also to Mrs Janet Andrews, who is teaching in Team Tipu while Colleen Gallagher is on study leave.

We are very proud of all of our past pupils... this year in particular **Leyton Wright**, being chosen as Head Boy at Kaiapoi High School, and **Luke Hopkinson** for being awarded a "Blue with a gold bar" for wrestling.



Leyton in Ouruhia's end of year concert, 2015



Luke in Ouruhia's kapa haka group, 2016

## Swimming

Swimming lessons are underway. Each class has a 45 minute lesson each day this month in our school pool (weather permitting). Remember to bring **swimming togs** every day. *(Even if it is raining in the morning, pack your togs, because with Christchurch weather the way it is, it could be a different season by the afternoon!)*

Our aim at Ouruhia is for **all children** to be confident in, under and on the water, and be able to swim **200m** by the time they get to high school. Having our school pool and our Mainpower lessons in Kaiapoi in Term 4 are certainly helping us toward this goal.

*If your child is approaching their teenage years and is unable to swim 200m, we would strongly recommend extra swimming lessons with a private swimming instructor to develop these fundamental life skills...contact Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre for more information.*

Ouruhia's **swimming sports** and skill demonstrations will be on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February at Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre, 1.30 - 3.00 p.m.** For many of our children who are still learning to swim, this is not about racing; rather we want to show parents what their child can do. All classes will be involved either in the small pool, across the width of the big pool, or swimming lengths... there will be something for everyone! For those who have developed basic freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke skills, there will be 25m and 50m events. (Years 5-8 who can swim 50m will be considered for selection for the Pegasus zone swimming sports, to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> March.) We hope you will be impressed with your child's progress. Children will travel to Kaiapoi by bus, but parents are welcome to take their children home directly after swimming. A separate note will come home about this.

## Bell times



A reminder that classes at Ouruhia start at 8.55 a.m. (not 9.00 a.m.), and so we expect children to **be at school between 8.30 and 8.45** in order to be unpacked and ready to go. Please talk with your child:

- *What time do we need to leave home to be at school by 8.45?*
- *And to be ready to leave home at that time, when do you need...*
  - *to get up? ...*
  - *to get breakfast? ...*
  - *to do your jobs (make bed, tidy up, feed animals, pack your bag etc)?*

## “Meet & Greet” Community picnic – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

On Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February, we invite you to a school picnic, starting at 5.30 p.m. and finishing around 7.00 p.m. Come along and meet our new families and staff, chat informally, and swap stories about the holidays.

Bring a picnic or takeaway dinner. The pool will be open, and some sports gear available.

We look forward to seeing you all.



## Communication, School information and the Website

Many of you will already know that messages and information about our school can be found on our school website <http://www.ouruhia.school.nz/> and Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/ouruhiaschool> . (We hope you got the Facebook message about the school picnic).

We also try to communicate with you in a number of ways...newsletters, phone calls, texts and emails, so please ensure that we have your up-to-date phone numbers and email addresses.

***(An Emergency Contact notice will be sent home next week).***

We would prefer that you did not use teachers' individual phone numbers to contact them (unless it is an emergency, or in cases where they have asked you to ring), so please use emails, or school phone numbers. (Teachers' email addresses are usually

[firstname.lastname@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:firstname.lastname@ouruhia.school.nz) - but check with them as there are a few exceptions –

and you can use the school landline 323 8855 to leave messages, or Raewyn's cell phone 027 294 6464, or my cell phone 027 303 9670 if urgent, or email [office@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:office@ouruhia.school.nz) or [principal@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:principal@ouruhia.school.nz) )



**Skool Loop** is an app we use to communicate with you. Make sure you download Skool Loop to your smart phone. It is **FREE** and available in both the Google Play Store and the [App Store](#). Skool Loop is the quickest method of communicating with our school community. In an emergency situation, all updates will be posted to the app, therefore it is important you have this downloaded to your phone.



### What can the App do?

- **Absentee Messaging:** A quick, simple and convenient way for school parents and caregivers to report absences to the school. Options included direct dial, email or text.
- **Notices - Push Notifications:** Our entire school community or groups within our school community can receive notices directly from us. Once you have downloaded the app and chosen Ouruhia School, go into to Notices and click on the icon on the top right of the screen to select the groups you wish to receive communications from e.g. Team Tipu; Room 4; Room 5; General; (At times there could also be choir and sports groups). You will need to update this section whenever your child/ren change rooms and interests. *Please make sure you have the 'General' group selected, and your child/ren's 'Room'.*
- **Permissions:** Respond to permission requests for events/activities
- **The School Calendar:** The school calendar shows information by syncing with the school google calendar.
- **Newsletters:** Updated whenever the newsletter is published and available for our school community to read anytime.
- **Contact:** Parents can contact their child/ren's teacher direct via email.

**NB Paper Notices** requiring something to be **sent back to school** are on **yellow paper**. **School newsletters** will be **emailed** to you from now on about twice a term, with **paper copies displayed around the school**, and a **copy on our website** <http://www.ouruhia.school.nz/> If you would like a paper copy of school newsletters, please see Raewyn, email [office@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:office@ouruhia.school.nz) or return the slip at the end of this newsletter.

## Hagley Theatre: Cinderella

Once again we are happy to host Hagley Theatre Company at our school. On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February the classes will be treated to a live performance of Cinderella in the school library at 11:00 a.m. If you have pre-schoolers who would love to see this show, and they are able to be part of the audience without disruption, please bring them along. Live theatre is always such a lovely experience! (School pupils will be paying via their activity fee...notice coming home this week).

## Ouruhia is "tree-nut free"

Remember, Ouruhia School is a **tree nut-free environment**. There is a young pupil at Ouruhia who has a **severe anaphylactic reaction to all tree nuts**...not just eating them, but also through skin contact with others who have eaten or handled them. **Tree nuts include** cashew, pistachio, brazil, almond, pecan, walnut, hazelnut, and any other nut **APART** from peanuts. (*Peanuts are NOT a nut, they are a legume, and are allowed at school. Coconut is a drupe and is not a nut. Both coconut and peanut, including peanut butter, are safe for this boy to be around and eat.*)

Mango stone is in the same family as cashews, so mangoes must also be avoided.

## Ouruhia School Values and Waiata

This term's focus is **Our People**. As we did last year, we are learning about our school's name, and the history and connection of the people who lived here many years ago. We have been learning and using this **pepeha**, to show our identity and heritage at special occasions.



Ko Maukatere te mauka  
Ko Pūharakekenui te awa  
Nō Urihia te whenua  
Nō Tūāhuriri te takiwā  
Ko Ōuruhia te kura



We learnt that Maukatere/Mt Grey is our mountain; Pūharakekenui/Styx is our river; the land was first settled by Urihia (sometimes called Uruhia), the son of the chief who founded Kaiapoi pā; we are in Ngai Tūāhuriri's region; and our school is named Ouruhia.

This pepeha, and our school values, have now been put into a new school song or waiata, which we will sing and learn each week at assemblies, and on special occasions. My aim is for most children to learn our school values and the whole waiata by the end of Term 1. Click [here](#) for the music and words of this waiata.

### Other notices:

- **Summer in the Styx – Sunday 16 February 2020, 11am-3pm**
- This is a free event at 303 Radcliffe Road. Have a fun day in the sun whilst exploring one of Christchurch's brand-new Regional Parks with the Styx Living Laboratory Trust. There will be kayaking, guided walks, bird and water monitoring, planting, scavenger hunt, weaving and much more. Learn about Maori medicinal plants, native fish and other wildlife. [www.thestyx.org.nz](http://www.thestyx.org.nz)
- <https://www.facebook.com/events/2429899950462494/>
- <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2020/summer-in-the-styx/christchurch>
- **Road patrol – parent helpers.** Parents, please let us know if you can help supervise the pedestrian crossing one morning a week (8:25 – 8:55, then a free coffee in the staffroom!) Tell Raewyn, or email [office@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:office@ouruhia.school.nz) (A notice is coming home today)
- **Sun Safety:** Remember to bring (named) sunhats, and leave them at school for the first term. No hat...we'll ask you to stay in the shade.
- **DRAMA CLASSES** – The Canvas Bag Drama School South Brighton is now taking enrolments for term 1 2020. Ask about a free trial class. Drama gives children a chance to develop imagination and confidence in a playful social environment. Experience leadership, comedy, improvisation, costumes, laughter, friends, and wrap it all up with a fabulous performance in term four. All of our tutors are qualified teachers.

Classes run on Thursdays: 5 to 7 year olds 3.30  
8 to 12 year olds 4.30

For more information: please email [info@canvasbag.nz](mailto:info@canvasbag.nz) or Contact Gina Fowler 022 351 2519 or visit our website [www.canvasbag.nz](http://www.canvasbag.nz)

- **Ohoka Netball** <https://sites.google.com/site/ohokanetballclub/> – see Mark if you are interested in finding out more about playing netball this season. We welcome primary and high school students, as well as adults with all levels of experience



**Team 1 & 2/Prem Trials**

Monday March 2nd; 6:30pm Sign in, 6:45pm Warm Up  
 Wednesday March 4th; 6:30pm Sign in, 6:45pm Warm Up.

**Rest of Grade (High school and women's grades, serious to social)**

Tuesday March 17th from 6:30pm Sign in, 6:45pm Warm up  
 Friday March 20th from 6:30pm, Sign in, 6:45pm Warm up  
 Sunday March 22nd from 8:30am Sign in, 8:50 Warm up

**Future Ferns**

Sunday March 22nd from 10:00am Sign in  
 Tuesday March 24th from 5pm Sign in

- **Burwood Football Club** Burwood AFC Clubrooms, Clare Park at 153 Burwood Road. Note that Registration in 2020 are now done Online. For more details see our website [www.burwoodafc.co.nz](http://www.burwoodafc.co.nz) Junior coaches required – please contact the Secretary Mark Tolchard 385-0098



**2020 Term Dates:**

**Term 1: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Waitangi Day Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February;  
 Closed Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February

**In holidays:** Good Friday 10 Apr;  
 Easter Monday 13 Apr; Easter Tues 14 Apr  
 ANZAC – Sat 25<sup>th</sup> April

**Term 2: Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Apr – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

Teacher Only Day: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
 Queen's Birthday Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**Term 3: Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July – Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Sept**

**Term 4: Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct – Thur 17<sup>th</sup> Dec**

Labour Day Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October  
 Canterbury Show Day Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November

*Ka kite ano,  
 Mark and the team at Ouruhia*

**Return Slips:** (email to [office@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:office@ouruhia.school.nz) , or print and send paper copy to office)

**School newsletters – please tick the option that best suits**

- Please send home school newsletters on paper as well as emailing them
- Please just email the newsletters

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_