



Learning for Life and Making it Count

Whāia te mātauranga hei ora mā koutou

Pursue learning for the sake of your wellbeing.

Welcome Back!

25th January 2018

Exciting, isn't it! A brand new year, a fresh start, and lots more great things to look forward to at Ouruhia.

What an amazing end of year concert! You may have seen Michelle's beautiful photos on [Facebook](#), and some of these are now on display in the school foyer. I just love the arts, and the spark and creativity and lift they give to our lives. We are certainly blessed with talent at Ouruhia, and as a school we strongly believe in developing and nurturing those talents, showing our kids how rich and satisfying life is, built around a core of music, drama, dance and visual art.

We want Ouruhia to be fun, memorable, and relevant. One of our mottos is **"Learning for Life and Making it Count."** We want kids to love learning, be curious, and having lots of "Wow!" moments. Kids with those attitudes and experiences will be motivated and engaged, and keen to make every step count on the road ahead. Let's have a great year together in 2018 planning that exciting journey, and enjoying the trip!





Just a few notes...

Note dates for first two weeks:

- **Week 1** (for children): **Wednesday 31st Jan – Friday 2nd Feb.**
- **Week 2** (for children) is **Wednesday 7th Feb – Friday 9th Feb.**
School is closed on Monday 5th February, so some of you will want to make it a 4 day weekend, with Waitangi Day on Tuesday 6th.
- School starts on Wednesday morning (31st Jan) with a short assembly in the Library at 8.55 a.m. Please start the year aiming to **be at school between 8.30 and 8.45** so your child has time to meet, greet, unpack and play before school starts at 8.55.
- 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!)* We will be swimming in the (heated) school pool every day for the first 5 weeks. Our school swimming sports will be on Friday 2nd March at Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre, 1.00 - 3.00 p.m.
- Remember to bring (named) sunhats, and leave them at school for the first term. No hat, no play.
- Remember, Ouruhia School is a **tree nut-free environment**. There is a young pupil at Ouruhia who has a **life-threatening allergy 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.) Pine nuts are a seed and are safe.*
Mango stone is in the same family as cashew and must be avoided.
- Year 7&8s will be going to Tech classes on Mondays (starting 12th February), leaving school by bus at 12.30 p.m. and returning about 3.20 p.m. Please wear long hair tied back, and shoes which enclose and protect the foot (not open sandals/jandals). This is a Health & Safety requirement.
- 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

The first term dates are:

Wednesday 31st January - Friday 13th April.

Easter is in Week 9 & 10 of Term 1: School closed Fri 30th March, Mon and Tues 2nd & 3rd April.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Mark and the team at Ouruhia