



**Learning for Life and Making it Count**  
*Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou*  
*Pursue learning for the sake of your wellbeing.*

## Term 1 is underway!

Here we are in **Week 4** already! We have had a rollicking start to the year... a family picnic in the grounds, plenty of swimming, and this week we are sharing our school's story with visitors from the **Education Review Office**. We know we have a great wee school here, and ERO agree with us, judging by the positive comments we have had so far.

Our school roll is 77...already 2 ahead of our number at the end of last year. A special welcome to our **13 new enrolments**: Finn, Charlotte, Leo, Oliver, James, Calleigh and Livi in Team Tipu; Tane and Luka in Room 4; and Jemma, Takira, Anaru and Katelyn in Room 5.

## Swimming

Swimming lessons are well underway. Each class has a 45 minute lesson each day this month in our school pool (weather permitting), and we have been fortunate to have Lee Bell from Swim NZ demonstrating and helping teachers on 3 Fridays this term. This has been fabulous training for teachers and a real bonus for the children.

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 having an impact, and helping us toward this goal.



Ouruhia's **swimming sports** and skill demonstrations (for all classes) will be on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre, 1.00 - 3.00 p.m.** Children will travel there by bus, but parents are welcome to take their children home directly after swimming.

## 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)?*



## R 4 & 5 Student learning conferences and goal setting

In Week 6, **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March** we have student learning conferences for Rooms 4 & 5...a chance for parents, teachers and students to talk about how things are going at school, and where we want to be by mid-year. This is an opportunity for teachers to hear from you about how your child has settled in this year and any difficulties, successes or attitude changes you have noticed at home. Teachers (and students) can also share any observations they have made during the first term at school. Two or three individual academic and social **goals (or “next steps”)** will be discussed, and these will be reported back on at mid-year. Children should also accompany their parents and participate in the goal setting and information sharing. (Research shows that when children reflect on their learning and talk about what they would like to do better, helping set goals for improved learning, they are more likely to do something about it.)

Team Tipu will be meeting with parents on different dates...after 6 weeks from starting school and then again after 6 monthly and yearly anniversaries. Any parents are welcome to ask teachers to meet to discuss their child's progress at any time of the year...you don't have to wait until the next scheduled meeting.

School closes at the normal time of 3.00 p.m. on these days, but we ask that parents collect their children promptly after school as teachers will be involved with meetings and not able to supervise children. The meetings run from 3.30 p.m. on both days. Please send in the attached appointment slip as soon as possible. Raewyn will send out confirmed appointment times.

## Communication, School information and the Wiki

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

Any messages we post on our Facebook page can be automatically texted to your cell phone. To receive up-to-date information via your cell phone, text a new message to **8987** and type: **follow oursch** (*We are not sure if this works with 2Degrees cell numbers...please let us know how you get on*)

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. (**Please return your Emergency Contact notice sent home on yellow paper recently**).

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 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) )



**NB 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 wiki** <http://ouruhia.wikispaces.com/> If you would like a paper copy of school newsletters, please see Raewyn, text Mark 027 303 9670, email [office@ouruhia.school.nz](mailto:office@ouruhia.school.nz) or return the slip at the end of this newsletter.

## Hagley Theatre: Robin Hood

Once again we are happy to host Hagley Theatre Company to our school. Tomorrow (Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February) the classes will be treated to a live performance of Robin Hood in the school library at 1.30 pm. 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! (Cost \$3 per child; school pupils will be paying via their activity fee)

## News from the Board

- The Board consists of: **Lyn Bates** (Chair); **Justin Corey, Matt Cox & Becky Sullivan** (parent reps); **Kylie Piper** will be joining us at the next Board meeting to replace Jacqui Lyttle, who resigned at the end of last year; **Teri Aylward** (staff rep); and **Mark Ashmore-Smith** (Principal). **Raewyn Willocks** is our Secretary/Treasurer.
- The Board has reviewed its **strategic plan** and has set priorities for this year's annual plan. Our priorities in 2018 are...
  - to support teachers to continue **growing professionally** (key focuses: Writing, Maths, PB4L, and student-centred learning)
  - to deliver a curriculum which prepares and motivates students for **life-long learning...getting that "wow" factor, curiosity and love of learning**
  - strengthening **school culture** and unique features of Ouruhia School, including links with **family/whānau**
  - to continue developing **Learning With Digital Technologies**
  - to maintain and enhance **communication** at all levels of the school community...including using on-line methods for communication and **feedback**, and improving **student reports**.
- Our next Board meeting is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00 p.m. in the school staffroom

## Ouruhia School Pepeha

This term's focus is ***Our People/ It's Great to be Me***. As part of this study, we are learning about our school's name, and the history and connection of the people who lived here many years ago. We have adopted this **pepeha**, which is used in introductions to establish identity and heritage.



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



We are learning 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.

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March we are having a school visit to see Maukatere, and we will also be visiting Tuahiwi School. We hope that by the end of this term, many of the children will be able to recite at least the first and last lines of the pepeha, and talk a little about what it means, and some of our connection to Tuahiwi and Kaiapoi.

## Other notices:

- **Road patrol – parent helpers.** Thank you to the parents and grandparents who have offered to help supervise on the crossing before school. We have all days covered **except Tuesday**...if you can help on this day or by being an emergency fill-in when someone else is away, please let Raewyn know.
- **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



### Grade Team Trials (High school students and adults):

Sunday 25th Feb at 10am  
Wednesday 28th at 6:30pm  
Sunday 4th March at 10am (**FINAL TRIAL**)

**Registration closed Monday 19th February at 5pm but late entries taken Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> morning**

### ANZ Future Fern Trials (Primary school students):

Sunday 18th March at 10am  
Wednesday 21st March at 6:30pm  
Sunday 25th March at 10am (**FINAL TRIAL**)

**Registration closes Monday 12th March at 5pm**

- **Future Ferns netball – fun sessions this Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** at Dudley Park, Rangiora for Yrs 1-4 (10.00 – 12.00); Yrs 5-8 (12.00 – 2.00pm)  
<http://www.sporty.co.nz/netballmainland/Mother-Earth-futureFENRS-Festival-Day/North-Canterbury>
- **Tennis club contacts** – see main foyer notice board
- **Have a go at hockey- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> March** at Kaiapoi High School, 10.00 am (need a mouthguard, shin pads and sports shoes)
- **Rakahuri Rage** – 6 hour teams endurance mountainbike race, **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March**. Get a team together and have a blast! This is a **fund raiser** for our **Mainpower WaiSwim** programme.

Enter at [www.rakahuri-rage.nz](http://www.rakahuri-rage.nz)



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

### 2018 Term Dates:

#### Term 1: Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Jan – Fri 13<sup>th</sup> April

*In term:* Good Friday 30 Mar; Easter Monday 2 Apr; Easter Tues 3 Apr  
*In holidays:* ANZAC – Wed 25<sup>th</sup> April

#### Term 2: Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Apr – Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July

*Teacher Only Day?:* Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Apr or Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June TBC  
Queen's Birthday Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June

#### Term 3: Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Sept

#### Term 4: Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Oct – Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

Labour Day Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
Canterbury Show Day Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November

### Important Dates:

- ❖ Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Ouruhia Swimming Sports
- ❖ Tues 6<sup>th</sup> March: Pegasus zone Swimming Sports
- ❖ Tues 6<sup>th</sup> & Wed 7<sup>th</sup> March: R4 & 5 Learning conferences
- ❖ 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> March: Yr 5&6 Cycle Safe
- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> March Yr 5-8 Activities Week

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

**Room 4 & 5 Student Learning Conferences & goal setting** – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March

**I would like to meet my child's teacher on:**

- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March                      3.30pm - 7.00pm                      (       )
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March                      3.30pm - 5.30pm                      (       )

Name(s) and Room(s) of child(ren):

\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of parent(s) and child(ren) attending:

\_\_\_\_\_

Priority areas and ideas for setting goals for mid-year:

\_\_\_\_\_