



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

**Term 2 here we come!!**

Last term seemed to fly by! It was a little different starting after Waitangi Day and then having an Easter break in term time this year. Nevertheless we got through a lot of work and plenty of fun times too. It was great to get the swimming pool back in action after the summer refurbishment, and luckily the weather was warm enough to allow swimming well into March. Special thanks to Lisa Watson for balancing and maintaining the water in such a sparkly state for swimming, and to Rene Howison for the extra maintenance work he is doing around the pool.



**Looking back...**

Last term, as well as having Technology classes at Kaiapoi Borough each fortnight, our seniors have been enjoying other technology challenges with Code Club, Turing Tumble and E-Pro 8. Special thanks to Suzanne Whyte for running the Code Club (understanding digital technology and programming) every Wednesday morning. Turing Tumble is an amazing learning tool/toy which teaches logical programming in a really fun and challenging way ...ask you child's teacher to have a look at it, or visit <https://store-au.turingtumble.com/> and click on the video demos.



## Yr 3&4 Sports Spectacular ...

Our Year 3&4s had a great day in Kaiapoi at the end of term being introduced to a wide range of sports, including bowls, cricket, football, hockey, rugby, golf... Ivy met one of the Black Ferns!



## School Leaders

At school assemblies, we often celebrate and congratulate our students (and staff) for their successes. Luke, Matt and Gia were awarded their School Leader badges, and we congratulated Mrs Gallagher on being awarded her Masters of Education.



## Curriculum development

You may have heard about some new developments in the areas of teaching literacy and Maths across the country. As a staff we have begun looking at “**Structured Literacy**” (incorporating more formalised phonics teaching – see this [video link](#)) ...

... and a new problem-solving approach in **Maths**, based on methods developed in Singapore to help students gain a mastery level understanding of maths. We had two teacher only days on Structured Literacy before Waitangi Day this year, and a Maths day on the first Monday of the April holidays. The teachers are very excited about these new strategies and resources, and we look forward to sharing our successes with you during the year.



## Coming up in Term 2...

- Whole school **Beach Clean-Up** – Spencer Park, Wed 5<sup>th</sup> May
- NZ Playhouse: **Rumplestiltskin** – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 9:00 am (in the school library)
- Ouruhia School **cross country** - Ouruhia Domain – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May from 1:30pm
- **Winter Sports** on Fridays, Years 5-8, from Week 4 – let us know if you can help with coaching, transport or supervising please.
- **Strum Strike Blow** (Ukulele and Marimba) – June 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets available at the door (Christchurch Arena).
- **Choir** rehearsals begin



## Other notices:

- **Teacher Only Day at Queen’s Birthday weekend.** There will be no school for children on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June as all teachers in the Kātote Kahui Ako (Kaiapoi cluster of schools, including Ouruhia) will be at Kaiapoi High School for a Teacher Only Day. Queen’s Birthday holiday is the following Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June.

*Ka kite ano,*

*Mark and the team at Ouruhia*

### 2021 Term Dates:

#### Term 2: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> July

Teacher Only Day Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June (Q B'day weekend) – all Kātote schools  
Queen's Birthday Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

#### Term 3: Mon 26<sup>th</sup> July – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Oct

Teacher Only Day? Week 5 Fri 27 Aug - TBC

#### Term 4: Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

Labour Day Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
Canterbury Show Day Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November